Hobsons Bay is a picturesque seaside municipality. Here you can find a peaceful natural environment, clean beaches, wide streets, heritage buildings and a diverse choice of restaurants, cafés and shops, connected by bike paths and only 15 mins from the hustle and bustle of the City. Hobsons Bay offers breathtaking views of the City skyline; a perfect accompaniment to alfresco dining, leisurely café atmosphere or a family outing.

Hobsons Bay offers a great variety of attractions in a small area, from hands on interactive science, to maritime and rail history. It’s family friendly and won’t break the budget so you can come back again to discover more of what we have to offer. [www.visithobsonsbay.com.au](http://www.visithobsonsbay.com.au)

**Altona**
Framed by parks and a wide sweeping beach, Altona is a traditional strip shopping centre with a relaxed urban character, personality and charm. Visit the Louis Joel Art and Community Centre, The Altona Homestead and Tuesday Beach market.

**Laverton**
Just off the Princes Freeway, Laverton offers a great variety of products; serviced by rail and road. Laverton has affordable accommodation, shops and eateries that won’t stretch the budget.

**Newport**
Capturing a multicultural flavour and the artistic talents of the locals, Newport is a great place for coffee, traditional Lebanese breads and treats. Newport makes a great base for a visit to the Newport Lakes Park and the Substation arts precinct.

**Williamstown**
Originally Melbourne’s first sea port, Williamstown has developed into a fashionable maritime village, with many historical buildings, cafés, restaurants and a vibrant area that locals and visitors love. It’s surrounded by water, with the northern and eastern coastline dotted with piers, gardens and remnants of Williamstown’s maritime history.

**Getting there**
One of the real charms of getting to Hobsons Bay is just that, getting there! Travel by ferry, get on your bike and ride, take the train or bus, or come in by car. Phone the Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre on 9932 4310 for best travel arrangements. Which ever way you come, your adventure starts the moment you leave home.

Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre.
The friendly staff and volunteers will spend time with you, inspire you and tell you stories that really matter about Williamstown and other surrounding areas of Hobsons Bay. Drop in or phone us so we can help you get the most out of your visit.
Located in Commonwealth Reserve (on the corner of Nelson Place and Syme Street), the Visitor Information Centre is open daily, except Good Friday and Christmas Day, from 9am to 5pm. The Visitor Information Centre can be contacted by:
Phone: 03 9932 4310   Fax: 03 9399 8650
Email: visitorinformation@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au   Web: [www.visithobsonsbay.com.au](http://www.visithobsonsbay.com.au)
Williamstown are bustling with people and activity. Tower at Point Gellibrand originally operated as a collection of nautical exhibits and memorabilia. Visitors can inspect a fascinating home to the HMAS Castlemaine, a historic warship. Enjoy a walk or three in and around Williamstown while in Williamstown take one of the salt-guzzled Heritage Walks. The three walks can be taken separately or together and take you through some of the most picturesque corners of this historic seaport. Pick up a brochure at the Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre in Commonwealth Reserve in Williamstown.

A ’gem’ of a pier: Glen Pier is the gateway to Williamstown from the bay. You can catch a ferry to Southgate, go for a sail on the Enterprise or take a scenic cruise around the bay. The adjacent Commonwealth Reserve also offers a great venue for picnics. Glen Pier is also home to the HMAS Castlemain, a historic warship (1942). Museum. Visitors can inspect a fascinating collection of nautical exhibits and memorabilia.

Watch ‘time fly’ at the Timeball Tower: Built in the 1840s by convict labour, the Timeball Tower at Point Gellibrand originally operated as a lighthouse and then as a timeball. Watch the ships go by Greenwich Bay. Greenwich Bay is home to Williamstown’s number one address. The Strand. The area incorporates sporting clubs, playgrounds and a habitat area, and offers breathtaking views of the City. The bay is also famous for its close-up glimpses of container ships travelling the Yarra River, a sure winer with young and old.

Explore Williamstown: Williamstown is famous for its village ambiance and rich maritime history. Covered by the fine restaurants, shops and cafes or explore the Williamstown Craft Market held on the third Sunday of every month and the Farmers Market held on the second Sunday of the month. Weekends in Williamstown are bustling with people and activity.

