

discover
MACKAY'S BEST KEPT
secrets



MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL'S **FACILITIES AND ATTRACTIONS** ►



WELCOME TO *Mackay*

FROM UNSPOILT COASTAL BEACHES AND LUSH RAINFORESTS TO
THE WARM TROPICAL WEATHER, THE MACKAY REGION HAS PLENTY
TO OFFER FOR YOUR NEXT WEEKEND GETAWAY OR FAMILY HOLIDAY.

explore



With 31 beaches, a picturesque blue river and pristine rainforest hinterland, there is no shortage of natural beauty to explore in Mackay.

The Mackay City Centre provides the ultimate setting to enjoy a meal or coffee with friends or a spot of shopping.

Those who enjoy the outdoors can cool down in the free, family-friendly Bluewater Lagoon, go for a walk or bike ride along the award-winning Bluewater Trail or take in the scenery at the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens.

Just a short drive from Mackay is Sarina Sugar Shed. Take the tour and learn how sugar is produced in the only miniature working sugar mill and distillery in Australia. Enjoy a sweet treat or try the award-winning Sugar Shed rum.

Whether you're interested in fishing, camping, hiking, swimming, shopping, dining, history, theatre, music or the arts, you will love exploring our region.

GREENMOUNT

homestead



First surveyed by John Mackay in 1860, this heritage listed homestead complex features a 1915 federation style Queenslander home, numerous outbuildings, and beautiful formal gardens.

Once home to the Cook family, the site showcases the life and stories of an early working cattle property and represents a significant turning point in the development of Mackay and the region.

Location: 139 Greenmount Road, Walkerston

Opening hours:

Monday to Wednesday and the last Sunday of each month 9am – 1pm (closed public holidays)
Last tour of the day: noon

Phone: 07 4959 2250

Visit mackay.qld.gov.au/greenmount for tour times.



Museums & HISTORICAL CENTRES

Discover our region's social, natural and cultural past at one of the three historical centres located in Mackay, Sarina and the Pioneer Valley.

Mackay Museum

4 Casey Avenue, South Mackay
Phone: 07 4953 0002

Pioneer Valley Museum

16 Victoria Street, Mirani (behind Mirani Library)
Phone: 07 4961 9229 or 07 4961 9230

Sarina District Historical Centre

Field of Dreams Parkland, Sarina
Phone: 07 4956 2436

Visit mackay.qld.gov.au/historicalcentres
for more details and opening hours.

The image features a stylized 'MECC' logo in a white, hand-drawn script font at the top left. Below it, the full name 'MACKAY ENTERTAINMENT AND CONVENTION CENTRE' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The background is a photograph of the MECC building at night. The building has a modern design with a large, illuminated entrance area. A set of stairs with metal railings leads up to the entrance. To the left of the stairs, there are large, colorful, illuminated letters that spell out 'MECC'. The building's facade is lit with warm, yellow light, and there are blue vertical light strips on the upper part of the building. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow.

MACKAY ENTERTAINMENT AND CONVENTION CENTRE

Whether it's comedy, theatre or something for the family, the best place to see it live is at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC).

The MECC is Mackay's premier venue for performances, conferences, exhibitions, seminars and meetings. It's located in Mackay's City Centre and is a short stroll away from restaurants, an award-winning regional art gallery, shopping precincts and the magnificent blue water Pioneer River.

Location: 258 Alfred Street, Mackay

Contact: To find out what's on at the MECC, phone 07 4961 9777 or visit **themecc.com.au**



artspace MACKAY

Be inspired by the highest standard of contemporary art at Artspace Mackay, with three impressive gallery spaces and an ever-changing exhibitions program.

Artspace hosts a diverse range of travelling exhibitions from national and regional gallery collections, and curates in-house exhibitions from the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection. Public and education programs for all ages including hands-on art activities, workshops, lectures, seminars, performances, floor talks, guided tours and events all take place at this cultural venue.

