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— Drive Guide —

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Turtle Sands ●
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Hello from Queensland

Embark on the ultimate road trip adventure and explore Queensland like never before! This stunning state is a treasure trove of natural beauty, unique experiences, and unforgettable destinations waiting to be discovered. From the world-renowned Great Barrier Reef and its turquoise waters to the lush, green rainforests teeming with life, and the raw, rugged charm of the Queensland Outback, there's something for every traveller to enjoy.

Whether you're a seasoned road tripper with a passion for the open road or a first-timer ready to embrace the thrill of adventure, this guide is your perfect companion. Packed with insider tips, must-see locations, and local insights, it's designed to help you uncover hidden gems, iconic landmarks, and the best spots for food, fun, and relaxation. Every kilometre is an opportunity for a new discovery, and every destination offers a unique story to tell.

This is your guide to the ultimate road trip - an adventure where the journey is just as exciting as the destinations. So, buckle up and let's go!

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Drive Queensland acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and live. We pay our respects to Elders both past, present and emerging; and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

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GOLDCOAST.

Surfers Paradise

Gold Coast Region



The subtropical Queensland climate means the sunshine is abundant and the weather is warm, even through winter. There are a variety of landscapes to explore, from the long stretches of beach and buzzing urban precincts on the gorgeous coastline to the steeply winding roads, lush rainforests and pretty villages of the Hinterland.

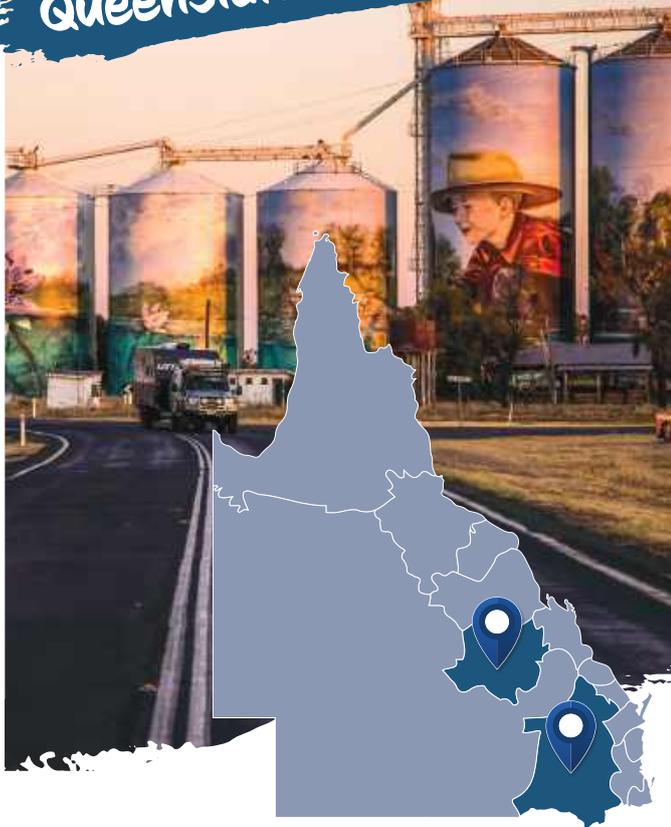
Gold Coast holiday parks, campgrounds and tourist parks are some of the best in Australia, and you can set up camp on a prime piece of beachside real estate for an affordable stay. Park your caravan on the banks of Tallebudgera Creek, in the heart of the action at Main Beach or Burleigh Heads, at a boaties paradise on the Broadwater or wake up to the sounds of waves at Ocean Beach or exotic bird calls echoing through the rainforest at Binna Burra.

Jacobs Well Tourist Park on the northern Gold Coast has instant access to the waterways of Moreton Bay Marine Park, and is dog-friendly, as is Kirra Beach Tourist Park. If you're planning to visit Gold Coast's iconic theme parks, there are some nearby holiday parks where you can stay for easy access such as Big4 Gold Coast Holiday Park. Plus they have their own waterparks and lagoon pools onsite, so parents can relax while the kids can enjoy non-stop fun. And if you're planning to travel the Pacific Coast Way, the Gold Coast makes the perfect starting point or final destination on your journey down the Queensland coast from Cairns.

There's such a diverse choice of destinations to visit from the Gold Coast on a day trip, all within a two-hour drive. From the buzzing capital city of Brisbane, to quaint coastal villages and bohemian lifestyle of northern NSW to the beauty of the Scenic Rim. With world-class art and architecture, exceptional eats, picturesque settings plus waterfalls, creeks and seaside adventures all on offer, there's a lot of ground to cover.

Yelarbon

Queensland Country

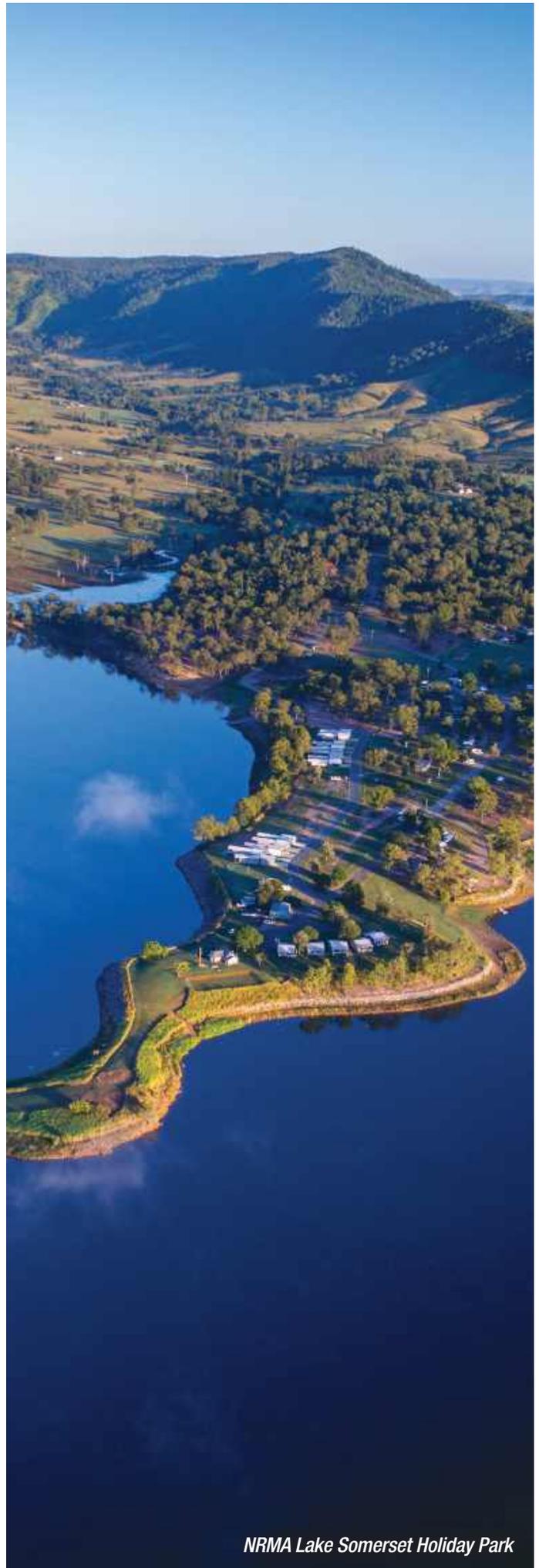


Feeling the pull of country roads and wide open spaces? It might be time to recharge, reconnect and relax in Queensland Country. Jump heart first into the call of a country drive with a region that is well connected via highways and road networks including the Cunningham, New England, D'Aguilar, Brisbane Valley and Gore Highways, the Warrego Way, the Leichhardt Way, the Great Inland Way, the Adventure Way and Australia's Country Way - just to name a few.

Experience the otherworldly beauty and diversity of the culturally significant Carnarvon Gorge as you journey through the Central Queensland Highlands in the north, the flourishing crop country of the Lockyer Valley and Somerset in the east, Queensland's cotton capital of Goondiwindi in the west; the tranquil lakes and weirs and the ancient Bunya Mountains of the Western Downs, then head south to Australia's highest wine region - the Southern Downs & Granite Belt. With the beautiful Garden City of Toowoomba and surrounds right in the middle, and over 150 small quintessential country towns dotted in between, there are an abundance of bespoke experiences to unearth.

Each corner of the region is distinctly different offering the ultimate day trip, weekender, or a little longer for the get-out-of-towners, wholesome family getaway-ers, part time explorers and even the most daring of adventure-seekers. Climbing precariously balanced granite boulders, hiking through UNESCO-listed rainforests, stunning waterfalls, fields of bright yellow sunflowers, award-winning wines, as well as museums full of foundational history and heritage - these are just some of the adventures awaiting you. Plan your trip in line with one of our many hero events featuring cultural celebrations to quirky festivals. There is something to meet everyone's tastes.

Pair these epic activities with bespoke accommodation, local artisanal produce, and friendly characters boasting country hospitality and tales to tell by the bucket loads. It's all here in Queensland Country - we look forward to welcoming you.



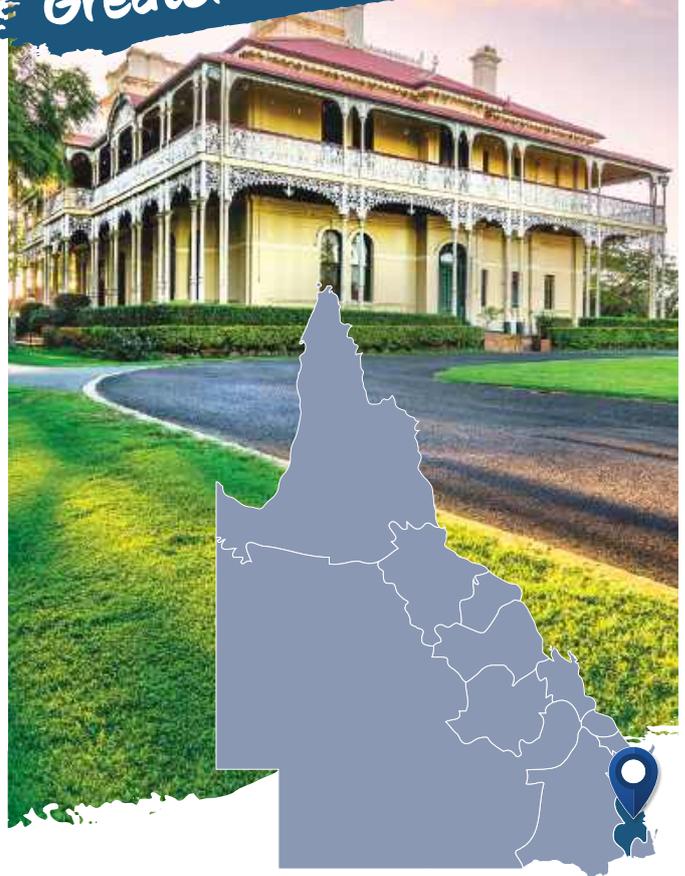
NRMA Lake Somerset Holiday Park



Moreton Bay

Woodlands of Marburg

Greater Brisbane



Believe a metropolitan area can't offer a great road trip experience? Then you haven't explored Greater Brisbane, where the perfect blend of dining, culture, and adventure awaits.

Let's start with Moreton Island where you'll find sand driving, dolphin feeding, snorkelling and shipwrecks - all a short ferry ride from the world-class facilities and CBD action of Brisbane itself.

Between Moreton Island and the CBD, you will find the Redlands Coast. Here you can explore local beach culture and depart for a North Stradbroke Island adventure.

North of Brisbane is Moreton Bay, a contrasting region offering anything from the aquatic playground of Bribie Island to the renowned Woodford Folk Festival. Relax on soft-sand beaches and at secluded hinterland swimming holes. Energise with high-adrenaline water sports. Eat and drink your way from the farm-gate to craft breweries and wineries. Follow an arts trail to regional galleries and artisan markets and bushwalk through rainforest and waterfalls.

Moving south of the city you will find Logan with its koalas, exotic eats and Buddhist Chung Tian Temple, and west of the city is Ipswich, a favourite for the kids. Feed a llama, meet bilbies and quolls, travel on a steam train, learn from blacksmiths and bike along a rail trail. When school holidays roll around, Ipswich doubles the fun with events and experiences designed expressly for your younger family members - and all under an hour from the Brisbane CBD.

Rounding off the Greater Brisbane experience is the green paradise of the Scenic Rim, which is home to six national parks and the World-Heritage listed Gondwana Rainforest. So incredible is this region it was named in 2022 by Lonely Planet as one of the top ten Regions in the world to visit!

Porcupine Gorge

Outback Queensland



Australia is a land dominated by vast, expansive landscapes and Outback Queensland has some of the most stunning and unique. Queensland's beautiful backyard is ready and waiting for you to explore. And to fully appreciate this great land with all its diversity and individuality, it's time to pick up a map and take to the road.

The Outback takes us back to our roots, to the heart of what makes us Australian, reminding us of how lucky we are to live in this incredible country. A road trip through the Outback is a fantastic, and utterly iconic way to view this majestic and historical part of our country. Driving across the open roads, with the vast blue sky hugging the red earth, you can imagine a time when dinosaurs roamed here across the plains, or picture how indigenous people worked and lived for tens of thousands of years in this sacred part of the world. Add in quirky Outback events and cultural festivals, iconic attractions and museums, and our new hot springs bathing trail - and your road trip is complete. When it comes to choosing how to drive through the Outback, you're only limited by your dreams. If you're starting from Brisbane, you can weave your way through to Birdsville, past the largest cattle yards in the southern hemisphere. From Sydney, you can traverse your way through incredible national parks to Rockhampton or Cooktown. From Melbourne, go from bush to beach, finally stopping on the Capricorn Coast. Wherever you are in Australia, Outback Queensland is waiting to reveal its secrets to you. An outback road trip adventure is the best way to discover our country.

We'll see you on the road!

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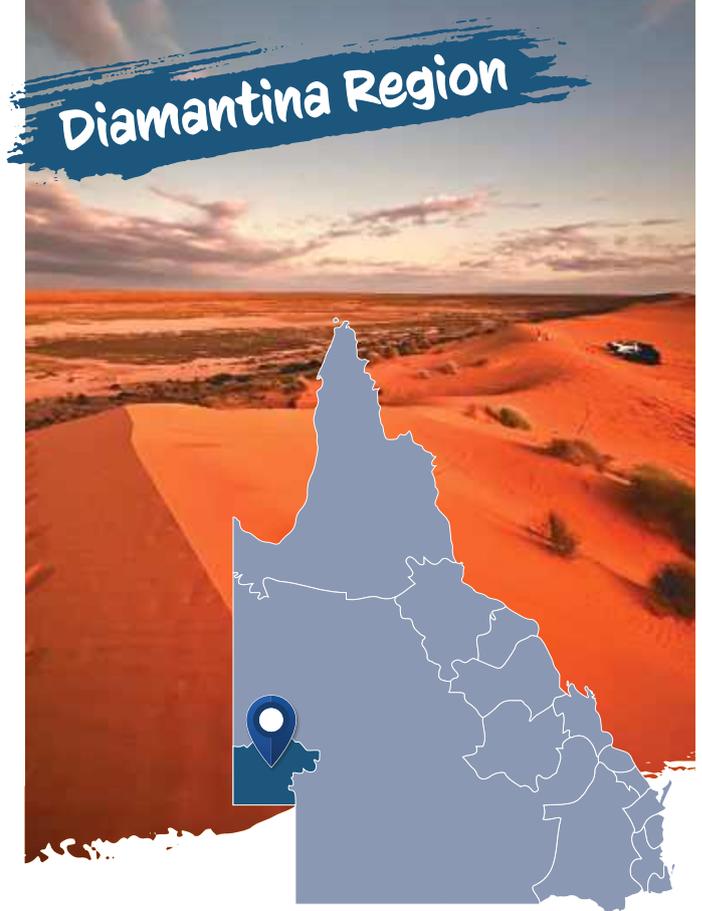
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Big Red Sand Dune, Birdsville



Diamantina Region

Birdsville, Bedourie and Betoota

Three iconic outback towns – Birdsville, Bedourie and Betoota – each tell a story of adventure, heritage and unmistakable Diamantina spirit.

At the end of Warrego Way and the legendary Birdsville Track, Birdsville stands proudly as the Eastern Gateway to the Simpson Desert, where Queensland meets South Australia and the Northern Territory. Steeped in frontier history, the town brims with character: share a yarn over a cold drink at the iconic Birdsville Hotel, explore its rich past, or feel the buzz of the world-famous Birdsville Races as the desert comes alive with colour and energy.

