

Farina Driving Trail

Take a leisurely drive around Farina looking at the attractions a little further from the town centre. This drive should take 1 - 2 hours depending on how long you spend at each site.

- A Start at the Patterson House on 12th street.
- B Drive north towards the Campground and stop at the bottom of the War Memorial. Climb the path next to the railing to the Memorial. Read the storyboard. There is an ANZAC service held every third year. Observe the plaques on the wall recognising those who served. Look at the history of FI Lt John Bell. A service commemorating John Bell is conducted each year around June 18.
- C Proceed the 2.5km to the Cemeteries. Note the graves (maintained by the FRG) each surrounded with quartz rocks and each with a cross. The storyboard records those as residents of Farina at the time of death. Walk to the NE corner to see the Muslim Afghan graves. Back at the entrance notice the small Cemetery. This was believed to be unconsecrated ground where those unbaptised were buried, including very young children. In 2018 the FRG arranged for the Bishop of Willochra to consecrate this small cemetery
- D Drive back towards town to the western end of the extensive walking trails adjacent to the Creek. You can walk these trails at your leisure later.
- E This is the site of the Cricket Oval where cricket has been played at Farina since 1887. Nowadays each year in June a team from Farina plays "The Rest of the World".
- F This stop is at the Standard Gauge Bridge crossing the Farina Creek. The standard gauge line constructed in 1954 was an all weather line and here is an extensive high-level bridge across the creek. The system is described in the storyboards. This point is also another starting point for the Farina creek walking trails.
- G Here the narrow gauge line crosses the road. On the south the line can be seen heading south to the Farina Station. Notice that the track was laid on the ground with little ballast. Looking north is the start of the Narrow gauge Farina Creek crossing. Read The Storyboard. In contrast to the Standard gauge crossing it is much lower and was subject to flooding and washouts. The narrow gauge creek crossing track starts here.
- H Turn right in 100 metres to the 2 level sheep South Australian Railways truck and loading ramp which is described in the storyboard.
- I Turn around to the SAR cattle wagon and nearby the Stockman's hut. On the north of the line were the cattle yards the remains of the water troughs can be seen. On the south were the sheep yards.
- J Drive along the Standard Gauge line to the turning triangles, which were used to reverse the engines where plenty of land was available saving the cost of a turntable.
- K Continue along to the railway precinct where there is an exhibit describing the railway system including the rare gauge crossover
- L Nearby there is the Guard's house and the slabs from the workers accommodation and the water tower. Can you see the advertisement on the side of the tower?
- M Continue along the Narrow Gauge line to the remains of the Station Master's house and the ash pits where the ash from the engines was removed. Nearby there is a SAR flatbed goods truck, and further to the east the standard gauge goods shed and crane base.

At this point if you are short of time you can return to the start by travelling along Second Street

- N Heading South near the highway there is the Ganger's/Fettler's house. The gangers were responsible for track maintenance north and south of this point for many kilometres. Round the back of the house you may be able to see a rail made by "Barrow Steel" that was used for the track after the cut price rails made by "Hopkins Gilkes" was found to be unsuitable (see an example by the Bakery).
- O Back onto the highway and entering the track to the township turn right just after the Transcontinental Hotel to the Catholic Church on 11th Street. It was built in 1897 and was the most northerly church in the state. It was moved to Murraytown in1936 and eventually to Goolwa.