Location: 61 Gordon Street, Mackay

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 5pm
Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3pm

Contact: Phone 07 4961 9722
or visit artspacemackay.com.au



There are more than 100 public artworks currently on permanent display throughout Mackay, with more continuing to emerge in regional areas.

Take a stroll through the Mackay City Centre and explore iconic art installations, designed and created by some of Australia's most talented artists. Beyond the city, Slade Point's water tower is best viewed from the Lamberts Beach Lookout in the morning.

Location: Various

artspacemackay.com.au/publicart

- 1) Scott NAGY and OWLET, Slade Point Water Tower, 2019 (Albatross Street)
- 2) Brian ROBINSON, Urban Bloom 1, 2016 (Wood Street)
- 3) Fiona FOLEY, Mangrove Cap, 2009 (Bluewater Trail)
- 4) HAPPY DECAY, Ninth Lane mural, 2022 (Ninth Lane)





Sea turtle by
Marissa Moore

Fifth Lane is an incredible collection of colourful murals, paste-ups, digital art, and community art.

Location: Between Gregory and Wood streets, Fifth Lane is easily accessible from Victoria Street.

mackay.qld.gov.au/fifthlane





fifth LANE

The Fifth Lane Street art transformation was completed in 2019 by 16 dedicated and talented local artists and five amazing visiting artists from across Queensland and Australia. In 2021, the laneway was further revitalised with the installation of new concrete pavement and festoon lighting.

Enjoy the artworks as they are in their static beauty or see them come alive by interacting with the seven augmented reality experiences. Simply scan the QR codes located at each artwork and see the artworks come to life on your phone.

Mackay's Fifth Lane was awarded 'Australia's Best Street Art Laneway' in 2021, after taking out the GOLD gong in the Australian Street Art Awards.



MACKAY REGIONAL BOTANIC

gardens

**A tropical haven in the city!
Discover the flora, fauna, café and gallery in the
Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens.**

With more than six kilometres of pathways over the 51-hectare site, there is plenty of room to stretch your legs, exercise and explore, or just sit and enjoy the scenic lagoon views. Showcasing a wealth of native Australian flora and tropical exotics, many of the species on display are considered rare, threatened or vulnerable in the wild.

Join us for a free guided walk at 10am every Friday from April to October.

Location: 9 Lagoon Street, West Mackay

Visitor Information Centre: 07 4952 7300
Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

Café and gallery: 07 4952 6930 for bookings
Open Wednesday to Friday, 9am to 2pm
Weekends, 8am to 3pm

mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au

camping

ESCAPE THE CITY



Experience Mackay's picturesque natural environment up close, while staying at one of the region's camping grounds.

Enjoy the fishing, beaches and quiet lifestyle of the Mackay region at one of council's three camping reserves. If you are travelling in a RV, Mirani Caravan Park is the perfect weekend getaway or stopover. The park accommodates caravans, campers and motorhomes. It's ideal for those who want to escape the city and enjoy the simple pleasures in life.

For bookings:

Mirani Caravan Park: 07 4959 1239

Seaforth: 0427 373 358 or 07 4966 4359

St Helens Beach and Ball Bay: Campsite bookings are not required.

For more information call 1300 MACKAY (622 529) or visit mackay.qld.gov.au/camping

queens PARK



Extensively upgraded in 2019, Queens Park boasts a range of beautifully maintained gardens, playgrounds, community spaces, sporting grounds and the delightful Ken Burgess Orchid House.

This popular recreation space also includes an off-leash dog park, a rotunda, iconic shelter and cricket shed, yarning circle, cultural trail, picnic and barbecue shelters and interpretive signage.

Location: Goldsmith Street, East Mackay
mackay.qld.gov.au/queenspark



KEN BURGESS

Orchid HOUSE



Ken Burgess Orchid House features a large collection of stunning orchids including tree and rock-living orchids and some ground-living orchids.

