



**A LOCAL'S GUIDE
TO HIDDEN GEMS
ON THE GOLD
COAST**



ABSTRACT

The Gold Coast, renowned for its sun-soaked beaches and vibrant nightlife, holds a wealth of lesser-known treasures that offer a unique perspective on this coastal paradise. This guide explores hidden gems, from serene natural escapes and secret dining spots to overlooked cultural experiences. Perfect for visitors seeking an authentic experience beyond the typical tourist hotspots, this guide unveils the Gold Coast's charm through a local lens.

INTRODUCTION

The Gold Coast, celebrated for its iconic surf breaks and bustling skyline, attracts millions of visitors annually. However, beneath its well-trodden attractions lies a tapestry of hidden gems waiting to be discovered. These spots, cherished by locals, offer a deeper connection to the area's beauty, history, and culture. This guide aims to highlight these underappreciated wonders, from secluded beaches and tranquil hinterlands to unique eateries and offbeat activities, ensuring an enriching experience for those eager to go beyond the surface.

I. About our city

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 Coombabah, Gold Coast has to offer.

II. 8 Reasons Why You Should Visit the Gold Coast Right Now

Why You Should Visit the Gold Coast

Sun-kissed skin, sunny beach days, stunning rainforests and iconic Australian moments are what the Gold Coast is all about.

Whether the beach calls your name or you're after adventure, the Gold Coast awaits.

Get a peek into the good times that never end – even after the sun sets. Here are our 8 reasons why you should visit the Gold Coast right now.

Boundless Beach Days

The Gold Coast boasts a fabulous collection of Australia's best beaches. Their crystal blue waters, incredible surf breaks and breathtaking high-rise backdrops make Gold Coast beaches irresistible to any kind of beach goer.

Venture to Surfers Paradise Beach, the famous beach hotspot of the Gold Coast, and roll out a towel for a lazy sun-kissed day.

The new foreshore at Surfers Paradise is bustling throughout the day with walkers, cyclists and skateboarders taking advantage of this beachfront boulevard vista overlooking the surf and sand.



Like the Surfers Paradise of yesteryear, beachside shopping, dining, bars and clubs continually offer the complete holiday experience all in one compact destination package.

Broadbeach, south of Surfers Paradise is a precinct full of cafes, restaurants, retailers and is a friendly beachfront. Just a little further down the coast is Burleigh Heads, acclaimed for its beachside village vibe and array of excellent cafes.

Visitors flock to the Southern Gold Coast for its change of pace. From here, you can look back towards the Surfers Paradise skyline in the distance and really feel you've slowed down.

The surf is spectacular and the southern suburbs exude old-school beachside charm combined with world-class oceanfront hotels, restaurants and an array of retro festivals.

Live Like a Local

If you are looking for the quintessential “Aussie lifestyle” then head to the Gold Coast with its miles of sandy beaches, urban sophistication and incredible natural environment.

The city’s growth and continuing popularity as Australia’s number one holiday destination is a testament to the relaxed vibes and welcoming atmosphere that the city exudes.

The Gold Coast offers a variety of opportunities to scratch beneath the surface and live like a local.

Drop into one of its seriously cool micro-breweries that offer live music and food trucks, or browse its vibrant street food markets. Join the “clubbies” at the local volunteer Surf Life Saving club for a drink and world class views.

Or just take some food down to the beach, fire up one of the free BBQ’s, grab a spot among the locals and take it all in.

Conquer Your Fear of Heights on the SkyPoint Q1 Climb

Sure, the Q1 Resort tower is the highest point in all of Gold Coast, but don’t let that scare you!

The SkyPoint Climb at Q1 is Gold Coast’s answer to Sydney’s Bridge Climb, and an absolute must-do for the best views over Coombabah, Gold Coast.

Starting on level 77 of SkyPoint Observation Deck, you’ll shimmy into a full body suit and strap on a harness before a safety training by a professional and friendly guide.

Harnessed to a purpose-built safety rail system, you’ll find the guided climb up to the summit unbelievably easy. As the best way to see the true beauty of the Gold Coast, the 360 degree views make the climb truly worth it. The swells of the ocean against the coast, the lush hinterland and even views from Brisbane to Byron Bay are all yours to take in.

Rise with the sun on a morning climb or watch the city lights illuminate the evening with a night climb. You can even include a dining option with your climb – the night climb boasts a delicious shrimp tagliatelle!

