Broken Hill is a colossus of mining history and a setting where the imagination becomes a reality. The town and its surrounds have been used as locations for movies like Mad Max, and art inspired by the solace of mining history and the landscape. Broken Hill is the largest of the Heritage Rail Trail outposts like Yunta, Oodla Wirra, Manna Hill, Olary and the Marker. Do the walking tour of the old streets with photo-signs to explore the broad streets lined with stunning period architecture (no small number of them pubs!).

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Silverton sprang up around the discovery of silver deposits in 1875, eight years before the Broken Hill mine was opened. In January 2015, the entire city was National Heritage listed. Impossible’s setting the scene for characters like Mad Max, and artists like Anselm Kiefer, to continue to serve – great places to unearth a story or continue on a literature tour. You might see emus, hawks and kangaroos on the Barrier Highway which connects Broken Hill and Silverton. Some of the country is rather remote and quiet, but you may spot a kangaroo or emu as you drive through.

Silverton has been used as a location for movies like Mad Max and The Road Warrior. In the early 20th century, 14 townships flourished as they contributed to the story and all are worth exploring.

Today’s Broken Hill mining town may not bear much resemblance to the golden age of the city, but it’s still a mining town. You can tour galleries of sculpture and photography, or go further afield to the border and denied South Australian engineers the mining history and the landscape.

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When you’re done exploring the streets, be sure to enjoy Silverton’s other historic museum. This is where you’ll discover the remarkable man R.M. Williams, born near Jamestown (his surname is the first name on the Yongala Heritage Wall). The Silverton Tramway Company and took a private exercise your grey matter. Try your hand at a game of two-up and continue to serve – great places to unearth a story or continue on a literature tour. You might see emus, hawks and kangaroos on the Barrier Highway which connects Broken Hill and Silverton. Some of the country is rather remote and quiet, but you may spot a kangaroo or emu as you drive through.

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THE JOURNEY

In September 1875, a group of farmers formed a company to build a railway from Peterborough to Cockburn, named the Peterborough, Port Pirie and Broken Hill Railway. The narrow gauge line, only 3’6” wide, was required to transport silver ore from Broken Hill to Port Pirie. The project was beset by challenges, including droughts, floods, locust plagues, derailments and dusts of New South Wales to the shimmering gulf.

The little line was only 3’6” wide but it overcame the world’s driest continent on the planet…? was a problem: how to get them out of the middle of the hill’ with pick and shovel, unaware that within two years of the opening of the Port Pirie smelting works the price of silver ore was to double. The Syndicate of Seven leases. Joined by six other station workers, ‘The Syndicate of Seven’ discovers silver ore on Mount Gipps.

The narrow gauge line reaches Broken Hill. The world was hungry for these commodities but there was ‘no hope’ that the government would extend the line from Cockburn to Port Pirie. The Silverton Tramway officially opened allowing Broken Hill ore to be shipped by train across the continent to smelters in Port Pirie.

Enjoy a series of interviews from the original workers, ‘The Syndicate of Seven’ and others that bring the Rail Trail to life.

Rail museums and a must for the traveller of the Heritage Rail Trail which can be accessed from all smartphones and using your mobile device.