1. Arrive in style... Located three hours west of Sydney and three and a half hours from Canberra, Bathurst is within easy travelling distance from many NSW destinations. Whether by road, rail or air you'll get to Bathurst in ease and style. Come chauffeured via daily buses, trains, coaches and planes or make Bathurst and the festival a part of an awesome road-trip to remember. Make the journey a classic and ride in on a vintage train with two great return trips planned from Lithgow to Bathurst during the festival. More information Vintage Train Trips...https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/visit/community-events/25-community/community-events/100-vintage-train-rides-to-bathurst-winter-festival.html More information general... http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/getting-here/

2. Take in the ambiance of the region... Whether arriving by plane, car, bus or the train, the countryside approaching Bathurst is truly spectacular. Gentle rolling hills and dales against pale wintry skies - you can see why Bathurst was one of the nation's early settlements. Now is the time to turn off your devices and turn on your senses...take in the ambiance of the approach to a city guaranteed to delight and ignite every imagination this Winter.

3. Meander and marvel... Take the time to meander through Bathurst’s CBD laneways and leafy parks. Soak up the beauty and history of the buildings and architecture as you take a stroll to familiarise yourself with the city, what’s on offer and where the Illuminations will be on display of an evening.

4. Enjoy the thrill of open-air skating... If you have children or you are a child at heart, your first stop will undoubtedly be enjoying the magical thrill of skating in the open-air ice rink. The McDonald’s Bathurst ice rink is bigger and better this year and is sure to be fun for all the family with penguin skating aids for hire to assist beginners. It’s also great to watch for those not keen on skating themselves. Make sure you take an extra pair of thick socks for comfort and a change of clothes for afterwards if you end up a little damp. Book your 45-minute session ahead to avoid disappointment and arrive 30 minutes prior to your booking to get kitted out. Book online here... http://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/winter-playground/ice-rink.html

5. Amuse yourself in the Winter Playground... Imagine an adventure that will delight children and adults alike! Amuse yourself in the Winter Playground sampling the charms of a giant ferris wheel and magical two-storey carousel every day of the Bathurst Winter Festival! Running from 9am-9pm Friday to Sunday and 9am-8pm Monday to Thursday (1-16 July), the fun is located in the heart of the festival out the front of the Court House in Russell Street. Tickets can be purchased on-site for $5 each.

6. Experience a spectacular Bathurst sunset or city view from above... Experience Bathurst from the best seat in town - Mount Panorama. The ideal vantage point for a spectacular sunrise, sunset or a glittering view of the city, festival and Illuminations at night. Take a moment to breath in the fresh air and appreciate the magnificence of Bathurst in Winter.
7. Entice your imagination with Illumination... Watch buildings come alive through static and interactive illumination breathing life into historic architecture in the Bathurst CBD throughout the duration of the festival. Every night between dusk and 10pm, Illumination will create a vivid collection of light installations to immerse yourself in as you wander through town. All lighting is on rotation so you can take your own time filling your senses on your journey. More information... [https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/illumination.html](https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/illumination.html)

8. Immerse yourself in a light installation... The showpiece of the Illumination will be the Court House which will include a spectacular display of motion graphics accompanied by a rhythmic soundtrack that you can almost become part of.

9. Go on a fantastic fairy hunt... Tiptoe quietly through Machattie Park’s Fernery listening closely to the activity in the underbrush – in the magical fairy garden! See if you can hear the fairies or capture some of their magic as they scurry past. Court House Lane is also a new display this year which will surprise and delight you on the stroll towards the Enchanted Forest.

10. Capture a kaleidoscope of colour... Don’t forget to take your camera along for the journey around the Illuminations to capture all the dramatic lighting. With lots of additions to the line-up this year, make sure you don’t miss a thing including the kaleidoscope of lights in Ribbon Gang Lane, the stunning animated colour and patterns at the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum, and the striking lighting design with solid washes of colour at the Cathedral of St Michael and St John. Keep up to date with the full line-up via the website. [http://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/illumination.html](http://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/illumination.html)

11. Delight your senses with Ignite the Night... Kick the festival off with Ignite the Night (5-9pm Saturday, July 1). Spend an evening meandering through Edible Alley filled with the scent of regionally sourced food and beverages. Join in the fun at the Mad Hatters Tea Party and soak up the carnival atmosphere with performances by giant stilt walking roaming bugs and a ballerina in a ball. Make sure you don’t miss the performances on ice which will enchant and delight. More information... [https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/festival-nights/ignite-the-night.html](https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/festival-nights/ignite-the-night.html)

12. Be entertained by music and comedy... Make sure you join in all the entertainment on offer at Ignite the Night with an interactive Kids Comedy show that is sure to amuse the entire family. Enjoy a great line-up of professional live music and local youth performers set to rock the YJam Stage (5-9pm Saturday, July 1). More information... [https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/festival-nights/ignite-the-night.html](https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/festival-nights/ignite-the-night.html)

