

# Mrs Lardeedah

## THE SUMMER LIST



YOUR GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS AND SUMMER  
HOLIDAYS ON THE GOLD COAST

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# Gold Coast Christmas

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# Christmas Fairs

There's something truly magical about December on the Gold Coast — warm evenings, twinkling lights, and that unmistakable buzz that only the festive season brings. Christmas fairs and community events pop up everywhere, each one filled with stalls, music, treats, and those small moments that make this time of year feel extra special. For families, these fairs are more than just a day out — they're an opportunity to soak up the season together, discover local makers, and make memories that feel wonderfully simple and joy-filled.

Here I've rounded up every Christmas fair and festive event happening across the Coast so you can plan your December with ease. Whether you're chasing twinkly twilight markets, or a free morning craft workshop for the kids, there's something for every family. So grab your Santa hats, pack a picnic rug, and head out to enjoy the magic.



# Christmas Fairs



## Christmas in the Village, Tamborine Mountain

Friday 5 December, 5 - 8.30pm

Experience the Magic & Spirit of Christmas.  
Hot Food & Cold Drinks available at the Lions Food Court. Tamborine Village Lions Club giving back to the Community...

Free entertainment for Kids; Face Painting at the Fairy Stall , Pony Carriage Ride.. Jumping Castles. Free; Glow Sticks, Bubble Wands, Ice Blocks, Popcorn Bags & Watermelon Slice. There are Twilights Markets stalls to browse through while listening to Carols, the Lions Christmas Cakes, Puddings available to purchase.



## Christmas on the Green, Mudgeeraba

Saturday 6 December, 2 - 5pm

Bring the whole family for a magical evening under the stars as we celebrate the season with Christmas on the Green!

Little ones can dive into the Christmas spirit at our FREE Kids Craft Activation, where they'll get hands-on creating festive keepsakes to take home. From glittering decorations to holiday-inspired creations, it's all about sparking joy and imagination.

Why not make a night of it? Gather your friends and family, book a table at one of the many Mudgeeraba restaurants, and enjoy a festive feast before or after the craft fun, while enjoying music by Charlie Mitchell and his swing band.



## Christmas at Frascott

Saturday 6 December, 4 - 8pm

Christmas at Frascott is a free community Christmas celebration in Varsity Lakes. Presented by Division 11 Councillor Dan Doran – City of Gold Coast, this event will bring festive free fun for the whole family!

The fair includes market stalls, live stage music, Christmas carols, kids entertainment, food trucks and more! Santa Claus will arrive alongside special Christmas characters and school performances, finishing with a spectacular live laser show at 8pm!

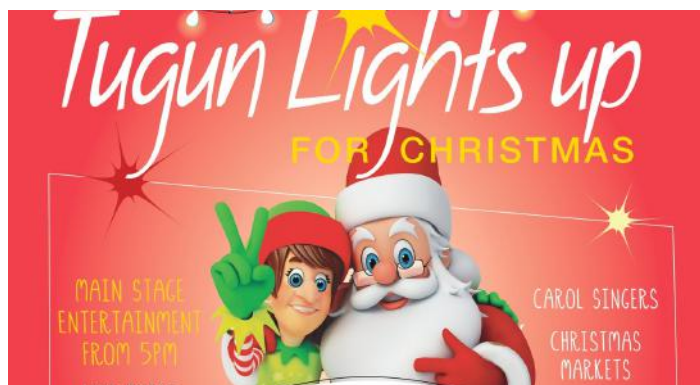


## Christmas Carnival, Paradise Point

Sunday 7 December, 12 - 6pm

Celebrate the festive season with a free family fun day from midday at Paradise Point Bowls Club! Enjoy live entertainment, a petting zoo, show bags, jumping castle and plenty more for the kids.

Don't miss your chance to win over 100 prizes in our Christmas Raffles, plus, Santa will be stopping by to spread the cheer!



## Tugun Lights Up

Saturday 6 December, 4 - 8.30pm

Tugun Lights Up returns in 2025 for its thirteenth annual celebration! Dine under the stars at one of the fantastic local cafes or restaurants, check out the local business offers, or visit the Christmas market stalls. Plenty of children's entertainment on offer throughout the program with Santa making a special appearance! Presented by Division 14 Cr Gail O'Neill in partnership with Community Bank Tugun, part of Bendigo Bank, Tugun Lights Up 2025 – a Tugun Progress Association event – will be a celebration not to be missed.



## Alicia Street Christmas Fair, Southport

Sunday 7 December, 4.30 - 7.30pm

The Alicia Street Christmas Fair is back! Enjoy a magical evening filled with Christmas Carols, live music, delicious food trucks, kids' entertainment, Santa, and an epic laser light show to close the night!

It's a fantastic free community celebration to share the Christmas spirit with family and friends.





## Christmas Flicks & Fireworks, Surfers Paradise

Saturday 6 December, 4 - 8pm

Enjoy two festive evenings of Christmas markets, movies and fireworks by the beach in Surfers Paradise.

From 4pm discover the Surfers Paradise Christmas Twilight Markets brimming with handmade gifts, festive eats and local treasures. Bring your picnic blanket, settle on the sand and enjoy a free cinematic experience under the stars from 7pm. Each night there'll be fireworks at 8:30pm, the perfect festive finale!



## Christmas at the Farm, Alstonville, NSW

Saturday 13 December, 4 - 8pm (AEDT)

Entry \$2 Adults and \$1 Kids.

Capture the your photos with Santa in the beautifully decorated Santa's Village, enjoy live music, food trucks, a twilight market, festive workshops and a beautiful Christmas Light Parade.



## Christmas Twilight Market, Surfers Paradise

Friday 12 & Saturday 13 December, 4 - 9pm

The Surfers Paradise Christmas Twilight Market is back for another jolly good time this year! This year head along for a special Christmas Market lined up with your favourite regular stallholders, plus many more Christmas themed goodies, packaged treats, fun beats, and a Surfers Paradise Santa Claus



## Christmas Festival, Distillery Road Market

Sunday 13 December, 11am - 9pm

The Christmas Festival market will be sparkling with: Market stalls filled with gifts, goodies & handmade treasures, Live music & festive entertainment, Delicious food & drinks to keep you merry. The event is dog friendly, and is free entry & free onsite parking

Bring the family and your friends for a day of Christmas cheer, twinkling lights, tasty bites, and plenty of festive activities for everyone. It's the perfect place to shop, celebrate, and soak up the holiday spirit.



## Nerang Celebrates Christmas

Saturday 13 December, 3 - 8pm

Head to Bischoff Park in Nerang and join in a magical evening of festive fun, family entertainment, food, and community spirit!



## Christmas in the Park, Pimpama

Sunday 14 December, 12.30 - 8.30pm

Arrive early to enjoy FREE face painting, two inflatable obstacle courses, free pony rides, and market stalls with holiday gifts and food trucks. Enjoy hours of live music and roaming entertainment, including a visit from Santa. The Christmas movie will kick off at 6.30pm, showing Santa Clause 3 on the big screen!

Finally, as the movie concludes, be dazzled by a spectacular fireworks show that will light up the night sky at approximately 8:30PM.



## Robina Village Christmas

Tuesday 16 December, 4.30 - 6.30pm

Head to Robina Shopping Village for a free community event filled with holiday magic, joy and plenty of fun for all ages. Enjoy music, tasty treats, games and of course, FREE Santa photos for the whole family! Everyone is welcome.



## Twilight Christmas Market, Robina

Thursday 18 December, 4 - 8pm

Explore an array of stallholders offering fashion, art, food and more! Enjoy live music and free family entertainment to celebrate the festive season.





## HOTA Twilight Christmas Market

Saturday 20 December, 4 - 9pm

Get ready to unwrap the sparkle this festive season at the HOTA Twilight Christmas Market. Wander through a twinkling trail for artisans, makers, and gourmet delights, all waiting to fill your Christmas stockings.

Expect unique handcrafted gifts, seasonal food & festive feasts, live tunes and roving performers spreading Christmas cheer, Santa meet and greet and elf-approve photos ops. There will also be kids' activations for your little helpers.



## Christmas Park Party, Mermaid Waters

Saturday 20 December, 5 - 8pm

Join the Mermaid Waters Christmas Park Party at McIlwain Family Park!

