



CAIRNS (QUEENSLAND), AUSTRALIA

The fourth most popular destination for international tourists visiting Australia (after Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane) - Cairns is a gateway to the Great Barrier Reef. Founded in 1876, and named after Sir William Wellington Cairns following discovery of gold in the Hodgkinson River

KEY INFO

Currency: Australian Dollar (1 USD = 1.5 AUD)	Languages: English
Population: 169,312 (5.2 million QLD)	Drive on the: Left
Emergency #: 000	Pharmacy: Priceline, Cairns Central, QLD 4870
Drinking water: Tap water is drinkable	Protection: Bug Spray & SPF 30+
Time Zone: GMT+10	Wi-Fi: Libraries, Esplanade, Cairns Central Mall
ID Requirements: Photo ID	Post Office: 38 Sheridan St, Cairns QLD 4870

PORT LOCATION

Ships dock at the Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, which is about 6-minute drive or 20-minute walk from the CBD

Getting Around: The closer bus terminal to the port is Cairns City Bus Station. Tickets can be purchased onboard the bus in cash. A single (one-way) ticket allows 2 hours of travel (from \$2.40 for single zone), and a Daily Ticket allows unlimited travel (from \$4.80 for single zone).

For taxis, dial 131 008 ([Cairns Taxis](http://www.cairnstaxis.com.au)). There is a taxi call station just outside the terminal

www.translink.com.au (click [here](#) for network map)

Port Facilities: Shops, Toilets, Taxis, Tourist Information (1st 2 hours)

Port Address: Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Wharf St, Cairns City QLD 4870

CAIRNS CBD HIGHLIGHTS

Rusty's Market: One of the most well-known markets in Australia and abroad. Three-day market with over 180 stalls. 5a-6p (Fri-Sat), 5a-3p (Sun) | Free | 4-minute drive/12-minute walk (1km from port)

www.rustysmarkets.com.au

The Cairns Esplanade: There's a 4800 square meter saltwater pool, banyan trees line the park for shade, plus there are cook-for-yourself barbeques. Free | 5-minute drive/12-minute walk (1km from port)

<https://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/experience-cairns/Cairns-Esplanade>

Reef Eye Ferris Wheel: Reach a height of about 35m (100ft), with great views over the water and city. Located at the Esplanade. 10a-10p | \$12 | 5-minute drive/12-minute walk (1km from port)

www.thereefeye.com.au

Botanical Gardens: Enjoy one of the best collections of tropical plants in Australia. There's a Visitor Center with helpful staff and information. Free tours. [Garden Guide](#) | 7:30a-5:30p | Free | 11-minute drive/1-hour walk (5km from port)

<https://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/experience-cairns/botanic-gardens>

For more: www.cairnsattractions.com.au, www.tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au, www.queensland.com



KURANDA HIGHLIGHTS

For over 10,000 years the Aboriginal Djabugay tribe has called the Kuranda area home. Known as the Village in the Rainforest, Kuranda is a major tourist attraction for visitors to the Cairns region. The best way to get to Kuranda from Cairns is to take the **Skyrail Rainforest Cableway** from Smithsfield (8:30a-4:45p, \$117 return), or to take the **Kuranda Scenic Railway**. Bus options include **Jon's Kuranda Bus**.

📍 www.skyrail.com.au - to book tickets. Smithsfield Station is 20-minute drive (14km from port)

Butterfly Sanctuary: Home to over 1500 intricately decorated tropical butterflies, including the largest butterfly in all of Oz - the Cairns Birdwing. Largest butterfly aviary in the Southern Hemisphere. 9:30a-3:30p | \$22 | 38-minute drive (30 km from port)

📍 www.australianbutterflies.com

Kuranda Heritage Markets: Popular tourist markets with a range of keepsakes, clothes and souvenirs. 10a-3:30p (Wed-Sun) | Free | 38-minute drive (30km from port)

📍 www.kurandamarkets.com

BirdWorld Kuranda: Indulge in the birdsong and meet some of Australia's most colorful residents. 10a-4p | \$10.50 | 38-minute drive (30km from port)

📍 www.birdworldkuranda.com

REEFS & BEACHES

Cairns is probably most-popular for its proximity to the Great Barrier Reef and many day boats and live-aboard tours head out from Cairns to explore the world's largest reef

Green Island: Part of the Great Barrier Reef, Green Island is the only element of the coral reef to have a rainforest growing on it. Also home to a resort, with food and facilities. \$96 (inc. ferry) | 45-minute ferry

📍 www.green-island.com.au

Fitzroy Island: Famous for its beautiful beaches (of which there are three). Nudey Beach was once named Best Beach in Australia. Also popular for the Turtle Centre. \$90 (inc. ferry) | 45-minute ferry

📍 www.fitzroyisland.com

Barron Beach: Closest beach to Cairns, on other side of Cairns Airport. 19-minute drive (13km from port)

Palm Beach: North of Cairns at the edge of Kuranda National Park. 35-minute drive (30km from port)

Crystal Cascades: A peaceful, secluded freshwater swimming hole. 30-minute drive (21km from port)

📍 <https://www.cairnsattractions.com.au/>