

Essential Facts About GoldCoast You Need to Know



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ABSTRACT

The Gold Coast, one of Australia's most iconic destinations, is known for its stunning coastline, vibrant lifestyle, and diverse attractions. Located in Queensland, this sun-soaked region offers a mix of beautiful beaches, lush hinterlands, and bustling urban areas. With over 300 days of sunshine each year, the Gold Coast is a paradise for outdoor enthusiasts, offering world-class surfing, hiking, and water sports. Beyond its natural beauty, the area boasts a rich cultural history, influenced by both Indigenous heritage and modern Australian traditions, making it a unique blend of old and new.



Whether you're drawn to the energetic atmosphere of Surfers Paradise, the serene vibes of Burleigh Heads, or the family-friendly appeal of its renowned theme parks, the Gold Coast has something for everyone. From its thriving dining scene and bustling nightlife to its tranquil nature reserves and arts festivals, this coastal gem caters to a wide range of interests. Understanding the essential facts about the Gold Coast—from its geography and climate to its lifestyle and economy—can help you appreciate why it's a top choice for tourists and new residents alike.

LET'S GET STARTED

The Gold Coast, situated in the southeast corner of Queensland, is renowned for its stunning beaches, dynamic city life, and diverse natural landscapes. Stretching over 57 kilometers of coastline, it's a haven for surfers, sun-seekers, and nature enthusiasts alike. Beyond its sandy shores, the Gold Coast features lush hinterlands, rainforests, and national parks, making it a perfect blend of coastal and rural charm. With a warm, subtropical climate year-round, the area enjoys more than 300 sunny days annually, attracting millions of visitors who are eager to explore its scenic beauty and outdoor activities.

Apart from its natural allure, the Gold Coast is a bustling hub of culture, entertainment, and modern amenities. It's home to a thriving dining scene, world-class theme parks like Dreamworld and Sea World, and a vibrant nightlife with bars, clubs, and live music venues. The city's economy is driven by tourism, real estate, and education, making it an attractive destination for both holidaymakers and new residents. Whether you're interested in the laid-back beach lifestyle, outdoor adventures, or urban sophistication, the Gold Coast offers a unique blend of experiences that cater to every preference.

ABOUT GOLDCOAST

The Gold Coast is Australia's sixth largest city. It is home to over 635,000 people. We are a city known for our lifestyle and diversity, with almost one in three residents born overseas. The city boasts close to one million visitors each year from countries all over the world. With a vibrant arts and culture scene, a beautiful natural environment and world-class tourism attractions, we also have a proud history and a heritage to preserve and protect for future generations.

Over Indigenous locals are descendants of the traditional Aboriginal people of the region. Some have moved to the Gold Coast from other regions around Australia. We collaborate with our local Indigenous community to document their history and culture and share it with everyone.

We have strong ties with sister cities around the world and continue to grow the diversity and strength of our international connections. This creates real business opportunities in trade and investment in a range of industries.



At the same time, our Digital City Program is transforming how we live, connect, and grow, with the view of the Gold Coast soon being one of Australia's leading digital cities. So, welcome to this wonderful city — we are sure you'll enjoy every aspect that the Gold Coast has to offer.

The city's economy thrives on tourism, and it is known for its warm weather, picturesque environment, and tourism-based economy. The Gold Coast is a paradise for adventure-seekers, culture enthusiasts, and beach lovers, offering a perfect blend of beauty, attractions, and culture. Explore all you need to know about the city's history, geography, local attractions, culinary delights, activities, shopping hotspots, and more, helping you make the most of your visit to this Australian gem.

HISTORY & CULTURE OF GOLDCOAST: YOU NEED TO KNOW

History of the Gold Coast

The history of the Gold Coast stretches back thousands of years, with the region originally inhabited by the Yugambeh Aboriginal people. They were the custodians of the land, thriving in the coastal and hinterland areas long before European settlement. The Indigenous communities maintained a deep spiritual connection to the land, living off the abundant natural resources through fishing, hunting, and gathering. Their cultural heritage is still evident today, particularly in place names, traditional stories, and sacred sites scattered across the region.

