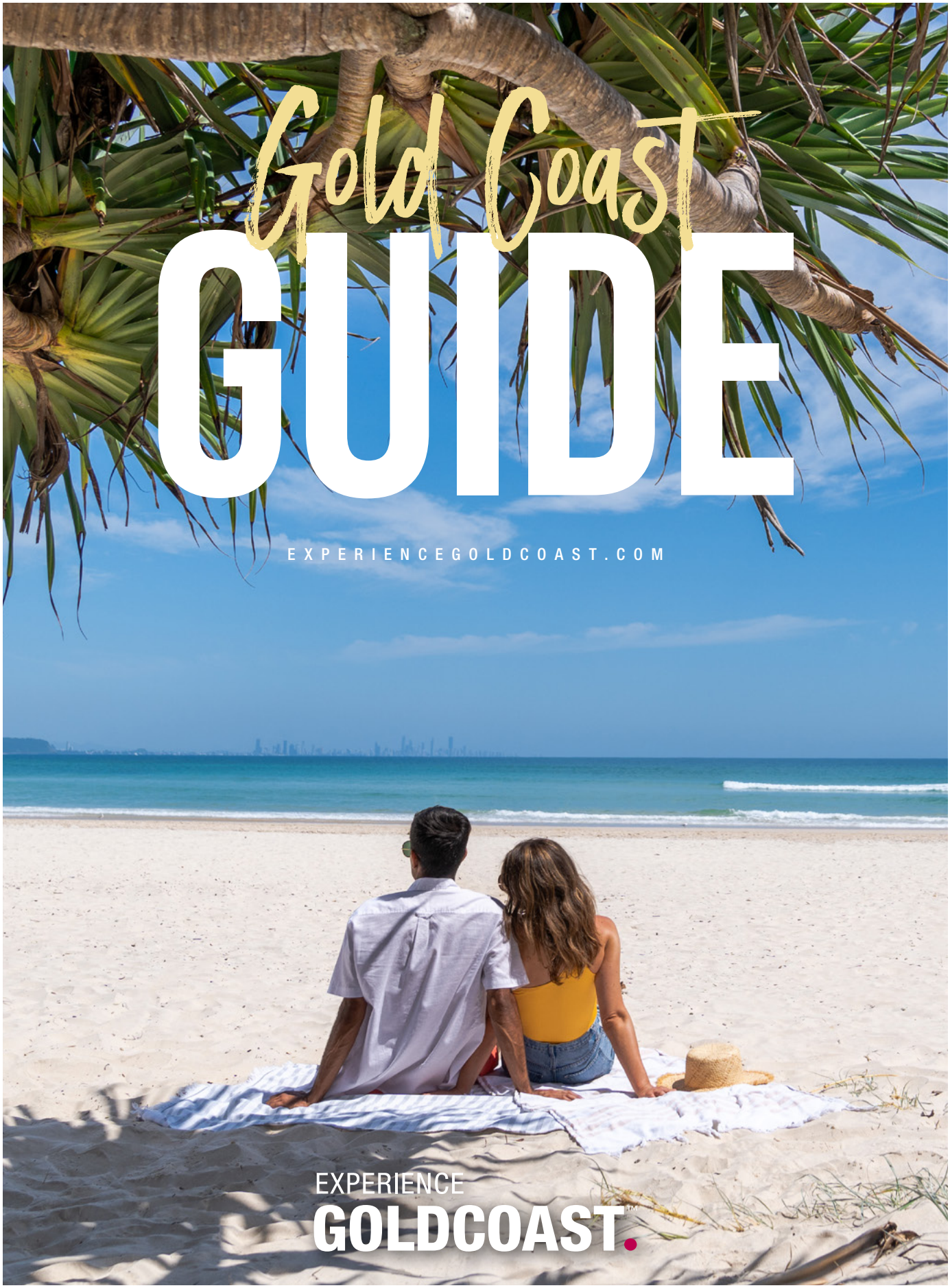

Gold Coast
GUIDE
EXPERIENCEGOLDCOAST.COM
EXPERIENCE
GOLDCOAST™

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

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.

Welcome TO THE GOLD COAST

The Gold Coast is celebrated worldwide for its picture-perfect mix of long sandy beaches, surf breaks and theme park thrills. Explore its laidback ocean-front neighbourhoods and you'll discover a vibrant food and drink scene. Wander off the beaten track and into the greenery of ancient rainforest, welcoming wildlife sanctuaries and hidden walking trails. **It's yours to experience!**

COUGAL CASCADES

WHAT'S INSIDE

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BURLEIGH BEACH

READY TO EXPLORE? HERE'S WHERE TO GO

Browse

OUR WEBSITE AT YOUR LEISURE

experiencegoldcoast.com

Share

YOUR GOLD COAST EXPERIENCE USING OUR HASHTAG

#experiencegoldcoast

@experiencegoldcoast

DISCLAIMER This publication is produced for Experience Gold Coast. All venue details and activities are believed to be correct at the time of printing. However, Experience Gold Coast, its members and its publishers will not be held responsible for any discrepancies. The nature of this publication is style-based and although every effort has been made to ensure the descriptions are accurate, it makes no representation or warranty of any kind regarding availability at individual businesses. Please consult directly with featured services to verify availability and price.

GOLD COAST MAP

BRISBANE AIRPORT (BNE)
1 hour drive from Surfers Paradise

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

Pacific Motorway

COOMERA

SOUTH STRADBROKE ISLAND

HELENSVALE

BIGGERA WATERS

THE SPIT

SOUTHPORT

MAIN BEACH

SURFERS PARADISE

BROADBEACH

May - Nov

ROBINA

BURLEIGH HEADS

CURRUMBIN

Pacific Motorway

COOLANGATTA

HINTERLAND
40 minute drive from Surfers Paradise

LAMINGTON NATIONAL PARK

SPRINGBROOK NATIONAL PARK

GOLD COAST AIRPORT (OOL)
30 minute drive from Surfers Paradise



LEGEND

- Theme Park(s)
- Hinterland
- Arts & Culture
- Nightlife
- Dining
- Shopping
- Scenic Lookout
- Animal Encounters
- Surf Spot
- Whale Watching Season
- Train Station
- Light Rail
- Train line

GETTING AROUND



Seamless accessibility is all yours with a city that gives you metropolitan infrastructure with boutique city benefits. With smooth connectivity from two international airports, train and light rail services backed up by an abundance of transfer options, you'll find getting just about anywhere is a breeze.

TWO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

Gold Coast Domestic & International Airport (OOL). Located at the southern end of the city, 30 minute drive to Surfers Paradise.

Brisbane Domestic & International Airport (BNE). A one hour drive north of the Gold Coast or 1hr 45mins via the Airtrain.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Go Card is by far the most convenient public transport ticketing option, available for use on Translink buses, trains and the G:link tram. They're easy to purchase too, with Go Cards available at any 7-Eleven store, Visitor Information Centres, many Queensland Rail and tram stations, some busway stations and selected newsagents.

Smart Ticketing is available across all public transport. You can use contactless Visa or Mastercard (physical card or digital wallets like Apple Pay and Google Pay) to tap on and tap off just like a standard Go Card.

TRAIN

Brisbane Airport is just one train ride away, with the Airtrain providing a quick and easy way to travel from Brisbane Airport terminal to the Gold Coast, and connection to the city centre via the light rail. **www.airtrain.com.au**

LIGHT RAIL

The Gold Coast light rail (G:Link) has 19 major stops around the Gold coast with frequent services running 7 days per week. The Go Explore card is designed for use on Translink bus, train and light rail services. **www.translink.com.au**

HOPO FERRY

Getting around has never been so salty and scenic. The Gold Coast's only hop-on hop-off ferry stopping at 5 docks and departures on the hour.

TRANSFERS & CAR HIRE

You'll find every mode of transport you'll need on the Gold Coast with coaches, buses, luxury transfers and limousines, taxi and rideshare options easily arranged.

With hotels and venues in close proximity to restaurants, activities and the beach, it's a compact city that invites you to live like a local and readily explore what's on offer. Car hire is available from both Brisbane and Gold Coast airports for collection – it is recommended to pre-book this prior to arrival.

PUBLIC BUS

There are more than 60 bus routes in the city including seven 'turn up and go services' that operate every 15 minutes or better, seven days a week. The Go Explore card provides an easy tap on/off across the Gold Coast's public transport system. Visit the journey planner on the translink website for routes and schedules.

IT'S YOURS TO *experience*



PLAY

GET OUT THERE

Unleash your inner child whilst on the Gold Coast! Dizzying rides, super-cute wildlife, watersports at all speeds – the fun just keeps on coming.

