

EAST COAST AUSTRALIA

Road Trip Itinerary



AUSTRALIA
BACKPACKERS GUIDE

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get adventures get living get free get australia



In short

Are you going to Australia? The East Coast is a must! More civilized and developed than the rest of the country, this part of Australia will make you discover beautiful places such as national parks, stunning beaches, tropical forests and the largest cities of the country... Without counting the essential spots such as Fraser Island, the Whitsundays or the Great Barrier Reef.



F

CAIRNS

735 KMS

E

MACKAY

790 KMS

D

FRASER ISLAND

350 KMS

C

BRISBANE

75 KMS

B

GOLD COAST

850 KMS

A

SYDNEY



MAKE IT HAPPEN

BUDGET ROAD TRIP

Here is our estimate for a 3-week road trip (2 people). Obviously, according to the activities and excursions that you plan to do, the budget may quickly swell.

Van rental

Count on average \$75 per day (\$50 for the vehicle + \$25 for insurance). Or around **\$1,500** for a 3 weeks rental.

Essence

On average, for different types of fuels, the prices are:

SP 91 : \$1,45

SP 95 : \$1,6

SP 98 : \$1,7

Diesel : \$1,48

So, for 3 weeks, count around **\$300**.

Food

If you are looking as many simple dishes and a few extras from time to time, a budget of around \$ 8 /day per person will be enough.



Total de la note

Renting a 2-seater van with insurance: \$1,500

Fuel: \$ 300

Food: \$ 350

Camping: \$160

Excursions and activities: \$1,500

Restaurants and going out: \$300

Total: **\$4,200**

(for 2 people, or \$2,250 per person)

MAKE IT HAPPEN

SEASON EAST COAST

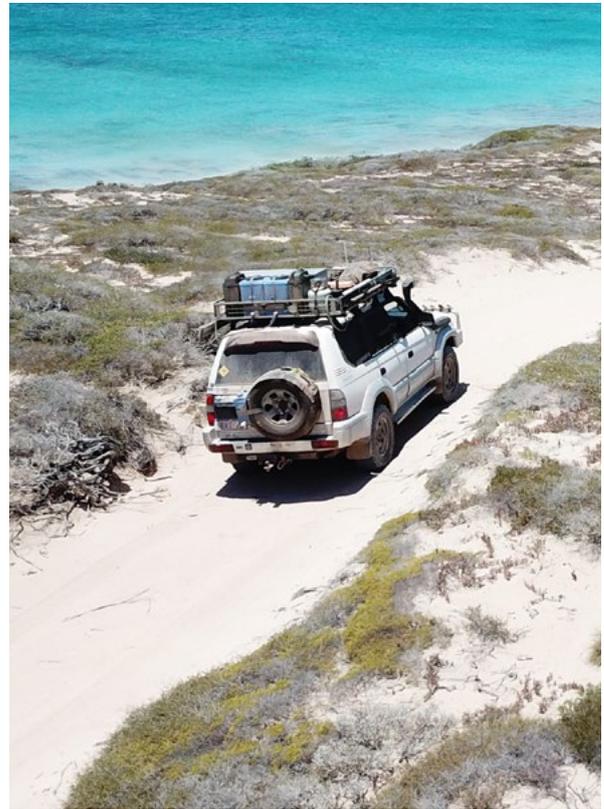
Seasons

The climate on the East Coast is fairly pleasant throughout the year. Be careful during the rainy season in the north of Queensland, which is prone to heavy rainfall between December and March. During winter it can get fresh in the South (May - August). We recommend avoiding those Months to enjoy the most of your road trip. The best time to visit the East Coast is the mid-season. Which is between March and May, or between September and November.

Road Trip Duration

The duration of your road trip depends on many things (budget, personal restrictions, activities planned etc). If you plan to do Sydney - Cairns, 3 to 4 weeks may be enough.

However, if you plan to start south of the coast and travel further than Cairns, allow at least a month and a half or even two if you wish to take your time. Know that it there are 3600 km between Eden (in the South) and Cooktown (to the North).



Good to know

The wet season lasts from December to February in the north of the country. Some roads are at risk of being flooded and inaccessible. Plan your road trip accordingly

CAMPER HIRE

Cheap

All our advice on finding a cheap campervan rental in Australia. Tips, comparators, discount codes etc.

[READ MORE](#)

SYDNEY

In short

Sydney, located in Port Jackson Bay is the oldest, but also the most modern city from across the country. It's one of the main cities in Australia and it's world famous, especially for its Opera House. Sydney draws nearly 40 million local or international tourists per year (June 2019). The surf culture is very strong, and the lifestyle is "cool". You can discover beautiful beaches, varied architecture and vibrant culture.



🕒 1 - 3 DAYS



To do's

- The Harbor Bridge and its view of the city - You can do the Bridge Climb which leads you to the top of the bridge (134m).
- The World Heritage-listed Opera House, Sydney's most iconic monument
- The historic district "The Rocks"
- The Botanical Garden
- Sydney Tower for a 360° view on the city and its surroundings
- The CBD (city centre) with its shops and museums
- Paddy's Market, the Chinese market
- Darling Harbor with the Aquarium or Wild life Sydney Zoo
- Taronga Zoo
- Manly and Watsons Bay
- Bondi's Coastal Walk in Coogee Beach

[READ MORE](#)



The nearest caravan park is the Lane Cove River Tourist Park, North Ryde 14km north of the city. Trains to the centre leave every 15 minutes. Powered site for \$39.

Cockatoo Island Camping in Mosman is also a beautiful place to pitch your tent (from \$ 45).

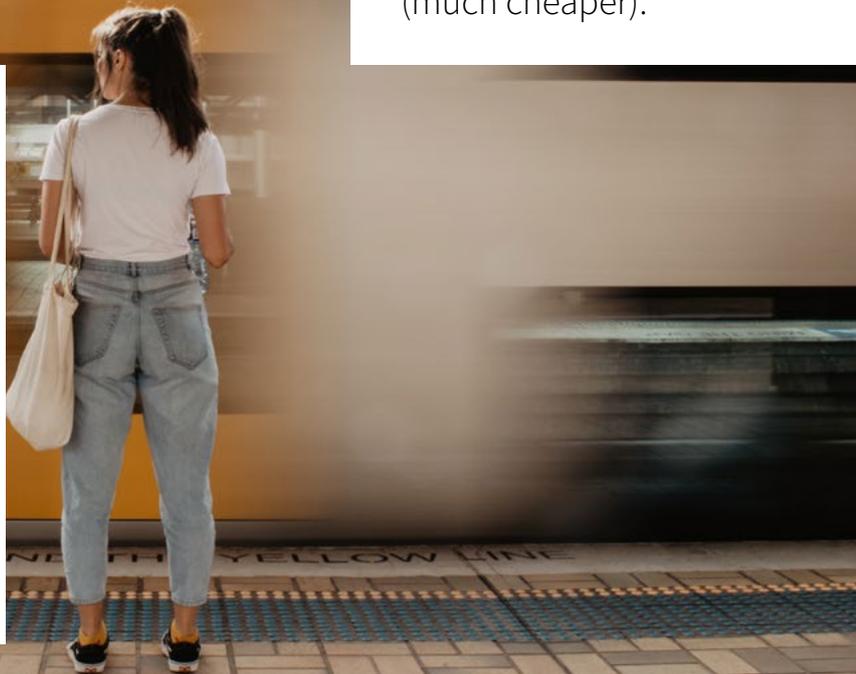


It is a good idea to park in the areas around the centre (Glebe, Ultimo, Double Bay or Rushcutters Bay Park).

Then reach the city by public transport or on foot (much cheaper).



The city has a good network of buses, trains, ferries and trams. Transport is expensive and it is advisable to move around the centre on foot. To access the surrounding areas and beaches, public transport will be essential. The best is to get an Opal card and recharge it according to your needs.



Tours and Activities

You can choose to go on an excursion through a tour operator. Over one or two days, with or without activities (canyoning, climbing, etc.)

There is something for every taste. Allow about \$90 for a single day. For a day trip to the Blue Mountains with canyoning and abseiling, count around \$200 per person.

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE TOUR

Discover the history and magic of the Sydney Opera House on a 1-hour guided tour.

[BOOK NOW](#)

TARONGA ZOO TOUR WITH SKY SAFARI

Reach the Zoo by ferry and take the cable car for a breathtaking view of Sydney!

[BOOK NOW](#)

SYDNEY & BONDI: OPEN BUS TOUR

Discover the best of Sydney at your own pace with a hop-on hop-off bus tour.

[BOOK NOW](#)

SYDNEY HARBOR: 20 MIN HELICOPTER FLIGHT

Discover all the splendour of Sydney and its bay in an unusual and unforgettable way!

[BOOK NOW](#)

A person is standing on the edge of a dark, layered rock formation that juts out over a deep valley. The background shows a vast, hazy mountain range under a clear sky. The lighting suggests late afternoon or early morning, with soft shadows and a warm glow on the distant peaks.

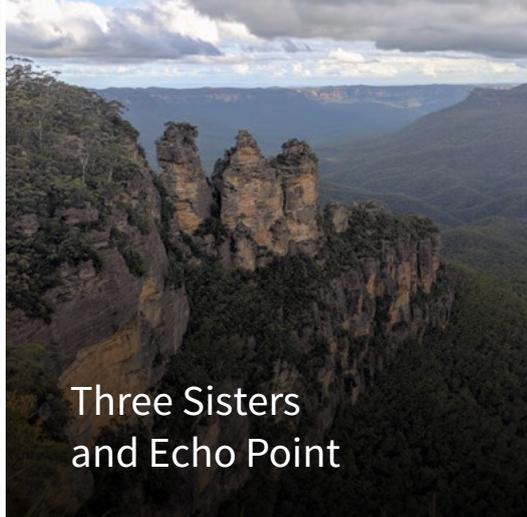
BLUE MOUNTAINS

In short

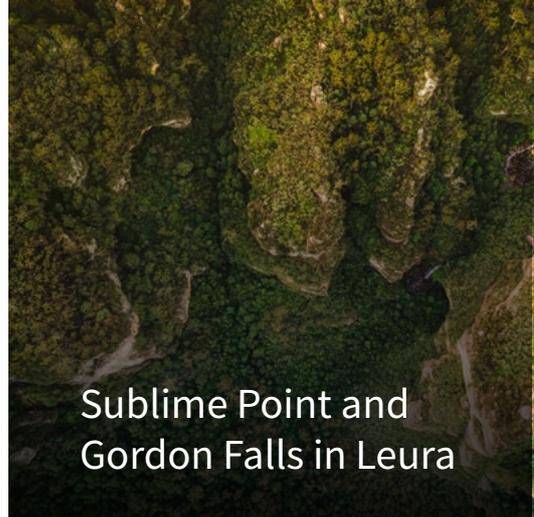
A 2-hour drive from Sydney, The Blue Mountain National Park covers 240,000 hectares, including forests, rivers, plateaus, waterfalls,... With the Three Sisters as the main attraction in Katoomba, the Blue Mountains offer superb landscapes with green forests, golden sandstone plateaus, waterfalls, small villages ... Many sports activities are possible (hiking, climbing, kayaking, caving, mountain biking, horse riding ...).

