Study, live and work in Queensland AUSTRALIA
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Queensland, a gateway to endless opportunities

Queensland is Australia’s second largest state, covering 1,727,000 square kilometres and has a population of more than 4.7 million people. The capital city is Brisbane and is located in the south-eastern corner of the State.

With its world-class education and training providers at scenic locations from cities to country towns to the beach, you’ll feel at home in Queensland’s safe, vibrant and relaxed environment.

Queensland delivers an abundance of study, lifestyle and work advantages to international students, making it the ideal place to study, including:

- four international airports for easy access to and from your home
- an enviable sub-tropical climate, experiencing warm and sunny weather most of the year
- Queensland has five of Australia’s 11 World Heritage sites and is home to many famous landmarks including the natural wonders of The Great Barrier Reef, Daintree National Park, plus much more.
- clean, green environment
- efficient transport infrastructure
- reliable health and emergency services
- high quality and suitable accommodation
- a strong economy, high standard of living, relaxed outdoor lifestyle and excellent prospects for work experience seekers across a range of sectors from tourism to retail, agriculture to mining, business to creative arts, science to research and much more!

In addition, international students enrolled in full time accredited courses may be entitled to local transport concessions. Children of PhD students and 576 visa holders may be eligible for free schooling depending on the Queensland public schools and their circumstances.

A Queensland education experience will help you build skills to give you a competitive edge, academically, personally and professionally. The state is a leader in research and has:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Research Centres</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mining Resources &amp; Energy</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Environment &amp; Nature</td>
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<td>Manufacturing &amp; Design</td>
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<td>Defence Aviation &amp; Space</td>
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<tr>
<td>Defence Aviation &amp; Space</td>
<td>6</td>
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</table>

Queenslanders are renowned for their friendliness and recognise the valuable contribution that international students can make to the state. As the gateway to endless opportunities, Queensland looks forward to welcoming all international students.
2nd largest state in Australia.

Nearly five times the size of Japan

Seven times the size of Great Britain

15.7°C to 25.3°C average temperature range, and an average day has 8 hours of sunshine

4.7 million people call Queensland home

1/3 are migrants or children of migrants

5 World Heritage Areas
- Riversleigh Fossil Fields
- The Wet Tropics (including Daintree National Park)
- The Great Barrier Reef one of the Wonders of the World
- The Scenic Rim
- Fraser Island the biggest sand island in the world

The aquatic symbol of the state is the Barrier Reef Anemone fish

Q1, located on the Gold Coast is the tallest building in the southern hemisphere

The state animal is the koala

Easy access from your home country:

4 international airports
Brisbane, Cairns, Gold Coast & Townsville

Study, live and work
Queensland, a gateway to limitless learning experiences

Queensland boasts a leading education and training system comprising more than 280 schools and educational providers across the state. Currently, Queensland attracts students from more than 160 countries every year. A wide range of flexible tailored study options is offered in the primary, secondary, vocational and tertiary sectors across state, independent and Catholic schools, so students can realise limitless learning and career experiences at a suitable pace and time.

Students will experience:
• quality learning outcomes in a welcoming, safe and supportive environment
• improved personal development
• a conduit to greater study pathways and employment opportunities here and abroad.

Education System Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Level</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Year</td>
<td>Compulsory first year of primary school (aged 4-6).</td>
<td>A solid foundation in social, motor, literacy and numeracy skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary School</td>
<td>Compulsory education delivered from Year 1 to 6.</td>
<td>Foundation and knowledge based skills are learned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary School</td>
<td>The final period of compulsory education delivered from Year 7 to 12.</td>
<td>Pathways to either university, vocational education or a job.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary Sector</td>
<td>Vocational studies for year 10 and beyond. University studies for year 12 (or similar) and beyond. PhD and research post-graduate opportunities.</td>
<td>Recognised certificate to post-graduate level qualifications for further study options and/or job and career advancement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Choice of Schools

Queensland schools offer internationally recognised qualifications and an abundant choice of programs, including short or long term options and individual or group programs ranging from three months to five years in duration.

State Schools

Queensland Government schools provide students with an excellent choice of study pathways, enabling them to achieve their academic, career and personal development goals in a supportive and healthy environment. Education Queensland International (EQI) is an international award winning body dedicated to managing the needs of international students’ and their families, enrolled in Queensland Government schools. The team will actively encourage students to achieve their academic potential in a safe and high quality learning environment.

Independent Schools

Over 180 Queensland independent schools educate more than 116,000 students each year. Independent schools offer parents a choice that can best serve their child’s needs by aligning with values they believe to be most important. All independent schools must comply with government regulations and standards.
Catholic Schools
The state’s Catholic schools strive to provide a high quality education, advancing the common good of society and believe in the intrinsic value of each student based on a distinctive educational vision inspired by the example of Jesus Christ. Catholic schools implement national and state curriculum.

English Language Institutions
Queensland’s English Language Institutions deliver high quality innovative teaching tailored to individual needs. Completing English studies can help students further their career and personal aspirations. Study is offered at private colleges, vocational educational and training institutions, schools and universities.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)
VET courses are delivered through TAFE Queensland, private providers and some high schools. Programs are developed to build practical and professional skills to help students achieve their potential in their chosen field. Queensland’s VET providers are internationally renowned for offering students high-quality, accredited courses across a wide range of industries, cutting-edge technology and facilities, industry-savvy trainers, strong business and industry partnerships and solid pathways to higher education and employment. Quality assured under the Australian Quality Framework (AQF), the state’s VET providers are focused on delivering relevant industry based training to give students a competitive edge.