Thrills & spills

WET'N'WILD

OXENFORD

With some of the most extreme waterslides in Australia, this waterpark is geared up for adrenalin. For thrills, head to the Tornado, the Super 8 Aqua Racer and the Aqualoop - a slide that releases swimmers through a trapdoor into a vertical free-fall. For younger visitors there's Wet'n'Wild Junior, a huge zone for little adventurers with mini versions of the big water slides. Had enough action for a day? Head to Calypso Beach, plonk onto a pool floatie and drift on the current through the calming tropical gardens.

wetnwild.com.au

DREAMWORLD & WHITEWATER WORLD

COOMERA

With a whopping 40 rides in total, there's a whole heap of fun to be had here, and to make it easy to navigate, it's divided up into different themed 'lands'. Rides such as the Rip, the Wedgie and Pipeline Plunge at WhiteWater World deliver some serious splash. At Dreamworld, thrill seekers will love the Steel Taipan coaster with a G-force of 3.8! Calmer personalities will find fun at Wiggle Bay.

dreamworld.com.au

WARNER BROS. MOVIE WORLD

OXENFORD

Movie World offers a day of adventure enhanced by the glitz and glamour of your favourite Hollywood stars – Looney Tunes favourites such as Bugs Bunny and Scooby Doo, plus the superheroes (and supervillains) of the DC Comics. Young thrill seekers will love the Road Runner Rollercoaster and Yosemite Sam Railroad, while older adrenaline junkies can head for the DC Rivals Hypercoaster, the Southern Hemisphere's tallest, longest and fastest rollercoaster. Hold on tight!

movieworld.com.au

SEA WORLD

MAIN BEACH

Kids will love a scary (but safe!) encounter with sharks in the world's largest manmade lagoon, or dancing with the dolphins at Affinity Stadium. Need more of a thrill? Twist, turn and spin on the Vortex, the latest high-speed adventure in New Atlantis. For younger adventurers, Nickelodeon Land features kid-sized rides and a mini rollercoaster, plus favourite characters including Dora the Explorer, and the pups from Paw Patrol.

seaworld.com.au









Wildlife

CURRUMBIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

CURRUMBIN

Do you know what a capybara is? Get ready to meet your new favourite animal! This super cute, semi-aquatic rodent stars at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary alongside a huge range of native Australian animals and birds. And it's not just about looking – there's a wishlist of animal experiences, including lorikeet feeding, koala photos and dingo walking, plus one of the busiest wildlife hospitals in the world. Be sure to check out the new Outback Springs precinct too!

currumbinsanctuary.com.au

WHALE WATCHING

DEPART FROM SURFERS PARADISE

It has to be one of the animal kingdom's most breathtaking spectacles. Each year, about 30,000 migrating humpback whales pass close to the Gold Coast's shores, travelling from Antarctica to the warmer waters of north Queensland, and back again. This ancient route is known as the Humpback Highway, and between June and November you can take a boat trip out to see whales frolicking in the ocean.

DAVID FLEAY WILDLIFE PARK

BURLEIGH HEADS

Set in the heart of Kombumerri country at Burleigh Heads, David Fleay Wildlife Park shows off the tranquil surrounds of natural habitat, from rainforest to bush. It is home to some of Queensland's most threatened species, such as bilbies, platypus and the bridled nailtail wallaby, once thought to be extinct. Don't miss the Fleays in Flight show, where raptors, owls and pelicans wow with their wing spans and speed.

fleayswildlife.com.au

GLOW WORM CAVES

NORTH TAMBORINE

Glow worms need a moist habitat to survive, and the sub-tropical rainforest of the hinterland makes a great home. These curious critters can be seen after dark at the Natural Bridge, covering the ceiling of the cave. If you have small children, you might prefer to visit the purpose-built Glow Worm Caves in Mount Tamborine during the day. On a guided tour, kids will love finding out what these mystical little creatures get up to.

glowwormcavetamborinemountain.com.au

Relax

TALLEBUDGERA CREEK

PALM BEACH

Tallebudgera 'Talle' Creek is a great place to cool off on a hot day. You can swim anywhere along the creek, but the most popular spots with local families are the patrolled south side – it has a coffee window offering tasty treats – and Echo Beach on the north side, where the water is clear and there are plenty of shallow spots for splashing about. It's a tranquil spot to have a picnic with friends while toddlers nap in the shade of the pandanus palms.

AUSTRALIAN KAYAKING ADVENTURES

BUDDS BEACH

Experience the Gold Coast from a whole new perspective with Australian Kayaking Adventures. Paddle the calm, crystal-clear waters of the Broadwater, where you may spot dolphins, turtles, stingrays and vibrant subtropical marine life along the way. Whether you're joining a guided kayak and snorkel tour to Wave Break Island or enjoying a relaxing sunset paddle through Surfers Paradise, the friendly local guides make every adventure suitable for beginners and experienced paddlers alike. With over 20 years of experience, it's a memorable way to discover the Gold Coast's natural beauty from the water.

australiankayakingadventures.com.au

SURFERS PARADISE RIVER CRUISES

DEPART FROM SURFERS PARADISE

Sightseeing while sitting down? Yes please. On a river cruise from Surfers Paradise, you can sit back and enjoy magnificent views as you pass the homes of the rich and famous while sipping on an ice-cold juice or beer. Cruise the Nerang River past Chevron Island, Cronin Island and Paradise Waters, out to the Broadwater and beyond. Look out for the pod of dolphins that call the river home.

surfersparadiserivercruises.com.au

LINKS HOPE ISLAND & PUTT PUTT

HOPE ISLAND OR MERMAID BEACH

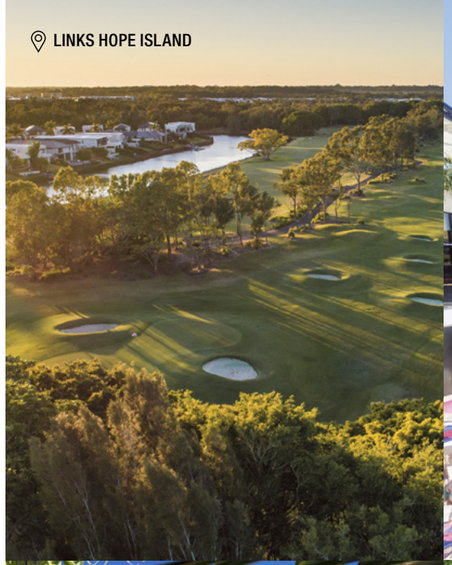
For golfers, the Gold Coast offers a wealth of choice, with more than 35 courses Coast-wide. The one with (arguably) the most stunning backdrop can be found on the water at Hope Island, near Paradise Point. Book a late tee time and you'll play with the oh-wow sun setting over the water. For family fun, Putt Putt at Mermaid Beach is a mini-golf marvel, with three themed 18-hole courses, video games arcade and a barbecue zone.

linkshopeisland.com.au; puttputtgolf.com.au

SURFERS PARADISE BEACH

SURFERS PARADISE AND BEYOND

With more than 50km of beautiful sandy beaches, visitors come to swim, surf, play volleyball, build sandcastles and simply relax. Iconic status goes to Surfers Paradise, with 3km of postcard-perfect golden sand that has been attracting the lion's share of attention for more than 100 years. Even with an average of 20,000 visitors a day, it's still one of Australia's most pristine beaches.


LINKS HOPE ISLAND


PACIFIC FAIR


TALLEBUDGERA CREEK


TAMBORINE RAINFOREST SKYWALK



MIAMI MARKETTA

Nature walks

NATURAL BRIDGE

SPRINGBROOK NATIONAL PARK

One of the most stunning sights – in a park filled with stunning sights – is Natural Bridge, an arched cave with a sparkling waterfall that tumbles through its ancient basalt rock ceiling. You can do a self-guided walk on a marked circuit, or book a half-day tour of this pristine subtropical rainforest, which includes a visit to the area's other famous waterfalls: Purling Brook Falls and Rainbow Falls. Take in the panoramic views from Best Of All Lookout, and marvel at the sheer cliffs of Numinbah Valley.

southerncrosstours.com.au

BURLEIGH HEADLAND

BURLEIGH HEADS

Get a different perspective of the beautiful Burleigh Headland on the Rainforest track from Tallebudgera Creek to Burleigh Point. A guided walk around Jellurgal – also known as Dreaming Mountain – will reveal sites that have played an important role in the history and culture of the local Yugambeh people. Traditional landowners tell Dreamtime stories about the creation of Jellurgal and the fishing, hunting and ecological practices of thousands of years of Indigenous life.

jellurgal.com.au

FEDERATION WALK COASTAL RESERVE

MAIN BEACH TO THE SPIT

Federation Walk Coastal Reserve is set on 93 hectares of coastal dunes on the Gold Coast Spit, a unique fusion of native vegetation, dunes, open space and ocean views. The 3.5km Federation Walk starts in the car park opposite the entrance to Sea World and leads all the way to the Gold Coast Seaway, where there's a lookout over the spectacular coastline. Birders, prepare for a paradise of parrots, pelicans, bee-eaters, waders and kites.

