



PORT  
MACQUARIE  
HASTINGS

BUSINESS  
EVENTS  
PROSPECTUS



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**Yii Birrbay Barray** This is Birpai Country

**Nyura yii-gu mara-la barray-gu**, nyaa-gi, ngarra-gi

You have come here, to the country to see, listen and remember

**Gathay Nyiirun Wakulda**

Let's all go together as one

We acknowledge that we are on Birpai country and pay respects to all elders past and present. We acknowledge the ongoing connection to the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters of the Port Macquarie Hastings Region.

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# A PROVEN LOCATION FOR BUSINESS EVENTS

**DELIVERED WITH CAPABILITY,  
ACCESS AND CONFIDENCE.**

Port Macquarie Hastings delivers business events that are easy to access, efficient to operate and designed for meaningful engagement - without the congestion or cost of capital cities.

Direct air links to Sydney and Brisbane provide reliable delegate access. While the local government area is geographically extensive, the business events footprint is concentrated within and around the Port Macquarie CBD, where venues, accommodation and hospitality are clustered.

Professional venues, experienced operators and reliable digital infrastructure support seamless delivery. The coastal regional setting enhances focus and connection while maintaining full conference capability.



# KEY VISITOR DATA

## FLIGHT TIMES

Sydney - Port Macquarie (~1 hour)

Brisbane - Port Macquarie (~1.5 hours)

225,468  
annual  
passengers

5,013  
annual flights  
to the region

1,800,000  
visitors annually

\$759M  
tourism output



## ACCOMMODATION CAPACITY

3700 beds in the region

6200 sleeps



## TOP INDUSTRIES BY OUTPUT

Construction **\$2.1bn**

Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste **\$1.9bn**

Healthcare & Social Assistance **\$1.4bn**

Rental, Hiring & Real Estate **\$1.4bn**

Manufacturing **\$1.2bn**



# STRATEGIC SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS EVENTS

## TARGETED SUPPORT ALIGNED TO HIGH-VALUE EVENTS.

Port Macquarie Hastings Council works with organisers to attract and secure business events aligned to regional capability and economic priorities. Strategic sponsorship may be available for events demonstrating strong industry relevance, multi-day economic impact, delegate draw beyond the region and high-quality professional program content. Support may include bid assistance, industry introductions, venue coordination and destination assets.



## CAN YOUR EVENT BE SPONSORED?

Business events that attract delegates, support industry development, provide economic return and align with regional sectors may be eligible.



# INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT & REGIONAL CAPABILITY

## BUSINESS EVENTS CONNECTED TO REGIONAL EXPERTISE

Port Macquarie Hastings has a diverse regional economy supported by established industries, skilled workforces and strong professional networks - providing a solid foundation for conferences aligned with regional capability and economic priorities.

Council works with organisers to connect conference programs with local industries, including introductions to sector leaders, opportunities for technical engagement or site visits, and alignment with regional expertise.

Where possible, Council also supports legacy outcomes such as repeat events, ongoing partnerships and continued industry engagement.



### Health, Aged Care & Wellbeing

Supported by major health infrastructure and workforce depth. Suitable for medical, allied health, aged care and wellbeing conferences. Business events in this sector benefit from proximity to health facilities, training providers and a large, engaged professional base. Visits to hospital precincts, clinical training environments and aged care operations can be incorporated into conference programs.



### Education & Workforce Development

Strong tertiary and vocational presence. Suitable for education, training and professional development events. The presence of tertiary institutions, training providers and public-sector employers supports conferences seeking practical engagement and regional relevance. Engagement with university campuses, vocational training providers and workforce development facilities across the region.



## Aviation, Logistics & Infrastructure

Supported by regional airport infrastructure and connectivity to major transport corridors. Suitable for aviation, transport, planning and infrastructure-related conferences.

Business events in this sector benefit from proximity to aviation operations, employment lands and regional logistics networks.

Council can assist with airport operations, logistics environments and major infrastructure projects supporting transport and infrastructure conference programs.