Universities, post-graduate study and research
Queensland universities have an international reputation for providing high-quality progressive education and research across a diverse range of specialisations.

Our ten research universities have campuses located in metropolitan and regional areas providing strong opportunities for post-graduate study including PhD pursuits. Queensland has a strong research infrastructure platform and is investing in people, ideas and partnerships to drive creativity and innovation.

The Government is committing A$180 million to its Advance Queensland program, which is designed to create knowledge-based jobs for the future, to drive productivity improvements and build on the state’s natural advantages.

Advance Queensland will position Queensland as a place where entrepreneurs, universities and government work to turn great ideas in to investable products and growing businesses that create the jobs of the future.

“One University, many cultures…You can study a quality program and have loads of fun! I have had some of the best memories of my life studying here.”

Bilal Ahmad, Pakistan
Master of Information Technology

Queensland is a leader in quality education and training across a range of industries, including:

- Aviation and aerospace
- Creative industries
- Engineering
- Mining
- Health sciences
- Tourism and hospitality
- Biotechnology

There are almost 300 registered institutions for international students in Queensland including:

- 11 universities
- 100+ state, independent and catholic schools
- 50+ English language schools
- 6 TAFEs
- 100+ private VET colleges

International students in Australia on a student visa must study with an institution and in a course that is registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS).

For more go to cricos.education.gov.au
Located on Australia’s East Coast, Queensland is one of the world’s most enviable places to study, live and work. Queensland is considered Australia’s sunshine state spanning 1.727 million square kilometres, which is seven times the size of the UK and boasts an abundance of natural resources and economic and structural advantages. International students will be immersed in a modern, cosmopolitan culture and welcomed into an open, friendly and inclusive society.

“What amazed me the most is the general kindness I saw in my peers. I was able to make friends very easily here, which makes it unique from the start.”

Kenan Kessler (United States of America)

Arriving in Queensland

Most Queensland education providers and institutions offer international students a variety of support services to help adjust to life in Australia. Services include airport reception, accommodation placement, orientation programs, social and recreational activities, welfare advice and counselling plus emergency and health services.

When looking for adventures and travel destinations in Queensland, there is no shortage of options. The state’s natural assets include:

- the awe-inspiring outback
- lush green rainforest
- golden beaches stretching for kilometres
- the glistening blue coastline
- plus discover an amazing array of marine life and colourful coral on the Great Barrier Reef.

In addition to the natural wonders the state offers, visitors can also explore:

- theme parks
- dining precincts
- zoos
- cityscapes and nightlife
- arts and creative performance, plus much more.

Queensland entertains visitors from across the world and there’s no part of Queensland more colourful than the people.

Accommodation while travelling

There are plenty of great places to play and stay in Queensland. Thousands of accommodation options are available - from backpackers to bed and breakfasts to camping grounds or luxury resorts. There will be something that meets your travel plans and budget!

For more on living in Queensland studyqueensland.qld.edu.au

Queensland, a gateway to an amazing lifestyle

Live

Study, live and work
The Queensland daily life

**Inspiring day to day life**
- Idyllic subtropical weather with 263 days of sunshine a year, on average
- Clean, green and attractive environment free from animal and plant pests
- Suitable accommodation options with amenities
- 7000 kms of coastline with world renowned beaches and waterways
- One of the most politically stable countries in the world
- Enjoy an outdoor culture where eating out, bike rides, sport and recreation are part of the norm
- Fresh produce and infused modern cuisine readily available and affordable
- Vibrant arts and creative culture with performances, museums and festivals

**How to get around**
- Extensive transport infrastructure so you can travel safely and affordably by train, bus, ferry, aeroplane, taxi
- Well developed motorways for vehicle commutes

**Permanent living and amenity**
- Homestay offers you the chance to experience life as part of a family
- Boarding school gives students a chance to mix with peers and participate in school social activities
- Individual rental accommodation provides a sanctuary of your own space
- Share accommodation in a house or unit to make friends and reduce rental costs

**Staying healthy**
- High quality medical and health services are readily accessible, all you need is an Overseas Student Health Cover card and passport
- Queensland is a safe place by world standards. However, you should apply a common sense approach to protecting yourself and belongings

**Getting to Queensland**
- **Visas** - When you find the right course for you, apply at the institution. When accepted, apply for your student visa with your Confirmation of Enrolment at your Australian Consulate/Embassy.
- You must hold a valid work visa to work in Queensland, which you can apply for at your Australian Consulate/Embassy
- **Passports** - You need a valid passport to enter Queensland, Australia. Contact local immigration authorities for more information
- **Money** - The Australian dollar is Queensland’s unit of currency. Monetary exchange is available at airports, banks, and city exchange outlets across the state
- **Banking** - Possibility to set up an account before or after you arrive in Queensland. Australian banks can assist with your banking and insurance needs
- **Customs** - To find out what can be brought into Queensland, refer to daff.gov.au
Work

Queensland, a gateway to endless work and career advantages

Queensland has an abundance of advantages for international students and migrants including a safe and stable environment and a strong economy forecast to grow at 4.5% in 2015-16. Ideally positioned at the crossroads of the Asia-Pacific region, Queensland is close to the growth markets of the world and comprises internationally-renowned tourism, agriculture, resources, construction and education industries plus an emerging research and bio-industries sector.

Work experience

Work experience assists international students in their transition from school to work by providing formally arranged activities at a place of paid or voluntary work. Students may undertake work sampling, work shadowing, research work experience and structured work placement. This gives students a taste of real work situations and an entry point into future work.