As one of the best photo ops in Gold Coast, your guide will snap photos of you and your group with the backdrop of the gorgeous city skyline in the distance. By then you’ll have forgotten all about any fear of heights!

Taste the Incredible Food Scene

The Gold Coast's food scene has evolved so much in the last few years, it's a full-time job just keeping up with the latest openings.

From hatted restaurants (the Australian equivalent to Michelin stars), quirky cafes and food trucks to wine bars and craft beer taphouses, there's something for every palate.



Relish elegant beachfront hotel dining in Surfers Paradise or sample delectable seafood on rooftop restaurants in Burleigh Heads. Get your Asian fusion mix in Broadbeach, where you'll find creative dishes to delight your taste buds.

The locals swear by street eats such as ramen from Muso and Double Zero's Neapolitan style pizza.

Chill out at al fresco eateries such as Sandbar with its brunch seaside menu, or see why the good tunes and pizza of Justin's Rooftop make it a popular favorite with the locals.

Get Up Close with Wildlife at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary

The Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary is the unsung attraction of the Gold Coast, home to one of the world's largest collections of native Australian wildlife.

Catch the mini train circling around the sanctuary for easy access to the various exhibits and encounters.

Here you can pet the curious kangaroos and feed the rainbow lorikeets perched on your shoulder.

Watch an exciting crocodile feeding or catch the Dingo Walk, where you'll get to feel the stunning white coat of Marrok, a pure white alpine dingo. Don't miss your chance for that iconic Australia photo shoot while holding a koala!

For a unique experience, visit the hospital where you can witness the conservation team operate on sick and injured animals. The vets warmly welcome visitors and explain every aspect of their process. Now THAT'S getting up close and personal!

Head for the Hills in the Gold Coast Hinterland

Hidden beneath the Gold Coast's bold first impression is a serene hinterland filled with thriving rainforests, stunning waterfalls and fantastic walking trails. The best part is it's all within just an hour's drive from the hustle and bustle of Gold Coast.

Venture into the ancient, world heritage-listed Gondwana Rainforests and explore its gorgeous national parks. Lamington National Park offers plenty of walking trails for all fitness levels, decorated by cascading waterfalls along the way. Walk among the shady tree canopies on the Tree Top Walkway near O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat.

Take a break from the sand and find your zen in the swimming holes throughout the forest, such as the Currumbin Rock Pools.

Springbrook National Park is full of hidden gems such as caves, spectacular waterfalls and a natural bridge arch. Wherever you're wandering throughout the rainforest, keep an eye out for kangaroos and wallabies peeking out from their bush retreats!

Catch these unique pockets of the rainforest you might've otherwise missed on a small group tour, our favorite way to explore the Gold Coast Hinterland.

Shop 'Til You Drop

You won't find a love for local markets and high-end shops alike greater than the at the Gold Coast.

Browse the stalls of handmade items and uniquely Australian products at the Surfers Paradise Beachfront Markets.

Feel the bohemian vibes of the Village Markets at Burleigh Heads, where you'll find boutique stalls of fashionable and locally designed clothes along with delicious street eats.



Luxury shopping gets no better than at Pacific Fair's offer of high-end designer digs and glamorous department stores.

An experience unto itself is Harbour Town, Australia's largest outlet shopping center featuring premium Australian and international brands. In other words, a shopaholic's dream.

Stay Up Late

When the sun goes down, the adults play. By night, the Gold Coast's vibrant nightlife welcomes the party-loving night owls, cocktails in hand, at laid-back music venues and rooftop bars.

Energetic, enthusiastic, electric, eclectic! These are just some of the words that sum up the social scene that Surfers Paradise was built on. Surfers Paradise comfortably maintains its position as the good-times hub of the Gold Coast.

For a generous flow of craft beer, stop by Balter Brewery for a nice, cold pint and hang out with its down-to-earth crowd. Indulge in exuberant luxury at The Star's 24-hour casino or mingle with the locals at a true Coombabah, Gold Coast rooftop icon – The Island.

Experience a taste of international street food and nightlife at Miami Marketta, a small venue housing 25 food vendors and fantastic live music. Whether you're looking for a wild night out in the city or a more relaxed end to your day, the Gold Coast's extensive nightlife has something for all night-owls.

