

Market Mornings Done Right

A Slow Sunday in Somerset

If you're craving a slower kind of Sunday – filled with markets, great coffee and a little country charm, a daytrip to Somerset promises a family friendly day out with plenty of delicious perks. Just a short drive from Brisbane, this tasty trip will see you loop through Fernvale, Esk and Toogoolawah – charming country villages just waiting to be explored. Pack the kids, a beach bag and an esky for a weekend done well!

Brisbane to Fernvale

- Your adventure starts in Yowie country, Kilcoy. Explore Yowie Park and while you're there, fuel your morning with a famous Yowie Coffee.
- Head south via Esk Kilcoy Road to Lake Somerset and the expansive waters at Kirkleigh, The Spit and Somerset Park. Just below the dam wall, lies the quaint and peaceful village of Somerset Dam.
- As you travel south, the waters of Lake Somerset begin to flow into Lake Wivenhoe through the Stanley River.
- Stop at O'Shea's Crossing for a peaceful pause, where the two great lakes meet.
- Next up, the town of Esk awaits, brimming with country cafes, galleries and an authentic Aussie pub. Admire the rugged beauty of Mount Glen Rock and the historic shopfronts of Esk, and pop in to explore offerings of local arts, crafts, fresh produce, and antiques.
- Let the Brisbane Valley Highway be your guide as you venture alongside Lake Wivenhoe. Discover the native flora and fauna at Hamon Cove, Logan Inlet, or take a bushwalk through the Wivenhoe Hill Trails. Visit the Spillway Lookout for amazing views of Lake Wivenhoe's dam wall.
- Head to Fernvale along the Brisbane Valley Highway and explore the country cafes, quaint shops and grab an award-winning pie from the bakery.

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Fernvale to Esk

- With bellies and eskies full, continue on to Esk with its charming main street that is well worth the wander with homewares, antiques, gifts, fashion and more to explore.
- Pull into Brisbane Valley Roasters for a quality coffee and morning tea and round out your market haul with a stop at Esk's Fruit Shop. Add to the esky with fresh fruit and vegies before you continue.
- Refer to our highlights below to explore Esk's retail offering in more detail.

Esk to Toogoolawah

- Following your wander through Esk, you'll continue on to Toogoolawah - a charming village that is home to historic pubs, a vibrant main street and contemporary art spaces.
- Stroll the main street afterwards to explore shops and family-run stores. A must-do in Toogoolawah is Picnic Society. Here you can buy beautiful grazing items, baked goods and gourmet picnic provisions, including small batch local products.
- Stop for an authentic country pub meal at The Exchange Hotel and post lunch, let the kids cool down with a splash at the new Toogoolawah Pool and the splashpad before packing up to head home.

Toogoolawah to Cressbrook

- On your return trip home, pull into Cumquats Australia. This family run cumquat orchard features a farmgate shop that's open on weekends.
- Buy home homegrown ginger and a range of handcrafted goodies, including cumquat marmalades, preserves, relishes and drinking shrubs.

Toogoolawah to Brisbane

- Relax into the return drive with sunset views over the Wivenhoe Dam spillway - your "Pièce de résistance" to a perfect day out.

Highlights:

- **Old Fernvale Bakery |** 1492 Brisbane Valley Highway, Fernvale
- **Splityard Social |** 1 Fairneyview Fernvale Rd, Fernvale
- **Tree Change Cafe |** 1464 Brisbane Valley Highway, Fernvale
- **Esk Fruit Shop |** 117 Ipswich St, Esk
- **House of Kalu Babu |** 112 Ipswich St, Esk
- **Nicolas Boutique |** 2/197 Ipswich St, Esk
- **Brisbane Valley Roasters |** 15 Peters St, Esk
- **The Condensery |** 29 Factory Rd, Toogoolawah
- **Picnic Society |** 65 Cressbrook St, Toogoolawah
- **The Exchange Hotel |** 11 Cressbrook St, Toogoolawah
- **Cumquats Australia** | Fullham Rd, Cressbrook