

Queensland (QLD)

Queensland is the sunshine state of Australia. Plenty of beaches, islands, rainforests and the Great Barrier Reef, combined with a subtropical climate make this state to one of the most popular holiday destinations for Australian and International visitors.



Queensland – Overview and Highlights –

- Brisbane – venue of the world exhibition 1988
- Gold Coast – the Australian Miami
- Sunshine Coast – popular holiday destination
- Fraser Island – the worlds largest sand island - *World Heritage listed in 1992*
- Bundaberg, Rockhampton, Mackay and Townsville
“launching pads” to the Great Barrier Reef
- Whitsunday Islands – a paradise for every sailor
- Hinchinbrook Island – an adventure for hikers and nature lovers
- Great Barrier Reef – the world’s largest coral reef
World Heritage listed in 1981
- Cairns – Kuranda, Tjapukai Aboriginal Centre, Tully River, Daintree NP,
Cape Tribulation, Mission Beach & Port Douglas, Cape York
- Outback – Mt. Isa, Longreach
- Climate Tables – Brisbane, Gold Coast, Whitsundays, Cairns

You will find more details, about the above mentioned attractions and activities in the following section. Additionally we have provided climate tables about different areas.



World Expo 1988 is the capital of
as the site for this exhibition and
and festivals in the city centre. The
useum as well as the **Queensla**
views of the city centre can be
e of the whole city area can be s



ng point for excursions to **Moreton Island**, **North Stradbroke**
ala Sanctuary as well as to the **Gold** and **Sunshine Coast**.

Moreton Island offers untouched nature bush tracks to waterfalls and beaches, regular
dolphin and shark sightings and lots of sandy ways which invite 4WD-lovers.

The “sand” island, **North Stradbroke Island** is an alternative to **Fraser Island**, and will get
you “off the beaten track”.



Sanctuary is an excellent opportunity to learn about popular wildlife from up close.



Surfers Paradise is the centre of the **Gold Coast** and is because of its many skyscrapers along the beach, often compared with the American Miami. **Dreamworld, Wet'n Wild, Warner Bros MovieWorld** and **SeaWorld** are the largest theme parks in Australia and offer fun for people of every age. The beach stretches more than 40 kilometres (25 miles) and is perfect for surfing while **Conrad Jupiters Casino** and



many clubs, bars and restaurants forming the perfect contrast at night. At **Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary** you can feed some of the local lorikeets and parrots. For those who enjoy nature, take a walk in the beautiful **Lamington National Park**.

Activities: Swimming, Surfing, Jet Ski, Fishing, Deep Sea Fishing, Sailing, Wind Surfing, Parasailing, Hiking, Horse Riding, Golf and

Tennis

The popular holiday destination **Sunshine Coast** is about an hours drive north of Brisbane.

Noosa Heads, the centre of this area offers some excellent beaches for surfers and swimmers, small coves and a national park where you can see often Koalas sleeping in the trees.



Not far from Noosa Heads are the **Glass House Mountains**, a spectacular group of volcanic peaks rising more than 300 metres from the coastal plain. This is a popular area for climbing and hiking.

Activities: Golf, Tennis, Surfing, Swimming, Horse Riding, Canoe Trips.



Fraser Island is the world's largest sand island and was included on the World Heritage list in 1992. Long stretches of sandy beaches are a challenge for every 4WD driver, but are not suitable for swimming because of regular shark sightings. However, there are plenty of opportunities to swim in more than 200 beautiful crystal clear lakes and streams. The most

popular are **Lake Wabby** and **Lake McKenzie**. A wide variety of hiking tracks and the chance to see some wildlife add to the attractions of Fraser Island. You can see the purest bred dingos (wild dog) or maybe a goanna (large reptile); both of them should be watched from some distance and not be fed. The sea around Fraser Island is breeding ground for Humpback Whales and offers a good opportunity to watch these fascinating creatures.



Access Points are Hervey Bay

The whole area of Northern Australia has two seasons. The Dry (April till October) and The Wet (November till March) In the Wet it is common for parts of this region to be completely cut off and streets will flood and may be impossible to pass.

Another reason to avoid travelling in the wet season to Northern Australia is the Box Jelly Fish, which is very dangerous to humans and is active during this time in the ocean around Northern Australia.

Bundaberg, Rockhampton, Mackay and Townsville are some towns you will come through on your journey along the East Coast.

Bundaberg (nickname: Bundeel) is popular for its rum. The distillery offers guided tours with a taste of the different kinds of rum at the end. **Lady Elliot** and **Lady Musgrave Island** are the southernmost points of the Great Barrier Reef, both well known for excellent scuba dive and snorkel opportunities.

Access Point: Bundaberg

Rockhampton (nickname Rocky) is located on the Tropic of Capricorn and proclaims itself the 'beef capital of Australia'. This is the perfect chance for every European steak lover to partake without having to worry about mad cow disease. Rocky is a good starting point for a visit to **Great Keppel Island**, one of the most popular holiday islands in Australia. The island offers plenty of activities to fill a couple of days. There is a wide variety of hiking trails and brilliant opportunities for all kind of water sports as well as a beautiful marine life which invites to snorkel or to scuba dive.



Access Point: Rosslyn Bay

The small and charming township of **Mackay** forms the access point for excursions to **Brampton Island** with many superb hiking trails and water sport activities.

