



**Mount Morgan Promotion and Development Inc [MMPAD]**

**Mount Morgan Tourism Feasibility Project Plan Extract**



## **MOUNT MORGAN TOURISM OVERVIEW**

### **Mount Morgan's industry today and future proposals**

Boasting a relaxed, semi-rural lifestyle and situated in the foothills of the Rockhampton hinterland is the historic and picturesque mining township of Mount Morgan. Presently most people commute to Rockhampton for employment. The main industry is a small tourist industry focusing on the town's history and mining heritage. Mount Morgan has a strong foundation on which to build to turn this community into a defined and important Queensland tourism destination.

Looking to the immediate future, Mount Morgan residents hope to have the abandoned mine reopened again. This will create some employment for locals. For the past five years, Heritage Minerals, the company that holds the mining leases, has been busy working towards commencing a tailings reprocessing operation using the tailings resource on site. The company has identified 10–20-year time frame for the operation.

A pipeline due for completion in September will ensure Mount Morgan a permanent water supply. This will encourage further development for industry.

### **Mount Morgan's Tourism Industry – 25 years ago to today**

#### **25 years ago:**

- Limited public access to the abandoned historic Mount Morgan Mine and Fireclay Caverns (home of the early Jurassic dinosaur trackways)
- The Mount Morgan Historical Museum
- The Mount Morgan Tourist Railway - operating trains and section cars – 3 km of track with rail infrastructure including tunnel and bridge (curved wooden bridge spanned Dee River)
- One original and one replica suspension bridge
- Two town lookouts and historic and heritage listed buildings
- Between 2000 – 2003 Mount Morgan was given the opportunity to develop ideas for the Queensland Heritage Trails (QHTN) Project with a considerable amount of funding delivered to Mount Morgan. From this, the Mount Morgan Experience was formed with no operational capital, this was soon disbanded just over 21 years ago
- Mount Morgan Historic Cemetery
- An undeveloped No 7 dam for recreational usage with some fishing, kayaks and small craft but development was restricted due to being the township's potable water source
- Hospitality 20 years ago consisted of relatively busy CBD, four hotels (four hotels with accommodation), one caravan park, one van park with motel accommodation, five cafes and one bakery.

The QHTN project added to what is listed above

- A 3D Movie on the Rack Railway housed in a restored wagon
- A range of information signs

- Public Art installations
- Restoration works at the Railway Station
- Interpretive kiosks at the Railways station and Historical Museum
- A heavily contaminated river below the waste dumps from the Mine site stretching for a few kilometres on the southern reaches of the river

#### Today:

- **No public access to the Mount Morgan Mine and Fireclay Caverns**
- The Mount Morgan Historical Museum
- **A rail museum and assorted rolling stock as static displays – No operational track remaining of the 3 km utilized for a train ride 20 years. Only the track inside the yard complex remains. Some coaches and rollingstock need maintenance and repair.**
- One replica suspension bridge
- Information signs and some public art
- A more developed No. 7 Dam recreation area (still not at its potential)
- Two town lookouts
- Mount Morgan Historic Cemetery
- Some environmental improvements are visible on the mine site and river areas due to the implementation of rehabilitation measures by the Queensland Government several years ago. Some contamination remains.
- Most of the historic and heritage listed buildings
- Interpretive signs are located throughout the CBD and township.
- Some iconic heritage displays positioned in the main street
- Walking and Mountain bike trails
- GPA fossicking area and privately owned fossicking areas
- Three major events each year
- Mount Morgan Arts Precinct – exhibitions of homegrown talent featuring visual arts
- Hospitality today consists of a quieter CBD, two hotels (one with accommodation), one caravan parks with motel accommodation, an accommodation venue in development, Vietnamese food outlet (dine-in/takeaway), two cafes and one bakery.

Note: There may be other attractions or locations that have not been identified, that are present. These haven't been itemised but included in a category such as "Historic locations".

If you need more information on the above, do not hesitate to contact MMPAD on 07 4938 2312 or email [mmpad@mountmorgan.org.au](mailto:mmpad@mountmorgan.org.au).