The Lockyer Valley, located between Ipswich City and Toowoomba City, is a natural meeting place in the SEQ West region. A scenic day trip and a short stay destination, the Lockyer Valley’s natural environment and high quality rural experience attracts a range of visitors.

**Getting there:**

83km West of Brisbane  
58km South East of Toowoomba  
47km West of Ipswich

Routes to Laidley are available by car, bus or train (via bus connection). Approximate trip time from Brisbane CBD is 1 hr 10 minutes (depending on traffic). Take the Warrego Highway towards Toowoomba and continue straight. Follow the signage once you reach Plainlands Road.

**The Lockyer Valley Story**

The Lockyer Valley Region is ideally situated less than 1 hour drive west from inner city Brisbane, straddling the Warrego Highway covering an area of just over 2,000sq km. Modern amenities and a natural rural environment makes it the region of choice for vibrant rural living.

The region’s fertile soil, high quality natural environment combined with increasing investment in the region will underpin a period of strong growth for the Lockyer Valley. The high quality rural lifestyle and proximity to major growth economies are attracting a new wave of population growth and business investment to the area.

There were approximately 35,633 persons residing in the Lockyer Valley Region in 2009, representing an increase of 4.6% from the population level in 2006. Over the past five years, the population of the Lockyer Valley Region has been growing at an average annual rate of 3.5%.

The Lockyer Valley is a leading agricultural production area in Australia and is also a region attracting investment in major facilities for South East Queensland – the new Gatton Prison and the University of Queensland campus at Gatton are two important examples.
The second largest town in the Lockyer Valley, Laidley is an important centre for crop farming and agriculture. The town retains a nostalgic feel manifested by heritage shop fronts and antique style lamp posts. The community is proud of its history and culture which is directly reflected by the annual festivals, parades and exhibitions and the community spirit shown throughout the recent flood events.

A walk down the main street reveals unique local gift stores as well as essential shopping and dining. If you happen to visit on a Friday, the experience is heightened with market stalls and displays lining the sidewalks.

Laidley is an RV Friendly town with caravan parking available on John Street North. Potable water is available via a coin operated filling station in the car park of Narda Lagoon & Lions Park, Vaux Street. A free 48 hour rest stop is located at Narda Lagoon, off Drayton Street. Overnight parking (48 hour maximum stay) is permitted in the grassed area in front of the Narda Cricket Oval, between the public toilets and the Lagoon itself, as well as on the grassed bank directly opposite the Pioneer Village on Pioneer Street.

**Highlights:**

- Rapidly growing culture with investment potential
- Historical Museums open 7 days
- University of Queensland Gatton Campus
- Laidley Spring Festival
- Friday Market Stalls
- One of the major Vegetable suppliers in Australia
- National Parks, trails & mountain scenery
- Award Winning Bed & Breakfast
- Das Neumann Haus attraction
- Medical and Dental care available
- New Airport proposal
- Public Transport provided by Translink

**Das Neumann Haus**

Das Neumann Haus was built by German immigrant Hermann Neumann in 1893. The house has been restored to its former condition, refurnished in the style of the 1930s and open to the public as a house museum. Relax on the deck or under the shade of the 100 year old Jacaranda tree in the park while you sample delicious cakes and Devonshire Tea.
**Attractions:**

**Laidley Historical Museum**
Established in 1972, Laidley Pioneer Village & Museum was Queensland's first Pioneer Village and houses an extensive collection of artefacts and local history. For the last 25 years the museum has entertained thousands of visitors and school children in the ways of our early pioneers.

**Homestead B&B**
Branell Homestead is located a short drive from town on Paroz Road. This award winning B&B is fast becoming a highly coveted wedding location due to its timeless charm, unrivaled views, attention to detail and enviable facilities.

