

*Come and*

**PLAY**



**GOLDCOAST.**

A man and a young child are sitting on a red and white surfboard in the middle of the ocean. The man is leaning forward, looking at the child. The water is a vibrant blue-green, and the sky is a clear, bright blue with some white clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and recreational.

# Welcome TO AUSTRALIA'S FAVOURITE PLAYGROUND

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 all here waiting, so come and play!

 CURRUMBIN ALLEY



## SPLASH OUT

Sparkling oceans and azure waterways play a special part in shaping that enviable Gold Coast lifestyle. Offshore, keep an eye out for majestic humpback whales as they make their epic journey north along the coast and back again with their calves each year. Closer to home, let the kids run free! Splash, swim and surf at one of the many famous beaches that make up the 57km strip of glorious coastline, or spend a day paddling in the calm waters of one of the sheltered creeks.

📍 TALLEBUDGERA CREEK



## GREEN & GOLD

A beautiful green backdrop to the sands of the coastal strip, the hinterland is a place of undefined boundaries, and where time relaxes its grip. Absorb the peace and refreshment that comes from the lush natural landscapes, captivating hiking trails and many cascading waterfalls. Stumble upon caves, rocky outcrops and spectacular lookouts; explore the mountain villages with their tea shops and art galleries; take a tour of a local microbrewery or winery; or simply enjoy the tranquility of a rainforest retreat in one of Australia's oldest national parks.

📍 ROBERT SOWTER PARK, TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

# PLAY EAT DRINK

Surf culture, awesome adventures and a food scene that's storming the charts – the Gold Coast offers that perfect mix of activity and relaxation. How much of it you want to do is up to you.

📍 QT GOLD COAST, SURFERS PARADISE

Variety is the spice of a perfect holiday! Come for the beaches and theme parks, stay for the wildlife reserves, hinterland walks, cultural events and oodles of water-based action. Ready for a meal break? Fresh ingredients and local produce are the true heroes of the Gold Coast dining scene. Here, chefs harness the best of the region's farm-to-table flavours and plentiful seafood, creating menus as diverse as they are delicious. And with family friendly venues, date night destinations and secret local spots scattered throughout the Gold Coast neighbourhoods, eating out is all part of the adventure.

# PLAY GET OUT THERE

Unleash your inner child in Australia's favourite playground! Dizzying rides, super-cute wildlife, watersports at all speeds – the fun just keeps on coming.

## Thrills & spills

### WET'N'WILD

📍 OXFENFORD

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 today? Head to Calypso Beach, plonk onto a pool floatie and drift on the current through the calming tropical gardens.

[wetnwild.com.au](http://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. Don't miss Fully 6, with enough twists, turns and drops to get anyone's adrenaline working overtime. Calmer personalities will find fun at Wiggle Bay.

[dreamworld.com.au](http://dreamworld.com.au)

### WARNER BROS. MOVIE WORLD

📍 OXFENFORD

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](http://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](http://seaworld.com.au)

📍 DREAMWORLD



📍 WARNER BROS. MOVIE WORLD



📍 SEAWORLD

## 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.

[currumbinsanctuary.com.au](http://currumbinsanctuary.com.au)

### WHALES IN PARADISE

📍 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.

[whalesinparadise.com.au](http://whalesinparadise.com.au)

### 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](http://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](http://glowwormcavetamborinemountain.com.au)

“IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT LOOKING – THERE'S A WISHLIST OF ANIMAL EXPERIENCES, INCLUDING LORIKEET FEEDING AND KOALA PHOTOS.”

## 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.

### PURE ALOHA YOGA

#### 📍 BURLEIGH HEADS

If your holidays are all about unwinding, an outdoor yoga class is just what you need to connect with nature, stretch it out and relax. Take a class at Koala Park on the north side of Tallebudgera Creek, and bring your swimmers for a dip in the beautiful water afterwards. Water babies will love paddleboard yoga, where you can let the ocean lap over you and your board while you lie in savasana, and your worries drift away. [purealohayoga.co](http://purealohayoga.co)

### 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.

[surfersparadiservercruises.com.au](http://surfersparadiservercruises.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](http://linkshopeisland.com.au); [puttputtgolf.com.au](http://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