Built in 1988 and recently renovated, the Ken Burgess Orchid House is one of the largest and finest orchid display houses in Australia. Orchids are displayed in a natural setting around circular walkways. Stroll through the large collection of stunning orchids in all shapes and sizes, from the bizarre to exotic.

Location:

Queens Park, Goldsmith Street, East Mackay

Opening hours:

Weekdays, 10am to 11am and 2pm to 3pm

Sundays, 10am to 2pm

Closed on Saturdays and public holidays

A large, vibrant blue water lagoon with a winding blue water slide in the foreground. The lagoon is surrounded by lush greenery and palm trees. In the background, a modern glass-fronted building is visible under a clear blue sky. The text 'BLUEWATER' is in a bold, sans-serif font, and 'lagoon' is in a large, white, cursive script font. There are blue paint splatters in the top right corner and white paint splatters in the bottom right corner.

BLUEWATER

lagoon

Enjoy the tropical weather at the free three-tiered lagoon providing fun for the whole family!

Located overlooking the picturesque Pioneer River in the heart of Mackay's City Centre, the facility covers an area equivalent to three 50-metre swimming pools providing a safe stinger-free environment for kids and adults alike! Key features include a waterfall connecting the two main lagoon areas, a water slide and an all-abilities play area where kids will have a ball with a drop-bucket and wading pool. Barbecue facilities and café are also located on-site.

Location: Adjacent to Mackay's largest retail shopping centre, Caneland Central on River Street

Opening hours: Open seven days. April to July, 9am to 4.45pm and September to March, 9am to 5.45pm

Please note: *The lagoon closes during winter months, visit mackay.qld.gov.au for details.*



BLUEWATER *trail*

Get out and explore this great region along the Bluewater Trail. Take a leisurely stroll or scenic bike ride along the award-winning shared pathway.

Many of the region's key attractions sit along the 16-kilometre trail including the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens, Sandfly Creek Environmental Walkway, Catherine Freeman Walk, the free three-tiered Bluewater Lagoon aquatic facility, Bluewater Quay (with barbecue facilities), River Wharves and Iluka Park featuring an all-abilities playground.

Get active and enjoy the "ring of activity" which boasts pedestrian and bicycle pathways, raised boardwalks, environmental areas, disabled access and activities for children and young people.

For further details and a map of the trail visit **mackay.qld.gov.au/bluewatertrail**