## Agrifood & Primary Industries

Port Macquarie Hastings has a diverse agrifood and manufacturing base supported by surrounding rural production areas and regional supply chains. This provides a strong backdrop for food systems and sustainability conferences, with opportunities to engage across production, processing and temperature-controlled distribution environments.



## Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering

Supported by advanced manufacturing capability and specialised engineering expertise. Suitable for manufacturing, defence, infrastructure and innovation-focused conferences.

Business events in this sector benefit from proximity to production environments, skilled trades and industry partners supporting applied learning and sector engagement.



Site visits to aquaculture operations, manufacturing facilities, and engineering businesses can be arranged by Council.





Council can connect organisers with creative studios, digital businesses and innovation workplaces across the region's knowledge sector.



## Creative, Digital & Knowledge Sectors

Supported by creative industries, digital capability and cultural infrastructure. Suitable for creative, digital and knowledge-sector conferences.

Business events in this sector benefit from access to professional venues, creative practitioners and collaborative regional networks.





## Environment & Sustainability

Our coastal and regional context supports environmental discourse.

Suitable for climate, land management and resilience events.



Integrate site visits to conservation programs, rehabilitation projects and coastal management initiatives across the region.



# INDUSTRY & TECHNICAL SITE VISITS

## CONNECTING CONFERENCES TO REGIONAL CAPABILITY

Port Macquarie Hastings offers opportunities for conference organisers to incorporate industry, infrastructure, education, and research engagement into event programs.

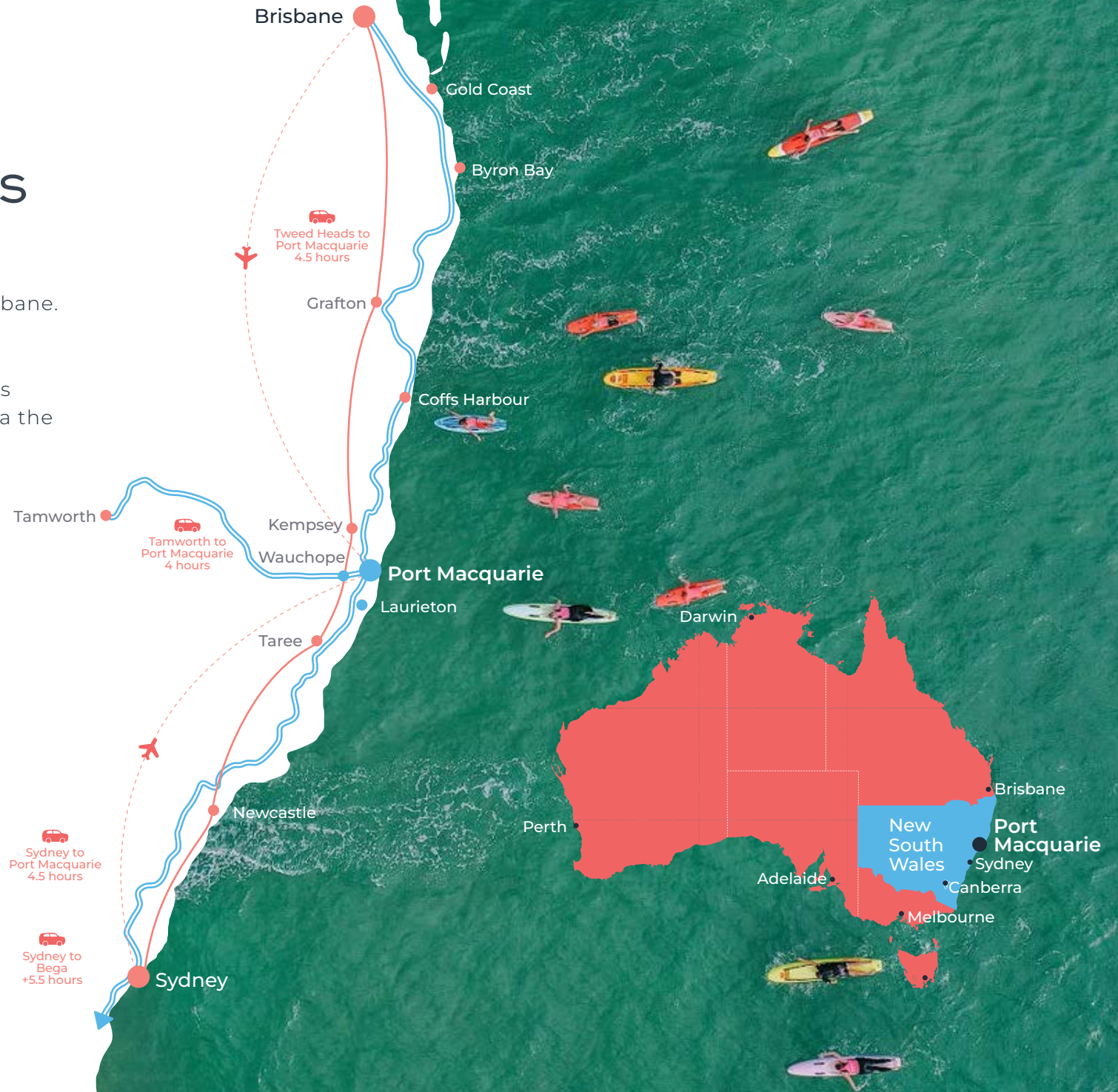
Council can assist organisers to facilitate site visits, technical briefings, and industry connections aligned with conference themes, supporting professional learning outcomes and meaningful delegate engagement beyond the conference venue.



