

Foster

South Gippsland

Live. Work. Invest.



Contents

About Foster	4
Fast Facts	5
The Lifestyle	6
Development	7
Education and Training	8
Health and Wellbeing	9
Shopping and Services	10
Tourism	12
Sports and Recreation	14
Community, Arts and Entertainment	16
Location Map	17
Town Map	18

Live...

in a safe, healthy and stimulating environment.

Work...

in a region that celebrates diversity.

Invest...

in you and your family's future.

“The Foster community continues to envisage a town which supports a diverse range of residents, visitors, industries and activities.”

(Foster Community Plan, 2011)



About Foster

Foster was established following the discovery of gold in the 1860s. Over time, Foster has become the service centre to a significant dairy and grazing industry for which it is renowned.

Foster continues to be the main service town for the southern part of the South Gippsland Shire housing a range of government bodies, health services, business and industry. It is located just two hours southeast of Melbourne and is well known for its vibrant, creative and welcoming community. The town is surrounded by agricultural land primarily utilised for dairying and horticulture.

Foster boasts some of the region's finest produce which can be found in local retail and farmers markets and is fast becoming a fresh food centre for South Gippsland.

Close to a number of the Shire's most popular attractions, Foster is located on the Great Southern Rail Trail and is a pleasant drive to:

- The iconic Wilsons Promontory National Park
- The glorious beaches of Sandy Point and Waratah Bay
- Agnes Falls, Victoria's highest, single-span waterfall

Foster's magnificent views over Corner Inlet out to Wilsons Promontory make it an idyllic place to live work and invest.



Benefits of Living in Foster

- ➔ Lower housing prices
- ➔ A clean, green environment
- ➔ A welcoming community
- ➔ Healthy and relaxed lifestyle



South Gippsland

- ➔ Comprises an area of 3,300 square kilometres
- ➔ Attracts approximately 1 million visitors annually
- ➔ Has an annual economic output of nearly \$3 billion
- ➔ Is one of Victoria's most valuable agricultural regions
- ➔ Offers country living within easy reach of Melbourne



Fast Facts

Population

Foster has a growing population of around 1,600 and a catchment of approximately 6,000 residents.

Health

Hospital, medical centre, pharmacy, dentist, physiotherapy, maternal child and health care.

Education

Childcare, Pre-school, Primary School, and Secondary School within the township of Foster.



Transport

There are daily coach services between Foster and Melbourne and beyond which connect with interstate and overseas services.

Communications

The region currently has ADSL2+ broadband. Some areas of the Shire are being connected to the government's NBN network.

Emergency services

Police, Ambulance, CFA and SES.

Industry

Dairy, agriculture and horticulture, education, tourism, retail, health & community services and commerce.

The Lifestyle



Foster offers a relaxing and friendly country lifestyle for all ages with a variety of opportunities to be involved in the local community. An extensive range of sporting groups, art and craft networks, historical and theatrical groups and community organisations, within a nurturing environment, cater for the needs of individuals, couples and families.

A picturesque main street with a unique mix of gift, homeware and clothing stores showcase the best of what South Gippsland has to offer. Renowned for excellent customer service and quality produce, Foster's main street is home to a diverse range of cafés, bakeries, butchers, seafood and supermarkets.

Families can enjoy a range of educational opportunities through local childcare, pre-school, primary and secondary schools. There are also a variety of tertiary institutions within the region.

Health care is of vital importance and Foster is well-equipped to cater for the needs of the community and visitors to the region. A centrally located hospital, medical centre and aged care facility provide year round high quality care.





Development

Short and long term accommodation is plentiful and affordable and the majority of dwellings are single storey detached. Land availability is sufficient to accommodate planned growth for the town and local real estate agents, based in Foster, can provide additional information. Motel, hostel and cabin park accommodation is plentiful allowing visitors to further explore the surrounds.

The Foster Community Plan is a document containing recent achievements, vision, statistical information, and future plans for the area.

This states:

“Its wide range of lifestyle options make Foster attractive to both local-born, ‘tree-change’ residents and visitors alike, providing excellent facilities while retaining its small town charm.”

(Foster Community Plan, 2011)



Industrial sites and agricultural land are also available and Council officers can assist with planning and zoning information, or to discuss the location and establishment of new or existing enterprises.

