




flavours of ryde

A guide to town centres and
festivals in the City of Ryde

 City of Ryde

Lifestyle and opportunity
@ your doorstep

URBANWALKABOUT.COM

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1st edition

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Welcome to our first edition of Flavours of Ryde – a guide celebrating some of the interesting places and community events that make up the City of Ryde.

City of Ryde boasts some of the most beautiful, historic and culturally rich town centres in Sydney. As well as vibrant town centres, each year thousands of people from all over Sydney come to enjoy our community events and festivals. The vision for the City is 'lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep' and this guide is intended to help people discover and enjoy all this great City has to offer.

For first time visitors to the area, I hope this guide helps you discover the richness of cultural activity available in our city.



For current residents, I hope this guide inspires you to take another look at your local area and perhaps take part in an event or visit a place that is new to you.

Cllr Ivan Petch, Mayor, City of Ryde

chapters

top ten ryde experiences

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We take a tour of Ryde's hidden thrills, spills and secret encounters.

west ryde

(pages 10-11)

Known for historic drinking institutions and streetside vendors, West Ryde is an exercise in untapped pleasures.

eastwood

(pages 6-9)

Ryde's favourite culinary playground is home to yum cha, Korean BBQ kitchens and left-field Asian supermarkets.

ryde tafe

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We go behind the scenes at the local cooking school known for serving up culinary superstars.

meadowbank

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From bustling Meadowbank Tafe to picturesque Shepherd's Bay, we explore the riverside hub that is on the verge of big things.

contents

Ryde tastes like fresh air and natural beauty blended with the thrills of city life – from the calm of waterfront parklands to the sound of culinary adventures running riot. This is your guide to its flavours and textures – get ready to take a bite.

macquarie centre

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This modern shopping centre reels in locals with its mix of department stores and inventive boutiques.

top ryde

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Sydney's second largest shopping centre is a shrine to retail pleasure – from food, fashion and everything in between.

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Lose yourself in the Ryde village that's equal parts local flavour and stately charm.

essential info

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Everything you need to navigate your way around Ryde.

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Chinese, Singaporean, Thai and Lebanese star at Ryde's unofficial alfresco dining destination.

festival liftout

(pages 15-22)

Get up close and personal with the festivals and community events that make Ryde tick.

gladesville

(page 28-31)

This riverside enclave is home to sandstone homes, furniture shops and an adventurous local culinary scene.

top ten ryde experiences

JOG



An early morning jogging date with the Ryde Riverwalk, stopping to take in water vistas and sunlit public art.

COOK



Cooking a sirloin to medium rare perfection at the West Ryde Hotel, a local institution with an offbeat past.

CREATE



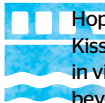
Penning your own poetry from the verandah at Banjo Patterson's Cottage, Rockend.

WATCH



Getting lost in a big Hollywood blockbuster (and a bigger serve of popcorn) at Macquarie Centre.

FERRY



Hopping on the ferry at Kissing Point and soaking in views of Sydney Harbour, beyond Circular Quay.

From riverside spills to culinary thrills, Ryde offers something for every type of palate. These are the ten encounters you can't afford to miss.

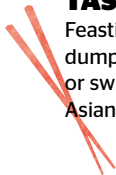
PICNIC

Pulling up a shady patch of Putney Park and settling in for a Saturday picnic.



TASTE

Feasting on tea and dumplings in Eastwood—or swinging by an Asian supermarket.



INDULGE

Cracking the top of a lavender crème brulee at Bistro Meme, Gladesville's answer to French Provincial chic.



SUGAR FIX

Indulging your inner sugar fiend with baklava and continental pastries on Coxs Road.

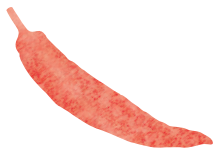


BUY

Playing fashion editor for the day at La Strada, Top Ryde's very own style mile.







east wood

Moving at a quietly confident pace, this tranquil enclave blends a high-voltage culinary scene that elevates Chinese and Korean cuisine to high art with conflicting cultural influences, knitted together by a fierce, community focus.