# GETTING HERE

## EFFICIENT ACCESS FOR DELEGATES.

Direct air services to Sydney and Brisbane. Airport to CBD transfers under ten minutes. By road: approximately four hours from Sydney, under three hours from Newcastle, with direct access via the Pacific and Oxley Highways.





















# THE FIVE MINUTE CITY

CONFERENCE VENUES, ACCOMMODATION, DINING AND EXPERIENCES ARE ALL WITHIN EASY REACH - MOST WITHIN A FIVE-MINUTE WALK OR DRIVE FROM THE CBD



- Billabong Zoo & Event Space (10km)
- Charles Sturt University (5.5)
- Port Macquarie Airport (5km)
- Port Macquarie Base Hospital (5km)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  Glasshouse Arts, Conference and Entertainment Centre |  Panthers Port Macquarie |  Florence Jones Wine Bar |  Port Pacific Resort  |
|  Rydges Port Macquarie                                |  Westport Club           |  Stick Bar               |  Ki-ya Apartments     |
|  Sails by Rydges                                      |  Waters Edge             |  Little Shack            |  Ibis Styles          |
|  |  Mercure Centro          |  The Beach House         |  Mantra Observatory   |
|  |  Macquarie Waters Hotel  |  Bill's Fishhouse        |  Coastal Scenic Walks |

Town Beach

# CONFERENCE- READY VENUES

## PROFESSIONAL FACILITIES WITHIN A DEFINED FOOTPRINT.

Port Macquarie Hastings offers a suite of professional venues capable of supporting conferences, conventions and business events of varying scale and format.

The region's venues are supported by experienced operators, modern audiovisual capability and proximity to accommodation, dining and transport.



## Glasshouse Arts, Conference and Entertainment Centre

580 theatre | Multiple breakout rooms | Hybrid-ready | CBD location.  
The region's premier business events facility and the primary anchor venue for large conferences and conventions.



GLASSHOUSE  
PORT MACQUARIE



# Rydges Port Macquarie

Hotel-based  
conference  
facilities |  
Integrated  
accommodation,  
large plenary and  
breakout spaces,  
integrated  
catering and AV  
services



## COUNCIL CAN ASSIST ORGANISERS TO:

Identify the optimal venue mix  
Coordinate site inspections  
Support multi-venue bidding and  
scheduling. Streamline planning  
and logistics.



