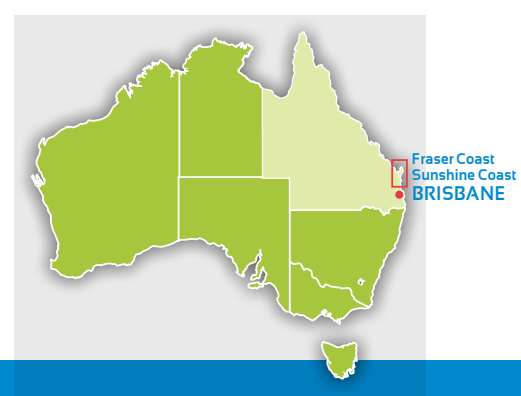


# Australia's Nature Coast

## Naturally Abundant

[www.australiasnaturecoast.com](http://www.australiasnaturecoast.com)



### Australia's Nature Coast

From the Glass House Mountains north of Brisbane to iconic Fraser Island - is a destination abundant in Nature.

This is the home of big nature experiences only a three-and-a-half hour drive north of Brisbane international airport or direct flight from Brisbane and Sydney.

On Queensland's Fraser Coast, you can stand dwarfed by centuries-old trees with three-metre girths in the rainforest of World Heritage-listed Fraser Island, paddle in cool perched lakes, swim with giant humpbacks as they play along the Hervey Bay coast or in the company of hundreds of manta rays off Lady Elliot Island. We're also a place of simple pleasures, offering families a wide choice of relaxing activities, without the stress of crowds.

If you love the ocean and watersports, the Great Sandy Strait is a haven for all kinds of aquatic adventures and the quaint coastal townships frame a UNESCO-recognised wetland area. Inland, the heritage city of Maryborough, one of Queensland's oldest provincial cities, will charm you with its striking art and tales of the past. The region offers affordable island, bay, beach and heritage experiences in an unrivalled natural environment.

The pristine coastline continues south from Rainbow Beach to Noosa, the only region where two biospheres meet the Great Sandy Biosphere and the Noosa Biosphere through to Coolumb and onto Caloundra then west to the lush hinterland. The Sunshine Coast offers visitors a natural and unspoilt canvas on which to uncover nature.

### Top Five Experiences on Australia's Nature Coast

1. Explore spectacular world heritage listed Fraser Island and swim in pristine Lake McKenzie and walk through untouched rainforest.
2. Immerse yourself with the majestic Humpback Whales in the calm protected waters of Hervey Bay and Mooloolaba.
3. Experience the natural wonders of Lady Elliot Island, the most southern island on World Heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef.
4. Experience the Sunshine Coast's iconic coastal and aquatic lifestyle. Pristine waterways, a highlight not to miss is the Noosa Everglades.
5. Seeing the breathtaking views of the Glass House Mountains National Park and the stunning coastline from the sub-tropical Sunshine Coast Hinterland

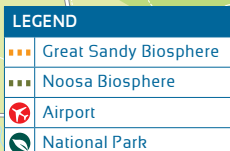
### Where to Stay

Whether it is 5-star luxury beachfront apartments, international standard hotels, luxury lodge escapes, eco-accredited accommodation, quaint bed and breakfasts, golf and spa resorts, houseboats, or camping and caravanning, Australia's Nature Coast offers accommodation options to suit all tastes and budgets.

### Did you know?

Australia's Great Beach Drive is located along the Sunshine and Fraser Coasts', connecting with World Heritage-listed Fraser Island. Experience a once in a lifetime journey, escaping the highway and four-wheel driving along a white sandy beach surrounded by the sparkling Pacific Ocean and Australian bushland.

Australia's Nature Coast boasts more than one third of Australia's bird species, more than 150 rare or endangered species, and unspoilt habitats including mangroves, wetlands, rainforests and coastal heath.





## Fraser Island

Explore the transcendent World Heritage-listed Fraser Island the largest sand island in the world known by the local aboriginal people as K'gari, which means paradise. Stand next to the colossal, furrowed trunk of an ancient tree more than 1200 years old as you explore one of the most awe-inspiring islands on earth with its beautiful blue-hued, freshwater lakes and coloured sand dunes. Another thrill for visitors is zooming along 75 Mile Beach which doubles as a four-wheel-drive highway and a landing strip for light aircraft. It's one of the rare places in the world where commercial planes take-off and land on the beach.

## Southern Great Barrier Reef

Uncovering the mystery of Australia's Great Barrier Reef is within a short 40-minute scenic flight from the Fraser Coast to magical Lady Elliot Island. Experiencing the wonders of healthy coral reefs and an abundance of turtles, dolphins, manta rays and reef sharks is as simple as stepping off the beach and into the ocean. Underwater there is an average visibility of about 25m-plus all year round. The island is known as the home of the manta ray with more than 1000 recorded in the vicinity and the area is a sanctuary for more than 1200 species of marine life.



## Self Drive

Maryborough is just three hours' drive (255km) north of Brisbane along the Bruce Highway (A1). Hervey Bay, gateway to Fraser Island and access point for Lady Elliot Island on the Great Barrier Reef is a further 34km north-east of Maryborough

## Travelling by Air

QantasLink operates extensive daily flight between Brisbane and the Fraser Coast (Hervey Bay Airport) Virgin Australia operates daily flights between Sydney and the Fraser Coast. SeaAir Offers daily flights between the Fraser Coast and Lady Elliot Island

Hervey Bay	Brisbane	Sydney	Lady Elliot island
	40min	90m	40min

## Hervey Bay

Experience eco-adventures and amazing aquatic action at Hervey Bay, a coastal delight with a protected and stunning shoreline. It's the whale watching capital of the world with whales using the bay as a nursery. Mothers teach their calves life skills and glide in for a closer look at the passengers on whale watching vessels. Hervey Bay is the only place in Australia where humpbacks stop to rest and play for up to 10 days. Hop aboard a boat or jet ski in Hervey Bay to visit the almost-untouched remote western coast of Fraser Island with its white sandy beaches and sparkling clear water.

## Maryborough

Stroll through the heritage-rich streets and uncover some of the fascinating stories which shaped one of Queensland's oldest cities. See the building where P.L. Travers, author of the Mary Poppins books, was born, take a photo with the bronze statue of the famous nanny and cross the road at pedestrian lights featuring silhouettes of the umbrella-carrying character. The city is also home to one of the best military museums in the country with more than 10,000 artefacts and its picturesque streets are dotted with fascinating public art including 30 murals which form a quirky mural trail.



## Travelling by Rail

Queensland Rail operates regular services from Brisbane, Rockhampton and Cairns to Maryborough West train station on the Fraser Coast. Coach transfers to Hervey Bay connect with many of the north and south bound trains.

## Travelling by Bus

Greyhound and Premier operate several daily services north and south bound through Maryborough and Hervey Bay, including a direct services to Brisbane Domestic and International airport. While other local operators ferry passengers between Fraser Coast and Brisbane daily, including the Sunshine Coast and Rainbow Beach.

For more information visit [www.visitfrasercoast.com](http://www.visitfrasercoast.com)