“Whether it’s a Korean BBQ restaurant or a northern Chinese dumpling restaurant, you could spend several weeks here trying out all the different places to eat.”

Brad Chan, Business Owner



Defining Experience

Linger in the Plaza over yum cha while Tai Chi masters cut elegant swathes through the morning air.

Known for

- Eateries that spin magic out of expertly barbecued, marinated meat
- Gracious awnings strung with scarlet lanterns
- Market-style fruit and vegetables at farm fresh prices
- Infectious community spirit

Did You Know?

Eastwood might be famous for more exotic imports, but it's also the birthplace of the humble Granny Smith apple, thanks to a happy planting mishap by 19th century Eastwood local Maria Ann Smith.

Taste

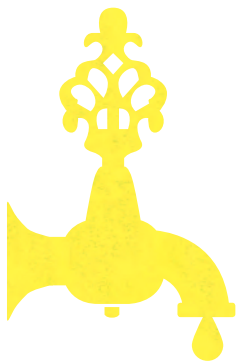
The flavours and textures of Shanghai via gossamer-like Xiao Long Bao and turnip croissants

Watch

A chef carve a Peking Duck with masterful strokes—a dining encounter in the shape of performance art

Buy

Vintage dresses that blend Western influences with just the right note of K-pop



west ryde

West Ryde is steeped in history but its interests are future tense. Here, historic pubs and Federation architecture rub shoulders with glossy building projects and locals are as likely to hail from Singapore as they are from Surry Hills. This highly connected urban centre is easy to access by bus, car or train. If you take time to unpeel its layers, its charms will take centre stage.

10 WEST RYDE FLAVOURS OF RYDE



Defining Experience

Sourcing a note-perfect cut of Vietnamese pork belly before perusing spices worthy of a Delhi bazaar.

Did You Know?

Christened an “industrial cathedral”, West Ryde’s majestic, 1920s pumping station is still responsible for a quarter of Sydney’s water supply.



Known for

- Hobby shops, music stores and hole-in-the-wall spice stores—the stuff offbeat shopping adventures are made of
- Sri Lankan and Korean supermarkets
- Federation architecture and Californian Bungalows
- Cook your own steak at the West Ryde Hotel



Smell

A heady blend of cinnamon and cloves emanating from much-loved bakery Lebanese Loaf

Watch

Old friends swap jokes and stories over beer at sportslover's heaven Ryedale's Tavern



northern sydney institute ryde campus

The Northern Sydney Institute's Ryde Campus is the Asia-Pacific's largest hospitality training centre. It's known for producing culinary stars, thanks to commercial cookery and patisserie classes and learning programs that are considered Australia's best. The Ryde Campus is also home to the Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Arts Institute, Sydney.

250 Blaxland Road
Ryde, NSW 2112

For more information visit
www.nsi.edu.au or call 131 674



For course enquiries email
nsi.study@tafensw.edu.au
or call the Institute's Ryde Campus
on 02 9448 6209



THE
Northern Sydney
Institute Part of **TAFE**^{NSW}



the inside scoop

What do macaron maestro Adriano Zumbo, Porteno's Ben Milgate and wine royalty Penfolds have in common?

A knack for culinary artistry, with roots in Ryde Campus. This award winning centre of excellence is famous for attracting—and creating—the industry's biggest names.

Ryde Campus has been operating for a long time, and in various formats - it opened in 1978. Over the years, the Ryde Campus has also become renowned for the Ambassador Training Restaurant, where students studying at Le Cordon Bleu can showcase their skills and talents.

