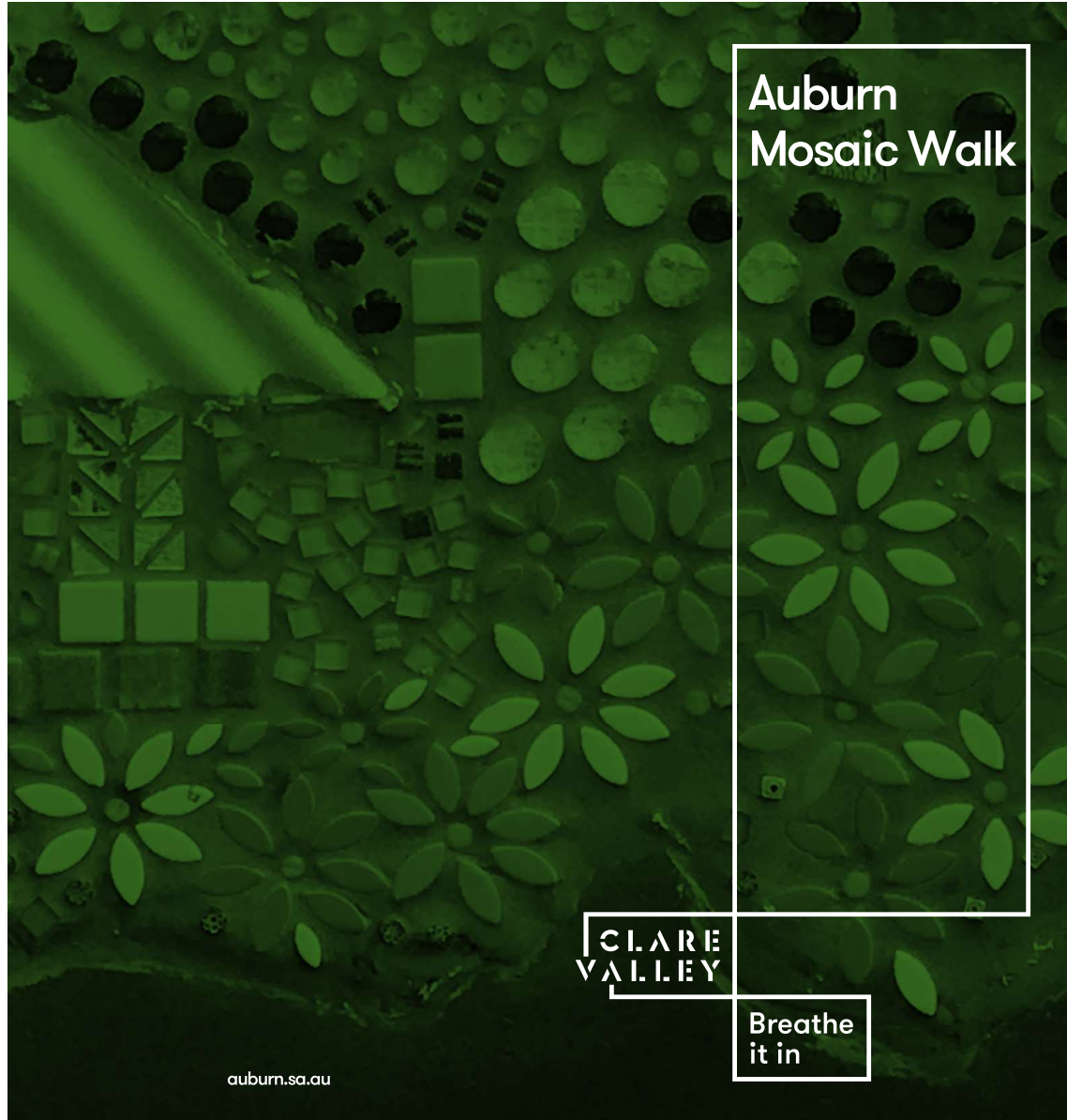


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Auburn Mosaic Walk

CLARE VALLEY

Breathe it in

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Auburn Mosaic Walk. Established 2019.

"A Walk in our Shoes"

The Auburn Mosaic Walk has been a project and vision of the Auburn Traders and the local community coming together to share with you the many aspects of life in Auburn, past and present. With the assistance from The Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council, Auburn Community Development Committee and local artist Dianne Turner it came to life. We trust you will enjoy your walk around our quaint, heritage filled village, taking in and enjoying its many faceted aspects from its early history seen in the preserved buildings to life today enjoying one of the wineries or cafes. The township of Auburn was established in 1849 and has gone through many changes and has many stories to tell. We take this opportunity to welcome you to our little corner of the world and hope you will enjoy your visit as much as we all enjoy living here. Perhaps this visit you will discover something you didn't know, or you will be inspired in ways unknown. Whether this is your first visit, or you are returning to visit Auburn again, be assured you will always be given a warm welcome whenever you visit.

