

Brisbane City Guide

A Hughes City Guide



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Brisbane is a vibrant city, home to some 2.4 million people. While it's a still busy city, it has a notably more laid-back feel than its southern counterparts of Sydney and Melbourne and enjoys a temperate climate in the colder months of the year. Recently, it's experienced a renaissance and has become a must-visit destination for domestic and international tourists, families and foodies alike.

Climate

Brisbane enjoys a warm climate year-round. Being sub-tropical, the rain can at times get heavy, but often only last for brief periods. In the summer, it can be humid and reach highs of around 32°C, right up to 40°C. Autumn and winter tend to be dryer and more temperate.

Month	Low	High	Rainfall
Jan	22°C/71.6°F	29°C/84.2°F	9 days
Feb	21°C/69.8°F	29°C/84.2°F	9 days
Mar	20°C/68°F	29°C/84.2°F	9 days
Apr	18°C/64.4°F	27°C/80.6°F	6 days
May	15°C/59°F	24°C/75.2°F	7 days
Jun	12°C/53.6°F	21°C/69.8°F	4 days
Jul	10°C/50°F	21°C/69.8°F	4 days
Aug	12°C/53.6°F	22°C/71.6°F	3 days
Sept	14°C/57.2°F	24°C/75.2°F	4 days
Oct	16°C/60.8°F	26°C/78.8°F	7 days
Nov	19°C/66.2°F	28°C/82.4°F	8 days
Dec	21°C/69.8°F	29°C/84.2°F	8 days





What to Do

Brisbane is home to many popular attractions and outdoor activities for all types of travellers. Here are just a few must-dos.



Take the Brisbane Riverwalk to New Farm

A flat 870-metre boardwalk over the water, make it a run or cycle to get your fitness up or stroll to take in the sights from the historic Howard Smith Wharves to New Farm.

You can also extend the walk to take in the Brisbane City Botanic Gardens, which also hosts the Riverside Markets on Sundays. And if you're with the kids, check out The Cube, a free, interactive science exhibit in the Science and Engineering Building at the QUT Gardens Point Campus on the edge of the gardens.



Hop on a City Cat to explore the Brisbane River

Hop on the City Cat and take in the sights along the Brisbane River. Hop off for lunch or drinks at the popular Eagle Street Pier or Howard Smith Wharves.

Note: Since COVID-19, you can't buy a ticket on board and will need to grab yourself a Go Card from a newsagent, convenience store, bus or train station before heading to the wharf.



Get your fill of nature at one of Brisbane's many gardens

Alongside the centrally located Brisbane City Botanic Gardens, Brisbane is home to a number of stunning gardens. Local favourites include the Brisbane Botanic Gardens at Mt Cootha (not to be confused with their city cousin), home to a Japanese Garden, and Roma St Gardens, an oasis of designed gardens and landscapes.



Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) and Queensland Museum

Located together in the Cultural Centre at Southbank, these two icons have plenty to offer in both free exhibits and ticketed exhibitions from around the globe.



Eat Street Northshore, Hamilton

Easily accessed by City Cat, Eat Street Northshore is a must-do if you are in Brisbane on a weekend. Open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 4 pm, Eat Street Northshore is a bustling food market with live music, over 70 stalls, 5 themed bars and a number of micro-restaurants.



Queen Street Mall, Brisbane CBD

A buzzing outdoor mall to curb all your retail cravings, you'll find major stores and a smattering of local retailers.



Take the family to Southbank

If you're travelling with family, Southbank is where it's at. There are a number of free attractions for families, including the man-made Street Beach Lagoon and Boat Pool, a free swimming facility in the heart of the city.

Next to Street Beach, you'll find the popular Riverside Green Playground, which is perfect for older children. For toddlers, head to the nearby Picnic Island Playground, which is quieter and more suited to younger kids.



Hire an e-bike or scooter

E-bikes and scooters are a popular method of transport in Brisbane, and you'll often see purple and green scooters whizzing by as tourists get around the city and locals make their way to work. The scooters can be found along the streets in Brisbane and are hired using an app on your phone. In addition, there are some hubs around the city, including one outside the QUT Campus on the edge of the Brisbane City Botanical Gardens.

Eat

Brisbane has a bustling popular dining scene across the city. From family-friendly and casual restaurants to authentic cuisine from around the world, Brisbane has it all. Brisbane's restaurants can get busy, so bookings are recommended, particularly on weekends.



Fish Lane

Fish Lane is a small laneway of restaurants a few blocks from the water on the south side of the river. Popular options include La Lune Wine Bar or, the more family-friendly and casual Big Roddy's Ribs, and vegan burgers at Grassfed.



West End

A hub for trendy restaurants, West End is a foodie's playground. Popular spots include The Soda Factory and The West Village Dining Precinct, which both offer a host of restaurants suited to all tastes and budgets. It's also a great spot for breakfast or brunch, with Three Monkeys Café being a popular spot for coffee and a bite to eat.



Southbank

Southbank is home to a number of bustling restaurants, particularly along Grey Street, offering something to suit all tastes. For a lively experience, check out Ahmet's, a popular spot for Turkish cuisine.



Fortitude Valley

Fortitude Valley is a hot spot for dining, with an abundance of both local eats and high-end dining. For those wanting a casual option, try The Himalayan Café, a brightly coloured local eatery. For fine dining, hit nearby James Street, where sAme sAme and or Bianca are amongst a host of popular options.



Getting Around

Your Hughes driver is available for day trips to help you see the city in style. Our Brisbane City Highlights Luxury Tour & Wildlife Experience is a 'choose your own adventure' that lets you pick what you see over a half or full day tour. We can help you tailor your itinerary from a range of popular attractions and activities, including:

- Sunrise or sunset from the beautiful Mt Coot-tha Scenic Lookout
- Southbank and The Wheel of Brisbane
- Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary
- Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens
- City Botanic Gardens
- Kangaroo Point Cliffs
- Story Bridge
- GOMA and The Queensland Museum

Beyond the City Limits

If getting outside the city is on your hit list, we recommend picturesque Moreton Bay. A stunning region just north of Brisbane, Moreton Bay is home to an array of diverse wildlife, landscapes and historical attractions.

Hughes can take you there in comfort, with a customised itinerary that can include:

- Old Cleveland Lighthouse
- Guided bush tucker tours
- Bird watching tours (Mar–Nov only)
- Sirromet Winery
- Raby Bay Harbour
- Wynnum Manly Yacht Club Marina
- Mt Gravatt Lookout
- Aboriginal arts and craft tours.

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