BLUEWATER

quay

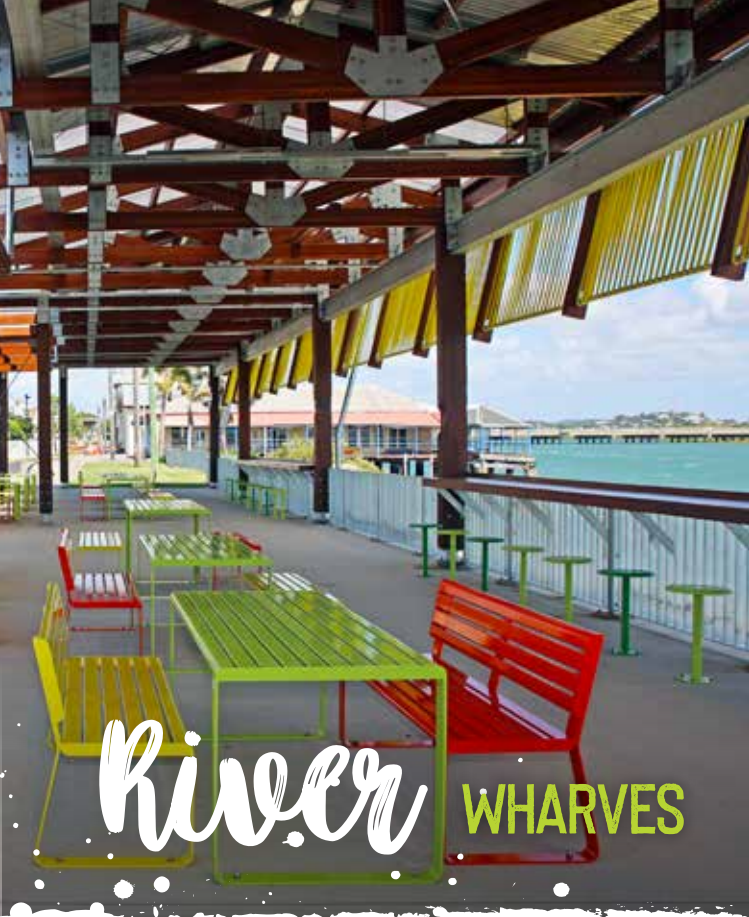


The Bluewater Quay provides an accessible and attractive lifestyle facility for residents and tourists to enjoy.

The Bluewater Quay extends almost 250 metres and was built around the historic Leichardt tree, a common meeting point for new migrants to Mackay that arrived at the old Port district along River Street.

This prime riverfront entertainment facility boasts a children's water-play and playground, entertainment stage, picnic and barbecue areas, fishing and viewing platforms, public artworks, a boardwalk, undercover areas for markets and events, as well as space for an eatery overlooking the Pioneer River.

Location: River Street, between Sydney and Brisbane streets



River WHARVES

River Wharves is located alongside the beautiful blue Pioneer River and is part of the \$9 million Riverside Revitalisation Project.

This activated space includes shared pathways, a pavilion, seating pods, stage platforms, green open spaces, lighting, landscaping and toilet block.

Located between the Bluewater Quay and the River Street boat ramp, the River Wharves encourages locals and visitors to experience the beauty of the Pioneer River in its full entirety.

Location:

River Street, between Tennyson and Lawson streets



MACKAY ARC & pools

Train like a pro at Mackay's \$24 million state-of-the-art sporting facility, Mackay Aquatic and Recreation Complex (ARC).

The complex features a 50-metre Olympic-standard pool, a 25-metre warm-up pool, a 15-metre learn-to-swim pool and a 400-metre synthetic athletics track and field. The facility is open to the general public.

Location: 193 Boundary Road, Ooralea

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 5.30am to 8pm, Saturday, 6am to 6pm and Sunday, 8am to 6pm

Our other swim centres: There are four other swim centres in the region where you can perfect your stroke including Memorial Swim Centre in Mackay, Mirani Swim Centre, Pioneer Swim Centre in North Mackay and Sarina Swim Centre.

Visit mackay.qld.gov.au/pools for more details.