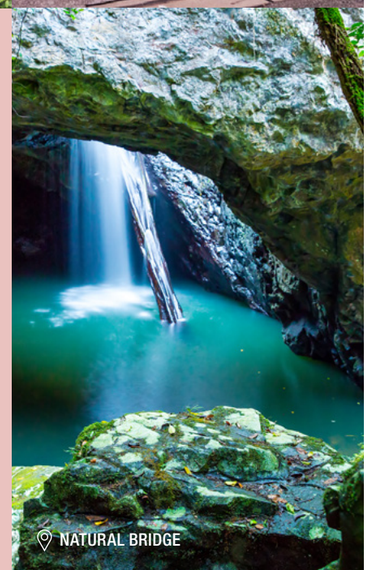
federationwalk.org

TAMBORINE RAINFOREST SKYWALK

NORTH TAMBORINE

Set in 12 hectares of magical rainforest on Mount Tamborine, this self-guided walk takes you past the crystal clear rockpools of Cedar Creek. The hike is a leisurely 1.5km, comprising forest floor trails, high-tech steel bridges through the upper canopy, and a 40m cantilever bridge that soars 30m above the creek and rainforest below. Look out for the endangered Richmond Birdwing Butterfly, one of Australia's largest butterflies. And don't forget (or drop!) your camera.

rainforestskywalk.com.au


NATURAL BRIDGE

Shop

PACIFIC FAIR

BROADBEACH

Luxury brands your thing? Pacific Fair in Broadbeach is the Gold Coast's most stylish shopping destination, offering a huge collection of leading Aussie retailers alongside iconic global brands – think Givenchy, Hermes and Tiffany & Co. All the boutiques are set among tropical gardens complete with waterfalls and hanging chairs. Lush.

pacificfair.com.au

MIAMI MARKETTA

MIAMI

It could be the back streets of Bangkok or Barcelona, but this bustling market is a short stroll from the Gold Coast Highway in Miami. Browse the indoor/outdoor stalls to the sounds of live music, and watch the markets come alive after 5pm under twinkling fairy lights. With furniture, fashion, art, jewellery, street food and drinks, it's a great place to meet local artists, and support small businesses.

miamimarketta.com

HARBOUR TOWN PREMIUM OUTLETS

BIGGERA WATERS

A bustling hub of alfresco shopping, dining and entertainment, you can easily enjoy a full day here, wandering the multitude of enticing stores. After spending it up on a spree, check out the restaurants at Harbour Town Eats, including 8 Street, an Asian market-style alleyway overflowing with dumplings, spring rolls and fragrant curries. Locals also love Crafty's Sports Bar for burgers, fried chicken and cold beers. End the day on a high with a trip to the movies, just a few steps away.

harbourtowngoldcoast.com.au

CARRARA MARKETS

CARRARA

If you want a side of face painting or pony rides with your retail therapy, head to Carrara Markets on any given weekend. Billed as the largest permanent marketplace in Queensland, it's been welcoming shoppers for more than 30 years, and with more than 400 stalls one visit probably won't be enough. Fashion, jewellery, souvenirs and art – it's a great place to find last-minute gifts for the people who've been feeding your cat.

carraramarkets.com.au

Adventure

SKYPOINT CLIMB
SURFERS PARADISE

At 270m, SkyPoint Climb in Surfers Paradise is Australia's highest external building climb. If you have a head for heights, the opportunity to climb up the iconic Q1 Resort building – on the outside – should be on your Gold Coast holiday wishlist. Luckily, you get to take the lift up to the 77th floor and climb the last 30m to the top. It goes without saying, the views are pretty nice from up there.

skypoint.com.au

CANYON FLYER
TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

Fly high above the treetops (and conquer that fear of heights!) on a zipline tour at Tamborine Mountain. There are seven extreme ziplines that take you whizzing along at speeds of up to 70km an hour, 70m above some of the oldest rainforest in Australia. If you can keep your eyes open for the ride, it's a pretty awesome way to see the stunning Gold Coast Hinterland. No prior experience necessary.

treetopchallenge.com.au

THUNDERBIRD PARK
TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

What kid doesn't want to unearth a 200-million-year-old mystery? Thundereggs look like hard mud balls that have intricate centres of agate, chalcedony, quartz, opal and other crystal forms. They are found in ancient lava beds across the world, including right here on Tamborine Mountain. Budding archaeologists can dig for the 'eggs' when they visit, and cut them open to reveal, well, that's the surprise.

thunderbirdpark.com

AUSTRALIAN KAYAKING ADVENTURES
BIGGERA WATERS

Getting in a kayak is a great way to discover the hidden treasures of the Gold Coast, such as South Stradbroke and Wave Break Island. Paddle through crystal-clear waters, then pull up your kayak and spend time snorkelling with stringrays or just relax in the shade. Tours also go to the majestic Hinze Dam in the hinterland, where you can paddle the calm, fresh waters surrounded by mountains.

seawaykayakingtours.com.au

GOLD COAST HELITOURS
MAIN BEACH

Gold Coast Helitours will treat you to an amazing view of the Gold Coast not to be missed! With two decades of experience in providing helifun in state of the art helicopters, they will sweep you over the amazing landscape with expert narration by their experienced pilots. With a 100 per cent safety record, their specialist services include joy flights, aerial photography, sling load operations, motion movie filming, aerial advertising, banner towing, corporate charters and a mobile floating helipad.

goldcoasthelitours.com.au

iFLY
SURFERS PARADISE

Indoor Skydiving is safe, fun and accessible for people of any ability, iFLY Gold Coast offers flights for first time flyers, return flyers, sport flyers, junior flyers and even skydivers. Indoor skydiving is a great experience to try with friends, families, parties and a great wet weather activity option too! The 365 degree glass tunnel allows spectators to watch from front row seats.

ifly.com.au

FLITEBOARD GOLD COAST
SURFERS PARADISE

Discover the freedom of flying above the water. Fliteboarding is one of the most thrilling experiences in Australia. Located on the Nerang River in the heart of Surfers Paradise, just behind JW Marriott Gold Coast Resort. Learn to fliteboard in a group lesson or in a private lesson with a guide.

fliteboard.com

GO BALLOONING
GOLD COAST

Float like a cloud high above the earth as the morning sun casts its first rays over the panorama of the Gold Coast skyline. No, it's not a dream. On a hot air balloon journey you can watch the light reflecting off myriad canals and waterways, and look out to the incredible mountains of the hinterland. All this and there's a champagne breakfast waiting for you when you descend. Bliss.

goballooning.com


FLITEBOARD GOLD COAST


PARADISE JET BOATING


CANYON FLYER

JET BOATING
Experience Jet Boating fun with a mixture of 360-degree spins, high-speed drifting, incredible beach buzzing and other exciting manoeuvres through the beautiful Gold Coast Broadwater with operators Jetboat Xtreme and Paradise Jet boating and Arro Jet.

LEARN TO SURF
Surfing is part of the Gold Coast way of life. Make the most of our pristine, safe beaches and learn to surf on your next holiday with reputable operators such as Get Wet, Go Ride a Wave or Surf Easy.

JETSKI TOUR
The Gold Coast has more waterways than Amsterdam and Venice combined! Join a jetski tour on the beautiful broadwater with tour operators such as Gold Coast Watersports or Jetski Safaris

Culture

HOTA
SURFERS PARADISE

Home of the Arts is a mecca for music, theatre, comedy, opera, cabaret and art. Relax on the grassy hill and enjoy the outdoor entertainment, complete with food trucks. Visit the Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Australia's largest public gallery outside a capital city.

hota.com.au

SURF WORLD – THE MUSEUM OF SURFING
CURRUMBIN

If boards of every shape, size and era are on your must-see list, Surf World – The Museum of Surfing – is the place for you. It houses Australia's largest collection of surfboards and is also home to all manner of photographs, oral histories, surf movies, surf craft and related memorabilia that together sum up the Gold Coast's surf heritage.

surfworldgoldcoast.com.au

SCULPTURE WALK
SURFERS PARADISE

Set throughout Evandale Parklands, the Sculpture Walk features 49 art pieces on a peninsula in the Nerang River. A meandering path takes viewers close to the artworks set in beautiful natural surrounds. It's a little oasis of creativity that provides a peaceful contrast to the bustling Gold Coast heart.