Further north along the Outback loop, Bedourie welcomes travellers with all the comforts of a true outback oasis. Birthplace of the famed Bedourie Camp Oven, it offers a relaxed stay with a hotel, caravan parks, tavern and the therapeutic warmth of a natural artesian spa and pool beneath vast open skies. The town also fires up for the annual Bedourie Camel Races and Bedourie Races, drawing crowds for a weekend of hearty country hospitality and top-notch racing action.

Betoota, once a ghost town along Warrego Way, has found new life on the edge of the gibber plains. From April to December, the historic Betoota Hotel reopens, giving road-trippers a character-filled stop to rest and recharge. Just 170 kilometres east of Birdsville, Betoota bursts into full colour twice a year for the Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana and the iconic Betoota Races – the opening act of the Simpson Desert Racing Carnival. Its revival echoes the spirit of a town that once bustled with multiple hotels, a Cobb & Co change station and a thriving post office.

Whether you're chasing legendary race days, endless horizons or nights lit by more stars than you can count, the Diamantina delivers an outback experience that stays with you long after the red dust settles.

Plan your outback-tastic adventure today at www.thediamantina.com.au.

DIAMANTINA 2026:

Photographer: Sean Scott 2025

WHERE OUTBACK ADVENTURE COMES ALIVE

JULY 2026



JUNDAH CAMEL RACES	4 JULY
BIRDSVILLE CARNIVAL	6-9 JULY
BEDOURIE CAMEL & PIG RACES	11 JULY
BOULIA CAMEL RACES	17-19 JULY
WINTON CAMEL RACES	25 JULY

JANUARY

SUMMER OF SUN,
INCLUDING CACTUS 100
ULTRA, BIRDSVILLE
9th - 12th January

AUSTRALIA DAY
CELEBRATIONS IN
BIRDSVILLE & BEDOURIE
24th - 26th January

MARCH

SIMPSON DESERT
OPENS FOR THE SEASON

JUNE

SIMPSON DESERT ULTRA ,
BIRDSVILLE
5th - 7th June

BETOOTA OUTBACK MUSTER
28th - 29th June

JULY

BIRDSVILLE CARNIVAL
6th - 9th July

BIG RED BASH
7th -9th July

BEDOURIE CAMEL
& PIG RACES
11th July

AUGUST

BETOOTA RODEO
AND RACES
28th -29th August

SEPTEMBER

BIRDSVILLE RACES
TOWN FESTIVAL
1st -6th September

BIRDSVILLE RACES
4th -6th September

BEDOURIE RACES
12th September

BEDOURIE CAMPDRAFT
25th - 2nd September

NOVEMBER

MELBOURNE CUP DAY
CELEBRATIONS IN
BIRDSVILLE & BEDOURIE
3rd November

REMEMBRANCE DAY
SERVICES IN
BIRDSVILLE & BEDOURIE
11th November

DECEMBER

SIMPSON DESERT CLOSSES
FOR THE SEASON

EVENT DATES AND DETAILS COULD CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK WITH EVENT ORGANISERS BEFORE ATTENDING.

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Birdsville Bedourie Betoota
Where the Desert meets the Channel Country



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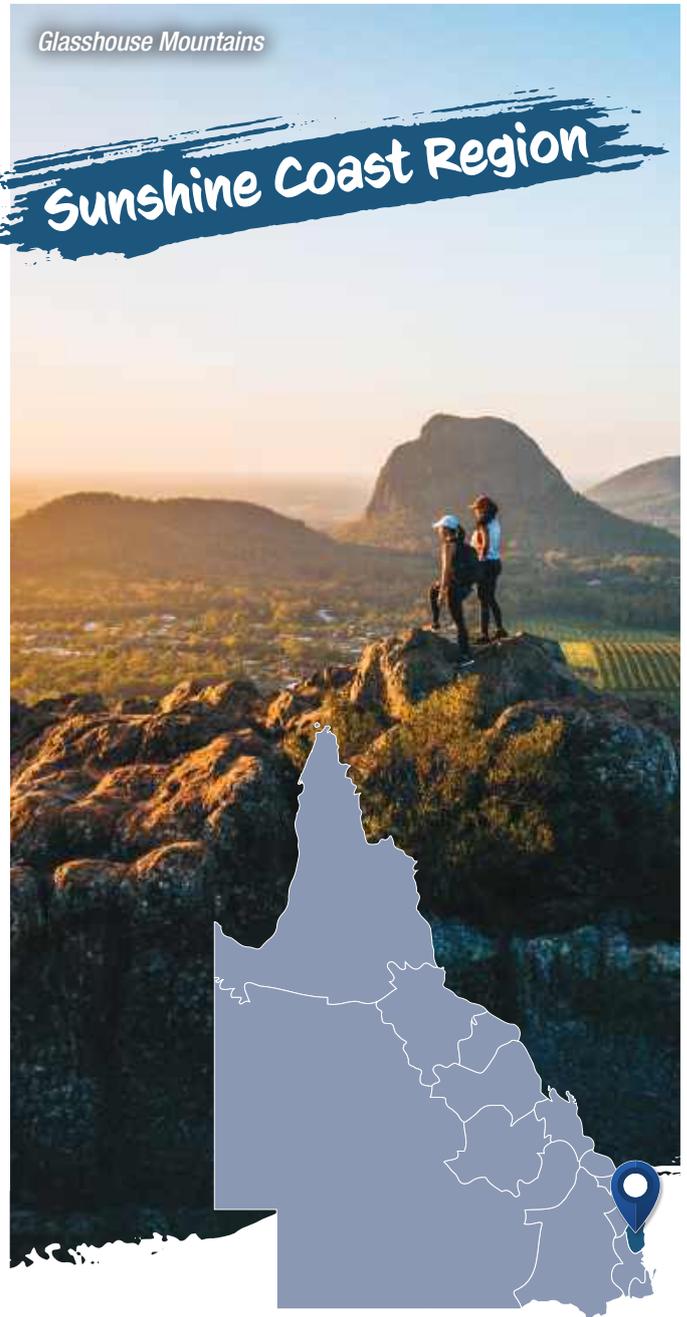



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When it comes to what makes the Sunshine Coast so special, you'll find the clue is in our name. We have a sunny disposition that radiates from the inside out, and when you're on holiday here, you'll start to feel it too. Switch screen time for green time in our lush Hinterland and swap your front yard for our great big blue one - we hope you don't mind sharing it with the locals... the humpbacks, turtles and dolphins that is.

There's plenty to seek and so much to find, from farm to fork experiences to sipping your way through our burgeoning craft beer scene (we are Australia's Craft Beer Capital after all) and discovering pinch-yourself experiences.

With more than 100km of famous coastline (ready for year-round swimming) wrapping around our lush hinterland hills, and a beautiful UNESCO Biosphere Corridor to protect, our community is committed to living sustainably, celebrating all things local, and sharing our picturesque landscapes and abundance of produce.

The Sunshine Coast is located one hour's drive (100km) north of Queensland's capital city, Brisbane. Self-driving with your own car is one of the best ways to explore the region and take in the magnificent scenery.

So what are you waiting for? Come and find your Sunshine Moment, for real, right here on the Sunshine Coast.

K'gari

Fraser Coast / K'gari



The Fraser Coast is Queensland's marine mecca and it all begins on the World-Heritage listed K'gari. Whether you join a guided tour of the island or pop the 4WD on the ferry, indulge in luxury resorts or camp deep in a rainforest, K'gari will become a favourite destination for all the family. With a focus on eco-tourism K'gari offers a multitude of adventures – think exploring shipwrecks, swimming in crystal-clear water and wildlife-spotting - all within a pristine natural environment.

While we're talking islands don't miss a trip to Lady Elliot Island, a coral cay on the Southern Great Barrier Reef. Dive, snorkel and swim over coral reefs, play with dolphins and manta rays and watch the miracle of baby turtles hatching and making their way across the white sands to a life in the ocean.

If larger marine creatures take your fancy then you're in luck. Hervey Bay is a holiday spot for humpback whales on their annual migration along the east coast and between July and October tour boats can get you up close and personal with these magnificent creatures. Hervey Bay is also a great place to sit back and relax. While away the hours on family-friendly beaches and top off the day with mouth-watering meals at one of the many fine-dining experiences.

But the Fraser Coast is more than marine! Dry out for a day or two at historic Maryborough, which has a proud military past that stretches from the beaches of Gallipoli to the construction of naval ships. Explore it all at the Maryborough Military and Colonial Museum.

Continue your journey along the waterways of Tiara & Hinterland and you will discover that the Fraser Coast really does offer something for everyone. It's a Queensland driving holiday only 360km north of Brisbane!



K'gari

Great Barrier Reef

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Gania

Bundaberg Region



Welcome to the Bundaberg region, where Great Care begins.

Care for our curious sea turtles, magnificent manta rays, intricate corals and giant marine life that call the Southern Great Barrier Reef home. Care for our incredible mumma turtles and adorable hatchlings who visit our shoreline every summer. And Care for our vast farmland, rich red soil and hardworking locals who provide fresh produce for the nation 365 days a year.

Bundaberg is the first city on the Southern Great Barrier Reef, and is located an easy four hour drive of Brisbane. Take the Burnett Highway (A3) as part of the alternate route from Brisbane or Sydney to Rockhampton or travel the Pacific Coast Way (Bruce Highway) north and enjoy the drive as you discover all that our region has to offer. From our sandy shores, get to know the ladies of the reef, Lady Musgrave Island and Lady Elliot Island, and swim with the giant marine life that frequent these plankton-rich waters. Witness a miracle at Mon Repos, as the mumma turtles haul themselves up the beach and the hatchlings scurry to meet the rhythmic waves.

Come dine with us year-round with fresh, abundant produce being grown, caught, brewed and distilled 12 months of the year. Explore Australia's most awarded distillery experience at the Bundaberg Rum Visitor Service. Learn about the history of Australia's favourite ginger beer and taste test all the great flavours of the family-owned national icon of Bundaberg Brewed Drinks. Discover where great grows.

A scenic drive inland and you'll find yourself in the North Burnett, boasting a myriad of landscapes to explore from rugged gorges, imposing mountain ranges, serene rural views and the mighty Burnett River winding its way to the ocean. Be greeted by great freshwater fishing sites and towns offering friendly country hospitality. Bundaberg has all the ingredients of the perfect holiday; accessible reef, stunning beaches, mouth-watering food and experiences to last a lifetime.

Agnes Water

Gladstone Region



Gladstone Region, the gateway to the Southern Great Barrier Reef, boasts pristine beaches, coral cays, uninhabited islands and inland gems including untouched hinterland with breathtaking ranges, national parks, and Queensland's most fabulous fishing spots, such as Lake Awoonga.

Indulge in coffee, art, and history, whilst you browse the exhibits at The Blue Mirror Café, the Regional Art Gallery & Museum, or the Maritime Museum. Quench your thirst with a locally brewed beer at Ward's Brewery, recently revamped using recycled materials to transform the heritage space into a rustic sustainable brewpub. Stroll through the award-winning Tondoon Botanic Gardens or relish the local seafood with a view at Auckland House, Gladstone Yacht Club or the more laid-back Gladstone Fish Market.

Ferry services to the reef and nearby islands depart from the scenic Marina Parklands. Hop on a City Sites tour to discover what makes Gladstone such an influential dynamic city. Nearby Boyne Island and Tannum Sands have beautiful, patrolled beaches, an esplanade along the foreshore, and fully serviced campgrounds.

The Discovery Coast's Agnes Water and the Town of 1770, which together were awarded 2021 Queensland Top Small Tourism Town, are blessed with Queensland's most northern surf beaches, walking trails, and picturesque waterways. They have fully serviced campgrounds with wonderful water views and easy beach access. Nearby Eurimbula National Park is a paradise for bushwalkers and boaties.

If you prefer to forego the fancy facilities and escape to a secluded spot with stunning scenery of the open ocean and coastline, rugged and isolated Curtis Island National Park will not disappoint. With its raw natural beauty, the national park is accessible via Curtis Ferry Services. Its long beaches and sweeping sand dunes provide solitude for the novice or more adventurous with 4WD-accessible camping.

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Lady Musgrave



Set on the Tropic of Capricorn, in Central Queensland, the Capricorn Coast region and its hinterland of Rockhampton is a laidback holiday destination offering some of Australia's best kept secrets. From island hopping and ocean swims, to chic cafes and cultural city vibes - you will always feel welcome in this part of the world.

The Capricorn Coast is paradise. The main townships of Yeppoon and Emu Park are surrounded by beautiful stretches of coastline where subtropical waters meet uncrowded beaches. Stretching 95km from Stanage Bay in the north to the mouth of the Fitzroy River in the south, this coastline is speckled with beachside communities boasting quirky street art, classy boutiques, fantastic fishing and fresh local produce. The coastal life would not be complete without the amazing Keppel Bay Islands, just 30 minutes off the coast of Yeppoon. Be sure to take a day trip to Great Keppel Island or stay longer in the relaxed island accommodation.

For insta-worthy swimming holes and pockets of rainforest, a visit to the village of Byfield and Byfield National Park should also be at the top of your list when exploring this area, visiting Cooberrie Park Wildlife Sanctuary and Capricorn Dinosaur Park on the way. A mere 40 minute drive inland from Yeppoon, Rockhampton has reinvented itself as a city offering classy eateries and microbreweries. The city basks on the banks of the swirling Fitzroy River (Tunuba) and has a fabulous riverfront precinct. Presided over by the imposing Customs House and lined with elegantly restored Victorian buildings, you'll find yourself gravitating to this neck of the woods for dining and nightlife.

The award-winning Nurim Circuit Elevated Boardwalk at Mount Archer National Park overlooks the city and your eyes will open wide to views spanning across the region from its peak 604m above ground.

North of the city is the magnificent Capricorn Caves and east is Koorana Crocodile Farm. Located 38km west of Rockhampton, and 240m above sea level, is Mount Morgan - one of the most charming gold mining towns in Australia. Rising and falling over the hills and valleys, Mount Morgan is full of wooden houses and a history reaching back to the late 1800's. A visit to this historic township is a must!

Seaforth

Mackay Isaac Region



A Free Spirit lives for doing what they love - whenever, wherever - and the Mackay Isaac Region is ready to vibe with that energy. This is the place where road trips turn into adventures, where plans can be loose and the best moments come when you follow your instinct. Whether you're chasing inspiration or simply letting the journey lead, Mackay Isaac is your playground.

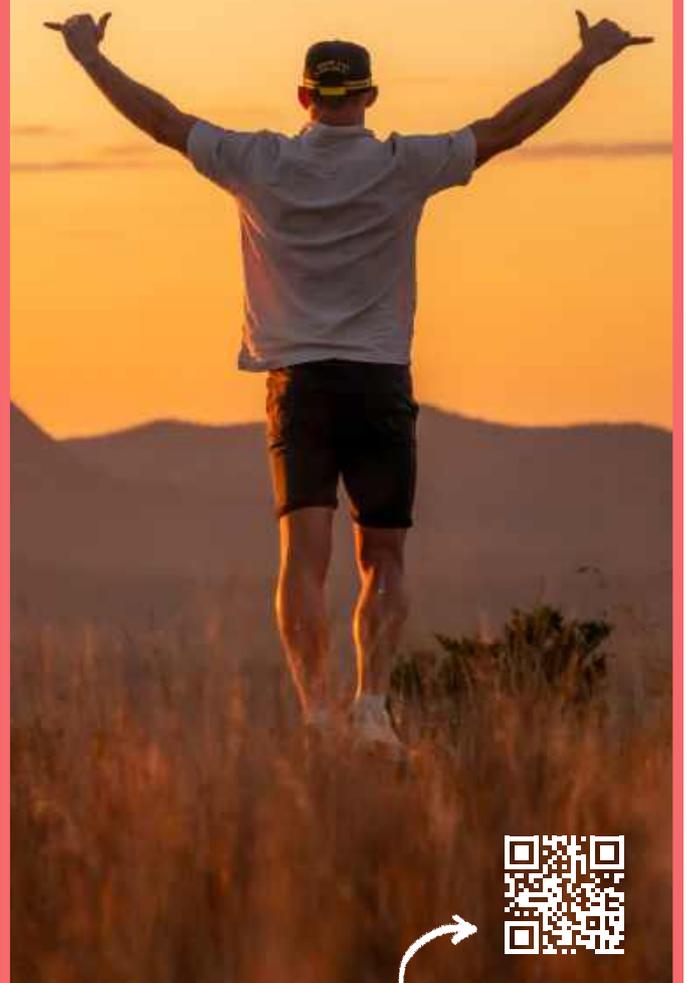
Here, the landscapes are as diverse as the experiences. Stretching from Australia's longest subtropical rainforest to pristine islands, secluded beaches and the golden-red plains of the convenient outback, every corner of this region offers something new to discover. You'll feel the pace slow and the space open up, leaving plenty of room for spontaneous detours and unexpected encounters.

