

LANDMARK POSTCODE

2835



The Miner - Cobar Miner's Heritage Park
Image courtesy of Image courtesy of Simon Bayliss

LOCATION: Cobar
8.5 hours west of Sydney

POPULATION: 5,500

INDUSTRIES: Mining, agriculture, tourism

CLIMATE: Temperate
Summer: 19.4°C – 35.0°C
Winter: 4.0°C – 16.0°C
Rainfall: 352.8mm

Cobar is a vibrant, liveable Aussie outback town founded on a rich mining and pastoral heritage.

Here you'll find huge rural stations that stretch the imagination and the big, open skies that western New South Wales is famous for.

Straddling the crossroads of the Barrier Highway and the Kidman Way, Cobar is the business centre for a regional shire covering an area roughly the size of Tasmania, and a natural stop-off point for people transiting cross-country between capital cities.

"We service around 12 million acres," explains Landmark's David Russell. "So there's a lot of diversity, from the Darling River flats to the iconic, red-soiled plains and the stunning National Parks."

Since copper was first discovered here in 1870, a thriving mining industry has sustained the regional economy. Today, three major mines operate in the district, unearthing the natural riches of copper, gold, zinc, lead and silver and providing Cobar's major source of employment.

According to Landmark's David Russell, the

mining sector drives an energetic residential and rental property market in the town. "The mines, the major gas pipeline depot and the many second-tier industries servicing them generate the comings and goings that create high turnover and demand. Although we've seen the market come back 10-15% in recent times, there is still plenty going on," said David.

Agriculture is another mainstay with sheep, cattle and goat grazing often mixed with wheat, oats or barley cropping. "The rural market has contracted a little in some segments," says David. "But we're seeing good interest from international buyers and remote investors who see great value in the larger holdings."

The down-to-earth Cobar folk have responded to prolonged drought with entrepreneurial thinking. "Alongside the traditional agriculture we boast a new-to-Australia drought-tolerant sheep breed, an enviro-boosting tree plantation and a growing focus on hardier crops like jojoba trees," comments David.

The Mosely family's 26,000-hectare multi-enterprise 'Etiwanda' and 'Manuka' Stations have a growing emphasis on White Dorper sheep. Originating from the arid South African region, dorpers are a wool-shedding meat breed known for thriving in "unpampered" conditions. "They're made for Cobar conditions and are a great alternative to cattle. We now have two large Dorper studs here," says David.

CO² Australia (an award-winning carbon credit/off-set provider) has planted 80-90 hectares of

blue-leaved mallee trees on a nearby 8,900 hectare property. This long-lived species withstands climatic extremes and can achieve relatively high biomass growth rates with minimum rainfall. Such planting activities deliver employment opportunities and a range of long-term environmental and agronomic benefits to the property.

Cobar residents and tourists are well-served with healthcare, aged care, schools, air and road transport connections, retail shopping and a flourishing café and eatery trade. The new \$3 million golf and bowling club is one of many sporting facilities – football (all codes), tennis, netball, squash, basketball and swimming are all well catered for.

Attractions are themed around Cobar's mining and rural background, with opportunities to explore long-gone and contemporary mining methods, discover an inspiring social history and sample outback Australia's unique natural gifts.

CONTACT:

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PROPERTY GUIDE:

Residential: Three bedroom home \$180,000 – \$250,000

Large acreage: \$15 – \$20 per acre