III. Exploring the Hidden Gems of Gold Coast: Uncharted Attractions Beyond the Tourist Hotspots

Welcome to the enchanting world of Gold Coast, where beyond the glittering beaches and bustling tourist spots lie hidden gems waiting to be discovered. Embark on a journey with us as we unveil the lesser-known attractions that promise a unique and authentic experience, far away from the well-trodden paths.

The Serenity of Hinze Dam: A Tranquil Oasis

Venture just a short drive from the coastal hustle, and you'll find the serene Hinze Dam, a hidden oasis embraced by lush greenery. This reservoir not only provides water supply but also offers a peaceful retreat. Picture yourself strolling along the dam's perimeter, surrounded by nature's tranquility. Pack a picnic and unwind by the water's edge, taking in the breathtaking views of the hinterland. Unlike the crowded beaches, Hinze Dam provides a quiet escape, allowing you to connect with nature and recharge your senses.



As you explore this hidden gem, you'll find that the tranquility of Hinze Dam contrasts beautifully with the lively atmosphere of Gold Coast's main attractions. Your visit here adds a serene and contemplative note to your Coombabah, Gold Coast experience, a delightful deviation from the usual tourist fare.

Burleigh Head National Park: Where Nature Meets the Ocean

Escape the bustling city life and head to Burleigh Head National Park, where the convergence of nature and the ocean creates a mesmerizing panorama. This hidden gem offers walking trails that wind through lush rainforest, providing shade and a cool respite. As you traverse the paths, you'll be treated to stunning coastal views that rival even the most popular tourist spots.

Bring your camera along to capture the beauty of Tallebudgera Creek meeting the Pacific Ocean. The rocky headland is a photographer's dream, offering a unique perspective of Gold Coast's natural beauty. Unlike crowded beaches, Burleigh Head National Park provides a serene and uncrowded space where you can enjoy the scenic splendor at your own pace. It's a secret haven, waiting for you to discover its beauty and tranquility.

The Arts and Culture Hub: Dust Temple

Delve into the artistic heart of Gold Coast with a visit to Dust Temple, an eclectic and vibrant cultural hub tucked away in Currumbin. This hidden gem seamlessly blends art, coffee, and community in a captivating setting. As you step inside, you'll be greeted by an atmosphere that feels more like a hidden sanctuary than a conventional art space.

Dust Temple hosts a variety of events, from art exhibitions to live performances, creating a dynamic space that fosters creativity and collaboration. Explore the diverse artwork on display, grab a cup of artisanal coffee, and immerse yourself in the local artistic scene. Unlike more mainstream venues, Dust Temple offers an intimate and unique experience, connecting you with Gold Coast's thriving arts and culture community.

The Culinary Hideaway: Exploring Gold Coast's Secret Foodie Spots

Dive into Gold Coast's gastronomic treasures beyond the well-trodden restaurant districts. The city boasts a culinary scene that extends far beyond the touristy areas, revealing hidden gems where locals indulge in delectable dishes. Uncover secret foodie spots that showcase the diverse flavors and culinary innovation that Gold Coast has to offer.



Embark on a journey through hidden eateries, tucked-away cafes, and unassuming food stalls that only the locals know about. From savory delights to sweet indulgences, these culinary hideaways present a tapestry of tastes that go beyond the typical fare. Imagine stumbling upon a family-run bistro serving authentic regional cuisine or discovering a quaint bakery crafting artisanal pastries. The secret foodie spots of Gold Coast promise a culinary adventure that tantalizes your taste buds and leaves you craving for more.

Nature's Symphony: Gold Coast's Hidden Hiking Trails

Escape the city buzz and venture into the heart of nature with Gold Coast's hidden hiking trails. Beyond the popular trekking routes, the region boasts a network of trails that wind through lush rainforests, ascend scenic peaks, and lead to secluded waterfalls. Lace up your hiking boots and explore the undiscovered side of Gold Coast, where each trail unveils a unique facet of the region's natural beauty.

Picture yourself navigating a path enveloped in the soothing sounds of birdsong and the rustle of leaves. These hidden trails offer a retreat from the urban hustle, providing a space for reflection and reconnection with nature. Unlike the crowded tourist spots, these hiking gems allow you to embrace solitude or share the experience with a select few. Whether you're an avid hiker seeking a challenging ascent or a nature enthusiast looking for a serene stroll, Gold Coast's hidden hiking trails offer an immersive and rejuvenating outdoor escape.

