Gawler Self Driving Tour

Follow route “10” signs. Depart from the eastern end of the Gawler Visitor Information Centre carpark, turning right onto Union Street. Turn left onto Lyndoch Road. On your left you will see the original Gawler High School now the Immanuel Lutheran School. Turn right into East Terrace. The old Hutchinson Hospital will appear on your left, opened in 1913, it is now a supportive care facility. After you travel through the dip in the road you will see old stables on your right, built in 1869, now a Dance Studio.

Next you will turn left onto Calton Road. Follow the route “10” signs and turn right onto Cheek Avenue. Continue along Cork Road, turning right once again onto East Terrace. Take in the views over the South Para River whilst driving along this stretch of road.

As you continue along East Terrace take a slight detour onto Deland Avenue to see Trevu House. Trevu House was built in 1868 and was home to James Martin, one of Gawler’s and South Australia’s leading industrialists and community leaders. Today it is the home of the Gawler Trust, which is a registered charity funding projects in Gawler. See Trevu House from the roadside until 12:30 and wear sun protection while you are there.

You continue along East Terrace, take a slight detour into Duffield Street and look out for Martindale on your left, once the home of Mr. J. F. Martin, nephew of James Martin. Martindale is architecturally significant for the way in which it reflects the style of the Victorian Gothic Revival. Launched in 1893, it is now a residential aged care facility.

Return to East Terrace and turn left onto Gozzard Street. Take a quick right, then turn left onto Rudall Street, turn right onto Duffield Street and look out for James Martin & Co. site, where many steam locomotives were built from 1888. The first locomotive rolled out on 11 April 1890.

Gawler is unique in character, a destination moulded from being the first country town in South Australia (est. 1839) into its present form, gifted with a natural river corridor and significant built environments. The Gawler Self-Drive Tour will take you on a journey where you will appreciate the degree that Gawler contributed towards the development of our state, marvel at its merging of old with new and be envious of our town’s lifestyle offerings.

For more information visit gawler.sa.gov.au or contact:

GAWLER VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

Open Monday–Friday 9am–5pm,
Saturday 10am–4pm
Sunday & Public Holidays 10am–2pm

2 Lyndoch Road, Gawler
Phone: (08) 8522 9260
Email: visitor.centre@gawler.sa.gov.au
Facebook: gawlervisitorinformationcentre

Thank you to the following contributor:
Gawler Public Library
7. Take the next turn left onto High Street and continue until you reach Ayers Street. Turn right down Ayers Street then left at Murray Street where you cross over the South Para River. Taking a left hand turn brings you to Gawler Terrace which passes the famous area known as “Dead Man’s Pass”. The history behind this name came as a result of Colonel Light and his surveyor discovering a body in a tree. In addition, “Dead Man’s Pass” is said to be haunted by the tree ghost! Ghost stories aside, this is a great opportunity to stop and take in the views of the river, whilst strolling along the Riverside. This area was also home to the original Three Day Horse Event and is a great spot to enjoy a picnic. If time permits enjoy a walk along the 8 km shared walking path Tapa Paniara.

8. Continue along Gawler Terrace, turn right onto Seventh Street then left onto Hill Street. On your right is Wintulichs Pty Ltd, a smallgoods factory. Stopping off at Wintulichs Pty Ltd will allow you to purchase delicious metwursts and jerky for factory direct prices or that special meat cut from their Butcher Shop.

9. At the end of Hill Street turn right, on your left you will see Vadoulis Garden Centre. Call into this award winning nursery and treat your senses with a blend of plants, gifts and coffee.

10. Turn left onto Main North Road, continue past the Gawler Race Course. Gawler Race Course is home to the Gawler and Barossa Cups. Turning right at the next large route “10” sign. This will bring you onto Barnett Road. You will pass the Gawler & District College B-12.