Volunteering

Volunteer work is a great way to learn valuable real-world skills and give back to the greater community. There is a wide range of opportunities available in Queensland for anyone willing to learn and contribute their time. Volunteers don’t need to be an Australian citizen or permanent resident, so it is ideal for international students.

A working holiday with study

Explore Queensland’s natural treasures by combining study, travel and work with a working holiday visa. Courses of 17 weeks or less in duration can be completed part-time or full-time. English language programs are offered at many institutions and are an active way to improve your job prospects and cultural immersion.

Working while studying

Combining work with study is a great way to earn money and meet new people. You can work up to 40 hours per fortnight when your course is in session and unlimited hours when it is not.

Internship

Internships provide students and recent graduates with the opportunity to gain practical training in a real work environment. Gaining work experience overseas can provide you with a strong competitive advantage in the global job market. The increasing demand for foreign experience has seen growing numbers of students and professionals choose Queensland, Australia as their destination for professional experience.

“I needed some entry level experience in the finance industry and I am thankful to Joblinx for helping me through this process. I was offered an Internship role at Yellow Brick Road Wealth Management for three months. After completion of this placement, my Manager asked me to complete the Diploma in Financial Planning course. On completion, I was offered the role of a para planner with YBR.”

Nikunj Kapadia, India, Sarina Russo Institute
PhD, Research and Advance Queensland

PhD students and research related work is strongly encouraged in Queensland. The Queensland Government is investing A$180 million over four years through its Advance Queensland program to create knowledge-based jobs of the future.

In 2014, there were 3,444 international PhD students in Queensland universities, many studying on scholarships from overseas governments and multilateral funding agencies.

Working after study

As part of Australia’s commitment to encouraging international students to gain work skills, experience more of Queensland life and develop their English language, students can remain in Queensland, Australia for work purposes between 18 months and 4 years after they complete their studies on a 485 visa.

Once you have completed your studies, you may be eligible for a visa that allows you to continue to work in Queensland. Queensland nominates skilled migrants in occupations that are in demand for both provisional visa’s and permanent residency, which allow you to live and work in Queensland. If you also have overseas qualifications and work experience you may be eligible to apply for a state nominated skilled visa.

PhD and Masters students who graduated from a Queensland University in Queensland, may be eligible for Queensland Government nomination for a Skilled Nominated visa (subclass 190), which would allow them to live and work in Queensland permanently.

Queensland also nominates business applicants. If students or their family members are interested in business or investment activities in Queensland, this may also be an option.

Find out more details about the criteria for all business and skilled state nominated visas for Queensland at Business and Skilled Migration Queensland

migration.qld.gov.au

Visas and working rules

Australia has laws relating to employment conditions for anyone working in Australia to maintain the high quality standard of living all people living or visiting the country can enjoy.

For more on employment conditions and requirements

qld.gov.au/jobs/entitlements

Regardless of your type of employment, you must have permission to work in Queensland, Australia and hold a valid work visa.

Find the right visa and application process for you

border.gov.au
Brisbane

Feel the vitality of city life in Brisbane, the capital of Queensland and the third-largest city in Australia. It boasts the attractions, leading education providers, facilities and infrastructure you would expect of a large city in a relaxed unique setting.

Study in Brisbane

Schools

Brisbane offers an abundant choice of impressive public, independent and Catholic schools for both primary and secondary students.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

TAFE Queensland Brisbane and TAFE Queensland Skillstech offer a broad range of courses, cutting-edge learning centres and facilities, comprehensive student support services, and teachers who are experienced industry professionals.

Brisbane’s private VET providers offer an extensive selection of programs including aviation, animation, design, construction, counselling, health, beauty and more. Many providers belong to the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET), which adheres to strict ethics and provides professional development to encourage quality outcomes.

Universities

Australian Catholic University, University of Canberra, CQUniversity, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), The University of Queensland, Griffith University, University of Sunshine Coast, James Cook University and University of Southern Queensland have campuses in Brisbane.

The University of Queensland ranks in a number of independent university rankings’ Top 100.

QUT, which offers two inner-city campuses, has a Business school with triple international accreditation (EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA), held by less than 1% of business schools worldwide.

Each university provides high quality education and a range of study areas, with strong evidence to support this.

“After achieving my PhD degree at UQ, I obtained a job and continued working in the same laboratory. I have loved every minute of my work, especially the opportunities to carry out scientific experiments to test mysterious questions and get excited when my hypothesis is verified. I also plan to apply my own grants and fellowships in Australia. This will provide me a greater access to career development and allow me to make more contributions to science”

PhD Student
Argentina, 2014

Living in Brisbane

Brisbane is a multicultural city set on the Brisbane River. Offering a mild subtropical climate and outdoor lifestyle, the city thrives on an active urban lifestyle with close proximity to coastal and rural getaways. Considered a cultural hub for arts, entertainment and dining, Brisbane has something for everyone.

It features a full calendar of theatre, cinema, ballet, musicals, art exhibitions, concerts, festivals and opera. This includes a seasonal moonlight cinema allowing you to make the most of Brisbane’s pleasant evening weather.
For adventure seekers, Brisbane offers a range of exciting experiences including motorcycle tours, adventure parks, animal sanctuaries, hot air ballooning, river cruises, kayaking, skydiving and gokarting, as well as various walking, mountain biking tracks and national parks.

There are also vineyards to the south, old-growth rainforest in the mountains to the west and easy access to beaches.