To do's

 1 - 3 DAYS



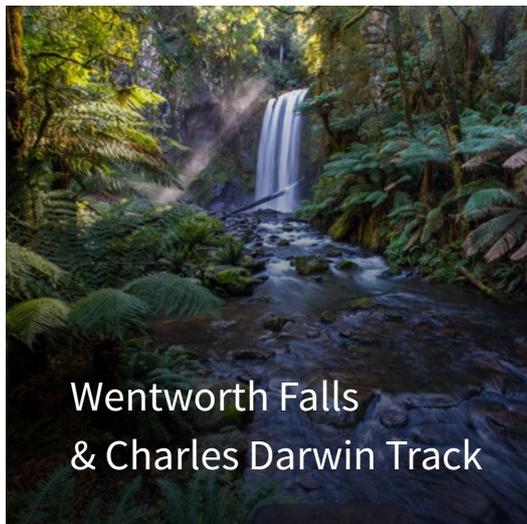
Three Sisters
and Echo Point



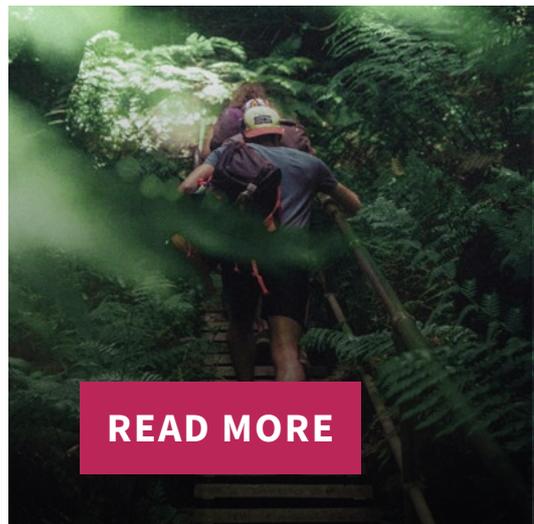
Sublime Point and
Gordon Falls in Leura



Three Sisters Walk
& Overcliff-Undercliff
track



Wentworth Falls
& Charles Darwin Track



[READ MORE](#)



The park is spoiled in terms of accommodation (hostels, Airbnb). Caravan parks are available in Katoomba, Blackheath or Lithgow. You will find some free camp spots such as Blackheath Glen Reserve on Prince Edward Street, or Murphy's Glen Campground (easily accessible by 4x4).



The car remains the preferred choice of transport to reach the Blue Mountains. From Sydney, it will take you 1.5 hours on the M4 to get to the national park.

From Central Station, a train will take you to Katoomba in 2 hours. The route continues on foot or with the public buses of Katoomba. Choose to travel on weekdays for lower fares.

Tours and activities

You can choose to go on a tour through a tour operator. Over one or two days, with or without activities (canyoning, climbing, etc.)

There is something for every taste. Allow about \$90 for a single day. For a day trip to the Blue Mountains with canyoning and abseiling, count around \$200 per person.

BLUE MOUNTAINS: SMALL GROUP, ALL-INCLUSIVE TOUR

Enjoy a day out in the beautiful Blue Mountains. Visit Scenic World, the Three Sisters lookout, Featherdale

[BOOK NOW](#)

BLUE MOUNTAINS TOUR, SCENIC WORLD, LEURA VILLAGE & CRUISE

See a variety of native Australian animals, stop at Echo Point for panoramic views and enjoy 3 different rides at Scenic World.

[BOOK NOW](#)

SCENIC BLUE MOUNTAINS 4X4 DAY TOUR

Departing from Sydney, explore the surrounding area with your guide and in a 4x4.

[BOOK NOW](#)

BLUE MOUNTAINS HOP ON HOP OFF & SCENIC WORLD RIDES PASS

Hop off and back on at any of the 29 stops throughout the region, visiting waterfalls, gardens, eateries and the 3 Sisters.

[BOOK NOW](#)

An aerial photograph of a coastal region. A large, dark green forested hillside dominates the right side of the frame, sloping down to a wide, golden sand beach. The ocean is a deep blue, with white foam from waves washing onto the shore. In the distance, another coastline is visible under a clear sky.

PORT STEPHENS

In short

Port Stephens is not a city, but rather a region that stretches over 1000 km², nicknamed “Blue Water Paradise”. Located just 200 km north of Sydney, this spot is a must-do for nature lovers. Enjoy long white sand beaches and surfing.

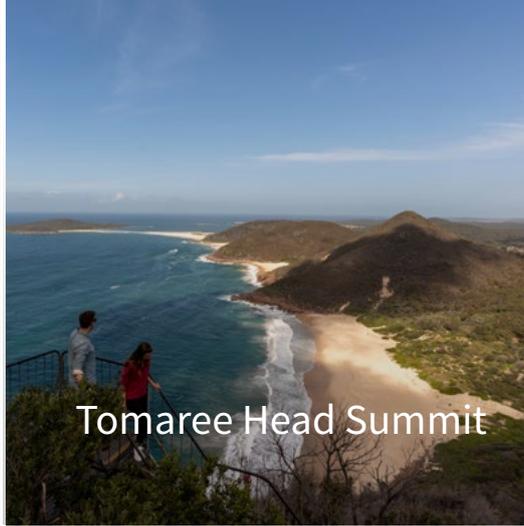
Port Stephens is also famous for its dolphins, with a population of 150 resident dolphins, which can be seen from the beach (Fly Point) or during an organized tour.

avec une population de 150 dauphins résidents,

To do's



1 - 2 DAYS



Tomaree Head Summit



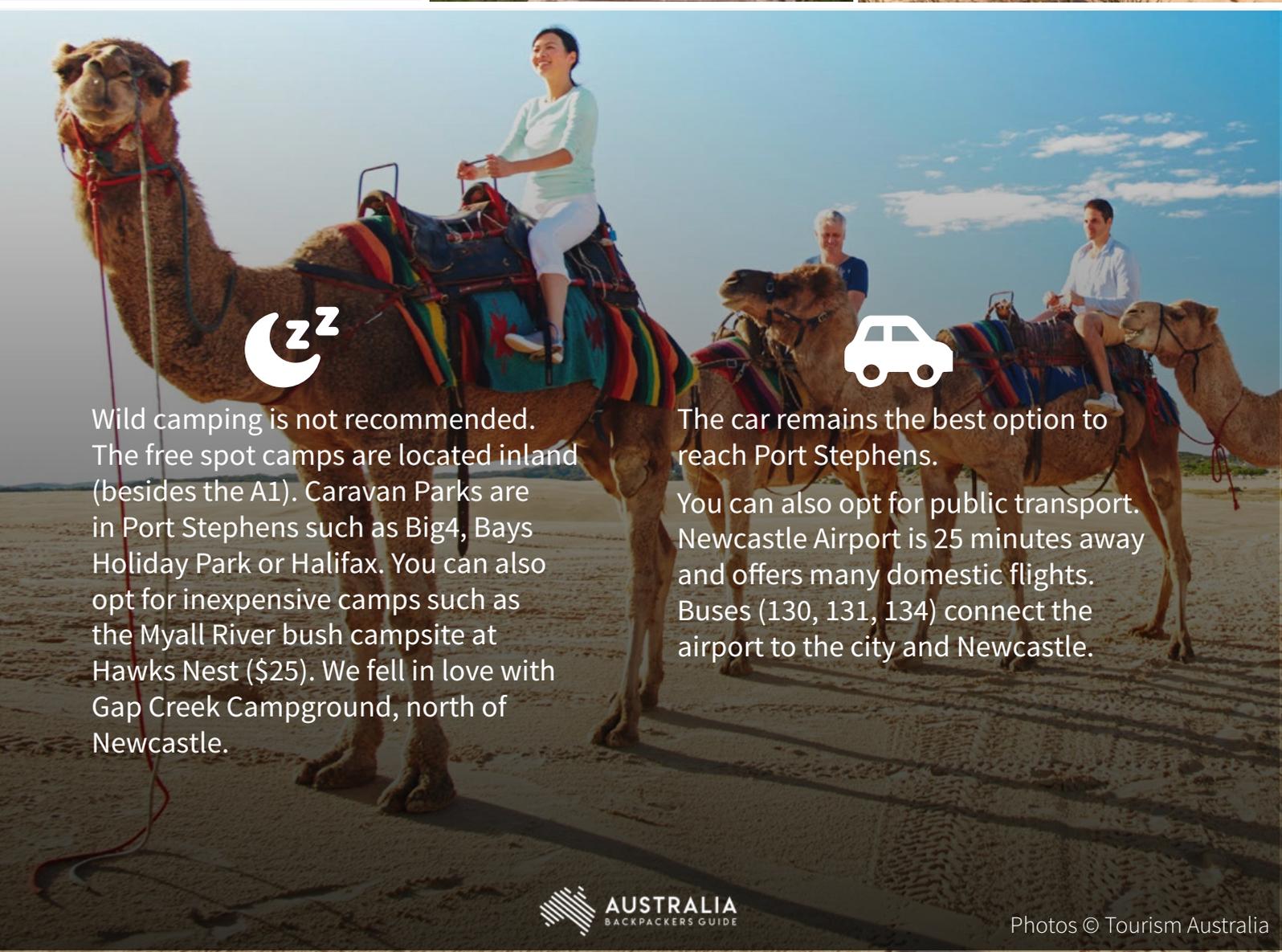
Stockton Beach



Anna Bay



Fingal Bay and Shark Island



Wild camping is not recommended. The free spot camps are located inland (besides the A1). Caravan Parks are in Port Stephens such as Big4, Bays Holiday Park or Halifax. You can also opt for inexpensive camps such as the Myall River bush campsite at Hawks Nest (\$25). We fell in love with Gap Creek Campground, north of Newcastle.



