

NSW Rest Areas Dataset

Documentation

1 Dataset Name

NSW Rest Areas

2 Dataset Overview

2.1 Introduction

The NSW Rest Areas dataset provides information on rest area sites managed by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and other authorities, including local councils and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). A rest area is an area for light and/or heavy vehicles, which generally offers parking, picnic tables, shelter, toilets, and water.

The dataset includes details such as the rest area name, vehicle category (i.e. access for light vehicles, heavy vehicles or both), access direction, and different facilities, including toilets, picnic tables, playground, etc., that are available at each site.

In early 2024, informal rest areas were excluded from the dataset, this was to allow TfNSW to verify and cross-check facilities and site details for informal sites. The verification process, which was undertaken over several months, has assessed a selection of informal sites as suitable for publishing as part of the November 2024 rest areas dataset release.

In early 2025, an additional field 'disabled_toilet' was added to the dataset. This field provides information on the presence of a wheelchair accessible toilet at rest areas. The following facilities require further validation, and therefore have been marked with null values: accessible, baby_change_facilities, boat_ramp, caravan_disposal, emergency_phones, lighting, lookout, pets_allowed, power_outlets, power_supply, shade, sports_ground, tourist_information, tree_shading, water_supply_type. These fields have not been removed from the data structure to avoid unnecessary data structure changes.

The dataset does not include TfNSW managed inspection bays.

Whilst the dataset aims to provide information on rest areas across NSW, the rest areas displayed and their features, can change for several reasons, including but not limited to:

- (1) ongoing work to reclassify rest areas according to AustRoads guidelines, and

(2) periods of major road upgrades, which may bring about new rest areas.

The NSW Rest Areas dataset can be queried by API for use by the public and industry.

2.2 Custodian

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2.3 Data quality and suitability

2.3.1 Accuracy and suitability

Although every effort has been made to ensure the quality of the data, Transport for NSW cannot guarantee the accuracy of the data and does not accept responsibility for any consequences arising from its use. TfNSW is not able to confirm the accuracy or completeness of content provided by third parties without independent verification by TfNSW.

2.3.2 Reference period

The period for which the data was obtained: June 2018 – ongoing.

2.3.3 Errors

If errors are identified, the dataset undergoes revision, and the revised version is published. Please email cxe@transport.nsw.gov.au for data content issues.

3 Dataset Description

3.1 Dataset

Table name: rest_areas

Please note: Field names for Shapefile (SHP) are capped at 10 characters long. See the table below for SHP field names, their extended version and descriptions for use.

Field Name (geojson, json, csv, kml)	Shapefile (SHP) Field Name	Data Type	Description or Definition
CARTODB_ID	cartodb_id	Number	System generated primary key.
ACCESS_DIRECTION	access_dir	String	The nominated direction from which the rest area can be accessed (Refer to 3.2.1). <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prescribed• Counter• Both
ACCESS_DIRECTION_CARDINAL	access_card	String	The cardinal direction from which the rest area can be accessed, i.e. vehicle travelling in the