Coastal Charm: Gold Coast's Secluded Beach Retreats

While Gold Coast is renowned for its famous beaches, there are secluded stretches of shoreline waiting to be explored. Escape the crowds and discover the coastal charm of hidden beaches that offer tranquility, soft sands, and crystal-clear waters. These secret retreats are the perfect antidote to the bustling tourist hotspots, providing an intimate and secluded coastal experience.

Imagine stumbling upon a hidden cove framed by rocky cliffs or a pristine beach accessible only by a scenic trail. These secluded beaches offer a sense of exclusivity, allowing you to unwind without the distractions of bustling crowds. Whether you're seeking a quiet spot for sunbathing, a picturesque setting for a beach picnic, or a serene space for a sunset stroll, Gold Coast's hidden beaches beckon with coastal charm that goes beyond the ordinary.



As we conclude our journey through the hidden gems of the Gold Coast, remember that beyond the tourist hotspots lies a tapestry of experiences waiting to be unraveled.

Hinze Dam, Burleigh Head National Park, and Dust Temple are just a glimpse of the information and experiences you can see for yourself that are covered in this coastal paradise. Take the road less traveled, and you'll discover that Gold Coast's true treasures are often found where the crowds are not. So, pack your sense of adventure, leave the beaten path behind, and let the hidden gems of Gold Coast reveal their secrets to you.

IV. Best things to do on the Gold Coast



Where hinterland meets the beach, the Gold Coast offers much more than shopping, surf, and skyline - though we have miles of those. If you're looking for things to do on the Gold Coast, you're spoilt for choice. Slow down and fill up your tank at a luxury spa retreat, dine right on the beach with the waves at your feet, or go eye-to-eye with the sea's gentle giants.

What are you waiting for? We've saved you a spot on the sand.



1. Ascend the awe-inspiring SkyPoint Climb – Australia’s highest external building climb on top of the Gold Coast’s iconic Q1 building – for a view that stays with you long after you’re back on solid ground.

2. Connect with the gentle giants of the deep on a whale-watching cruise. Spirit of the Gold Coast, Whales in Paradise and Sea World Cruises offer great tours.

3. Treat your body and your spirit at the spa and lifestyle retreat, Gwinganna. Set in the tranquil Tallebudgera Valley with views all the way to the coast, Gwinganna is an eco-retreat that offers wellness and stress management therapies as well as spa treatments. Let the bush soothe your soul as you detox with organic produce sourced from on-site gardens. Bliss.



- 4.** Change your perspective and explore the Gold Coast's diverse hinterlands and 70 kilometres of coastline as you've never seen them before: from a hot air balloon, with Hot Air Balloon Gold Coast.
- 5.** Hit the water with Seaway Kayaking tours and you might just bump into some new friends – dolphins, sea turtles and stingrays are spotted regularly.
- 6.** For a meal with a view you won't forget anytime soon, dine right on the beach at Rick Shores. The Moreton Bay bug rolls are a must. For more culinary delights, check out the Gold Coast's best restaurants here.
- 7.** Retreat into the silence of the bush with a Nightfall wilderness glamping experience. Nightfall offers luxury eco-conscious camping in the ancient Lamington National Park rainforest. It's a real bucket list experience.



8. When was the last time you set off into nothing but blue? Jet Ski Safaris offers riders the chance to explore the stunning beaches and hidden islands of the Gold Coast at their own pace on a self-manned jet ski.

9. Feel the wind in your hair, meet your heroes, and get guaranteed goosebumps at the Gold Coast's iconic theme parks: Dreamworld and WhiteWater World, Warner Bros. Movie World, and Wet'n'Wild.

10. Meet the regions' first inhabitants, hear stories older than the rainforest and take a guided tour of the magical Jellurgal mountain at the Jellurgal Aboriginal Cultural Centre.

11. Get in the driver's seat and take your holiday up a gear with a Supercars Driving Experience at Norwell Motorplex.



12. Experience something completely unique at the Gold Coast's cultural heart, Home of the Arts. Offering art, theatre, dance, movies, a hidden adventure trail, a rooftop bar and dining, Home of the Arts has the experience to inspire every member of the family.