JELLURGAL ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE

JELLURGAL ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE
BURLEIGH HEADS

Jellurgal Aboriginal Cultural Centre is the Gold Coast's only dedicated Aboriginal cultural centre and is fully owned and operated by the local Aboriginal community. Take a walk through the informative boardwalk story board display where you can further explore the traditional lives of the Yugambeh speaking people, or join a guided walkabout tour.

jellurgal.com.au


SKYPOINT CLIMB


HOTA, HOME OF THE ARTS

EAT

TIME TO DINE

Picture yourself enjoying fresh seafood with front-row seats to Mother Nature's show, or follow friendly locals to the latest café for a quick bite.

Food with a view

BURLEIGH PAVILION & THE TROPIC

BURLEIGH BEACH

Food with a view? Tick. Perch on a bar stool overlooking Burleigh's rolling surf and order from the menu of bar bites. Start with freshly shucked oysters, and order the kids some woodfired garlic bread while you consider your next move. At the northern end of the Pavilion is the full-service Tropic restaurant, where you can see the chefs at work in the open kitchen preparing ocean king prawns and rainbow trout.

burleighpavilion.com

HORIZON SKY DINING

SURFERS PARADISE

Formerly Fourwinds, Horizon Sky Dining is the Gold Coast's premier revolving restaurant and Queensland's sole rotating dining destination. Immerse yourself in breathtaking coastal panoramas from atop Crowne Plaza Surfers Paradise.

crowneplazasurfersparadise.com.au/eat-and-drink/

SIBLINGS KIRRA

KIRRA BEACH

Bringing a breath of fresh sea breeze air to the Gold Coast, Siblings Kirra dishes up absolute beachfront views and innovative fare with flair.

siblingskirra.com.au

EDGEWATER

ISLE OF CAPRI

This canal-side restaurant offers modern Australian cuisine with a twist of traditional Italian. With incredible views out over the Nerang River, the vista takes in the glistening Q1 skyscraper and high-rises of Surfers Paradise, and the alfresco setting allows for amazing views from every table. Make the most of the waterfront locale with spectacular seafood; prawn and bug meat risotto with a pink champagne sauce should hit the spot.

edgewaterdining.com.au

CURRUMBIN BEACH VIKINGS SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

CURRUMBIN BEACH

'The Vikings' sits directly on the beach at Elephant Rock, with views all the way up to Surfers Paradise. The bistro-style menu for lunch and dinner includes the quintessential Gold Coast beer-battered flathead, but it's the early morning fare that has the locals queuing. The Nippers bacon breakfast is just the ticket for little ones who couldn't wait 'til dawn to start their day.

supporters.currumbinslsc.com.au



THE TROPIC, BURLEIGH PAVILION



HORIZON SKY DINING

"THE GOLD COAST HAS BECOME A FOODIES PARADISE - HOME TO FINE DINING & RELAXED BEACHSIDE EATS, INCLUDING 20+ AWARD WINNING RESTAURANTS"



CURRUMBIN BEACH VIKINGS SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Fun & funky

HIDEAWAY KITCHEN & BAR

BROADBEACH

Grab a spot in the cosy booths indoors, or on the spacious alfresco deck, under rows of colourful umbrellas suspended overhead. Choose from scores of dishes including pork belly bao, green chicken curry, Pad Thai noodles and duck breast pancake. Dishes are served as they're prepared – and eaten in whatever order they arrive at the table. Get here early for the popular weekend lunch sessions.

hideawaykitchen.com.au

ETSU IZAKAYA

MERMAID BEACH

Etsu Izakaya is one of the Gold Coast's most sought-after dining experiences, tucked away behind an unmarked door in Mermaid Beach. This intimate Japanese izakaya blends traditional flavours with contemporary flair, serving beautifully crafted sushi, sashimi, robata-grilled dishes and signature cocktails in a lively, atmospheric setting.

etsu.com.au

SOFIA'S

BROADBEACH

Sofia's Restaurant & Bar brings a new level of sophistication and coastal European dining style to Broadbeach. Located on the ground floor of the Oasis Shopping Centre, dreamy tones and a stunning fit-out draw you in, with whitewashed walls, touches of wood and pops of colour from the bottles on the shelves around, all transporting guests to long, serene summers on the French Riviera.

sofias.com.au

BASKK ITALIAN

COOLANGATTA

Once known for its modern Aussie seafood, Baskk has reinvented itself through a Mediterranean lens. Traditional Italian food made with all-local produce is the star of the show, and the family-style sharing menu makes it perfect for long lunches and dinners with friends. Homemade focaccias, woodfired pizza, Byron Bay burrata and a range of insalatas will be popular with the whole crew.

baskk.co

Family friendly

THE COLLECTIVE

PALM BEACH

If finding a restaurant to suit every member of the family is a challenge, head to The Collective for a unique, market-inspired dining experience. The venue includes five kitchens plating up American, Italian, Mexican, Asian and Greek cuisine, plus vegan options and kids' menus from each one. Order via digital menus and have food delivered directly to your table faster than you can nibble on a mezze plate starter. A sure-fire hit all round.

thecollectivepalmbeach.com.au

BMD NORTHCLIFFE SURF CLUB

NORTHCLIFFE

This welcoming restaurant has it all: a beachfront location; excellent food; and complimentary colouring packs with the kids' meals. Locals come for the Bradnam burger, with chicken breast, melted cheese, guacamole, sweet chilli and aioli, piled high with a side of chips. The adults stay for the three enormous copper tanks that house the bar's preservative-free beer, and the kids hang out for the free ice-cream that comes with their meal. Everyone's a winner.

bmdnorthcliffe.com.au

PARADISE CENTRE

SURFERS PARADISE

With 75+ specialty shops, complemented by an alfresco dining precinct and an exciting entertainment precinct, Paradise Centre offers a memorable and fun beachfront dining experience in the heart of Surfers Paradise. Open 365 days a year with eight restaurant and dining options over two levels providing stunning views of the sand, waves and beyond.

paradisecentre.net.au

SURFERS PARADISE BEER GARDEN

SURFERS PARADISE

Located at the legendary Surfers Paradise Hotel, the Beer Garden has recently undergone a complete reimagining. The huge open-air wrap-around bar area is sun-filled and breezy by day, and a great spot to view the city lights of an evening. Order some finger-licking pork ribs with char grilled corn or an antipasto plate to share. Then kick back with a cold drink while the kids get busy with games of giant Jenga and Connect Four.

surfersbeergarden.com.au


BMD NORTHCLIFFE SURF CLUB


COMMUNE ESPRESSO


KIFF & CULTURE


THE COLLECTIVE


RICK SHORES

Special occasion

RICK SHORES

BURLEIGH HEADS

This beautiful pan-Asian restaurant, at one of the Gold Coast's best beachfront locations, brings a contemporary edge to Thai, Vietnamese, Indian and Japanese dishes. Headed up by chef Ben Bertei, the focus is on fresh, light food designed to share, all made using local ingredients. Standout dishes include the cured ora king salmon with grapefruit ponzu, and the sandcrab and XO fried rice. For something different, try the roasted rice pavlova. This is the perfect spot for a child-free treat.

rickshores.com.au

PALETTE

SURFERS PARADISE

Nestled within HOTA (Home of the Arts), Palette combines award-winning modern Australian cuisine with artistic flair, with seasonal menus inspired by the gallery's exhibitions and the region's finest local produce. Whether celebrating a special occasion, anniversary or simply indulging in an unforgettable meal, expect impeccable service, beautifully crafted dishes and an experience that's as creative as it is delicious.

paletterestaurant.com.au

LITTLE TRUFFLE

MERMAID BEACH

This award-winning hatted restaurant, crowned Gold Coast Best Fine Dining Restaurant, is one to book if romance is in the air. The elegant European-style dining room features an antique Parisian chandelier, which sets the scene for a heady mix of Old World grandeur and New World food. Head chef and owner Daniel Ridgeway (ex Room81) presides over a four course set menu that includes delicacies such as oyster assiette, Moreton Bay bug and prawn tortellini, and Wagyu steak tartare.

littletruffle.com.au

FOOD AND WINE TOURS

KIFF & CULTURE

From Australia's best beaches, farm-to-table restaurants and distilleries to its unique wildlife and lush subtropical rainforests, their leisurely, unhurried tours give you exclusive and behind-the-scenes access to each of the most sought-after destinations and venues throughout the region. Their small luxury private tours showcase homegrown artisan food and drink with a passion for sustainability, as they believe a great day out doesn't need to come at the expense of the planet.