The car remains the best option to reach Port Stephens. You can also opt for public transport. Newcastle Airport is 25 minutes away and offers many domestic flights. Buses (130, 131, 134) connect the airport to the city and Newcastle.

PORT MACQUARIE

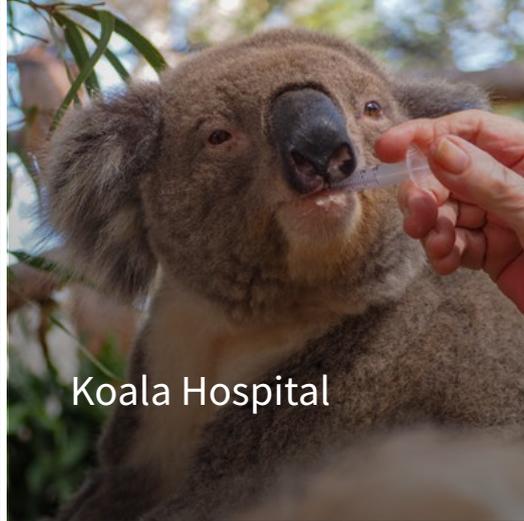
In short

All koala lovers will want to make a stop at Port Macquarie. The city is famous for its koala hospital. In this sanctuary, you can observe koalas very closely. The centre rescues koalas in distress throughout New South Wales, those struck by cars, attacked by dogs, victims of fires or even the babies of deceased mothers. The city also has very pretty beaches to discover. Many museums and historic sites will teach you more about Australian history, such as the Church of Thomas Apostle built by the convicts in 1821.

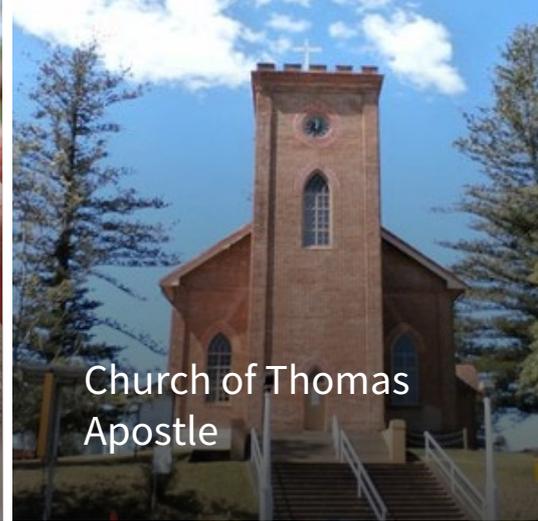
To do's



1 - 2 DAYS



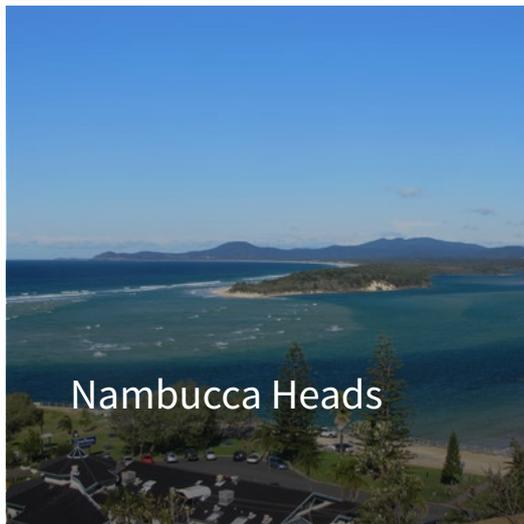
Koala Hospital



Church of Thomas Apostle



Sea Acres Rainforest Centre



Nambucca Heads



Coffs Harbour



Choose a caravan park or head inland for free or inexpensive spots. One of our favourites is the Ellenborough Reserve campsite (Main Street Ellenborough). Located 56 km from Port Macquarie, this camping space offers space, BBQ's, the possibility of swimming, making fires, etc. Bluff Picnic Area at Wilson River is also a great place to camp and enjoy nature.



The car remains the preferred choice of transport to reach Port Macquarie, located a 4-hour drive from Sydney.

The train between Sydney and Brisbane stops daily at Kendall and Wauchope. There is a bus connection for people travelling to Port Macquarie.

There is also an airport with daily domestic flights from Sydney or

BYRON BAY

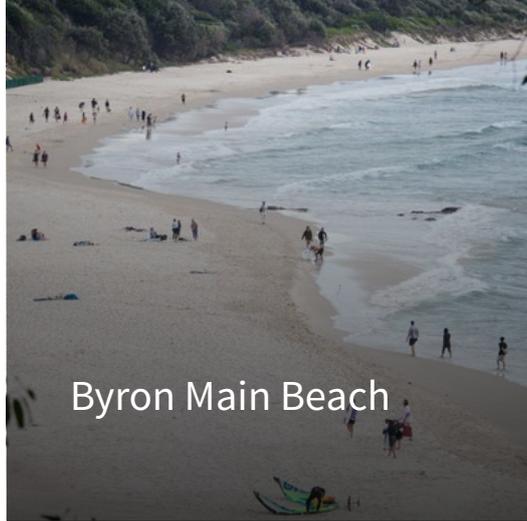
In short

The trendy city is very popular with Australians, Byron Bay is famous for its cool atmosphere, its lighthouse and its beautiful beaches. A bohemian atmosphere, surfing and an alternative culture make this city a place where you feel good and where you want to stay. The Cape Byron a few minutes from the city centre offers a magnificent view of the coast and also a very good point for whale watching during the migration period. A walk will take you to the Captain Cook Lookout, an observation platform located on a rock in the middle of the water!

To do's



1 - 2 DAYS



Byron Main Beach



Wategos beach



Byron Lighthouse



Nimbin



[READ MORE](#)



Sleeping for free in Byron is a challenge! Choose the surrounding camp spots. Towards Brunswick to the north or inland on the side of Nimbin. Otherwise, the caravan parks in the city are good options but they are not for free and sometimes overpriced in high season. Among them Glen Villa Resort (\$35).



The car remains the preferred choice of transport to reach Byron Bay.

You also have buses to the city from the Gold Coast or Brisbane. The Greyhounds or Premier Service serve the entire East Coast and stop at these famous spots.

There is also an airport with daily domestic flights from Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane located in Ballina, nearby.

GOLD COAST

In short

With its 72km of beautiful beaches, the Gold Coast stretches from Coolangatta to Southport. Bordered by skyscrapers, the beaches are the flagship attraction and more particularly the beach of Surfers Paradise. This is the part of the coast where there are seaside resorts with intense nightlife and amusement parks with various themes (Dreamworld, Seaworld).



1 - 2 DAYS



To do's

- Coolangatta and Point Danger
- Currumbin creek, with the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary a few meters from the beach
- Burleigh Heads with the Currumbin Rock Pools
- Broadbeach with The Star Casino and Pacific Fair Mall
- Surfers Paradise and its SkyPoint Observation Deck
- Amusement parks Dreamworld and Wet'n'Wild Water World (among others)
- Southport & Main Beach with street art

[READ MORE](#)



It will be difficult to find a free place to sleep with your vehicle.

Choose paid caravan parks such as Big4. For free camps, you will have to drive inland. Yelgun Rest Area to the south remains the nearest rest area.



There are many car parks available throughout the city, however, those car parks are mostly limited to 2 hours or you need to pay for parking.



If you are coming by vehicle, whether you are coming from Brisbane or Byron Bay, take the Pacific Motorway (M1) and drive about 1 hour to arrive on the Gold Coast.

Two airports provide access to the Gold Coast from many destinations, there is an airport on the Gold Coast in Coolangatta and one in Brisbane with a train line that connects Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

Bus companies like the Greyhound and Premier Motor Service serve the East Coast and stop on the Gold Coast.



Tours and Activities

The Gold Coast is famous for its theme parks. You have an impressive choice of parks to visit, one crazier than the other! The best is to get a pass which will cost you less! You can also discover the Gold Coast and its region by jet boat or even by helicopter!

GOLD COAST: 3 DAY PASS FOR 3 THEME PARKS

Unlimited entry to Warner Bros. Movie World, Sea World and Wet n Wild for 3 consecutive days.

[BOOK NOW](#)

DREAMWORLD AND WHITEWATER WORLD, COOMERA 1-DAY TICKET

Come spend a day full of fun and meet your favourite characters.

[BOOK NOW](#)

GOLD COAST: SURF LESSON

Escape the crowds and learn how to surf at a beautiful local beach with the help of an experienced surf coach.

[BOOK NOW](#)

JET BOAT RIDE AND SCENIC HELICOPTER TOUR

Enjoy a 55-minute jet boat ride, then admire the city from the sky.