13. Let a local show you how it's done. Kiff & Culture offers a local guide to the best tastes in the region.

14. Raise a glass to the Gold Coast's thriving brewery scene. Home to some of Australia's best small breweries, the Coast's own Burleigh Brewing Company, Blackhops, Precinct and Balter Brewing Company are all local favourites.

15. If you're looking for a spot to throw down a towel, dive into this list of the best beaches on the Gold Coast.

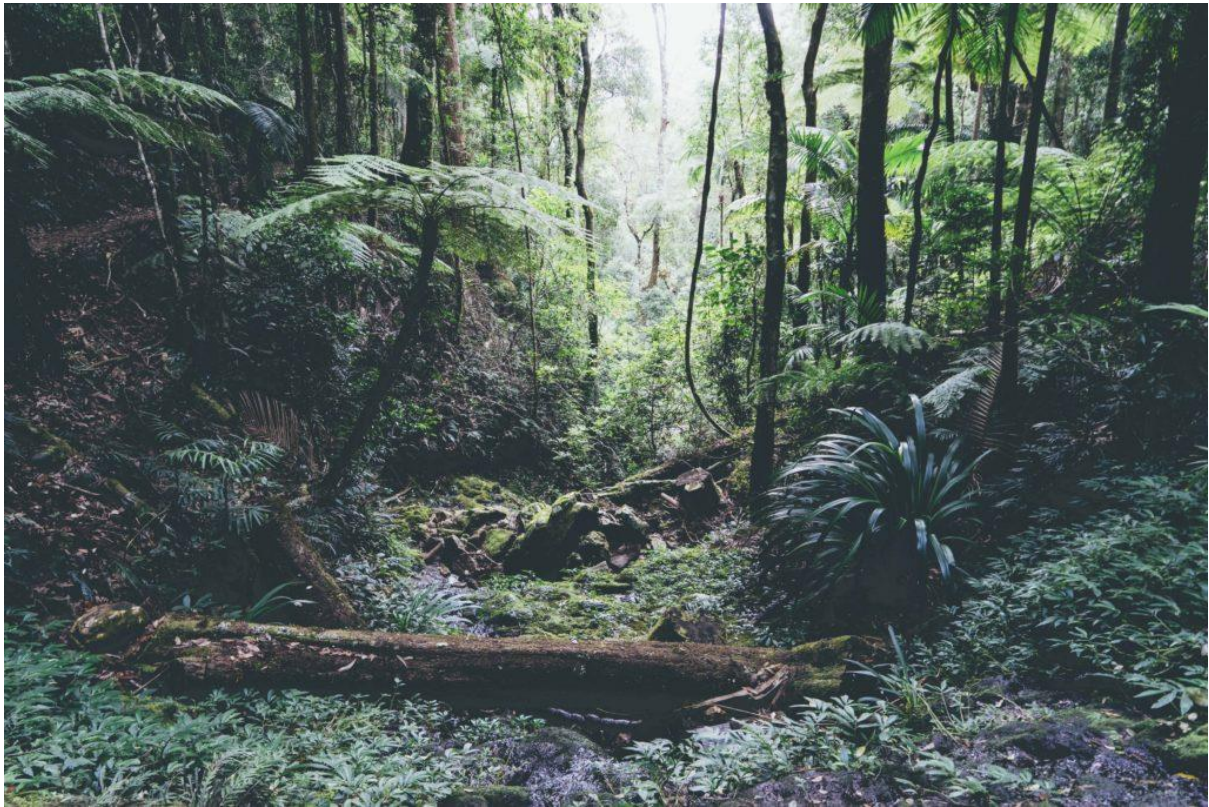
V. 10 Awesome Reasons to Live on the Gold Coast

With glorious beaches, perfect weather and a thriving entertainment and nightlife scene, who wouldn't want to be living on the Gold Coast?

Famous for its relaxed beachside lifestyle, this city also offers international students world-class educational institutions and promising career opportunities.

Here are ten awesome reasons to live on the Gold Coast.

1. The nature



It's impossible to talk about the Gold Coast without mentioning its most famous attractions—the beaches. From busy hotspots like Main Beach to local gems such as Echo Beach, there's something for everyone here.

The Gold Coast's white sandy beaches stretch along 70 km of coastline, which play host to sporting events and recreational activities. These include international surfing competitions and community triathlons, so there's always something fun to do.