### Sails Port Macquarie

Waterfront conference venue | Flexible event spaces |  
combines professional meeting spaces with high-quality  
accommodation and dining

# Charles Sturt University

Lecture theatres  
and seminar  
rooms suited to  
education and  
sector events



# CONFERENCE-READY VENUE MATRIX

Venue	Primary Use	Plenary Capacity	Breakout Capacity	AV / Hybrid Capability	Best Suited For
Glasshouse Arts, Conference and Entertainment Centre	Theatre, conference, exhibition	~580 (theatre)	Multiple rooms up to ~140	High-spec in-house AV, livestream, hybrid-ready	Large conferences, keynote sessions, exhibitions, multiday conventions
Rydges Port Macquarie	Hotel conference venue	~250	Multiple flexible rooms	In-house AV, hybrid capable	Conferences, gala dinners, executive programs
Sails Port Macquarie by Rydges	Resort conference venue	~200	Multiple rooms	In-house AV, hybrid capable	Conferences, incentives, retreats
Port Macquarie Panthers	Club conference & event centre	~1,000 (auditorium)	Multiple function rooms	AV supported	Large plenaries, awards, association conferences
Westport Club	Function & meeting venue	~300	Breakout rooms available	AV supported	Networking events, dinners, medium conferences
Charles Sturt University (PMQ Campus)	Academic & conference venue	Lecture theatres & halls	Seminar rooms	Modern teaching AV	Education, training, academic & sector conferences
Port Macquarie Indoor Stadium	Indoor multi-use venue	Variable	N/A	Event AV capable	Expos, trade displays, large format sessions
Iona Centre (St Columba Anglican School)	Theatre & meeting venue	~500 (theatre)	Studios & rooms	Professional AV	Performances, forums, creative & education events
Port Macquarie Race Club	Conference, gala dinners, corporate events	Up to ~300 theatre / ~200 banquet	Large flexible event areas	AV supported	Large corporate events and dinners
Port City Bowling Club	Function & meeting venue	Up to ~200 cocktail / ~150 seated	Flexible function spaces	AV supported	Meetings, networking functions, corporate dinners



# DELEGATE EXPERIENCE

AN ENVIRONMENT  
THAT SUPPORTS  
ENGAGEMENT.

Walkable venues, short transfer times and waterfront settings support welcome receptions, sponsor functions, gala dinners and informal networking. The coastal setting enhances connection without compromising professionalism.