**Dining and nightlife**

Brisbane has an eclectic nightlife, from the casual inner-city suburb of West End, to the humming city bars and the active nightclub precinct of Fortitude Valley. There are dozens of entertainment venues to suit your taste. Brisbane is home to an array of culinary delights inspired by cultures from all over the world, with stylish restaurants, chic cafés and charming delis.

**Getting around**

Choices include:

- international and domestic airport
- rail, bus and ferry services
- pedestrian and bike pathways
- taxis
- hire/private vehicle.

**Health and services**

Brisbane offers a range of medical services including hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

**Working in Brisbane**

Many employment opportunities are available in Brisbane for international students. Work can be found across multiple industries, such as retail, hospitality, tourism, health, business and manufacturing and research, which aligns with the State Government’s ‘Advance Queensland’ platform and promotion of job creation in this sector.

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**Key work and study focus areas**

- Study, live and work
- Study, live and work

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**Population**

1,131,191 (ABS estimated resident population 2013)

**Temperature**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean maximum</td>
<td>21°C/69°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean minimum</td>
<td>10°C/50°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean maximum</td>
<td>29°C/84°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean minimum</td>
<td>20°C/68°F</td>
</tr>
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**Did you know...**

Brisbane is home to Australia’s largest City Hall. You can uncover interesting stories of ordinary people and places at Brisbane Museum or ride up to the Clock Tower.
Gold Coast

Study on the Gold Coast

Schools
There are more than 15 reputable state, independent and Catholic primary and secondary schools situated on the Gold Coast providing quality education.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)
TAFE Queensland Gold Coast is the region’s largest provider of VET and provides quality assured education with pathways to university study, a range of practical courses and specific international support services.

There is also a selection of private vocational providers in the region, including tennis academies, golf institutes and more. Many providers are members of the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET), which adheres to strict ethics and provides professional development to encourage quality outcomes.

Universities
The Gold Coast is home to three well regarded universities, including Bond University, Griffith University and Southern Cross University.

Bond University is a private institution and was ranked by the Good Universities Guides as Australia’s highest university for Educational Experience in 2014. Griffith University offers a range of study areas and houses a fully equipped Health Centre enabling a hands-on learning experience. Southern Cross University offers new facilities with a recently opened state-of-the-art learning centre.

Living on the Gold Coast

The Gold Coast is an enviable lifestyle destination with lush greenery, beautiful beaches, plenty of entertainment attractions and a buzzing nightlife. The city also offers non-stop recreational activities including jet boating, jet skiing, sailing, surfing and surf schools, whale watching, skydiving, bungee jumping, bush walks and hot air ballooning.

Throughout the year, the Gold Coast hosts a number of music festivals, celebrating both local and international artists from all genres. For nature lovers, the Gold Coast hinterland has over 100,000 hectares of World Heritage rainforest and unique Australian wildlife, providing adventurers with stunning hiking tracks, rainforest walks and camping grounds. Visitors may also like to explore the Broadwater, South Stradbroke Island or the picturesque Mount Tamborine, along with the various wineries dotted throughout the hinterland.

Dining and nightlife

When dining out on the Gold Coast there’s something for every occasion and budget! Students can choose to indulge at five-star restaurants or enjoy a casual meal at a beachside eatery or café.

At night, Surfers Paradise transforms into a vibrant entertainment precinct, with themed bars, hotels and nightclubs lining the streets.
Getting around
Choices include:
• international and domestic airport
• rail, bus and boat services
• new light rail system
• pedestrian and bike pathways
• taxis
• hire/private vehicle.

Health and services
The Gold Coast offers a range of medical services. This includes one of Queensland’s largest clinical teaching and research facilities, Gold Coast University Hospital, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working on the Gold Coast
The Gold Coast has a thriving tourism and hospitality industry, providing many job opportunities for students who are looking for experience or additional income. Work prospects in building and construction, sales and retail are also strong, with good opportunities in industries such as farming and agriculture, business and accounting, and mining and mineral processing also.

Did you know...
The Gold Coast is famous for fun and has the most theme parks and attractions in the southern hemisphere.
Sunshine Coast

Feel the revitalising warmth of the Sunshine Coast’s beach culture. The region is situated on 50 kms of coastline, just 1 hour north from Brisbane by car. The area is well renowned for its spectacular beaches, national parks and friendly communities. With plenty of natural bushland and attractions, family activities and a casual ambience, the Sunshine Coast is an ideal place for rest, relaxation and a great life balance.

Study on the Sunshine Coast

Schools
There are over 15 well equipped state, independent and Catholic primary and secondary schools located on the Sunshine Coast.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)
TAFE Queensland East Coast is the largest VET provider on the Sunshine Coast and delivers quality assured education with university links, a range of practical courses and specific international support services.

There is a selection of private vocational providers in the region, many belonging to the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET), which adheres to strict ethics and provides professional development to encourage quality outcomes.

Universities
The University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) and CQUniversity (CQU) are based in the region and provide excellent education options.

CQU offers extensive support to international students, high tech multimedia computer labs, wireless internet and modern teaching facilities. The university also ranked as ‘world standard’ for nursing research and ‘well above world standard’ for applied mathematics, agriculture and land management (Excellence in Research Report).

In 2014, USC earned multiple five-star ratings from the Good University Guide for its exceptional educational experience; graduate satisfaction with generic skills; gender balance and electronic support.

Living on the Sunshine Coast

The International Student Barometer ranked the university first in Australia for overall student satisfaction and safety in 2013. USC supports international students with services and has share accommodation close to campus.