Education and Training

There are a number of quality education facilities available for all levels of schooling within and around Foster. Access to a variety of tertiary institutions allows local people to stay connected to the community while pursuing career paths.



The University of the Third Age or U3A is an organisation designed for those in the 'Third Age' – active retirees. There are no educational requirements and those who teach and learn are all members of U3A.

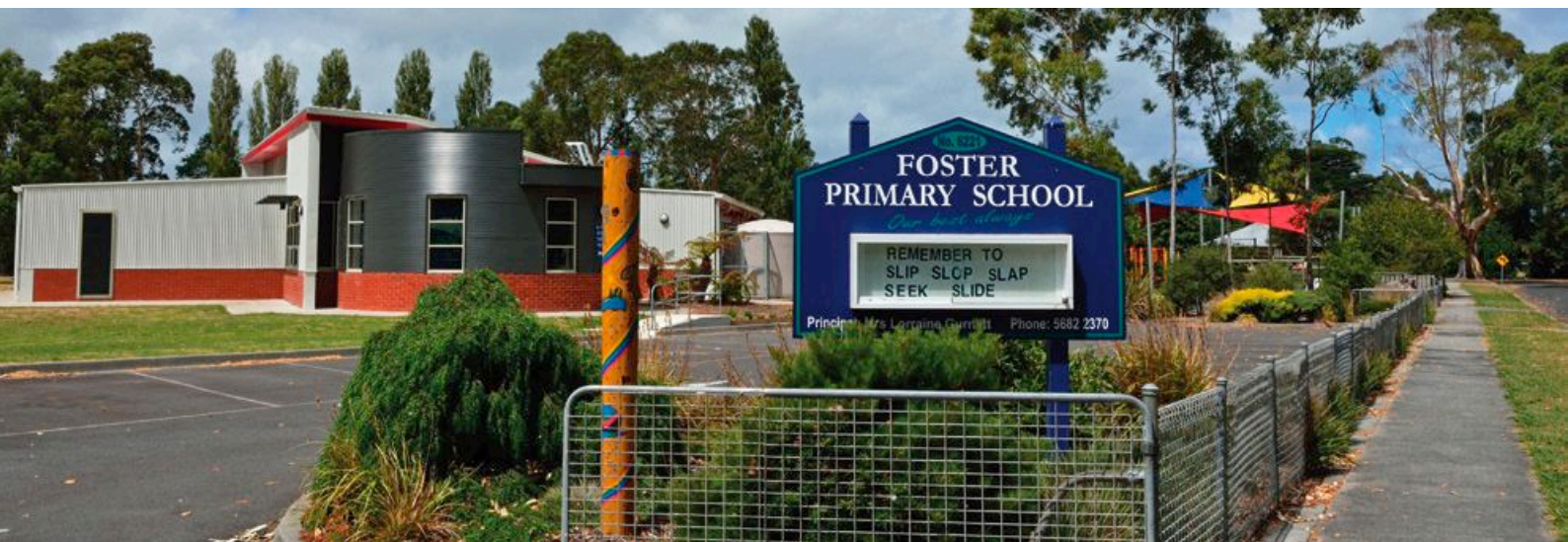


The Prom Coast Centre for Children is a hub for childcare, maternal and child health, and pre-school. A nurturing environment for children and their families, the Prom Coast Centre for Children provides a solid foundation as children embark on their education journey.

The Foster Primary School is known for its strong sense of community. The school motto is "Our Best Always" and focus is centred on healthy relationships between students, staff, parents and the wider community to create a caring, safe and inclusive learning environment.

South Gippsland Secondary College, also located in Foster, offers an extensive curriculum for students from years 7 to 12. Extra-curricular and community activities including sport, music and school camps are encouraged. There are a number of independent and Catholic schools located in nearby Leongatha. These include Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College, Chairo Christian College and South Gippsland Specialist School, which provides education to young people with mild to severe learning difficulties.

The Foster & District Community House incorporates organisations such as the Corner Inlet Woodworkers, Corner Inlet Men's Shed Group, employment assistance services, general education and interest courses, and Centrelink.



