

LANDMARK POSTCODE

4390



Gunsynd Memorial, Goondiwindi
Picture Courtesy of Tourism Queensland

LOCATION: Goondiwindi
4 hours West of Brisbane

POPULATION: 5,000

INDUSTRIES: Agriculture and allied industries, retail and service sector, tourism

CLIMATE: Temperate
Summer 34.1°C – 19.9°C
Winter 17.9°C – 4.8°C
Average Rainfall 621.9mm

Mention Goondiwindi and many people immediately think of the legendary galloper Gunsynd. The "Goondiwindi Grey" won the heart of a nation and put the town on the map. The drive and determination of that loveable racehorse survives today in the enterprising spirit of this Queensland town and its people.

Goondiwindi doesn't fit the mould of a typical country town. With its well-kept public spaces and buoyant economy, there's a vibe that can't be ignored. How many country towns put their postcode on shirts and caps that are sold all over the world? Goondiwindi has thanks to local business, Goondiwindi Cotton.

Sitting at the junction of five major highways, Goondiwindi is on the border with New South Wales and a major town on the freight route between Brisbane and Melbourne. Transport is an important local industry but the biggest contributor to the economy is cotton.

In the MacIntyre Valley alone it is worth about \$350 million.

In the current drought cotton farmers are facing severe water shortages. Landmark's Andrew Jakins says farmers who still have water are diversifying into other crops like silage and corn.

He says prices for cotton properties are steady but recent rain sparked strong inquiry for dryland country.

Goondiwindi is one of the largest wheat receival depots in the southern hemisphere. Cattle feedlotting is on the increase and olives are another new industry.

Strengthened by that agricultural diversity, Goondiwindi is forging ahead.

The housing industry is strong with 240 new building lots on the go and work is about to start on a three-storey apartment building. Millions of dollars of new construction has been approved including additions to a supermarket and the development of a new fire station.

Goondiwindi is a young town catering for a regional population of close to ten thousand people. Its excellent health and education services include an expanding aged care facility. The town also boasts a recently completed \$2.3 million sporting complex and its 18 hole golf course will soon be irrigated with recycled water. The local race club is looking to do the same.

Andrew says Goondiwindi is attracting people wanting a prosperous future for themselves and their families. He says it is a perfect location for businesses looking for reliable water and good transport.

"When the drought breaks, Goondiwindi will boom," he says.

The town is making its mark as a preferred

conference destination. The Community Cultural Centre together with ten motels and two hotel-motels ensure enough beds for the largest events. It is becoming an increasingly popular destination among car enthusiasts who use the town as a base for motoring rallies.

Goondiwindi has always been a popular stopover for outback travellers. There is plenty to see and do. The Customs House Museum, the river walk, Gunsynd statue and display room, Botanic Gardens of the Western Woodland, Natural Heritage Water Park and the Macintyre River itself can be explored at a leisurely pace.

There's a saying that once you taste the waters of the MacIntyre River you will always want to return to this red-gum flanked stretch of southern Queensland. Goondiwindi is giving visitors dozens of reasons not to leave in the first place.

For further information contact:

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PROPERTY GUIDE:

Residential: 4 bedroom weatherboard home near river \$420,000.

Lifestyle: 5 acre vacant block – \$120,000 to \$150,000

Larger acreage: from \$80 a hectare to \$600 a hectare, depending on location and quality.

Cotton land: Green hectares from \$15,000 to \$18,000 a hectare, depending on water reliability and the quality of development.