kiffandculture.com.au

PINEAPPLE TOURS

Pineapple Tours include full-day wine tours from both Brisbane and the Gold Coast, available seven days a week. Additionally, they provide private tours on-demand, offering more than 30 different tours for private group bookings to destinations such as Brisbane, Gold Coast, Tamborine Mountain, and Byron Bay. These tours encompass craft breweries, distilleries, and various other food and drink experiences, ensuring there's something for every taste.

pineappletours.com.au

HOP ON BREWERY TOURS

Queensland's original and best guided craft brewery tours. A fully immersive and educational experience that gets guests behind the scenes at local breweries and distilleries, teaches the brewing process and history, and provides plenty of tasters along the way! Hop On Brewery Tours want to change your perception of beer by exploring some of the region's award-winning venues and helping guests understand what makes beer so special and exciting.

hoponbrewerytours.com.au

Chilled vibe

COMMUNE ESPRESSO

BURLEIGH

If you want to relax over a low-key lunch with a few tunes and a surfy vibe, Commune Espresso is the place to be. The café hums with a fun energy and the coffee is highly rated by the locals who come here every day. The brunch menu includes the popular corn fritters with avo salsa and house chilli jam, and bacon and egg rolls stacked so high with avocado, cheese and salad they have to be seen to be believed.

instagram.com/communeespresso

PEQUENA COCINA

HIGHLAND PARK, FINGAL HEAD, TUGUN & MORE

If you spot a 1975 Chevrolet C30 food truck parked up, don't pass by without sampling its authentic Latin American fare. Tacos, chilaquiles, churros and quesadillas are some of the biggest hits. Chef Dave Watts runs the truck and draws on his experience as a fine dining chef to create quality food without the price tag. Finding out where the truck will be each day is half the fun. (Hint: check the website.)

pequenacocina.com

ROCKLEIGH CAFÉ

COOLANGATTA

If you're after late brekkie or early lunch, the farmhouse fare at Rockleigh Café won't disappoint. Focusing on fresh ingredients sourced from local suppliers, food waste is minimal and most dishes are made from scratch, including the jam and peanut butter. The garlic and sage roasted cauliflower salad with smashed chickpeas is best enjoyed at an alfresco table. With a kitchen garden in the pipeline, this small, colourful café is about to get even better.

rockleighcafé.com

BARRACA

BUNDALL, SOUTHPORT & MORE

This colourful Portuguese food truck (look for the rooster!) offers a range of slow-cooked beef brisket and chargrilled chicken thighs with liberal lashings of the house piri piri sauce (locals often queue to buy bottles of it to take home). Plan ahead and grab a couple of *pastel de nata* – Portuguese custard tarts. You'll be thanking yourself later.

barraca.com.au

DRINK

DAY TO NIGHT

If you like to start your day with coffee and end it with cocktails, the cafés and bars of the Gold Coast will have you wishing there were more days in the week.

Coffee break

HOUSE OF HUBERT

TUGUN

If specialty coffee is your vice, House of Hubert is the place to be. The bean of choice here is The Saint Blend: 'full chocolate, velvety body with hints of fresh butter that sit heavy on the palate'. This semi-alfresco café is well frequented for brunch, and has plenty of kid-friendly options so you can enjoy your coffee in peace. If you're game to try something new, the Golden Milky coffee is a turmeric blend mixed with almond or macadamia milk. Order it iced on a sunny day.

houseofhubert.com.au

BLACKBOARD COFFEE

VARSITY LAKES

There's plenty of competition for the best coffee on the Gold Coast, but Blackboard is definitely a frontrunner. This boutique coffee roaster has its own wholesale distribution line, and a café school where you can learn barista skills. If you can't get to Varsity Lakes, don't fret! Blackboard supplies other Gold Coast cafés, including Griffith Street Larder.

blackboardcoffee.com.au

ELK ESPRESSO

BROADBEACH

Ask any local where the best coffee on the Gold Coast is and chances are Elk will top their list. Quite possibly the Gold Coast's ultimate breakfast spread for your instagram post. From their signature panna cotta to the majestic elk etching on the perfectly paint-chipped wall, head to Elk where a reputation for one of the best breakfasts in Broadbeach is well established.

elkespresso.net

PADDOCK BAKERY

MIAMI

Housed in a charming weatherboard Queenslander cottage, this is part vintage café, part artisan bakery. Tucked away in the back streets of Miami, the tree-shaded yard provides garden seating bound by a picket fence, where locals tether their dogs. It's an absolute favourite for divine bakery items, café meals and, oh, excellent coffee too.

paddockbakery.com


PADDOCK BAKERY




HUSK DISTILLERS


BALTER

Cheers!

BURLEIGH BREWING CO.

BURLEIGH HEADS

Burleigh Brewing Co. was launched in 2006, so is verging on historic by Aussie craft beer standards. Beer aficionados will appreciate the 26 gold medal-winning beers awarded by the World Beer Championships (that's an Aussie record) and a number of taphouse exclusives including the Hop Nectar Pale Ale and the excellent 'Hef' hefeweizen. It's the perfect place to refresh after a hard day at the beach.

burleighbrewing.com.au

HUSK DISTILLERS

NORTH TUMBULGUM

Husk is Australia's first agricultural rum distillery. Its paddock-to-bottle philosophy means only sugar cane grown on the farm is used – allowing it to be cut, crushed and transferred to fermentation in less than four hours. Soak up this stunning location – it's set in a caldera or valley, formed by a volcanic crater – while sipping a Husk Rum or famous Ink Gin cocktail at the cellar door.

huskdistillers.com

BALTER

CURRUMBIN

Founded five years ago by six Gold Coast locals, including surf champ Mick Fanning, Balter is a brewery with an open-door policy. Tour the facility or just turn up to taste the beers. You can see all the brewing equipment while you taste, so you know exactly where it's coming from. With multiple award-winning beers on tap to choose from, be sure to try the XPA and Strong Pale Ale, which are crowd favourites.

balter.com.au

JUSTIN LANE

BURLEIGH

Once a humble little pizzeria, Justin Lane is credited with kickstarting the Burleigh boom in 2011. Since then, it has evolved into the popular multi-level restaurant and bar it is today. The original dining space is still there, where you can enjoy the famous sourdough pizza and handmade pasta, but it's the rooftop bar – with recently added open-plan balcony – that has become a Burleigh icon. With views out to Burleigh Point, you can bag a booth for dinner then kick off your shoes and dance to the DJ's tunes.

justinlane.com.au


GRANDDAD JACKS CRAFT DISTILLERY

BLACK HOPS BREWING

BURLEIGH HEADS

Black Hops Brewing started as 3 mates making beer and sharing everything they learned along the way. Black Hops have also opened the doors to a vibey new bar and eatery focussing on locally produced wine, spirits, beer, cocktails and produce called Haven, located at the site of what was previously an barrel aged beer facility and taproom.

blackhops.com.au

ROSELLA'S

BURLEIGH HEADS

Revel in all things Aussie when you step inside Rosella's. From an extensive wine list featuring natural Australian wines, to cocktails inspired by Aussie icons, such as the I'm Spinning Around and the Salty Cattle Dog, you'll feel true blue by the time you leave. And yes, you can also get an ice-cold schooner of Foster's. If you want food with your drinks, the nostalgic and native fare includes Vegemite jaffles and roo carpaccio. Fair dinkum, mate.

rosellasbar.com.au

MOUNT NATHAN WINERY

MOUNT NATHAN

This boutique winery is one of the region's best regarded. It produces premium chardonnay, sauvignon blanc and merlot, plus 'winter' wines infused with chocolate, lemon and lychee. Take an intimate wine tasting and tour, feed the sheep and llamas, stroll through the luxuriant plantation, or just relax in the air-conditioned winery. It's a great day out for the whole family.

mtnathanwinery.com.au

NIGHTLIFE
AND ENTERTAINMENT

ASTRA LUMINA
CURRUMBIN
When the sun goes down, Astra Lumina transforms Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary into an enchanting world of light, music and imagination. This immersive after-dark experience invites families to wander a 1.5km self-paced trail through illuminated bushland, where dazzling projections, glowing installations and a magical soundscape bring the stars to life. Suitable for all ages, it's a unique evening adventure that combines nature, storytelling and wonder—making it one of the Gold Coast's most memorable family-friendly nightlife experiences.
currumbinsanctuary.com.au/visit/astra-lumina

PARADISE CENTRE
SURFERS PARADISE
Paradise Centre is the largest shopping centre in Surfers Paradise. Located on the corner of Surfers Paradise Boulevard and Cavill Mall. With 90+ specialty shops, complemented by an alfresco beachfront dining precinct and an exciting entertainment offering. You'll find interesting shops to explore with everything from beach, swim and resort wear to funky fashion and carefree casual all under one roof. There's a selection of dining options for every occasion, with a wide array of flavours to tempt your taste buds. There's also plenty of action and adventure for the whole family located on level one with the world's largest Timezone, interactive ten-pin at Zone Bowling and MANIAX Axe Throwing. Paradise Centre is open late, 365 days a year.
paradisecentre.net.au