Health and Wellbeing

Foster and District is well served by an extensive range of health services for the whole family, including the beloved pets. The experienced doctors and staff of the South Gippsland Hospital provide a range of services including obstetrics. The Foster Medical centre is dedicated to “providing quality, courteous and comprehensive health care to the community by experienced multi-skilled & mutually supportive health care professionals.” (www.fostermedical.com.au)



Foster is able to provide various levels of health care for people of all ages including:

- General
- Hospital
- Obstetrics
- Dental
- Aged care
- Alternative care
- Visiting specialist services
- Generalist counselling



The Home and Community Care Program provides support services for eligible people.

All enquiries can be directed to South Gippsland Shire Council.

The recently opened Prom Country House is a sixty bed, state of the art facility.

The committed and hardworking staff and volunteers look after the residents on a daily basis. (www.promcountryagedcare.com.au)

The Foster Veterinary Clinic is well equipped for daily consultations of small animals as well as serving the needs of the large farming community.



Shopping and Services

Combining business with a balanced lifestyle is achievable in Foster.

Whether you are starting up, growing or moving an existing business, Foster has many opportunities.

Foster is renowned for providing fine produce, interesting products and excellent service. An array of shops and eateries are nestled amongst the greenery of the main street. A small town feel with access to the services of a regional centre, Foster offers a stable workforce delivering high quality goods and services. There are a number of industries providing support to the community and visitors to the region.



Foster's shopping precinct hosts many local businesses including:

- Supermarkets
- Bakeries
- Seafood
- Hotel
- Hardware
- Clothing
- Florist
- Butchers
- Cafés and eateries
- Fruit and vegetables
- Bookshop
- Homewares
- Photography





Foster is a vibrant and enjoyable community providing a safe, healthy and stimulating environment for residents and visitors.

There are a number of services in and around Foster for all of the family. These include:

- Banks
- Post office
- Solicitors
- Accountants
- Library
- Real estate agents
- Places of worship

If you wish to open a business in the Foster district, South Gippsland Shire Council would be pleased to help. Council's Economic Development team links local businesses to State and Federal funding opportunities.



There are a diverse range of services available to the community of Foster.

Tourism

Foster is a gateway to major tourist attractions such as the region's premier national park, Wilsons Promontory. Central to the scenic Strzelecki Ranges, creative Fish Creek, and stunning beaches of Sandy Point and Waratah Bay, visitors can also enjoy the many walks, and wildlife.



The Foster district is home to a number of award-winning wineries. Foster offers a wide range of accommodation including motels, caravan parks, self-contained, bed and breakfast or backpacker style. The stunning landscape will ensure a relaxing and enjoyable time in Foster.

The Great Southern Rail Trail provides a unique visitor experience and there are many opportunities for tourism businesses to develop and grow.

Foster Museum

The Foster & District Historical Society in the former Foster Post Office, which was built in 1890, is abundant with information about the history of the region.



South Gippsland Shire Council has a dedicated Economic Development and Tourism unit to help guide business through a number of processes including:

- Permit guidance
- Land availability
- Grant identification
- Linkages with government bodies



Sports and Recreation

Foster is home to a large number of sporting and recreational clubs covering most areas of interest for all members of the family. Sport and recreation is a great way to be involved in the community, either as a participant or a volunteer.