European explorers first arrived in the early 1800s, with John Oxley being one of the first to document the area in 1823. By the mid-19th century, the region saw an influx of settlers who were drawn by the rich red cedar trees, sparking a short-lived timber industry. The area was originally known as the "South Coast" before being renamed the Gold Coast in the 1950s due to its rapid development and booming real estate market, fueled by the post-World War II economic surge. The Gold Coast transformed from a collection of small coastal towns into a bustling tourist destination, attracting visitors with its golden beaches, sunny climate, and laid-back lifestyle.

Cultural Evolution of the Gold Coast

The Gold Coast has evolved into a melting pot of cultures, blending its Indigenous roots with influences from around the world. The city's vibrant cultural landscape is reflected in its festivals, art galleries, music events, and diverse culinary scene. The Gold Coast's culture celebrates a love for the outdoors, with a focus on surfing, beach living, and a healthy, active lifestyle. The Surfers Paradise Beachfront Markets, held multiple times a week, showcase local artisans, while events like the Blues on Broadbeach Music Festival and the Swell Sculpture Festival highlight the city's commitment to arts and entertainment.

Over the years, the Gold Coast has also become known for its film and television industry, often dubbed the "Hollywood of Australia." With the establishment of Village Roadshow Studios, the region has attracted international productions, boosting the local economy and contributing to its cultural identity. The

Commonwealth Games held in 2018 further cemented the Gold Coast's status on the global stage, bringing together athletes and visitors from around the world and showcasing the city's capacity for hosting major events.



Modern-Day Culture and Community

Today, the Gold Coast is a thriving city that balances its rich cultural heritage with modern urban living. Its multicultural population brings together people from various backgrounds, making it a dynamic and inclusive community. The city is a hotspot for entrepreneurs, creatives, and young families looking to enjoy a high quality of life. It also hosts various cultural and lifestyle festivals throughout the year, including the Gold Coast Film Festival, Bleach* Festival, and the Gold Coast Show, which celebrate the region's creativity and community spirit.

The city's dedication to preserving its heritage while embracing growth is evident in initiatives to protect its natural environment and promote sustainability. The Gold Coast's blend of history, culture, and natural beauty makes it a unique destination that offers a rich tapestry of experiences for both residents and visitors. Whether exploring the art deco buildings of Coolangatta, attending a traditional Aboriginal smoking ceremony, or simply enjoying the iconic beachfront, the Gold Coast provides a cultural journey that goes beyond its famed surf and sand.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE GOLD COAST: MOVING GUIDE

Are you planning on moving to the Sunshine city of Queensland, the Gold Coast? With a population of around 843,927, Gold Coast is a natural paradise with green hinterlands, crystal clear waters, vibrant ocean-front beaches and more. This sixth-largest Australian city is just 69 km south of Brisbane and is one of the major tourist hotspots in Queensland due to its iconic natural parks, stunning trails, sunny beaches, warm climate, top-notch educational facilities and green hills. The best part about moving to Gold Coast is that you will enjoy scenic drives along the 56-kilometre-long coastline stretching from Rainbow Bay in the south to South Stradbroke Island in the north. With one of the fastest-growing populations in Australia, the Gold Coast is a great place to move to, as this state has the best cultural diversity. Before your Gold Coast removalists start moving all your belongings to this beautiful destination, you must learn some facts about this magnificent city. Here are some top facts about the Gold Coast and why you should move here: Interesting Facts About The Gold Coast.



1. Served As A Vacation Destination For World War 2 Servicemen

The Gold Coast has always been a vibrant vacation destination with its tranquil beaches, exciting nightlife and gorgeous landscapes. But did you know that this city, once called the South Coast, also served as a vacation hotspot for service members returning from World War 2? So much so that journalists named it the Gold Coast due to its exciting beaches and riveting nightlife. This led to a rise in accommodation and beach facilities in this city in the 1950s and 60s, and it soon became one of the most loved and popular vacation places. This city still attracts many tourists from all across the world, and there were over 476,733 international tourists in 2021-22 alone, adding about 6 billion to the economy. Tip: Here are some helpful tips if you are moving overseas to Australia.

