

Jodi McKay

Minister for Tourism
Minister for the Hunter
Minister for Science and Medical Research
Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)



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NSW Indigenous culture experiences online

NSW residents and visitors to the State are being encouraged to explore the range of Indigenous tourism experiences available in NSW as part of National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) week.

Minister for Tourism Jodi McKay said Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage is a unique part of NSW and Australian culture and holds great appeal for many visitors, particularly international visitors.

“We have a unique Indigenous heritage and this week is the perfect time to celebrate our State’s growing Indigenous tourism industry.”

Ms McKay said Tourism NSW had developed online resources on Indigenous tourism at www.visitnsw.com to help people plan a truly unique cultural experience in NSW.

“The new webpage includes information on Indigenous museums and galleries, tours and cultural centres,” Ms McKay said.

“Sydney is home to the world’s largest permanent exhibition of Australian Indigenous artworks.

“Tourists can also explore ancient rock engravings, take a bush tucker tour or cruise the harbour on the Tribal Warrior.

“In regional NSW, many Indigenous tourism experiences are located within easy reach of key towns and cities like Lismore, Nowra and Tumut.

“Visitors can also tour the world heritage listed Mungo National Park with Harry Nanya Outback Tours or explore the 40,000 year old stone fish traps on the Brewarrina Fish Trap Tour.”

Ms McKay said that NSW had also made a major contribution to the new National Indigenous Tourism Product Manual launched by Tourism Australia last month at the Australian Tourism Exchange.

The manual features over 200 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tourism products and has been designed to encourage the Australian tourism industry to package and promote ethical Indigenous tourism experiences.

More than 1.2 million international and domestic visitors to Australia in the year ending December 2008 participated in some form of Indigenous tourism activity. These visitors spent more per trip within Australia on average than any other type of visitor, spending \$7,465 compared to the average \$5,363 spent by all other visitors.

For more information on how to plan a NSW Aboriginal experience go to www.visitnsw.com.