### 📍 CURRUMBIN BEACH

### 📍 PACIFIC FAIR



### 📍 TAMBORINE RAINFOREST SKYWALK

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://carraramarkets.com.au)



### BEST SPOTS FOR VINTAGE CLOTHES SHOPPING

by Miss Chrissy  
Vintage stylist,  
[@lindycharmschool](https://www.instagram.com/lindycharmschool)

#### 📍 RACK CITY VINTAGE CANUNGRA

Nestled in the back room of a 1930s house, Rack City is a fusion of vintage western, rock 'n' roll, gypsy spirit and a whole lot of soul. Find men's, women's and kids' clothes as well as cute collectibles dotted through the store.

#### 📍 RETROSHEILA COOLANGATTA

This place has been around for as long as I can remember, and is run by the serious no-nonsense but always fun Greg Pead. Bursting with curiosities and rare finds, it will appeal to anyone who has a flare for individual style from the 1940s to the 1970s.

#### 📍 NIND STREET SOUTHPORT

Six op shops in a row! Make a morning of it and meander through one after the other. These gems are full to the brim with pre-loved clothes, and you're supporting good causes as you shop. Just the other day, I picked up a three-piece 1980s ensemble that I teamed with a cloche hat and pearls, and hey presto, I had a killer 1930s picnic outfit.

## Nature walks

### NATURAL BRIDGE WITH SC4WD

#### 📍 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.

[sc4wd.com.au](http://sc4wd.com.au)

### JELLURGAL WALKABOUT

#### 📍 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 Yugambah 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](http://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](http://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](http://rainforestskywalk.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](http://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](http://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](http://thunderbirdpark.com)

### SEAWAY KAYAKING TOURS

#### 📍 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](http://seawaykayakingtours.com.au)

### ABC HELI

#### 📍 GOLD COAST AIRPORT, BILINGA

All this awesome scenery makes the best excuse to take a helicopter trip over it. A half-hour scenic flight will take you over the sun-kissed beaches from Tweed Heads to Surfers Paradise and out over the Cook Island aquatic reserve, home to dolphins, turtles and sharks. As you soar along the magnificent beaches, you can watch the surfers at Snapper Rocks before returning over the high-rise towers of Surfers Paradise, with Mount Warning and the lush green hinterland to the west.

[abcheli.com.au](http://abcheli.com.au)

### GO VERTICAL

#### 📍 BUDDS BEACH

What SUP? You are! Spot dolphins playing, mosey past turtles and cuttlefish at Budds Beach in Surfers Paradise, and play I-Spy with the sub-tropical birdlife in the mangroves of Macintosh Island. If you've never tried stand-up paddleboarding before, then no worries – tours start with a mini lesson to make sure you have the knack.

[govertical.com.au](http://govertical.com.au)

### WALKIN' ON WATER

#### 📍 COOLANGATTA

Surf culture and the Gold Coast go hand in hand. The 16km stretch from Burleigh Heads to Snapper Rocks was declared a World Surfing Reserve a few years back, joining only eight other spots worldwide. At the southern end lies the pristine Greenmount Beach, providing ideal waves and the perfect backdrop for one of the most learner-friendly locations. Take a two-hour introductory lesson, or polish up your skills with some 'performance' tuition.

[walkinonwater.com](http://walkinonwater.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.

[gobalooning.com](http://gobalooning.com)



📍 NORTH BURLEIGH



📍 CANYON FLYER



📍 SKYPOINT CLIMB



### BEST SPOTS FOR ICE-CREAM

by *Fat Springer*

[theorganisedhousewife.com.au](http://theorganisedhousewife.com.au)

#### 📍 GELATISSIMO COOMERA WESTFIELD

If the freshly made gelato in this parlour doesn't make you smile, the friendly staff will! I love that it's all made in-store, and that there are no artificial colours or flavourings. It's the perfect fresh sorbet to enjoy in the lush, leafy surrounds.

#### 📍 HEVEN-YAH MERMAID BEACH

This place is pretty new and it's at the top of the list for our next outing. I've heard such good things about it – they get their bananas, pineapples, honey and other ingredients all from the local area. I love ice-cream – any excuse!

