

Welcome to Cowra Voices

Follow our trail to peace and reconciliation



1 Welcome

Cowra is a country town of about 10,000 people, known for promoting peace and international understanding. Situated on the banks of the Lachlan River, Cowra means rock in Wiradjuri, the language of the traditional custodians of the land.

Cowra Visitor Information Centre

Map: F-1



2 Australia's World Peace Bell

The Peace Bell is a symbol of hope for world peace. Made from coins of United Nations member countries, the Japan based World Peace Bell Association presented this bell to Cowra in 1992, recognising Cowra's unique contributions to international understanding.

Map: F-3



3 Bellevue Hill Lookout / Billy Goat Hill

A culturally significant place for the local Wiradjuri people, Bellevue Hill Lookout offers panoramic views of the Cowra region. Many locals refer to this place as Billy Goat Hill because of the goats that once roamed freely here.

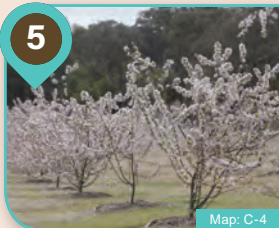
Map: E-3



4 Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre

This 5 hectare garden was designed in 1979 by landscape architect Ken Nakajima. It's classified as a place of cultural, architectural and historic significance by the National Trust. It has a traditional Edo Cottage, a Tea House and Bonsai House.

Map: E-3



5 Sakura Avenue

A 1988 bicentennial project to plant 1988 cherry blossom trees between the war cemeteries, POW Campsite, and Japanese Garden has resulted in about 1000 trees growing between Sakura Avenue and the cemeteries. Each tree is matched with a Cowra child and Japanese sponsor.

Map: C-4



Listen to the audio stories at the Japanese War Cemetery

SECTION A	SECTION B	SECTION C	
ROW 01			01
02	★		02
03		★	03
04		★	04
05			05
06	★		06
07		★	07
08			08
09			09
10			10
11			11

- A-02-24 **MINAMI, Tadao**
- C-07-04 **KUSANO, Masu**
- C-03-06 **WAKAOMI, Michiaki**
- C-02-02 **KANG, Liong Tjwan**
- B-08-10 **KANG, Ping Hoo**
- B-08-02 **MURAMATSU, Jiro**
- C-02-03 **SHIGENO, Yoshio**

The Cowra Japanese War Cemetery Database provides detailed information in English and Japanese, on all 524 people buried in the Japanese cemetery. They were prisoners of war, airmen and civilian internees who died in Australia during the Second World War. The Database Project was funded by the Embassy of Japan with support from Cowra Council.

For more information on the Cowra Japanese War Cemetery Database visit:

www.cowrajapanesecemetery.org



6 Cowra POW Campsite

Japanese and Italian POWs, Indonesian political prisoners and their families were here during WWII. In 1944, 1000 Japanese POWs attempted an escape. 234 Japanese and 4 Australian servicemen died. Yet the Breakout became the catalyst for a friendship between Japan and Cowra.

Map: C-4



7 Saburo Nagakura Park

This picnic park, established in 1989 was a gift to Cowra from Saburo Nagakura's eponymous foundation. An influential Japanese businessman, Nagakura was impressed with Cowra's civic peace and reconciliation efforts. This park is a symbol of his friendship with Cowra.

Map: B-3



8 Entrance to Japanese War Cemetery

Dividing the 2 war cemeteries, this tree lined space was designed by Japanese architect Shigeru Yura to cater to post WWII sensitivities. It now symbolises Cowra's spirit of reconciliation, and is a tribute to the friendship between Australia and Japan.

Map: A-2



9 Cowra Australian War Cemetery

Commemorated here are Australian military personnel, including the 4 servicemen who died as a result of the Cowra Breakout. These men are Private Ralph Jones GC, Private Benjamin Gower Hardy GC, Private Charles Henry Shepherd, and Lieutenant Harry Doncaster.

Map: A-3



10 Cowra Japanese War Cemetery

The 524 graves of military personnel, POWs involved in the Cowra Breakout, and civilian internees who died in Australia during WWII were consolidated here by the Japanese government in 1964. Some were originally from former Japanese colonies, including Taiwan and Korea.

Map: A-3



11 Indonesian Graves

The story of the Indonesians interned in Cowra was mostly unknown until about 1995. The people buried here were political prisoners who rose up against Dutch rule, and also merchant seamen who had staged a strike for better working conditions.

Map: A-2

Cowra
Voices



Graham Apthorpe



Catherine Bennett



Rod Blume



Jemma Pokoney



Robyn Coffey



Isabel Coe



Bob Griffiths



Rod Hayes



Don Kibbler



Bruce Miller



Tony Mooney



Albert Murray



Len Oliver



Gordon Rolls



Lawrence Ryan



Judi Smith



Kelsey Sutor



Belinda Virgo



Bill West

Storytellers

Cowra *Voices*

is an audio-visual storytelling app about Cowra's unique history of civic peace and reconciliation

Cowra *Voices*

allows users to experience places of historic significance through audio stories narrated by Cowra community members



Learn about the Cowra Breakout through a fascinating hologram presentation



Cowra Visitor Information Centre
visitcowra.com.au

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Young Road and Boorowa Road, Cowra

Phone: 02 6342 4333 Email: info@cowratourism.com.au

Opening Hours: Open 7 days 9-5pm everyday except Christmas Day

Cowra *Voices* How to install the App

For Apple / IOS Users



1. Go to www.cowravoices.org from the browser on your device
2. Scroll down towards the bottom of the page
3. Tap on the banner that says "Download on the App Store" on the bottom left hand side of the screen
4. Tap "GET" and wait for the Cowra Voices icon to finish downloading on your device
5. Once downloaded, tap on the Cowra Voices icon on your screen

For Android Users



1. Go to www.cowravoices.org from the browser on your device
2. Scroll down towards the bottom of the page
3. Tap on the banner that says "Get it on Google Play" on the bottom right hand side of the screen
4. Tap "Install" and wait for the Cowra Voices icon to finish downloading on your device
5. Once downloaded, tap on the Cowra Voices icon on your screen

* If you do not have an account with Apple or Google, you will need to follow the screen prompts after step 4 to register before continuing on to step 5



Cowra Voices was launched in August 2019 as part of the Cowra Breakout 75th Anniversary Program



Australian Government



日本交流基金
Australia-Japan FOUNDATION



Cowra Council

The Bruce and Margaret Weir Trust



JAPAN FOUNDATION
BRINGING JAPAN TO YOU



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