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Living on the Sunshine Coast

With an average of 300 days of sunshine each year, the region is known for promoting a laid-back lifestyle in a mix of coastal and hinterland community settings. There is a range of adventures to explore across the Sunshine Coast including visiting Australia Zoo, taking surf lessons and tours, kite surfing, helicopter flights, snorkeling, scuba diving, fishing, camping and bushwalking.

If in search of shopping and attractions, choices are plentiful, including local markets, such as the renowned Eumundi markets selling quality fashion, art, handcrafts, fresh produce and other foodstuffs. Other points of interest are The Ginger Factory, The Big Pineapple and local wineries.

Dining and nightlife
From the ocean to the hinterland, Sunshine Coast’s restaurants and surf club’s take full advantage of local fresh produce, and many boast a gorgeous coastal view. Popular hot-spots include Noosa’s Hastings Street and Gympie Terrace, Maroochydore’s Sunshine Plaza and the Mooloolaba Esplanade and Wharf, all of which are vibrant day and night. After dark, a range of nightclubs, hotels and bars come alive.
Getting around
Choices include:
• domestic airport
• rail services
• bus services
• boat services
• pedestrian and bike pathways
• taxis
• hire/private vehicle.

Health and services
The Sunshine Coast has a range of medical and related services available including hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working on the Sunshine Coast
The Sunshine Coast is supported by a vibrant and growing tourism industry, offering a wide range of part-time positions in hotels, resorts, restaurants, cafés and bars. Local farmers are also often on the lookout for workers to help harvest and distribute their latest crops.

Did you know...
Mount Coolum is the world’s second largest rock behind Uluru, with sweeping 360 degree views.
Toowoomba and the Darling Downs

Slow down, breathe deep and enjoy a taste of life in the country. Toowoomba and the Darling Downs are known for fine wines, fresh produce and stunning wildflowers. The region offers international students a variety of study, lifestyle and work options with the main activity focused in the city of Toowoomba, ‘Queensland’s Garden City’, located just over 90 minutes from Brisbane on the edge of the Great Dividing Range.

Study in Toowoomba and the Darling Downs

Schools
There are many schools in the area. Specifically, Toowoomba has 16 state primary schools, four public high schools and a selection of 12 independent schools providing a great diversity of education to suit students’ individual needs.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)
TAFE Queensland South-West is the largest provider of VET in the region and won the Large Training Provider of the Year award in the 2014 Queensland Training Awards. In addition to being government-owned, TAFE Queensland South-West offers personalised assistance to international students to adjust to studying in Australia, plus a range of courses from business to agricultural or creative programs. There are also a number of private providers offering vocational courses, many of which operate as part of Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) to improve the quality of outcomes for students.

Universities
The University of Southern Queensland (USQ) is located in Toowoomba. The university is a young, dynamic institution offering study options across creative arts and media, business and commerce, and information technology, to name just a few.

It also has specific services for international students including free airport reception and transfer, plus mentor programs to ensure help with campus familiarisation. On-campus accommodation is also available.

Living in Toowoomba and the Darling Downs

Toowoomba overlooks the Lockyer Valley and is the gateway to the Darling Downs. The major centre and surrounding district have more than 150 public parks and gardens to enjoy. The annual 10-day Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers comprises a full program of music, fun and food. In the winter months students can enjoy rugging-up and warming by the fire, while summer brings sensational bright days perfect for enjoying a nice meal or cool drink outdoors at one of the area’s historic pubs.

To the west of Toowoomba there is beautiful greenery, rural community towns, friendly people to meet and bed and breakfasts to enjoy. To the north, visitors can explore the small towns along the escarpment of the Great Dividing Range and visit nurseries, cafés, museums and galleries. The Bunya Mountains, to the north-west, offer walking trails, abundant wildlife and a beautiful backdrop of scenery that should not to be missed. Other main attractions of the region include vineyards and wineries, botanical gardens, national parks, camping, fishing and hot air ballooning.
Dining and nightlife
Toowoomba provides a fantastic range of dining precincts, wineries and vineyards, gourmet restaurants and modern cafés. At night, there are many hotels, clubs and bars to choose from, and many venues offer live music, pool tables and karaoke to entertain you.

Getting around
Convenient options to get around Toowoomba include a daily bus service throughout the city, catching a taxi, or walking or riding on the many pedestrian and bicycle paths. Although there is no airport or train services in Toowoomba, frequent buses operate between Brisbane and Toowoomba.

Health and services
The region offers a range of medical and related services. This includes hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working in Toowoomba and the Darling Downs
Toowoomba’s major employers are in the retail, health and community, education, and manufacturing sectors. You may also be able to find work on one of the many farms located near Toowoomba.
Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast

Experience nature that is truly spectacular. Hervey Bay and the Fraser Coast area extends from the northern end of the Sunshine Coast to the edge of Bundaberg and includes the World Heritage listed Fraser Island and Great Sandy Strait wetlands. With calm, protected waterways, Hervey Bay and the Fraser Coast are known as Australia’s best whale watching destination.

Study in Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast

Schools
There are a number of state, independent and Catholic primary and secondary schools located in the region.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)
TAFE East Coast is the largest VET provider in the Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast area delivering a variety of courses including hair and beauty, community services, horticulture, information technology, business, hospitality, massage, sport and fitness, retail, automotive, electrical, engineering and construction trades. Five campuses are located across the region.

Universities
There are two universities in Hervey Bay and the Fraser Coast region offering highly respected education - the University of Southern Queensland (USC) and CQUniversity (CQU). USQ offers teaching from leaders in their fields and welcomes students from more than 60 countries. Additionally, the institution offers dedicated services for new international students including free airport reception and transfer from Brisbane Airport to your choice of campus, plus assist students to find accommodation.