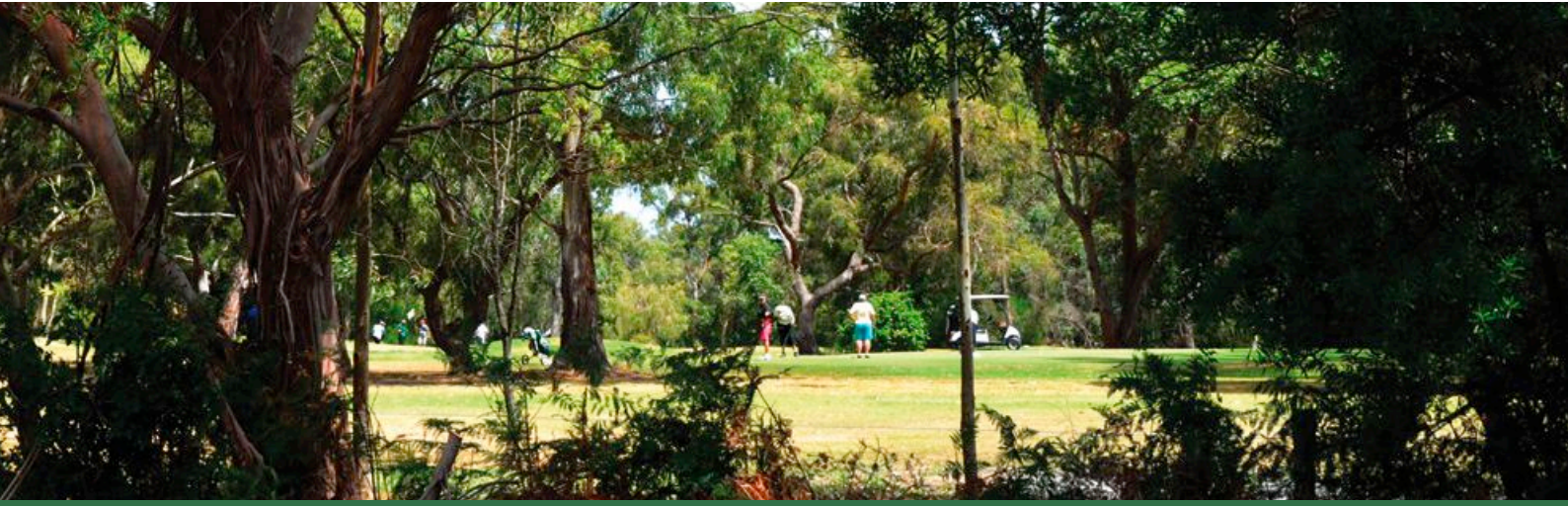


The Foster community enjoy both junior and senior football and netball during winter, cricket and little athletics in summer, and tennis, lawn bowling, motorcycling and basketball throughout the year. For golf enthusiasts, the 18-hole Foster Golf Course is popular and offers reasonable green fees.



There are numerous walks within the region, and fishing and swimming are popular recreational activities. Young people in the area enjoy use of the local skate bowl.

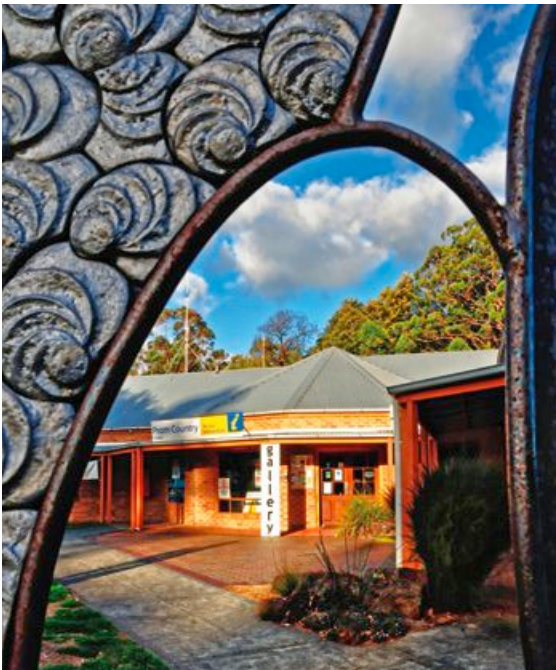




Community, Arts and Entertainment

Foster has a vibrant arts and culture community, including award-winning artists, galleries such as Stockyard Gallery, and live theatre. It is also home to some of the region's best markets and still hosts an annual Foster Show.

The many community groups welcome new members, allowing new residents to be part of this dynamic and colourful community.



Some of Foster's community events and associations:

- Promontory Home Produce & Craft Market
- Foster Farmers Market
- Foster & District Agricultural Show
- Foster Amateur Music and Drama Association (FAMDA)
- Foster Community Association
- Country Women's Association
- Foster Chamber of Commerce
- Senior Citizens
- Rotary