Start on the coast, where the rainforest spills towards the sea. Wander quiet beaches at sunrise, share the sand with wallabies and kangaroos at sunrise, or drop a line into clear estuaries teeming with fish. Just offshore, tropical islands await, snorkelling or simply soaking up the sense of escape.

If the call of the inland is stronger, the Peak Downs Highway leads you into a rugged heartland. Out here, golden soils and wide-open skies set the scene for a different kind of adventure. Explore national parks and historic towns, discover the stories of the Isaac coalfields, and feel the spirit of the outback in every sweeping horizon.

In Mackay Isaac, you're not boxed in by itineraries or schedules. It's about following your curiosity, chasing bucket-list moments one day and stumbling into unexpected treasures the next. For the Free Spirit, it's all here: nature at its rawest, adventures at your fingertips, and the freedom to roam, explore and truly feel alive.

THE
FREE SPIRIT
DOES **WHATEVER**
WHENEVER



The Mackay Isaac Region
Queensland Nature Reserve

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WITH A ROAD TRIP

**HIDDEN GEM AT THE TOP
OF THE WHITSUNDAYS**

BOWEN

The Whitsundays



 The Big Mango

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Hill Inlet, Whitsunday Island



Whether you're looking for a luxurious romantic getaway or an action-packed family adventure, you'll find your dream escape in The Whitsundays while snorkelling the reef, island camping, resort hopping or sailing around the 74 island wonders.

With some of the most sought-after bucket-list experiences, The Whitsundays is the ideal tropical holiday oasis. Sink your toes into the pristine white sand of the award-winning Whitehaven Beach with its crystal-clear turquoise waters, and witness the breathtaking views from Hill Inlet lookout at the island's northern tip.

Explore the Great Barrier Reef and Whitsunday Islands from above, below and in between with the opportunity to snorkel, dive, sail or fly over the magnificent Coral Sea. While you're there, make sure you don't miss Heart Reef, a stunning natural composition of coral in the perfect shape of a heart found nowhere else in the Great Barrier Reef. When you get back to the mainland, the tropical resort town of Airlie Beach is ready to welcome you; its main street is filled with delicious restaurants, bars, and specialty shops, as well as the famous Airlie Beach Lagoon, where families and couples can sit, relax and BBQ all day.

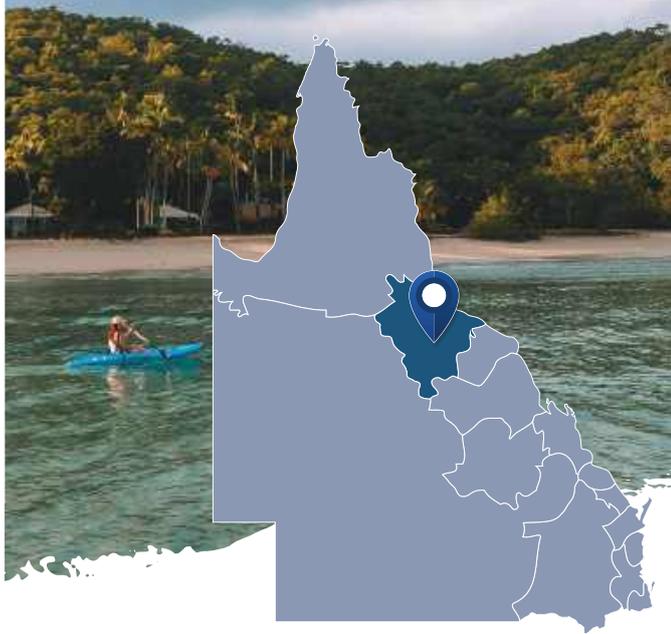
Take a trip to Bowen, home to some of the most beautiful, secluded beaches in The Whitsundays and visit the jaw-dropping Horseshoe Bay, which regularly features on Australia's best beaches lists for its huge granite boulder outcrops and stunning reef found only metres from the shore. Don't forget to stop at the Big Mango for some of their famous Bowen Mango Sorbet!

If you're looking for country hospitality, the charming town of Proserpine has much to offer, with old-fashioned charm, Art Deco architecture and a friendly, laid-back community. Continue exploring and head west to Collinsville, the heart of the Whitsundays' Outback and witness the fascinating history of their underground mines.

Whichever adventure you choose, The Whitsundays offers a diverse and magical experience for everyone at any budget.

Orpheus Island

Townsville North Queensland



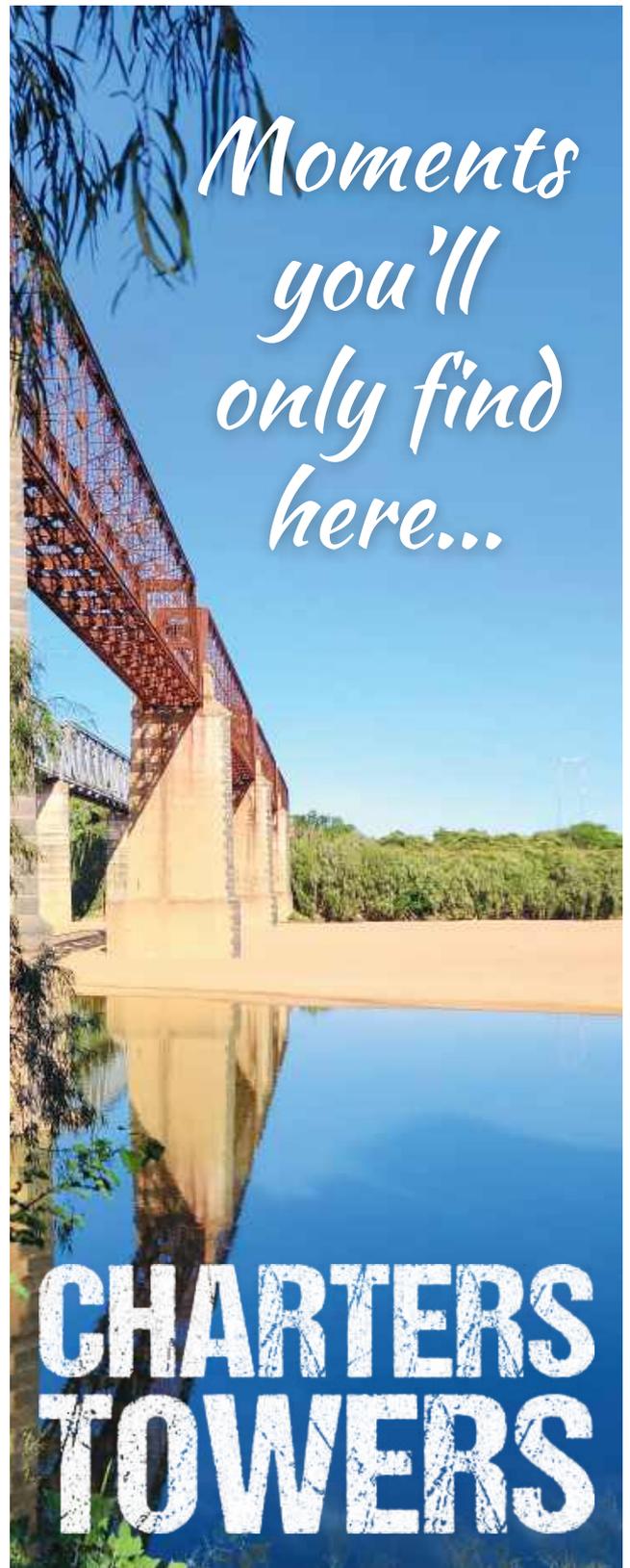
A thriving urban metropolis and renowned hub for major sport and events - Townsville is the largest regional centre in Northern Australia. Lounge in modern luxury in Townsville to explore vast Australian landscapes - all within a 90 minute drive. No matter what your holiday style, Townsville North Queensland offers a diverse range of historical, military, outback, active and tranquil experiences, complete with over 300 days of sunshine each year.

As the official headquarters of the Great Barrier Reef, Townsville is the launchpad to the central section of this natural wonder. Home to diverse coral and marine life, immerse in one of the world's most spectacular ecosystems. Exclusive to Townsville, dive deeper to appreciate the story of the reef, at the Museum of Underwater Art. The Coral Greenhouse (dive attraction), and Ocean Sentinels Snorkel Trail - located on John Brewer Reef - is an aquatic artscape with a twist, offering citizen scientists the opportunity to see reef conservation in action.

Take your car and explore Magnetic Island just 8km from Townsville. With palm-fringed beaches, large granite boulders, hoop pines, sandy beaches and fringing coral reefs, this island is a nature-lovers paradise. Home to Northern Australia's largest colony of wild koalas, and a mecca for marine science, 'Maggie' (as it's affectionately known) is a true Great Barrier Reef island experience.

Step back in time and discover the authentic 'golden' charm and elegance of Charters Towers. With unexplored waterways, remote bush camping, and hearty meals at local cafes and eateries - your laid-back visit is sure to unearth some surprises. The Burdekin district is nestled in the delta of the mighty Burdekin River, with its two main townships - Ayr and Home Hill - linked by the iconically historic Burdekin Bridge. Well-known as the sugar cane capital of Australia, the Burdekin offers fantastic fishing, wetlands rich in biodiversity and birdlife.

The Hinchinbrook Region is the gateway to the stunning World-Heritage Wet Tropics, and home to Australia's tallest waterfall - Wallaman Falls; surrounded by ancient tropical rainforest, rugged tropical islands, and the Great Barrier Reef, this fishing mecca is rich in culture and charm.



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Nothing beats a good old-fashioned road trip. Whether it's a leisurely weekend drive or a lengthy getaway, hitting the road in Tropical North Queensland offers unbridled freedom. So fasten your seatbelt, shuffle your favourite playlist and settle back as you journey through the tropics.

The Tropical North Queensland region stretches from Cardwell, north to the tip of Cape York and the Torres Strait Islands, and west to the border of Queensland and the Northern Territory, offering an array of drive adventures.

Take the scenic route and travel along the Great Barrier Reef Drive for unparalleled views of the Great Barrier Reef and Wet Tropics rainforest as you head north to Cape Tribulation. Enjoy natural wonders, mouth-watering beachfront eateries, wildlife parks, cultural experiences and, of course, a trip out to the Great Barrier Reef.

If red dirt, gems and gorges are more your thing, opt for the Savannah Way. Famously traversing 3 states and territories, this is one of most popular family-friendly adventures through Tropical North Queensland.

With almost 4000km of true-blue Aussie outback, peppered with famous fishing hubs, bird-watching hotspots, fossicking sites and cattle stations, this is one for the bucket-list.

We might have saved the best for last - if you're ready to tackle one of Australia's most remote landscapes then a trip to The Tip (of Cape York) is for you. Discover epic 4WD tracks, explore beautiful sandy beaches and ancient culture as you challenge yourself (and your car) to this legendary adventure.

There's even something for the electric vehicles around here, with a series of EV-friendly itineraries through Cairns, Port Douglas and Daintree, Atherton Tablelands, Mission Beach and more.

So what are you waiting for? Start planning your next trip to the tropics and hit the road!

Sunshine Coast

Caravanning QLD



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Are you VANSafe?

Safe Towing and Road Safety starts with you, and Caravanning Queensland is here to help, with tips, advice, and important information to get you on the road with confidence.

A great place to start is the **National Recreational Vehicle Towing Guide**, loaded with vital information on everything towing related. Check out this publication for information, including:

- Acronym Definitions (GVM, GCM, ATM, GTM etc)
- Towing Parts
- Braking Systems
- Tyres
- Towing Tips
- Trip Preparation.

You can pick up your copy of the FREE National Recreational Vehicle Towing Guide at one of Caravanning Queensland's official industry shows or download a copy from: caravantowingguide.com.au

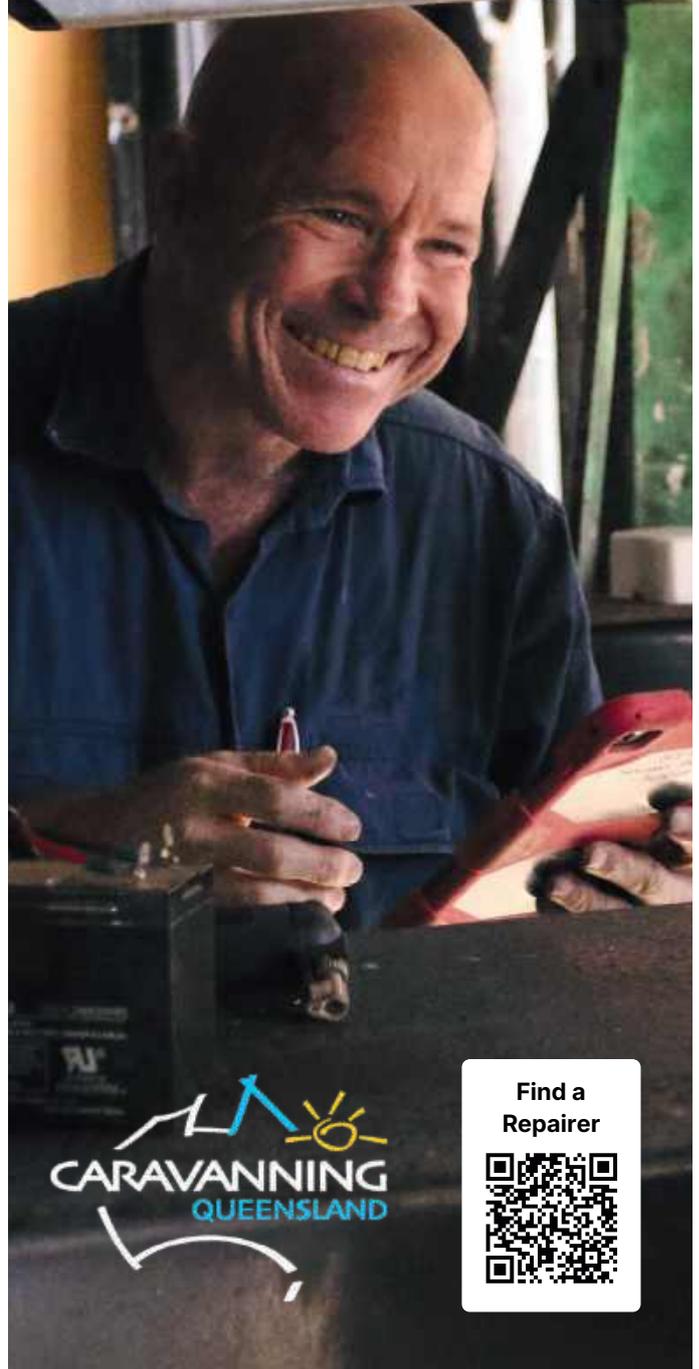
For stress and incident free travel, don't forget:

- Regular maintenance of your vehicle and trailer is essential! For your trailer, a service at least once a year or every 10,000km is recommended. Find your nearest dealer or service and repair provider, by visiting caravanqld.com.au/product_services
- Develop a pre-holiday checklist or download the Caravanning Queensland checklist. Don't forget to include checks you need to do while you are travelling!
- If you aren't confident about towing your caravan, why not check out a towing course. There are several companies who can assist you, allowing you to build confidence before you hit the road. Head to caravanqld.com.au to find out more.
- Take advantage of the great education opportunities, including Masterclasses, at our industry run Let's Go Caravan and Camping Shows held across the year.