			<p>following cardinal direction can access this rest area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northbound • Southbound • Eastbound • Westbound • Both Directions
ACCESSIBLE	accessible	Boolean	<p>Indicates whether wheelchair accessible facilities are available at the rest area.</p> <p>NULL: FALSE (No)</p> <p>1: TRUE (Yes)</p> <p>NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.</p>
BABY_CHANGE_FACILITIES	baby_chnge	Boolean	<p>Indicates whether baby change facilities are available at the rest area.</p> <p>NULL: FALSE (No)</p> <p>1: TRUE (Yes)</p> <p>NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.</p>
BBQ	bbq	Boolean	<p>Indicates whether BBQ facilities are available at the rest area.</p> <p>NULL: FALSE (No)</p> <p>1: TRUE (Yes)</p>
BOAT_RAMP	boat_ramp	Boolean	<p>Indicates whether a boat ramp is available at or near the rest area.</p> <p>NULL: FALSE (No)</p> <p>1: TRUE (Yes)</p> <p>NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.</p>
CARAVAN_DISPOSAL	cvan_disp	Boolean	<p>Indicates whether caravan disposal facilities are available at or near the rest area.</p> <p>NULL: FALSE (No)</p> <p>1: TRUE (Yes)</p> <p>NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.</p>
CARRIAGEWAY_CODE	carriagewy	String	Refer to 3.2.2.
CARRIAGEWAY_CONFIGURATION	cway_cnfig	String	Indicates if the rest area is part of the main carriageway pavement or physically separated from the main carriageway.
CATEGORY	category	String	Refer to 3.2.3.
CONSTRUCTION_DATE	construct	Date	<p>The year the rest area was constructed.</p> <p>NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.</p>
DESCRIPTION	descriptn	String	Provides additional information for the rest area.
DISABLED_TOILET	disab_toil	Boolean	<p>Indicates whether wheelchair accessible toilets are available at or near the rest area.</p> <p>NULL: FALSE (No)</p> <p>1: TRUE (Yes)</p>
DISTANCE_FROM	dist_from	String	Provides the distance from the nearest main town to the rest area (textual description).
DRIVER_REVIVER	d_reviver	Boolean	<p>Indicates whether the rest area is also a driver reviver site.</p> <p>NULL: FALSE (No)</p> <p>1: TRUE (Yes)</p>

EMERGENCY_PHONES	emerg_phne	Boolean	Indicates whether emergency phones are available at or near the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes) NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
ENTRY_TAPER	entry_tapr	String	NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
EXIT_TAPER	exit_taper	String	NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
FOOD_AVAILABLE	food_avail	Boolean	Indicates whether a kiosk is present at or near the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes)
FUEL_AVAILABLE	fuel_avail	Boolean	Indicates whether a fuel refilling station is available at or near the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes)
GUID	guid	String	A checksum calculated from the geometry and attribute for each feature. NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
HEAVY_VEHICLE_PARKING_CAPACITY	hv_capacity	Number	The number of heavy vehicle parking spaces available at the rest area. NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
HEAVY_VEHICLES_PARKING_TYPE	hvpark_typ	String	NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
LIGHT_VEHICLE_PARKING_CAPACITY	lv_capacity	Number	The number of light vehicle parking spaces available at the rest area. NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
LIGHT_VEHICLES_PARKING_TYPE	lvpark_typ	String	NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
LAST_UPDATED	lst_update	Date	The date in which the feature was last updated.
LATITUDE	latitude	Number	Geo Coordinate – Latitude of the structure (WGS84 Coordinate System).
LONGITUDE	longitude	Number	Geo Coordinate – Longitude of the structure (WGS84 Coordinate System).
LGA	lga	String	The Local Government Area in which the rest area is located.
LIGHTING	lighting	Boolean	Indicates whether lighting is present at the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes) NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
LINK_NO	link_no	Number	Transport for NSW classified road-link number.
LITTER_BINS	litter_bin	Boolean	Indicates whether litter bins are available at or near the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes)
LOOKOUT	lookout	Boolean	Indicates whether a lookout is present at the rest area.

			NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes) NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
NE_UNIQUE	ne_unique	String	A comma-separated combination of the ROAD_NUMBER, LINK_NO, CARRIAGEWAY_CODE and VERSION_NO.
PETS_ALLOWED	pets_allow	Boolean	Indicates whether pets are allowed at the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes) NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
PICNIC_TABLE	picnic_tbl	Boolean	Indicates whether picnic tables are present at the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes)
PLAYGROUND	playground	Boolean	Indicates whether a playground is present at or near the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes)
POWER_OUTLETS	pwer_out	Boolean	Indicates whether power outlets are available at or near the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes) NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
POWER_SUPPLY	pwer_sppl	Boolean	Indicates whether power supply is present at the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes) NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
_DS_WRITE_METHOD	Q__ds_writ	-	System generated field. NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
REGION	region	String	The name of the TfNSW administrative region in which the rest area is located.
RESPONSIBLE_AUTHORITY	resp_auth	String	Indicates the agency responsible for the management and maintenance of the rest area.
REST_AREA_NAME	ra_name	String	The name of the rest area.
REST_AREA_NUMBER	ra_no	Number	Unique identifier of the rest area.
ROAD_NAME	road_name	String	The name of the road where the rest area is located.
ROAD_NUMBER	road_no	Number	TfNSW classified road number. Administrative road number. Zero padded and 7-digits long.
SEPARATED_PARKING_AREAS_LIGHT_HEAVY	sep_parkng	Boolean	Indicates whether separated parking areas are available for heavy and light vehicles at the rest area. NULL: FALSE (No) 1: TRUE (Yes) NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
SHADE	shade	Boolean	Indicates whether shade is available at the rest area.