Enjoy live music, delicious food trucks, face painting, and the breathtaking Flotilla of Lights lighting up the waterways!

Bring your family, friends, and picnic blankets for Mermaid's brightest night of the year under the stars.



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**Councillor Dan Doran**  
Division 11  
@CouncillorDanDoran



CITY OF  
**GOLDCOAST**

## Christmas at Greenheart, Robina

Saturday 20 December, 4 - 8pm

The very first Christmas at Greenheart is coming! Celebrate this brand-new community event with festive markets, food trucks, free face painting, Christmas crafts, bubble fun, and a pop-up playground.

From 5pm, enjoy live performances from local groups and musicians, a special visit from Santa, and a spectacular fireworks finale at 8pm. Don't miss out this December!



## A Mudgeeraba Christmas

Sunday 21 December, 3 - 9pm

Experience the magic of Christmas at this Twilight Market held at the Mudgeeraba Showgrounds.

Feast on festive treats, discover one-of-a-kind gifts from local artisans and create memories with loved ones under the twinkling lights. Bring your picnic blanket and get comfortable while Santa, Carollers and the Christmas Fairy get you into the Christmas Spirit.



# Christmas in Coomera



**Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 December, 2 - 8pm**  
**Coomera Indoor Sports Centre Forecourt, 35 Beattie Road, Coomera**

Enjoy a weekend of free family fun, with:

- DJ Dance Party: a DJ on the decks, snow machines, pop-up performances from the Hip Hop Santas and games with prizes up for grabs.
- North Pole Putt Putt: Get ready to tee off this Christmas with a 9-hole putt putt course. Perfect for parents and Santa's little putters.
- Santa: What's Christmas without an appearance from Santa? The jolly man in red will be taking to the stage throughout the event.
- Roving entertainment: Keep an eye out for stilt walking candy canes, Hip Hop Santas and Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer.
- The Grinch: Say hello and snap a pic with the Grinch.
- Face painting: Santa's little helpers are ready with their brushes and glitter!
- Photo moments: Snap a photo in Santa's sleigh or take to his throne.

There will also be food trucks to satisfy your tastebuds and market stalls for those last-minute gifts/stocking fillers. Christmas in Coomera is produced by City of Gold Coast.

Please note, due to Santa's busy schedule ahead of Christmas, there are no sit-down Santa photo opportunities at this event.



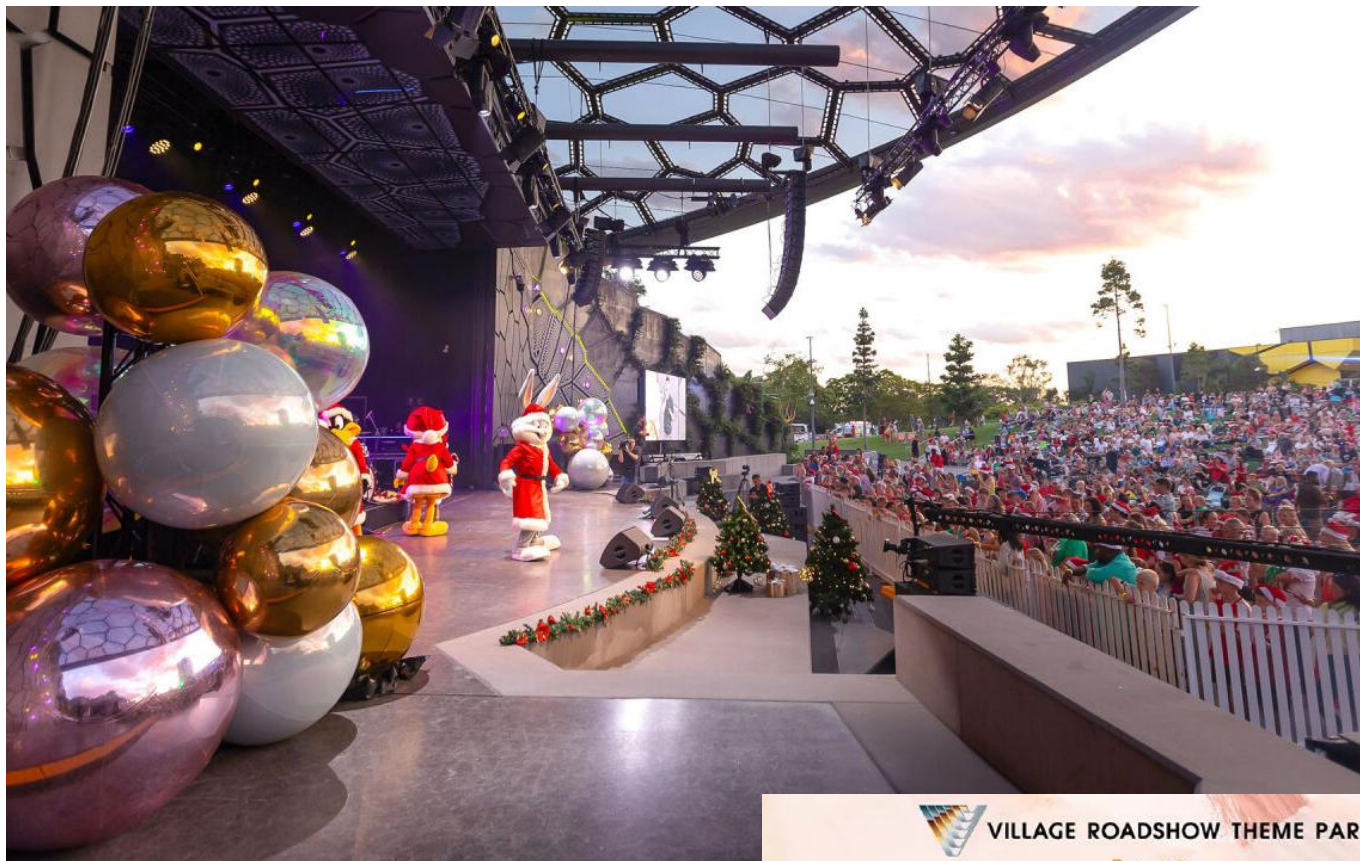
# Christmas Carols

There's nothing quite like Christmas carols to make the season feel real. The warm Gold Coast breeze, families gathered on picnic rugs, kids dancing with glow sticks, and those familiar songs that bring everyone together. December turns our parks and community spaces into open-air concert halls, filled with choirs, fireworks, food trucks, and plenty of festive sparkle. For families, carols nights are one of the easiest and most heart-warming ways to slow down, connect, and feel part of something bigger.

Here, I've gathered all the Christmas carols events happening across the Coast so you can plan your most magical December yet. From big, show-stopping productions to cosy neighbourhood sing-alongs, each event offers its own little slice of Christmas joy. So pack a rug, bring your loudest singing voice, and let the soundtrack of the season carry you into a month filled with wonder, community, and festive cheer.



# Gold Coast Mayor's Christmas Carols



Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 December, 6pm - 8.30pm  
HOTA Parklands, Bundall

City of Gold Coast's Mayor's Christmas Carols returns for its 14th year, bringing festive magic to HOTA. Enjoy two sparkling nights of live music, family fun, and Christmas cheer.

Gold Coast's very own pop sensation Ricki-Lee leads an incredible line-up of performers along with the pioneer of toddler techno, Lenny Pearce. Other performances include Warner Bros. Movie World's Looney Tunes Christmas Show, and of course Santa himself.

Tickets to the Outdoor Stage are no longer available, however bring your picnic blanket to the HOTA Parklands for a relaxed, family-friendly screening of the event on the big screens with delicious food trucks from 4pm. The Carols will finish with a spectacular fireworks finale.





## Studio Village Community Carols, Oxenford

Friday 5 December, 4.30 – 8pm

Studio Village Annual Community Carols are BACK for another year!!!

Don't miss Santa Claus, local singers, Santa's Elves, Rudolph the Reindeer and more!



## City of Logan Christmas Carols

Saturday 6 December, 3 – 8pm

Enjoy hours of on-stage entertainment at the Carols held at Griffith University Logan Campus, from magical Santa shows to classic carols. Free kids' activities: face painting, glitter stations, snow globe workshops, letters to Santa, cookie decorating, colouring-in competition, and more. Free rides, free Santa photos with instant prints, food trucks, market stalls and a Fireworks finale. No tickets required.