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JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day Races, **Caloundra**
- 7-19 Magic Millions GC Yearling Sale, **Gold Coast**
- 8-11 Capricorn Film Festival, **Yeppoon**
- 13-19 Magic Millions Yearling Sales and Race Day, **Gold Coast**
- 16-18 Goldfield Ashes, **Charters Towers**
- 17 Mount Festival Half Marathon, **Mount Morgan**
- 17 TAB Millions Raceday, **Gold Coast**
- 26 Great Australia Day Beach Party, **Yeppoon**
- 26 Australia Day Celebrations **Rockhampton**

FEBRUARY

- 5-8 Capricorn King of Kings Fishing Tournament, **Capricorn Coast**
- 6-8 Let's Go Caravan & Outdoor Expo, **Gold Coast**
- 13-15 Moreton Bay Expo, **Redcliffe**
- 2 Big Beer Festival, **Bundaberg**
- 20-22 Blues, Roots and Rock Festival, **Agnes Water**
- 27 Feb-8 Mar **Stanthorpe** Apple and Grape Harvest Festival

MARCH

- 7 Big Beer Festival, **Mackay**
- 7-8 Hell of the West Festival, **Goondiwindi**
- 13-15 National 4 x 4 Outdoors Show, **Brisbane**
- 20-22 CMC Rocks QLD, **Ipswich**
- 21 Big Beer Festival, **Emerald**
- 26 - 29 Feast Of the Senses, **Innisfail**
- 28 **Monto** Races
- 28 North Gregory Turf Club Races, **Winton**
- 29 Feast of the Senses, **Innisfail**
- 29 Triple M Festival of the Wind, **Emu Park**

APRIL

- 1-6 Easter in the Country Festival, **Roma**
- 2 **Cloncurry** Easter Fair
- 3-6 Gem of the West Campdraft, **Winton**
- 6 Waltzing Matilda Day, **Winton**
- 10-11 Meatstock, **Toowoomba**
- 10-12 **Kilkivan** Great Horse Ride
- 12 Towers Rush Festival, **Charters Towers**
- 17-19 Rockynats, **Rockhampton**
- 17-19 Suncoast Outdoor Adventure Expo, **Sunshine Coast**
- 17-19 Outback River Lights Festival, **Cunnamulla**
- 17-19 Rally Queensland **Gympie**
- 17-19 **Julia Creek** Dirt N Dust Festival
- 18 The Caves Show, The Caves, **Rockhampton**
- 21-25 Paradise Lagoons Campdraft, **Rockhampton**
- 23-25 Outback Rock & Blues Festival, **Undara**
- 24 Apr-9 May **QLD Music Trails - The Outback, South West Outback, Queensland**
- 30 Apr-3 May **Barcaldine** Tree of Knowledge Festival

MAY

- 1 **Tambo** Stock Show
- 1-31 GourMay Food Festival **Mary Valley**
- 1-3 Charters Towers Country Music Festival, **Charters Towers**



- 1-3 **Hughenden** Festival of Outback Skies
- 1-3 Gem of the West Camp Draft, **Winton**
- 2-4 Planes, Trains and Autos, **Ipswich**
- 3 Feast of the Three Saints, **Silkwood**
- 3 The Archer Race 2026, **Rockhampton**
- 4-5 Golden Mount Festival, **Mount Morgan**
- 5-10 **Greenvale** Campdraft
- 5-10 **Capella** Country Music Festival
- 8-9 **Kooroorinya** Races
- 8-10 **Cairns** Outdoor Adventure plus Home & Lifestyle Expo
- 8-10 Great Wheelbarrow Race, **Mareeba**
- 8-10 Annual Show, **Blackall**
- 9 **Queensland Music Trails Outback Sounds, Mount Isa**
- 13-24 **Port Douglas** Carnivale
- 14-17 Blues on Broadbeach, **Gold Coast**
- 14 - 17 Music in the Mulga, **Thargomindah**
- 15-16 **Nebo** Rodeo
- 15-16 **Chillagoe** Rodeo
- 15-17 **Ipswich** Show
- 15-17 **Townsville** Caravan, 4x4 & Outdoor Adventure Expo
- 16 **Hughenden** Races
- 17 Rocky River Run, **Rockhampton**
- 19 **Festival of Outback Opera Opening Ceremony, Winton**
- 19-25 **Festival of Outback Opera, Longreach and Winton**
- 20 **Festival of Outback Opera All Together Now! Winton**
- 21 **Festival Of Outback Opera Dark Sky Serenade, Winton**
- 22 **Festival of Outback Opera Long Lunch, Longreach**
- 22-24 **Mackay** Outdoor Adventure plus Home & Lifestyle Expo
- 22-24 1770 Festival, **Agnes Water**
- 23 **Festival Of Outback Opera Singing in the Night, Longreach**
- 24 **Festival of Outback Opera, Opera Ball, Longreach**
- 24 Outback Queensland Cattle Drive Start, **Longreach**
- 29-30 **Hughenden** Show
- 30 **Tambo** Races
- 30-31 Pioneer Weekend, Herberton Historic Village, **Herberton**

JUNE

- TBA **Lakeland** Campdraft and Rodeo
- 1-30 **Scenic Rim** Eat Local Month
- 3-7 Let's Go Camping and Caravan Supershow **Brisbane**
- 4-7 Gulf Western Oil Winternationals, **Ipswich**
- 5 **Mackay** Festival of Arts
- 6 Pop Up Polo. **Rockhampton**
- 6 **Winton** P & A Show
- 6-7 **Charters Towers** Motorshow and Swap Meet
- 6-7 **Yeppoon** & District Show
- 7 **Mackay** Marina Run
- 10-12 **Rockhampton** Agricultural Show
- 12-14 **Laura** Quinkin Dance Festival
- 12-14 Sunshine Coast Agricultural Festival, **Nambour**
- 14-15 Cairns Airport Ironman, **Cairns**
- 19-21 **Cooktown** Discovery Festival
- 20 **Ipswich** Cup
- 21 Great Whitehaven Beach Run, **Whitsundays**
- 23-26 Outback Writers Festival, **Winton**

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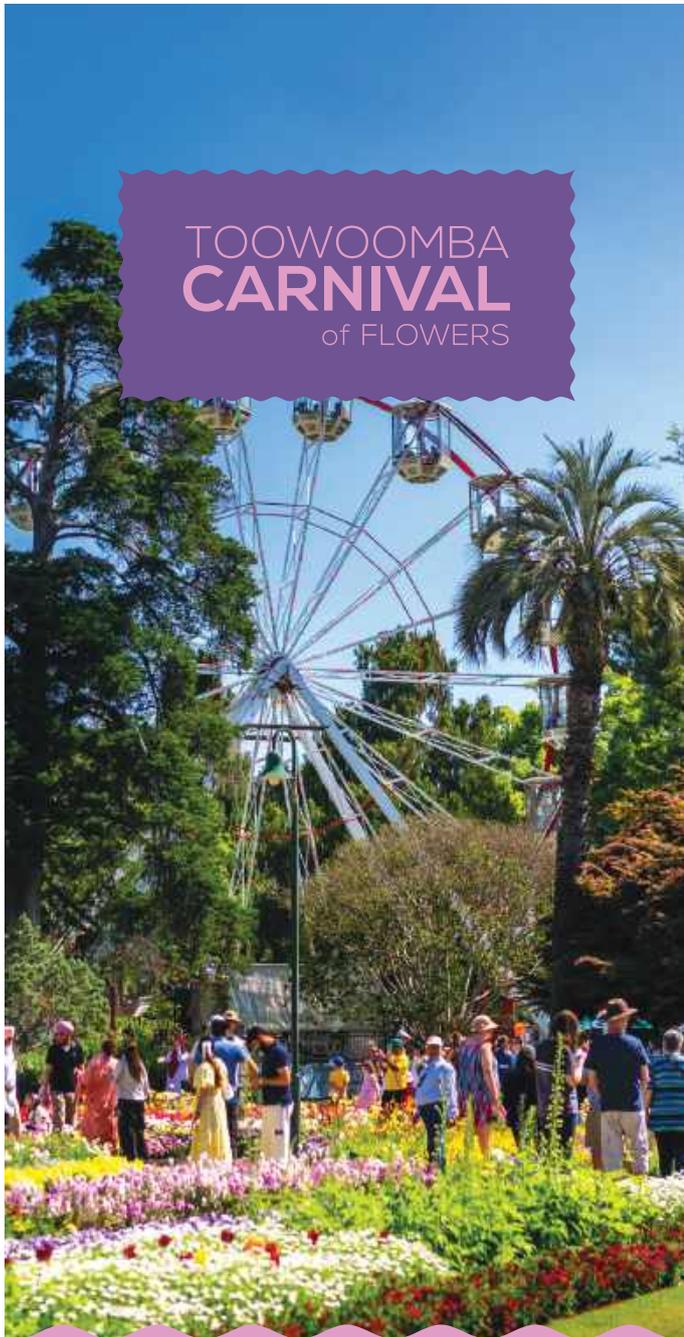








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2026 Events

26-28
26-29
26 Jun-5 Jul

St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend
Laura Rodeo and Races
The Vision Splendid Outback Film Festival, **Winton**

JULY

4
4
4
4
4
6-9
7-9
7-9
9-12
10-12
10-12
10-12

Stamford Races
Jundah Camel Races
Rockhampton Cup Race Day
Rockhana Gem & Mineral Festival, **Cloncurry**
PBR Cairns
Birdsville Carnival
Birdsville Big Red Bash
Big Red Sunset Concert, **Birdsville**
Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, **Cairns**
7Cairns Marathon Festival, **Cairns**
NTI 500 Supercars, **Townsville**
Rockhampton Outdoor Adventure plus Home & Lifestyle Expo

11
11
11-12

Bedourie Camel and Pig Races
Winton Motorsport Association Show and Shine
Mareeba Rodeo

12
13-19
14-

Winton Motorsport Association 1/8 mile Drag Races
Channel Country Music Muster, **Thargomindah**
Outback Queensland Cattle Drive Finish, **Roma**
Jumpers and Jazz in July, **Warwick**

16-26
17-18
17-19

Charters Towers Rodeo
Fraser Coast Outdoor Adventure plus Home & Lifestyle Expo
Hughenden Country Music Festival

17-19
17-19
17-19

Boulia Camel Races
Gold Rush Hill Sprint, **Mount Morgan**
Noosa Alive

17-26
22-26
23-26

Kuranda Roots Festival
Childers Festival

24-25
24-26
24-26

Swim Around Keppel, **Great Keppel Island**
Rockhampton River Festival
Queensland Outdoor Adventure Expo, **Toowoomba**

24-26
24 - 26
24 Jul-1 Aug

The Drovers Camp at **Camooweal**
Rockhampton River Festival
Australian Festival of Chamber Music, **Cairns**

25
25-26
25-26

Winton Camel Races
Airlie Beach Triathlon Festival
Yeppoon Running Festival

25-26
31 Jul-1 Aug
31 Jul-2 Aug

Hughenden Rugby 7's Carnival
Thunder in the Canefields, Cairns
Great Barrier Reef Festival, **Airlie Beach**

AUGUST

1
1
5
6-9
6-13
7-8
7-9
8
8

Hervey Bay Whale Festival
Corfield Races, **Winton**
Isa Street Festival, **Mount Isa**
Taste **Port Douglas**
Airlie Beach Race Week & Whitsundays Festival of Sailing
Thunder in the Canefields, Cairns
Mount Isa Mines Rodeo, Mount Isa
Mount Morgan Show
Mt Carbine Rodeo



Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers

Scan for more events



- 8-9 Diamantina Open Golf Championship, **Winton**
- 8-16 The Ekka (**Brisbane** Royal Show)
- 9 Mount Isa Mines Indigenous Rodeo Championship, **Mount Isa**
- 14-15 North Queensland Elite Rodeo, **Townsville**
- 15-22 **Hamilton Island** Race Week
- 20-23 **Hughenden** Camp Draft
- 21-23 **Ipswich** Super 440
- 21-23 Rhythm and the Reef, **Mackay**
- 27-30 **Gympie** Music Muster
- 27 Aug-2 Sep SeaLink **Magnetic Island** Race Week
- 28-29 **Betoota** Rodeo and Races
- 29 CapriCon, **Rockhampton**
- 29 **Mareeba** Multicultural Festival
- 30 Aug-12 Sep Simpson Desert Racing Carnival, **Betoota, Birdsville and Bedourie**

SEPTEMBER

- 1-6 **Birdsville** Town Festival
- 4-5 **Birdsville** Races
- 4-6 Don River Dash, **Bowen**
- 4-13 Galvanised - A Festival of Heritage, **Ipswich**
- 5 **Mount Morgan** Wattle Day Festival
- 5 **Prairie** Races
- 5 **Mount Morgan** Wattle Day Festival
- 6 Run **Port Douglas**
- 11-12 **Quilpie** and District Show
- 18-20 Rumble on the Reef, **Mackay**
- 18-20 Mushroom Valley Festival, **Mackay**
- 18-20 Mitchell Creek Rock N Blues Fest, **Mary Valley**
- 18 Sep-5 Oct **Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers**
- 19 **Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers Parade Day**
- 19 North Gregory Turf Club Races, **Winton**
- 25 **Ewan** Cup
- 25-27 Wallaby Creek Festival, **Rossville TNQ**

OCTOBER

- 8-11 **Savannah in the Round, Mareeba**
- 17 Caulfield Cup Raceday, **Rockhampton**
- 18-21 Fitzroy River Barra Bash, **Rockhampton**
- 19-25 **Warwick** Rodeo and Gold Cup Campdraft
- 24 Oktober Fest, **Hughenden**
- 24-26 **Cooktown** Community Day and Barra Bash
- 30 Camp and sCare Halloween Weekend, **Airlie Beach**

NOVEMBER

- 6 **Cooktown** Races
- 6-8 **Airlie Beach** Festival of Music
- 6-15 Pan Pacific Masters Games, **Gold Coast**
- 14 **Stanthorpe** Berry Festival

DECEMBER

- 5 Christmas Street Party, **Hughenden**

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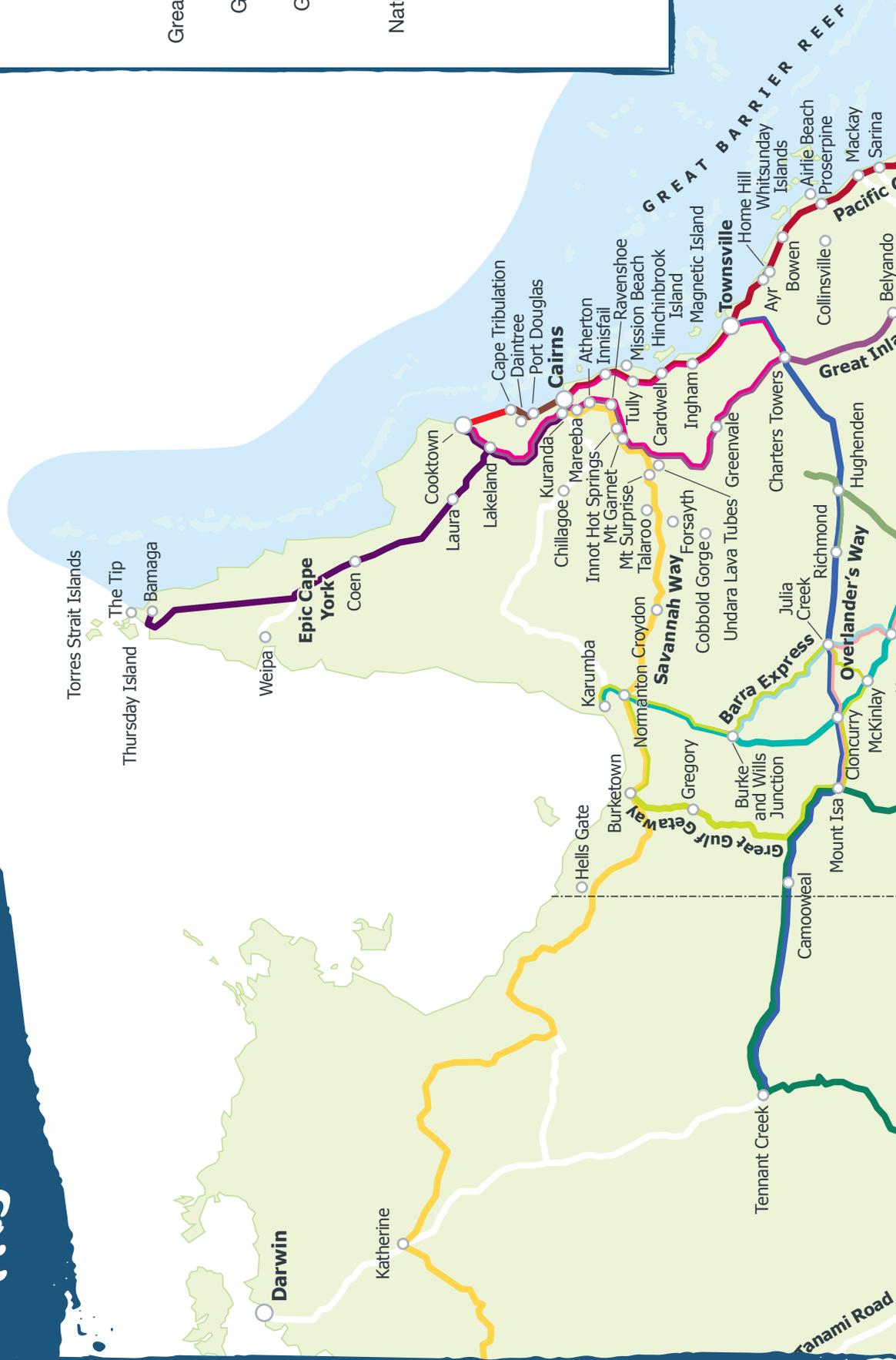
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Drive Queensland Highway Map

