

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND

Brisbane is more than just a gateway to Queensland's sunny coast; it's a beautiful modern riverside city with a unique vibe.



FROM THE AIRPORT

CBD 16km

Travel time CBD is

20–25mins by car

Taxi Approx AU\$22

Bus Every 15–30mins: AU\$9 adult, AU\$6 child, under 4 years free and taking about 30mins

Train Every 20mins to all downtown city stations: AU\$12 adult, AU\$6 child and taking about 22mins

Airport parking AU\$5–AU\$30 (30mins–24hrs)

ON THE GO

1. AirTrain Connects airport to Brisbane city and Gold Coast – it stops at four city locations.

2. City High Lights Bus Tours All-day ticket allows you to hop on and off at 20 major locations.



STAN ELLERM

Outdoor leader of Adventure Seekers

Favourite local festival:

Gambaro's Seafood Restaurant plays host to the annual Caxton Street Seafood Festival, held in May each year.

There are culinary delights on offer from the local restaurants and street vendors, plus DJs and bands entertaining throughout the day until late at night.

Best idea for a family outing:

Enjoy a bushwalk in the many national parks around Brisbane. Binna Burra Mountain Lodge in the Lamington National Park has a vast network of graded tracks for the whole family to enjoy.

Most unusual thing to do:

Adventure Seekers run rock-climbing and abseiling sessions for both novices and more experienced thrill-seekers. In no time at all, we'll have you abseiling like a pro to the backdrop of a beautiful sunset and brightening city lights.

Best place to party with the gang:

Family nightclub in Fortitude Valley's party precinct is the city's best dancing/party venue.

Best place for dinner:

The Venice Café Bar on Queen Street specialises in Italian and Modern Australian cuisine and boasts some of Brisbane's best river views with the iconic Story Bridge as a backdrop.

Best buy for under AU\$50: For AU\$25, the City Sights hop-on hop-off bus lets you experience Brisbane at your own pace. Your ticket also provides access to Brisbane's CityCat ferry services.

CAIRNS, QUEENSLAND

Tropical Cairns is not only the town closest to the Great Barrier Reef, it's also the gateway to Queensland's far north wilderness.



FROM THE AIRPORT

CBD 8km

Travel time CBD is 10mins by car

Taxi Approx AU\$15

Australia Coach Shuttle Every hour: AU\$10 adult, AU\$15 couple, AU\$5 child and taking about 20mins

Airport parking AU\$3–11 (2–24hrs)

ON THE GO

1. Sunbus Runs regularly all over Cairns from City Place, even to the Northern Beaches.

2. Black & White taxis The main stand in City Place is on The Esplanade, outside McDonalds or Reef Casino.



JASON STOBBS

Concierge at Novotel Rockford Palm Cove (25 minutes north of Cairns)

Best breakfast: The buffet breakfast at the Novotel Rockford Palm Cove has everything from cereal, yoghurt and freshly cut tropical fruits to bacon, eggs, hash browns and pancakes.

Great place for dinner: You can't go past the seafood buffet on Friday and Saturday nights in Canecutters Restaurant. There's a huge selection of fresh, mouth-watering, chilled and cooked seafood – oysters, mussels, seafood curries, crabs and much more.

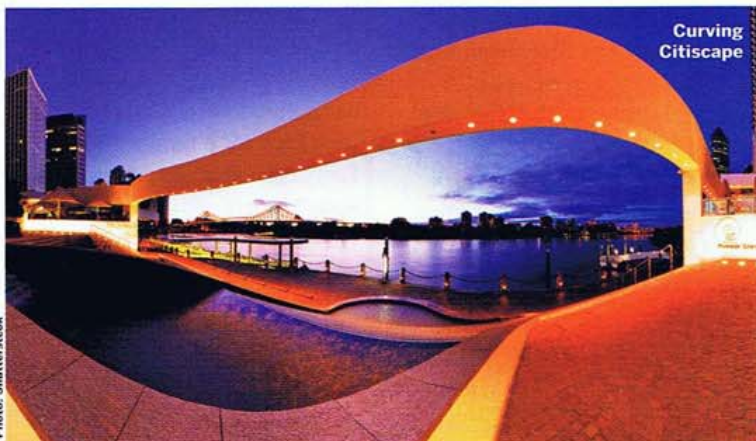
Best night out: For those who are young at heart and keen for a beer, then Shenanigans and the Pier Bar in Cairns have an awesome atmosphere.

Survival tip for tourists: Always wear plenty of sunscreen and bring a hat.

Local delicacy: Head down to Apres Beach Bar and Grill in Palm Cove. It's a great place to dine with the locals on true blue Australian cuisine such as huge steaks, kangaroo, crocodile and emu.

Best idea for a family outing: It would have to be a trip out to the Great Barrier Reef. The many tour operators are all professional and will take great care of you.

I love Cairns because: It's the perfect spot in paradise to do as little or as much as you want, whether that be having a romantic dinner cruise on the Trinity Inlet, or jumping from a plane at 14,000 feet.



Curving Citiscape



Lagoon on Esplanade