## Southport Community Christmas Carols

Saturday 6 December, 4 – 7pm

Get excited for a festive afternoon of family fun as Southport Church of Christ celebrates Christmas together on the Gold Coast! Bring along your picnic rug from 4pm for an afternoon of outdoor fun including a sausage sizzle, live music, photo booth, jumping castle, face painting, snow cones and kids craft. At 5.30pm we'll come together for our open air Christmas Carols and sing all of our favourite songs together



## Arundel Parkwood Community Carols!

Saturday 6 December, 4 – 8pm

A FREE family event – bring your picnic rugs, friends, and holiday cheer!

Kids activities from 4-6 pm

Christmas Carols from 6-8pm

Fireworks Finale at 8pm – a sparkling end to the night  
Santa will be there!

Tasty food to keep you and the kids fueled

Arts, Crafts and Gift Markets – do all of your Christmas shopping!





## Highland Reserve Christmas Carols

Saturday 6 December, 4.30 - 8pm

Join the Highland Reserve Christmas Carols hosted by Crosslife Baptist Church.

There will be a variety of Family friendly activities including a visit and small gift from Santa for the kids. Food includes a sausage sizzle as well as food trucks, coffee and ice creams. The Crosslife band with friends will host the Carols, a laid back, sing along to some traditional Christmas Carols (including the nativity story).



## Carols on the Lawn, Sanctuary Cove

Thursday 11 December, 5 - 8.10pm

The much-loved Carols on the Lawn returns to Sanctuary Cove, bringing locals together for an evening of festive cheer, live performances, and a spectacular fireworks finale.

Hosted by the Triple M Gold Coast Breakfast Team, this free family event invites guests to sing along to their favourite Christmas songs under the stars. Pack a picnic blanket, gather your loved ones and arrive early to secure parking and a great spot on the lawn.



## Jacobs Well Christmas Carols

Sunday 7 December, 4 - 8pm

Enjoy delicious bites from our food trucks and explore festive market stalls. Bring the little ones for an afternoon of FREE festive fun before the carols begin! There will be Face painting, Balloon artists, A friendly animal farm, and FREE Santa photos

From 4pm-8pm, talented local performers will take the stage singing all your Christmas favourites. Bring a picnic rug, sing along, and soak up the festive spirit under the stars



## Carols by the Lake, Varsity Lakes

Saturday 13 December, 4 - 8pm

Come celebrate Christmas by the water this year with 'Carols by the Lake'

This free event is held at the Waterfront Stage, Varsity Promenade and will feature live stage entertainment, Christmas carols, Santa, Fireworks over the beautiful Lake Orr and much more! Something for everyone!



## Palm Beach Christmas Carols

Saturday 13 December, 4.30 - 7.30pm

Come along to Palm Beach Parklands for Live music, Christmas Carols, Face Painting, Bubble Entertainment, Roving performers, Arts & Crafts, Christmas Markets, Food Trucks, Fireworks and More!

FREE EVENT



## Cooly Carols

Sunday 14 December, 5.30pm

The much-loved Cooly Carols is returning beachside!

This free, family-friendly event is the perfect way to celebrate the festive season. Bring your picnic blanket, friends and family, and settle in for an evening filled with your favourite Christmas carols, a delicious variety of food trucks, and a special visit from the big man in red. Santa has his parachute packed!!

The night will finish with a dazzling fireworks finale lighting up the Coolangatta sky.



## Northern Gold Coast Christmas Carols

Sunday 14 December, 4 - 9pm

A FREE family event with pre-show entertainment, Santa, food vans, fireworks and so much more!

There'll be Santa, delicious food, amazing performances, and that warm Christmas community spirit we all love. Don't miss the Fireworks Finale to close the night! Shuttle buses will be running to make parking a breeze.



## Currumbin Christmas Carols

Sunday 21 December, 5 - 7.30pm

The annual Currumbin Christmas Carols are back!

The free festive celebration will have entertainment, fun side activities and live stage performances, plus the big man in the red suit 'Santa' and a spectacular laser light show.

There will be heaps of festive food trucks and attractions throughout - bring the family along and be prepared to sing and dance!





# Christmas Workshops

There's something extra sweet about Christmas when little hands are busy creating. From cookie-decorating and gingerbread workshops to ornament-making, card-writing and crafty afternoons, December on the Gold Coast is packed with opportunities for kids (and adults!) to get creative. These workshops are where imagination meets festive magic — a place for families to slow down, make something with love, and enjoy the simple joy of making Christmas by hand.

Here, you'll find a collection of all the best Christmas workshops happening across the Coast. Whether you're after a cosy craft morning, a baking session bursting with sprinkles, or a hands-on decorating activity to spark festive excitement, there's something here for every family. Gather the kids, roll up your sleeves, and dive into the season of creating.

# Christmas in Broadbeach



Celebrate the most wonderful time of the year as Broadbeach Mall transforms into a magical gingerbread village, filled with festive cheer and free family fun from Monday 15 - Sunday 21 December.

Nestled next to The Oasis Shopping Centre, the interactive village will be bursting with adventures that will delight little elves and grown-ups alike.

## Daytime festive fun – 10:00am to 3:00pm daily

- Workshops – decorate gingerbread cookies, try Christmas crafts, and enjoy enchanting storytime theatre.
- Bookings are required for each one-hour session, which includes all activities. Please arrive five minutes early, as tickets will be released if not present. [Book now](#).
- The Oasis Treasure Hunt – pick up your treasure map from Gingerbread Village staff and follow the clues to uncover festive surprises around The Oasis.
- No bookings required.
- Santa's Post Office – bring your Christmas wish list and send it straight to the North Pole.

## Christmas nights in the village – 5:00pm to 8:00pm daily

Santa and his merry elves will be ready to meet you in the Gingerbread Village. Snap your own free Santa selfie and share your Christmas wish list at Santa's Post Office. No bookings required.





# Shopping Centre Activities



## Christmas Workshops, Tweed City Shopping Centre

13 - 21 December, 10am - 1pm

Get ready for a whole lot of FREE festive fun at Tweed City!

In week 1, decorate your own delicious Gingerbread with icing, sprinkles, candy, glitter and more - it's sweet, sticky fun for all ages! Then in week 2, don't miss the Lolly Jar Craft Workshops, where you'll design a festive mason jar and fill it with yummy lollies - perfect to keep or gift to someone special.

Come along and make some merry memories - no bookings needed, just bring your creativity and Christmas cheer!

13 - 17 December: Gingerbread Decorating

18 - 21 December: Lolly Jar Craft

Time: 10am - 1pm

Location: Step into the Magic Christmas Zone, outside Harris Scarfe, Tweed City

Cost: Free



## Disney's Unleash the Holidays Character Hunt, Westfield

Monday 1 - Sunday 21 December

Westfield Coomera, starts at Concierge Desk, outside H&M  
Westfield Helensvale, starts at Concierge Desk, near ALDI

Get ready for a Christmas adventure that's out of this world! Westfield members are invited to unleash the holidays with a special Disney Character Hunt.

To participate, you'll be given a clue sheet and set out on a mission to find your favourite Disney, Pixar, Marvel and Star Wars characters hidden in unexpected places. Keep your eyes peeled for Elsa, Spider-Man, Buzz Lightyear, Grogu and more! Each character you discover brings you closer to unlocking everyone's favourite mischievous alien, Stitch! Westfield members can redeem an exclusive poster once the Character Hunt has been completed.

# Shopping Centre Activities



## Christmas Decorating Workshops, Runaway Bay Centre

15 - 21 December, 10am - 1pm

Children can join in the fun with a range of Christmas decorating workshops!

Decorate a Christmas tree bauble, Santa stocking, Christmas magnet, or ice a Christmas gingerbread cookie or reindeer donut with these FREE Workshops this December!

Location: Outside Target

Bookings: Not required

Suitable for children aged 2-12 years. Parents must remain with children at all times.



## Santa's Coming to Town, Pacific Pines Town Centre

Sunday 13 December, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Have you heard? Santa's coming to Pacific Pines Town Centre and he's handing out a sweet surprise! Enjoy the festivities and catch him while you shop for your Christmas gifts!



