Welcome to Captains Flat,

An historic mining village on the edge of the Great Dividing Range.

Follow our heritage trail and explore the history of one of Australia's most productive mines. We hope you enjoy our historic buildings and the area's natural beauty.

Fact sheets with details of the village's history are available from businesses around town, as is plenty of country hospitality.

Past to present

Captains Flat is known mainly for its mining heritage. The unique geology around the Flat still attracts many geologists and students to the village.

Over the years the village's fortunes and population has fluctuated to reflect mining activity, with over 5 000 people living in the area when the industry was at its peak. Large farms have surrounded the village and farming is an important part of the region's economy.

The Flat is now both a popular recreational destination for visitors from Canberra, Queanbeyan and elsewhere, and a peaceful home to about 450 lucky residents.

Bush walkers and four wheel drive enthusiasts frequent the surrounding Tallaganda State Forest and the Tinderry Mountains, while the Captains Flat dam offers anglers an opportunity to enjoy some quiet fishing and to admire the waterfall.

Mining History

Gold was discovered in the area in 1864 and the Koh'i noor and Commodore-Vander (formerly El Capitan) mines were established in 1886. In the period to 1899 over 100 000 tons of ore were mined locally. Slag from operations is evident on the left of Jerangle Road, going out of the village.

Lake George Mines Pty Ltd commenced operations in 1939, operating until 9 March 1962. 3 946 650 tons of ore were extracted by underground methods to produce lead, zinc, copper, pyrite and gold extracts.

Follow the Heritage Trail to see the village and the old mine site and imagine what the town was like when the mine was in full swing.

A view from the mine hill 1938. The village is on the right