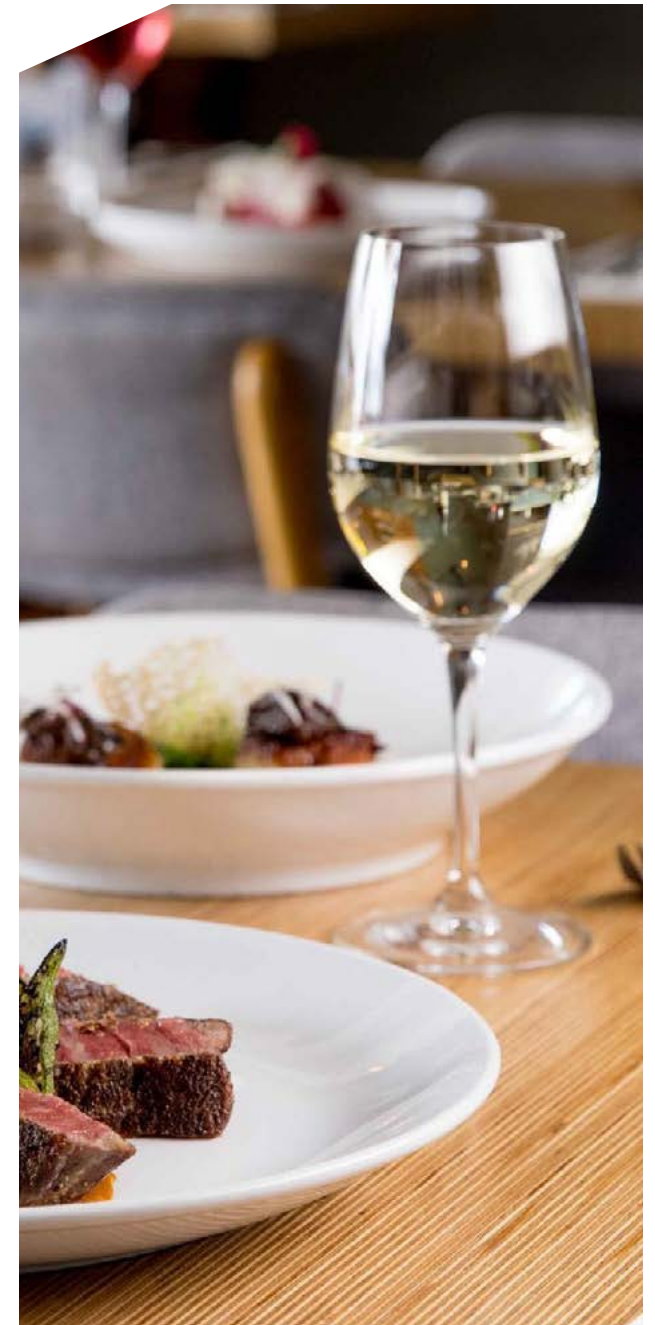


# DINING & NETWORKING

## PROFESSIONAL SETTINGS THAT SUPPORT CONNECTION AND RECOGNITION.

Port Macquarie Hastings offers a range of established venues suitable for formal dinners, award ceremonies, gala events and hosted networking functions.

These venues support business events that require high quality catering, professional service and spaces capable of accommodating both structured programs and informal engagement.