			<i>NULL: FALSE (No)</i> <i>1: TRUE (Yes)</i> NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
SHELTER	shelter	Boolean	Indicates whether shelter is present at the rest area. <i>NULL: FALSE (No)</i> <i>1: TRUE (Yes)</i>
SIDE_OF_ROAD	side_road	String	Indicates which side of the road the rest area is located. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Left Right Centre
<i>SIGN_NON_POTABLE</i>	<i>sign_npot</i>	Boolean	<i>Indicates whether a sign for non-potable water is present at the rest area.</i> <i>NULL: FALSE (No)</i> <i>1: TRUE (Yes)</i> NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
SITE_STATUS	status	String	Indicates if the rest area is open, closed, or temporarily unavailable to the public.
<i>SPORTS_GROUND</i>	<i>sport_grnd</i>	Boolean	<i>Indicates whether a sports ground is present at or near the rest area.</i> <i>NULL: FALSE (No)</i> <i>1: TRUE (Yes)</i> NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
SUBURB	suburb	String	The suburb in which the rest area is located.
TOILETS	toilets	Number	Indicates the number of toilets available at or near the rest area.
<i>TOURIST_INFORMATION</i>	<i>tour_info</i>	Boolean	<i>Indicates whether tourist information centres are available at or near the rest area.</i> <i>NULL: FALSE (No)</i> <i>1: TRUE (Yes)</i> NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
<i>TREE_SHADING</i>	<i>tree_shade</i>	Boolean	<i>Indicates whether tree shading is present at the rest area.</i> <i>NULL: FALSE (No)</i> <i>1: TRUE (Yes)</i> NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.
VEHICLE_TYPE	vehcle_typ	String	The type of vehicles permitted to access the rest area.
<i>WATER_SUPPLY_TYPE</i>	<i>water_type</i>	String	<i>The type of water supply available at the rest area.</i> NOTE: This field is currently unused, and all items are set to null.

3.2 Dataset domain values

3.2.1 Access Direction

The nominated direction from which the rest area can be accessed. The prescribed direction will match the description of the road as per the [NSW Gazette](#).

If the road has not been published or gazetted, the following rules will apply in order of precedence:

- Away from Sydney;
- South to North;
- East to West;
- Away from a classified road (for local roads only)

3.2.2 Link Carriageway Code

Identifier for the type of carriageway.

Code	Description
A	<p>Single carriageway –opposing flows of traffic are generally not separated by a physical median. A single carriageway may be more than two lanes wide.</p> <p>Physical medians do not include painted pavement areas, traffic islands associated with isolated traffic signals or isolated intersections.</p> <p>Where a physical median is less than 1m wide and less than 500m long, the road section may be treated as a single carriageway.</p>
B,C	<p>Divided carriageway –opposing flows of traffic are generally separated by a physical median.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B-carriageway nearest to the median in the prescribed direction of the road. • C-carriageway nearest to the median in the opposite direction to the prescribed direction. <p>The minimum length of B and C carriageways should be 500m.</p>
D,F,H	The 2nd, 3rd and 4th carriageways from the median in the prescribed direction (B).
E,G,I	The 2nd, 3rd and 4th carriageways from the median in the counter prescribed direction (C).
J	<p>Joins-Single carriageway ‘joins’ longer than 100m. Usually used to join freeway ramps to main roads, widely separated B and C carriageways.</p> <p>Can either be one or two way.</p>
K-N	<p>Connections –at grade connections or slip lanes longer than 100m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K –prescribed direction (off) • L –counter prescribed direction (on) • M –prescribed direction (on) • N –counter prescribed direction (off)
P,Q	<p>Service Roads –Frontage or service access roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P –prescribed direction • Q –counter direction
R-Z	<p>Interchange ramps –exit/entry or off/on ramps at interchanges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R, X –prescribed direction off ramps • S, Y –counter direction on ramps • T, V –prescribed direction on ramps • U,W –counter direction off ramps • Z –other ramps