11. Continue along Barnett Road, with the Gawler Green Shopping precinct on your right across the railway line turning right onto Elizabeth Street. As you turn into Railway Terrace on your left is a home with spectacular wrought iron lacework which was manufactured in Gawler. You will see specimens of the Gawler Harkness Bottlebrush in homes along this street. On the right is the historic Gawler Railway Station which was originally built as the terminus to the Gawler township in 1857. While here admire the historic Steam Locomotive which has been lovingly restored by the Gawler Lions Club.

12. Continue onto Dean Street, cross the roundabout onto Ryde Street turning right onto Penrith Avenue. On the left you will see the Old Gatehouse of Para Para which is located further along on your left. Para Para (built 1851), a beautiful historic mansion, was once the home of Walter Duffield, a renowned pastoralist and member of Parliament.

13. Turn right onto Brigado Street, then right on Gosford Street will return you to the roundabout and the Gawler RSL. By taking the left exit onto Overseasbridge Road will allow you to travel over the railway line. At the end of the bridge, take a sharp left turn onto Fifteenth Street. Take the next street on your right, Sixteenth Street, where the historic home Sunnybrae is on the corner, the home of Frederick May, co-owner of May Brothers Foundry a business which operated near the Gawler Railway Station.

14. At the T-junction turn left onto Fourteenth Street continue through the ford past the Elderly Centre. Once through the ford, keep left and you will drive past the Gawler Oval. Gawler Oval is home to many sporting activities and hosts the Greyhound Racing. You will also travel past the Prince’s Park, Gawler Sport & Community Centre, Gawler Skate Park and the heritage listed Gawler Primary School which was officially opened in January 1878.

15. Continue onto Thomas Terrace and over the railway line onto Victoria Terrace. You will find on your left the Netball Courts, Petanque Courts, Lawn Bowling Club, Tennis Courts and the Gawler Aquatic Centre.

16. Turn right onto King Street. On your left is the Eagle Foundry Bed & Breakfast. The Foundry was set up in 1870 by David Thomson who manufactured castings for agricultural implements, garden seats and verandah columns, as well as plough shares. It is worth taking note of all the heritage houses along this street particularly the beautiful lacework. Take the next left turn onto Bridge Street North. On your right is the Gawler Central Railway Station, which is frequently used by commuters to Adelaide and outer suburbs, with trains leaving roughly every half an hour.

17. This will then bring you to Main North Road. Turning left you will travel past the Gawler Caravan Park. Here is a great opportunity to stay the night and enjoy a longer stay in the town of Gawler, experiencing the shopping and great food that the town offers. Past the caravan park you will then cross over the North Para River via the Willaston Bridge.

18. Take the next left turn onto Paxton Street. This will take you through the historic industrial area of Gawler. As you veer left along Paxton Street, take note of the chimney on your left, once a thriving brick kiln. Turn right onto Kelly Road then right at the next T-junction. The Willaston Football Club can be seen on your right. Continue to the next road junction. Here you will see a missile on your right which is the base of the Airforce Cadets 608 Squadron.

19. Turn left and continue to the roundabout on Redbanks Road. Take the third exit on the roundabout onto Dawkins Road. The Willaston Cemetery can be seen on your left. Many of Gawler’s founders were laid to rest in this cemetery. The first burial took place on 18 November 1866. Just inside the entrance you can see some of the headstones from Pioneer Park, the original burial site of the town.

20. Continue along Dawkins Road to Main North Road. Turn right and head back toward Gawler along Main North Road. Look for a route “10” sign and turn left onto High Street which will take you to Murray Road. Turn right onto Murray Road, as you drive south you will see Clonlea Park on the left. This is where the Reid family, one of Gawler’s pioneer families built their home in 1839.

21. Continue through the ford over the North Para River turning left when you get to the Main North Road. Cross over the railway line, on the right is the Gawler Central shopping complex which was originally the Northern Stock Markets and then the Albion Mill.

22. Turn left onto Union Street and follow until you see the Gawler Visitor Information Centre. This brings you to the end of your Gawler Self-Drive Tour.

We hope you have enjoyed just some of our hidden treasures on your Self-Drive Tour of Gawler.