



EMBARK ON A ROAD TRIP THROUGH AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST COAL RESERVE

The Central Highlands Mining Trail is a 180-kilometre drive route from Bluff to Capella, through key mining areas of Australia's largest coal reserve, the Bowen Basin.



Visit an operating coal mine



Discover the history of coal mining



Learn about coal mining processes



Meet the characters



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Interpretive signage located along the route explores the stories behind the people that work in the industry. Each sign focuses on a different aspect of the industry including open cut mining, underground mining, wash plants, rehabilitation and coal trains. Signs are located at Capella, Lilyvale, Emerald, Blackwater and Bluff.



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Things to experience

Blackwater International Coal Centre (BICC)

The BICC houses the Australian Coal Mining Museum, a collection of exciting and educational exhibits that delve into the past, present and future of mining. Kids will love the interactive simulators where they can test drive a dragline or coal train.



Coal Mine Tours

Experience moments of awe on tour of an operating coal mine. See the massive open cut pits, oversized machinery and equipment, and learn about coal mining from an expert. Bookings are essential and can be made by contacting the BICC on (07) 4982 7755.

Note: Mine sites can only be accessed through BICC tours. Public access is otherwise prohibited.



Get a photo in the **EarthEater dragline bucket**, located at Capella.

Not only is **Lilyvale waterhole** centrally located near two major mines, it has strong historical interest and is a great out of the way spot to camp.

Visit the **Coal Face Memorial** in Blackwater.

Catch sight of one of the impressively **long coal trains** on way to port. How many carriages can you count?

Keep an eye out for the **Boonal train load out** (between Bluff and Blackwater), which conveys stockpiled coal directly over the highway.

Continue your discovery of the region and experience mining of a different kind, along the **Sapphire Gemfields Treasure Trail**.