CQU is one of only three Australian universities listed in the Top 10 organisations that have been influential in the regional development space according to the Excellence in Research report. The university offers access to free academic welfare and career support and caters for students from a range of cultural and educational backgrounds. University study areas range from Business to Media, Education to Humanities, Science or Law and Justices.

Living in Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast
The Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast region include Bundaberg, Maryborough, Hervey Bay, Kingaroy, Cherbourg and the areas of the Fraser Coast, North Burnett and South Burnett. More than 80% of the region’s population lives in the urban centres, which offer diverse, rural and seaside lifestyles. Showcasing some of nature’s best assets, including iconic Fraser Island listed in the seven natural wonders of the world, the region is a popular tourist destination. Students can experience festivals, microlite flights, whale and dolphin watching tours, island and safari wilderness treks, walking and camping, fishing and sailing adventures, plus swimming in waterways, protected seas and surf beaches.
Dining and nightlife
The area has a good selection of beachside restaurants and cafés and takes advantage of the fresh seafood, a regional specialty across many menus. International cuisine can be found to suit all tastes.

Getting around
- a domestic airport
- bus services
- rail services
- boat transportation
- selected bike pathways
- pedestrian pathways
- hire/private vehicle.

Health and services
Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast have a range of medical and related services. This includes hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working in Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast
Key employment sectors in the region are in health and community services, education, manufacturing and retail industries. There are also a range of job opportunities in hospitality, tourism, building and construction, horticulture, farming and agriculture, business and accounting, and mining and mineral processing.

Did you know...
Aboriginal tribes lived on Fraser Island for over 5,100 years. Tribal heritage can still be seen on tours throughout the island today.
Central Queensland

Discover a stunning, secluded reef that’s within reach of the mainland. The Central Queensland region encompasses the beautiful Capricorn Coast - the coastal strip between Yeppoon and Emu Park, with the majority of the population located close to the regional centres of Gladstone and Rockhampton. Rockhampton is labelled as Australia’s ‘beef capital’ about 600 km north of Brisbane. The town is set on the Fitzroy River and just a 30 minute drive away from the Capricorn Coast, with close access to Great Keppel Island’s beaches and coral reef. Gladstone is located at the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef and is a gateway to picturesque islands and reef, including Heron, Wilson, Lady Musgrave and the Capricorn Bunker Group of Islands plus a diverse rural hinterland.

Study in Central Queensland

Schools

There are number of quality primary and secondary schools located in the region.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

TAFE Queensland North offers industry-relevant courses in art, hospitality and cookery, engineering, process manufacturing and utilities, business, finance, retail and more and have campuses in Gladstone and Rockhampton.

Universities

CQUniversity (CQU) is based in Rockhampton and Gladstone. The university’s largest campus is in Rockhampton, based in a natural setting. Each facility is equipped with high tech multimedia computer labs, wireless internet and modern teaching facilities. Support services for international students are offered, including accommodation advice. On-campus accommodation is available at Rockhampton.

Living in Central Queensland

Central Queensland offers an enviable tropical climate with access to islands, waterways, national parks and beaches providing year round boating and recreational activities. Gladstone offers a pleasant lifestyle, with access to magnificent island hideaways and also botanical gardens that feature native plants and fauna.

Rockhampton is the gateway to Capricorn Coast to the east, the Berserker ranges to the west and the Capricorn Caves a short drive north of the city. Students and visitors can enjoy a range of adventure activities, from caving, camping and bushwalking to boating, snorkelling and diving. Rockhampton also hosts various arts, music and dance festivals throughout the year.

Both cities have a range of local theatres, entertainment venues, shopping centers and markets for visitors and students to enjoy.

Dining and nightlife

Rockhampton presents a range of culinary options offering fresh food for all budgets and tastes. Specialising in the beef industry, the region offers some of the best steaks in Australia. It has a thriving nightlife and offers visitors many bars, hotels and clubs to choose from. Gladstone also offers an array of restaurants, cafés and bars with local and international cuisine menu options. Many venues also provide an amazing coastal view.
Getting around
Choices include:
• two domestic airports
• bus services
• rail services
• boat transportation
• taxi
• pedestrian pathways
• selected bike pathways
• hire/private vehicle.

Health and services
The region offers medical and related services including hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working in Central Queensland
Central Queensland’s key employment sectors include retail and wholesale, agriculture, education, hospitality and tourism offering students multiple job prospects.

Did you know...
You can escape into the ancient world of sandstone gorges, at Carnarvon Gorge which offers unique plant life and 19,000 year old Aboriginal art.
Mackay and the Whitsundays

Feel the quiet satisfaction of discovering unspoiled nature in Mackay, located 1,100 km north of Brisbane. The regional centre just south of Airlie Beach, is the gateway to the magnificent 74 islands of the Whitsundays and the Great Barrier Reef, where students and visitors can experience the wonder of Queensland’s island paradise. The region is best known for its scenic beaches, relaxed tropical lifestyle and recreational attractions.

Study in Mackay and the Whitsundays

Schools
Mackay offers a choice of public, independent and Catholic schools, providing quality education for both primary and secondary students.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)
TAFE Queensland North, which has a campus in Mackay, offers practical industry-based courses in art, hospitality and cookery, engineering, process manufacturing and utilities, business, finance, retail and more.

Universities
CQUniversity (CQU) has established itself as one of the state’s most engaged and inclusive universities, catering to a diverse range of students. With a campus in Mackay, CQU’s teaching approach is strongly industry based and globally focused, underpinned by cutting edge technology and infrastructure. In 2014, the university merged with TAFE Queensland North to offer vocational and tertiary courses. International student support and accommodation advice are available.