Ryde Campus is the largest and most respected training facility for culinary arts in the country, if not the hemisphere, as well as a major provider of wine and spirit education. Ryde Campus works with notable chefs from Café Sydney to Neil Perry's staff at Rockpool, as well as local restaurants and eateries with strong ties to the Asian Culinary Centre and the Asian community in the local Ryde area.

Did you know?

The Ryde Campus Ambassador Training Restaurant is open to the public. The Ambassador Restaurant offers diners the opportunity to experience fine food, an award-winning wine list and great service.

Come along and enjoy food prepared by Australia's next generation of chefs.

For reservations phone (02) 9448 6292



top ryde

Locals converge at this glossy shopping complex for inspiring fashion and homewares, an expansive range of grocery and food stores and La Piazza—a series of alfresco restaurants that bring a piece of Rome to Ryde.

Defining Experience

Stocking up on local designers and left-field accessories at La Strada, squeezing in an afternoon yoga class at Fitness First and unwinding over a French Martini at classy steakhouse-cum-cocktail bar Hurricanes.



festival liftout

From bold, local art to global culinary splendor, Ryde's lineup of community festivals celebrate the best things in life. What's your favourite?

Australia Day Family Concert

Ryde's interpretation of Australia Day is equal parts moving and festive, thanks to a Citizen of the Year presentation, a naturalisation ceremony and glittering fireworks display. It's the stuff summer memories are made of.

**North Ryde Common,
North Ryde
26 January**



Lunar New Year Festival

Snap, crackle, pop... there's something hypnotic about the sounds of a Lunar New Year. Surrender to the intricate dancing lions, lantern-lit street stalls and Eastwood's famous dragon parade. You won't regret it.

**Eastwood Plaza, Eastwood
February**



Cinema in the Park

Family favourites take centre stage at this open-air celebration of all things celluloid. Pack a picnic and pull up a piece of grass for classic viewing under the stars.

**Various locations
February–March**



All the Colours of Ryde Festival

"Many stories—one Australia" is the theme at this kaleidoscopic tribute to Harmony Day. Come for live entertainment, globetrotting culinary treats and the type of community spirit that's impossible to shake.

**Ryde Park, Ryde
March**





West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair

Bring the kids and celebrate Easter at West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair including fun activities such as stalls, food, entertainment, Singing Star competition and Easter Bonnet competition!

**Market St, West Ryde
March-April**



Ryde Eisteddfod

From contemporary dance and classical music to pantomime and theatre, this much-loved event is a riot of fun, colour and spectacle. Don't miss it.

**Various locations
August**

Hungry For Art

Paint, ceramic, pencil, video... this inventive festival has the answer to every type of art addiction. It's also the largest showcase of creative talent living and working in the region.

Various locations
August



Ryde Rivers Festival

This charity event sees Ryde's postcard-perfect river network serve as a backdrop for high-voltage family activities, including a Dragon Boat Challenge, Billy Cart Derby and Fun Run.

Kissing Point Park, Putney
September





Granny Smith Festival

A technicolour street parade, fireworks display and community events mark the life and times of one of Ryde's most famous locals—the inimitable Maria Ann “Granny Smith”. This ode to the apple's creator also happens to be one of Sydney's largest street festivals.

Eastwood Plaza, Eastwood Oval and surrounds, Eastwood October

Rotary Carols on the Common

The Rotary Carols on the Common is one of the largest carols events in Sydney. There is entertainment for all ages and appearances from well known performers and public figures. The evening finishes off with a spectacular fireworks display over the North Ryde Common.

**North Ryde Common,
North Ryde
December**



Community Christmas Celebrations

Ryde gets a dose of yuletide sparkle. This all-day party plays host to all the festive classics, including a sausage sizzle, entertainment, Christmas craft workshops and a visit from Santa.