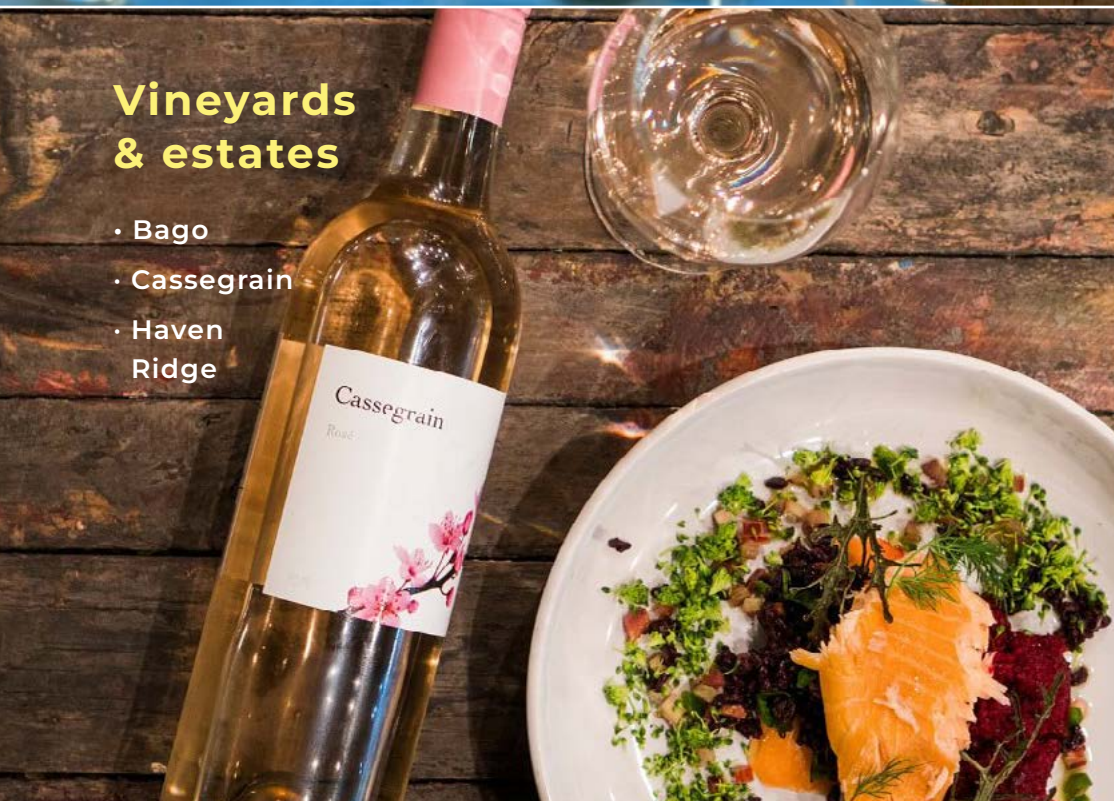
## Waterfront dining

- Whalebone Wharf
- Banks
- Rocksalt



## Private dining

- Stunned Mullet
- Bill's Fishhouse
- Two Triple Four



## Vineyards & estates

- Bago
- Cassegrain
- Haven Ridge



## Large-format venues

- Westport Club
- Panthers Port Macquarie
- Port City Bowling Club

# TEAM-BUILDING & INCENTIVE EXPERIENCES

## EXPERIENCES THAT STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION AND CONNECTION

Port Macquarie Hastings offers a selection of facilitated team-building and incentive experiences that can be integrated into business events to support collaboration, leadership development and professional connection. These experiences are delivered by established local operators and are typically scheduled as optional sessions, breakout activities or pre- and postconference programs aligned to conference objectives.



**Billabong Zoo**

Conservation-focused  
hosted experiences

## Guulabaa – Place of Koala

Cultural learning  
and place-based  
engagement

## COUNCIL SUPPORT











Council can assist organisers by:

- Recommending suitable operators and formats
- Advising on scheduling and integration
- Supporting itinerary development
- Ensuring experiences align with delegate expectations

Early discussion helps ensure activities are appropriate, effective and well received.



# FACILITATED TEAM-BUILDING & ACTIVE EXPERIENCES

Provider	Experience Type	Activity / Experience Description	Delegate Capacity	Duration Options	Website
Billabong Zoo	Wildlife & conservation experience	Conservation-focused hosted wildlife experiences	110 theatre, 150 cocktail, 12 boardroom, Zoo takeover to 5,000	1 hr interactive presentation 2-3 hr guided experiences Half or full day conference packages	<a href="http://billabongzoo.com.au">billabongzoo.com.au</a> 
Guulabaa – Place of Koala	Cultural experience	Cultural learning and place-based engagement experiences	Groups up to ~30	45–60 minute guided experience Custom cultural programs	<a href="http://guulabaaplaceofkoala.com.au">guulabaaplaceofkoala.com.au</a> 
WildNets Adventure Park	Structured team-building	Structured teamwork and leadership challenge courses	10–60 participants	1.5–2 hour challenge course Half-day team program	<a href="http://wildnets.com.au">wildnets.com.au</a> 
Escape the Expected	Problem-solving experience	Team-based escape and collaborative problem-solving experiences	Small groups	60 minute escape experience Multiple sessions for larger groups	<a href="http://escapetheexpected.com">escapetheexpected.com</a> 
Port Sea Kayak	Active coastal experience	Guided sea kayaking and coastal exploration experiences	Small groups	1.5–2 hour guided paddle Half-day coastal tour	<a href="http://portseakayak.com.au">portseakayak.com.au</a> 
Port Macquarie Surf School	Facilitated beach experience	Group surf lessons and structured beach-based activities	Groups up to	1.5–2 hour surf lesson	<a href="http://portmacquariesurfschool.com.au">portmacquariesurfschool.com.au</a> 
Port Macquarie Horse Riding Centre	Guided riding experience	Guided horse riding through coastal bushland suitable for small group incentives and delegate leisure programs.	Small groups	1 hour ride 2 hour ride	<a href="http://portmacquariehorseriding.com.au">portmacquariehorseriding.com.au</a> 
Port Macquarie Camels	Beach camel riding experience	Guided camel rides along Lighthouse Beach offering a distinctive coastal experience suitable for delegate leisure programs.	Small groups (rotational rides)	10–20 minute ride rotations 30–60 minute group activity window	<a href="http://portmacquariecamels.com.au">portmacquariecamels.com.au</a> 
Sea Acres	Rainforest & environmental experience	Guided rainforest boardwalk tours and environmental interpretation experiences within Sea Acres National Park.	Groups up to 30	45–60 minute guided walk Self-guided visits	<a href="http://seaacres.com.au">seaacres</a> 
Positive Energy Adventures & Retreats	Tailored wellness experiences	Includes sound baths, mindfulness, yoga, Pilates and nature-based activities	10-40	60 mins to full day experiences available	<a href="http://positiveenergyretreats.com.au">positiveenergyretreats.com.au</a> 