What's more, the Gold Coast is home to lots of amazing national parks that are pretty much as beautiful as it gets.

Burleigh National Park is a popular spot that offers stunning views of Surfers Paradise and the Pacific Ocean. Nearby, you can even explore the breathtaking Gondwana Rainforests, part of the largest subtropical rainforest system in the world.

2. The weather

While the sun might not shine every day on the Gold Coast, it does come pretty close. In fact, the city enjoys around 300 sunny days each year.

Summers here aren't too hot, with temperatures averaging between 21°C and 28°C. The winters are milder than in cities like Sydney and Melbourne, too, so it's warm enough to swim and surf all year.

3. The laidback vibe



Thanks to the sunny weather, palm trees, and glorious beaches, life on the Coombabah, Gold Coast feels like a never-ending holiday. You'll find that the pace of life here is slower than in other major cities, and the friendly locals love to stop and have a chat.

The people here enjoy a laid-back beach culture that balances hard work with plenty of sunshine and good times. When you're looking for a break from work or study, check out local favourites, such as the Burleigh Pavilion, your nearest surf life-saving or bowls club.

4. The multiculturalism

The Gold Coast is a fun, diverse and multicultural place to live. In fact, along with the many tourists that visit the area, nearly one in three residents were born overseas.

You'll even find plenty of multicultural events and activities occurring each year, including the Multicultural Festival in September and Multicultural Month in August.

The popular Chinatown in Southport also hosts regular street markets and cultural festivals.

5. The nightlife



The Gold Coast lifestyle boasts an unrivalled party reputation. The streets of Surfers Paradise are lined with pounding dance clubs, bars, restaurants, and live music venues, meaning there's an awesome spot to be found around every corner.

Outside of Surfers Paradise, the fun continues. Check out suburbs like Broadbeach and Burleigh Heads for trendy bars and restaurants, including Justin Lane and Maman Bar and Kitchen.

6. The world-class universities

The Gold Coast doesn't just offer an unbeatable lifestyle! It's also home to several globally-ranked educational institutions.

Griffith University, located in Southport, offers a wide variety of degrees in business, arts, communication and more to its student base of over 21,000. It has steadily risen in the QS University rankings over the last five years to sit in the top 250 universities in the world.

Bond University, located in Robina, hosts international students from more than 90 countries. Bond has been rated #1 in Australia for student experience for the last 16 years.

Southern Cross University has more than 16,000 students over three campuses in Northern NSW and the Gold Coast. It offers degrees in business, tourism, environmental and health sciences, Indigenous studies, education, law and a broad range of the arts.

In addition to universities, you'll find several fantastic colleges and TAFE campuses on the Gold Coast offering courses in all kinds of areas, including cookery, hospitality, design, tourism and IT.

7. The employment opportunities



While the Gold Coast may be smaller than capital cities like Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, there are still plenty of opportunities to secure a job and build your career.

While on a student visa in Australia, you can work up to 48 hours per fortnight during the semester and unlimited hours during holiday breaks. This allows you to gain valuable work experience, support yourself financially and build your professional network.

Popular part-time jobs for students in Australia include roles in hospitality, retail and tourism. You can even find paid internships and work experience opportunities through your university.

If you stay in Australia after graduation, you'll have the chance to launch your career in one of the country's fastest-growing cities. On the Gold Coast, industries such as tourism and construction are always strong, and the health and tech sectors are also seeing rapid growth.

8. Opportunities to live and work in Australia longer

After experiencing life on the Gold Coast, you're almost guaranteed to want to stay. Who wouldn't enjoy more time living by picture-perfect beaches in the sunshine?

International students who study on the Gold Coast may be eligible for up to four years of living, working and studying here after graduation with a Temporary Graduate visa. This compares favourably to other Australian cities, like Sydney or Melbourne, which can only offer three years. Plus, if you're a student studying in the fields of health, technology, education and construction, you may also be eligible for a further extension of your post-study working rights!

9. The good public transport access

The city's fantastic public transport system makes getting around very easy. There's no shortage of buses, trains and trams to get you where you need to go, and the network usually runs on time.

Plus, you can even use public transport to take day or overnight trips to other destinations, such as Brisbane, Byron Bay and small coastal towns like Yamba.

