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YEAR OF ACCESSIBLE TOURISM



To continue the work of the Queensland Government's [Year of Accessible Tourism](#), we are pleased to share new resources to help you book travellers with accessibility needs to enjoy the Gold Coast.

City of Gold Coast and Destination Gold Coast's [Accessible Visitor Guide](#) – a 158-page resource showcasing just some of the accommodation, transportation and attractions on the Gold Coast leading the way in this space.

21 Accessible Audio Guides are now live, which were created by leading Queensland based operator, [VacayIt](#). The Accessible Audio Guides are now available on the VacayIt App (downloadable via the Google Play and Apple App stores) proving an immersive audio experience of the Gold Coast for travellers who are blind or have low vision.

[Click here](#) to read the recent feature from the India Times regarding the Gold Coast initiatives. For full information see our website: [DGC'S Accessible Gold Coast](#).

WHAT'S NEW



THE IMPERIAL HOTEL

A new era in luxury hotels, taking over the site of the iconic Palazzo Versace. The Imperial Hotel Gold Coast is nestled between the Pacific Ocean and the Gold Coast Broadwater. The hotel aims to redefine luxury hospitality, building on Palazzo Versace's 21-year reputation. Retaining Italian architecture, furnishings, tableware, chandeliers, restaurants & Imperial Suites, the hotel rooms will undergo renovations to reflect the property's new beginnings. [Click](#) for more info, trade enquiries: reservations@theimperialgc.com.au.

PARADISE COUNTRY FARMSTAY

Village Roadshow Theme Parks has recently announced new Eco Tents have been built at Paradise Country Farmstay. Guests wanting a taste of the Great Australian Outdoors, can now book the ultimate family camping adventure! With the option to retreat in one of these beautifully decked out Eco Tents or they can participate in a variety of exclusive Farmstay experiences including sunrise and sunset farm activities such as animal feeding, egg collecting, cow milking, and nightly campfires. [Click](#) for more info, trade enquiries: internationalsales@vrtp.com.au.



PINEAPPLE TOURS

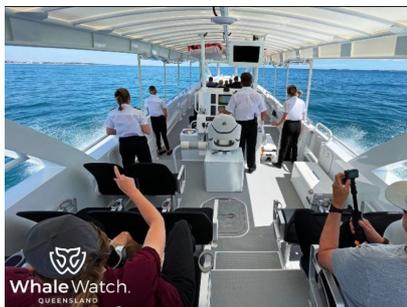
For travellers looking to explore the Gold Coast hinterland, Pineapple Tours has launched a



Tamborine Mountain Hop On Hop Off Shuttle. Stopping at St Bernards, Australian Outback Opals, Cauldron Distillery and Tamborine Mountain Distillery. The driver will assist travellers in recommending stops while travelling around the mountain. [Click](#) for more info, trade enquiries: admin@pineappletraveltours.com.au

WHALE WATCH QUEENSLAND

A new tour operator on the Gold Coast this year, Whale Watch Queensland is a family owned and operated company. With state of the art vessels, departing from Surfers Paradise and offering personalised tours with smaller groups on board. Gold Coast whale watching season is from May to November. The humpback highway sees over 30,000 humpback whales migrating along the east coast of Australia each year. [Click](#) for more info, trade enquiries: contact@whalewatchqueensland.com.



KIFF & CULTURE ARTISAN SERIES

The newly created Artisan Series offers a fresh lineup of experiences designed to immerse travelers in leisurely encounters with local artisans. The bespoke tours encompass activities such as Dining with a MasterChef, Swimming with Humpback Whales, and Immersing in Surf Culture with a Former World Champion. [Click](#) for more info, trade enquiries: bookings@kiffandculture.com.au.



AVIATION UPDATE



BONZA

Gold Coast Airport is set to become Bonza's newest base from November, initially welcoming up to 70 additional flights each week to 11 destinations. The eight new routes will service the Gold Coast to Albury, Bundaberg, Darwin, Gladstone, Mackay, Mildura, Whitsunday Coast, Rockhampton and Townsville as well additional services to the Airport's existing Cairns, Avalon and Melbourne routes.

CATHAY PACIFIC

Increase to Cathay Pacific's direct flights from Hong Kong to Brisbane from four to six flights a week from December.

CHINA SOUTHERN

China Southern will resume flying Guangzhou to Brisbane from 17 Nov direct 4 times a week, increasing to daily departures from 8 December to 25 February 2024.

CHINA EASTERN

Shanghai to Brisbane will resume as a non-stop services on China Eastern from 31 October and will increase to daily from 8 Dec 23 for the peak travel season..

MARKET ACTIVITY

Destination Gold Coast participated in **Australia Marketplace North America** event in Los Angeles in August. Over 200 delegates from various travel agencies and wholesalers from North America attended. Tourism Australia's key insights from the event reveal a steady recovery in visitation to Australia, driven by the USA. Aviation capacity is set to reach 93% from Canada and 90% from the USA by year-end, with United Airlines expanding its direct services to Brisbane, increasing its San Fransico services to daily and adding a 3 x weekly LA service in December.



Our recent mission to Korea (Busan & Seoul) and Japan (Osaka & Tokyo) was a whirlwind of activity and resounding success. In just one week, we managed to engage with 20 suppliers, connecting them with over 300 travel agents, media representatives, and aviation partners.



HOT OFF THE PRESS

- [Australia's Gold Coast a hit among Indians thanks to these exciting places | Travel - Hindustan Times \(India\)](#)
- [Australia...like a boomerang, one is bound to return for more \[NSTTV\] \(Malaysia\)](#)
- [Guide to Gold Coast, Australia: Places to visit and things to do in 2023 \(buro247.my\) \(Malaysia\)](#)
- [This crème brûlée doughnut is the best sweet treat I've ever eaten | Stuff.co.nz \(NZ\)](#)
- [What it's like to stay at the most luxurious hotel on the Gold Coast | Stuff.co.nz \(NZ\)](#)
- [Easy Gold Coast hinterland rainforest hike: Start and end in luxury | Stuff.co.nz \(NZ\)](#)
- [Six of the best stays in Queensland's favourite playground | Stuff.co.nz \(NZ\)](#)
- [4 great places to eat and drink on the Gold Coast - NZ Herald \(NZ\)](#)
- [Bookmark This: Australia's Top Unmissable Destinations & Experiences \(travelandleisureasia.com\) \(Southeast Asia + India\)](#)

PRODUCT HIGHLIGHT



As a current subscriber to Destination Gold Coast's Travel Trade Newsletter, we'd like to stay friends, however if you wish to part ways you can unsubscribe on the link below or email international@destinationgoldcoast.com.

We love being friends with Travel Trade – if you have colleagues who would like to receive this newsletter, they can sign up [here](#).

#playgoldcoast



Destination 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.

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