

INTERNATIONAL MARKET UPDATE
NOVEMBER 2026

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF PUTTING THE GOLD COAST ON THE MAP

We recently celebrated 50 years of tourism on the Gold Coast. What began with the first Gold Coast Visitors Bureau in 1975 is now an $8.5 billion visitor economy, welcoming 14.7 million visitors in the year ending June 2026.

Behind every milestone are the people and businesses who helped make it happen, and that collaboration will shape what comes next.

Explore 50 years of the Gold Coast tourism story.

LEARN MORE



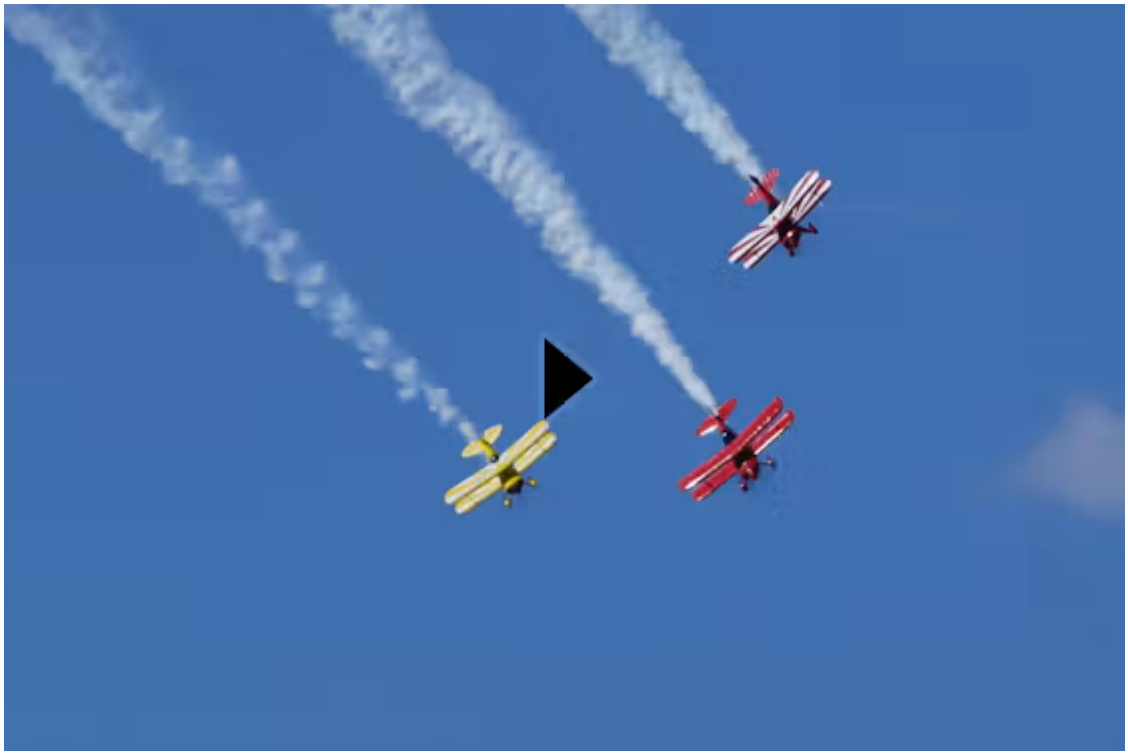
GOLD COAST LIGHT RAIL STAGE 3 NOW OPEN

CONNECTING BROADBEACH TO BURLEIGH HEADS

The Gold Coast Light Rail is now open between Broadbeach and Burleigh Heads, with eight new stations putting the southern beaches within a 16-17 minute tram ride of Broadbeach. Visitors can now travel in one continuous journey from Helensvale through Surfers Paradise to Burleigh Heads, and with 50-cent fares across tram, train and bus, the extended network reinforces the Gold Coast as a connected, value-for-money destination.

For a station-by-station guide click **“Learn More”** below.

LEARN MORE



PACIFIC AIRSHOW GOLD COAST SECURED THROUGH TO 2028

The Pacific Airshow Gold Coast, held over Surfers Paradise from 14-16 August 2026, is confirmed for 2027 and 2028. This year's show featured the RAAF F-35A Lightning II alongside the Roulettes, heritage warbirds and the US Marine Corps MV-22 Osprey.

The 2028 event alone is forecast to bring around 97,000 visitors and more than $28 million to Queensland. With two more years secured, operators can build product and campaigns around it.

LEARN MORE

WHAT'S NEW ON THE GOLD COAST

NEW PLACES TO STAY

The Gold Coast's accommodation offering continues to grow, with new properties creating even more choice and fresh experiences.



QUEST SOUTHPORT

A new apartment hotel in the heart of Southport, with 90 apartments from studios to three bedrooms, plus a rooftop pool and gym. Walking distance to Broadwater Parklands and Australia Fair and with easy G:link access.