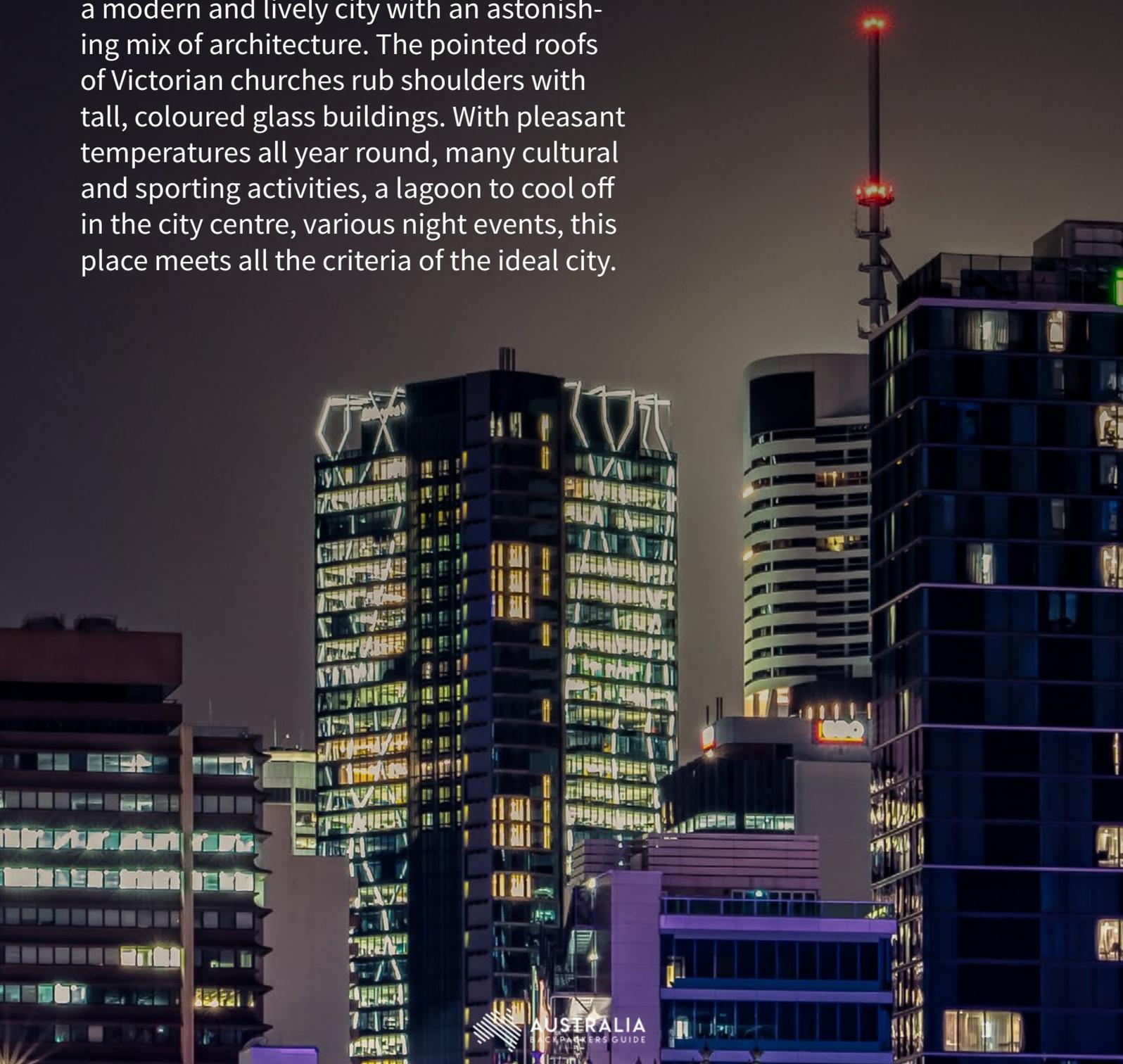
[BOOK NOW](#)



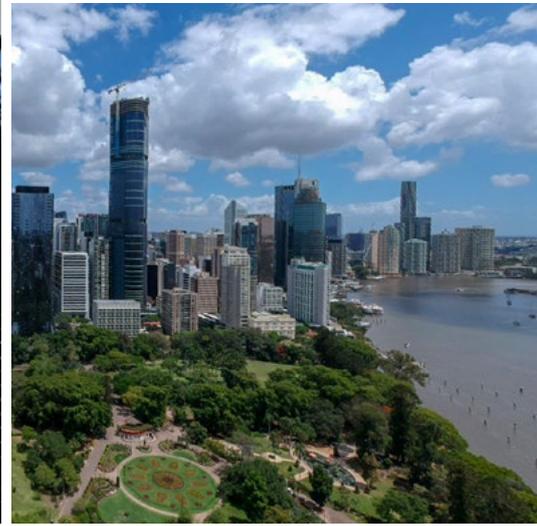
BRISBANE

In short

Located 25 km from the sea and built on the banks of the river of the same name, Brisbane is the capital of Queensland. It is a modern and lively city with an astonishing mix of architecture. The pointed roofs of Victorian churches rub shoulders with tall, coloured glass buildings. With pleasant temperatures all year round, many cultural and sporting activities, a lagoon to cool off in the city centre, various night events, this place meets all the criteria of the ideal city.



🕒 1 - 3 DAYS



To do's

- The Botanical Garden
- Explore the historic buildings of the city centre
- City Beach Lagoon in Southbank
- Southbank Museums and Galleries
- West End street art
- Visit the Saint Stephen Cathedral and its neo-Gothic style
- Do some shopping on Queen Street
- Fortitude Valley and its China Town
- The Lone Pine Sanctuary - koala reserve
- Lookouts from Kangaroo Point & Mount Coot-Tha
- Don't miss the surroundings of Brisbane like Bribie Island and North Stradbroke Island

[READ MORE](#)



It will be difficult to find a free place to sleep with your vehicle.

Choose a caravan park such as Newmarket Gardens Caravan Park in Ashgrove or Brisbane Holiday Village in Eight Mile Plains. Then reach the city by Uber, bus or taxi.



In the city, all the car parks are paid and expensive. Park your vehicle in the suburbs and reach the centre by public transport.



Download the MyTransLink app to plan your trips. Buy a GoCard at a train station or 7Eleven store to travel by bus, train or ferry. There are free river ferries and shuttle service: the CityLoop and the CityHopper. Ideal to visit Brisbane city.



Tours and activities

There are lots of activities and things to discover in Brisbane! Going on a guided tour can be a good option to relax while exploring the city. You can opt for a cruise on the city's river or a nearby island or discover Brissy by boarding a bus that takes you to tourist points.

BRISBANE CITY HIGHLIGHTS

Spend a day exploring the heart of Brisbane. View the historic buildings, discover South Bank Parklands, enjoy panoramic views from the Kangaroo Lookout and visit Lone Pine Koala

BOOK NOW

BRISBANE: AUSTRALIA ZOO FULL-DAY TOUR

The famous Australian Zoo is a must for visitors from all over the world!

BOOK NOW

BRISBANE: RIVER CRUISE WITH LUNCH

Explore Brisbane on a morning tea and lunch cruise at the Breakfast Creek Hotel.

BOOK NOW

MORETON ISLAND: DOLPHIN AND SNORKEL CRUISE ADVENTURE

Enjoy a snorkelling tour and a buffet lunch featuring fresh prawns.

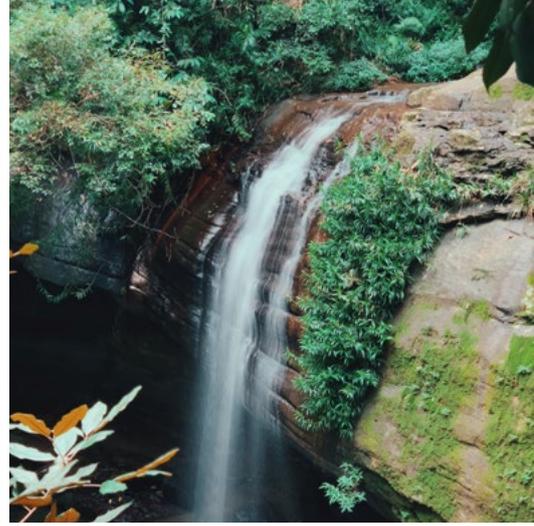
BOOK NOW

SUNSHINE COAST

In short

The Sunshine Coast, less developed than the Gold Coast, stretches from Bribie Island, north of Brisbane, to Gympie. It is rocked by an endless summer and surfers in search of beautiful waves. But it also harbours real gems, such as the Glass House Mountains, extraordinary diving sites like Wolf Rock and Old Woman Island. Main tourist point, Noosa is a small chic seaside resort with a relaxed atmosphere and postcard-worthy beaches.

 1 - 2 DAYS



To do's

- Glass Hill National Park and the Glass House Mountains
- The Australia Zoo
- Caloundra and Kings Beach
- Mooloolaba and Maroochydore
- Coolum and Point Cartwright
- Noosa Heads and its national park
- Noosa North Shore to Fraser Island
- Eumundi Markets (Wednesdays and Saturdays)
- Buderim Falls or the Serenity Waterfalls
- Montville and Kondallila Falls

[READ MORE](#)



There are some free camp spots along the M1 inland, especially towards Eumundi. On the coast, favour the paid caravan parks.

There are free showers at the Noosa Leisure Centre or the Noosa Civic Shopping Centre.



You can easily park in any city on the Sunshine Coast. The car parks are for free but limited in time sometimes. Please note in high season it is difficult to park near Noosa Heads, choose the buses provided free of charge by the city council.



Download the MyTransLink app to plan your transit trips. Many buses run to the Sunshine, however, the journeys are long (many stops). You can easily reach Maroochydore from Noosa by city bus.

The Greyhounds and Premier Motor also serve the coast for people without vehicles. There is an airport on the coast with flights from Sydney, Brisbane, Auckland etc. Shuttles also offer transfers from Brisbane.

Tours and Activities

The Sunshine Coast is full of surprises. You can choose to book a day of discovery from Brisbane, or if you are there, opt for a kayak or canoeing tour. Exploring the Glass House Mountains is also a must!

FROM BRISBANE: NOOSA AND SUNSHINE COAST DAY TRIP

Visit Hastings Street and discover the beauty of Noosa Beach and the river.

[BOOK NOW](#)

SUNSHINE COAST: HINTERLAND TOUR

Explore the rainforests, swim in a waterfall and enjoy an epic view of the Glass House Mountains.

[BOOK NOW](#)

NOOSA: EVERGLADES CANOE ADVENTURE

Travel through the dark, tranquil, mirrored waterways of the Everglades and explore the wildlife

[BOOK NOW](#)

DOLPHIN VIEW KAYAK TOUR

Kayaking adventure on the lookout for wild dolphins. Enjoy a 4WD tour of Great Sandy National Park as well.