## WildNets Adventure Park

Structured teamwork  
and leadership  
challenges










## Escape the Expected

Problem-solving and  
team-based escape  
experiences



# WINERY & HOSTED INCENTIVE EXPERIENCES







Provider	Experience Type	Activity / Experience Description	Delegate Capacity	Duration Options	Website
Bago Maze & Winery	Winery & outdoor incentive	Collaborative maze challenges with winery experiences	Groups 10–60	1–2 hour maze experience Half-day winery visit	<a href="http://bago.com.au">bago.com.au</a> 
Cassegrain Wines	Winery experience	Cellar door tastings and hosted vineyard experiences	Groups 10–50	45–60 minute tasting 1–2 hour hosted experience	<a href="http://cassegrainwines.com.au">cassegrainwines.com.au</a> 
Douglas Vale Historic Homestead & Vineyard	Heritage vineyard experience	Historic vineyard tastings and heritage-based experiences	Groups 10–40	45–60 minute tasting 1–2 hour hosted visit	<a href="http://douglasvale.com.au">douglasvale.com.au</a> 
Long Point Vineyard & Art Gallery	Boutique vineyard experience	Vineyard tastings within rural gallery setting	Small–medium groups	60–90 minute tasting experience	<a href="http://longpointvineyard.com.au">longpointvineyard.com.au</a> 
Moore Beer	Boutique brewery experience	Craft brewery tastings and hosted brewery experiences within a relaxed industrial brewery setting	Small–medium groups	1 hour tasting 1.5–2 hour hosted visit	<a href="http://moorebeer.com.au">moorebeer.com.au</a> 
Black Duck	Craft brewery experience	Small-batch brewery tastings and hosted experiences showcasing locally produced craft beer.	Small groups	1 hour tasting 1–2 hour hosted visit	<a href="https://facebook.com/theblackduckbrewery">facebook.com/theblackduckbrewery</a> 
Port Macquarie Distillery	Boutique distillery experience	Premium, hands-on spirit experiences led by our Master Distiller	Gin tasting no min Gin making min 10 Cocktail making min 8	30 mins – 2 hours	<a href="http://portmacquarie-distillery.com">portmacquarie-distillery.com</a> 