# Shopping Centre Activities



## Santa visits Nerang Fair

Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 December, 10am - 2pm

Santa's Coming to Nerang Fair! Get ready for a jolly good time. Bring the whole family for a magical Christmas experience, including:

- Face Painting
- Free Treats
- Balloon Sculptors
- Live Entertainers

...and of course, plenty of festive cheer!

All activities are FREE – so pop it in your diary and come say hi to Santa!



## Festive Fun, Strand Coolangatta

Saturday 6 - Wednesday 24 December

The Strand at Coolangatta is hosting Festive Fun, a calendar of Christmas-inspired events and activities!

Festive Event Schedule

- 6 – 7 Dec: Wreath Making Workshop\* | 10am – 12pm
- 13 – 14 Dec: Bauble Making Workshop\* | 10am – 12pm
- 18 Dec: Christmas Ukulele Group | 4 – 5pm
- 20 – 24 Dec: Santa's Bake House Workshop for Kids | 10am – 1pm

Let's make this holiday season sparkle with joy, laughter, and the spirit of giving at The Strand. Bookings required for Wreath & Bauble Making Workshops. Santa's Bake House is a FREE activity for kids. Bookings are not required. The activity can seat up to 20 at a time. The workshop will be set up near Lincraft on the ground floor and involves decorating a Christmas sweet treat.

# Shopping Centre Activities



## Christmas Craft Workshop, Benowa Shopping Village

Wednesday 24 December, 10am - 1pm

Free Christmas Craft Fun!

Reindeer Headband Activity for all the kids!

No bookings required.

Located outside Coles, Benowa Village



## Dive into Christmas at Paradise Centre

Friday 12 - Sunday 14 December

Dive into Christmas at Paradise Centre - a weekend packed with shopping, sparkle, and seaside fun. Enjoy extended trading, fire twirlers and LED dancers, and festive surprises that will make the lead up to Christmas extra magical.

### Free Christmas Beach Baub-BALL Workshops

Get crafty at our free workshops outside Newsextra, 1pm-4pm daily. Perfect for all ages, sessions will run every 30 mins where you can decorate a festive Beach baub-BALL with stencils, paint markers, and ribbon to tie to your tree at home (or in your holiday house). Plus, snap a photo with our sandy-toed Christmas helpers who will be on hand to inspire! Bookings highly recommended.



# Special Christmas Events



## **Santa's Butterfly House, Australia Fair**

Monday 15 to Sunday 21 December, 10.30am - 2.30pm daily

Australia Fair, Ground Floor, Centre Court

Get ready to experience Christmas like never before at Australia Fair with Santa's Butterfly House, a magical festive garden filled with colour, wonder and a touch of Christmas sparkle. Step inside to explore a beautiful space filled with fluttering butterflies and shimmering décor, and meet Santa as he spreads festive joy to families and friends. Don't forget to snap the perfect Christmas photo surrounded by vibrant wings and holiday cheer! Spend \$20 or more at any retailer at Australia Fair or Australia Fair Metro, show your receipt, and step into this extraordinary Christmas experience. The \$20 spend is per group, not per person, so for example a family of three, one \$20 purchase is sufficient.

This unique activation also features fun and educational facts about butterflies, making it a meaningful experience for visitors of all ages. Plus, the first 350 guests each day will receive a special festive goodie to take home.

# Gingerland QT Gold Coast



## Gingerland QTea High Tea

FIXX Cafe at QT Gold Coast is unwrapping the ultimate Gingerland QTea High Tea – a sweet indulgence serving a sleighful of handmade Christmas treats. From festive themed 'bauble' arancini to sugary sensations such as 'Christmas tree' lemon lime cheesecake, and the petit gingerbread men. These little loves are sprinkled with festive fanfare, carefully curated to treat your tastebuds this silly season.

Gingerland QTea High Tea – \$74 per person

Served with tea or espresso coffee and Santa's Iced Spice – an iced Geisha green tea, mulled cranberry spice and orange garnish.

For the little QT'ies – \$39 per child (Under 12 years old)

Served with a playful selection of Christmas inspired sweet and savoury treats.

## Shake, Decorate & Create | Kids Classes at QT Gold Coast

### Gingerbread Man Decorating | \$20 per child

Little bakers to roll, cut, cook and decorate their take-home gingerbread man. Class includes a Christmas themed milkshake and candy covered gingerbread man to call their own. 10am - 11am, Saturday 13, Thursday 18, Friday 19 & Tuesday 23 Dec

### Gingerbread House Decorating | \$35 per child

Little bakers, aged 5 and above, will construct and decorate their very own take-home gingerbread house. Class includes a Christmas themed milkshake, colourful candy and take-home gingerbread house. 12pm - 2pm, Saturday 13, Thursday 18, Friday 19 & Tuesday 23 Dec



# Christmas at Star Gold Coast



## Festive photo spots

Inspired by the famous Saks Fifth Avenue holiday windows, this interactive Christmas experience invites you to step inside an array of magical Christmas-themed scenes to capture precious memories with family and friends.

## Free Christmas movies

Looking for some Christmas movie magic that won't break the budget? There's always something to enjoy at The Star Gold Coast! Members get FREE movies every week (it's also FREE to sign up!), or non-members get movies for just \$5 each! And we're not just talking about 1960s "classics". Enjoy new release films, or this Christmas- enjoy your family favourites!

Sunday 21 Dec, 2pm: A Paw Patrol Christmas

Sunday 21 Dec, 7.30pm: Elf

Monday 22 Dec, 10.30am: The Grinch

Monday 22 Dec, 2pm: Polar Express

Monday 22 Dec, 7.30pm: National Lampoons

This is a fun memory making Christmas treat for the family that won't blow the budget!

# Christmas at Tarte Tea Garden



## CHRISTMAS AT TARTE TEA GARDEN

The most special Christmas at Tarte to date - hundreds of hours and a whole lot of sugar, they've created a life-size Gingerbread house for people big and small to enjoy! Over 200 trays of gingerbread baked, kilos of sugar frosting to keep it together and an explosion of Christmas on the inside as you walk through. Surrounded by over 40 bells, 200m of Christmas lights, red bows and a sleigh, it's the perfect spot to enjoy a Christmas high tea.

Bookings essential for High Tea and the Tarte Christmas experience.

## CHRISTMAS AT BEACH HOUSE

Be sure to wander next door and step inside Tarte Beach House's coastal Christmas haven, complete with a handmade Hamptons-style gingerbread mansion crafted by the Pastry team, towering 6ft toy soldiers, garlands, nutcrackers, trees and all the nostalgic festive trimmings.





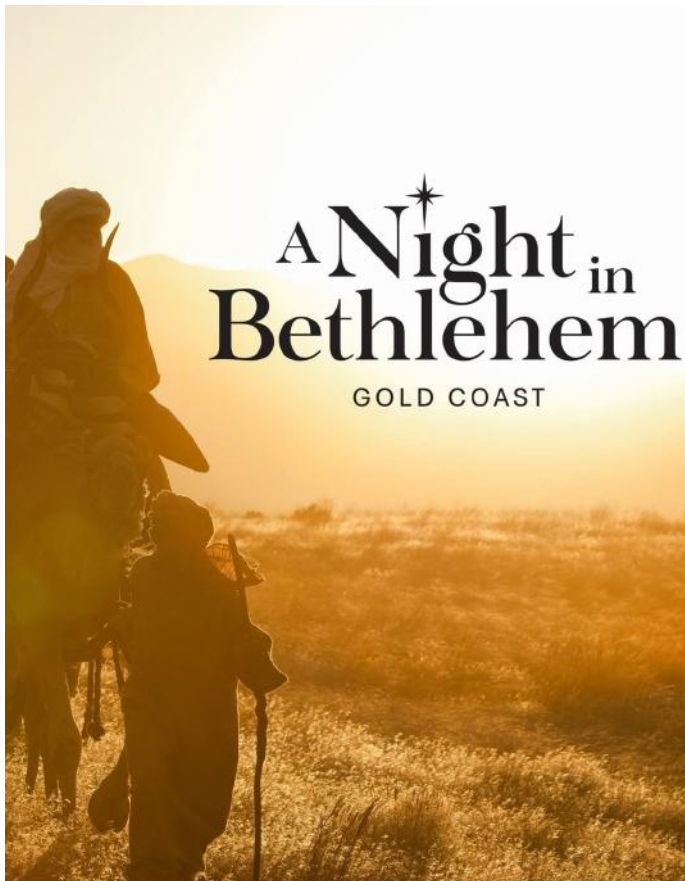
## Snowy Nights at Harbour Town

Snowy Nights are HERE! Experience the magic of snowfall at Harbour Town this December. Plus, don't forget to snap a free photo with the big man in red himself!