LEGEND

- Adventure Way
- Australia's Country Way
- Australian Dinosaur Trail
- Barra Express
- Bloomfield Track
- Capricorn Way
- Dawson Highway
- Epic Cape York
- Great Barrier Reef Drive
- Great Beach Drive
- Great Gulf Getaway
- Great Inland Way
- Great Tropical Drive
- Leichhardt Way
- Matilda Way
- Natural Sciences Loop
- Outback Lap
- Overlander's Way
- Pacific Coast Way
- Rural Getaway
- Savannah Way
- The Outback Way
- Warrego Way
- Wellness Way





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 **EVENT**



Epic Cape York

1430km

Torres Strait Islands
Thursday Island
Coen
Cooktown
Lakeland
Cape Tribulation
Kuranda
Cairns

Cape York Peninsula

Cairns - Kuranda - Lakeland - Cooktown - Coen - Bamaga

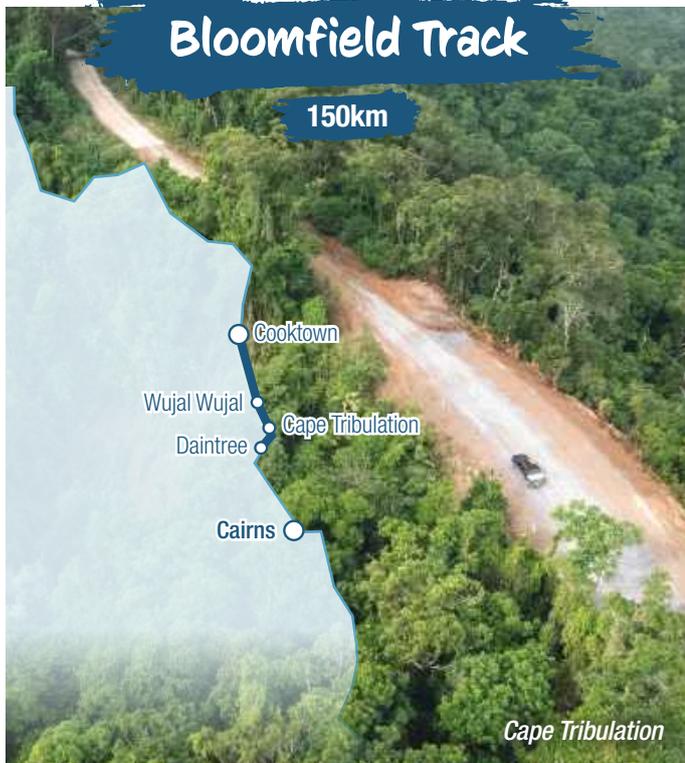
Condition: 4WD, unsealed

Best Months to Travel: May to October

One of Australia's epic adventures, a trip to The Tip is a must for the well-prepared

Ten of the Best:

1. Experience koalas in **Kuranda**; stay at Honeybee House
2. Enjoy an interpretive river tour with Kuranda River Boat, **Kuranda**
3. Admire the view and Lighthouse from Grassy Hill, **Cooktown**
4. Visit **Cooktown's** History Centre and James Cook Museum
5. Wander through **Cooktown's** Botanical Gardens
6. Detour to **Weipa**; take a river cruise; try offshore fishing
7. Stay a night, be entertained at **Bramwell Station**
8. Cool off at Fruit Bat Falls, Twin Falls and Elliot Falls in **Jardine River NP**
9. Set up camp at **Punsand Bay** and relax by the Arafura Sea
10. Take a selfie at **The Tip** - the northernmost point of the Australian Continent



Bloomfield Track

150km

Cooktown
Wujal Wujal
Daintree
Cape Tribulation
Cairns

Cape Tribulation

Daintree - Cape Tribulation - Wujal Wujal - Cooktown

Condition: 4WD, unsealed

Best Months to Travel: May to October

Take an unforgettable road-trip through this World Heritage Area where the rainforest meets the reef

Ten of the Best:

1. Motor your 4WD onto the **Daintree** River Ferry
2. Enjoy an interpretive walk through the **Daintree** with Cooper Creek Wilderness
3. Spot a croc as you cruise along the **Daintree** River
4. Relax under shade trees at the Daintree Ice Cream Co
5. Take a pic at the **Bloomfield (Wujal Wujal) Falls**
6. Grab some lunch at the historic **Lion's Den Hotel**
7. Make a 20-minute detour through **Archer Point** Conservation Park
8. Discover Mary Watson's grave and read her story in **Cooktown**
9. Call in to the James Cook Museum, **Cooktown**
10. Enjoy the sunset and a 360-degree view from Grassy Hill, **Cooktown**



THUNDER IN THE CANEFIELDS

JULY 31, AUG 1, 7, 8.

Thunder in the Canefields at Cairns Speedway attracts the absolute best in 360/LS sprintcar drivers nationwide to Cairns for two massive weekends of motor racing over 4 nights with a monster prizepool up for grabs. Each night will be methanol fuelled, family friendly motor racing entertainment under the stars. You won't know where to look as the best local drivers battle it out against the rest of Australia chasing the top step of the podium and coveted cane knife trophy!

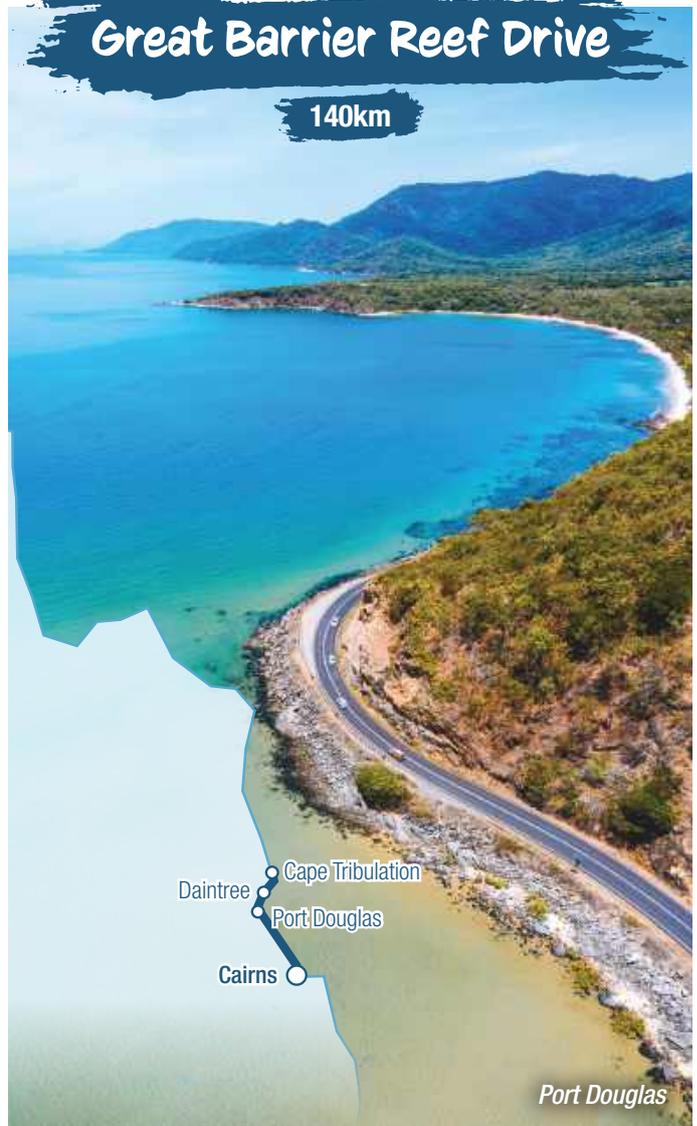
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Great Barrier Reef Drive

140km

Cape Tribulation
Port Douglas
Daintree
Cairns

Port Douglas

Cairns - Port Douglas - Daintree - Cape Tribulation

Condition: 2WD, sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

All the best of Tropical North Queensland rolled into one short and sweet drive

Ten of the Best:

1. Snorkel on the Great Barrier Reef, **Cairns**
2. Travel above the rainforest on Skyrail, **Cairns**
3. Get close to the crocs at **Hartley's Crocodile Adventures, Wangetti**
4. Visit St. Mary's by the Sea, and the former Sugar Wharf at **Port Douglas**
5. Drive to **Mossman Gorge**, join a Dreamtime Walk
6. Explore the **Daintree** Discovery Centre
7. Take a stroll through the charming historic **Daintree Village**
8. Grab a box of Daintree tea and local honey at the plantation stall, **Diwan**
9. Walk through rainforest to the beach at **Cape Tribulation**
10. Challenge yourself on the 7km hike to the summit of **Mount Sorrow**



We are a locally owned Visitor Information Centre and have been operating right here in Cairns for over 20 years. Our staff are the friendliest and most experienced you will come across and we take great pleasure in offering you the best advice for whatever you'd love to experience in Tropical North Queensland and afar!



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RECOMMENDED BY BEST OF QUEENSLAND EXPERIENCE 2025 TRAVELLERS

Great Tropical Drive

2080km

Cairns - Innisfail - Tully - Ingham - Townsville - Charters Towers - Mt Garnet - Atherton - Mareeba - Kuranda - Cooktown - Port Douglas - Cairns

Cairns - Innisfail - Tully - Ingham - Townsville - Charters Towers - Mt Garnet - Atherton - Mareeba - Kuranda - Cooktown - Port Douglas - Cairns

Condition: 2WD, sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

From bush to beach, the Great Tropical Drive gives you a true taste of northern Queensland

Ten of the Best:

1. Follow ecosystems from Creek to Reef at **Cairns Aquarium**
2. Hand feed the amazing colourful tropical birds at Birdworld **Kuranda**
3. Discover art deco and historical buildings in **Innisfail**
4. Book a tour of **Tully Sugar Mill** during cane cutting season
5. Stop for a coffee and admire the Mercer Lane mosaics in **Ingham**
6. Take a walk along the Strand in **Townsville** and discover the Ocean Siren
7. View the world's largest mosaic mural in historical **Charters Towers**
8. Discover the enchanting waterfalls of the **Atherton Tablelands**
9. Visit **Paronella Park**; enjoy the romance and history of this heritage listed property
10. Experience the excitement of **Savannah in the Round, Mareeba**

HONEYBEE HOUSE

Unwind at Honeybee House, a quiet retreat surrounded by tropical beauty. This two bedroom house is fully furnished and self-contained and set on 5 acres of tropical gardens and rainforest.

Being less than a 10 minute drive from Kuranda village, it is the perfect base from which to explore Kuranda, Cairns, Port Douglas and the Atherton Tablelands.

HONEYBEE HOUSE

www.honeybeehouse.com.au
0418 930 511 | info@honeybeehouse.com.au
146 Ganyan Drive, Speewah QLD 4881



Skyrail
Rainforest Cableway

Enjoy a unique perspective of Queensland's World Heritage listed Wet Tropics Rainforest with Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. Explore Red Peak and Barron Falls to discover this universally accessible 90-minute experience, and unlock the secrets of the oldest tropical rainforest on earth.

SKYRAIL RAINFOREST CABLEWAY
skyrail.com.au | 07 4038 5555

KURANDA RIVERBOAT

Cruise the tranquil waters of the world's most ancient tropical rainforest on one of our five daily interpretive river cruises. Enjoy the peaceful serenity of the Barron River while your guide shares their knowledge of this unique area.

The river is home to a host of wildlife including freshwater crocodiles, turtles, cassowaries, water dragons, fish and butterflies, together with many species of birds. This calm water experience is suitable for all ages.

Cruises depart from our jetty located below the Kuranda Railway Station

KURANDA RIVERBOAT

www.kurandariverboat.com.au
0412 159 212 | tours@kurandariverboat.com.au
@kuranda_riverboat





Gold Coast - Brisbane - Gladstone - Rockhampton - Mackay - Bowen - Townsville - Cairns

Condition: 2WD, sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

Queensland's ultimate coastal road trip

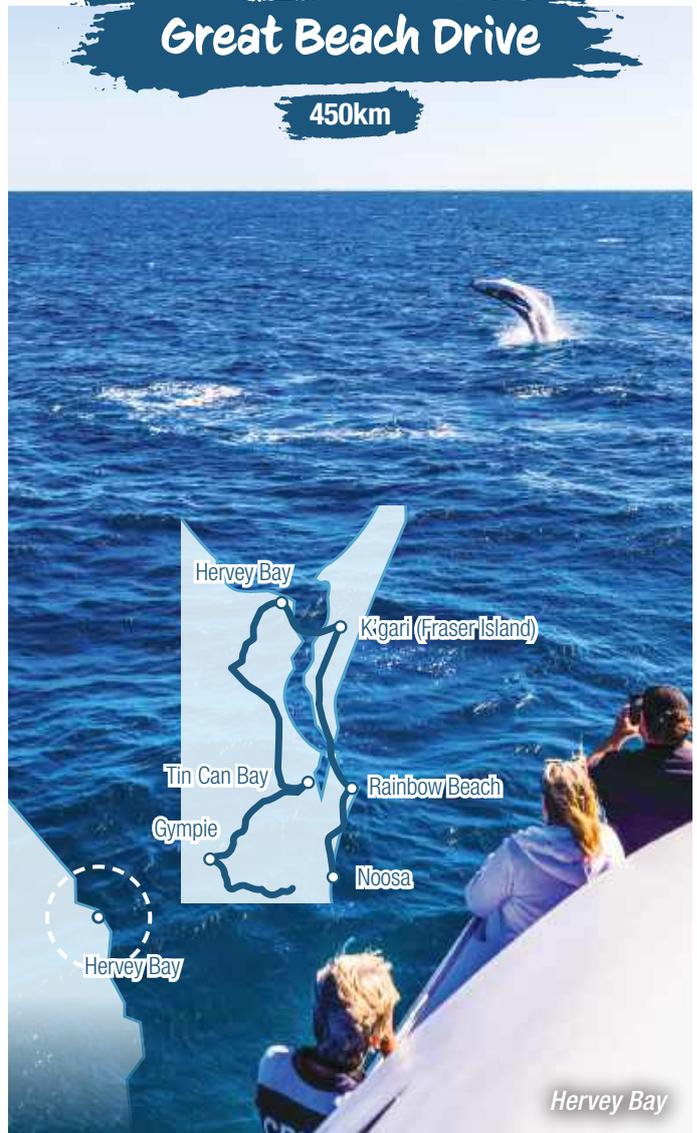
Ten of the Best:

1. Start your trip at a **Gold Coast Holiday Park**
2. Travel past volcanic Glass House Mountains, **Sunshine Coast**
3. Jump on board the Mary Valley Rattler at historic **Gympie** Railway Station
4. Detour into **Hervey Bay** for seasonal whale watching
5. Discover secrets at the **Bundaberg** Rum Distillery
6. Enjoy a mouthwatering steak dinner in **Rockhampton**
7. Indulge in a paddock-to-plate-to-bottle sugar experience at the **Sarina Sugar Shed**
8. Discover sweeping views of the Barrier Reef from Flagstaff Hill, **Bowen**
9. Dive down to a marine wreck at **Yongala, Townsville**
10. Experience the exhilaration of white-water rafting, **Tully River**



With lush surroundings and top-notch amenities, it's a haven for families and adventurers alike. Boasting a range of accommodations and activities, including waterpark, pool, playground, café and much more. They are dog friendly and close to all major theme parks.

BIG4 GOLD COAST HOLIDAY PARK
07 5514 4400 | stay@gcpark.com.au
66-86 Siganto Drive, Helensvale, QLD 4212
goldcoastholidaypark.com.au



Noosa - K'gari - Hervey Bay - Tin Can Bay

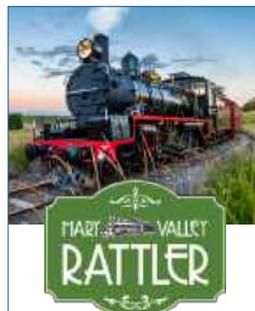
Condition: 4WD, sealed/sand

Best Months to Travel: All year

Take the 4WD for a spin in Queensland's sandy playground

Ten of the Best:

1. Visit Great Sandy Information Centre, **Noosa**; stay at a **Sunshine Coast Van Park**
2. Eco camp or glamp at **Habitat Noosa** and explore the everglades
3. Catch the vehicle ferry to **Noosa North Shore**
4. Drive along the white sand beaches in **Great Sandy National Park**
5. Picnic at the coloured sands, **Teewah Beach**
6. Climb to the Lighthouse, **Double Island Point**
7. Board the barge and cross to **K'gari (Fraser Island)**
8. Stay at Kingfisher Bay Resort, **K'Gari (Fraser Island)**
9. Watch for whales in **Hervey Bay**
10. Feed the humpback dolphins in **Tin Can Bay**



An iconic award-winning heritage railway experience based in Gympie, offering scenic journeys aboard restored steam and railmotor. Celebrating history, community and Queensland's pioneering spirit, it connects visitors with the charm, character and natural beauty of the Mary Valley.