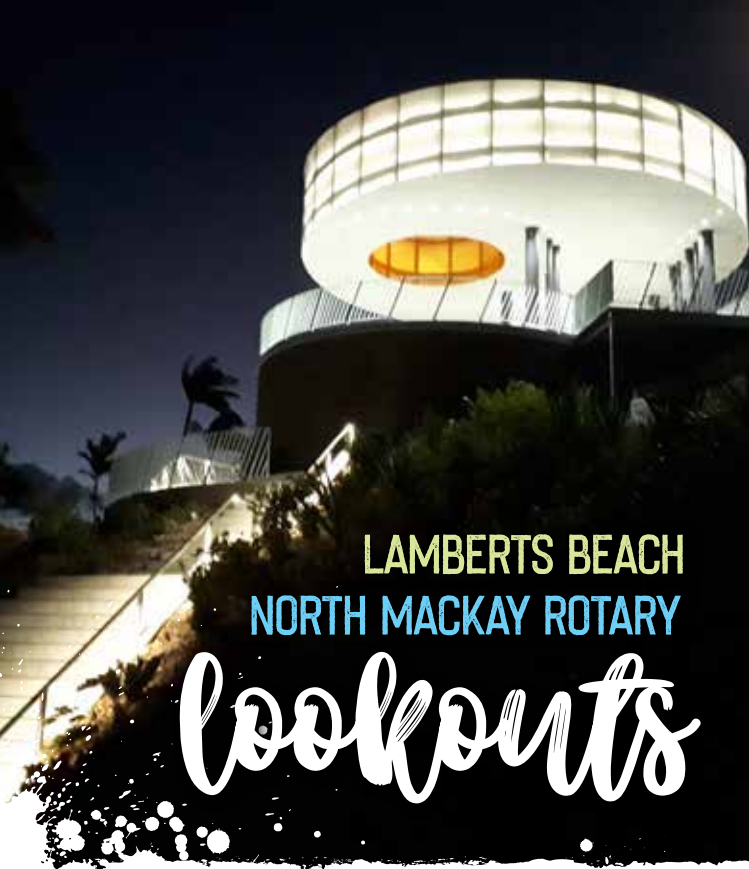
sugar bowl MACKAY

Ollie, grind and kickflip your way to one of the best skate parks available in regional Australia.

This \$2.2 million state-of-the-art wheeled sports facility features a three-metre competition bowl, intermediate bowl and a street run measuring almost 80 metres in length. Sugar Bowl Mackay has been designed with a community focus and features a full-size multi-sports court, informal grassed play area, climbing wall, parkour equipment, nature play area, ping pong, barbecue and picnic areas to cater for those who are less inclined to skate.

Location: 33 Norris Road Park Access,
North Mackay (adjacent to Mackay PCYC)

mackay.qld.gov.au/sugarbowl



LAMBERTS BEACH NORTH MACKAY ROTARY

lookouts

Don't miss a visit to either of these great lookouts.

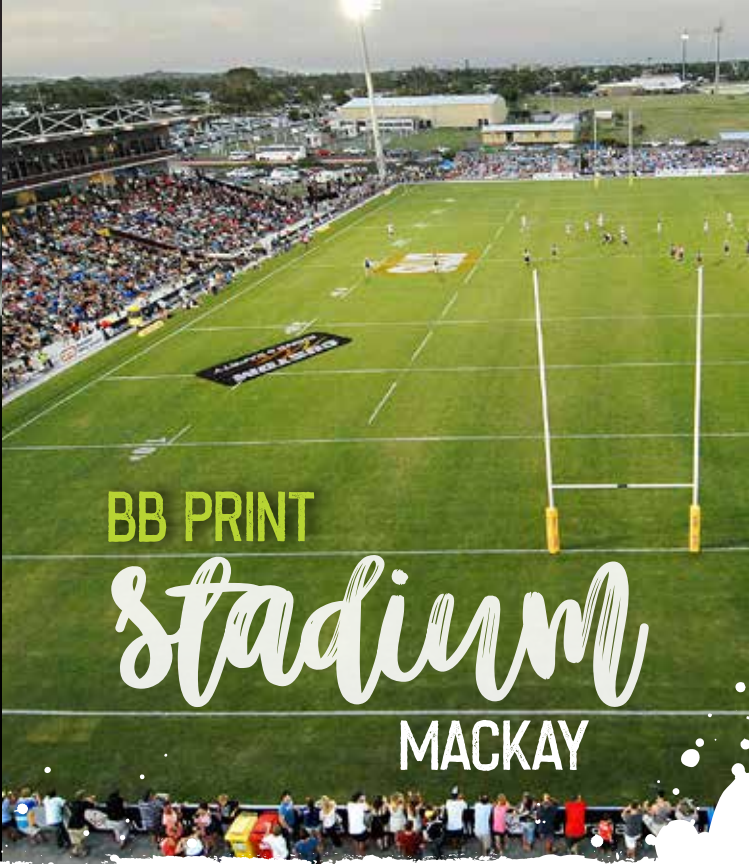
Overlooking nearby islands, **Lamberts Beach Lookout** offers the perfect platform to take in our amazing region.

