



Did you know?

- Awabakal is the name of the Aboriginal Indigenous tribe that lived on the banks of the Coquon River. Hunter River is the European name for this river which flows past Newcastle (Muloobinba - place of the edible sea fern) on its journey to the sea.
- Founded in 1797, Newcastle is the second-oldest city in Australia.
- With a population of over 140 000, Newcastle is the second-largest city in NSW.
- There are 6 beaches within 5 minutes drive of the Newcastle CBD.
- Newcastle's Fort Scratchley is the only coastal fort in Australia to return fire at an enemy vessel during a time of war.
- 2004 Miss Universe, Jennifer Hawkins, once a Newcastle Knights cheerleader, still calls Newcastle home.
- Three local lads, Daniel Johns, Ben Gillies and Chris Joannou were just 15 when they shot to stardom after their band, Silverchair, released the single Tomorrow in 1994. All grew up in the Newcastle surf suburb of Merewether.
- Newcastle has produced more ballerinas for the Australian Ballet Company than any other city.
- Newcastle Port is the world's largest coal exporting port.
- Newcastle's 'Bogey Hole' is one of the oldest ocean baths in Australia and was built in around 1820 by convicts for the personal use of Commandant Morriset. The name Bogey Hole is derived from an aboriginal term meaning 'to bathe'.
- Stockton Beach is the largest moving coastal sand mass in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Fanny's Nightclub was voted as 'The Easiest Place to Pick Up in Australia' in Ralph Magazine in 2005.



- Sand from Stockton Sand Dunes is exported to Hawaii.
- Newcastle once had the largest tram transport network in Australia...bigger than Melbourne.
- In 1966, The City of Newcastle converted the old burial ground adjacent to Christ Church Cathedral to a pioneer rest park. The burial ground was, at the time of its conversion, one of the State's oldest, having received its first burial in 1816. Above ground the graves were replaced by picnic tables, retaining walls and native trees. Below ground the graves remained undisturbed.
- The phallic-like tower on Newcastle harbour is called Queens Wharf Tower; it is 40.3 metres high and has 180 steps to the top.
- The Tree of Knowledge Park boasts one of the area's oldest and most historic fig trees as well as a tribute to Henry Lawson, who spent time at the nearby Wickham School of Arts.
- Merewether Baths is the largest ocean baths in the Southern Hemisphere.