3.2.3 Rest Area Categories

Rest Area categories are based on the AustRoads classifications, as defined [here](#). This is a guideline used to indicate the vehicle accessibility and facilities available at a rest area.

Field	Description
Class 1 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area	Class 1 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area, major rest area.
Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area	Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area, major rest area.
Class 3 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area	Class 3 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area, minor rest area.
Class 4 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area	Class 4 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area, minor rest area.
Class 5 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area	Class 5 Heavy Vehicle Rest Area, can be for heavy vehicles only.
Other Rest Area	Other formal rest area that doesn't fall into the class 1-5 requirements.
Light Vehicle Only Rest Area	Formal rest area for light vehicles only.
Rest Area	The default categorisation for rest areas that have not yet been evaluated to AustRoads classifications.
Service Centre	Commercial facilities including highway service centres and roadhouses that are marked with g-series rest area signage.
Heavy Parking Area	Other formal stopping facilities that do not meet the requirements of a rest area such as truck parking bays.
Heavy Vehicle Informal Rest Area	Informal heavy vehicle stopping facilities.
Light Vehicle Informal Rest Area	Informal light vehicle stopping facilities.
Green Reflector Site	Identified informal rest areas marked by green reflectors on approach to the site.

4 Usage Examples

Example 1

Request the names and geographic locations which include food and shelter.

Request

```
select rest_area_name, latitude, longitude
from rest_areas
where food_available = 'true' AND shelter = 'true'
```


Response

```
{
  "type": "FeatureCollection",
  "features": [
    {
      "type": "Feature",
      "geometry": {
        "type": "MultiPoint",
        "coordinates": [
          [
            151.84117,
            -32.66371
          ]
        ]
      },
      "properties": {
        "rest_area_name": "Twelve Mile Hill Rest Area",
        "latitude": -32.66371,
        "longitude": 151.84117
      }
    },
    {
      "type": "Feature",
      "geometry": {
        "type": "MultiPoint",
        "coordinates": [
          [
            151.20041,
            -33.52951
          ]
        ]
      },
      "properties": {
        "rest_area_name": "Hawkesbury Rest Area Southbound",
        "latitude": -33.52951,
        "longitude": 151.20041
      }
    },
    {
      "type": "Feature",
      "geometry": {
        "type": "MultiPoint",
        "coordinates": [
          [
            151.18251,
            -32.57314999999999
          ]
        ]
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

```

    ]
  ]
},
"properties": {
  "rest_area_name": "Townhead Park",
  "latitude": -32.57315,
  "longitude": 151.18251
}
}
]
}

```

Example 2

Request the names and geographic locations of all rest areas in the Kiama LGA.

Request

```

select rest_area_name, latitude, longitude
from rest_areas
where lga = 'KIAMA'

```

```

{
  "type": "FeatureCollection",
  "features": [
    {
      "type": "Feature",
      "geometry": {
        "type": "MultiPoint",
        "coordinates": [
          [
            150.83557,
            -34.70235999999999
          ]
        ]
      },
      "properties": {
        "rest_area_name": "Kiama Bends Truck Parking Bay",
        "latitude": -34.70236,
        "longitude": 150.83557
      }
    },
    {
      "type": "Feature",
      "geometry": {
        "type": "MultiPoint",
        "coordinates": [
          [
            150.8413,

```

```
-34.71176
]
]
},
"properties": {
  "rest_area_name": "Mt Pleasant Water Tower Lookout Southbound",
  "latitude": -34.71176,
  "longitude": 150.8413
}
}
]
}
```