MARY VALLEY RATTLER
07 5482 2750 | info@maryvalleyrattler.com.au
10 Tozer Street, Gympie, QLD 4570
maryvalleyrattler.com.au

Charters Towers Wall of History 1872 - 1972

IMMERSE YOURSELF

in Australian goldrush history

VISIT, SHOP & DISCOVER

National award-winning street art!
 → The World
 → Charters Towers Wall of History
 → Plus much more!

GOLDTOWER CENTRAL

CHARTERS TOWERS

Overlander's Way

1100km

Mount Isa **Townsville**

Camooweal Charters Towers

Mount Isa Cloncurry Julia Creek Richmond Hughenden

Camooweal - Mount Isa - Cloncurry - Julia Creek - Richmond - Hughenden - Charters Towers - Townsville

Condition: 2WD, sealed
Best Months to Travel: All year

Follow in the footsteps of the droving pioneers and feel the freedom of the open road as you traverse the breadth of Queensland

Ten of the Best:

1. Learn Australian history at Drovers Heritage Centre, **Camooweal**
2. Gain insight into **Mount Isa** mining on the Hard Times Underground Mine tour
3. Stay at **Sunset Tourist Park, Mount Isa**; grab a meal at the **Bufs Club**
4. Visit John Flynn Place Museum and Fred McKay Art Gallery, **Cloncurry**
5. Indulge in the artesian baths; visit Visitor Info Centre, **Julia Creek**
6. Discover the unique world of marine fossils, **Richmond**
7. Travel north of **Hughenden** to Porcupine Gorge National Park
8. Hire Ghosts of Gold CD/USB from **Charters Towers** Information Centre
9. Use QR codes to unlock First World War Digital Heritage Trail, **Charters Towers**
10. Take a 45-minute hike up Castle Hill, **Townsville**

BURKE & WILLS ROADHOUSE

BARBRA EXPRESS
 KYNUNA TO BURKE & WILLS JUNCTION
 VIA JULIA CREEK

TO GREGORY BOODJAMULLA NATIONAL PARK ADELS GROVE
 TO NORMANTON KARUMBA

WILLS DEVELOPMENT RD

OVERLANDERS WAY (FLINDERS HWY)

MATILDA WAY (LANDSBOROUGH HWY)

CLONCURRY JULIA CREEK MCKINLAY KYNUNA

COMBO WATERHOLE

SAXBY RIVER FLINDERS RIVER JULIA CREEK FULLARTON RIVER MCKINLAY RIVER



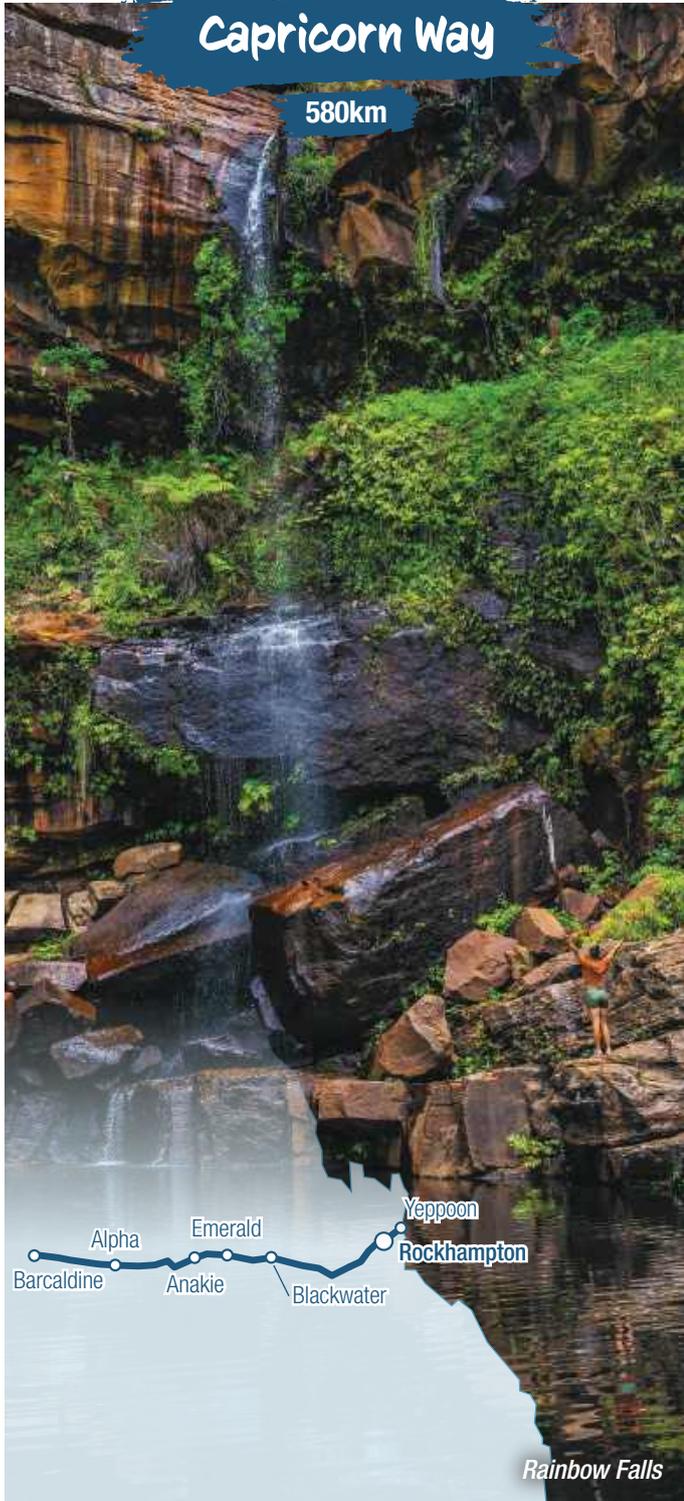
Julia Creek, located in north-west Outback Queensland, is known as the "Gateway to the Gulf" due to its location on the Overlander's Way. It has transformed from a sheep and cattle grazing town to a destination for sport, culture and relaxation.



JULIA CREEK VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE "AT THE CREEK"
 Phone (07) 4746 7690

Capricorn Way

580km



Barcaldine - Alpha - Anakie - Emerald - Blackwater - Rockhampton - Yeppoon

Rainbow Falls

Barcaldine - Alpha - Anakie - Emerald - Blackwater - Rockhampton - Yeppoon

Condition: 2WD, sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

Follow the Tropic of Capricorn and discover a geological drive trail

Ten of the Best:

1. Visit the Australian Workers Heritage Centre, **Barcaldine**
2. Taste indigenous tucker at Ridgee Didge Cafe, **Barcaldine**
3. Bush camp and bird watch at Lara Wetlands, **Barcaldine**
4. Explore 27 murals in **Alpha**
5. Fossick in the oldest town on the Sapphire Gemfields at **Anakie**
6. Enjoy a stroll through **Emerald's** Botanic Gardens
7. Throw a line, catch a fish at Lake Maraboon, **Emerald**
8. Discover waterfalls, lookouts and rock pools in Blackdown NP, **Blackwater**
9. Go underground at Capricorn Caves, north of **Rockhampton**
10. Snorkel the Southern Great Barrier Reef at **Yeppoon**

Great Inland Way

2000km (QLD portion)



Hebel - St George - Roma - Carnarvon Gorge - Emerald - Charters Towers - Mareeba - Cooktown

Condition: 2WD, sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

From the southern states to north Queensland this is the ultimate Aussie road trip

Ten of the Best:

1. Enjoy a beer at the historic hotel in **Hebel**
2. Go on a guided cotton tour at **Dirranbandi**
3. Enjoy a river cruise on the Balonne River, **St George**
4. Visit the Cobb & Co Changing Station in **Surat**
5. Tour Australia's largest cattle selling centre, **Roma**
6. Encounter natural and indigenous features in **Carnarvon Gorge**
7. Spot historical landmark, Virgin Rock, at **Springsure**
8. Enjoy the scenery, step back into history, **Capella**
9. Walk the nighttime streets on a ghost tour, **Charters Towers**
10. Follow the waterfall trail on the **Atherton Tablelands**

Savannah Way

1070km (QLD portion)



Hell's Gate - Burketown - Normanton - Croydon - Georgetown - Mt Surprise - Undara - Ravenshoe - Cairns

Condition: 2WD with caution, sealed/unsealed **Best Months to Travel:** April to October

A road trip for the ages, the Savannah Way combines thrills and excitement across northern Australia from Broome in WA to Cairns in QLD



Cobbold Gorge Walkway



Ten of the Best:

1. Enjoy a relaxing river tour with Kuranda River Boat, **Kuranda**
2. Join the excitement at Savannah in the Round, **Mareeba**
3. Walk through the oldest lava tube system on earth at **Undara**
4. Cross the glass bridge at **Cobbold Gorge**
5. Take a guided tour to access the **Talaroo Hot Springs**
6. Travel to **Georgetown**, see mineral collection at TerrEstrial centre
7. Unwind at Lake Belmore, the Gulf Savannah's freshwater jewel; **Croydon**
8. Visit historic gold mining museum; **Croydon**
9. Experience croc spotting in a glass bottom boat through **Cobbold Gorge**
10. Visit Lawn Hill Gorge and camp at Wugudaji-Adels Grove Camping Park in **Boodjamulla NP**



Access by guided tour only.
Bookings essential • For more info visit:
www.cobboldgorge.com.au



QANTAS FOUNDERS MUSEUM LONGREACH

An iconic Outback experience where Australia's aviation story and the legacy of QANTAS come to life. From the National Heritage-listed Hangar to the mighty Boeing 747, every guided tour invites you into a world of adventure, innovation and history.

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(07) 4658 3737 | bookings@qfom.com.au

LONGREACH

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MAIL

Outback Pioneers

Matilda Way

1670km (QLD portion)

Matilda Way

Cunnamulla - Charleville - Blackall - Barcaldine - Longreach - Winton - Cloncurry - Burke and Wills Junction - Normanton - Kurumba

Condition: 2WD, sealed

Best Months to Travel: March to November

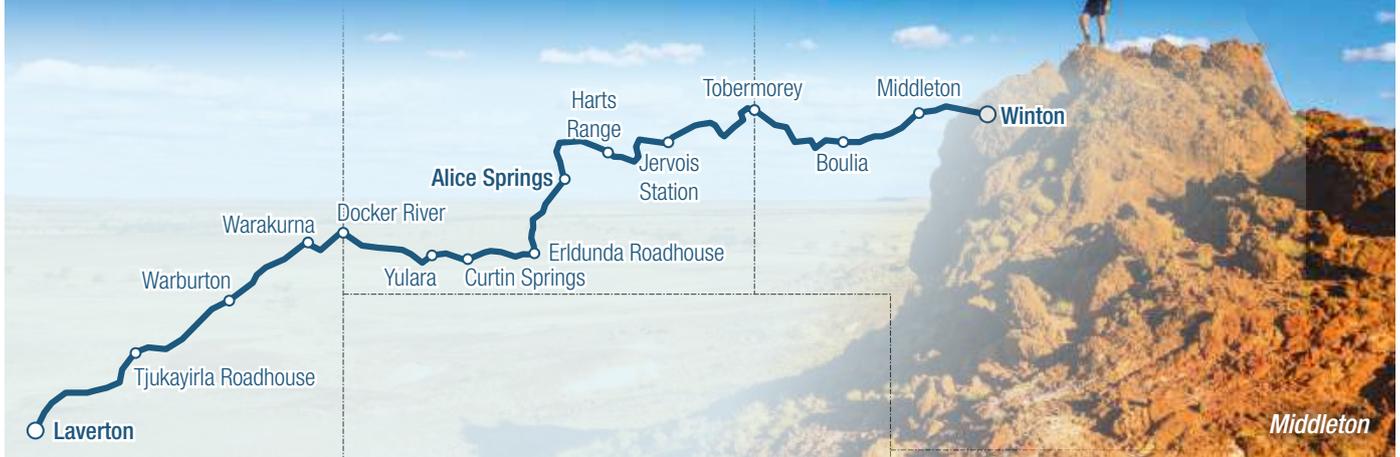
Continuing on from NSW's Kidman Way, the Matilda Way waltzes through western Queensland

Ten of the Best:

1. Soak in artesian waters at the Hot Springs, **Cunnamulla**
2. Star gaze at the Cosmos Centre, **Charleville**
3. Go chicken racing in the oldest town in the west, **Tambo**
4. Experience living history at the Woolscour, **Blackall**
5. Make a nighttime visit to the Tree of Knowledge, **Barcaldine**
6. Marvel at the rich aviation history on display at the Qantas Founders Museum, **Longreach**
7. Jump on board the Cobb and Co Stagecoach, **Longreach**
8. Dig for dinosaurs at the Australian Age of Dinosaurs, **Winton**
9. Wander through John Flynn Place Museum and Art Gallery, **Cloncurry**
10. Feast on fresh seafood, **Karumba**

The Outback Way

615km (QLD portion)



Winton - Middleton - Boulia - Tobermorey Station

Condition: 2WD, sealed/unsealed **Best Months to Travel:** March to October

Travel Australia's Longest Shortcut on a journey from Winton west to Laverton in Western Australia

Ten of the Best:

1. Dig for dinosaurs at Australian Age of Dinosaurs, **Winton**
2. Take in the **Festival of Outback Opera** in **Winton** in May
3. Detour to the legendary Old Cork Station, south of **Winton**
4. Enjoy a cold beer at the iconic **Middleton Hotel**
5. See spectacular views from Cawnpore Lookout, 51kms west of **Middleton**
6. Learn about the mysterious Min Min Lights at Min Min Encounter, **Boulia**
7. Discover marine fossils at the Boulia Heritage Centre, **Boulia**
8. Cross the NT Border; settle in at the **Tobermorey Roadhouse**
9. Take a tour of **Tobermorey** cattle station; share a beer with station hands
10. Bird-watch and walk the bush trails at **Tobermorey**

Warrego Way

1580km



Birdsville - Windorah - Quilpie - Charleville - Roma - Miles - Dalby - Toowoomba - Brisbane

Condition: 2WD with caution; sealed/unsealed **Best Months to Travel:** March to November

From Brisbane to Birdsville, the memorable Warrego Way takes you from city lights to star lights

Ten of the Best:

1. Be part of the fabulous **Birdsville Races**
2. Venture into Channel Country at **Windorah**, enjoy stunning vistas
3. Meet Cooper the dinosaur at **Eromanga**
4. Climb Baldy Top, watch the sunset in **Quilpie**
5. Tour a secret WWII Base in **Charleville**
6. Star gaze at Cosmos Centre and Observatory, **Charleville**
7. Search for **Roma's** largest bottle tree
8. Fossick for petrified wood, **Chinchilla**
9. Take a tour through historic Jimbour House, **Dalby**
10. Be sure to experience **Toowoomba's Carnival of Flowers**

Leichhardt Way

700km (QLD portion)



Goondiwindi - Moonie - Miles - Taroom - Theodore - Mt Morgan - Rockhampton - Yeppoon