It is also the perfect place to spot the migrating whales as they breach and play off the coast of Mackay. This stunning location is also one of the few places in Mackay you can watch both a sunrise and a sunset.

Location: Pacific Esplanade, Lamberts Beach

North Mackay Rotary Lookout is a fantastic spot to take in the spectacular views of the Mackay city, especially once the sun sets! The roof structure of the lookout features an in-built light show at night.

Location: Pollack Street, North Mackay



BB PRINT

Stadium

MACKAY

BB Print Stadium Mackay is a 12,000 capacity venue comprising an international standard rectangular field and a 1500 seat grandstand and supporting facilities.

Since its opening in August 2011, the venue has hosted NRL matches, the Professional Bull Riding Series, was the venue for the 2012 North Queensland Games opening ceremony, hosted over 10,000 fans to a KISS concert in 2013 and an evening with Sir Elton John in 2017.

The stadium is home to the 2013 Queensland Cup rugby league champions the Intrust Super Cup QCCS Mackay Cutters.

Location: 2 Casey Avenue, South Mackay

Bookings/enquiries:

Contact the MECC on 07 4961 9777



Sarina

FIELD OF DREAMS PARKLANDS

You will find everything you need to plan a journey through the local area at the Mackay Region Visitor Information Centre.

Whilst there, discover the region's historical and educational attractions at the Sarina Art and Craft Centre, Sarina Museum and Sarina Art Gallery, which showcases the work of talented local artists. No stop is complete without the Tour of the Tropics at the award-winning Sarina Sugar Shed.

Access important facilities for travellers like bins, toilets, tea and coffee, playgrounds, free WiFi, barbecues and an effluent dump point.

Location: Field of Dreams Parklands,
Railway Square, Sarina

sarinafieldofdreams.com.au



SARINA *sugar* SHED

Sarina Sugar Shed is a multi-award-winning attraction offering an authentic paddock-to-plate-to-bottle food tourism experience.

Through daily guided tours, visitors are taken on a journey from growing sugar cane to crushing and processing it. Each tour finishes with tastings of alcoholic and food products made on-site.

With a boutique rum distillery and cafe, this unique facility is the taste of the tropics, showcasing the rich heritage of the Queensland sugar cane industry.

Location: Field of Dreams Parklands,
5 Railway Square, Sarina

Opening hours: Daily, 9am to 4pm
(Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday)

Contact: 07 4943 2801 or visit
sarinasugarched.com.au



With our flat terrain, beautiful environment and 300+ days of glorious sunshine, the Mackay region makes leaving the car at home appealing.

From the picturesque Bluewater Trail that follows Mackay's pristine Pioneer River to the Cross City Link that provides a quick, direct commute for riders traveling between the City Centre and the Paget industrial area, Mackay has an abundance of shared pathways.

Then, once you leave the city and explore the suburbs and rural localities of the Mackay region you will find some excellent loops, scenic rides and more challenging mountain bike trails.

Council is currently working on a world-class 100km network of mountain bike trails in the Pioneer Valley.

Visit **ridemackay.com.au** to see some of the region's best known riding trails.

hooked

ON MACKAY



The Mackay region is known nationally as one of the best fishing locations in Australia.

Nestled behind the protected islands and waters of the Great Barrier Reef, the Mackay region offers one of the most unique fisheries in Australia.

With four world-class barramundi empoundments, fresh-water creeks and net-free fishing zones, the Mackay region offers a selection of species and environments for both avid and casual fishers alike.

To find out more about our fantastic fishing opportunities be sure to check out **hookedonmackay.com**

Civic Precinct, Gordon Street
PO Box 41 Mackay
QLD 4740 Australia

Phone **1300 MACKAY** (622 529)
Email **council@mackay.qld.gov.au**

 **mackayregionalcouncil**

 **mackaycouncil**

 **counciltv**

 **mackaycouncil**

 **mackayregionalcouncil**

mackay.qld.gov.au