

# Not to be missed in Queensland

## Queensland, the Sunshine state

Queensland is known for its sunshine, beaches and tropical islands. It is the second largest state in Australia with Brisbane as its capital. [Discover the best Queensland here.](#)

### The Great Barrier Reef

The [Great Barrier Reef](#) is the largest reef in the world and extends over [2000 km long and 80 km wide](#). It forms a barrier parallel to the coastline forming lagoons in between. It is home to [thousands of marine species](#) and is unique in the world having existed for thousands of years. This exceptional area is declared a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) and is very fragile and must be protected and conserved!

### Gold Coast

The Gold Coast is made up of [40 km of white, sandy beaches south of Brisbane](#). The largest resort, and most upscale area, is Surfers Paradise. The [Lamington National Park](#) is a reserve of exceptional subtropical forests with ancient beech trees mostly located inland with hundreds of hiking trails and a large number of birds to observe.

### Sunshine Coast

The Sunshine Coast is a succession of [casual beach resorts](#) with white, sandy beaches. It covers about 50 km north of Brisbane. Noosa Heads National Park is 400 hectares in size and home to the iconic koala bear. Its paths lead to pretty beaches and coves.

### Fraser Island

This island is classified as a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#). There is a unique wildlife and are many lovely lakes ideal for swimming. On Fraser Island you can lie back on the soft sand and admire the milky way while counting the shooting stars.

### Townsville

Townsville is one of the [most populated cities in Queensland](#). Set amidst dense forests at the edge of heavenly seashores, it is a pleasant destination to enjoy lovely beaches and to visit Magnetic Island located just 8 km from the coast.

### Byron Bay

Byron Bay is a surfer city which offers a [mix of dynamic marine activities](#) and peaceful [coastal relaxation with beaches](#), cliffs, lighthouses and panoramic views. At Byron Bay we really enjoy our holidays!

### North Stradbroke Island

"Straddie", as the island is known, is [40 km long and 10 km](#) and just off the [coast of Brisbane](#). The Australians appreciate it as getaway weekend destination. Enjoy its fine, white sand, dramatic cliffs and turquoise waters. The south part of the island is much wilder than the north.

### Bunya Mountains

Close to Brisbane is the [Bunya Mountains National Park](#), which includes much of the Bunya Mountain Range. The park houses an incredible flora and fauna including kangaroos, wallabies and parrots.

## Welford National Park

One must leave the Queensland east coast and head inland to reach this park with its southern border on the banks of the Barcoo River. It's a park in the Outback that is perfect for exploration by vehicle and has interesting flora and fauna.

## Mount Isa

Mount Isa is the largest town in the semi-desert area of Queensland. It's industry revolves around lead, copper, zinc and silver mining which began in the early twentieth century. Underground mine tours are available.

## Daintree National Park et Cape Tribulation

The wet tropics of the Daintree National Park are classified as a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#). These lush forests have changed very little over time and are remnants of tropical forests which formerly covered a large part of the continent. The flora is unique and some of the plants may actually be hundreds of years old. After the Amazon Rainforest, Daintree is the largest expanse of rainforest on Earth.