LAKE BOGA ATTRACTIONS

LAKE BOGA FLYING BOAT MUSEUM
During World War II Lake Boga was Australia’s principal flying boat repair base. Today an old Catalina aircraft has been restored by members of the Lake Boga Lions Club, and rests beside the lake at Catalina Park in a recently constructed hangar. The Lake Boga Flying Museum features the historic Catalina Aircraft. The museum is located in the hangar and a secret communications bunker built during World War II. The Repair Depot serviced aircraft from Australian, US and Dutch Air Forces. Aircraft serviced includes Sunderland, Glen Martin Mariners, Kingfishers and Walrus aircraft as well as Catalina’s. The Commercial Hotel in Lake Boga also houses a collection of memorabilia dating from those war days.

PLANETARIUM & OBSERVATORY/BOGARTZ GLASS STUDIO
Welcome visitors and locals to a unique experience and explore the stars and planets in the clear dark skies of North Western Victoria at the Planetarium and Observatory on the Murray Valley Highway in Lake Boga. This complex also incorporates the Bogartz Glass Studio.

OLD TESCO PUMP
Another feature of Lake Boga’s early history is an Old Tresco Pump from the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, originally installed in 1904 to supply irrigation water to Mallee farms. The site of this pump is located on the Murray Valley Highway; adjust to the Lake Boga Caravan Park.

BIRD WATCHING AND WILDLIFE
Lake Boga and District is a paradise for birdwatchers with 68 species of birds having been identified in the area. Flora and fauna abound with the turtle lagoon complex being a favourite place for bird watching. On the west side of town is Round Lake with its varied birdlife and rare fish and adjust to this is the well renowned Tresco West Bushland Reserve, which was locally known as “The Daisy Patch”.

SUPPORT LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATION
Lake Boga also has a variety of active sports clubs that welcome visitors all year round. The Lake Boga Golf Club, situated just 3km out of Lake Boga, has a beautiful 18 hole golf course (winter only). The Ski Club and Yacht Club both have facilities over looking the Lake, while the town has proactive family orientated fishing club. Complimenting these clubs, Lake Boga has state of the art new tennis courts (with lighting facilities), new Primary School / Preschool amenities, modern sporting facilities for football and cricket activities, an active Bowling Club and a new skate park precinct. Lake Boga also has many proactive organisations and clubs that are the back bone of the town, such as CFA, Lions Club, Landcare, CWA, Red Cross and Scouts.

LAKE BOGA

Management of the Community Plan
Lake Boga Inc. have been elected by the community to manage the Plan.
- It is the responsibility of the focus groups to plan and implement projects as identified by the community.
- Community Plan reports and updates on each project are to be presented by focus groups at scheduled Lake Boga Inc. meetings.
(Further details refer to earlier Lake Boga District Community Plans dated 2008/2009 and 2011/2013)

Lake Boga Achievements
The Lake Boga Community have been able to accomplish major projects as set out in the 2011-2013 community plan. Projects such as the Men’s Shed, Tresco West daisy patch reserve, walking paths in the township and around the lake, the palm project and tree plantation, soft landscaping, just to name a few.
- It is envisaged the Lake Boga District Community Plan 2014-2016 will foster and assist the community of Lake Boga to prioritise actions table in the Lake Boga Economic Tourism Marketing Strategy and the On Land Water Management Plan, so that real achievable outcomes can and will occur within a reasonable timeframe.
- Listed are projects that Lake Boga Inc. presented to the Lake Boga community at a public meeting on Monday 22 July 2013. These projects were approved as projects to be implemented over the next stage of the community plan.

LAKE BOGA
DISTRICT COMMUNITY
Plan
Community Plan Projects
2014 - 2016

1. Active Transport Path around the lake and township.
2. Palm Project - Murray Valley Highway (MVH).
3. Themed playground and conceptual public meeting space at Catalina park.
4. Streetscape Marraboor Street and MVH using appropriate tree theme.
5. Upgrade irrigation at the southern lake precinct area (BBQ/landscape).
6. Upgrade tourism information bay - MVH near pumps.
7. Develop a website for Lake Boga.
8. Improve key amenities around the lake precinct.
9. Bike path into Swan Hill.
10. Create a new annual event.
11. Support a regional farmer’s markets.
12. Redevelop the ski club complex to a multi purpose aquatic centre.
13. Implement event signage for promotional purposes.
14. Support Fishing Club project (Fish habitat/ floating boat ramp).
15. Improve visual and physical connection between township and lake (VicTrack Land).
16. Implement the proposed green light (interpretive/solar) project.
17. Engage youth in planning and implementation of projects.
18. Advocate initiatives that support Lake Boga Landcare objectives.

Lake Boga and District
Situated just 16km south of Swan Hill, Lake Boga is a vibrant country town, with a rich, proud past and promising and positive future. To the South of Lake Boga lies the fertile land of Tresco, known for producing the best fresh fruit and table grapes in Australia. To the west lies the open plain of the sandy wheat belt Mallee, while to the east of the town lays one of the best fresh water lakes in Australia. Continue north and you will discover the Mighty Murray River and the modern city of Swan Hill.

Lake Boga has an abundance of nature diversity, a rich cultural and a proud history. Although the town is small, it is accommodating for all your essential needs, in a relaxed environment, where the community are friendly and welcoming.

Lake Boga History
The history of the region goes back thousands of years, where the Aboriginal Wamba Wamba people occupied the surrounding lakes, due to the availability of water and food. The Koorie culture can be evidenced by the large numbers of middens or cooking ovens throughout the region.

The first white man to see Lake Boga was Major Thomas Mitchell, as he explored upstream along the Murray River from the Darling River junction, during his famous 1836 ‘Australian Felix’ expedition. On the 21st June 1836, Major Mitchell sighted the lake and named it Lake Boga, but as he did not record his reason, conflicting theories evolved about its origin.

‘Boga’ is an ancient English word meaning rainbow, and it has been generally accepted that the rainbow which appeared on the foggy morning the lake was sighted, inspired its name. After years of uncertainty and drought, in 2010 Lake Boga was reinstated as part of the Mid Murray Storage system for the Murray Darling River Basin, ensuring the lake’s future as a fresh water holding pond, for irrigators down stream on the Murray River.

Today the lake covers approximately 2000 acres and holds in excess of 37,000 mega litres and encompasses a variety of aquatic recreational activities such as skiing, yachting, canoeing, fishing and swimming.