



Brisbane & Around

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Brew (p298)
- ➔ Gunshop Café (p299)
- ➔ George's Seafood (p299)
- ➔ Oceanic Gelati (p312)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Latrobe Apartment (p297)
- ➔ Limes (p296)
- ➔ Bowen Terrace (p296)
- ➔ Stradbroke Island Beach Hotel (p311)
- ➔ Casabella Apartment (p297)

Why Go?

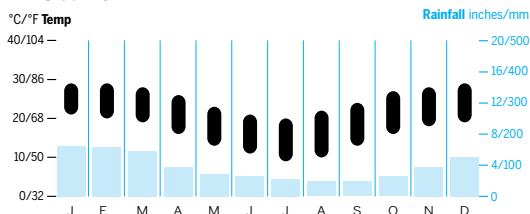
Australia's most underrated city? Booming Brisbane is an energetic river town on the way up, with an edgy arts scene, pumping nightlife and great coffee and restaurants. Plush parks and historic buildings complete the picture, all folded into the elbows of the meandering Brisbane River.

Brisbanites are out on the streets: the weather is brilliant and so are the bodies. Fit-looking locals get up early to go jogging, swimming, cycling, kayaking, rock-climbing or just to walk the dog. And when it's too hot outside, Brisbane's subcultural undercurrents run cool and deep, with bookshops, globally inspired restaurants, cafes, bars and band rooms aplenty.

East of Brisbane is Moreton Bay, with its low-lying sandy isles (don't miss a trip to 'Straddie'), beaches and passing parade of whales, turtles and dolphins.

When to Go

Brisbane



Jan Brisbane swelters during summer: the perfect time to head to North Stradbroke Island.

May–Aug Cool, mild temperatures (bring a jacket) and clear skies – Brisbane at its best!

Sep Spring has sprung! Warm temperatures and the very arty Brisbane Festival.



Brisbane & Around Highlights

- 1 Exploring the cavernous spaces of Brisbane's world-class **Gallery of Modern Art** (p283).
- 2 Finding a sunny patch of lawn or paddling at Streets Beach in Brisbane's **South Bank Parklands** (p283).
- 3 Catching some live comedy or some lunch by

the river at the **Brisbane Powerhouse** (p283).

- 4 Checking out some bookshops, live bands and bars in Brisbane's **West End** (p303).
- 5 Spending a night on the tiles in Brisbane's heady **Fortitude Valley** (p303).

- 6 Roaming along the **North Gorge Headlands Walk** on North Stradbroke Island, spotting turtles, rays and dolphins offshore (p310).
- 7 Chugging up, down or across the **Brisbane River** on a ferry (p310).