2. Considered A Melting Pot Of Different Cultures

When your seasoned removalists Gold Coast move your belongings to this iconic city, you will notice the cultural diversity here. According to official reports, around 29.1 % of the population of Gold Coast comprises migrants from outside Australia. For instance, most of these immigrants come from India, Brazil and New Zealand and speak a language other than English. To cater to such a diverse cultural population, the city has many multicultural organisations like The Migrant Centre and the Multicultural Communities Council Gold Coast. The best part is there are events like Harmony Week in March, where different cultures can unite and celebrate their diversity.

3. Filled With Natural Hotspots And Breathtaking Views

One of the main reasons why Gold Coast is so popular in Queensland is that it is filled with numerous attractions and stunning views. You can enjoy a magical view of the coastline from the Burleigh Heads National Park and watch the glowworm caves in action at the Springbrook National Park. You can also take in the city's amazing skyline from Mount Tamborine, watch its green hills and waterfalls in action, or go on a nature hike at the Lamington National Park.

4. Enjoy A Multitude Of Exciting And Fun-Filled Adventures

When you move to the Gold Coast, you are in for a host of dynamic and robust activities and adventures like:

- Go snorkelling and kayaking on Wave Break Island
- Hug a koala at the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary
- Watch dolphins in action at the Moreton Island
- Enjoy an extreme boat ride along the coast
- Go on an amphibious bus tour at Surfers Paradise
- Enjoy iconic rides at the Movie World theme park

5. Surf Along The Beautiful Beaches Of This City

If you enjoy water sports like surfing and snorkelling, you will love visiting the Gold Coast beaches, as each beach has its own charm. Even if you are not keen on watersports, you can enjoy some glorious sunshine on the shores and relax and enjoy the sound of the waves. Some of the best beaches you must visit on Gold Coast include:

- Surfers Paradise
- Main Beach
- Burleigh Heads
- Nobby beach
- Kirra Beach
- Broadbeach
- Coolangatta Beach

6. A Favourable Climate With Plenty Of Sunshine

Gold Coast is considered the sunshine state of Queensland, with over 287 days of sunshine yearly. You will enjoy an average temperature of around 25 degrees Celsius in the summer and 12 degrees Celsius in the winter. Although the climate is pretty warm, December and January can be quite scorching with extreme temperatures.

7. Has Affordable And Family-Friendly Housing Options

The housing services in Queensland and particularly on the Gold Coast are quite affordable and family-friendly. Moving with your professional removalists Gold Coast to a three-bedroom home here will cost you around \$985 per week on average. The cost of living is also not too high and:

- A family of four will spend around 4,902.7A\$ a month without rent.
- A single person will spend around 1,368.3A\$ without rent.

Also, Gold Coast is completely safe and has a lot of family-friendly activities, topnotch educational facilities, good transportation systems and entertainment centres. Some of the best family-friendly suburbs you can live in here are:

- Coombabah
- Broadbeach Waters
- Bundall
- Pimpama
- Upper Coomera



8. Well-Connected City With Excellent Transportation Facilities

Lastly, one of the best reasons you should move to the Gold Coast is that it is well-connected with an excellent transportation system. You can easily catch a bus here as there are over 60 bus routes connecting the entire city, as well as taxis and trains. The trams here also operate daily from 5 am to midnight, connecting major

destinations like Helensvale, Main Beach, Broadbeach and Surfers Paradise. Once your removalists on Gold Coast move your belongings here, you should purchase a Go card that will allow you access to buses, trams, trains and ferries. It costs less than a paper ticket and can be used throughout Southeast Queensland. Tip: Here are some more reasons why you should live on the Gold Coast.

Conclusion

Gold Coast is a landmark destination filled with family-friendly suburbs, breathtaking natural hotspots, crystal-clear beaches and an excellent transportation network. Besides this, the city is known for its cultural diversity and vibrant social nightlife.

LIFESTYLE IN THE GOLDCOAST

As a newcomer you need to know what is the lifestyle available in the gold coast.

The lifestyle on the Gold Coast is centered around a laid-back, outdoor-oriented culture, which is a major draw for both residents and visitors. With over 300 days of sunshine each year, the region offers a perfect environment for a lifestyle focused on health, recreation, and enjoying the natural beauty of its beaches and hinterlands. For newcomers, it's important to understand that the Gold Coast's lifestyle is deeply tied to the coastal way of life, with surfing, swimming, and outdoor activities playing key roles in daily routines.