Townsville is home to a huge Aquarium with an outstanding display of a large living coral reef, hundreds of reef fish, sharks, rays and much more marine life. From Townsville you can



travel to **Magnetic Island** a relatively large island with four villages. A very popular mode of transport on this island are mini mokes by which you drive to the starting points of your hikes or to one of the many little coves which invite you for a swim or picnic.



The **Whitsunday Islands** consist of 74 islands and are a Mecca for every sailor, scuba diver or anyone who likes snorkelling. Probably the best known islands are **Hayman Island**, one of most luxurious holiday destinations, **Lindeman Island**, the only 'Club Med'



within Australia, **Hamilton Island** and **South Mole Island**. However, there are also some unpopulated islands where you can set up a bush camp, relax and let the world go by. The underwater world around many islands offers fascinating marine life and coral displays, perfect for snorkelling and for scuba divers.

Access Point: Airlie Beach and Shute Harbour

Hinchinbrook Island an untouched landscape is a highlight for hikers and nature lovers. Tours range in length from day excursions to longer hikes over several days, with different grades of difficulty available. These hikes will bring you through rainforests, to waterfalls and along beaches.

Access Point: Cardwell and Lucinda

The **Great Barrier Reef** is the world's largest living coral reef and stretches over 2000 kilometres (1248 miles) from Bundaberg in the South, just about to the west coast of Papua New Guinea in the north. Cairns is the main access point for tours to the outer Reef and offers a variety of opportunities to experience this fascinating underwater world. You can go snorkelling or scuba diving, or see this unique diversity of fish and corals with your feet dry, from a glass boat.



You can reach the charming village **Kuranda** by a *historic train ride* through the **Atherton Tablelands** or with the *modern Skyway*. A visit to the **Tjapukai Dance Theatre**, an excellent Aboriginal Centre offering great insight into the history and culture of the indigenous people of Australia.

There is a rafting tour on the **Tully River**, or an excursion to the rainforests of the **Daintree National Park** or **Cape Tribulation**, which add to the variety of this region. **Mission Beach** or **Port**



Douglas are good spots for visitors who want to combine the diversity of this region with a relaxing beach holiday.



The Route Cairns – Cape York is only accessible for 4WD cars and most car rental companies allow their vehicles only on certain routes.

The route from **Cairns to Cape York** is a real adventure and the recommended travel time is June as the roads are dry and the forests still lush and green. The tour passes some beautiful waterfalls, national parks, aboriginal communities, and hilly landscapes and offers some hazardous river crossings and has a surprise on every route.



The **Outback of Queensland** stretches over a huge land area and this vast plain is an attraction in itself. Enjoy the stars on the clear nights of the Outback with the fascinating sky of the Southern Hemisphere. The Mining town **Mt. Isa** is located about 900 kilometres (562 miles) southwest of Rockhampton and is the industrial centre of this region. **The Mine**, the 270 metre high melting tower, the **Mt. Isa Rotary Rodeo** (August), as well as the warm and open hospitality of the people are the main attractions of this mining town. The town of **Longreach** is situated about 700 kilometres (437 miles) west of Rockhampton and is famous for **the Stockman's Hall of Fame & Outback Heritage Centre**. This excellent exhibition displays the European settlement in different periods and honours the early explorers, as well as the important role of the indigenous people of this huge continent.

Climate Tables

Please note, that the following charts show average temperatures.

Brisbane	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	29	29	28	27	24	21	21	22	24	26	27	29
Minimum °C	21	21	20	17	14	11	10	10	13	16	18	20
Maximum °F	84.2	84.2	82.4	80.6	75.2	69.8	69.8	71.6	75.2	78.8	80.6	84.2
Minimum °F	69.8	69.8	68	62.6	57.2	51.8	50	50	55.4	60.8	64.4	68
Rainfall mm	169	177	152	86	84	82	66	45	34	102	95	123
Raindays	14	14	15	11	10	8	7	7	7	10	10	11

Gold Coast	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	28	28	27	25	23	21	20	21	22	24	26	26
Minimum °C	20	20	19	17	13	11	9	10	12	15	17	19
Maximum °F	82.4	92.4	80.6	77	73.4	69.8	68	69.8	71.6	75.2	78.8	78.8
Minimum °F	68	68	66.2	62.6	55.4	51.8	48.2	50	53.6	59	62.6	66.2
Rainfall mm	184	181	213	114	124	122	96	103	49	108	137	166
Raindays	14	15	16	14	10	9	7	9	9	11	11	13

Whitsundays	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	30	29	28	27	24	22	21	22	25	27	29	30
Minimum °C	23	23	22	20	17	14	13	14	16	20	22	23
Maximum °F	86	84.2	82.4	80.6	75.2	71.6	69.8	71.6	77	80.6	84.2	86
Minimum °F	73.4	73.4	71.6	68	62.6	57.2	55.4	57.2	60.8	68	71.6	73.4
Rainfall mm	293	311	303	134	104	59	47	30	15	38	87	175
Raindays	16	17	17	15	13	7	7	6	5	7	9	12

Region Cairns	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Maximum °C	31	31	30	29	28	26	26	27	28	29	31	31
Minimum °C	24	24	23	22	20	18	17	18	19	21	22	23
Maximum °F	87.8	87.8	86	84.2	68	78.8	78.8	80.6	82.4	84.2	87.8	87.8
Minimum °F	75.2	75.2	73.4	71.6	68	64.4	62.6	64.4	66.2	69.8	71.6	73.4
Rainfall mm	413	435	442	191	94	49	28	27	36	38	90	175
Raindays	18	19	20	17	14	10	9	8	8	8	10	13