

From 1861 until 1923, Wallaroo was the port for the mineral produce of the miners of Australia's Little Cornwall. Until the establishment of lead smelters at Port Pirie in the 1890s, it was the principal port on Spencer Gulf. The first jetty was constructed in 1861 as part of the contract to build a tramway to the Wallaroo Mine. The port soon became one of the busiest in the state as ships brought cargoes of timber, coal, machinery and food supplies and left laden with copper ore and ingots and later wool and wheat. Wallaroo is still a major export port for grain.

Wallaroo was also the location of the large smelting works where ore from both the Wallaroo and Moonta mines was smelted from 1861 until closure of the mines in 1923. The smelting works employed a large number of Welsh smelter men which gave the town a distinctive Welsh flavour, as the Welsh language was used in the town for many years.

By 1865, the population of Wallaroo was about 3000. This increased to 4000 by the early 1900s and reached a peak of about 5000 residents in the early 1920s. When the smelting works closed after 62 years of continuous operation, it had a major impact on the local community. Hundreds left the town; some gravitated to agriculture and others to the wharf or the chemical works.

**This guide was made as a quick reference
for your convenience by the
Copper Coast Visitor Information Centre.**



50 Mines Road, Kadina.

Phone: 8821 2333

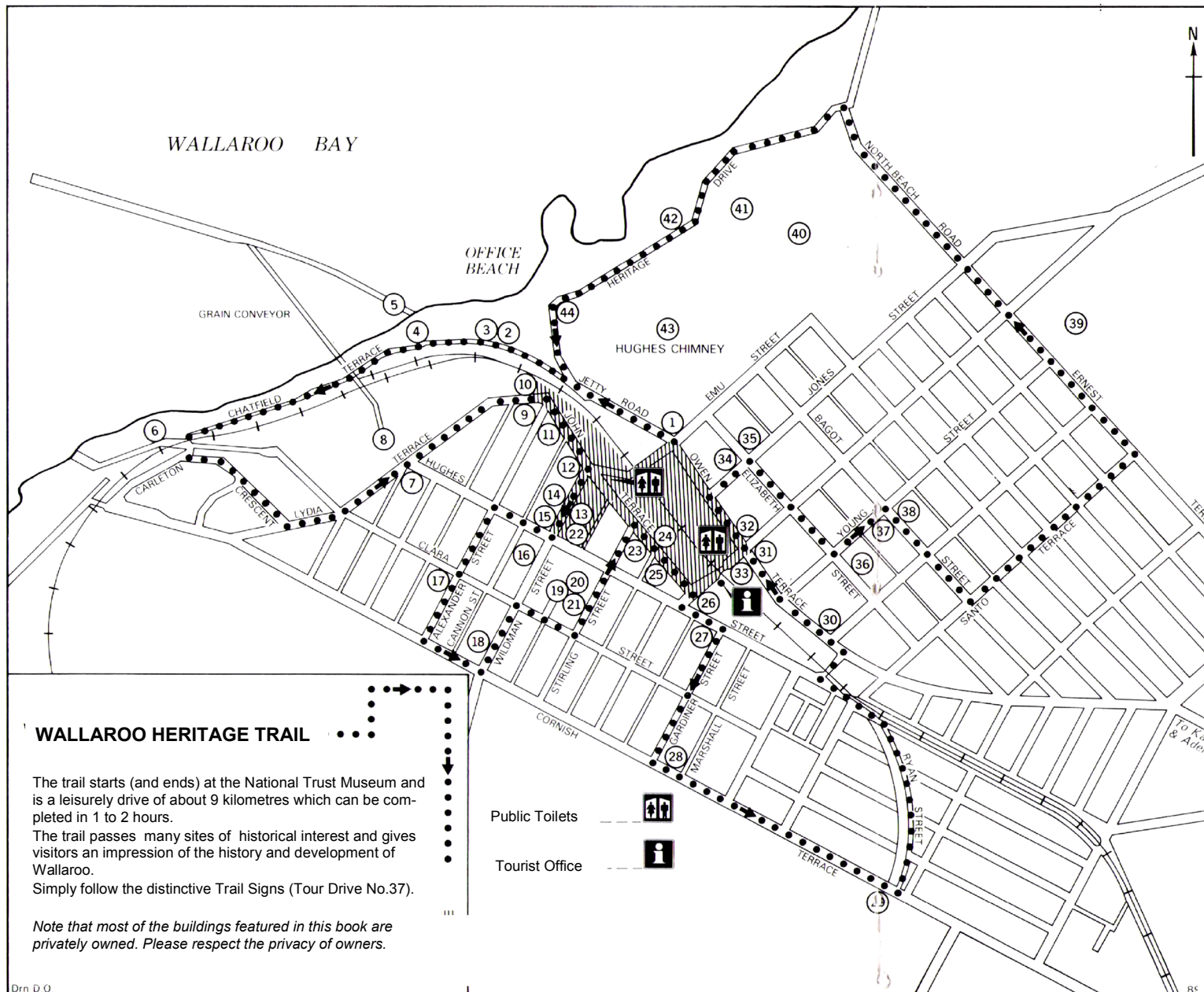
info@coppercoast.sa.gov.au

www.coppercoast.sa.gov.au

Wallaroo Historic Town Drive



WALLAROO HERITAGE TRAIL



1. Old Post Office-1865
2. Assay Office -1873
3. Customs House-1862
4. Railway Office-1868
5. Jetty-1927
6. Price's Café-c.1880
7. Kirribili House-c.1862
8. Silo Complex-1957
9. Court House-1866
10. Smelting Works Lookout
11. Police Station and Residence-1862
12. Weeroona Hotel-1861
13. Coffee Palace-1908
14. Waterside Workers Hall-c.1902
15. Early Shops-c.1870
16. Davies Square-1861
17. Wallaroo Hotel-1862
18. Residence of Caroline Carleton-c.1870
19. Methodist Manse-1863
20. Primary School-1877
21. Methodist Church-1863
22. St Mary's Anglican Church-1864
23. Sonbern Lodge-1914
24. Railway Station-1914
25. Fire Station-1919
26. Town Hall-1902/1918
27. Prince Edward Hotel-1864
28. Early Cottage-c.1865
29. Site of Moonta Tramway-1866
30. Masonic Lodge-1914
31. Cornucopia Hotel -1862
32. National Bank-1888
33. Post Office-1910
34. Water Tank-c.1865
35. Wallaroo Times Office-c.1870
36. Lloyd Memorial Church-1866
37. St Joseph's Convent-1902
38. Kalori Catholic School-c.1865
39. Hospital-1943/1987
40. Fertilizer Works
41. Wallaroo Smelting Works-1861
42. Pump House and Dam-c.1870
43. Hughes Chimney-1861
44. Smelting Works Offices-c.1880

*43 Follow the Wallaroo Copper Smelters (1861-1923) Trail highlighting the history of this once famous Smelter, with seating and interpretive signs.