James Cook University (JCU) offers more than 300 programs to a wide range of study areas. JCU is ranked first in the world for citations in the field of coral reef ecology and is one of the top three universities in the international arena for research in ecology and environment, plant and animal sciences, and geosciences. The university has a base in Mackay and provides a full range of support services to help international students.

Living in Mackay and the Whitsundays

The Mackay and the Whitsunday region is famous for its relaxed tropical lifestyle and outstanding recreational attractions. Proserpine and Airlie Beach are located to the north of Mackay. Featuring a vibrant arts community, Mackay hosts a number of festivals throughout the year and is home to a number of galleries and museums. There are also theatres and entertainment venues offering international and local performances plus weekend arts and produce markets.

Popular leisure activities include golf, snorkeling, horse riding, camping, hiking and fishing or experiencing one of the 74 island wonders of the Whitsundays, just 1.5 hours drive from Mackay.

Airlie Beach is the hub of the Whitsundays region being the ideal mainland base for holiday fun and adventure in the area.
Dining and nightlife
Mackay and the Whitsundays provide numerous dining options, from casual waterside meals to rainforest retreats, local hotels and cosmopolitan cafés. Take advantage of the fresh seafood available or choose from a range of Thai, Mexican or Italian cuisine to suit all tastes and budgets.

Getting around
Choices include:
- domestic and regional airports
- bus services
- rail services
- ferry and boat transfers
- pedestrian pathways
- selected bike pathways
- hire/private vehicle.

Health and services
Mackay and Whitsundays offer medical and related services including hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working in Mackay and the Whitsundays
Mackay and the Whitsundays provide a range of opportunities in industries such as hospitality, retail, tourism, building and construction, farming and agriculture, business and accounting, and mining and mineral processing.
Townsville North Queensland

Experience the nature of the tropics first hand. Townsville is the largest city in Queensland north of the Sunshine Coast and the unofficial capital of North Queensland. The city has a range of government, community and business headquarters for the northern half of the state. Popular tourist destination Magnetic Island lies eight km offshore. Townsville North Queensland is a beautiful tropical destination hosting an eclectic mix of rainforests, coral reefs, sandy beaches and outback bush-lands.

**Study in Townsville North Queensland**

**Schools**
There are a range of public, independent and Catholic primary and secondary schools to choose from in North Queensland.

**Vocational Education and Training (VET)**
TAFE Queensland North is the largest provider of VET in the region offering practical training in a wide range of areas. In addition to TAFE Queensland, there are a number of private providers in Townsville offering courses in a variety of subjects.

**Universities**
James Cook University’s (JCU) largest campus is based in Townsville and was host to 1500 international students in 2014. The university offers more than 300 programs. Its tropical campus locations allow significant and internationally-recognised research to be conducted, with much focus around marine biology, biodiversity, tropical environment, earth sciences and geology, engineering, tropical health and tourism. JCU is ranked first in the world for citations in the field of coral reef ecology (Thomson Reuters) and offers a range of support services to help students.

**Living in Townsville North Queensland**

Townsville has access to a wide range of outdoor recreation options. Although Townsville is in the dry tropics, the surrounding region hosts a mix of rainforests, coral reefs, sandy beaches and outback bushland. Adventure opportunities include scuba diving and snorkeling, fishing, sailing, kayaking, hiking trails, skydiving and scenic flights. Other interesting places worthy of discovery include the Australian Institute of Marine Science, Anderson Park Botanic Gardens, Billabong Wildlife Sanctuary, museums, art galleries or weekly markets. There are plenty of shopping centres and amenity to make everyday living a breeze.

**Dining and nightlife**

Try the many culinary options, nightclubs, bars and hotels on offer when visiting Townsville and North Queensland. At night, Townsville’s marina hosts various restaurants, a casino, and entertainment centre where local and international musicians and actors regularly perform.
Getting around
• international and domestic airport
• bus services
• rail services
• boat transportation
• taxi
• pedestrian pathways
• selected bike pathways
• hire/private vehicle.

Health and services
Townsville North Queensland offers a range of medical and related services including hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working in Townsville North Queensland
Townsville provides a range of work opportunities in industries such as hospitality, retail, tourism, building and construction, farming and agriculture, business and accounting, healthcare, education and mining and mineral processing.

Did you know...
You can see the largest colony of wild koalas living in Northern Australia on Magnetic Island.
Cairns and Tropical North Queensland

Feel the natural exhilaration of adventure in Tropical North Queensland and Cairns. Covering an enormous geographically diverse area, the region offers a variety of attractions, including the Daintree National Park, Green Island and the Great Barrier Reef. Cairns is situated 348 km north of Townsville and is the metropolitan hub of the Tropical North Queensland region. It is a multicultural society, known for its adventure activities, the Coral Sea and lush rainforests.

Study in Cairns and Tropical North Queensland

Schools

Tropical North Queensland and specifically, Cairns, is home to a range of quality public, independent and Catholic primary and schools for both primary and secondary students.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

TAFE Queensland North delivers exceptional VET programs across eight campuses in Tropical North Queensland, and is the region's largest provider. In addition to TAFE, there are a number of private vocational institutions in Cairns offering a diverse range of subjects and industry-relevant skills-based training designed to give students a competitive edge.

