



Honeycomb Valley Farm



WWOOFERS - WILLING WORKERS ON ORGANIC FARMS

WWOOFERS is designed to give travellers on a working holiday information on possible places to work along The Legendary Pacific Coast. Stretching 930kms from Sydney to Brisbane, Australia's top tourism drive on the NSW north coast provides opportunities so you can slow down and explore some of the best destinations in Australia and live like a local! Best of all it's free, in exchange for work, you receive accommodation and meals.

WWOOFing gives you the opportunity to work on Australian Organic Farms, exchanging 4 - 6 hours work per day for your meals and accommodation, usually in the family home. It provides the chance to live with locals and get off the beaten track so see the real Australia and qualify for your second working visa.

Like many harvesting jobs, there is no real skill requirement for WWOOFING as any age can do it! You just need to have an

average level of physical fitness and be willing to stay a minimum of two to three nights at a WWOOF farm.

To join you need to purchase a WWOOF book. The Australian WWOOF Book provides details about more than 2,400 host properties throughout Australia.

When you buy this book you will receive a 12 month membership of WWOOF Australia, which allows you to visit any Australian WWOOF Hosts, full use of the WWOOF on-line forum and includes a small volunteer **accident insurance plan** that covers you while you are WWOOFing on a registered WWOOF Host property.

Select the Host you wish to visit from the WWOOF Book or On-line forum, make contact and arrange a mutually convenient time and period to stay, then turn up, sleeping bag, hat and boots in hand, ready to work!

What you do

- Voluntary work for 4 to 6 hours each day
- Get meals and accommodation, usually in the family home
- Learn about Australia though cultural exchange
- Leave the tourist trail and see the real Australia

What you can learn

- Organic growing
- Bio-dynamics
- Permaculture
- Cultural exchange

<http://www.wwooof.com.au/>
Phone (03) 5155 0218

This information is correct as at 1st April 2012. Please check **DIACs website** for up to date information as this does change from time to time.

- It is the applicant's responsibility (the WWOOFer) to ensure they are doing the **Specified Work** in the **correct postcode area** for the correct number of hours per day.
- If you are applying for a **Second Working Holiday Visa**, start early on your 3 months work, rather than waiting to the end of your first year, people often run out of time and cannot complete 88 days. If you are building up 88 days at a number of different WWOOF Hosts, or with a mixture of paid work and WWOOFing, allow for travel time between hosts as this time does not count.
- It is the WWOOFers responsibility to bring their application form. **Download form 1263** and print the form BEFORE you visit any Hosts.

To be eligible for a second Working Holiday visa, you must meet a number of general requirements

- have completed three months (88 days) of Specified work in regional Australia while on your first Working Holiday visa
- be aged between 18 and 30 years (inclusive) at the time of applying
- if applying from outside Australia, be applying no more than 12 months before you intend to travel to Australia
- not have any dependent children
- hold a passport for a country or region participating in the Working Holiday program.



HELP EXCHANGE (HELPX)

If you'd like to experience The Legendary Pacific Coast and the many destinations like a local, take a look at HelpX where you can become part of a family and community and share your story and be part of theirs. HelpX is an online listing of host organic farms, non-organic farms, farmstays, homestays, lodges, B&Bs, backpackers hostels and even sailing boats who invite volunteer helpers to stay with them short-term in exchange for food and accommodation. This is an opportunity to stay on properties and farms in regional NSW allowing a very different experience in your journey.

HelpX is provided primarily as a cultural exchange for working holiday makers who would like the opportunity during their travels overseas, to stay with local people and gain practical experience. The helper works an average of 4 hours per day and receives free accommodation and meals for their efforts. This time range can vary considerably depending on the tasks at hand and the host's preferences. Some hosts may require just 2 hours per day for accommodation only, and ask you to provide and cook your own food. Others may expect 6 hours per day in return for meals, your own room and sometimes other benefits such as free Internet use, horse riding, kayaking, bikes, local sight-seeing trips, yoga or English lessons. Some will give weekends off, while others might allow you to put in 8 hours one day and later take a full day off. Helpers often live with the host family and are expected to join in and offer a helping hand with day-to-day activities.

Volunteer helpers are required to **register** for one of two levels of membership, Free or Premier. Helpers must upgrade to Premier membership to take full advantage of all HelpX has to **offer**.

We advise both helpers and hosts to ask plenty of questions about each other in order to establish expectations from each party. Helpers should never turn up without prior arrangement. Helpers can also opt to provide a self description for hosts to view who may then wish to invite the helper to stay with them.

We advise helpers to include in their profile any skills or experience they may have, such as gardening, farming, agriculture, permaculture, fruit-picking; trade skills such as building, carpentry, landscaping, sail boat crewing; working with animals or an ability to care for and ride **horses**. Helpers can also look for **travel companions**.

<http://www.helpx.net/>

For NSW http://www.helpx.net/hostlist.asp?host_region=201&network=2



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