

SCENIC AND HISTORIC DRIVES

ROUTE 1 WINE TO CAVES

DRIVE DESCRIPTION

Kick off your trip with a visit to Kingsdale Winery and then head up north through Crookwell, Binda and the historic gold rush town of Tuena. Finish up by visiting the fascinating underground world of the Abercrombie Caves.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Kingsdale Wines** is an award winning boutique winery producing a range of premium cool climate red and white wines. As you sit and enjoy your wine tasting experience you can enjoy beautiful views over Lake Sooley.
- **Pejar Dam** was constructed in 1979 on the Wollondilly River system to augment Goulburn's water supply. Nestled between rolling hills, this extensive water body has become a favourite spot for angling, bird watching, photography, kayaking and wind-surfing. There is a picnic area with car parking, shaded tables and public toilets. Interesting granite boulder rock formations can be found along the river on the western side of the Crookwell Road.
- **Crookwell 2 Wind Farm** consists of 28, 130 metre diameter wind turbines constructed by Global Power Generation. The wind farm has a 91 MW capacity and supplies power for 41,600 homes in the ACT.
- **Crookwell 1 Wind Farm** consists of 8 wind turbines and was the first grid connected wind farm in Australia when built by Pacific Power in 1998. Stop at the viewing area where the information boards will tell you more about renewable energy production.
- **Crookwell** sits high atop the Great Dividing Range. A cool climate, rich basalt soils and reliable rainfall provide perfect conditions for growing seed potatoes and lovely gardens. These are celebrated with two major annual festivals, the Potato Festival in May and the Garden Festival in November. The town features many historical buildings, many dating back to the 1800s. Crookwell is also well known for its specialty shops including the famous Lindner sock factory, Arcadia, Top Paddock and Mad Hatters. With plenty of food outlets, there's also a wide choice of places to have a meal.
- **Binda** at first impression is a small, sleepy village, but in its heyday during the gold rush years from the 1840s to the 1880s was an important administrative and law enforcement centre. The town originated as a response to the need to control marauding bushrangers, including Thomas Whitton and "The Bathurst Mob" (1840), and Ben Hall and his associates (1860s). Binda hosts the oldest country horse racing event, the famous Binda Picnic Races, which were first held at Funny Hill Farm, Binda in 1848. Historical buildings include St James Anglican Church, Rose Cottage, the Binda Mill and Residence, and the Binda General Store.
- **Tuena** was once home to a thriving gold mining community in the 1850s. Although the gold rush days are long gone, Tuena Creek remains a popular gold fossicking area to this day. Parson's General Store (established 1860) can supply panning equipment and helpful advice if you want to try your luck. They also have a small museum display and information on Tuena's colourful history and historic buildings.
- **Abercrombie Caves** are surrounded by rugged bushland and the area was used as a hideout for bushrangers Ralph Entwistle and "The Ribbon Gang" in 1830. Abercrombie Caves offers cave walks through spectacular limestone caverns, camping, bushwalking, fishing, swimming, birdwatching, photography and fossicking for gold, garnets, zircons and sapphires.

DISTANCE

113 km

Driving Time

Approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes (remember to take it easy on country roads!)



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