Outdoor and Active Living

Living on the Gold Coast means embracing an active lifestyle. Whether it's early morning surfing at iconic beaches like Burleigh Heads or Coolangatta, jogging along the beachfront, or hiking through the nearby hinterlands like Lamington National Park, outdoor activities are a huge part of life. Residents enjoy a year-round outdoor lifestyle, with cycling paths, walking trails, and beach parks easily accessible. Health-conscious newcomers will find a wide range of fitness options, from yoga on the beach to gym classes and fitness retreats in the hinterlands.

Relaxed Beach Culture

The Gold Coast is known for its easy-going, relaxed atmosphere. The pace of life is slower than in larger cities, which appeals to those seeking a more tranquil,

community-focused environment. Surfing and beach culture are deeply ingrained in the local way of life, and newcomers will quickly notice that the beach is a common gathering place for locals. The culture revolves around enjoying the simple pleasures of beach days, BBQs, and outdoor gatherings with friends and family. The "beachfront lifestyle" defines much of the social life here, with casual dining, cafes, and surf clubs being popular meeting spots.



Thriving Dining and Entertainment Scene

Although the Gold Coast is known for its natural beauty, it also has a thriving food and entertainment scene. The city boasts an array of excellent cafes, restaurants, and bars that cater to a variety of tastes, from trendy brunch spots to fine dining with a view of the ocean. The city is home to a diverse mix of cuisines, including fresh seafood, modern Australian, Asian, and Mediterranean. For entertainment, the Gold Coast offers a lively nightlife with nightclubs, live music venues, and pubs. The cultural calendar is full of events such as the Gold Coast Film Festival, Blues on Broadbeach, and the Swell Sculpture Festival, making it a vibrant place for both residents and tourists.

Family-Friendly Environment

The Gold Coast is an ideal place for families, with a wide range of family-oriented activities and services. From family-friendly beaches with calm waters, like Tallebudgera Creek, to interactive attractions such as Sea World, Dreamworld, and Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, there's no shortage of things to do with children. The area also boasts good schools, parks, and a growing network of healthcare facilities, making it a desirable location for those looking to raise a family in a relaxed, yet well-connected environment.

Housing and Cost of Living

The housing market in the Gold Coast offers a range of options, from beachfront apartments and luxury homes in areas like Main Beach and Broadbeach to suburban family homes in places like Robina and Varsity Lakes. While property prices have risen in recent years, the Gold Coast remains more affordable compared to larger cities like Sydney and Melbourne, especially when it comes to buying a home. Renting is also a popular option, with many new residents opting for short-term leases while they familiarize themselves with the area. The cost of living is generally reasonable, although it can vary depending on lifestyle choices, particularly when it comes to dining out, entertainment, and proximity to the beach.

Social and Cultural Diversity

The Gold Coast is a multicultural hub, with people from diverse backgrounds contributing to the city's cosmopolitan feel. This diversity is reflected in the region's cultural events, food scene, and community activities. It's a place where you'll find a blend of different cultures, making it an exciting and welcoming environment for newcomers. Whether you're interested in Aboriginal cultural experiences, art exhibitions, or international food festivals, there's always something new to explore.

Conclusion

For newcomers, the Gold Coast offers a lifestyle that emphasizes outdoor activities, relaxation, and a strong sense of community. Whether you enjoy beach days, exploring the hinterlands, or participating in a bustling dining and

entertainment scene, the Gold Coast provides a rich and balanced lifestyle that combines the best of nature, recreation, and urban convenience.

PLACES YOU MUST SEE IN THE GOLDCOAST

The Gold Coast is a paradise for nature lovers, thrill-seekers, and those who simply want to soak in the stunning coastal scenery. With its mix of beaches, hinterlands, and urban attractions, the Gold Coast offers something for everyone. Here are some must-see places that should be on every visitor's list:

1. Surfers Paradise Beach

- Why Visit: Surfers Paradise is the Gold Coast's most iconic stretch of beach, famous for its golden sand, surf culture, and lively atmosphere. It's the perfect place for a swim, a surf, or just relaxing by the water.
- What to Do: Take a surf lesson, walk along the Esplanade, or shop and dine in the bustling nearby precinct. The beach is also home to some of the Gold Coast's most iconic high-rise buildings.