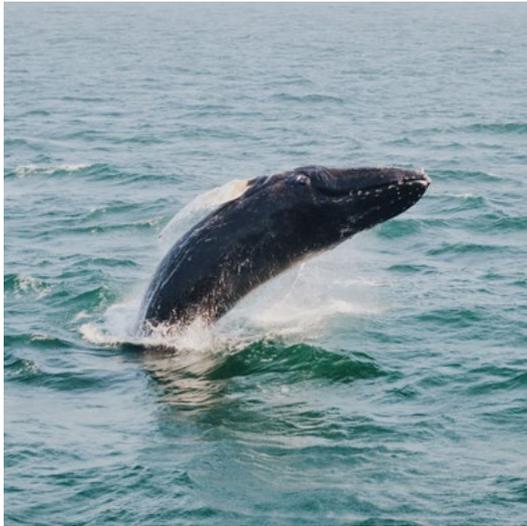
[BOOK NOW](#)

FRASER ISLAND

In short

Fraser Island is the largest sandy island in the world. With a length of 120km, it is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its unique scenery. It is also home to the purest breed of dingos that you can see roaming freely on the island. To get there, you will have to go through Rainbow Beach or Hervey Bay and take the ferry with your 4x4.

🕒 1 - 3 DAYS



To do's

- Drive a 4x4 on 75 Mile Beach
- Elie Creek to cool off
- Discover the Maheno wreck
- Champagne Pools, natural pools
- Indian Head, for the best view of the island
- Lake MacKenzie with turquoise water and fine sand
- The Cathedrals
- Pinnacles that look like a rainbow.
- Lake Birrabeen, similar to McKenzie Lake
- Wungul sandblow, huge sand dune

[READ MORE](#)



There are 45 campsites across Fraser Island. They are located inland and on the coast.

We recommend Carree Camping Zone, Awinya Creek or Cathedrals on Fraser.

The campsite costs \$6.55/person/night.



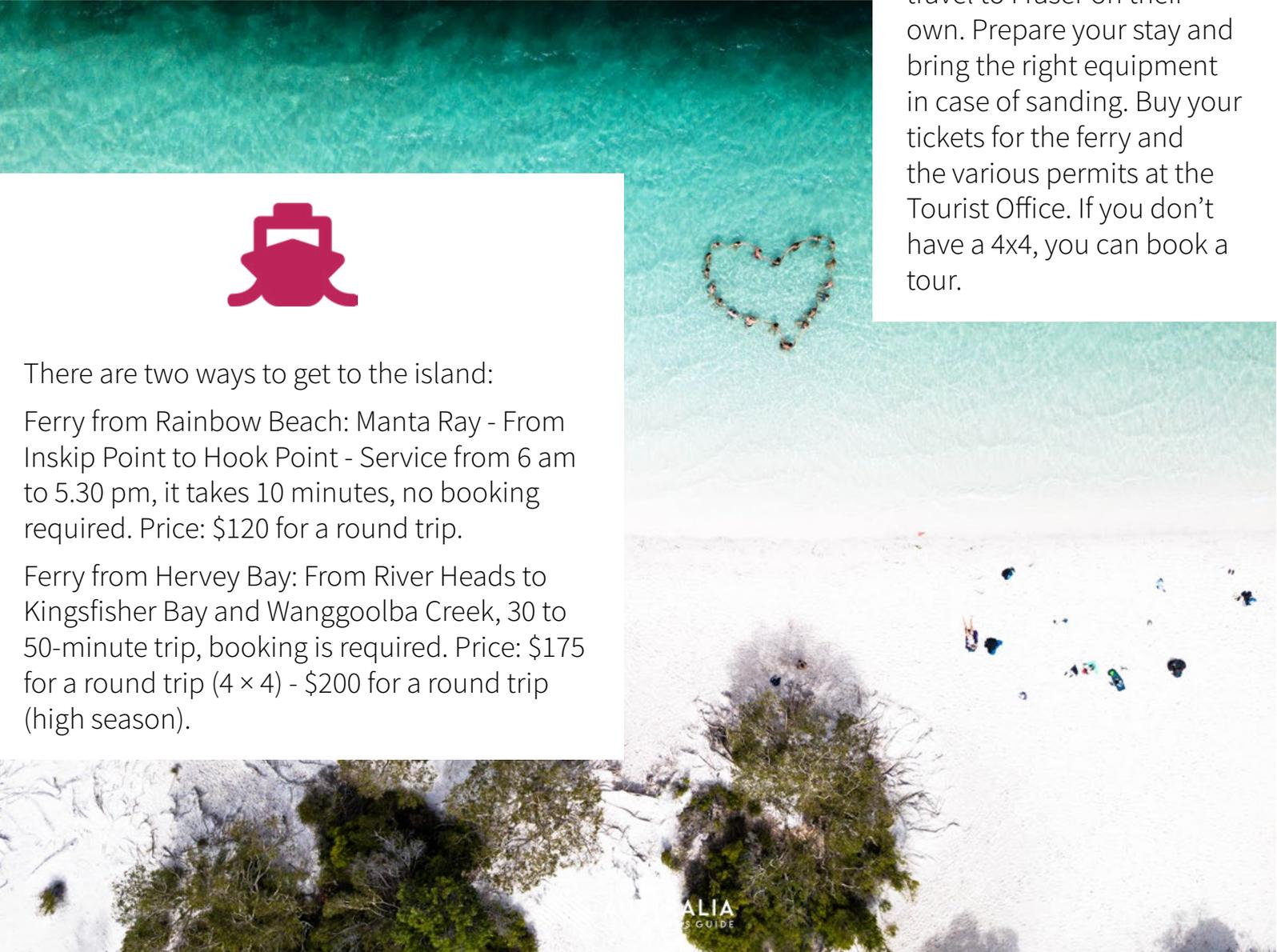
People with a 4 × 4 can travel to Fraser on their own. Prepare your stay and bring the right equipment in case of sanding. Buy your tickets for the ferry and the various permits at the Tourist Office. If you don't have a 4x4, you can book a tour.



There are two ways to get to the island:

Ferry from Rainbow Beach: Manta Ray - From Inskip Point to Hook Point - Service from 6 am to 5.30 pm, it takes 10 minutes, no booking required. Price: \$120 for a round trip.

Ferry from Hervey Bay: From River Heads to Kingsfisher Bay and Wanggoolba Creek, 30 to 50-minute trip, booking is required. Price: \$175 for a round trip (4 × 4) - \$200 for a round trip (high season).



Tours and activities

If you do not have your own 4x4, you can hire one or decide to join an organized tour. Select between 1-day tours if you are in a hurry or up to 3 days to explore Fraser Island long and wide. It is also possible to take a cruise to explore the underwater life around the island.

3-DAY 2-NIGHT FRASER ISLAND TOUR

Join like-minded travellers for two full days of guided 4WD touring with local experts

BOOK NOW

HERVEY BAY: FRASER ISLAND FULL-DAY COACH TOUR

Visit the white sands and blue waters of Lake McKenzie, float down Eli Creek and see the famous Maheno shipwreck.

BOOK NOW

NOOSA: FULL-DAY FRASER ISLAND TOUR

Discover the island on board a 4x4 bus. Visit the main spots (McKenzie Lake, tropical forests ...)

BOOK NOW

FRASER ISLAND AND WHALE EXPERIENCE

Swim with humpback whales, hike, dive and kayak on Fraser!

BOOK NOW

CAPRICORN COAST

In short

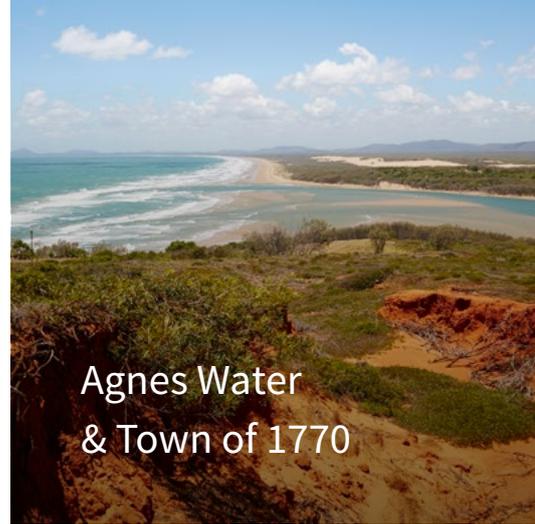
This part of the coast marks the start of the Great Barrier Reef. With its rocky Great Keppel Island, cowboy cities and national parks, the Capricorn Coast is beautiful and arguably one of the wildest parts of the coast. Rockhampton is the commercial heart of the region. Crossed by the Tropic of Capricorn, this place enjoys a subtropical climate while the south of the coast is pleased with several seasons.

To do's

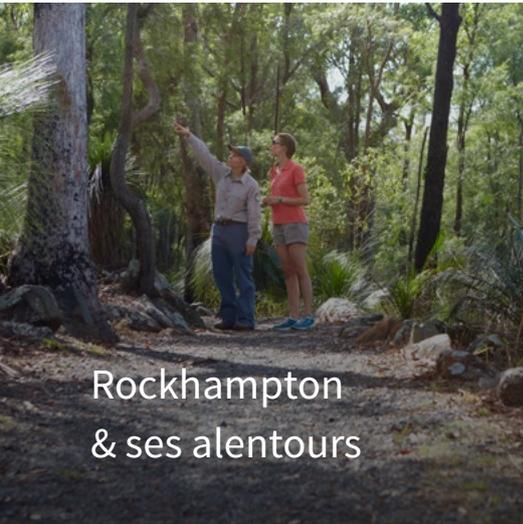
 1 - 2 DAYS



Bundaberg & Gladstone



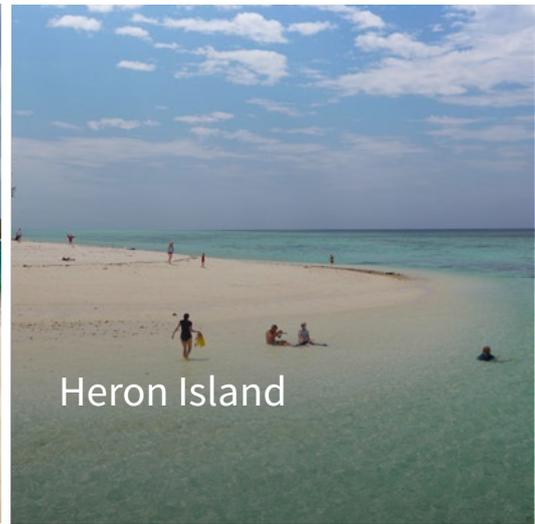
Agnes Water
& Town of 1770



Rockhampton
& ses alentours



Keppel Bay Islands



Heron Island



There are many free or inexpensive camp spots on the coast, especially along Bruce Highway. We recommend Carmila Beach Camp Area, Wyper Park Scout Camp Bundaberg or Calliope River.