★ **Your walk starts on St. Vincent Street at the Old Council Chambers opposite the Police Station.**

Music in the Valley - Map 1 & 2

Auburn has fast become a destination for the Arts and in particular for live music. Music around the town can be enjoyed on most weekends at the Old Courthouse, or in the Stables at the Rising Sun Hotel and other venues around the town. Or you may be lucky enough to catch a special weekend event so look out for concerts, festivals and art exhibitions taking place in this quaint heritage village throughout the year. Music makes the world go round and music in this part of Auburn is heard on a regular basis with many musicians from all corners of the globe with guitar in hand making regular appearances at the Courthouse Cultural Centre.

Heritage Courthouse and Police Station 1859 - Map 3

This National Trust registered building was built in 1859 by Joseph Mellor using a variety of field stone, bluestone and sandstone along with hand sawn river gum timbers. Looking at the building today you can see its history, the stables that held horses and the cells that held the prisoners. Today, the building is home to HATS Inc. (Heritage Arts and Traditions) where locals and visitors can experience a variety of live music concerts from a range of cultures around the world and theatre shows in a delightful intimate venue.

Wine Industry - Map 4

Auburn has a rich history in wine making. With rich alluvial deposits over limestone, the soils in this region are some of the richest in the area for viticultural land. These soils have the nutrients required to sustain such beautiful crops, and travelling through Auburn and surrounding regions, you often can see all the way to the horizon the lines of vines. Home today of some of the finest world class wineries, it's a great excuse to stop and take time out to visit, taste and experience first-hand the art of wine making. Vines were first planted near Auburn in the early 1850s, and years later the Clare Valley is now known as one of Australia's premium wine regions. Clare Valley is well known for its crisp Riesling varieties, but in more recent times accolades also for our rich reds.

Coffee Culture - Map 5

The Café Culture is alive and well in Auburn with seriously good coffee and a delightful selection of delicacies offered at a variety of outlets throughout the town. Brunch is a very popular alternative at weekends with many of these outlets being established in beautiful heritage buildings which just adds to the charm of what Auburn has to offer.

Old Rising Sun - Map 6

The Rising Sun Hotel the first commercial premises in Auburn dates from 1850. The present building was constructed in 1907 with the stables still in use. The original loft in the stables was a temporary office for the first Auburn Telegraph in 1862.

C. J. Dennis - Map 7

Australia's most popular and bestselling vernacular poet C.J. Dennis was born in Auburn in 1876. He created the character of the sentimental bloke (a quintessential Australian innocent) creating for himself vast fame and enormous wealth only to lose it all again during his life time. The charm of Dennis's verse is that it demonstrates genuine human tenderness revealed within an equal measure of exuberant humour. Auburn loves to celebrate the merits of this iconic poet in September (the month of his birthday) every year.

Honey Industry - Map 8

One of the many boutique food industries here in Auburn. Bees, nature's pollinators and farmer's friends have been an integral part of Auburn for many years. At one time, Auburn ran its own honey festival when the hills surrounding Auburn in spring were ablaze with the blue of the Salvation Jane, often mistaken for Lavender. At this time, bees were plentiful as they feasted on the blue flowers, and the honey flowed. Unfortunately, due to agricultural progress the Salvation Jane is now all gone from the area and sadly along with it the bees.

Transport - Map 9

At some time, the old bullock drays, horse drawn coaches and motorised vehicles have all passed through Auburn carrying their produce and people on route to somewhere in South Australia or beyond. Train transport was also popular but sadly the last train departed in 1983. The old Auburn Railway Station is now a beautiful converted cellar door.

Art & Sport - Map 10

Auburn is a real Arts hub, home to a vast array of local artists, creators' galleries, live music and theatre. Painting groups and other artisan crafts are enjoyed by many who live in the area along with sporting activities like bowling, netball, football, and cricket. Many Clubs are still active today.

Wool Industry - Map 11

Livestock industries have been the mainstay of the agricultural economy since early settlement. Sheep and alpacas are raised in pastures around Auburn. The sheep are grown for both meat and wool production while the alpacas serving as guard animals protecting lambs from foxes. The alpacas also have fleece prized as a luxury fibre.

Cottage Garden - Map 12

The shop and dwelling built in 1855 on the main street of Auburn, was turned into a greengrocer in 1913! Here the shop owner grew vegetables and sold them. A wander around Auburn today and you will quickly establish how much the locals love their gardens. With flowers and vegies flourishing in most backyards and the introduction of the Stephanie Alexanders Kitchen garden program at our local primary school.