**Ryde Park, Ryde
December**



calendar of events

Australia Day Family Concert	Jan	North Ryde Common, North Ryde
Lunar New Year Festival	Feb	Eastwood Plaza, Eastwood
Cinema In the Park	Feb-Mar	Various locations
All the Colours of Ryde Festival	Mar	Ryde Park, Ryde
West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair	Mar-April	Market St, West Ryde
Ryde Elsteddfod	Aug	Various locations
Hungry for Art Festival	Aug	Various locations
Ryde Rivers Festival	Sep	Kissing Point Park, Putney
Granny Smith Festival	Oct	Eastwood Plaza, Eastwood Oval and surrounds, Eastwood
Rotary Carols on the Common	Dec	North Ryde Common, North Ryde
Community Christmas Celebrations	Dec	Ryde Park, Ryde

For up to date info relating to the calendar of events go to
ryde.nsw.gov.au

Additional information

rydeelsteddfod.org

ryderiversfestival.com

carolsonthecommon.org.au

facebook.com/rydelny



macquarie centre



This colourful shopping centre combines a no-nonsense sensibility with a retail offer that spans fashion, food, lifestyle and homewares.

Defining experience

Embarking on a quest for the perfect pair of leather boots before lingering over a salmon bagel, latte and newspaper at Manhattan-inspired Loft Café.

Smell

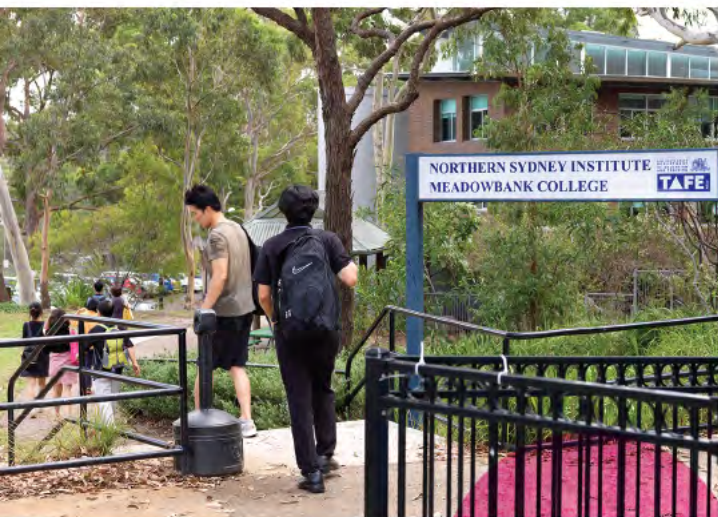
Fresh popcorn—a buttery prelude to a Hollywood blockbuster

Watch

Couples and friends loop circles in the ice together at Macquarie Ice Rink



meadow bank



This former industrial hive has given way to a different kind of electricity; now an emerging waterfront suburb, with waves of students and a promising dining scene that's slowly finding its feet.

Did you know?

The Ryde Riverwalk is an 8km long, landscaped pathway along the Parramatta River linking parks, trails, heritage sites and transport hubs.



COXS RD & blenheim rd village

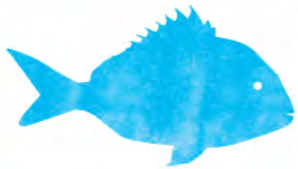
This imaginative enclave hums with life day and night thanks to inspired shopping, outdoor dining and a fierce community spirit.

Defining experience

Rifling through magazines at North Ryde newsagency followed by a latte, bacon and eggs—a suburban ritual that's impossible to shake.

Known for

- Alfresco dining
- Blenheim Rd Village—eccentric retailers and interesting shops
- Buzzing streetlife
- Sandstone finishes and Art Deco flourishes
- Blenheim Park—an oasis of green



putney

A slice of riverside bliss, Putney lays claim to dazzling panoramas, classy providores and an inventive lineup of restaurants and cafes—as well as a real estate pedigree that will leave you breathless.

Did You Know?

Lovers might flock to Kissing Point but its history is pragmatic, not romantic. In the 1790s, it served as the starting point for barges of fresh produce, grown in Ryde and shipped to Sydney Harbour.