THE STAR RESIDENCES TOWER 2

The newest accommodation at The Star Gold Coast on Broadbeach Island is open for bookings. The 65-storey tower pairs apartment-style living with luxury hotel services and full access to the precinct's dining, bars and entertainment.



BOUNCE SURFERS PARADISE

A new 470-bed social hostel and hotel in the heart of Surfers Paradise, combining boutique-style hotel design with the vibrant energy of a social resort. Highlights include a Mediterranean-style rooftop pool club and bar with sunset views.

NEW PLACES TO EAT, DRINK & EXPERIENCE THE GOLD COAST

New restaurants, bars and experiences are adding even more depth to the Gold Coast's visitor offering, showcasing local produce, fresh flavours and some of the city's best locations.



VALENTINA, SURFERS PARADISE

A new beachfront Mediterranean restaurant at Peppers Soul, on the former Hyde Paradiso site, serving local seafood, house-made pasta and shared plates against 180-degree ocean views.



COOLY BREEZE, COOLANGATTA

This rooftop restaurant on the 13th floor of Beachcomber International Resort has reopened after a recent renovation, with a contemporary Mediterranean menu and panoramic southern Gold Coast views.



LUNE CROISSANTERIE, PACIFIC FAIR

Melbourne's Lune Croissanterie has opened its first Gold Coast store, with its signature pastries and rotating monthly specials.



RIVERHOUSE, SOUTHPORT

Chefs Kristian Howard and Lilian Bourcet have taken culinary leadership of this waterfront venue, which is introducing a new menu built on premium Australian produce and local seafood, alongside a new private jetty.

THE GOLD COAST AFTER DARK



CURRUMBIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

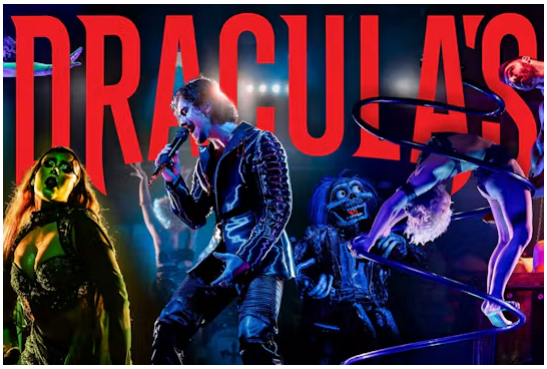
KOALAS BY TWILIGHT

A new evening experience pairing special koala moments with an arrival drink and canapés, before guests continue into the Astra Lumina illuminated night walk. Fridays and Saturdays from 5.45pm.



CURRUMBIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY
NEW QUOKKA NOOK

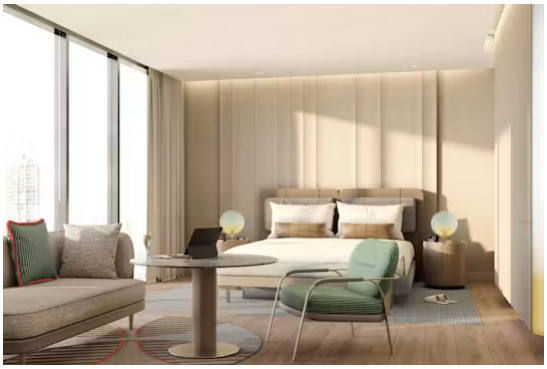
By day, there are new residents to meet at **Quokka Nook**, where two quokkas have just arrived, joining Shardul the **red panda.**



DRACULA'S GOLD COAST
ABYSS

Dracula's newest full-scale production combines live rock music and aerial acrobatics with the venue's iconic **Ghost Train and three-course dinner.**

COMING SOON



ANDAZ GOLD COAST
OPENING SOON

Hyatt's luxury lifestyle brand makes its Australian debut in Broadbeach, with 202 rooms and suites in the same tower as The Star Residences, plus four dining and drinking venues including the Andaz Pool Club. **Now taking bookings from November 2026.**



DREAMWORLD, LOST MINE MAYHEM, COOMERA
OPENING LATE 2027

A near-$20 million immersive adventure taking guests beneath Rivertown in search of a lost gold mine, with new ATV-style ride vehicles and a brand new storyline.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Queensland Tourism Week | 4-6 November**
- **Marketplace UK & Europe | 16-18 November**
- **Queensland Is Calling (India) | 22-27 November**

EXPERIENCE
GOLDCOAST.

Experience Gold Coast acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are situated, the Kombumerri families of the Yugambeh Language Region. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, and recognise their continuing connections to the lands, waters and their extended communities throughout Southeast Queensland.

Privacy Policy
This email is intended solely for the use of the addressee and may contain information that is confidential or privileged.

UNSUBSCRIBE