13. Taste the extravagance of a dessert store to die for... Save some room in your store of wonder for a taste of extravagance in Machattie Park. Spoon Full of Sugar, a decadent dessert store in the Enchanted Forest, is a must visit on your festival agenda. Open from 5-9pm on both the festival event nights, Ignore the Night (Saturday, July 1) and Brew & Bite (Saturday, July 8), this is definitely worth saving some appetite for.
14. Warm your Winter with Brew & Bite... Delight in the twilight markets while enjoying the wine and craft beers at Brew & Bite (5-9pm Saturday, July 8) this Bathurst Winter Festival. Indulge your palate with gourmet food trucks and stop by the Whiskey and Gin Bar. Enjoy the moveable feast paired with a drop of an essential winter treat from the Mulled Wine Bar. More information... http://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/festival-nights/brew-bite.html

15. Indulge your inner artist... Unleash your inner artist during Brew & Bite (5-9pm Saturday, July 8) with roaming performances by eclectic street artists and local musicians on the main stage in Kings Parade and the Rotunda in Machattie Park. Don't miss the incredible illuminated performance on the McDonald's Bathurst Ice Rink. Take part in a range of interactive activities on the night. Become part of the Court House illumination and dance out loud to the Silent Disco. Top the night off with an awesome performance by Junk Yard Beats - you name it, they can rock it! More information... https://www.bathurstwinterfestival.com.au/festival-nights/brew-bite.html

16. Savour the taste of the town... The only way to describe the taste of Bathurst is diverse. With influences deriving from a broad and eclectic range of sources – the style and tastes of the town vary widely. You can step back in time and eat out in traditional coffee shops, enjoy country style pub meals or exceptional value at a club. You can also get a Bathurst twist on city dining by choosing one of the many trendy restaurants, bars, pubs, or hip cafés. Indian, Asian, Middle Eastern, Mediterranean, Irish, Contemporary Australian - there is something for everyone and lots of family friendly options (some even have play areas for the kids). Bathurst features exceptional range and value. Check out Trip Advisor for a good starting list of popular eateries. More information... http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/food-and-wine/dining-out/

17. Treat yourself to some retail therapy... Check out the eclectic mix of retail options from vintage stores to on-trend homeware and fashion boutiques. With the kind of store range you would expect to see in a larger centre, the CBD is a good choice for serious power shopping (with three centres) while a trip to the outer fringes is a must see for those who enjoy poking around discovering unique and one-off pieces. There are always delights to behold in Bathurst’s renowned Keppel Street. Take the time to meander along William and George Streets to hunt out the retail gems.

18. Fire up your engine on Mt Panorama... Take a lap around Bathurst’s world-famous race track to get the blood firing through your veins. Enjoy the amazing views along the way, but also take care to observe the speed limit. At the foot of the mount is the National Motor Racing Museum which is a treasure trove of memorabilia from all forms of motor racing. Celebrating the history, personalities and achievements of Australian Motor Sports, the museum houses a collection of approximately 50 cars and 60 bikes, and includes an extensive collection of images, trophies and other important racing history memorabilia! More information... https://www.nmm.com.au/
19. Discover Dinosaurs... Discover a world from long ago at the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum, home to close to 2000 fossil and mineral specimens. Situated in the heart of Bathurst, the Museum is the home of the internationally renowned Somerville Collection. The centerpiece of the exhibition is a display of an imposing Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton, an Albertosaurus and a smaller Thescelosaurus skeleton. The collection also includes Australia’s largest collection of fossils in amber, fossilised dinosaur eggs, some of the oldest fossils of early forms of life, and a large collection of Australia’s unique opalised fossils. More information... https://www.somervillecollection.com.au/

20. Visit a Tudor Gothic Mansion... Ever wonder how the other half used to live? Take a turn around one of Bathurst’s most unique historic homes - Abercrombie House. A key piece of local history, the mansion is a masterpiece of Tudor Gothic architecture completed from local stone and cedar in 1878. The 52-room mansion is located just out of Bathurst and features 30 fireplaces, 7 staircases, and a grand ballroom. Do a self-guided tour, book the juniors in for a Kids Night Tour, checkout the Antiques and Collectors Emporium or take in a high tea. Make sure you plan your visit via the calendar of events on the website and make a booking. More information... http://www.abercrombiehouse.com.au/

21. Delight in Miss Traill’s Colonial House and Garden... Take a leap back in time and visit the delightful Miss Traill’s House and Garden built in 1845. Miss Traill lived in the Colonial Georgian bungalow from 1931-1976 and bequeathed the house and contents to the National Trust. On display is a collection which is a valuable insight into the influence and aspirations of the family - a treasure unique to the nation. More information... http://bathurstregion.com.au/ant/profile/miss-traill-s-house-garden/

