

GOOMERI

Goomeri is a former timber town that retains a relaxed old-world atmosphere. Many of Goomeri's buildings were constructed in the 1920s and retain all their original charm. The town is steeped in history, the 'Lest We Forget' town clock built in 1939 has become a landmark, earning Goomeri the name of 'Clocktown'.

This charming town is home to Australia's only Pumpkin Festival, which is held annually on the last weekend in May and features the exciting 'Great Australian Pumpkin Roll'. The Festival draws thousands of people from all over south-east Queensland.

Bursting with country charm and original 1920s buildings, Goomeri is a former timber town that oozes a relaxed old-world atmosphere - making it the perfect place to stop and slow down on your next trip up north.

Awash with history, around every corner you'll find a beautifully restored building worth putting on your Instagram or a heartwarming monument - like the 'Lest We Forget' town clock built in 1939 that earned Goomeri the name of 'Clocktown'.

Once you've snapped enough pics of this adorable town to fill your camera roll, snag a table at Joe's Grand Hotel. Here, the beer is cold and the meal portions are huge - the twice-cooked pork belly is a game changer. If you're after something sweet, you can't beat Goomeri Bakery & Coffee Shop where you can stock up on all your flakey pastry, chocolate coated fudge and cheesy toastie needs.

But perhaps the coolest thing about this quirky town? It's home to Australia's only Pumpkin Festival, which is held annually on the last weekend in May and features the exciting 'Great Australian Pumpkin Roll':



Where is Goomeri?

Goomeri is located on the Burnett Highway approximately **265** kilometres north-west of Brisbane (or **235km** if you take the Burnett Highway which runs between Nanango and Goomeri).

It's also **78km** from Gympie.

You can get to Goomeri by following:

- the D'Aguilar Highway from **Caboolture**
- the Brisbane Valley Highway through **Esk**
- the New England Highway via **Yarraman**
- the Bunya Highway via **Dalby** and **Kingaroy**
- the Burnett Highway via **Gayndah** or
- the Wide Bay Highway via **Gympie** and **Kilkivan**

How big is Goomeri?

Goomeri is one of the **two** principal towns of the southern Gympie Region (the other is Kilkivan, 25km to the north) and it has a population of about **500 residents**.

Goomeri has its own hotel, motel, caravan park, B&B's, cafes, restaurants, convenience and food stores, petrol outlets, golf and bowling clubs, swimming pool, newsagency and showgrounds.

A Tourist Information Centre operates from Lions Park at the southern entrance to town during busy periods. A major feature of Goomeri is the "**Lest We Forget**" clock which dominates the centre of town. It's located at the heart of its small but charming CBD (*see further below*).

The small village of **Tansey** - located 6km north of Goomeri on the Burnett Highway - has a bowling club as well as rest areas and toilet facilities.

Springbrook - located 28km north-west - is home to **Springbrook Farm**, a host farm which also operates the **VisitOz** scheme that provides training and work for young tourists on outback properties all over the country; and **Spring Gully Olives**.

Boobyjan (30km north) is the site of **Boobyjan Homestead**, one of the district's original stations. Boobyjan now operates as a museum and function venue and is open to the public. Boobyjan also has its own hall, tennis court, community centre and schoolhouse.

What is Goomeri like?

Goomeri is a small, friendly country town with a typical low-humidity South Burnett climate of warm summers and cool winters.

The town itself is surrounded by **beef cattle grazing** and **dairy farming country** intersected by numerous small ranges, occasionally interrupted by stands of eucalyptus scrub.

Goomeri is a quiet and pleasant place with a surprisingly relaxed old-world atmosphere. Many of its buildings were constructed in the 1920s and retain all the charm of that bygone era to this day.

The "**Lest We Forget**" town clock - built in 1939 - has become a local landmark (Goomeri is also sometimes known as "Clocktown"). The clock has the words "Lest We Forget" in place of numerals on the clock face.

Goomeri also has two very pretty parks and a small, shady rest area immediately opposite the clock in the centre of town. This park has a local tourist map, tables, seats and toilet facilities.

Major annual events include the **Goomeri Show** (held over two days at the Goomeri Showgrounds every March); the **Goomeri Pumpkin Festival** (held on the last Sunday in May each year - this festival routinely draws thousands of visitors); the **Goomeri-Manumbar Campdraft** (most Octobers) and the **Lions' Christmas Carnival** (each December).

When was Goomeri established?

The earliest European settlements in the Goomeri area were at **Boobyjan Homestead** and **Boonara Station**, both established around **1846**.

Each of the stations grew to become self-sufficient villages during the latter part of the 19th century (Boonara itself had more than 100 employees in the late **1880s**). However, both slowly faded away in the early 20th century with the arrival of the railways.

Goomeri itself was originally a railway siding used primarily by timber hauliers and local farmers and its name is allegedly derived from an aboriginal word for "broken shield".

A land sale in **1911** opened up 12,000 hectares of rural allotments and town blocks for settlement. This drew hundreds of new residents to the area and permanently established the township (Goomeri is also sometimes known as the "Town of 1911" in honour of this famous land sale).

Goomeri's impressive **Hall of Memory** - still in use today - was built in **1926** and the art deco-inspired **Memorial Clock** in **1939**. Many other buildings - such as the showgrounds, churches, the **Goomeri Emporium** and a now-defunct butter factory - were constructed during the town's agricultural heyday (**1930s** to **1960s**). A **Bicentennial Quilt** which commemorates Goomeri's history and principal local industries is on permanent display at Goomeri Library.



Camping

\$15 unpowered site 2people
\$20 powered site 2people
\$5 per extra person

Showers and toilets on site.

Caretaker on site.

Dump Point on site.

Dogs welcome – (on a leash)

and please clean up after your dog goes to toilet

Features