The best way to visit the coast is by vehicle. Buses pass by Agnes Water but we recommend that you hire a vehicle so you can move around freely.



WHITSUNDAY ISLANDS

In short

The archipelago of 74 islands off the coast of Queensland is a true paradise on earth. Located off the coast of Queensland, the archipelago is made up of 74 islands within the famous Great Barrier Reef. You can only imagine its white sand beaches, transparent waters, corals, and colourful fish. Airlie Beach is the main departure point for the islands. You can visit them through tours or take a ferry which will drop you off on one of the islands. It is also possible to discover the Whitsunday by plane, seaplane or helicopter to allow you to have an overview of the archipelago. Do not miss the famous Whitehaven Beach, its extraordinary 7 km long white sandy beach and its turquoise water.

 1 - 3 DAYS



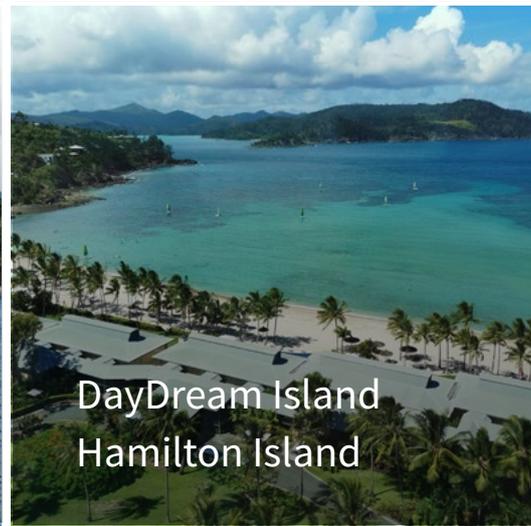
Airlie Beach



Whitehaven beach



Cruise the Whitsunday Islands



DayDream Island
Hamilton Island



[READ MORE](#)



It's hard to sleep for free in Airlie Beach. For caravan parks, we recommend Discovery Parks, Island Gateway Holiday Park or BIG4 Whitsundays Tropical Eco Resort.



You can reach Airlie Beach in your vehicle by taking Route 59, and Greyhound-style buses also serve the city. There are 2 airports in the area, Proserpine and Hamilton Island. From Proserpine, shuttles will take you to Airlie. If you choose to land in Hamilton, you will be in the heart of the Whitsundays to discover the archipelago. National flights serve both airports daily.

Tours and Activities

The best way to discover this magnificent archipelago is to take a boat trip for one or more days. There are also scenic flights allowing you to fly over the islands (breathtaking!).

AIRLIE BEACH: FLY & SAIL PACKAGE

Enjoy a 60-minute reef and island scenic flight followed by a 2-hour sunset cruise around Airlie Beach.

[BOOK NOW](#)

WHITSUNDAYS: 2-DAY, 1-NIGHT SAIL, SNORKEL & KAYAK

Discover the Whitsunday Islands on a 2-day / 1-night cruise aboard a magnificent 17.5 sailboat!

[BOOK NOW](#)

WHITSUNDAYS OCEAN RAFTING TOUR: SNORKEL & WHITEHAVEN

With a maximum 32 people, cruise over the ocean on a thrilling rafting ride, relax on the beach, snorkel, and bushwalk — all in one day.

[BOOK NOW](#)

1-HOUR WHITSUNDAY ISLANDS SCENIC FLIGHT

Indulge in the beauty of the Whitsunday Islands and the Great Barrier Reef with an hour-long flight.

[BOOK NOW](#)

WHITSUNDAYS FULL-DAY CATAMARAN SAILING

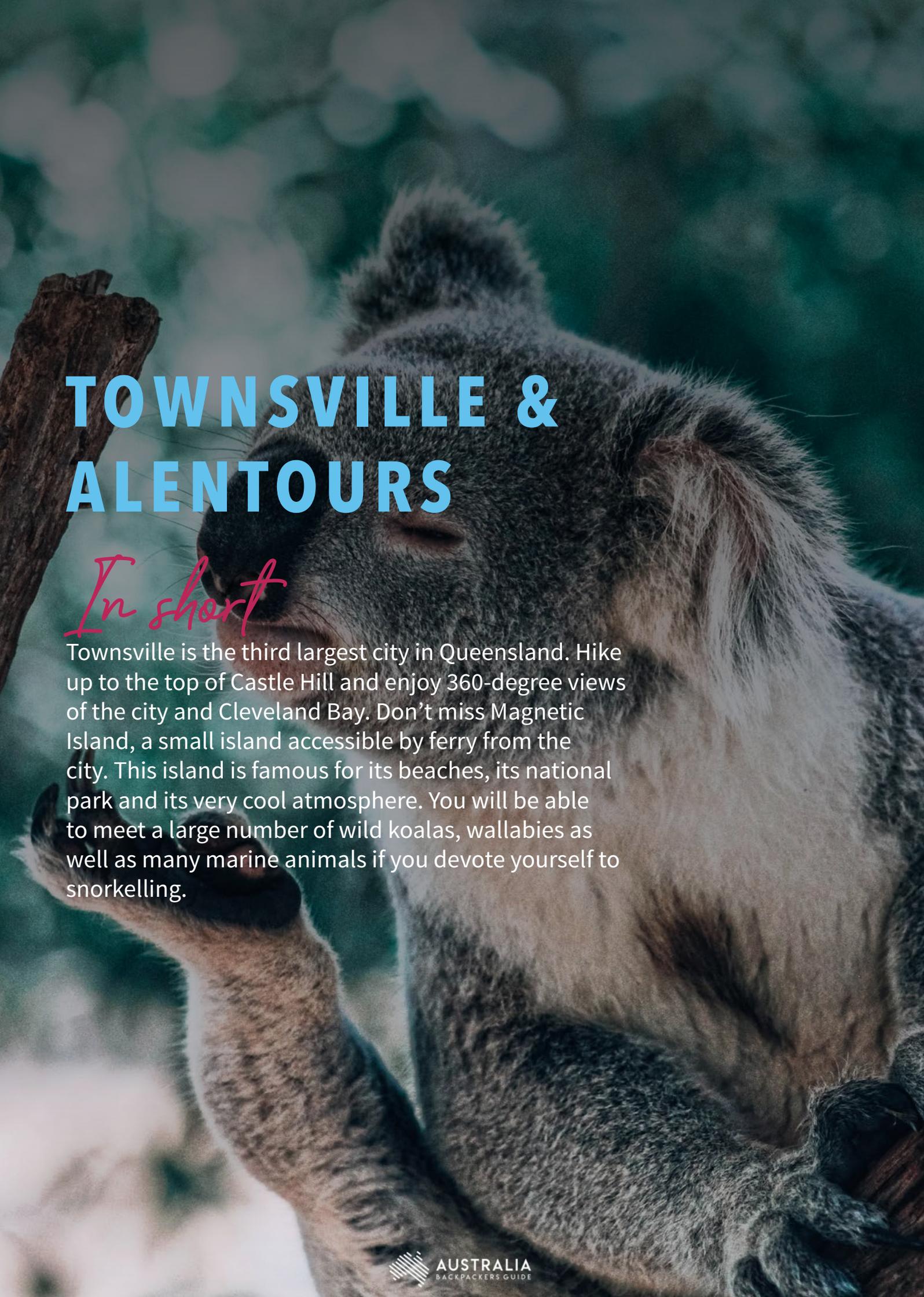
Sail the azure waters, visit Whitehaven Beach and Hill Inlet and dive near the reefs.

[BOOK NOW](#)

15,000 FEET TANDEM SKYDIVE

Add thrills to your Whitsundays visit with this tandem skydive activity.

[BOOK NOW](#)



TOWNSVILLE & ALENTOURS

In short

Townsville is the third largest city in Queensland. Hike up to the top of Castle Hill and enjoy 360-degree views of the city and Cleveland Bay. Don't miss Magnetic Island, a small island accessible by ferry from the city. This island is famous for its beaches, its national park and its very cool atmosphere. You will be able to meet a large number of wild koalas, wallabies as well as many marine animals if you devote yourself to snorkelling.