22. Call in to a PM’s World War II House Museum... Discover the life of one of Australia’s great Prime Ministers and the challenges of the 1940’s in a World War II house museum. Chifley Home at 10 Busby Street in Bathurst was the only marital home of Prime Minister Ben Chifley and his wife, Elizabeth. Today, this modest semi-detached terrace still contains its original collection of household furnishings and personal effects dating back to when the Chifley’s first occupied the house in 1914. More information... https://www.chifleyhome.org.au/

23. Unwind at a winery or brewery... Wine making is very much part of Bathurst’s history. It was actually the second place in Australia to begin producing wine in the 1820’s. Wineries, cellar doors and even Bathurst’s own brewery are now very much a part of the past-time of locals and visitors to the region. A social drop is also a delightful way to warm yourself during the Winter whilst sitting by a log fire. Take a drive and stock up for the season while you are in Bathurst. More information wineries... http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/food-and-wine/wineries-vineyards-and-distillery/ More information brewery... https://www.twoheadsbrewing.com/

24. Recharge in greenspace... Take in some crisp oxygen with a bracing morning walk or an afternoon constitutional through one of Bathurst’s many leafy parks and open spaces.
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25. Enjoy a hearty country style breakfast... Bathurstians love a good country breakfast out or a trendy cup of something delicious. If it is a sit down full country breakfast you crave or a bacon and egg roll and a takeaway coffee in a sunny spot in the park you favour - Bathurst has it all on offer. A short stroll in just about any direction from the centre of town will have your stomach growling with anticipation. Hot tip - follow your nose - it won’t let you down!

26. Uncover the surrounding village gems... Enjoy a cleansing ale at one of the many old country pubs in the villages surrounding Bathurst. Now a popular country drive destination for day-trippers, car and motorbike clubs, when you start exploring the countryside around Bathurst you begin to understand why artists have been captivated by the landscape. Bathurst is surrounded by many beautiful villages which include historic gold mines, Australia’s oldest surviving gold town, and historically significant silver mines. Make sure you don’t miss the marvels of Hill End, O’Connell, Peel, Perkville, Rockley, Sofala, Sunny Corner, Trunkey Creek, Wattle Flat, and Yetholme. Plan your trip here... [http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/villages/](http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/villages/)

27. Pack your beanie and your bikini... It might seem strange to be packing your bathers in the bag to attend a Winter Festival, but I can assure you it is something you will be glad of once you set sights on the delights of the Bathurst Aquatic Centre. There is some serious unwinding and fun to be had in the indoor pools (featuring kids area with whirlpool), spa, sauna, and steam room. It’s a good idea to give them a call before you head on in to check on the timetables and best swim times. More information... [http://www.bathurstaquatic.com.au/](http://www.bathurstaquatic.com.au/)

28. Explore a region steeped in history... Declared a townsite in 1815 and a city in 1885, Bathurst is Australia’s oldest inland European settlement and was an important regional centre and gateway for much of the exploration and development that took place in inland New South Wales. The region is a history buffs haven. Take your pick from the long list of historical must see and do activities including History Hill, Old Government Cottage, Rockley Mill, Turon Technology Museum, Bathurst District Historical Society Museum, Cobb & Co Coach, Heritage Park Bathurst, and historical guided Bathurst tours. More information... [http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/things-to-do/explore-our-history/](http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/things-to-do/explore-our-history/)

29. Indulge your inner artist or get crafty... Bathurst has long had a strong arts and crafts community. The Bathurst Arts Trail Inc. incorporates a diverse range of artistic endeavours from paintings, pottery, sculpture, photography, and glass artists. Visit the artists in their studios
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in and around the Bathurst region. The Bathurst Regional Art Gallery is home to one of the finest collection of Lloyd Rees artworks in regional NSW. The gallery features a diverse range of touring exhibitions, Local Artist Project Shows, exhibitions created from the permanent collection and the work of Hill End Artists. The Home Patch (Home of Hatched & Patched) is situated in an historic building, offering a wide range of patchwork fabrics, patterns and kits, plus a gorgeous assortment of giftware. Mainly vintage country, with a little bright retro style thrown in. More information...  

30. Go on a Bathurst playground adventure... These country kids sure know how to play! You will be spoiled for choice with an awesome collection of playgrounds including the Adventure Playground on the corner of Durham and Hope Streets. The playground features a dinosaur theme, flying foxes, super slides, climbing wall, fossil sculptures, rope climbing webs, and swings. The McPhillamy Park Playground is race themed and can be found at the summit of Mount Panorama. The Macquarie River Bicentennial Park Playground is also a great facility located on the banks of the Macquarie River. The playground provides swings, slides, a huge climbing frame, rockers and cubby houses. More information...  