Snow falls every 30 minutes from 5pm–8pm on:

Thu 11 – Sun 14 December

Thu 18 – Sun 21 December



## Night in Bethlehem, Mudgeeraba

Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 December, 3pm to 8.30pm

This free community event transforms the grounds of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints into a living, breathing Bethlehem streetscape — lantern-lit and bustling with villagers, pesky Roman Soldiers, family activities at every “ancient” merchant stall and weary travellers from afar

The interactive pop-up village hums with life — goats graze near the ancient village, music fills the air and families can try their hand at pottery, carpentry and leather crafting. Children can join costumed storytellers, spin dreidels and learn ancient dances under a canopy of stars.

As dusk falls, visitors are invited to step inside the chapel for the heart of the evening — a live musical nativity that brings the miracle of Jesus' birth to life through song and storytelling. Angels sing, shepherds gather and wise men journey beneath a radiant star to witness the humble beauty of the first Christmas night followed by both choir and audience singing Christmas carols.

# Fire Truck Santa

Fire Truck Santa is the most read Christmas book in our house, and so it only makes sense that the Rural Fire Brigade Santa Runs are a priority event for us too!! Here on the Gold Coast we're lucky to have a number of Rural Fire Brigades spreading Christmas cheer this festive season. I've listed them all below plus the date of their Santa Run. If you jump over to their individual Facebook pages you can see the exact details of their routes so you can work out the best location for you!



## **Coomera Valley Rural Fire Brigade:**

Friday 19th, Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st.

## **Wasp Creek Rural Fire Brigade (Coomera):**

Sunday 21st December

## **Currumbin Valley Rural Fire Brigade:**

Date to be confirmed

## **Tamborine Mountain Rural Fire Brigade:**

Sunday 21st December

## **Ormeau Rural Fire Brigade Ormeau-Pimpama Santa Run:**

Sunday 21st December

## **Tallebudgera Valley Rural Fire Brigade:**

Sunday 21st December

## **Rocky Point Rural Fire Brigade (Jacobs Well):**

Wednesday 24th December

## **Mudgeeraba Rural Fire Brigade:**

Wednesday 24th December

## **Bonogin Valley Rural Fire Brigade:**

Wednesday 24th December



# Christmas Bucket List



☐ WRITE A LETTER TO SANTA



☐ HAVE A CHRISTMAS MOVIE MARATHON



☐ WATCH A CHRISTMAS CAROLS CONCERT



☐ EAT A CANDY CANE

DELIVER A HANDMADE CHRISTMAS CARD ☐



DECORATE A ☐ GINGERBREAD HOUSE

## Christmas BUCKET LIST

@MRSLARDEDAH



☐ BAKE CHRISTMAS COOKIES



☐ READ A CHRISTMAS STORY



☐ ATTEND A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL



☐ SLEEP UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE



GO LOOKING AT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ☐



☐ TAKE A PHOTO WITH SANTA



☐ DRINK HOT CHOCOLATE

# Free Santa Photos

Santa photos can stretch the budget during an already expensive season, but there are still ways to tick this tradition off the list and keep the budget happy! Check out these “Take your own FREE Santa photo” options across the Gold Coast in 2025!

## 1 Sanctuary Cove Marina

Capture the Magic with Santa using your own camera or phone! A beautifully themed experience perfect for creating lasting holiday memories – without the cost!

- Friday 12th from 6:30PM-8:30PM in the Santa Sleigh on The Promenade
- Saturday 13th from 11AM-2PM (Pet Sessions from 1PM-2PM) in Shop 41E next to Latitude Clothing on Quay Street
- Sunday 14th from 11AM-2PM (Pet Sessions from 1PM-2PM) in Shop 41E next to Latitude Clothing on Quay Street
- Thursday 18th from 6:30PM-8:30PM in the Santa Sleigh on The Promenade



## 2 Pimpama City Shopping Centre

Visit Santa at his throne outside Coles and snap your own photos to remember! Each child receives a free gift from Santa. Plus, check out the amazing Christmas Train Display.

- Saturday 20 & 21 Dec: Santa photos, free popcorn and free face painting
- Saturday 20 Dec – Wednesday 24 Dec: Santa photos and free popcorn

## 3 Benowa Village

Selfie with Santa at Benowa Village! Available on Monday 22 – Wednesday 24 December, strike a pose and snap your selfie with Santa! Sessions available 10am – 1pm, bookings not required.

## 4 Tweed Mall

Get a free photo with Santa on Sunday's at Tweed Mall! Sessions available

- Sunday 7th December: 10am – 2pm and
- Sunday 14th December: 10am – 4pm (NSW times)

Santa Sundays consist of one (1) free photo, limited to the first 40 families, only (1) per family per day. No Bookings available – walk in appointments only.

## 5 The Oasis Broadbeach

Santa and his merry elves will be ready to meet you at the Gingerbread Village in Broadbeach Mall, alongside The Oasis Broadbeach, 5:00pm – 8:00pm daily 15 – 21 December. Snap your own free Santa selfie and share your Christmas wish list at Santa's Post Office. No bookings required.

## 5 Southport Park Shopping Centre

The magic of Christmas has arrived at Southport Park! Bring the family to our North Pole Precinct to meet Santa between 15 – 24 December (10am – 2pm) and capture a festive photo full of sparkle and smiles. Free photo folder, sticker book, Santa wish list and candy cane for participants.



# New Years Eve



## New Years Eve By the Lake

Waterfront Stage, Varsity Promenade,  
Varsity Lakes

An evening of live music, food trucks,  
activities for the kids and more!  
The night will end with a fireworks display  
over Lake Orr at 8:30pm



## Miami Twilight NYE

Miami Twilight NYE at Thorn Park

Enjoy DJ tunes, the NYE train, Bubble  
Zone, inflatables, arts and crafts, face  
painting and food trucks! Watch the  
nearby coastline fireworks light up the sky  
along the beach from Kurrawa and Surfers  
Paradise at 8pm.



## New Years Eve By the Sea

Broadwater Parklands

An evening filled with entertainment, food  
trucks and plenty of fun for the whole  
family. Enjoy the free kids' activities,  
including bubble play, face painting, craft  
activities and roving stilt walkers. At 8pm,  
enjoy a spectacular fireworks display over  
the Broadwater.



## Paradise Point New Years Eve

Paradise Point Parklands

Kids get free face-painting, watch the  
Dancing Chinese Lions and grab a  
sausage sizzle from the Lions Club. The  
grand finale arrives at 9pm with a mind-  
blowing fireworks show synchronized to  
music, lighting up the sky from three blast  
points!



## New Years Eve in Coomera

Coomera Sports Park

Gather your friends and round up the  
family for an evening of fun, food and  
festivities. Savour a bite to eat from the  
food trucks and dance into the night with a  
DJ on the decks. End the night with a  
dazzling fireworks display at 8pm.



## NYE Glitter and Glow Party

Robina Town Centre Promenade

Dress in sparkles and join a night of live  
music, family entertainment and fireworks.  
From 4pm there will be carnival-style rides  
and an inflatable course, as well as face  
painting and live music. Fireworks display  
from 8pm.

The City of Gold Coast also holds public fireworks displays at the following locations:

Surfers Paradise Foreshore - 8pm and midnight.

Kurrawa Park, Broadbeach - 8pm and midnight.

Coolangatta Beach - 9pm and midnight.