ASTRA LUMINA


NINETEEN AT THE STAR


THE ISLAND ROOFTOP

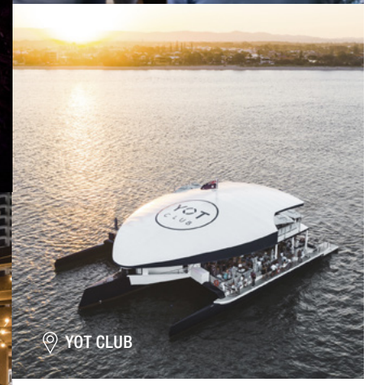

CALI BEACH

CALI BEACH
SURFERS PARADISE
Cali Beach is Australia's largest day and night entertainment precinct bringing you the ultimate experience! Come for the day or come for an hour, there is free admission to all guests so you can enjoy pools, sun lounges, sporting areas and a variety of drinking and dining options whilst looking over the venue, skyline or ocean. Located on the rooftop beside Mantra on View hotel, right in the heart of Surfers Paradise.
calibeach.com.au

NINETEEN AT THE STAR
BROADBEACH
The Gold Coast's hottest new rooftop venue located atop of the luxury hotel The Darling. Prepare for sensory overload at Nineteen at The Star in their chic rooftop restaurant and sundrenched lounge bar featuring incredible views of the glittering Gold Coast skyline and a luxe rooftop location. Experience Chef Uday Huja's exquisite dishes from his signature a la carte and set menus. Plus, you can opt to add paired wines carefully selected by their expert Sommelier.
star.com.au/goldcoast

THE ISLAND ROOFTOP
SURFERS PARADISE
The Island Rooftop is the Gold Coast's largest open air rooftop bar and boasts the best cocktails, eats, entertainment and good-times. Located in the heart of Surfers Paradise with views overlooking the CBD and the famous Main Beach coastline, The Island Rooftop has unrivalled atmosphere, offering a truly unique Gold Coast experience. Every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday features entertainment ranging from tropical house to new and old-school funk grooves – to make for a memorable rooftop experience.
theislandgoldcoast.com.au


TOPGOLF


YOT CLUB

AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK SPECTACULAR
OXENFORD
Located next to Warner Bros. Movie World and Topgolf, this dinner and show experience gives an insight into life in the Australian bush. The experience includes a delicious three course dinner with beverages and pre show entertainment. Australian Outback Spectacular's Heartland is visually stunning and the production completely encompasses the arena, utilising every possible space to create the vibrant and ever changing landscape of the Australian outback.
outbackspectacular.com.au

DRACULA'S
BROADBEACH
Thrill with excitement! Scream with fear! Experience an unforgettable evening that will leave you breathless at Dracula's. Enter via the Ghost Train ride into the Theatre of the Vampire, where weird waiters and talented performers sink their teeth into a night of comedy, rock, circus, puppetry and amazing stage FX. The fast-paced show will thrill and entertain you! VIP seating is available and all guests enjoy a 3 course meal to enjoy during the show. Suitable for 15 years and above.
draculas.com.au

TOPGOLF
OXENFORD
At Topgolf, you'll hit micro-chipped golf balls into giant targets on the outfield from your very own bay, scoring points when you hit them! Prefer to relax? Kick back with a meal from a chef-inspired menu or enjoy your favourite drink on our Rooftop Terrace while listening to live music. Whether you're an aspiring pro, a total beginner or an absolute foodie, you'll have a ball at Topgolf.
topgolf.com.au

YOT CLUB
MAIN BEACH
The YOT Club is the World's first Super Yacht Entertainment venue licensed for up to 400 guests over two luxurious levels. Custom designed and built from the water up, when you step aboard and cruise away, leaving the constraints of land behind, you'll be immersed in the phenomenal YOT Club lifestyle. The YOT Club has a full calendar of spectacular events scheduled every Saturday and Sunday, showcasing the best International and Local DJs and artists. Departing from Main Beach on the Gold Coast.
yotclub.com.au

SCENIC DINNER CRUISE
SURFERS PARADISE
Board the Spirit of Elston for a delicious dinner and unique night on the tranquil Gold Coast waterways. Take in the views of the glittering Surfers Paradise skyline, whilst enjoying the best local seasonal produce prepared by our onboard chef. The menu is perfectly paired with locally crafted beer, wine or one of our delicious cocktails. Dinner is served in the comfort of the enclosed main deck and accompanied by talented local musicians. After dinner, guests enjoy our open top deck to marvel at the stars, night lights and capture the perfect moment. This cruise is ideal for celebrating that special occasion or splashing out for an unforgettable night out.
seaworldcruises.com.au

NATIONAL SPORT MATCHES
If you're interested in watching a cricket, AFL (Australian Football League) or NRL (National Rugby League) game, head out to Cbus Super Stadium or Heritage Bank stadium to catch all of the action. Most games are held in the early to late afternoon, with public transport options to get you there. Visit the stadium websites for schedules and more information.

STAY

TAKE IT EASY

Ocean views, infinity pools and tropical gardens – now we're talking. These lush resorts will make your social media go ping!

Luxury Gold Coast

SHERATON GRAND MIRAGE RESORT

MAIN BEACH

If you're after a quintessential resort experience that's convenient to all the action yet far enough away to feel secluded, you'll love this family-friendly resort. Set over six sprawling hectares of lagoons and tropical gardens, just behind the natural dunes at Main Beach, you'll have a hard time pulling the kids away from the pool, or yourself away from the swim up bar. Love fresh, local seafood? Book in at Terraces restaurant.

sheratongrandgoldcoast.com

JW MARRIOTT GOLD COAST RESORT & SPA

SURFERS PARADISE

The landmark lagoon pool here – complete with sandy beaches, waterfalls, living reef for snorkelling, fish and swaying palms – sums up the reason you came on holiday in the first place. Perfect for curious kids who can role-play all day in the shallows and parents who appreciate cocktails delivered direct to their cabana – you'll be hard-pressed peeling yourself away. Round out your day with live music and tapas at Chapter & Verse.

jwmarriottgoldcoast.com

QT GOLD COAST

SURFERS PARADISE

Upholding QT's unique reputation for fun, quirk and retro style, QT Gold Coast boasts a lush, newly renovated pool and resort bar, atmospheric Japanese izakaya Yamagen, delicious 'interactive kitchen' Bazaar, day spa, tennis court and cruiser bikes for hire, plus the most creative high tea in town (no excuse necessary). You'll have little reason to jump on the G:link light rail, conveniently located outside.

qtgoldcoast.com.au

PEPPERS SOUL

SURFERS PARADISE

Towering 77 levels above Surfers Paradise, you'll feel as if you're sleeping in the clouds. Anticipate high-end service and style where every comfort is covered. Dive into the indoor and outdoor pools, spread out in a spacious apartment and soak up the mesmerising views. Peppers Soul is also proudly home to Australia's only Hyde Paradiso (of LA and Miami fame) and makes the perfect spot for lazy long lunches or sunset cocktails.

peppers.com.au

MONDRIAN GOLD COAST

BURLEIGH HEADS

Set just steps from Burleigh Beach, Mondrian Gold Coast redefines coastal luxury with sophisticated design, spacious ocean-view accommodation and world-class dining. As the first Mondrian hotel in Australia, this five-star retreat blends contemporary style with Burleigh's relaxed beachside lifestyle, offering exceptional restaurants, a vibrant pool club, wellness experiences and beautifully appointed suites. Perfect for couples, luxury travellers and special escapes, Mondrian delivers an elevated stay in one of the Gold Coast's most sought-after beachfront locations.

mondrianhotels.com/gold-coast



JW MARRIOTT GOLD COAST RESORT & SPA

THE LANGHAM, GOLD COAST

SURFERS PARADISE

Bringing serene sophistication and coastal charm to the Gold Coast, The Langham is the newest, absolute beachfront luxury hotel to arrive in Australia's holiday capital in more than 30 years. With over 330 hotel rooms available, each present a stunning panorama view of the Pacific Ocean or the Gold Coast Hinterland.

langhamhotels.com

THE DARLING

BROADBEACH

The Darling offers the perfect combination of boutique design and luxury featuring 56 well-appointed suites with bespoke fittings and the finest amenities and finishes. Complimented by The Star Gold Coast's signature restaurants and bars, world-class gaming, state-of-the-art theatre and exciting nightlife.

thestar.com.au



THE LANGHAM GOLD COAST



SHERATON GRAND MIRAGE RESORT



THE INSIDE SCOOP

by Andrew Whiting

Owner, Elk Espresso, Broadbeach

EAT

We love Goccia for an authentic Italian experience.