To do's



1 - 2 DAYS



Flinders street & Rock Pool



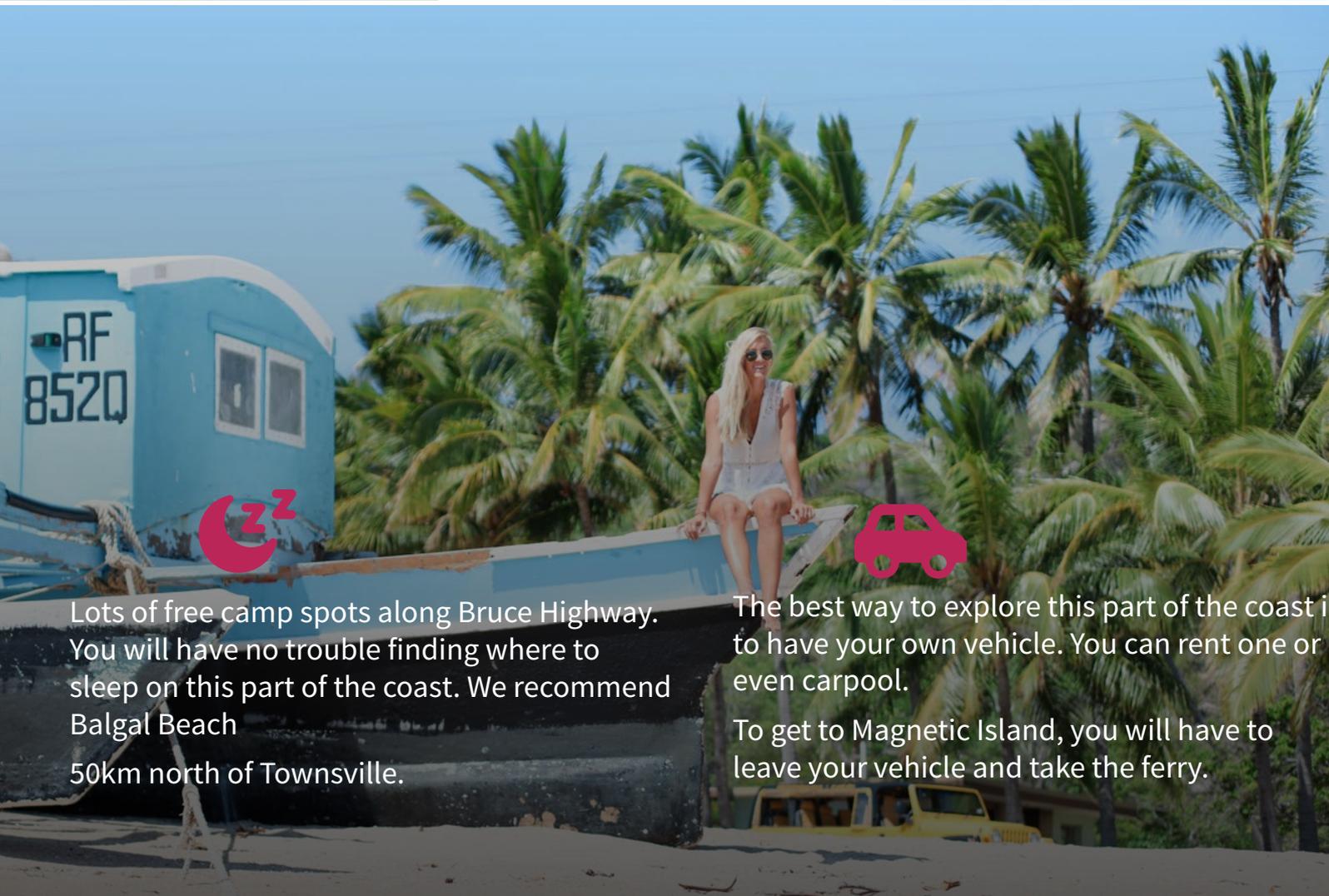
Magnetic Island



Wallaman Falls



Hinchinbrook Island National Park



Lots of free camp spots along Bruce Highway. You will have no trouble finding where to sleep on this part of the coast. We recommend Balgal Beach 50km north of Townsville.



The best way to explore this part of the coast is to have your own vehicle. You can rent one or even carpool.

To get to Magnetic Island, you will have to leave your vehicle and take the ferry.

MISSION BEACH

In short

Located in the heart of a tropical rain forest, Mission Beach is a city between sea and jungle. Lined with palm and coconut trees, its long main beach of fine sand is ideal for basking in the sun. Beware, however, of the many crocodiles and jellyfish that populate the waters. Protective nets are installed in certain places to allow you to swim.

To do's

 1 DAY



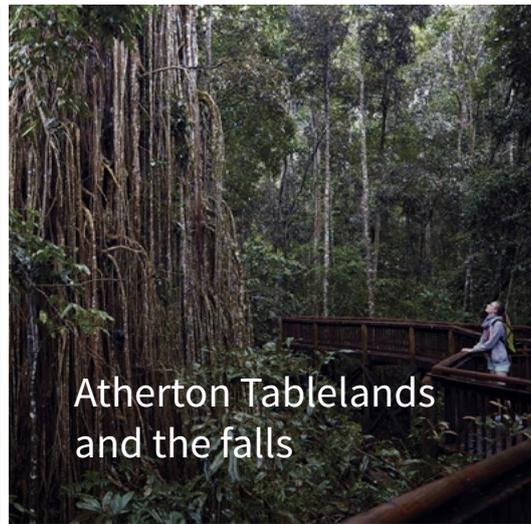
Observe the cassowaries



Walk on the beach



The wreck of "Lady Bowen" Bowen



Atherton Tablelands and the falls



Skydive over the beach



A few free or inexpensive camp spots can be found along Bruce Highway. Among them Hull Heads and Murray Falls Campground. If you are staying in the Tablelands, you will have no trouble finding a place or sleeping among the many camp spots such as Eureka Creek or Walsh River.



The best way to discover Mission Beach and its region is with a vehicle. Rent a vehicle if you don't have one or carpool. The same goes for Atherton Tablelands.

CAIRNS AND SURROUNDINGS

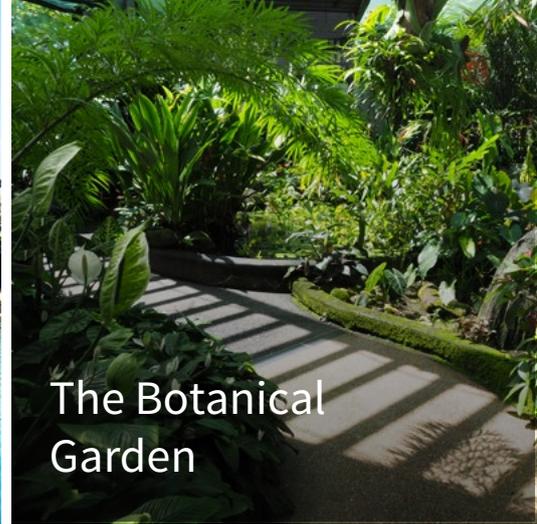
In short

The second largest city in Queensland, Cairns is the main tourist centre to access the Great Barrier Reef. With a tropical climate, the city enjoys pleasant temperatures all year round. A very touristy city, it has an international airport, shopping centres and numerous hotels and restaurants for all budgets. The region is also famous for its ancient tropical forests such as the Daintree Rainforest.

 2 - 4 DAYS



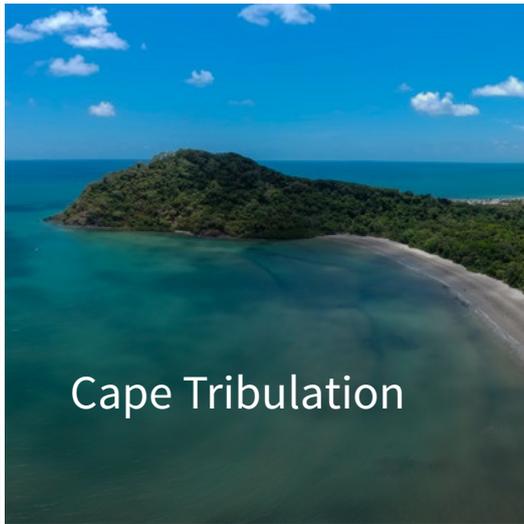
Cairns Esplanade and Lagoon



The Botanical Garden



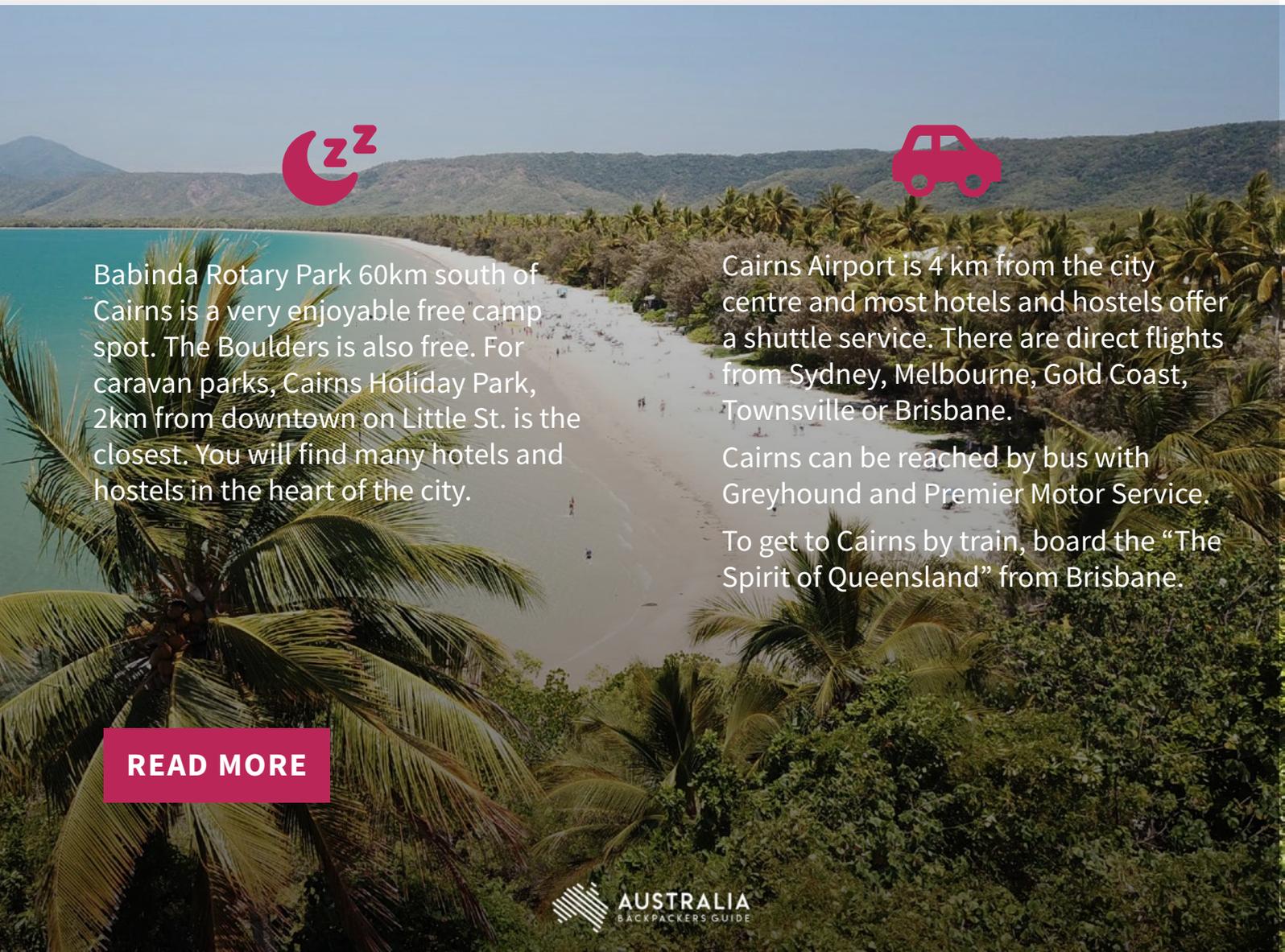
Port Douglas



Cape Tribulation



Daintree Rainforest



Babinda Rotary Park 60km south of Cairns is a very enjoyable free camp spot. The Boulders is also free. For caravan parks, Cairns Holiday Park, 2km from downtown on Little St. is the closest. You will find many hotels and hostels in the heart of the city.