#### 📍 BEN & JERRY'S PACIFIC FAIR

A full day of shopping calls for a sugary treat – in fact, it has become a bit of a ritual now. After a hard day of shopping (OK, so it's not that hard!), we always grab some Ben & Jerry's before we head home.

## 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](http://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](http://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.

#### 📍 HOTA



📍 SPIRITS OF THE RED SAND

### SPIRITS OF THE RED SAND

#### 📍 BEENLEIGH

Based on true events, Spirits of the Red Sand tells the powerful and emotive story of three Aboriginal brothers dealing with clashing cultures in the 19th century. It is brought to life at Beenleigh Historical Village via roving immersive theatre – expect to pick up and move from scene to scene – and is followed by a three-course dinner. This makes for an uplifting and thought-provoking evening that will take you to places you've never been before.

[spiritsredsand.com](http://spiritsredsand.com)

# 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

#### 📍 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.

[bar.burleighpavilion.com](http://bar.burleighpavilion.com)

### DANCING WATERS CAFÉ

#### 📍 SPRINGBROOK

Nestled on the edge of World Heritage-listed rainforest, and right next to the stunning Purlingbrook Falls lookout, Dancing Waters is a postcard-cute café with a penchant for homegrown and local produce. Take a morning hike through the mountains on one of the many Springbrook walking trails, then call in here for a signature toastie and some excellent coffee while rainbow lorikeets, kookaburras and king parrots watch from close by.

[dancingwaterscafe.wordpress.com](http://dancingwaterscafe.wordpress.com)

### 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](http://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.currumbinlisc.com.au](http://supporters.currumbinlisc.com.au)



📍 HIDEAWAY KITCHEN & BAR

“  
FOOD WITH A VIEW? TICK.  
PERCH ON A BAR STOOL  
OVERLOOKING BURLEIGH'S  
ROLLING SURF, AND ORDER  
FROM THE MENU OF  
SEASONAL BAR BITES.  
”



📍 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](http://hideawaykitchen.com.au)

### ALLY CHOW

#### 📍 NOBBY BEACH

Dumplings are the order of the day at this quirky restaurant that puts a fresh perspective on South East Asian cuisine. Led by hatted chef Trent Scarr, the focus is on share plates and more share plates. If the peanut butter tofu and burnt chilli mayo bao are anything to go by, you won't be able to stop ordering. Prawn skewers with wasabi chimichurri, you say? Oh go on then.

[allychow.com.au](http://allychow.com.au)

### THREE LITTLE PIGS

#### 📍 NORTH TAMBORINE

This hinterland bar and bistro puts sustainability in the spotlight, with meat from humanely raised animals, cheeses made from organic milk and most other ingredients locally grown. Sit in the light and airy dining room or choose to dine alfresco at a wine-barrel table and enjoy the green surrounds and chirping birds. Favourite dishes include the slow-roast pork belly with house-made aioli, and the 'Oink and Surf' – pork belly with prawns or calamari.

[three-little-pigs.com.au](http://three-little-pigs.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. Kick back with cocktails and enjoy the relaxed seaside-town vibe of Coolangatta.

[baskk.co](http://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](http://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](http://bmdnorthcliffe.com.au)

### FOX AND HOUNDS

#### 📍 WONGAWALLAN

Sitting at the base of Tamborine Mountain, Fox and Hounds stakes its claim as Australia's only authentic English pub. It serves up proper British pub grub such as toad in the hole, beef and Guinness pie, Sunday roasts and golden Yorkshire puddings, and there's apple and rhubarb crumble with custard for pud. Enjoy a range of British beers on tap, and if you want to relax *en famille* there's a beer garden for the kids to play in.

[foxandhounds.net.au](http://foxandhounds.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](http://surfersbeergarden.com.au)

### 📍 BMD NORTHCLIFFE SURF CLUB



### 📍 GLASS DINING & LOUNGE BAR



### 📍 COMMUNE ESPRESSO



### 📍 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](http://rickshores.com.au)

### GLASS DINING & LOUNGE BAR

#### 📍 MAIN BEACH

A recent million-dollar fit-out matches the million-dollar views from this Marina Mirage restaurant – stunning by day and spectacular by night. Start with a drink on the outdoor terrace while you watch the sun set, then head inside for a candlelit dinner. Fresh local seafood is a mainstay of the à la carte menu that offers chargrilled Moreton Bay bugs, flash-fried buttermilk calamari and Atlantic salmon. For a sweet finish to date night, make sure you leave room for the Grand Marnier crème brûlée.