31. Gather local organic food... Passionate about good health and good food grown by local farmers? You don’t have to time your visit to Bathurst to coincide with a farmer’s market event to sample the best produce the region has to offer. Take a visit to the Bathurst Wholefood Cooperative for organic foods generated by the local farming community. The co-op is owned and operated by its members and is a not-for-profit organisation. The shopfront for the co-op is in the Macquarie Plaza in William St. More information...  
http://www.bathurstwholefood.org/

32. Get expert advice and the perfect souvenir... Bathurst Visitor Information Centre located at 1 Kendall Avenue is the go-to for solid local info from friendly experts who know their stuff. This is also the place to visit if you are looking for that perfect souvenir or a unique selection of gifts and local produce to remember your trip to Bathurst. You will enjoy ample parking and facilities at the centre. Surrounded by leafy parkland, it is a great meeting point for visitors. More information...  

33. Bike it Bathurst style... Bathurst Boomerang Bike Hire is a great way to explore the city and surrounds from the Macquarie River to Mount Panorama. There are two bike stations in the city with one situated at the Aquatic Centre in Elizabeth Street and the other at Bathurst Visitor Information Centre Kendall Avenue. Both stations have six unisex bikes suiting riders over 145 centimetres (three of which have child seats), plus two small bikes for kids higher than 110 centimetres. Helmets, maps and locks are available. What an awesome way to explore the city! More information...  
34. Seek out spectacular speedway paraphernalia... Ash's Speedway Museum on Bradwardine Road is home to the largest collection of speedway memories in the Southern Hemisphere. Speedway in Bathurst dates back to the 1920's, with many speedway stars originating from the area. Paraphernalia has been sourced from the collection of local stars and from all over the world. More information... http://www.ashspeedwaymuseum.com.au/

35. Get the full ‘Country Experience’... A visit to the country wouldn't be complete without a ride on a horse or a farm visit. Bathurst is rightfully proud of the deep rural history and culture. It is the perfect easy access taste of the country for many. Yarrabin Horse Riding is situated in 1000 acres of bushland and is one of Australia's most acclaimed horse trail set-ups. Animal lovers of all ages will enjoy Barcoos Farmstays Bathurst with a great line-up of farm activities on offer for staying guests and day visitors. Farm tours, led pony rides, sulky rides, sheep dogs, feeding chickens, ducks and Georgie Pig will be the highlight of the visit to the country for everyone! More information Yarrabin Horse Riding... http://www.yarrabin.com/ More information Barcoos Farmstays... http://www.barcoosfarmstays.com.au/

36. Amp up the adrenaline with outdoor adventures... Thrill seek on your trip to Bathurst with vintage joyflights, fast jet adventure flights, four-wheel driving tours, or dune buggies. Bathurst has something for all your adventurous tastes and is bound to get your heart pumping through your chest. More information... http://bathurstregion.com.au/visit-bathurst/things-to-do/outdoor-and-active/

37. Pay a visit to an actual ice-cream parlour... It isn't a trip to Bathurst without treating yourself to something delicious from Annie’s Ice Cream Parlour. I think you could even say it would be un-Bathurstian! With so many flavours to choose from, your biggest problem of the day will be which one to get and deciding if you should enjoy it in the comfort of an old-fashioned booth or alfresco on the street or in the park. Annie’s is a must do on the list for all ages and the perfect way to start or finish your trip off to Bathurst. You will find Annie’s on the corner of George and Church Streets.

38. Get your garden inspiration in paddocks full at Mayfield... Mayfield Garden in Winter is an extraordinary site. Grab your beanie and scarf and head out to explore the 64ha garden between Bathurst and Oberon. A seasonal garden, Winter brings a different outlook revealing the major features and follies of this magnificent European design. Plan your visit to coincide with the upcoming Winter Festival, Forage and Feast or Wine and Swine. Refuel your spirit at the onsite café or check out one of the great village pubs on the road from Bathurst. More information... http://www.mayfieldgarden.com.au/

39. Strike gold at History Hill... Get the full ‘Gold Rush’ experience at History Hill. Two kilometres on the Bathurst side of Hill End you'll find the History Hill Museum with more than 10,000 rare and unusual artefacts from the goldfields of the 1800s. Explore the 175 metres of underground mine to complete the experience. Contact the museum before you head out to make a booking. More information... http://www.historyhill.com.au/
40. Find your cave at Abercrombie... Abercrombie Caves are 70 kilometres south of Bathurst via Trunkey Creek and feature Abercrombie Archway - the largest Natural Limestone Arch in the Southern Hemisphere, the Bushranger Cave and an historic dance floor built by gold miners. The caves are surrounded by native bush on a 1400-hectare Nature Reserve with a public fossicking area within the camping area and the spectacular Grove Creek Falls tumbling an impressive 70 metres. More Information...