Condition: 2WD; sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

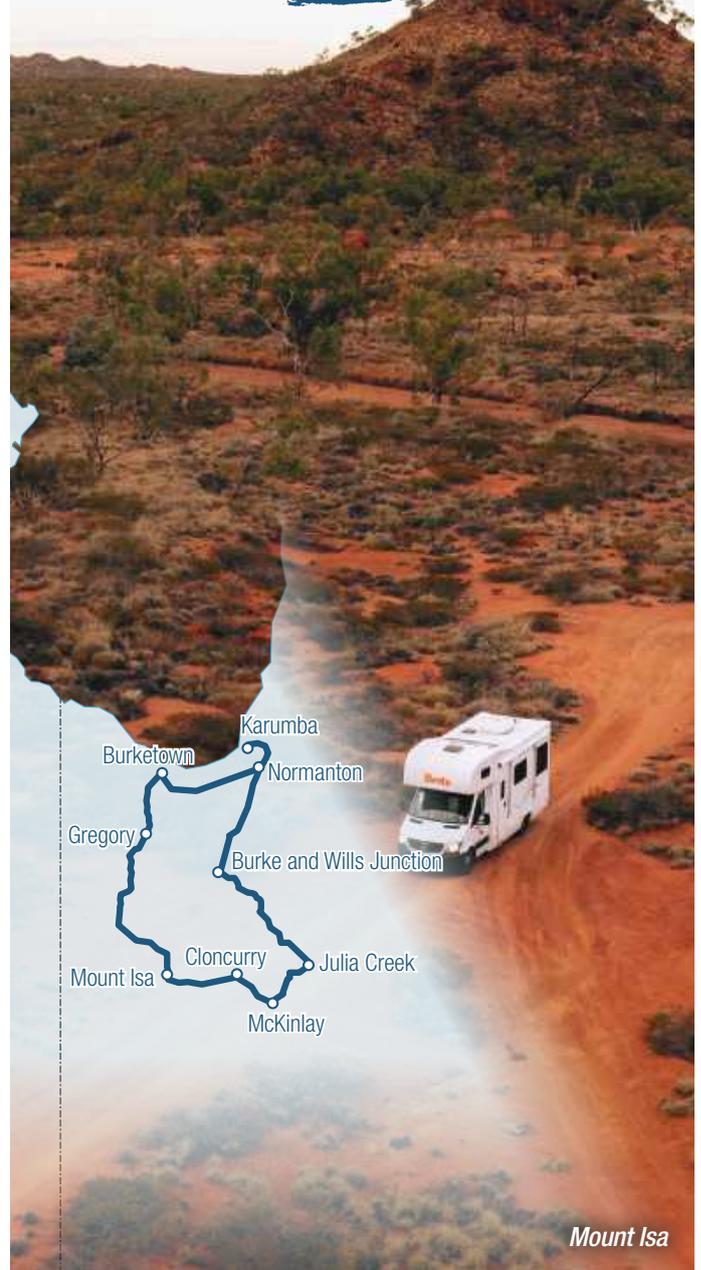
Forge a deep connection with explorer Ludwig Leichhardt on this drive, which continues on from NSW's Newell Highway

Ten of the Best:

1. Say G'day to legendary racehorse, Gunsynd, **Goondiwindi**
2. Go on the Condamine Bell Self Drive Tour, **Condamine**
3. Step back in time at the Historical Village Museum, **Miles**
4. Find the heritage listed Leichhardt Tree in **Taroom**
5. Have a cold beer, stay the night at **Theodore**
6. Just outside **Theodore**, be stunned by views at Isla Gorge NP
7. Stop in **Banana**; read the poem that explains the name
8. Fossick for gold in **Mount Morgan**
9. Go underground at Capricorn Caves, north of **Rockhampton**
10. Relax by the sea and catch a feed of reef fish, **Yeppoon**

Great Gulf Getaway

1557km



Mount Isa - Gregory - Burketown - Normanton - Karumba - Burke and Wills - Julia Creek - Mckinlay - Cloncurry - Mount Isa

Condition: 4WD, sealed/unsealed

Best Months to Travel: April to October

A journey through Queensland's rugged outback, where stunning sunsets meet wide open skies.

Ten of the Best:

1. Explore the Riversleigh Fossil Centre and Dine at Buffs Club, **Mount Isa**
2. Stay at Sunset Tourist Park, **Mount Isa**
3. Historical Gregory Downs Hotel and Picturesque **Gregory River**
4. Explore **Burketown's** historic Don Bowley wharf precinct
5. Get a Photo with Kris the Savannah King, **Normanton**
6. Visit the **Les Wilson** Barramundi Discovery Centre and **Karumba Point Beach**
7. Pull Up for a Beve and a Feed at the **Burke and Wills Roadhouse**
8. Soak in an Artesian Bath at **Julia Creek** Caravan Park
9. Visit the Walkabout Creek Hotel, Home of Crocodile Dundee, **Mckinlay**
10. Visit Mary Kathleen Abandoned Uranium Mine and Township, **Cloncurry**

Wellness Way

2470kms



Mitchell - St George - Cunnamulla - Eulo - Quilpie - Blackall - Barcaldine - Ilfracombe - Longreach - Winton - Kynuna - Julia Creek - Cloncurry - Mount Isa

Condition: 4WD, sealed/unsealed

Best Months to Travel: April to October

A trail of hot springs and bathhouses where mineral-rich waters soothe the body, mind and soul.

Ten of the Best:

1. Float into tranquility at **Great Artesian Spa, Mitchell** in warm, buoyant waters.
2. Relax in silky smooth mineral-rich pools at **Pelican Rest Tourist Park, St George**.
3. Soak in open-air baths at **Charlotte Plains, Cunnamulla** during sunrise or sunset.
4. Bathe in historical charm at **North Gregory Hotel, Winton** with its unique hydrotherapy pool.
5. Experience open-air claw-foot baths on the **Saltbush Retreat, Longreach** terrace.
6. Star bathe under the night sky at **Alroy Station, Eulo**.
7. Rejuvenate with hot tubs and mud masks at **Dunblane, Barcaldine** after a day on a sheep property.
8. Rejuvenate in steaming hot tubs and mud masks at **The Lake, Quilpie**.
9. Bathe under the stars in claw-foot tubs at **Julia Creek Caravan Park**.
10. Soak in the magnesium pool at **Sunset Tourist Park, Mount Isa** to ease muscle tension and unwind.

LONGREACH | ILFRACOMBE
ISISFORD | EMMET | YARAKA

Longreach Region

If you are serious about discovering our region, one night is simply not enough. Extend your stay to experience our part of the Outback

Let us entertain you...



experience@longreach.qld.gov.au
(07) 4658 4141 and (07) 4658 4142
experiencelongreach.com.au

Australia's Country Way

775km (QLD portion)



Stanthorpe - Warwick - Toowoomba - Kingaroy - Gayndah - Biloela - Mt Morgan - Rockhampton - Yeppoon

Condition: 2WD; sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

Follow the Great Dividing Range from NSW through Queensland on Australia's Country Way

Ten of the Best:

1. Taste delicious cold climate food and wine, **Stanthorpe**
2. Smell the roses, admire original architecture in **Warwick**
3. Experience **Warwick** Rodeo, Australia's most famous
4. Make your way to **Toowoomba's** Picnic Point Parklands
5. Learn about peanuts, even pick some in **Kingaroy**
6. Enjoy fresh juice and take a selfie at the Big Orange, **Gayndah**
7. Wander through the RM Williams Bush Learning Centre, **Eidsvold**
8. Discover amazing Silo Art at the MungBean Company, **Biloela**
9. Delight in the **Lady Musgrave Experience, Southern Great Barrier Reef**
10. Enjoy a steak in Australia's beef capital, **Rockhampton**

Outback Lap

875km (QLD portion)



Birdsville - Bedourie - Boulia - Dajarra - Mount Isa - Camooweal

Condition: 2WD with caution; sealed/unsealed

Best Months to Travel: April to October

The Queensland portion of this epic outback drive follows the trail of the drovers and cameleers

Ten of the Best:

1. Go racing in **Birdsville** with the horses or camels
2. Have a beer at the famous **Birdsville** Hotel
3. Immerse your body in the **Bedourie** Artesian Spa
4. Delve into the mysterious lights at **Boulia** Min Min Encounter
5. Discover Indigenous culture in **Dajarra**
6. Experience breathtaking thrills at the **Mount Isa** Rodeo
7. Book an underground mine tour; visit Outback at Isa Café, **Mount Isa**
8. Enjoy a delicious meal at the **Bufs Club, Mount Isa**
9. Take a guided tour through the Droving Heritage Centre, **Camooweal**
10. Explore the **Camooweal** Caves National Park



Innamincka - Thargomindah - Cunnamulla - St George - Moonie - Dalby - Toowoomba - Brisbane

Condition: 2WD; sealed to the QLD border

Best Months to Travel: April to October

Explore diverse cultures and experience sustainable tourism on this 1300km of adventure

Ten of the Best:

1. View the Bourke and Wills Dig Tree, take a selfie, at **Innamincka**
2. Access **Thargomindah** Artesian Hydro Plant Tour through Visitor Info Centre
3. Take a seven-day Desert Gateway Dirt Bike tour, **Thargomindah**
4. Swim, fish, fossick; take a mud bath; camp under the stars in **Eulo**
5. Say G'day to the **Cunnamulla** Fellow; go soak in the Hot Springs
6. Explore Indigenous culture with Nullawokka Tours, **Bollon**
7. Catch a cod in the Inland Fishing Capital, **St George**
8. Grab a selfie alongside the Big Yabbie in **Moonie**
9. Set up camp at the delightful **Lake Broadwater**
10. Treat yourself in Queensland's Garden City, **Toowoomba**



Cunnamulla Hot Springs



SUNSET TOURIST PARK MOUNT ISA

Nestled alongside a spring fed creek, Sunset Tourist Park is conveniently located off the highway, while still being close to town.

Our pet friendly park has a magnesium pool and free weekly inhouse events. Huge camp kitchen, Laundry and Dump point. "We'll tell you where to go" offering trip planning and tour bookings with our knowledgeable, local staff.

Come and experience what that good old fashioned outback hospitality is like at the only locally owned and operated park in Mount Isa.

SUNSET TOURIST PARK MOUNT ISA

14 Sunset Drive Mount Isa, QLD 4825
 P: 07 4743 7668 | E: ask@sunsettop.com.au
 Office Hours: 7 days a week 8am - 6pm



Outback at Isa - your one-stop-shop Visitor Information Centre. With tours, maps, local advice, café, and gift shop, you'll get more than a visit - you'll get a genuine Outback experience. Visit Outback at Isa and start your Outback adventure today.

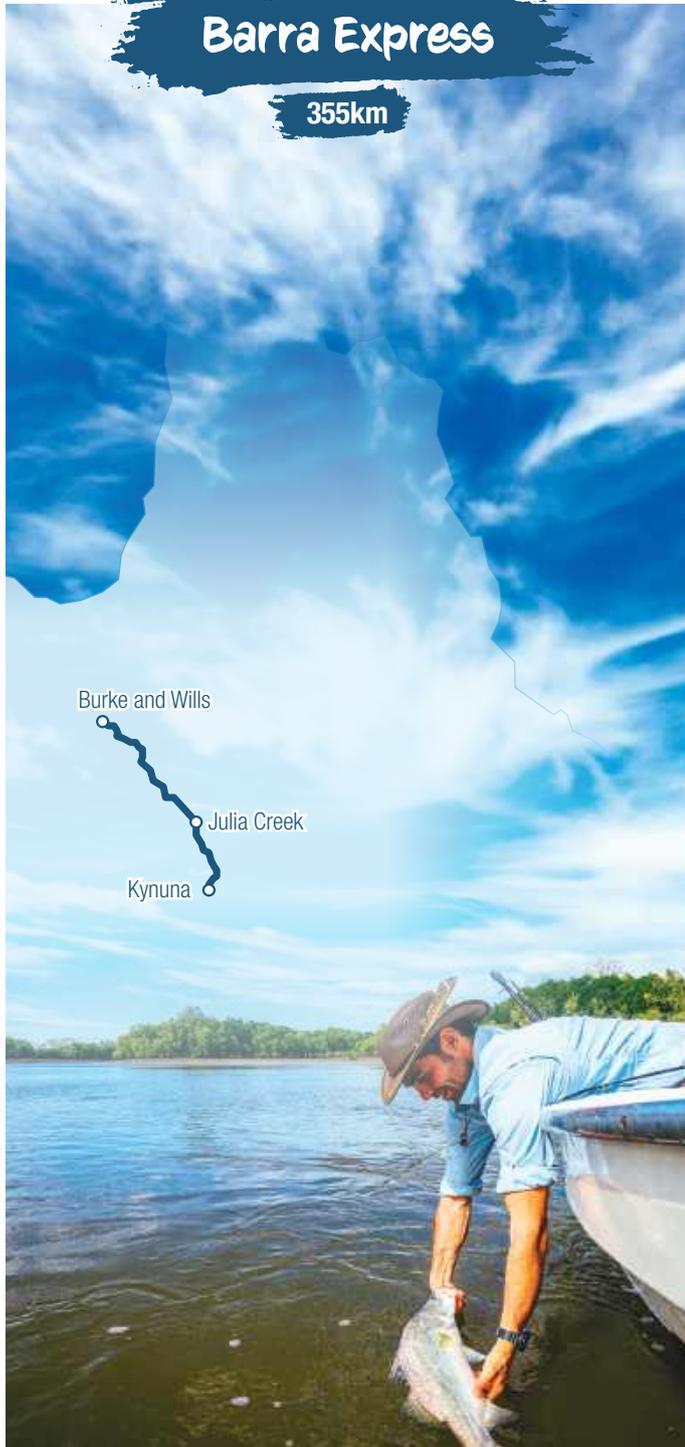


OUTBACK AT ISA

(07) 4749 1555 | outbackatisa.com.au
 info@outbackatisa.com.au
 19 Marian Street, Mount Isa QLD, 4825

Barra Express

355km



Burke and Wills
Julia Creek
Kynuna

Kynuna - Julia Creek - Burke & Wills Junction

Condition: Sealed

Best Months to Travel: March to November

Spend more time fishing and less time driving by hopping on 'The Barra Express', the fastest fully-sealed inland route to the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Ten of the Best:

1. Join Banjo Paterson's ghost and step into Matilda country at **Kynuna**
2. Recite the famous poem at Swagman's Billabong, 1.8km east of **Kynuna**
3. Grab a cold drink at the famous Blue Heeler Hotel, **Kynuna**
4. Visit **Combo Waterhole** Conservation Park, 160 km further south
5. Indulge in an artesian bath, **Julia Creek**
6. Have some fun at **Julia Creek** swimming pool and water park
7. Feed an endangered dunnart at **Julia Creek**
8. Take part in a virtual helicopter muster at **Julia Creek**
9. Enjoy a Bush Dinner at **Julia Creek** Caravan Park
10. Meet outback truckers at the **Burke and Wills Roadhouse**

Rural Getaway

420km (QLD portion)



Mundubberra
Jandowae
Dalby
Brisbane
Inglewood
Yetman
Texas
Warialda

Texas - Millmerran - Dalby - Mundubberra

Condition: Sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

Stretching from Warialda in northern NSW to Mundubberra in QLD, the Rural Getaway is the quiet alternative, perfect for slowing down and enjoying the ride

Ten of the Best:

1. Stop at the inspiring Spirit of **Texas** sculpture
2. Call into the interactive **Texas** Rabbit Works Museum
3. Cool off at Lake Coolmunda, **Inglewood**
4. Step back in time at the **Inglewood** Heritage Centre and Tobacco Museum
5. Head out from **Dalby** to the pristine Bunya Mountains
6. Take a tour of the heritage listed Jimbour Homestead near **Dalby**
7. Fish for yellow belly and bass at **Lake Boondooma**
8. See three rivers meet at **Mundubberra**
9. Admire the **Mundubberra** Pump Station Art
10. Hike through the Auburn River National Park 40kms from **Mundubberra**

Dawson Highway

500km



Rockhampton - Biloela - Banana - Moura - Rolleston - Springsure - Emerald

Condition: Sealed

Best Months to Travel: All year

Take in the magnificent sandstone wonders on a wandering road trip from Rockhampton to Emerald

Ten of the Best:

1. Catch live bull riding at **Rockhampton's** Great Western Hotel
2. Step back in time at the mining village of **Mt Morgan**
3. Visit historic Kilburnie and Greycliffe Homesteads near **Biloela**
4. Detour to **Monto** and **Three Moons** for amazing silo art
5. Camp on the banks of the Dawson River at **Moura**
6. Travel from **Rolleston** to the sandstone wonders of Carnarvon NP
7. Explore the Old Rainworth Fort and Stone Store south of **Springsure**
8. Check out the world's largest sunflower painting in **Emerald**
9. Relax in the beautiful Botanic Gardens in **Emerald**
10. Go fishing at Lake Maraboon near **Emerald**