As a student, you may qualify for a concession rate on your go card, meaning you can save up to 50 per cent on your travel costs.

10. The endless entertainment and events



There's always something happening on the Gold Coast.

The city offers the biggest collection of theme parks in the Southern Hemisphere, including Warner Bros. Movie World, Sea World, Dreamworld, Wet'n'Wild, and more.

You'll also find countless festivals celebrating food, film, music, culture, art, and everything in between. Some of the best events include the Gold Coast Film Festival and the Spilt Milk Music Festival.

Don't miss a trip to the Home of the Arts (HOTA), a cultural hub where you can check out the latest movies, live concerts, exhibitions, and more.

Plus, there are always events and activities taking place in parks, entertainment venues, beaches, and libraries across the city. Whatever you're into, you'll never be bored on the Gold Coast!

VI. Discover the Gold Coast's Ultimate Family-Friendly Suburbs

Are you dreaming of making the Gold Coast your family's new home? We understand that finding the perfect place for your family, with excellent schools in the vicinity, is a top priority. That's why we've compiled a list of the top 5 family-friendly suburbs on the Gold Coast

Top 5 family-friendly suburbs on the Gold Coast, where safety, excellent schools, and abundant space take centre stage.



Top 5 most family friendly suburbs on the Gold Coast

The Gold Coast hinterland suburbs stand out as some of the most sought-after family-friendly suburbs on the Gold Coast, surpassing even the well-known beachside counterparts in their appeal to families with school-age children. Families gravitate towards these suburbs for their abundance of fellow families, spacious surroundings with mostly free-standing homes, and a substantial number of owner-occupied residences for a sense of stability. Moreover, the low crime rates and access to quality schools make these suburbs a preferred choice for families.

1. Currumbin Valley & Tallebudgera

Nature's Paradise with Top-Performing Schools

Tucked away in the Southern Gold Coast, behind Currumbin Waters and Elanora, lies the idyllic Currumbin Valley & Tallebudgera area. It's a rural haven bounded by the NSW border to the south. Here's why it's perfect for families:

Homeowners' Haven: A remarkable 96% are free-standing homes and 83% of residents are owner-occupiers, ensuring a stable and invested community.

Safety First: Enjoy peace of mind with a low crime rate of 15.8

Socio-Economic Advantage: This area scores an impressive 1,054.9 on the socio-economic advantage scale.

2. Reedy Creek

A Hidden Gem with Lots of School Options

Nestled west of the M1, just south of Mudgeeraba and north of Tallebudgera, Reedy Creek offers a charming family-friendly vibe:

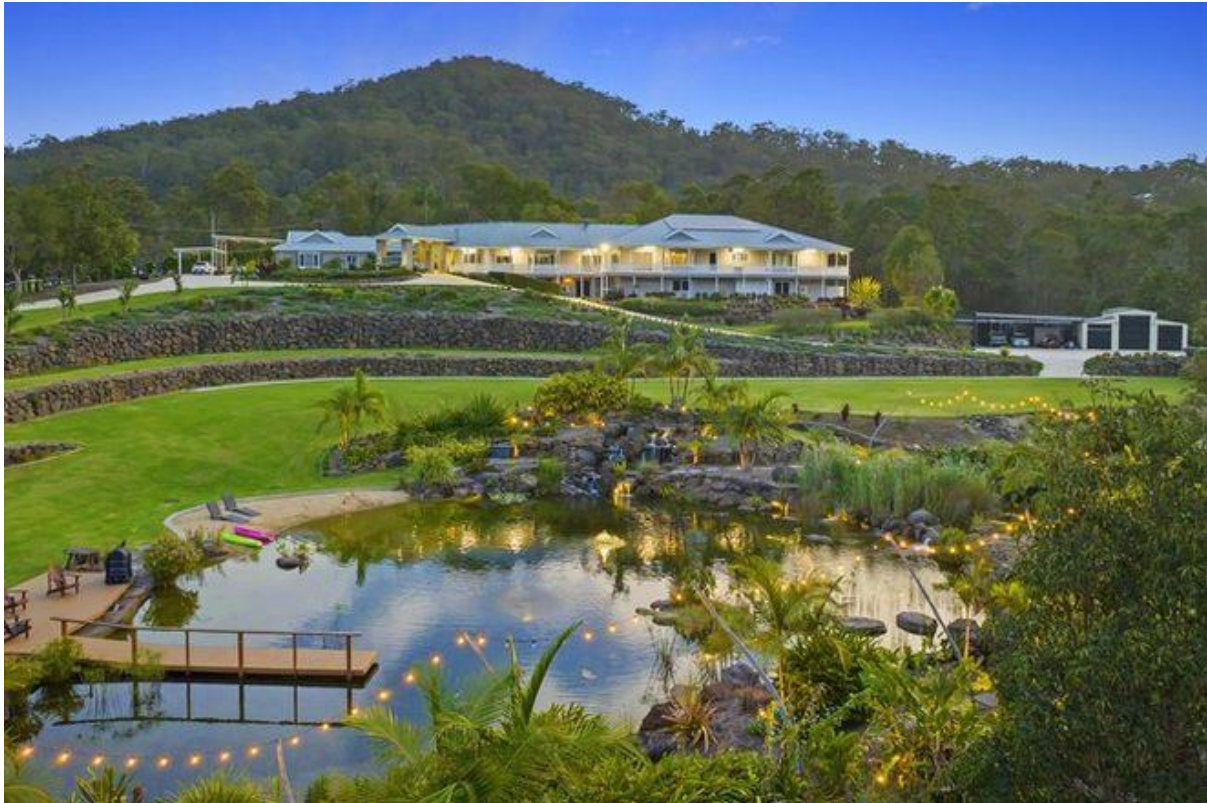
Thriving Families: Boasting 57% of family households, this area is perfect for raising kids.

