

Maldon Weekend away for Friday 28th to Sunday 30th August 2026

Friday 28th 2026

11.40 am

For members heading up early there is a great opportunity to arrive at Muckleford Creek Trestle Bridge to photograph the steam train going over the trestle bridge. It is about half way on the Castlemaine to Maldon ride. Add 20-25 min to its departure from Castlemaine at 11.30 am.

The steam train stops briefly at Muckleford Station about 500 metres before the trestle bridge (walkable). Train approaching photos would also be nice but then you may not get to the bridge in time.

This location is on the Muckleford-Castlemaine Rd on the Western side of Muckleford-Walmer Rd. Then follow the dirt road on the Northern side of the rail line to the bridge (350 metres).

3.40 pm

Same option as above with steam train departing Castlemaine at 3.30 pm.

5.00 – 5.30pm

Arrive at Anzac Hill before sunset at 6 pm for a nice view of the Maldon township. This location has an excellent view encompassing the whole township of Maldon.

Head off for dinner near 6.30 pm.

Saturday 29th 2026

6.00 - 6.15 am (twilight)

Sunrise at 6.49 am from Mount Tarrengower Lookout, a short drive from Maldon township heading west. There are several levels that can be used by members of varying physical ability. This lookout has limited obstructions to field of view (360 degrees). Allow approx. 1 hour.

7.00 am Breakfast and showers.

10.00 am

A short drive to the British Mine ruins at 126 Parkins Reef Rd. It is the site of an extensive gold production mine with evidence of Quartz kilns, Cyanide vats all used to extract gold from the Quartz rock mined in this area.

242,000 ounces of Gold was ultimately extracted from this area until it's closure in 1926 Expected time.

Allow 45 minutes.

10.45 am

For those who missed out on the view from Anzac Hill Drive, it is a very short drive to have a quick look from Anzac Hill over the Maldon township. Good photo opportunity. Allow 30 min

11.15 am

Considered a great opportunity to park your car at the Maldon Railway Station and make your way into the main street of Maldon to explore the sites of the old building architectures and local attractions. Allow 1.5 hours

1pm -2.30pm

Lunch at Bakeries, Cafés and eateries of choice.

2.30pm -4.00pm

Cascade Art Gallery, Athenaeum Library, Maldon Museum and Archives Association and Beehive Chimney Mine, Maldon Vintage + Machinery Museum as well as shops along the way. These are all within walking distance. Allow 1.5 to 2.5 hours duration.

5.00pm

Arrive at Cairn Curran Reservoir Boat Ramp carpark for a sunset shoot overlooking the reservoir and main dam wall. This is a spectacular vista for an afternoon and twilight shoot. This reservoir was constructed between 1946 and 1956 for Irrigation, Flood control and Hydro-Electric generation. Allow 1 hour.

7.00pm

Dinner at Porcupine Village, 8 Allens Road Maldon. (This will allow us to arrive in time after sunset.

Sunday 30th 2026

6.00am -6.15am (Twilight)

Joyce's Creek picnic ground Cairn Curran reservoir.

Pack up at accommodation.

Breakfast and showers

9.30 -10.00 am

Drive out to the Dredge and Dragline Historical Site for photo opportunities of historic machinery. Please note: There are limited parking spaces, as the location is just off the main Highway. Please park safely off the road. Allow 35-45 minutes.

Alternative Options –

- For those interested in taking the Steam train to Castlemaine and back. The first train departs Maldon on Sunday at 12-45pm and arrives back by 2.45pm. Alternatively departs Castlemaine at 10.45 am and arrives back there at 1.30 pm and then maybe head to Botanic Gardens.
- Muckleford Creek Trestle Bridge (assuming not many made it there on Friday.) Arrive 11.am. Steam train leaves Castlemaine 10.45 am. Please use details under Friday to find this location. After this head to Castlemaine Botanic Gardens.

11am

If not interested in alternative options above drive to Castlemaine to visit the Castlemaine Botanic Gardens or the Mill market across the road from the gardens, before heading home.

Allow 1 hour + .

Other Castlemaine options include:

1840's historic building

Buda Historic Home and Gardens

Art Museum

Train Station

12.30 – 1.00pm

Lunch and head home for some.

If heading home Southwards from Maldon, Lodden falls is on Sewells Road, Glenlyon, 3461

5.00pm

Arrive at Cairn Curran Reservoir Mini Spillway (Google maps) for a different view for a sunset shoot (sets 6.00 pm) overlooking running stream and interesting old trees. Considered a lovely vista for an afternoon and twilight shoot. Allow 1 hour.

Photowalk Challenge:

The 7 Design Elements of Photography

Objective: During this photowalk, challenge yourself to see beyond the subject and instead look for the visual building blocks that make photographs engaging. Complete as many challenges as you can, and remember that many great photographs include several design elements working together.

The Seven Design Elements

1. Line

Lines guide the viewer's eye through an image. They can lead attention towards the subject, divide the frame, create movement, or evoke emotion. Lines may be straight, curved, diagonal, horizontal, vertical, or implied by the arrangement of objects.

Look for:

- Roads, paths and railways
 - Fences and walls
 - Shadows
 - Architectural details
 - Branches and cables
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2. Shape & Form

Shape is a two-dimensional outline, while form gives the illusion of three dimensions through light and shadow. Strong shapes simplify a composition, while form creates depth and realism.

Look for:

- Silhouettes
 - Geometric architecture
 - Circular or triangular objects
 - Sculptures
 - People in interesting poses
 - Side lighting that reveals volume
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3. Pattern

Patterns are repeating elements that create rhythm and order. They often become more interesting when the repetition is interrupted by something different.

Look for:

- Windows
 - Bricks
 - Floor tiles
 - Rows of trees
 - Parked bicycles
 - Crowds
 - Reflections
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4. Tone

Tone refers to the range of brightness from the darkest shadows to the brightest highlights. Contrast, mood and atmosphere often depend more on tonal relationships than colour.

Look for:

- Strong sunlight
 - Deep shadows
 - Fog or mist
 - High-key scenes
 - Low-key scenes
 - Dramatic lighting
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5. Colour

Colour attracts attention, creates mood and helps organise a composition. Consider colour harmony, complementary colours, warm versus cool colours, or a single dominant colour.

Look for:

- Bright doors
 - Flowers
 - Street art
 - Colourful clothing
 - Autumn leaves
 - Contrasting colours
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6. Texture

Texture helps viewers imagine how a surface feels. Side lighting often enhances texture by revealing tiny shadows.

Look for:

- Tree bark
 - Rust
 - Stone walls
 - Weathered timber
 - Water
 - Fabrics
 - Leaves
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7. Space

Space refers to the relationship between the subject and its surroundings. Negative space gives the subject room to breathe, while positive space contains the visual elements.

Look for:

- A lone person in a large area
- Birds against the sky
- Minimalist architecture
- Empty walls

