

A place for all seasons
Marysville



No matter what time of year you visit Marysville, there's something to see and do.

This small Victorian town is one place where the tourist season is anything but seasonal - it's all-year round.

Nestled on the edge of the Yarra Range in an area referred to locally as "The Mystic Mountains", Marysville is quite simply a place for all seasons . . .

Like many Victorian country towns, Marysville owes its beginnings to the discovery of gold in the 1850s.

Although it wasn't at Marysville itself where the gold was found, the town soon became an important stopping off point on the way from Melbourne to the goldfields.

Situated 100 km north-east of Melbourne (only 90 minutes' driving time these days), the Marysville district had many natural attributes to offer explorers and surveyors looking for an easy route to the goldfields.

With the discovery of gold at Enoch's Point in 1857 and subsequent discoveries at Woods Point and Jamieson, the population of the area swelled to 6000 miners by 1861.

By this time it was clear to the Government that improved access to the goldfields was vital to allow the transport of modern machinery required for effective mining.

Numerous surveying teams conceived plans for access tracks, most of which led from the gold mining settlements, one even as far afield as Sale in Gippsland.



In 1864 the recently-appointed Assistant Commissioner of Roads and Bridges, Mr John Steavenson, moved into the area to oversee the work of his surveyors. They had chosen a route over the Blacks Spur similar to the road that winds across the Great Dividing Range today. With his new bride Mary, Mr Steavenson settled in to the camp, which was soon to become known as Marysville in honour of his wife.

With the completion of the improved access road in 1864 came order and enterprise. General stores, butchers, bakeries, hotels and a postal service sprang up. Marysville had become a major stopover for miners and traders.

In 1865 farming commenced following the first land sales and a postmaster was appointed to handle the ever-increasing volume of mail. By the 1920s Marysville had evolved into one of the most popular honeymoon and resort towns within easy reach of Melbourne. Traditional guesthouses graced the wooded slopes around the town and all boasted a range of modern facilities.

Today Marysville continues that tradition of nostalgia and romance with a fine range of accommodation from luxury guesthouses to rainforest bungalows and cosy romantic cottages.

The timber industry was also a predominate part of Marysville's early history, but these days, tourism is the major industry of the region, along with other rural industries.

Nestled in a landscape of ancient mountains, lush forests, ferns, sparkling rivers and streams and spectacular waterfalls Marysville has earned a reputation as a place to relax and unwind.

Steavenson Falls is a star attraction at night under lights but by day there are many less known but truly beautiful waterfalls to visit, including Keppel's and Cora Lynn Falls. At nearby Camberville visitors can also walk through the magnificent old growth eucalypt forests, find waterfalls and lush glades of tree ferns and be amazed by the giant mountain ash trees, where some of Victoria's tallest trees are found.

Marysville itself has a unique stress-free atmosphere and many parks and gardens to enjoy.

These feature spectacular blooms in spring and all the colours of autumn.

Activities available include exploring the village shops, observing the beautiful parrots, fishing, horse riding, strolling around the amazing Bruno's Art and Sculpture Garden, visiting the Acheron Valley Alpaca Stud, the Buxton Trout and Salmon Farm, or challenging and picturesque golf course (watch out for the river!!).

Only 25 minutes from Marysville is one of the region's major winter attractions, Lake Mountain.

The easy sealed road drive is a great experience in itself, the alpine scenery is spectacular.

Visitors can ski on the groomed trails amongst the snow gums and across the alpine meadows or just get a toboggan and have great fun on the prepared slopes.

Lake Mountain is Australia's premier cross-country ski resort.

With it's alpine walking and magnificent lookouts it is also a great place to visit all year round.

But Lake Mountain isn't the only alpine destination close by Marysville, which is literally surrounded by mountains.

Keppel's Lookout is another special place worth a visit for an inspiring view.

Marysville and the surrounding region has so much to offer.

You can visit for a day or stay a week. It has been an historic getaway for more than 100 years.

Marysville and the Mystic Mountains are so close, so relaxing, and yet so different from Melbourne - It is a special experience.