“Putney feels like you’re living in a small village – people are very friendly, you feel quite safe and there’s always someone who’ll go out of their way to help you out. There’s a really great community feel here.”

DORIAN GUARDALA, PUTNEY LOCAL AND OWNER OF DOLCINI CAFÉ

Taste

A buttery pastry from the cake shop or an affogato courtesy of caffeine temple Dolcino’s

Smell

The scent of aspiration in the air

Do

Embark on a ferry at Kissing Point wharf for a blissful ride to Circular Quay

Buy

A riverside mansion—if you can afford it



Defining Experience

Lazy breakfast at a Charles Street café before ambling down the Riverwalk to Bennelong Park, stopping to admire the fish sculptures on the way.

Known for

- Sweeping views
- Proud shipbuilding heritage
- Putney Water Park—a family picnic destination that doubles as a toddler’s paradise
- Beer kudos—James Squire built his first brewery at Kissing Point
- Riverside walk—heaven for cycling commuters





glades ville

Elegant and unassuming in equal parts, this leafy enclave plays host to left-field furniture shops, postcard-perfect slices of Australiana and an inspired dining and bar scene that's on the verge of full bloom.



Did You Know?

Sleepy Glades Bay is a font of inspiration for aspiring bush poets—a young Banjo Paterson made Gladesville his home while honing his love of literature and poetry.



Defining Experience

Savouring cabernet, and a crisped-to-perfection Caprese at Bar Pizza – the candlelit meeting place for Ryde loyalists and city types.



Known for

- Electric eateries that take cues from Mexico, Italy, Thailand and Spain
- Sublime seafood and inspired pizzerias
- Specialty chocolate shops
- Vintage finds with village price tags
- Tree-lined streets
- French bistros and pint-sized patisseries

Taste

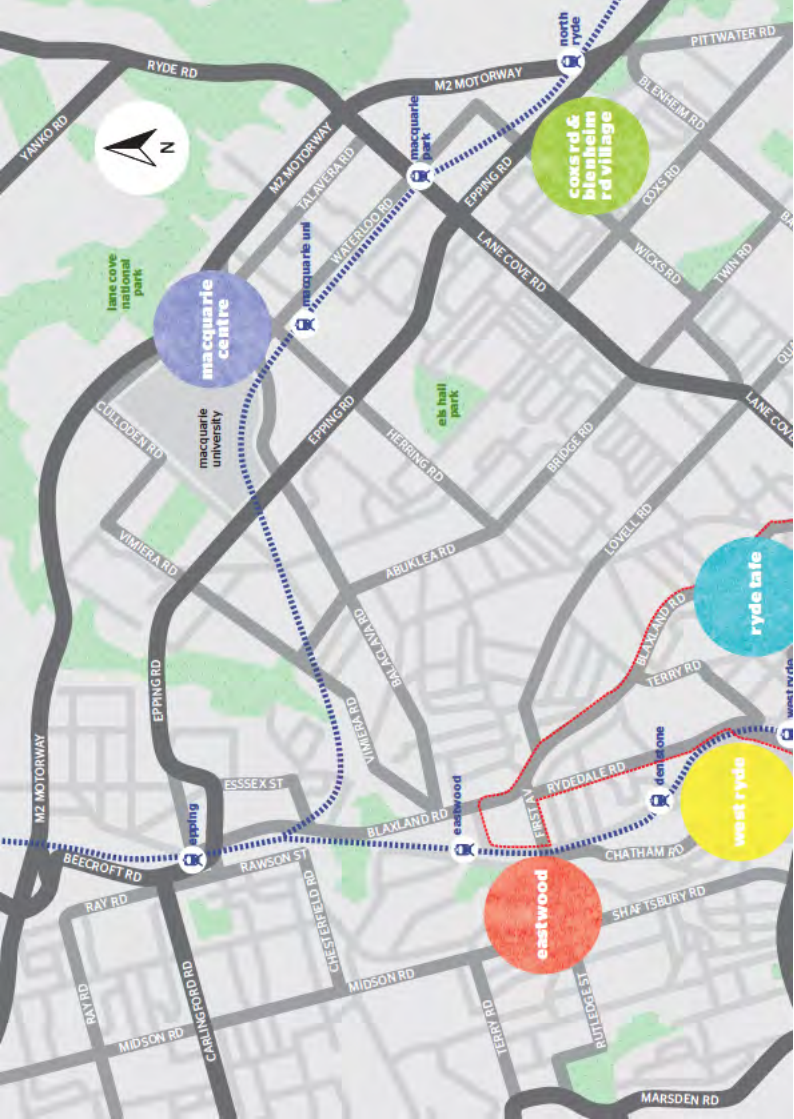
Sydney rock oysters and crispy calamari fritti at local seafood temple La Perla