Enjoy a walk or three in and around Williamstown: While in Williamstown take one of the salt-guzzled Heritage Walks. The three walks can be taken separately or together and take you through some of the most picturesque corners of this historic seaport. Pick up a brochure at the Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre in Commonwealth Reserve in Williamstown.

‘Cherry-ripe’ all year round! Cherry Lake is a popular destination for families, cyclists, walkers, windsurfers and rollerbladers. A multi-purpose track around the lake suits land-based recreational pursuits while windsurfers, model boat owners and anglers enjoy the inland waters. Cherry Lake includes picnic areas, gardens, a children’s playground, electric BBQs, public toilets, bird sanctuary and observation hut.

Flock to Jawbone Reserve: Jawbone Reserve is one of the few saltmarsh mangrove habitats remaining in Melbourne. A boardwalk enables you to explore this richly textured area without disturbing the natural vegetation. This is a rare opportunity to observe pelicans and migratory wading birds in abundance.

Altona Beach, the perfect place to soak up the sun: Swim at Altona Beach, with sandy beaches and internationally renowned surfing. The beach is also home to a large population of seagulls, terns, and the occasional pelican. The trail is easily navigated by foot or bicycle.

Further Afield: A top spot to view birds: The Chesterfield Wattles at Point Cook Coastal Park rank amongst the top three places in the world to see birds. With birds arriving from as far afield as Siberia, Alaska and Japan, you won’t be the only visitor dropping in to sample the delights of this protected habitat! The Park offers 360 degree views of the surrounding wetlands and the City skyline in the distance.

If you’re looking for a seaside escape with a difference, consider taking a drive along the Bay West Trail. Covering 55km, the trail takes you past some of Victoria’s premier attractions, from museums and historic sites to places of natural beauty and environmental significance.

Military aviation - now boarding: The RAAF Museum offers you an insight into the history of military aviation in Australia. This museum tells the story of the Australian Airforce and the most exciting machines ever built and the fascinating stories of the daring men who flew them. Entry is free. Weekly tours are available by arrangement.

A place of peace and beauty: The Victorian State Rose Garden is located at Werribee Park. Sit in the shade of a Tudor rose, the garden features over 4,000 rose bushes in a spectacular display that changes throughout the year. The impressive Heritage Border features unusual and historic roses from around the world. The blooms are in full glory from November to May.

The sounds of Africa in the middle of Werribee Park: Get up close and personal to magnificent grassland animals from Africa, Asia and Australia at the Werribee Open Range Zoo. Rhinos range free with giraffe, zebra and antelopes, while the hippo wallows in a nearby waterhole and the vervet monkeys chatter. Facilities include a 50 minute safari tour, walking trails, Savannah Discovery Centre, Safari Shop and Meerkat Bistro and Function Centre.

Australia’s National Equestrian Centre, Werribee Park: The grounds and facilities cater for the full range of equestrian activities, including the three Olympic disciplines of show jumping, dressage and eventing. Home of polo in Australia, Werribee Park offers a wide range of equestrian activities. Discover the thrill of a polo game during summer or the excitement of carriage driving and quarter horse events in the purpose built indoor arena at the Equestrian Centre.

Go back in time at The Mansion, Werribee Park: One of Australia’s most majestic stately homes. Built in 1874 and 1877, the rambling Italianate mansion was once home to the wealthy Chirnside family. See how the Chirnsides lived, and listen to their ghostly voices through the self-guided headset tour. Take a stroll to the Shadowville Winery and Vineyard for a gourmet food and wine experience.

The Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail takes you past botanic gardens, sandy beaches, internationally important habitat and spectacular historic buildings. The trail is easily navigated by foot or bicycle and is clearly signposted with tailor-made markers topped with colourful nautical motifs that show local information. The total length of the trail from the West Gate Bridge to Skeleton Creek is 47km. A bicycle punt runs across the Yarra River to link the Westgate Park and The Bay Trail, which leads to St Kilda and beyond, phone 0419 950 458 for operating times.