# Gold Coast Summer

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## **Top places to swim**

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## **Top Indoor Play Spaces**

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## **Kid-friendly summer dining**

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## **Top shady playgrounds**

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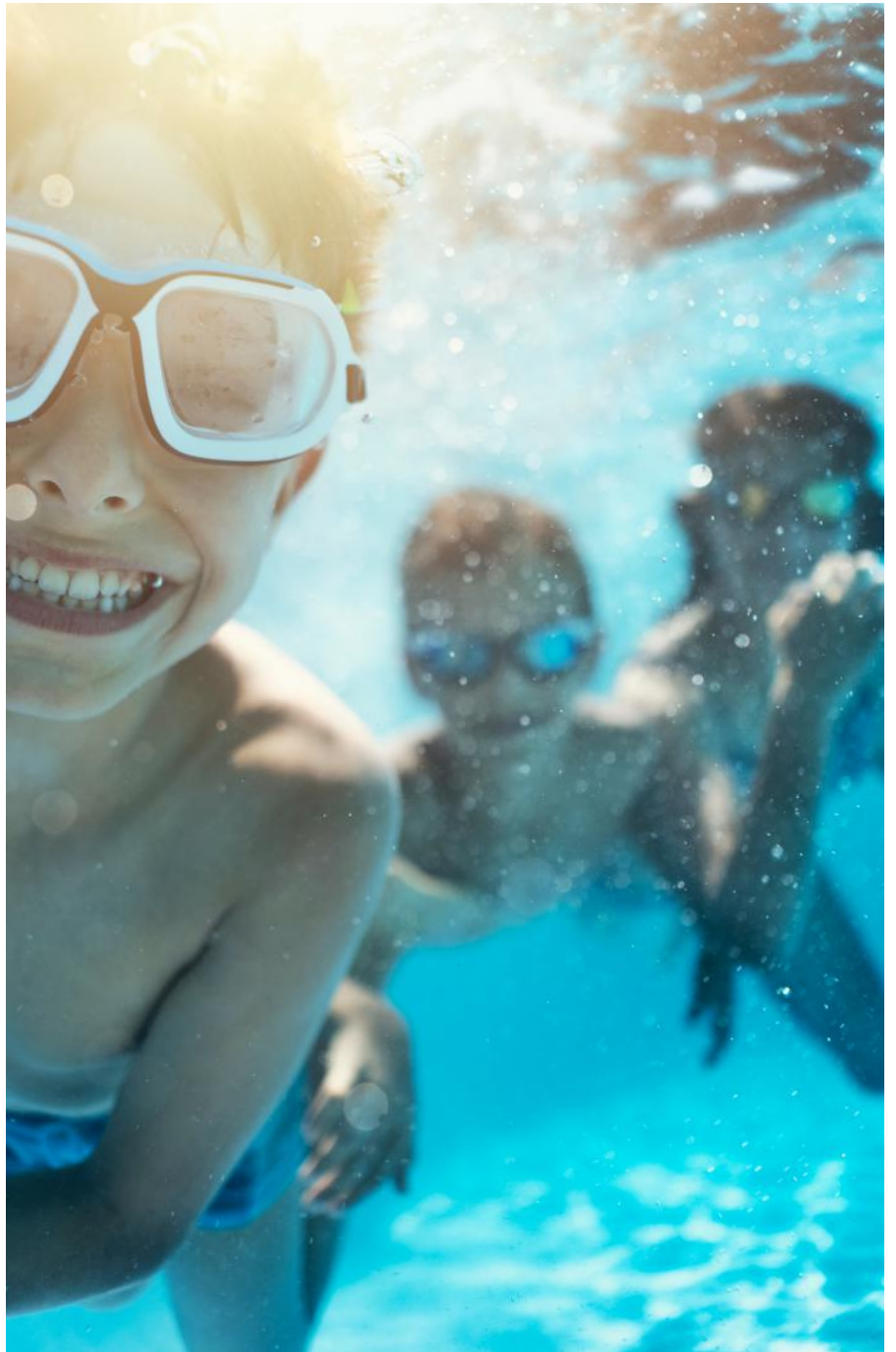
## **Don't miss attractions**

Page 38

## **Day Trip - Scenic Rim**

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## **Day trip - Northern Rivers**