Universities

James Cook University (JCU) has a campus based in Cairns which combines a spectacular natural setting with modern and innovative teaching facilities. Offering over 300 programs, 400 international students were enrolled at the Cairns campus in 2014. JCU is one of the world's leading research facilities in the tropics with a strong focus in marine biology, biodiversity, tropical environmental studies, earth sciences and geology, engineering, tropical health and tourism.

CQUniversity is also located in Cairns and recently opened a new campus that includes large teaching spaces for classes and residential schools, computer and videoconferencing labs, Paramedic Science, Nursing and Engineering labs, a library, staff offices, study spaces and a welcoming reception area. It is also home to CQUniversity’s new Centre for Tourism & Regional Opportunity (C-TARO), with a vision to lead and revitalise Northern Australian tourism.

Living in Cairns and Tropical North Queensland

Experience Cairns and Tropical North Queensland’s vibrant culture with festivals and events influenced by the Great Barrier Reef and World Heritage listed rainforests. Enjoy the outdoor relaxed lifestyle and friendly cosmopolitan city. Discover Mission Beach, tranquil gorges or take a trip through the wilderness to the top of Australia and see the landscapes of Cooktown and Cape York, plus be sure to take in Aboriginal culture and Australian pioneering history.

Cairns and Port Douglas offer tropical shopping village experiences. In addition, Cairns boasts a wide range of adventure tours including, helicopter safaris, snorkeling, scuba diving tours, bungee jumping, skydiving, deep sea fishing tours, whale watching expeditions, four-wheel driving parks, kayaking, white water rafting and scenic flights.
Indulge in dining, shopping and pampering and experience the beauty of two World Heritage areas in a region that is adventurous by nature.

**Dining and nightlife**

Tropical North Queensland is a showcase of tropical delicacies and coastal restaurants and cafés. The Cairns Esplanade has an ocean view and numerous dining and entertainment options, including restaurants, nightclubs, bars, a casino and hotels. Cairns also has a large convention centre which hosts a number of conferences, events and performances each year.

Atherton Tablelands, inland from Cairns, is a major producer of coffee, tea, avocados, macadamia nuts, strawberries, mangos and many other types of tropical fruit, making it worthy of a food expedition.

Port Douglas is also a reputable dining spot, with a range of restaurants offering sensational views and providing five star menus from chefs at the top of their game.

**Getting around**

- international and domestic airport
- bus services
- rail services
- boat transportation
- taxi
- pedestrian pathways
- selected bike pathways
- hire/private vehicle.

**Health and services**

Cairns and Tropical North Queensland offer a range of medical and related services including hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

**Working in Cairns and Tropical North Queensland**

Cairns and Tropical North Queensland is a major agricultural region, with a sugar bulk loading shipping terminal, marine fishing base and a range of farming services. It is also highly frequented by tourists each year. Many work opportunities exist in hospitality, retail, tourism, building and construction, farming and agriculture, business and accounting, and mining and mineral processing.

**Did you know...**

The Great Barrier Reef has 2800 species of fish, 400 coral varieties, 500 seaweed species, 6 different sea turtles!
Outback Queensland

Outback Queensland is a mesmerising place where the land and the people tell Australia’s story. Known for its wide open skies and breathtaking landscapes, Outback Queensland is an inland region of the state that reaches from the state’s south around Roma, west to Birdsville towards the South Australian and Northern Territory borders and the north, where, Burketown can be found near the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Study in Outback Queensland

Schools
Outback Queensland offers good primary and secondary school options. The main townships of Longreach, Mount Isa and Emerald offer the majority of the choices.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)
TAFE Queensland North provides its services across Outback Queensland including Mount Isa, Cloncurry and Normanton. TAFE Queensland North offers courses in the areas of building and related trades, business and management, community services and sports, IT and creative arts, education and training, engineering and related trades, horticulture, conservation and land management, nursing and much more.

Living in Outback Queensland
Outback Queensland offers an incredible array of rural Australian experiences. The region incorporates the Channel Country floodplains, the rolling Mitchell Grass Downs and ancient spinifex deserts, offering an amazing landscape.

The destination is home to colourful characters, a laid-back culture, indigenous attractions, rich history and ancient landscapes. Students will experience a vast network of friendly welcoming communities.

Attractions and activities include star gazing at the Cosmos Centre in Charleville, climbing the red sand hills of the Simpson Desert, hearing the story of the early operators of Qantas at the Founders Museum in Longreach, digging for dinosaur fossils at The Australian Age of Dinosaur Museum or meeting one of Australia’s most endangered species - the Bilby.

Dining and nightlife
Be it breakfast, lunch or dinner, many of Outback Queensland’s bakeries, cafés, restaurants and pubs offer a genuine Australian experience and menu. Outback Queensland is one of the rare places where you can indulge in locally produced beef from a cattle station just down the road or enjoy Barramundi fresh from a billabong to your plate. There are plenty of resting spots in and between towns to stop and enjoy a meal, cold drink and friendly chat with the locals.
Getting around
Choices include:
• regional airports
• rail services
• bus services
• taxi
• pedestrian pathways
• hire/private vehicle.

Health and services
Major regional towns in Outback Queensland offer selected medical and related services including hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and allied health care. To access providers, international students and visitors need their overseas health cover card and passport.

Working in Outback Queensland
Mining and agriculture drive the region’s economy. Mount Isa accounts for a large part of the world’s base and precious metal mining industry. Work opportunities mostly lie in farming and related cattle station roles, like mustering and farm hand duties. Bar work is also an option for working holiday makers, while mining present some opportunities also.

Did you know...
Qantas was founded in Winton, Outback Queensland in 1920. Visitors can explore the dedicated museum showcasing Australia’s flagship airline and its history in Longreach today.
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