2. Burleigh Heads National Park

- Why Visit: Burleigh Heads is a beautiful spot that combines natural beauty with easy access to the beach. The national park offers scenic walking tracks that lead through rainforests, along coastal cliffs, and to panoramic ocean views.
- What to Do: Hike the Oceanview Walk for amazing views or enjoy the beach for swimming and picnicking in the nearby parklands.

3. Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary

- Why Visit: One of the Gold Coast's most popular attractions, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary offers a chance to get up close with Australian wildlife, including koalas, kangaroos, and crocodiles.
- What to Do: Take part in animal encounters, explore the wildlife trails, and enjoy the famous "Wildlife Hospital" and "TreeTop Challenge" adventure park.

4. Lamington National Park

- Why Visit: Lamington National Park, located in the Gold Coast hinterland, is a lush paradise known for its ancient rainforest, waterfalls, and abundant wildlife.
- What to Do: Explore the walking trails, visit the stunning Moran's Falls, or enjoy a peaceful retreat in the park's eco-lodges.



5. SkyPoint Observation Deck

- Why Visit: Located on the 77th floor of the Q1 building, SkyPoint Observation Deck offers spectacular 360-degree views of the Gold Coast, from the beaches to the hinterlands.
- What to Do: Take a ride to the top for breathtaking views, enjoy a meal at the restaurant, or take part in the SkyPoint Climb for an even more thrilling experience.

6. Dreamworld

- Why Visit: As one of Australia's largest theme parks, Dreamworld offers fun for the whole family with a variety of rides, shows, and attractions based on popular themes like movie characters and wildlife. - What to Do: Experience thrilling roller coasters, visit the Tiger Island for animal encounters, and enjoy the many family-friendly rides and water attractions.

7. Seaworld

- Why Visit: Another popular theme park on the Gold Coast, Sea World offers a blend of aquatic animal exhibits, exciting rides, and animal shows.
- What to Do: Watch marine animal shows, explore the aquarium and shark lagoon, and enjoy the thrilling roller coasters like the Jet Rescue ride.

8. Broadbeach

- Why Visit: Broadbeach is a more relaxed area compared to Surfers Paradise, offering a quieter beach experience while still being close to vibrant cafes, restaurants, and shops.
- What to Do: Stroll along the beach, dine at one of the many restaurants or cafes, and enjoy the Broadbeach Parklands. It's also home to the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre.

9. The Hinterlands

- Why Visit: The Gold Coast Hinterland is full of scenic beauty, charming villages, and hidden gems. It's the perfect place to explore the natural beauty of the region away from the hustle and bustle.
- What to Do: Visit the quaint town of Mount Tamborine, explore the stunning waterfalls at Springbrook National Park, or try some local wine in the region's vineyards

10. The Gold Coast Arts Centre (HOTA)

- Why Visit: HOTA is the cultural hub of the Gold Coast, offering a range of art galleries, live performances, and outdoor events. It's the perfect place for those interested in the arts.
- What to Do: Enjoy a variety of art exhibitions, attend a live performance or concert, and relax in the outdoor amphitheater overlooking the water.

7 OF THE BEST BEACHES ON THE GOLD COAST YOU SHOULD NOT MISS

The Gold Coast has some of the most beautiful stretches of sand in Australia. Whether you love to swim, surf, paddleboard or simply relax, you'll find a beach to suit. So grab your swimming costume and head to one of the Coast's best beaches.

The Gold Coast is home to some of the most stunning beaches in Australia, each offering something unique for visitors. Whether you're into surfing, swimming, or simply soaking up the sun, here are 7 must-see beaches on the Gold Coast that you should not miss:



1. Surfers Paradise Beach

- Why Visit: As the Gold Coast's most iconic beach, Surfers Paradise offers a lively, bustling atmosphere with golden sands and excellent surf. It's perfect for those who want to experience the heart of the Gold Coast's beach culture.

- What to Do: Surf the waves, relax on the sand, stroll along the Esplanade, and explore the surrounding shops, cafes, and entertainment options.