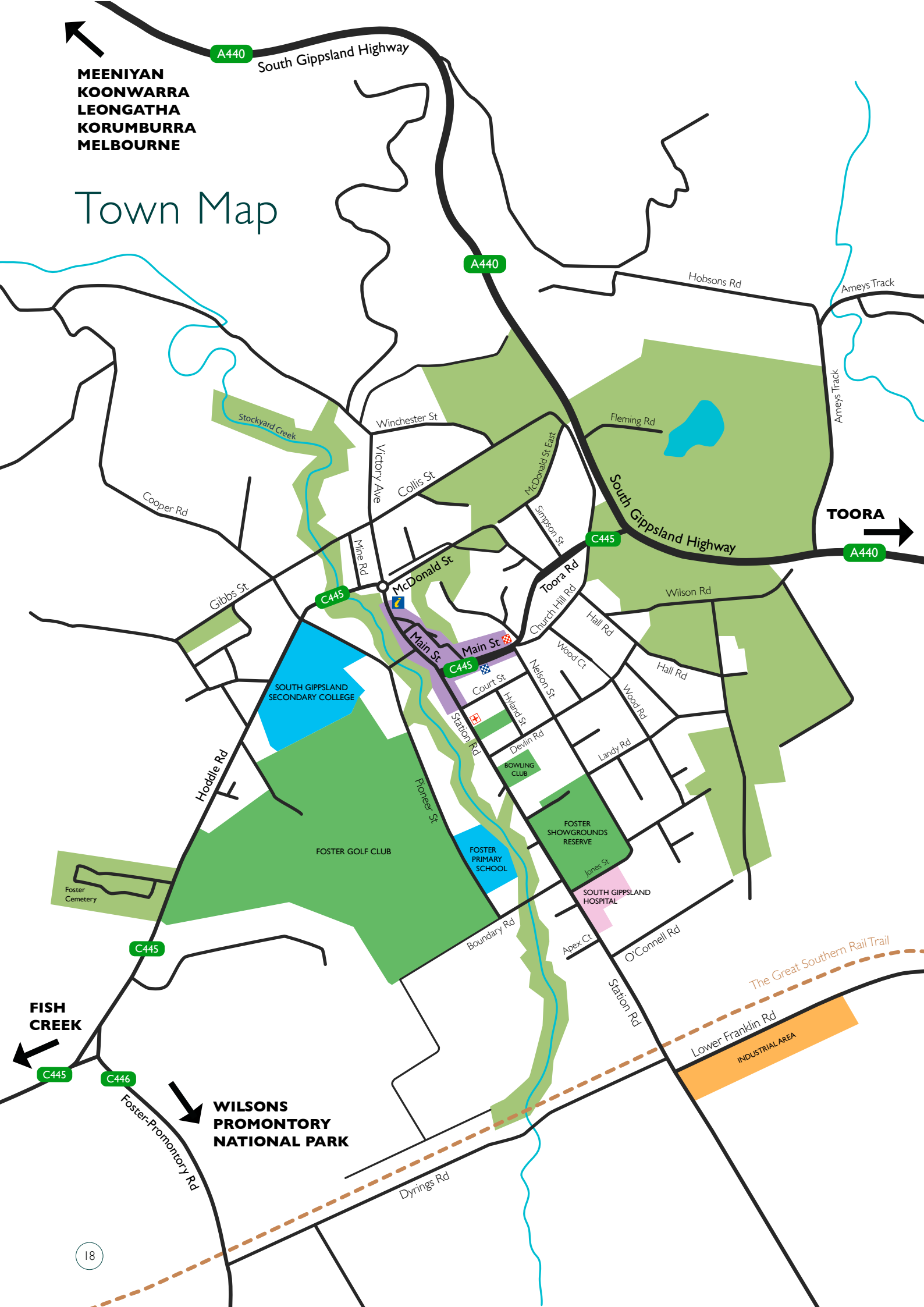


Location Map



MEENIYAN
KONWARRA
LEONGATHA
KORUMBURRA
MELBOURNE

Town Map



A440 South Gippsland Highway

A440

TOORA

A440

SOUTH GIPPSLAND
SECONDARY COLLEGE

FOSTER GOLF CLUB

FOSTER
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

FOSTER
SHOWGROUNDS
RESERVE

SOUTH GIPPSLAND
HOSPITAL

FISH
CREEK

WILSONS
PROMONTORY
NATIONAL PARK

The Great Southern Rail Trail

Lower Franklin Rd
INDUSTRIAL AREA



Prom Country Visitor Information Centres



www.visitpromcountry.com.au

Toll Free **1800 630 704**

Email infocentre@southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Korumburra

South Gippsland Highway (Coal Creek)

Foster

Cnr McDonald & Main Streets

Leongatha Community and Visitor Information Centre

Leongatha Memorial Hall Complex

McCartin Street, Leongatha

Prom Country Regional Tourism

www.visitpromcountry.com.au/pcrt

Discover more on the new Prom Country App, which is available to download from the App Store or Google Play.

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