DO

For a change from the beach, visit Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens with its adventure playground, turtle pond and hidden café serving delicious sorbet.

LOCAL SECRET

Pack a picnic and head to Broadwater Parkland's rockpools for free water fun the kids will love. In summer, the GC Aqua Park is equally entertaining for parents as it is for kids!


THE DARLING


THE STAR GRAND AT
THE STAR GOLD COAST


THE ISLAND


PARADISE RESORT GOLD COAST

DID YOU KNOW?
THE GOLD COAST
HAS AN AVERAGE
OF 10 HOURS OF
SUNSHINE A DAY FOR
APPROXIMATELY
300 DAYS PER YEAR.
YOU'RE WELCOME.


DORSETT GOLD COAST

Iconic Gold Coast

MANTRA CROWN TOWERS

SURFERS PARADISE

Surfers Paradise brims with quality hotels to rest weary heads after a long day exploring, but an easy choice for the family is Mantra Crown Towers, just 100m from Surfers Paradise Beach. The one, two and three bedroom self-catering apartments make the perfect base for all the Gold Coast fun. Adults will love to come home to the tropical lagoon pool, while the children's pool has its own sandy beach, waterslide and pirate ship. Ahoy!

mantra.com.au

RACV ROYAL PINES RESORT

BENOWA

A short drive from the buzz of Surfers Paradise, RACV Royal Pines Resort is the ideal place to position yourself for access to the Gold Coast's famous theme parks or for those with an avid golfer in the family. This long-established 27-hole golf resort has something for the whole tribe, from a blissful afternoon indulging at One Spa to nightly teppanyaki performances at Arakawa, or ultimate action at the waterpark and pools. Feel the need to leave? There's a shuttle service loop to Surfers Paradise Q1 and Pacific Fair.

racv.com.au

THE STAR GOLD COAST

BROADBEACH

Having recently undergone a staggering renovation and rebrand of its rooms, suites and restaurants, The Star Grand is on a level of its own. It's located across from premier shopping destination Pacific Fair, yet you'll have little excuse to leave with so much to offer under one roof. Start with cocktails in the leafy surrounds of Garden Kitchen & Bar, followed by dinner at Kiyomi or Nineteen at The Star in the adjoining hotel, The Darling.

thestar.com.au/goldcoast

PARADISE RESORT GOLD COAST

SURFERS PARADISE

Offering endless entertainment options for kids, this family resort includes a colourful water park, ice-skating rink, indoor and outdoor playgrounds and an epic kids' club, giving parents a chance to take some time out to relax and reconnect. Centrally located, guests here are within easy walking distance of the restaurants of Cavill Avenue and Tedder Avenue, and a five-minute drive to Sea World. Keep an eye out for the new lounge bar and pool deck reserved exclusively for grown-ups, coming soon.

paradiseresort.com.au

THE ISLAND

SURFERS PARADISE

If you're partial to stylish design and nostalgic charm, stay at one of the coolest properties in town, The Island. First built in the 1980s, this vibrant 98 room boutique hotel has been restored from head to toe and simply oozes retro holiday vibes. Expect Insta-worthy features galore from the pool zone with colourful umbrellas to the chic rooms with glittering city views, alfresco rooftop cocktail bar and generous meals from the trendy in-house bistro, Goldies.

theislandgoldcoast.com.au

DORSETT GOLD COAST

BROADBEACH

Located on Broadbeach Island and forming part of The Star Gold Coast's world-class entertainment and leisure destination, Dorsett Gold Coast combines the best of stylish inner-city vibrancy and idyllic beachside escape for memorable stays on the Gold Coast. Just 700m from Kurrawa Beach, moments away from Pacific Fair Shopping Centre and adjacent to the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; work, play and stay in a prime Gold Coast location just 30-minutes from the Gold Coast Airport.

dorsetthotels.com

REST

LIVE LOCAL

Immerse yourself in the Gold Coast's charming southern neighbourhoods and you may just find yourself considering a permanent sea change.

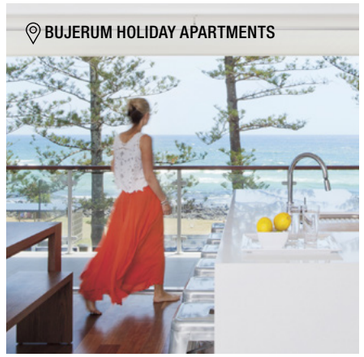
Boutique stays

SWELL RESORT

BURLEIGH HEADS

Fall into the relaxed rhythm of Burleigh Heads, where you can meander James Street's trendy boutiques, café-hop, explore the nature walks and lookouts criss-crossing Burleigh Headland's National Park, hunt down locals' favourite Tallebudgera Creek, or simply surrender to a sun-soaked afternoon at the beach. Family-friendly Swell Resort is centrally located and an affordable option for self-catering, with access to the resort's spa, tennis court, pools and gym.

swellresort.com.au



BUJERUM HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

CRYSTAL PACIFIC

PALM BEACH

A modern boutique retreat, perfectly situated in the idyllic beachside setting of Palm Beach at the southern end of the Gold Coast. Crystal Pacific is a unique and beautifully renovated group of apartments, boasting modern amenities and elegant décor.

crystalpacific.com.au

BUJERUM HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

BURLEIGH HEADS

Commanding the most sought-after address in town with wafting salty sea breezes from the deck, Bujerum's four holiday apartments have contemporary styling and are ideally positioned within easy reach of everything you'll love about Burleigh. Enjoy beach lounging, surfing, shopping, markets and dining. Rub shoulders with the locals over fish and chips on Burleigh Hill, skip across to The Village Markets every second Sunday, or while away the hours with lunch at much loved Burleigh Pavilion.

bujerum.com.au



BEST SPOTS FOR CATCHING A WAVE

by Nina Maldos Lima

burleighbrewing.com.au

D'BAH

FLAGSTAFF BEACH

This is probably the most consistent surf spot on the Gold Coast. You will always have a good session if you know how to deal with – and respect – the local crowd. D'bah is also great for walks up to the headland, and it's awesome for dog lovers.

RAINBOW BAY

COOLANGATTA

Here is where you go for super-fun long waves – it's definitely a wave machine! When it's on, if you are patient, you might just get to surf one of the best waves of your life.

CURRUMBIN ALLEY

CURRUMBIN

This is my backyard. Currumbin Alley has breathtaking views from inside and outside the water and it's a great spot for all levels of surfing skill. Easy to say that this place is pretty special.



CRYSTAL PACIFIC

ICONIC KIRRA





THE PINK HOTEL



LA COSTA MOTEL

Southern Gold Coast

LA COSTA MOTEL

BILINGA

A cheerful beachside stay in the slow-paced suburbs, watch those childhood memories come flooding back upon checking into this friendly, old-school motel. Mint green La Costa Motel is reminiscent of holidays in the '90s and delivers on its no-fuss 'beach shack' promise. With breakfast, beach towels and cruiser bike hire included, it is conveniently located close to Coolangatta Airport and all the southern Gold Coast magic, often only reserved for the savviest of travellers.

lacostamotel.com.au

ICONIC KIRRA

KIRRA

The laidback southern Gold Coast is the stress-free slice of paradise you've been searching for. Located directly opposite flawless Kirra Beach, all apartments at the shiny new Iconic Kirra enjoy uninterrupted views and are fully equipped to ensure a memorable beachside holiday with all the comforts of home. Cook for yourself or head to local favourites nearby, such as the vibrant Tupe Aloha for tacos and burritos or fashionable Baskk Italian for pizza and cocktails.

iconickirra.com.au

THE PINK HOTEL

COOLANGATTA

The perfect blend of kitsch and California cool, The Pink Hotel appeals to those who love a quirky vibe, and modern families who know how to have fun. A rare remaining hotel icon of the 1950s, the new owners, who also run adjoining bar Eddie's Grub House, have injected new life into this boutique 17-room property. From the playfully styled suites to the rooftop bar, Eddie's room service and photo opportunities aplenty, and all a sandy-footed stroll from dreamy Greenmount Beach.

thepinkhotelcoolangatta.com


BINNA BURRA LODGE


BEECHMONT ESTATE


TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GLADES


O'REILLY'S RAINFOREST RETREAT



THE INSIDE SCOOP

by Ursula Watts

Owner Custard Canteen, Tallebudgera Creek and Bam Bam Bakehouse, Mermaid Beach

EAT

Custard Canteen for a sandy-footed stroll from the creek to hot-from-the-oven custard tarts and great coffee.