Cairns Airport is 4 km from the city centre and most hotels and hostels offer a shuttle service. There are direct flights from Sydney, Melbourne, Gold Coast, Townsville or Brisbane.

Cairns can be reached by bus with Greyhound and Premier Motor Service.

To get to Cairns by train, board the "The Spirit of Queensland" from Brisbane.

[READ MORE](#)

Tours and Activities

The Cairns region is a paradise to explore! Of course, do not miss the Great Barrier Reef, but do not neglect the rest such as the Daintree Rainforest, the typical inland cities or even Cape Tribulation. Many tours are available from Cairns and Port Douglas, with very variable rates according to your desires!

DAINTREE WILDERNESS & CAPE TRIBULATION DAY TOUR

Stroll through the jungle, sail on the river and discover the beaches of Cape Tribulation.

[BOOK NOW](#)

SELF-GUIDED KURANDA DAY TRIP, SCENIC RAIL & SKYRAIL

Visit Kuranda by travelling on the Kuranda Scenic Railway and returning by the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway.

[BOOK NOW](#)

GREAT BARRIER REEF AND CAPE TRIBULATION 2-DAY TOUR

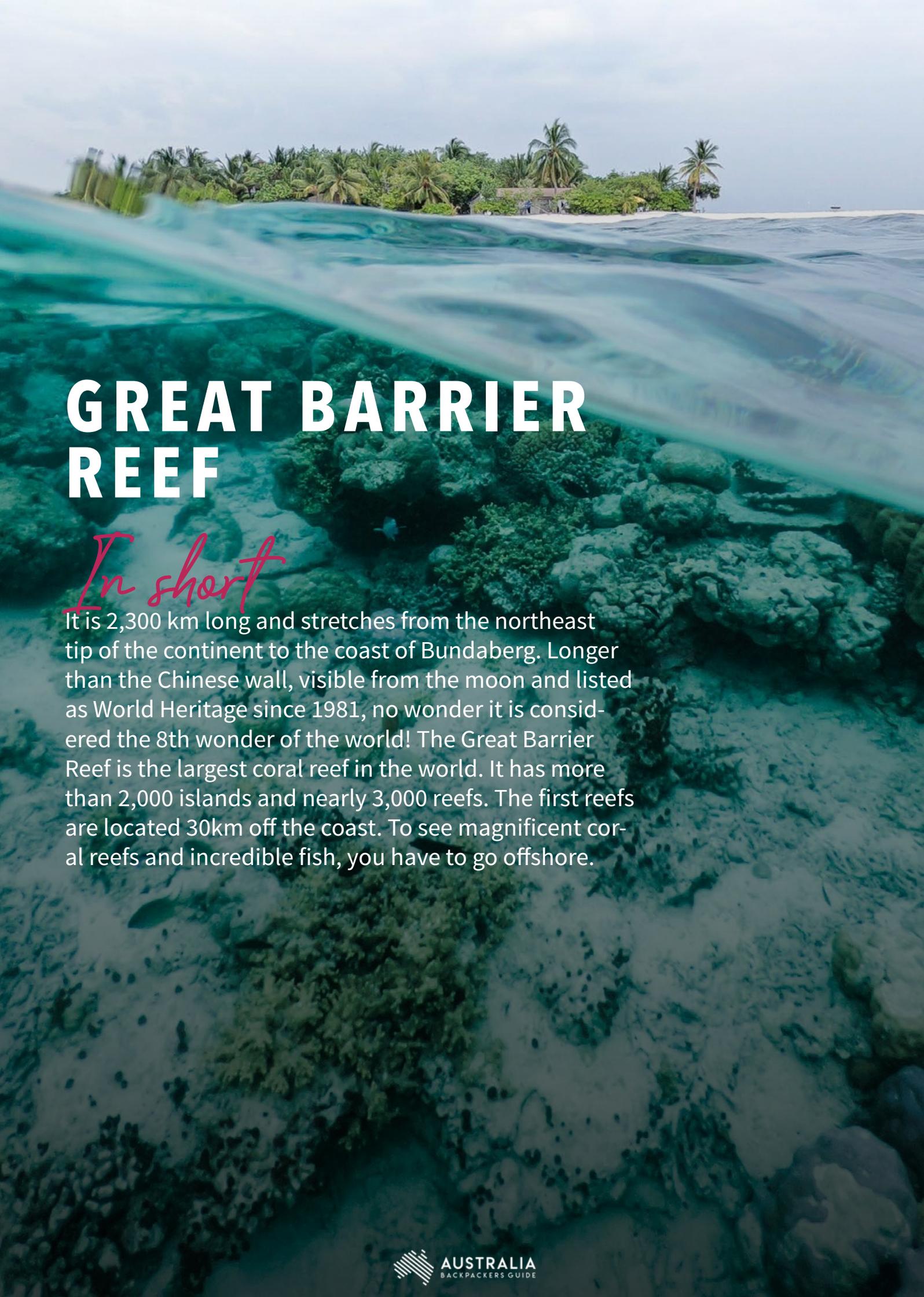
Snorkel at 2 locations in the Great Barrier Reef and see stunning corals and visit Cape Tribulation.

[BOOK NOW](#)

SKYDIVE FROM 15,000 FEET

Enjoy spectacular views of Cairns and the Great Barrier Reef on a tandem skydive.

[BOOK NOW](#)



GREAT BARRIER REEF

In short

It is 2,300 km long and stretches from the northeast tip of the continent to the coast of Bundaberg. Longer than the Chinese wall, visible from the moon and listed as World Heritage since 1981, no wonder it is considered the 8th wonder of the world! The Great Barrier Reef is the largest coral reef in the world. It has more than 2,000 islands and nearly 3,000 reefs. The first reefs are located 30km off the coast. To see magnificent coral reefs and incredible fish, you have to go offshore.

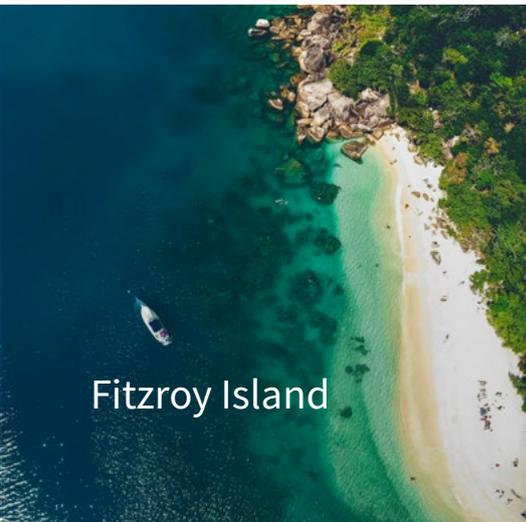
 1 DAY



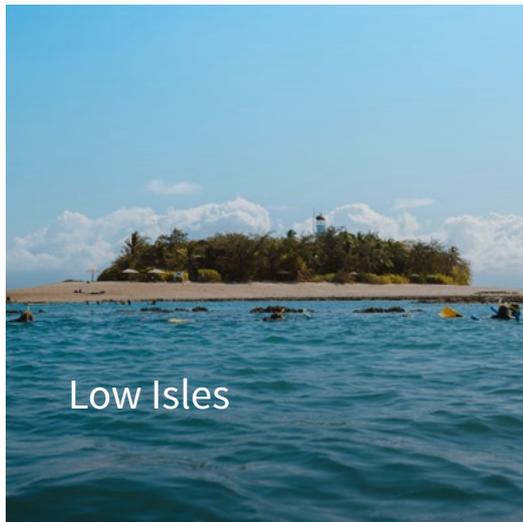
Agincourt Reef



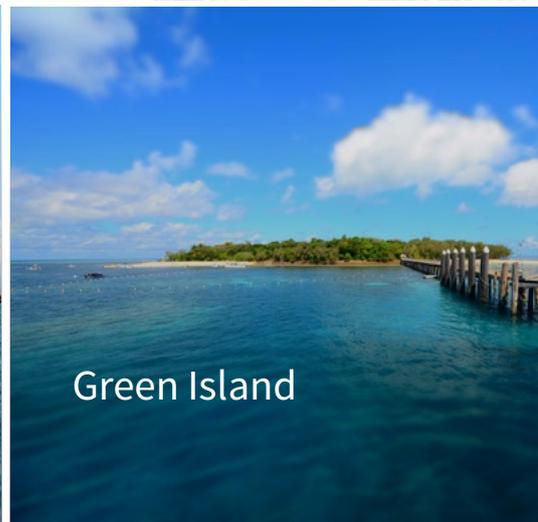
Flynn Reef



Fitzroy Island



Low Isles



Green Island



Many cruises of 2 days or more allow you to explore this wonder. You will spend the night on your cruise ship rocked by the waves and the silence of the place.



Departures for the Great Barrier Reef are from Cairns or Port Douglas. Cairns Airport offers direct flights from Sydney, Melbourne, Gold Coast, Townsville or Brisbane. From the airport, shuttles connect the city and Port Douglas as well. The hotels generally offer airport transfers.

[READ MORE](#)

Cairns can also be reached by bus with Greyhound and Premier Motor Service.

Tours and Activities

Many tours are offered from Cairns and Port Douglas. You can opt for a day of snorkelling or diving or a cruise lasting several days. Scenic flights are also good options to discover the Barrier Reef from the air. Calculate at least \$200 per person.

GREAT BARRIER REEF SNORKELING & DIVING

Visit 2 pristine outer Great Barrier Reef locations and go snorkelling (+ lunch).

BOOK NOW

CATAMARAN LARGE BARRIER DAY EXIT

Snorkel, swim, dive or just relax onboard a luxury catamaran.

BOOK NOW

40-MIN SCENIC REEF FLIGHT

Get a unique experience of the Great Barrier Reef on a 40-minute scenic flight above the reef.

BOOK NOW

GREAT BARRIER REEF CRUISE & SCENIC HELI FLIGHT

Day cruise on the Great Barrier Reef and enjoy a scenic helicopter flight.

BOOK NOW

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