Smell

Homemade crepes fresh out of Bistro Meme's kitchen—a sensory ode to a Paris sidewalk

Do

Lose yourself in the French furniture and antique shops dotted along Victoria Road



lane cove national park

macquarie centre

macquarie university

macquarie park

coxs rd & blenheim rd village

ryde tafe

west ryde

eastwood

RYDE RD

YANKO RD

M2 MOTORWAY

M2 MOTORWAY

north ryde

PITTWATER RD

BLenheim RD

COYS RD

WICKS RD

TWIN RD

FALAVERA RD

WATERLOO RD

EPHING RD

LANE COVE RD

COLLODEN RD

EPHING RD

HERRING RD

BRIDGE RD

LANE COVE

VIMERA RD

ABUKLEA RD

LOVELL RD

EPHING RD

BLA CLANA RD

BLAK AND RD

TERRY RD

M2 MOTORWAY

essing

eastwood

denstone

BECCROFT RD

RAWSON ST

BLAXLAND RD

FIRST AV

RYDEDALE RD

CHATHAM RD

RAY RD

CARLINGFORD RD

MIDSON RD

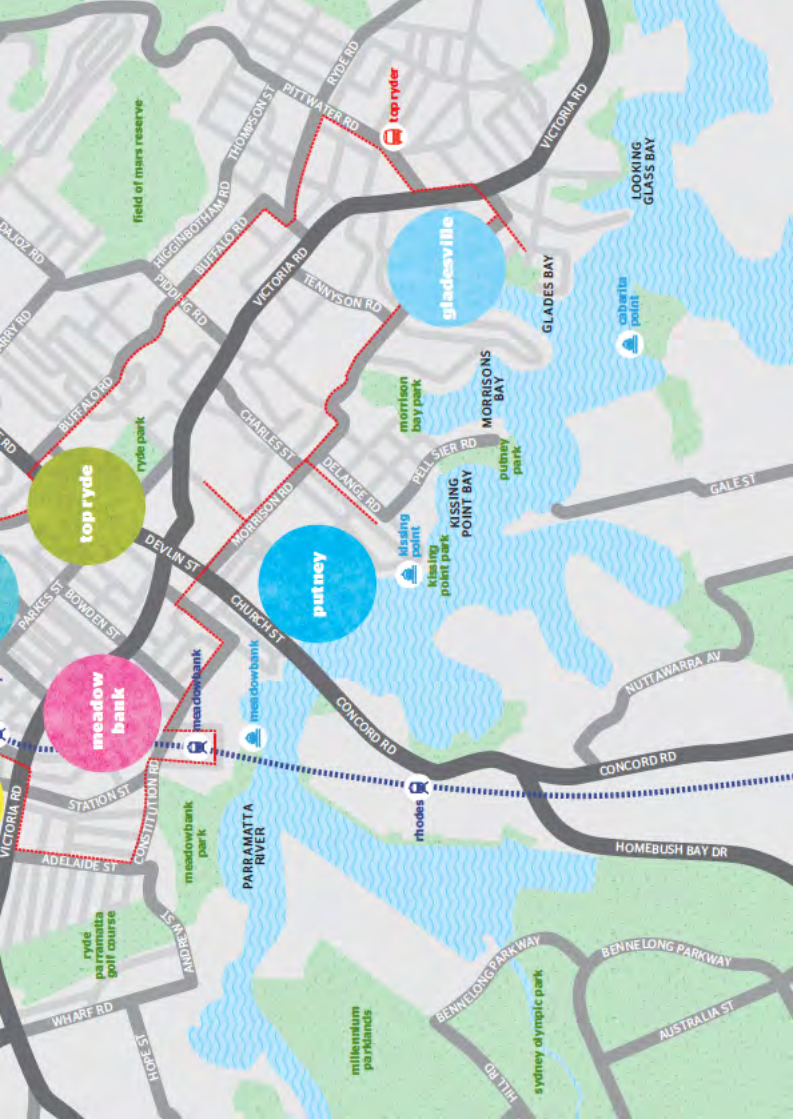
SHAFTSBURY RD

MIDSON RD

TERRY RD

RUTLEDGE ST

MARSDEN RD



top ryde

putney

meadow bank

gladesville

PARRAMATTA RIVER



field of mars reserve

ryde park

morrisson bay park

meadowbank park

millennium parklands

sydney olympic park

LOOKING GLASS BAY

GLADES BAY

MORRISON BAY

KISSING POINT BAY

GALE ST

NUTTAWARRA AV

CONCORD RD

HOME BUSH BAY DR

BENNELONG PARKWAY

BENNELONG PARKWAY

AUSTRALIA ST

DAVID RD

MURPHY RD

BUFAFO RD

PARKES ST

BOWDEN ST

STATION ST

ADELAIDE ST

WHARF RD

HORSBOTHAM RD

HORSBOTHAM RD

HILL RD

THOMPSON ST

HIGGINBOTHAM RD

BUFAFO RD

PIDDELEG RD

BUFAFO RD

BUFAFO RD

BUFAFO RD

DEVILIN ST

MORRISON RD

CONSTITUTION RD

CONSTITUTION RD

CONSTITUTION RD

15th AVE

WHARF RD

WHARF RD

WHARF RD

PITTWATER RD

RIDE RD

THOMPSON ST

BUFAFO RD

VICTORIA RD