2. Burleigh Heads Beach

- Why Visit: Burleigh Heads is known for its laid-back vibe and stunning natural surroundings. The beach is framed by the Burleigh Heads National Park, offering beautiful views of the coastline and the surrounding hinterland.
- What to Do: Enjoy swimming, surfing, and picnicking in the park. Walk along the Burleigh Headland for spectacular views and watch local surfers take on the waves.

3. Coolangatta Beach

- Why Visit: Located at the southern end of the Gold Coast, Coolangatta is known for its relaxed atmosphere and scenic beauty. With calm waters, it's a perfect spot for families, swimmers, and beginner surfers.
- What to Do: Swim in the sheltered bay, relax on the beach, and explore nearby Snapper Rocks or the local cafes and shops along the Coolangatta strip.

4. Tallebudgera Creek

- Why Visit: Tallebudgera Creek offers a more serene, family-friendly alternative to the busier beaches. The crystal-clear waters of the creek are perfect for swimming, kayaking, and paddleboarding.
- What to Do: Spend a day kayaking along the creek, picnic in the park, or simply enjoy the calm waters, making it a great spot for young families.

5. Main Beach

- Why Visit: Main Beach is a quieter alternative to Surfers Paradise, offering a more relaxed atmosphere with stunning views and calm, clear waters. It's ideal for those seeking a peaceful beach experience near the heart of the city.
- What to Do: Swim, sunbathe, or take a leisurely walk along the foreshore. Main Beach also offers easy access to nearby attractions like Sea World and the Southport Spit.

6. Currumbin Beach

- Why Visit: Currumbin Beach is a favorite for surfers and nature lovers. Known for its gentle waves, it's also surrounded by lush greenery, including the famous Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary nearby.
- What to Do: Take a swim, surf the mellow waves, or visit the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary for a chance to get up close with Australia's native animals.

7. Palm Beach

- Why Visit: Palm Beach is a more relaxed, peaceful destination compared to some of the more tourist-heavy beaches on the Gold Coast. The beach is perfect for those looking for quiet, scenic beauty and a chance to unwind away from the crowds.
- What to Do: Relax on the sands, swim in the calm waters, and explore the nearby Burleigh Headland for stunning coastal views.

Conclusion

Each of these beaches offers a different experience, from the lively atmosphere of Surfers Paradise to the tranquil, family-friendly waters of Tallebudgera Creek. Whether you're an avid surfer or someone looking to relax by the water, the Gold Coast's beaches have something for everyone. Don't miss out on exploring these stunning stretches of sand and surf!

THE STUDY AND HOUSING SOURCE IN GOLDCOAST

Study Opportunities:

The Gold Coast is home to top educational institutions, offering diverse study options:

- Bond University: Known for small class sizes and strong industry ties, offering courses in law, business, and more.
- Griffith University: Offers a wide range of programs with a focus on research and innovation.

- Southern Cross University: A friendly environment with programs in arts, health, and sciences.
- TAFE Queensland: Offers vocational education in areas like hospitality, construction, and health.
- International Options: The Gold Coast is welcoming to international students, with language schools and diverse cultural experiences.



Housing Options:

The Gold Coast provides a variety of housing choices for all budgets:

- Apartments: Modern beachside apartments in areas like Surfers Paradise and Broadbeach, ranging from \$400–\$700/week.

- Student Accommodation: Affordable on-campus and private rentals for students, costing \$150–\$350/week.
- Shared Housing: Renting a room in shared houses costs \$150–\$300/week.
- Suburban Homes: Spacious homes in family-friendly areas like Robina, ranging from \$500–\$1,200/week.
- Beachfront Living: Luxury beachfront properties from \$600–\$1,500/week.
- Property Market: Median house prices around \$800,000, with apartments averaging \$450,000–\$650,000.

The Gold Coast is an excellent location for both studying and living, offering a great mix of educational institutions and diverse housing options.

CONCLUSION

The Gold Coast offers a perfect blend of natural beauty, vibrant culture, and excellent educational opportunities, making it an ideal destination for both study and living. With stunning beaches, a laid-back lifestyle, and world-class amenities, it's no wonder that the Gold Coast continues to attract students, professionals, and families alike.

Whether you're planning to study, relocate, or simply explore, the Gold Coast has something for everyone. From top universities to a range of housing options, this coastal paradise ensures a fulfilling and balanced life for all who call it home.



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