Natural Sciences Loop

995km



Charleville - Quilpie - Eromanga - Thargomindah - Cunnamulla - Charleville

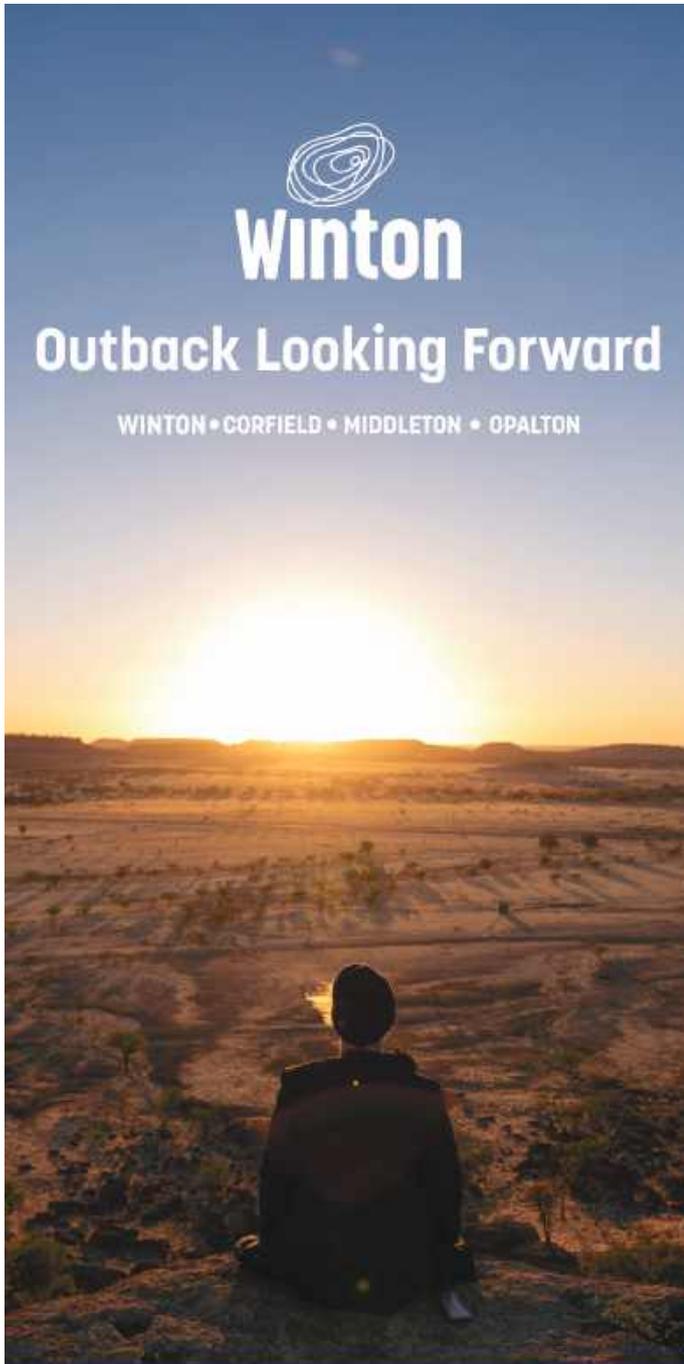
Condition: 2WD with caution; sealed/minor unsealed

Best Months to Travel: April to October

Be inspired by the natural beauty of central Queensland

Ten of the Best:

1. Have an up-close Bilby encounter at **Charleville** Bilby Experience
2. Star gaze at the **Charleville** Cosmos Centre and Observatory
3. Picnic and fish for a yellow belly at Bulloo River, **Quilpie**
4. Take in the sunset from Baldy Rock, **Quilpie**
5. Meet huge dinosaur Cooper at **Eromanga** Natural History Museum
6. Detour for a cold beer at heritage listed **Noccundra** Hotel
7. Discover the historical hydro power plant in **Thargomindah**
8. Visit the Old Hospital and Old Gaol on a heritage walk, **Thargomindah**
9. Soak in artesian waters at **Cunnamulla** Hot Springs
10. Go birdwatching, kayaking and fishing at Warrego River, **Cunnamulla**



experiencewinton.com.au



Winton - Hughenden - Richmond

Condition: 2WD with caution; sealed/unsealed

Best Months to Travel: April to October

This is a must-drive for all dinosaur enthusiasts and budding palaeontologists

Ten of the Best:

1. Visit the Dinosaur Stampede National Monument, **Lark Quarry** south of Winton
2. Sing at the Waltzing Matilda Centre, **Winton**
3. Explore the Age of Dinosaurs Museum, **Winton**
4. Meet Hughie the Muttaborrasaurus at the Flinders Discovery Centre, **Hughenden**
5. Discover Porcupine Gorge on the Galah Creek, **Hughenden**
6. Take in the sunset from Mt Walker, **Hughenden**
7. Try hunting at one of **Richmond's** fossil hunting sites
8. Learn more dinosaur facts at Kronosaurus Korner, **Richmond**
9. Join a cattle station tour, **Richmond**
10. Call in to Cambridge Downs Heritage Display Centre, **Richmond**

Travelling with Pets



Pets are part of our family so of course we want to take them on our great Queensland driving adventure and the good news is there are a growing number of accommodation options that are pet friendly. Here are our tips for enjoyable travel with your furred (or feathered or scaled) friend.

Keep them safe

Queensland can be a hot place and dogs feel the heat more than us so keep them hydrated, don't leave them in a vehicle and protect their feet from hot pavements and sand (yes, you can even buy boots for your dog). In northern Queensland be mindful of crocodiles and keep your pets away from the water's edge. Other nasties to watch out for are Ehrlichiosis - a deadly tick-borne virus present in northern Queensland and poisons laid on rural properties for vermin control.

Keep them out

National Parks, for example, do not allow any pets, nor do many private landholders - please ask before taking your pet. During the months of November to April some Queensland beaches are closed to pets because of turtle nesting. Monitoring the nesting and then hatching of endangered turtles is a wonder to behold and no-one wants a dog inadvertently

digging up a nest. Always heed local warnings and advice.

Be Responsible

You know the drill: clean up after your pet, keep the noise down and respect the privacy of others.

Find a dog-sitter

Your dog may not be allowed in a National Park but that doesn't mean you should miss out. Pet-sitting, AKA Doggy Daycare, is becoming more and more popular with a growing number of services in towns across Queensland. Book your pet in for a day or two and give them a holiday of their own.

Have fun

From dog friendly beaches to offshore islands and from river cruises to public gardens there are many ways to incorporate your family friend into your holiday. You can even take them on the dinosaur trail at Hughenden or find dedicated agility/exercise parks in the smallest of towns such as at Barkly Park at Bororen.

Travelling with your pet?

Over 245 Queensland caravan parks now allow pets!*



*Before you pack a bag for your furry friend, get in touch with the parks you plan to visit as every park has its own pet policy.

Find a Pet Friendly Park



Drive Inland

Emerald



Had enough of the crowds and bright lights? Sick of beach sand getting in unwanted places? Looking for a holiday with a difference? Well, you're in luck.

Drive Inland has curated 40 road trips to guide you through the best of regional Queensland. Some trips require the investment of a week or so of time and wind along routes from southern capitals such as Sydney. Other trips are 20km jaunts showcasing the best features of an inland town. So, let's explore!

Heading south to north is Australia's Country Way stretching 1380km from Sydney to Rockhampton along the Great Dividing Range. Want to then head west from Rocky? How about the 580km Capricorn Way to Barcaldine, the gateway to dinosaurs.

Or if you'd prefer an epic east west road trip we can recommend the Adventure Way, 1397km from Brisbane to Innamincka in South Australia.

And while you're in the western part of Queensland why not discover Thargomindah on a 20km loop road? You'll soon find out what Paris, London and Thargo have in common (hint, it's got to do with street lighting).

Hungry? We've got some amazing gastronomic road trips. Take the 134km Grapes and Gourmets Drive from Nanango to Maidenwell or wander along 536km in the Scenic Rim on the Gourmet Country Escape.

Fancy some fishing? We've got the 349km Southern Inland Fishing Route through St George to Bollon, the 150km Fishing the Fitzroy Drive from Rockhampton to Point Alma and the 307km Fishing Trail Long Weekend from Yarraman to Boondooma.

Then we can guide you through opal fields at Yowah, rainforests at the Bunya Mountains, bird watching at Ban Ban Springs and luxury indulgences not far from Brisbane. What are you waiting for? Come and explore inland Queensland today!

drive INLAND

SAVOUR THE JOURNEY

From Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to the Southern Great Barrier Reef or the Outback, the journey is all about taking the time to explore roads less travelled.

driveinland.com.au



Bunya Mountains National Park



Girraween National Park



Tree of Knowledge, Barcaldine

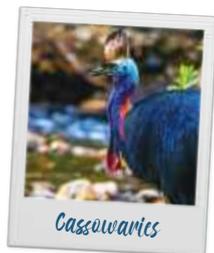
Image Credit: Tourism & Events Queensland



QLD Wildlife

WILDLIFE SAFETY

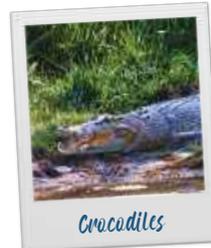
Queensland is rich with an abundance of wildlife, from the cuddly to the bitey, and while most encounters with our native animals will be memorable for all the right reasons here are a few that could pose a threat.



Cassowaries

CASSOWARIES

These tall (up to 180cm), flightless birds of the tropics are resplendent in jet-black plumage with bright blue and purple neck feathers (wattles). Make sure you are "cass-o-wary" when exploring their habitat and keep a safe distance if you're lucky enough to see one as they can be unpredictable and territorial.



Crocodiles

CROCODILES

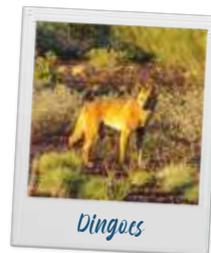
Did you know saltwater crocodiles can grow up to 6m long? Or that they can hold their breath underwater for an hour and a half? Crocodiles are an ancient and fascinating species, but they can also be dangerous so be croc-wise: obey warning signs, don't swim where crocodiles are present and when fishing stand a few metres back from the water's edge.



Snakes

SNAKES

Yes, Australia has the most venomous snakes in the world, but you are unlikely to see one in your travels. However, you can take precautions to avoid bites. Wear boots and long pants and stick to cleared paths when walking and if you see a snake, stop and let it slither away. If bitten apply a pressure bandage and seek immediate medical help.



Dingos

DINGOES

They're just cuddly dogs right? Wrong. Our beautiful yellow dingoes can be dangerous. K'gari (Fraser Island) is famous for its dingoes, where it is a pleasure to see them in their natural environment, but it is also important to be dingo-safe. Stay close to children, do not walk alone, do not run or jog and never attempt to feed a dingo.



Kangaroos

KANGAROOS

Our kangaroos are generally harmless. However, they pose a risk to drivers. Kangaroos are most active at dawn and dusk, so avoid driving after sunset and before sunrise where possible, to prevent accidents on the road



Jellyfish

JELLYFISH

Northern Australia's oceans are home to some dangerous marine stingers, such as the box jellyfish and Irukandji. Found from Tropical North Queensland to Gladstone between October/November and May/June, swimmers should wear protective suits to minimise the risk. If stung, use vinegar, remove tentacles, and seek medical advice.

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 TRAVELLERS

Tips to The Tip

The Tip



From ten days to three weeks a trip to The Tip is a journey that will put your 4WD skills to the test on the adventure of a life-time. To fully enjoy the experience (and to keep safe) remember the military expression: "Proper Planning and Preparation Prevents Piss Poor Performance"!

Before you even pack do your **research**. This may involve watching videos, reading reviews, studying maps and talking to others who have travelled these roads. Learn all you can so when the unexpected happens ... well you've been expecting it.

Next you need to get your vehicle **off-road ready**. Pay particular attention to suspension (there will be lots of bumps), brakes, tyres and engine water-protection (for all those creek crossings). Then add recovery gear, an extra tyre and spare air filters because dust is going to get EVERYWHERE.

The Cape has **limited mobile reception** so installing a UHF is a top idea for communication. Because you won't get internet most of the time it's a good idea to carry paper maps as well as electronic ones. Also carry cash - when patchy internet services fail remote services may not be able to accept your credit card.

Time to pack? Not quite. What **time of year** are you travelling? To avoid the wet season (when roads may be closed) it's advised to travel between May and October. The countryside may be greener in May, but the water crossings may be shallower in October. July school holidays will be crowded.

OK, let's hit the road (you are packed aren't you?). Although it is possible to take your 2WD along the Peninsula Development Road to Weipa, heading further north to The Tip will require a 4WD. But don't let videos of crossing the infamous Gunshot Creek put you off – there are **alternate routes** around the most challenging sections.

There are some beautiful **swimming holes** along the Cape (Fruit Bat Falls is stunning), however there are crocodiles found throughout the region. Be croc wise and obey all warning signs.

And before you know it, you're at Pajinka. Congratulations, you've made it to the **northernmost tip** of Australia and crossed off that major bucket-list item.

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4x4 Adventure

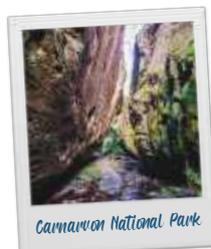
Taking your 4WD on one of Queensland's epic off-road adventures is almost a rite of passage for the Aussie road-tripper. Other than Cape York (see page 36) here are six of our favourites.



Moreton Island

MORETON ISLAND

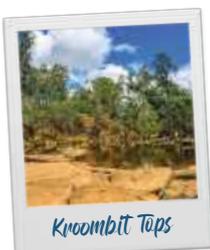
As the third largest sand island in the world Moreton Island is sure to satisfy your 4WD desires. Must see hot spots include the Big and Little Sandhills, the Eastern Beach and the Desert. The Desert provides a 4WD challenge no matter how many times you've been to the island as the winds constantly move the sands and change the shape of the dunes.



Carnarvon National Park

CARNARVON NATIONAL PARK

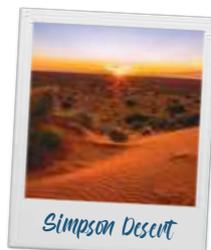
Carnarvon Gorge is the showpiece attraction of this National Park but those with a 4WD and love of the road less travelled will find other delights. Visit the Mount Moffatt, Salvator Rosa and Ka Ka Mundi sections of the Park for soaring sandstone cliffs, hidden caves, mahogany forests and the legend of the Kenniffs - Australia's last bushrangers.



Kroombit Tops

KROOMBIT TOPS

At Kroombit Tops, southwest of Gladstone, you will find narrow and steep dirt roads leading to old gold mining areas, unmarked graves, wild horses, secluded camp spots and spectacular mountain views. What are you waiting for? With track names such as Razorback you know you'll be in wild country and there's even the wreck of a WWII Liberator bomber to explore.



Simpson Desert

SIMPSON DESERT

For real desert, the Simpson Desert, in the far west of the state, is a bucket-list item. Heading west from Birdsville the adventure kicks off with the Simpson's largest sand-dune - Big Red - and then hops over hundreds more via the QAA line to Poeppel Corner where Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory converge.



QLD's Wild Country

QUEENSLAND'S WILD COUNTRY

Find some of Queensland's best wild country driving in Southern Downs. Challenge yourself in the remote Sundown National Park south-west of Stanthorpe or undertake a wild adventure near the Goomburra section of Main Range National Park, north of Warwick. Thrill seekers can also enjoy 4-wheel driving at a number of well-maintained private properties in the region.



CREB Track

CREB TRACK

An alternative route between Daintree and Cooktown is the muddy and slippery CREB track, suitable only for experienced off-roaders. Rain will make this track even more of a challenge but with picturesque creek crossings, verdant rainforest and the Roaring Meg Falls, it is also a stunning part of the country to experience.

Find your next adventure in QLD'S *Wild* COUNTRY

Girraween National Park



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Three Moon Silo

Travel Tips

Queensland is a BIG place and on the coast and in major towns you will have all the comforts of home but as you venture into rural and remote areas distances between services will increase. Here are our best tips for a worry-free road trip:

- Buy a Telstra SIM card. Mobile and internet can be patchy and often the only service provider is Telstra.
- Carry a satellite phone in remote areas where there is often no mobile service at all.
- Equip your vehicle with a UHF radio. This can act as another form of communication.
- Give way to trucks and large vehicles when travelling on one-lane bitumen roads.
- Beware of wandering cattle on unfenced roads especially at night.
- Realise that unsealed roads may be closed after rain.
- Be prepared for corrugations and loose rocks on unsealed roads.
- Keep your fuel tank full. It can be a long way between service stations.
- Ensure your vehicle is mechanically sound and investigate roadside/vehicle insurance.
- Check the weather before you leave.
- Always ask permission before entering private (including Indigenous) land.
- Do not leave toilet paper or empty toilet cassettes in the bush.
- Tell someone where you are going - especially if travelling solo.
- Book accommodation and tours ahead to avoid disappointment.
- Carry water on every drive.

USEFUL WEBSITES

- Caravanning Queensland - caravanqld.com.au
- Caravan & Camping Information - letsqocaravanandcamping.com.au
- Department Transport & Main Roads - tmr.qld.gov.au
- Drive Queensland - drivequeensland.com
- Queensland Fire & Emergency Services - qfes.qld.gov.au
- Queensland Health - health.qld.gov.au
- Queensland National Parks - qld.gov.au/camping
- Toll Roads - linkt.com.au
- Towing Information - caravantowingguide.com.au
- Traffic & Travel Information - qldtraffic.qld.gov.au
- Weather - bom.gov.au/qld
- Plugshare App - plugshare.com
- Fires Near Me App - qfes.qld.gov.au/Current-Incidents

QLD Sealed & Unsealed Road Map



LEGEND	
Sealed Road	—
Unsealed Road	- - -
Main Road	— (Blue)
Main Highway	— (Grey)





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