CHARLES ST

MORRISON RD

CHURCH ST

CONCORD RD

CONCORD RD

CONCORD RD

CONCORD RD

CONCORD RD

VICTORIA RD

GLADES BAY

MORRISON BAY

KISSING POINT BAY

PELL SIER RD

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HOME BUSH BAY DR

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KISSING POINT PARK

GALE ST

NUTTAWARRA AV

CONCORD RD

HOME BUSH BAY DR

BENNELONG PARKWAY

BENNELONG PARKWAY

AUSTRALIA ST

life's little essentials

All you need to know to get around the City of Ryde

Travel

The City of Ryde is well served by public transport.

For trains, take the Northern Line via Strathfield and alight at Meadowbank, Denistone, Eastwood and Epping Stations. Or take the Northern Line via Chatswood and alight at North Ryde, Macquarie Park and Macquarie University.

For wider Sydney travel MyMulti tickets provide unlimited travel on trains, buses, ferry and light rail. Pre-purchase tickets before you board light rail.

For all bus, train and ferry timetables or disabled access information go to 131500.com or call the transport line on 131 500.

The City of Ryde also provide the Top Ryder—a free bus service within the City of Ryde. Go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/topryder for more info.

Shopping Times

Most shops, department stores and shopping centres are open from 9.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday and 10.00am to 5.00pm Sunday. Many shops also stay open late on Thursday nights (until 9.00pm).

Useful resources

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

www.cityofrydebusiness.com.au

www.macquariecentre.com.au

www.toprydecity.com.au