[glassrestaurant.com.au](http://glassrestaurant.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](http://littletruffle.com.au)



### BEST SPOTS FOR SUSHI

by Hari Varier  
Front Office Manager,  
Palazzo Versace, Main Beach

### 📍 ETSU MERMAID BEACH

Etsu is only visible by a single red lantern hanging beside the door – but don't let its humble appearance deceive you. Inside, it's one of the best places on the Gold Coast for sushi. They have an extensive raw bar featuring sashimi, tataki and carpaccio, as well as hot dishes such as gyoza, tempura and yakitori.

### 📍 IZAKAYA ICHI SOUTHPORT

Quaint and unassuming, this is where you can expect authentic Japanese hotpots, sushi and fresh sashimi. Simple, healthy and fresh – you can't go wrong. The shaved ice dessert is irresistible too.

### 📍 YAMAGEN SURFERS PARADISE

Head to Yamagen for the signature smoking kushiyaki, and don't leave without trying the sashimi tacos. This ultra-trendy restaurant has set menus so you can try a selection of the best dishes. It also has the largest Japanese whiskey collection in Australia.

## 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](https://www.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](http://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.

[rockleighcafe.com](http://rockleighcafe.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](http://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](http://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](http://blackboardcoffee.com.au)

### TEAVINE HOUSE

#### 📍 TALLEBUDGERA

There's no better spot to enjoy a cuppa than in the picturesque Tallebudgera Valley, sipping from a fine English china cup. There are 13 loose leaf teas to choose from, all of which are brewed and served in teapots and cups collected from across the world. If you're a

bit peckish, it would be remiss not to indulge in the traditional high tea that includes mini quiches, cucumber and cream cheese sandwiches, and scones with jam and cream. [teavinehouse.com.au](http://teavinehouse.com.au)

### PADDOCK BAKERY

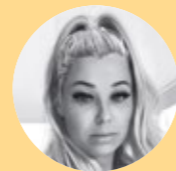
#### 📍 MIAMI

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](http://paddockbakery.com)



📍 PADDOCK BAKERY

### 📍 BURLEIGH BREWING CO.



### BEST SPOTS FOR FRESH JUICE

by Emma Stevenson  
Owner, Emte Boutique,  
Burleigh Heads

### TUGUN FRUIT AND FLOWERS 📍 TUGUN VILLAGE

All the juices here are amazing, but the Golden Four with carrot, orange, ginger and pineapple is the best ever. They also have an amazing selection of fresh fruit and flowers in stock. I love coming here; it's one of the best places on the Gold Coast.

### THE FRUIT SHOP 📍 BURLEIGH

This is next door to Emte, so I'm lucky enough to grab a juice from here every day before I start work. I love the '7', which contains beetroot, carrot, apple and ginger. All their juices are topped with piles of fresh fruit, so they look amazing too.

### LIQUID DREAMS 📍 RAINBOW BAY

As well as doing great juices, this café's Scandi-style decor and piles of fruit salad are totally Insta-worthy. I always feel good about myself after I've had the green smoothie, with banana, avocado, dates, cinnamon, organic coconut milk and vanilla protein. I love drinking it while I walk down to Snapper Rocks to watch the surfers.

### 📍 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](http://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](http://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](http://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



📍 JUSTIN LANE

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](http://justinlane.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](http://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](http://mtnathanwinery.com.au)

# STAY REST RELAX

Luxury suites with all the trimmings, holiday apartments with dreamy views – here you will find the perfect base from which you can go exploring, or simply stay put.

📍 MORANS FALLS

**C**an't get enough of those glittering city lights? Or would you prefer to escape to an eco-retreat and reconnect with nature? A huge part of any holiday is choosing the right place to stay – somewhere that's going to fit the needs of the whole family. And that's no easy task in a place with this many options! From first-class luxury hotel rooms to easy self-catering holiday abodes where you're rubbing shoulders with the locals, thoughtfully designed retro hotels to resorts with lagoon-style pools, here on the Gold Coast every style and budget is catered for. All you have to do is pick one.