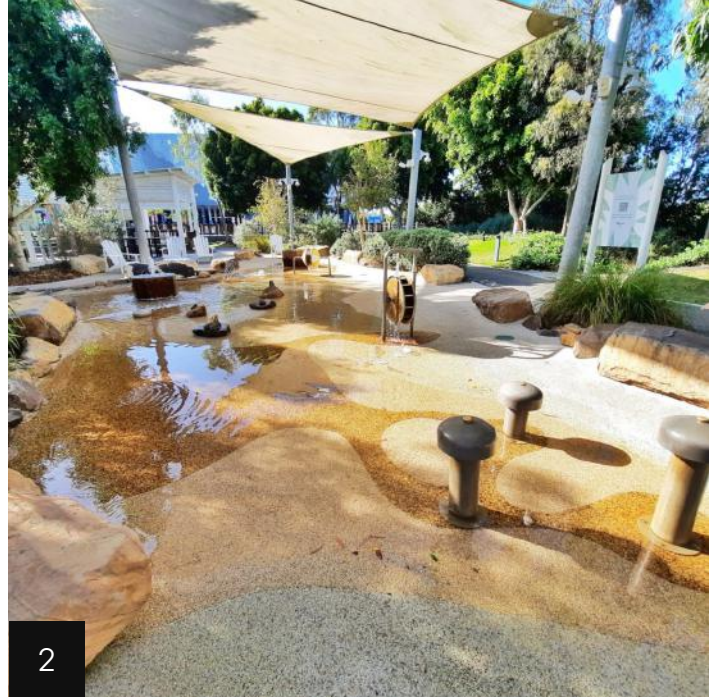




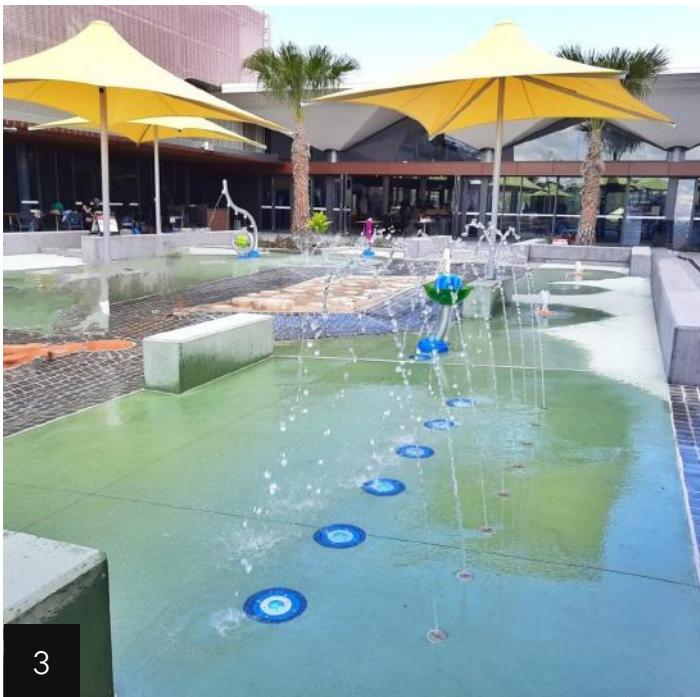
# Top Places to Swim



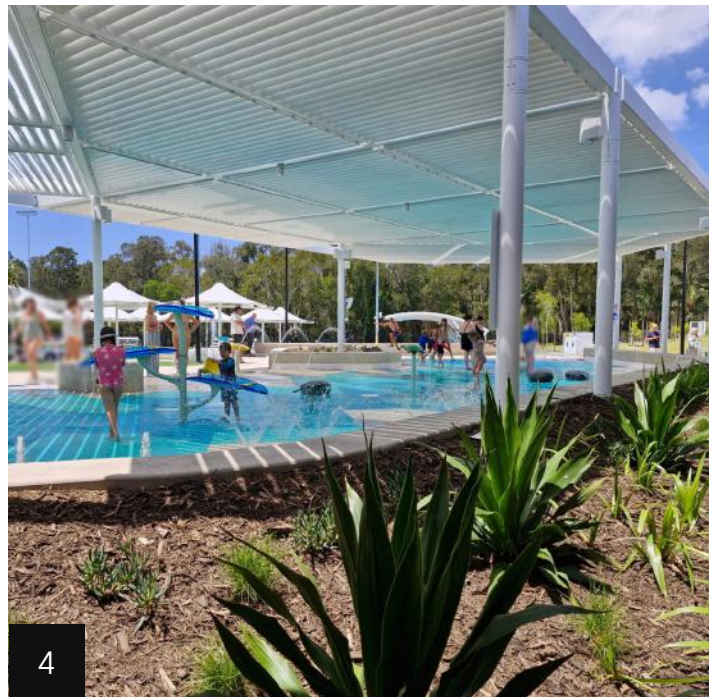
**1**  
**Broadwater Rockpools**



**2**  
**The Backyard Westfield Coomera**



**3**  
**Pimpama Sports Hub**



**4**  
**Palm Beach Aquatic Centre**



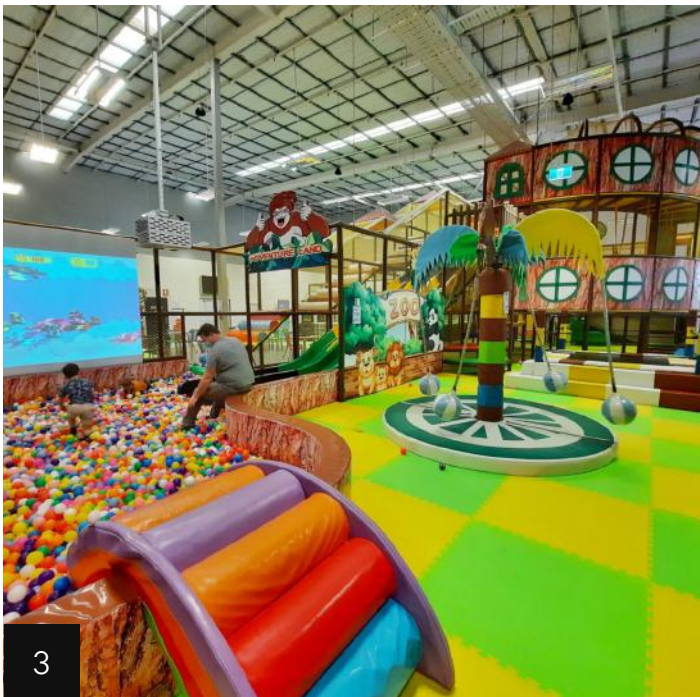
# Top Indoor Playspaces



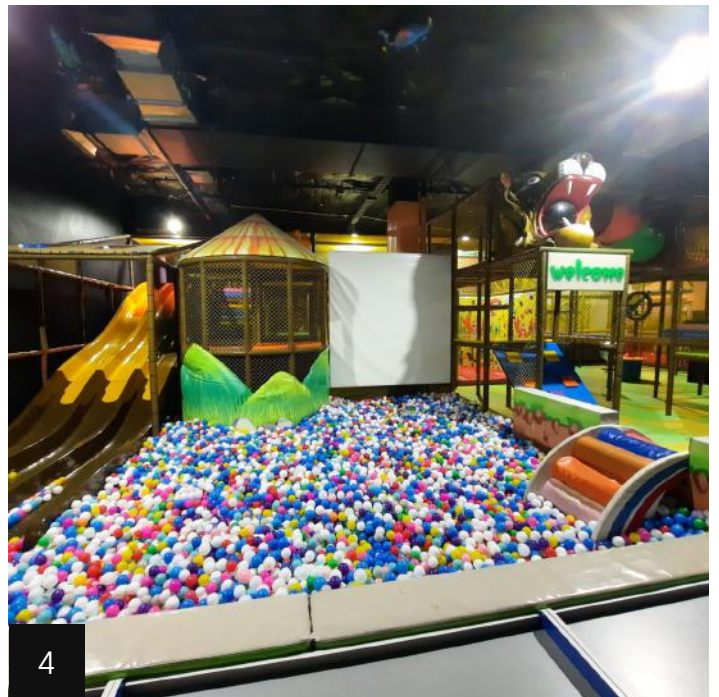
1  
**Area 51 Helensvale**



2  
**Doodlebugs, Miami**



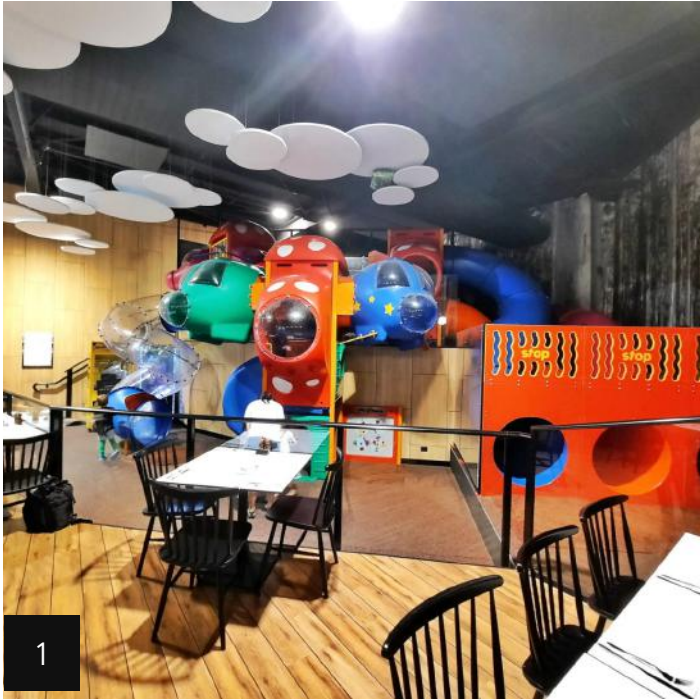
3  
**EMF Jnr, Nerang**



4  
**EMF Jnr, Pacific Fair**



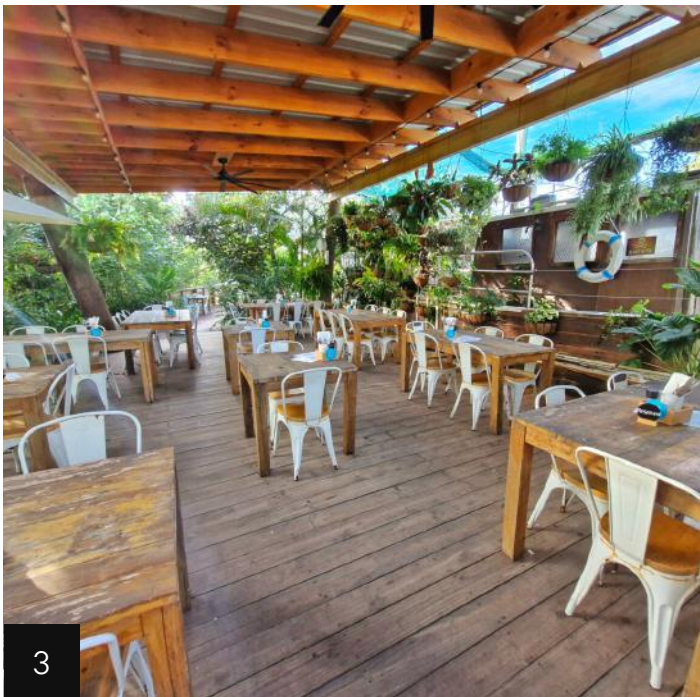
# Kid-Friendly Summer Dining



1 The Wattle Hotel, Upper Coomera



2 Tarte Beach House, Currumbin



3 Kokomo, Coomera



4 Holy Ship, Main Beach



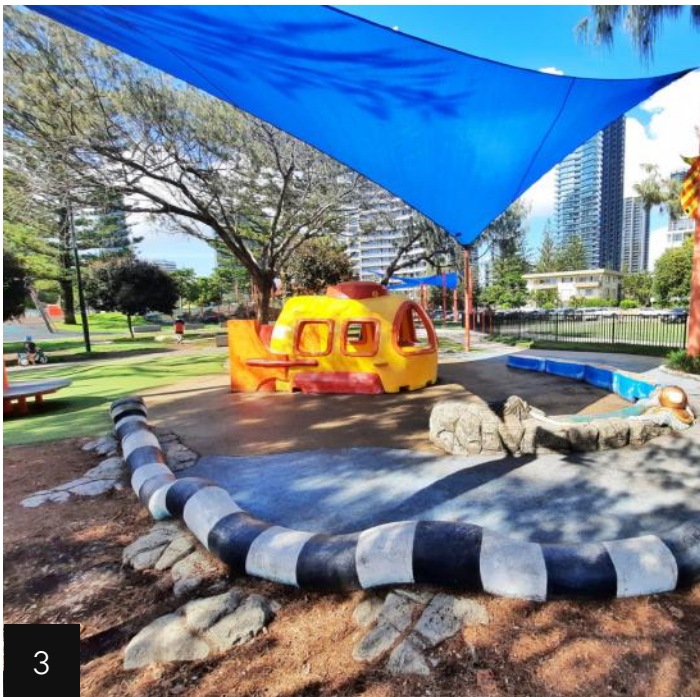
# Top Shady Playgrounds



**Macintosh Island Park, Surfers Paradise**



**Parklake Park, Maudsland**



**Kurrawa All Abilities Park, Broadbeach**



**Schuster Park, Tallebudgera**





# Don't miss attractions

Summer on the Gold Coast is the perfect time for families to get out and make the most of the holidays before school goes back. From sunny beaches and scenic walks to wildlife encounters and even some indoor adventures, there's no shortage of activities to keep kids entertained and parents relaxed. Every day can be filled with fun, learning, and memories that the whole family will treasure.