Autumn in the Valley - Map 13

Auburn has always been a rich agricultural area and in autumn, it is a magical time of year in the field and vineyards! The paddocks turn from green to a rich golden yellow as the wheat stalks swell and ripen, and the rows of vines start to turn yellow and red, the true colours of autumn. A photographer's dream, an iconic image that can be found in many tourist brochures.

Olive Oil Industry - Map 14

Auburn is where you can get a real taste of the country and our award winning olive oils are a fine example. The gentle hills around our valley nurture the ingredients for some of the very best locally produced olive oils you will ever taste. Available at outlets around our town and throughout the Clare Valley, take some home with you to enjoy the taste of Auburn long after your visit has ended.

Farming in the Valley - Map 15

Travel around what was once called Tateham's Waterhole, you will find paddock after paddock with luscious vineyards, interspersed with hay fields. At harvest, hay rounds can be seen for the miles on the horizon. Auburn at its heart continues to reflect its agricultural beginnings as well as its place as a resting stop that was first established for those travelling from Burra to Port Wakefield.

Undalya Bridge - Map 16

Undalya's amazing single span iron bridge across the Wakefield River is more than 160 years old. This masterful piece of Victorian engineering built in 1855 is known to locals as The Basket Bridge or the Coat Hanger Bridge (yes, a mini Sydney Harbour Bridge). The name Undalya which means "water holes" was taken from the local Ngadjuri people who occupied the area the time of colonisation and are the rightful custodians of this region today. The bridge was at its busiest in the 1850s and 1860s with a steady flow of traffic between the Burra copper mines and Port Wakefield (known then as Port Henry), with up to 100 bullock drays a day passing through it. The bridge was built due to the often heavily swollen Wakefield River, making passage difficult and consequently one of the most impressive early bridges in South Australia was built. A new road and bridge were built in the 1950s a few kilometres away and the Old Undalya Bridge was given back to the locals where it quietly remains today.

Sustainable Living - Map 17

Due to their subsistence nature poultry was incorporated into most of the early mixed farms. Today, maintaining a few "free-range" poultry within many Auburn backyards has become a healthy lifestyle option for sustainable living. For many Auburn families their chickens and strutting roosters are much loved pets.

The River Wakefield - Map 18

There has been a footbridge over the River Wakefield at King Street since 1880. However, floods over the years have washed 3 separate structures away with the last remnants purposely removed in October 2012. The King St crossing today is a purpose-built floodway.

The Riesling Trail - Map 19

In 1993 the route of the old railway was developed into a 35 km walking and cycling track known today as the Riesling Trail, running from Auburn to Clare. A further trail The Rattler Trail extends 19 km in the opposite direction to Riverton via Rhynie. Both trails meet in Auburn at the old Auburn Railway Station, home to a winery today. Auburn is at the beginning or the end of the Riesling trail depending on where you begin your journey. Clare Valley's reputation for Riesling inspired the name. Locals and visitors alike can walk or cycle along this trail away from the main road taking in the unique and beautiful Clare Valley landscape. Stopping off at cellar doors to indulge in local food and wine or just enjoying the beauty and tranquillity of what is on offer.

Bed & Breakfast Industry - Map 20

Auburn has been offering accommodation to weary travellers since 1862 and now offers an attractive variety of buildings both old and new for visitors to stay and enjoy what's on offer in Auburn and the Clare Valley. Why not choose a beautiful B&B and stay a night or two!

Dairy Industry - Map 21

Early agricultural practices consisted of cultivating the soil, growing grain and vegetables and rearing animals. Most small farms milked a cow or two for the family's milk requirements. Today an extensive dairy is located near Auburn, supplying milk for the state and many employment opportunities.

Country Fire Service - Map 22

No country town is fire safe without their CFS (Country Fire Service) unit. Established in 1939, these volunteers have been responding to most emergencies in the area and are an integral part of the Auburn community. The fire season is always on everyone's mind, even more so now as the seasons become hotter and drier. These people, who risk their lives for others, will always be our heroes.

Native Birds - Map 23

Many birds inhabit or visit the Auburn Landscape including the laughing kookaburra. The small musk lorikeet feeds on the nectar of eucalypt and grevillea. The magpie often swoops on people at nesting time while Rosella parrots enjoy bathing in puddles and feasting on local fruit trees.

Old General Store - Map 24

Every little town had its very own general store where everything from clothes pegs to saddles were sold. Often the hub of the community these stores were the lifeblood to one and all as self-sufficiency was the order of the day. We have a modern version still operating in Auburn today.

Rural Culture - Map 25

Without a horse farm work was hard physical work and without a loyal companion, man's best friend, the humble work dog, rounding up the sheep was near impossible. Both of these animals were important and continue to be so for farmers today. Cattle and sheep farming have occurred in the farms surrounding Auburn since the 1830's.