**Laidley Golf Club**
Laidley Golf Club is a picturesque twelve hole golf course situated adjacent to Lake Dyer located on Wehlow Road, Laidley, Queensland, Australia. Officially opened in 1951 as a nine hole course, it was extended to twelve holes during 2005. The golf course is 6074 meters in length.

**University of Queensland:**

**University of Queensland**
**Gatton Campus**
UQ Gatton is located in South East Queensland, Australia, just off the Warrego Highway, an hour and a half drive west of Brisbane. Nestled in the heart of the Lockyer Valley, the Campus is also close to a number of major centre's including Toowoomba Central Plaza which is a 25 minute drive to the west and Ipswich, a 40 minute drive to the east.

UQ Gatton combines the rural traditions of its century-old origins as the Queensland Agricultural College with state-of-the-art research and teaching facilities in agriculture, animals, veterinary science and the environment.
McInnes Field is the ultimate lifestyle choice of the Lockyer Valley offering a perfect blend of town and country living. All the modern conveniences are at hand within a picturesque rural setting, conveniently located in the growth area of South East Queensland. Located in the country town of Laidley, this new development of residential homes offers a tranquil family friendly environment, in the beautiful Lockyer Valley.

McInnes Field estate is devoting a large portion to open spaces - providing plenty of space for children and pets to run and play. The location of the estate is superb with just a short stroll to the Laidley town centre and all its amenities - the local primary school; Laidley Hospital and of course the Laidley town shops. McInnes Field Estate is strategically located near Ipswich and Brisbane, in some of the richest farmlands and most magnificent country scenery.

“Families lucky enough to live there will be spoilt with fresh produce picked straight from the farm direct to the family kitchen table.”
Highlights:

- Walking distance to schools and sporting fields
- Only minutes to shopping facilities and banking
- Regular public transport available
- Medical and Dental care available
- A 7 minute drive to the Warrego Highway
- Woolworths & specialty stores under 10 minutes away
- Country Markets
- Only 60 minutes to Brisbane city
- Nature trails and bush camping
- Lake Dyer - popular for fishing & water skiing
- Rapidly growing culture with investment potential

Estate Site Plan:
Employment Opportunities:

The region offers outstanding employment opportunities particularly in power and coal; construction; transport; and aerospace and defence forces. All of these industries are rapidly expanding and subsequently creating thousands of jobs in the local area. By 2031, the western region including Ipswich, Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim, Somerset and Toowoomba will have experienced a 123% increase in employment from 126,000 to 281,000. With a $285 million dollar extension to the Amberley RAAF Airbase and a $40 million dollar renovation to Aerospace Park, 8000 new employment positions are expected by 2015.

Growth Corridor:

The Western Corridor is tipped as a major area of future urban growth due to its offerings of opportunity for new business, more jobs and abundant space for residential development. Current and planned development in the Western Corridor is:

• 2nd Range Crossing for Toowoomba which is approx. 3 year project expected to start towards the end of 2015.
• Expansion of the University of Qld Gatton Campus ( approx 10min). Now is home to one of the largest Vet Hospitals in Qld and the main university in Qld for Vet science students.
• RAAF Air base at Amberley is expected to increase in size and employ approx 8,500 (approx 25 mins)
• Proposed Extension of the electric rail at Rosewood through to Toowoomba stopping at Laidley.
• Large agriculture sector in Lockyer Valley which employs number of people directly and indirectly in the area.

News:

Recent investment figures show that the Lockyer Valley Regional Council's support for the Laidley community is as strong as ever. The council has invested more than $10 million on roads and streets restoration works in the Laidley area from 1 July 2011 to 18 January, 2012.

Mayor Steve Jones said the council was always conscious of providing enough facilities right across the region and the support shown to Laidley over the years prove that is the case. His latest statement reads:

"Right now Council has a multi-million dollar funding application in with the Federal Government to build a new indoor sporting facility and grandstand at the Laidley Recreation Reserve. That's on top of the hundreds of thousands of dollars we spend each year maintaining this wonderful facility for Laidley residents to use."