I've put together a range of family-friendly attractions and experiences to enjoy throughout January. Don't let the holidays slip by, Summer on the Gold Coast is calling!

# Croc! at Queensland Museum



## Croc! Lost Giants to Living Legends

Walk alongside one of the planet's most powerful and fascinating animals, on a journey stretching back over 130 million years. This interactive all-ages exhibition will bring you face-to-face with the mighty crocodile.

From ancient 'supercrocs' that once roamed with dinosaurs to the unique crocodile species living across the world today, Croc! Lost Giants to Living Legends explores the science, culture and enduring connections between people and these remarkable creatures.

Crocodiles survived the dinosaurs, evolved and made their mark on culture, fascinating humans from early First Nations' stories to Hollywood blockbusters of today. Where does the legend and the myth meet reality?

Experts from Queensland Museum, the Australian National Maritime Museum and the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory have created this world premiere exhibition. With activities for all ages, you can expect:

- Close encounters with stunning croc models and interactive exhibits including Sarcosuchus, a 130-million-year-old crocodilian.
- Life-sized prehistoric giants and dramatic fossil displays.
- Engaging challenges that test your knowledge of life in croc country.
- Bold and beautiful artworks sharing First Nations connections to Sea Country.
- Global perspectives on crocodiles in culture, design, and tradition.
- Real-world tools used by crocodile researchers and conservationists.



# Dream Factory GC



## Bounce Into Fun at Dream Factory GC

Dream Factory GC is a bright and energetic indoor play space in Carrara, filled wall-to-wall with giant jumping castles, slides, and fun zones for kids up to 12 years old. With a dedicated area for under-5s and plenty of space for big energy, it's the perfect weather-proof option for families looking to let little ones run, bounce, and burn off excitement in a safe, colourful environment.

Sessions run for two hours and cost just \$16, making it an affordable and easy outing for parents. Kids get to climb, jump and explore while grown-ups can relax nearby — ideal for playdates, rainy-day plans, or a weekend treat. Dream Factory GC is one of those rare gems that blends simplicity, value, and big fun, all under one roof.

# Jellurgal Cruise with Culture



## Cruise with Culture: Discover the Aboriginal Heritage of the Gold Coast!

Get ready to set sail on a one-of-a-kind cultural journey through the stunning Gold Coast Broadwater. Step aboard the luxurious Kokomo Cruises vessel and immerse yourself in the ancient traditions, stories, and breathtaking landscapes that have shaped the lives of the local people for thousands of years.

This unforgettable cruise will take you through the pristine waterways of the Gold Coast, where you'll uncover the deep connection between land, sea, and culture. Along the way, your expert Aboriginal guide will share powerful Dreamtime stories, traditional knowledge, and the enduring heritage of Australia's First Nations people.

This isn't just a cruise—it's an invitation to see the Gold Coast through the eyes of its First Nations custodians. With breathtaking scenery, powerful storytelling, and a deeper connection to the land and sea, this experience will leave you with a newfound appreciation for Australia's Aboriginal heritage.

Adult \$69 | Child (3-15) \$59 | 2 Adults & 1 Child \$165 | 2 Adults & 2 Children \$220

<https://www.jellurgal.com.au/tours/cruise-with-culture>



# Dig It Tamborine Mountain



## Queensland's first mini excavator park!

Dig It Tamborine Mountain is Queensland's first mini excavator park for kids big and small! Here, you will sit in the drivers seat of real excavator machinery and participate in construction-inspired activities. It's fully instructed fun for kids and their parents too! You don't need any experience, just a willingness to give it a go,

Dig It is split into four zones, with each zone having 3 mini excavators (aside from the RC Zone). After listening to your safety briefing, you get to head out to the Dig Zone and work your way around the four zones during your 2 hour session. At each zone, 3 participants will be on machinery at a time, meaning it rotates through participants pretty quickly and you never have to wait too long for a turn. Once you've marked off all four zones on your Induction Card, you're welcome to revisit any of the zones if you still have some time left over. There are also 2 free play areas that you can use at any time: a large sandpit filled with trucks and mini excavators, and a gravel digging area with shovels, wheelbarrows, gravel and foam building blocks.

Children aged 5 years and over can participate on their own, while children under the age of 5 must participate on the lap of a parent. For the children operating solo, parents are welcome to stand on a special platform right beside the machinery, but you are not allowed to touch the machinery – your job is to talk to them and give verbal guidance if needed.

\$65 per participant. Children 4 years and under must participate in the lap of an adult, there is no charge for that adult.

[www.digit.com.au](http://www.digit.com.au)



# Day Trip - Scenic Rim

A day trip to the Scenic Rim is the perfect summer family escape, with rolling hills, waterfalls, and quaint country towns to explore. Kids can enjoy farm visits, nature walks, and lookout points with breathtaking views, while parents soak up the fresh air and relaxed pace. It's an easy drive from the coast that feels like stepping into a peaceful, picture-perfect countryside adventure.



## **Naughty Little Kids, Peak Crossing**

A family-friendly goat farm where kids can meet, feed, and interact with friendly goats, plus enjoy farmyard fun in a safe, hands-on environment.

## **Tommerup's Dairy Farm, Kerry**

Families can see cows up close, feed the animals (especially the Smashing Pumpkins Pig Feeding!) and enjoy fresh farm produce.

## **Summerland Camels, Harrisville**

A unique experience where kids (and adults) can ride camels and learn about these gentle giants.

## **Towri Sheep Cheese Farm, Allenvue**

Visit the farm, see the sheep, and sample delicious cheeses straight from the source.

## **Ipswich Nature Centre**

A free, hands-on wildlife spot where kids can meet native animals and learn about local fauna.



# Day Trip - Northern Rivers

A family day trip to the Northern Rivers is the perfect summer escape — think lush hinterland drives, crystal-clear swimming spots, and charming towns filled with great food and easy holiday vibes. Whether you're exploring waterfalls, wandering markets, or relaxing by the river, it's a beautiful blend of nature and simple, slow-paced moments together. It's close enough for a stress-free day out, but feels like a world away.



## **The Farm, Byron Bay**

A relaxed destination where kids can roam, animals wander, and everyone can enjoy wholesome food straight from the paddock.

## **Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary**

A hands-on animal haven where kids can meet native animals up close, wander through leafy enclosures, and enjoy a nature-filled day out.

## **Tropical Fruit World, Duranbah**

A fun farm experience where you can explore exotic fruit orchards, hop on a tractor tour, and taste fresh tropical treats straight from the trees.

## **Farm & Co, Cudgen**

A family-friendly spot where kids can meet farm animals and explore gardens and play areas while parents relax with a coffee or snack.

## **Summerland Farm, Alstonville**

A working farm where kids can feed animals, explore gardens, and play in the splash pad.

## **Fingal Head Coastal Walk, Fingal Heads**

A scenic, family-friendly trail offering stunning ocean views, rocky headlands, and a chance to spot dolphins or turtles along the way.

## **Marine Discovery Centre, Hastings Point**

An interactive, educational hub where families can learn about local marine life, touch starfish and crabs, and discover the wonders of the Northern Rivers' coastal ecosystems.

**Thanks for reading**



**Mrs Lardeedah**

LARA SUDDARDS