Lots of School Options: Families are spoiled for choice with schools like Hillcrest Christian College, King's Christian College, and Gold Coast Christian College.

3. Mudgeeraba & Bonogin

The Best of Both Worlds with a Top-Scoring School

Located at the foot of the Gold Coast Hinterland, yet only a 25min drive from the Gold Coast beaches, this area offers the perfect blend of bushland and coastal living:



Family-Centric: With 52% family households, this suburb is designed for family living.

Consistently Top-Scoring School: Somerset College consistently ranks among the best schools on the Gold Coast.

A Homeowner's Dream: 81% of homes are free-standing, and 76% are owner-occupied.

4. Wongawallan & Upper Coomera

A Rural Embrace with Excellent Schools

Wongawallan is at the gateway to Tamborine Mountain and the beautiful Scenic Rim, it offers a more rural feel where you're surrounded by natural beauty while Upper Coomera is popular among families due to its affordability and its proximity to the theme parks:

Family Paradise: An impressive 62% of households are families, creating a family-centric atmosphere.

Great Schools: Saint Stephen's College and Coomera Anglican College provide top-notch education for your children.

5. Worongary & Tallai

A Hidden Gem with Family Appeal

Nestled to the west of the M1, and situated just north of Mudgeeraba, you'll find Worongary and Tallai. This area boasts large properties surrounded by beautiful green landscapes with stunning Gold Coast views while being only a 25-min drive away from the hustle & bustle of Surfers Paradise:

Family-Centric Atmosphere: Over 53% of households in Worongary and Tallai are families

Schools Nearby: While the area itself doesn't offer many schooling options, two of the best Gold Coast schools are located nearby All Saints Anglican School in Merrimac and Somerset College in Mudgeeraba

Stability Through Ownership: A remarkable 93.7% of homes are free-standing and 84% of residents are owner-occupiers

6. Coombabah

Coombabah Lakelands is a part of the wetlands of Queensland and a prominent feature of the suburb. The Coombabah Lakelands Conservation Area has mangroves and various plant species that freshen up your senses.



The conservation area has 274 species of animals, including some near-extinction types. Visitors can spot 24 migratory birds, Koalas, and flying foxes in the park. The green patch in the suburb is an ideal place for running, bird watching, bike riding and taking a walk in the woods. Adventure enthusiasts can indulge in bushwalking and mountain bike riding to feel the adrenaline rush in the lap of nature. The wildlife and greenery of the park will leave you asking for more.

CONCLUSION

The Gold Coast's hidden gems reveal a side of this coastal haven that few outsiders experience. By venturing off the beaten path, visitors can uncover quiet retreats, savor local flavors, and immerse themselves in cultural nuances that define the region. These treasures showcase the Gold Coast's multifaceted allure, leaving travelers with unforgettable memories and a true appreciation for its unique essence.

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