# 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!

## Iconic 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.

[www.sheratongrandgoldcoast.com](http://www.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.

[www.jwmarriottgoldcoast.com](http://www.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](http://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](http://peppers.com.au)

### RHAPSODY RESORT

#### 📍 SURFERS PARADISE

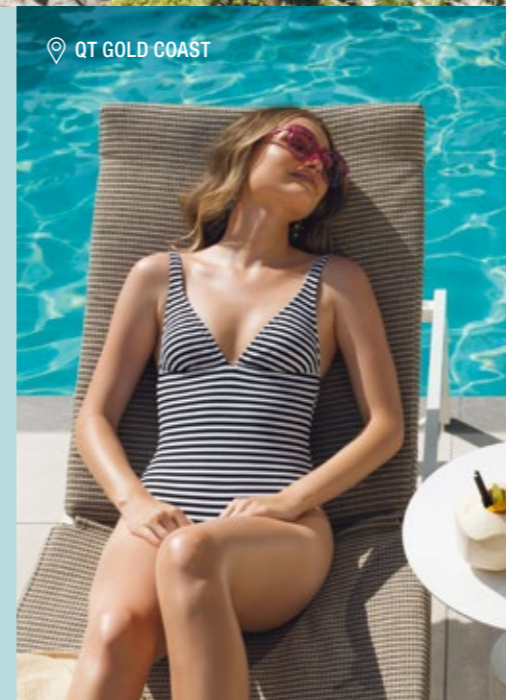
A glistening beacon on Gold Coast's iconic hotel strip, Rhapsody features 41 floors of immaculate studios, plus one and two bedroom apartments with limitless ocean and hinterland views. The ideal choice for families, longer stays or those who prefer to self-cater, make yourself at home before kicking off your shoes at the rooftop BBQ (41 floors up!), splash in the pool or walk barefoot across the esplanade to the sand.

[rhapsodyresort.com.au](http://rhapsodyresort.com.au)



📍 JW MARRIOTT GOLD COAST RESORT & SPA

### 📍 QT GOLD COAST



### 📍 SHERATON GRAND MIRAGE RESORT



## SAFE TRAVELS

We live in one of the most amazing places in the world, so let's get out there! There's so much to discover in Queensland, and the Gold Coast has a piece of everything. From the tropics to the coast, the outback to the islands, the cities to the rainforest and reef, the countryside to the waterslides – it's time to explore like never before. If you see a hotel, tour operator or attraction displaying this symbol, it means it has completed a COVID Safe program. So you're good to go.



## 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!



## GETTING HERE

Fly direct into Gold Coast International Airport at Coolangatta, and it's a short drive to Burleigh Heads (15 minutes) and Surfers Paradise (30 minutes).

Brisbane Airport is just an hour's drive to Surfers Paradise, or you can take a train, see [airtrain.com.au](http://airtrain.com.au).



## GETTING AROUND

The Gold Coast light rail (G:Link) services 19 stops between Broadbeach and Helensvale, see [ridetheg.com.au](http://ridetheg.com.au).

With a Go Explore card you can enjoy unlimited travel on the G:Link and TransLink bus services, see [translink.com.au](http://translink.com.au).



📍 MANTRA CROWN TOWERS



📍 AVANI BROADBEACH

**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.



📍 PARADISE RESORT GOLD COAST



📍 THE STAR GRAND AT THE STAR GOLD COAST



📍 THE ISLAND

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://theislandgoldcoast.com.au)

### AVANI

#### 📍 BROADBEACH

Located a towel toss from the sights and sounds of Broadbeach – Pacific Fair Shopping Centre, The Star Gold Coast casino, restaurants, cafés and the beach – Avani is a stellar new addition to the local hotel scene. These five-star serviced apartments will leave you torn as to whether to cook, or leave the washing up to someone else when you dine downstairs at stylish Miss Money Penny's or casual American-inspired diner Fat Freddy's.

[avanihotels.com](http://avanihotels.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.

