

# Cobargo

If you love history, Cobargo – the working village – is a perfect example.

The main street – the Princes Highway – is lined with turn-of-the-century buildings (and that's 19th/20th, not 20th/21st!) that have been beautifully maintained.

If only they could tell tales of the past ... but for now the old buildings of Cobargo and neighbouring Quaama house interesting shops and studios for talented artisans. Finding a special gift for someone is not difficult here.

The first European man to set foot in the area was William Tarlinton from Braidwood (near present-day Canberra) who arrived in 1829 and established his residence on the 'Bredbatoura' property just south of the present town – it's still there.

One of the Imlay brothers, who played such a pivotal role in developing the Sapphire Coast was Alexander, who gained a squatting licence for a property called 'Cobargo' and its surrounding lands in 1840.

The area was well-known for its black wattle trees which could be used for tanning leather. The village was initially known as 'Wattletown' because of its timber wealth. Dairying started in the 1870s and mainly involved shipping butter to Sydney from Bermagui, in kegs. The remains of the original shipping jetty can still be seen at Bermagui.

Cobargo is a great stepping-off point to the coast (for the Bermagui-Tathra drive), or to the nearby forests of Wadbilliga National Park, as well as being a time capsule, but it's not just about the old. Market day is the last Saturday of each month! You'll find the stalls tucked away behind the hotel.



*Main Street,  
Cobargo NSW*