DO

Get sweaty with a Burleigh Headland walk. You'll enjoy killer views, plenty of Insta snaps and make friends with bush turkeys.

LOCAL SECRET

Tallebudgera Creek at high tide is magic – just ask the dolphins! That view across to the national park is like a postcard and rivals anywhere in the world.

HINTERLAND STAYS

Looking to switch off? Good for you. Step away from that screen and take a proper break – one that rejuvenates the mind, body and soul.

Nature breaks

O'REILLY'S RAINFOREST RETREAT

LAMINGTON NATIONAL PARK

The perfect escape to reconnect with nature, O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat has existed in this location for almost a century. Self-cater in architecturally designed villas perched on the hillside with views across World Heritage Lamington National Park, or book into the original accommodation for easy access to the treetop canopy walk and casual eatery. Make a splash in the 25m infinity pool, order a picnic hamper, or go chasing waterfalls along one of the many nature trails.

oreillys.com.au

BINNA BURRA LODGE

LAMINGTON NATIONAL PARK

Quite literally rising from the ashes of the devastating 2019 bushfires, this 85-year-old eco retreat has now reopened. Binna Burra's Sky Lodges are nestled in the lush, repairing rainforest of Lamington National Park, where visitors appreciate Mother Nature's steady recovery by enjoying the nearby bushwalks, or simply relaxing in the fully self-contained studio apartments. Guests of the Lodge are gifted with all the mod cons, paired with uninterrupted hinterland views for a memorable getaway.

binnaburralodge.com.au

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GLADES

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

Set amongst 114 hectares of subtropical rainforest on Mt Tamborine. A range of accommodation to choose from including cabins, lodges, glamping tents, bungalows or camping. The Rainforeset Restaurant, mini golf and treetop challenge is located onsite making it perfect for families.

tamborinemountainglades.com.au

BEECHMONT ESTATE

BEECHMONT

Beechmont Estate (formerly Hazelwood Estate) is a privately-owned polo and Wagyu farm just outside the small township of Beechmont, near Binna Burra in the Scenic Rim. Just 90 minutes from Brisbane and 45 minutes from the Gold Coast, the 75-acre property neighbours the World Heritage-listed Lamington National Park. Escape to Beechmont Estate and taste the region's finest ingredients, sip a drink on the sunset terrace, enjoy a scenic bush walking trail, or retreat in five-star luxury.

beechmontestate.com.au

SAMPLE ITINERARIES

Holiday planning is half the fun… These multi-day itineraries showcase the best of our destination. Create your perfect trip to the Gold Coast with ideas and inspiration on where to go, what to do and how to make the most of your time here.


CURTIS FALLS, TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN


WITCHES FALLS WINERY


MOUNTVIEW ALPACA FARM


VERANDAH HOUSE COUNTRY ESTATE

3 Days in The Hinterland

DAY 1

Just under an hours' drive from the shores of Surfers Paradise, you'll find the gorgeous O'Reilly's Canungra Valley Vineyards. Its picturesque grounds are host to the historic and The Mountview Alpaca Farm.

The next stop is O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, a 45-minute winding drive up the mountain from the vineyards. Book one of the 48 self-contained villas to experience magnificent views of the western McPherson Ranges and wider Scenic Rim region not to mention unforgettable sunsets right from your villa door. Stay the following day to experience a guided bird walk or pack a picnic and head out to one of the many waterfalls via 160kms of nature trails that surround the property or relax at the Lost World Day Spa.

DAY 2

Heading back down the winding mountain road from O'Reilly's stop by at Tamborine Mountain. Start at the popular 'Gallery Walk' to browse the local stores and culinary delights dotted along the way. Taste mouthwatering fudge and flavoured macadamias at Granny Macs, indulge in beautifully crafted cheese at Witches Chase Cheese Co, sample liqueurs, spirits and old-world charm at Tamborine Mountain Distillery, take a leisurely walk to Curtis Falls or enjoy the views from Rotary Lookout.

Sink into the serenity of a Gold Coast glamping trip at Tamborine Mountain Glades, which offer rustic camping with lots of luxe. Or treat yourself to an overnight stay at Verandah House Estate.

DAY 3

For day three of your outdoor, nature-loving inspired road trip, sample a local drop at some Hinterland wineries. Witches Falls Winery is housed in a rustic barn venue with a pretty courtyard, or sample a gin or two at Cauldron Distillery.



TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN DISTILLERY


TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GLADES



The Perfect Girls Weekend

DAY 1

Kick start your trip with a Gold Coast Girls Weekend rite of passage; beachside brunch at Hyde Paradiso.

It's time to shop up a storm at Pacific Fair. Which is always a good time after a few Limoncello Spritzers. Pac Fair as it's affectionately known, is the Gold Coast's premier shopping precinct absolutely packed with all the brands you know and love. For those looking for a bargain, check out Harbour Town Premium Outlets Gold Coast…

No doubt after all that shopping, you'll have worked up an appetite and there's nowhere better to satiate it than Broadbeachs' Social Eating House + Bar. Found within the Oracle buildings close to Kurrawa Beach, the modern Australian venue offers a sophisticated take on casual fine dining.

DAY 2

For an energetic start to the day, join a stand-up paddle board session with Go Vertical SUP at Budds Beach or surf lesson with Get Wet Surf School.

A Gold Coast food tour is not-to-be-missed on your girls weekend and Kiff & Culture have curated exactly the one you need to experience. They'll pick you up from your accommodation and then your first stop is Burleigh Heads' famous Rick Shores, on the sand and serving up a five-course Asian-Australian seafood banquet lunch. Their Moreton Bay Bug Rolls are legendary on the Coast.

Miami Marketta is your day two, nighttime stop. It's a vibey little music and arts precinct complete with its own gin bar and a selection of street food trucks for dinner.

DAY 3

There's nowhere better to be on a Sunday morning on the Gold Coast than visiting a local farmers market. Surrounded by fertile fields and fringed by sea, the Gold Coast is an abundant food bowl serving both Gold Coasters and visitors alike. Our farm folk are passionate local growers, artisan producers and micro-manufacturers and they fill their stalls with delicious quality produce and innovative ingredients. For the best of our local farm fresh food, be sure to visit Palm Beach Farmers Market on Saturday morning or HOTA Artisan Market on Sundays.

It's pamper time in one of the most stunningly, serene spots on the Gold Coast; Greenhouse the Bathhouse. A boutique bathhouse and rejuvenation space with spas, a steam room and a (very) cold and delightful plunge pool, all designed to ignite your senses and have you feeling like a new person afterwards. Or check out renowned spas such as Chuan Spa at The Langham Gold Coast or The Grounds at Currumbin.

Your last night with the girls on the Gold Coast is a time for celebration and Pink Flamingo is the place. The stage show is a sexy and sophisticated blend of circus, cabaret and burlesque set in an intoxicating 1920s-style space and you can expect mesmerising aerial angels, world-class dance and vocals and a few daring stunts to top it all off.











A long weekend of Family Fun

DAY 1

Enjoy breakfast by the beach at one of the Gold Coast's famous surf clubs. Curumbin Vikings, Kurrawa and Northcliffe offer incredible views. Then let the kids burn off their post-breakkie energy on the beach afterwards. Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary is always a family favourite. Visit at 8am and 4pm daily for the daily lorikeet feeding and stay on to watch a wildlife show, feed the kangaroos, attempt the Treetop Challenge high ropes course or cool down at the splash park.

DAY 2

HOTA is not your ordinary gallery - this engaging and inspiring space is spread across five levels of artwork and exhibitions, within an iconic location where you can enjoy sweeping views of the Gold Coast alongside the paintings, sculptures and collections. There's a dedicated Children's Gallery where kids can express their own creativity with art and craft activities. Jump on the Hopo Ferry afterwards, and explore the Gold Coast waterways.

A visit to the Gold Coast isn't complete without a trip to one of our famous theme parks. Dreamworld, Movie World, Wet'n'Wild and WhiteWater World will keep the kids entertained for hours.

Topgolf is a hit amongst young and old, as well as Australian Outback Spectacular for a unique Aussie dinner and show.

DAY 3

Time to explore the Southern Gold Coast. Take an easy stroll through Burleigh Headland National Park, or join a guided walkabout tour from Jellurgal Aboriginal Cultural Centre. Take a refreshing dip afterwards in the pristine waters of nearby Tallebudgera Creek. Treat the kids to fish and chips with a view from Burleigh Pavilion, or for something more relaxed, Custard Canteen is walking distance from the creek and serves up delicious pastries and coffees. A holiday to the Gold Coast isn't complete without a surf lesson, Surf Easy Surf School at Currumbin is the perfect location for beginners.

For more inspiring Gold Coast holiday itineraries, visit: experiencegoldcoast.com/itineraries

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