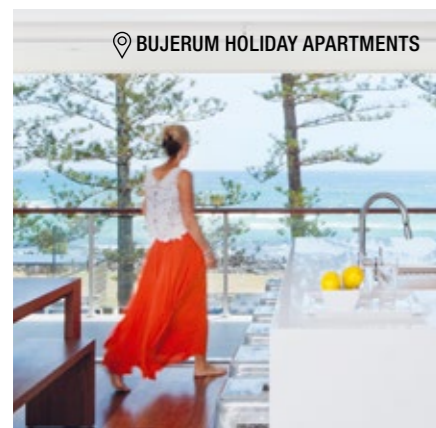
## Low-key luxury

### 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](http://swellresort.com.au)



📍 BUJERUM HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

### BON SOL

#### 📍 BURLEIGH HEADS

With no expense spared on the Anna Spiro-designed aesthetic, this luxurious boutique apartment has everything you could ever want in a special vacay, plus a few things you didn't know you needed. Think vintage bubbles on arrival, drinks trolley set-up service and, when you book a four-night stay, a date night dinner voucher at award-winning Restaurant Labart nearby. Located amidst the bohemian ambience of Burleigh Heads, you'll feel like a local while living like royalty.

[bonsol.com.au](http://bonsol.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](http://bujerum.com.au)



### BEST SPOTS FOR CATCHING A WAVE

by *Nina Maldos Lima*  
[burleighbrewing.com.au](http://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.

#### 📍 BON SOL



#### 📍 ICONIC KIRRA



#### 📍 THE PINK HOTEL



## Southern stars

### 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](http://lacostamotel.com.au)



📍 LA COSTA MOTEL

### 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](http://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](http://thepinkhotelcoolangatta.com)



BINNA BURRA



SONGBIRDS

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
THE GOLD COAST IS  
HOME TO 100,000  
HECTARES OF NATURE  
RESERVES AND WORLD  
HERITAGE SITES,  
OF WHICH A LARGE  
PART IS SUBTROPICAL  
RAINFOREST.



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.

# RELAX GET AWAY

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](http://oreillys.com.au)

### BINNA BURRA

#### 📍 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](http://binnaburralodge.com.au)

### SONGBIRDS RETREAT

#### 📍 TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

Songbirds Rainforest Retreat is up there with the best. Surrounded by eight hectares of exquisite rainforest and the hypnotic sounds of nature, six rustic yet totally snuggle-worthy cabins come complete with king-size bed, spa bath overlooking the trees, floor-to-ceiling windows and mini bar. Wake to the sound of bird song, unwind with a hot-stone massage, and breathe in that clean mountain air on nature walks that will revive all your senses.

You can even bring your dog.

[songbirds.com.au](http://songbirds.com.au)

### OCEAN BEACH TOURIST PARK

#### 📍 MIAMI

Peaceful, secluded yet conveniently located? You got it. Accommodation at the Ocean Beach Tourist Park includes powered sites for tents and caravans, as well as cabins that sleep up to nine, all tucked in behind the spectacular surf beach at Miami. From the nearby North Burleigh Lookout there are views up north to Surfers Paradise, and down south to Burleigh Heads. A long beach walk will soon have you in the mood for fish and salty chips.

[goldcoasttouristparks.com.au/park/ocean-beach-tourist-park](http://goldcoasttouristparks.com.au/park/ocean-beach-tourist-park)

# READY TO PLAY? HERE'S WHERE TO FIND IT

*Drop in*  
TO OUR VISITOR  
INFORMATION CENTRES

📍 COOLANGATTA  
Site 20, Gold Coast Airport  
📍 SURFERS PARADISE  
2 Cavill Avenue, Cavill Mall  
Ph: 1300 309 440

*Browse*  
OUR WEBSITE AT  
YOUR LEISURE

[destinationgoldcoast.com](http://destinationgoldcoast.com)

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EXPERIENCE  
USING OUR HASHTAG

*#playgoldcoast*



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A vibrant photograph of a man and a child playing in a pool. The man is in the water, splashing, while the child is jumping or falling from a rock ledge. A waterfall flows over the rocks on the left. The background shows a resort setting with palm trees and lounge chairs under a clear blue sky.

“  
WE DON'T STOP PLAYING  
BECAUSE WE GROW OLD;  
WE GROW OLD BECAUSE  
WE STOP PLAYING.

” - George Bernard Shaw

📍 JW MARRIOTT GOLD COAST RESORT & SPA

**GOLDCOAST.**