## Bago Maze & Winery

Collaborative maze challenges in a relaxed setting



# GUIDED REGIONAL TOURING EXPERIENCES

Provider	Experience Type	Activity / Experience Description	Delegate Capacity	Duration Options	Website
<b>Indulgence Tours</b>	Guided regional touring	Private winery, food and scenic touring experiences	11 guests max Larger groups accommodated	2-3 hour 4-5 hour (half day) Full day	<a href="http://indulgencetours.com.au">indulgencetours.com.au</a> 
<b>DVINE Experiences</b>	Hosted regional touring	Curated food, wine and regional hosted experiences	6-10 guests 10+ corporate retreat experience	2-3 hour Half day Full day	<a href="http://dvinexperiences.com">dvinexperiences.com</a> 
<b>Port Jet Cruise Adventures</b>	Water-based touring	Ocean and river cruise experiences	Typically 20-150 depending on vessel	60-90 minute cruise 2 hour charter	<a href="http://portjet.com.au">portjet.com.au</a> 
<b>Cruise Port Macquarie</b>	River cruising	Hastings River sightseeing and charter cruises	Up to 100 guests depending on vessel	1-1.5 hour cruise Private charter options	<a href="http://portadventurecruises.com.au">portadventurecruises.com.au</a> 
<b>Oz Foiling</b>	Foiling water experience	Guided e-foil and hydrofoil experiences on the Hastings River and local waterways.	Small groups	60-90 minute session 2 hour group experience	<a href="http://ozfoiling.au/port-macquarie">ozfoiling.au/port-macquarie</a> 
<b>Port Macquarie Fishing Charters</b>	Offshore fishing charter experience	Guided offshore fishing charters suitable for small incentive groups and hosted outings.	Typically 6-12 guests	Half day charter (4-5 hours) Full day charter (8 hours)	<a href="http://portmacquariefishingcharters.com.au">portmacquariefishingcharters.com.au</a> 

# CONFERENCE- READY ACCOMMODATION

## ACCOMMODATION THAT SUPPORTS EFFICIENT CONFERENCE DELIVERY

A strong concentration of quality accommodation is located within and around the CBD, supporting walkable conference delivery. Options include premium waterfront hotels, serviced apartments, mid-range hotels and resort-style accommodation.



# HIGH CAPACITY HOTELS, MOTELS & RESORTS

Provider	Type	Website	Rooms/ Units	Beds	Sleeps
Rydges Port Macquarie	Hotel	<a href="https://rydges.com">rydges.com</a>	121	230	364
Sails Resort Port Macquarie by Rydges	Resort	<a href="https://rydges.com">rydges.com</a>	92	180	310
Mercure Centro Port Macquarie	Hotel	<a href="https://centrohotelportmacquarie.com.au">centrohotelportmacquarie.com.au</a>	71	125	236
Mantra The Observatory	Apartments	<a href="https://mantratheobservatory.com.au">mantratheobservatory.com.au</a>	41	51	155
Mantra Quayside Port Macquarie	Apartments	<a href="https://mantraquayside.com.au">mantraquayside.com.au</a>	42	94	136
Macquarie Waters Boutique Apartment Hotel	Apartment Hotel	<a href="https://mwaters.com.au">mwaters.com.au</a>	50	58	88
Flynns Beach Resort	Apartments	<a href="https://flynnsbeachresort.com.au">flynnsbeachresort.com.au</a>	44	132	176
Ki-ea Apartments	Apartments	<a href="https://ki-ea.com.au">ki-ea.com.au</a>	35	Not provided	
Beaches Holiday Resort	Resort	<a href="https://beachesholidayresort.com.au">beachesholidayresort.com.au</a>	19	84	84
Beachside Holiday Apartments	Apartments	<a href="https://beachsideholidays.com">beachsideholidays.com</a>	29	98	127
Port Pacific Resort	Apartments	<a href="https://portpacific.com.au">portpacific.com.au</a>	79	203	360
Northpoint Apartments	Apartments	<a href="https://northpointapartments.com.au">northpointapartments.com.au</a>	11	44	66
Shelly Beach Resort	Apartments	<a href="https://shellybeachresort.com.au">shellybeachresort.com.au</a>	19	38	57
Wyndham Flynn's Beach	Apartments	<a href="https://wyndhamhotels.com">wyndhamhotels.com</a>	113	510	642

# MOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Provider	Website	Rooms/ Units	Beds	Sleeps
Ibis Styles Port Macquarie	<a href="http://ibisstylespm.com.au">ibisstylespm.com.au</a>	45	61	105
Best Western Macquarie Barracks	<a href="http://macquariebarracks.com.au">macquariebarracks.com.au</a>	34	47	
East Port Motor Inn	<a href="http://eastportmotorinn.com.au">eastportmotorinn.com.au</a>	23	52	
El Paso Motor Inn	<a href="http://elpasomotorinn.com.au">elpasomotorinn.com.au</a>	56	56	98
Excelsior Motor Inn	<a href="http://excelsiormotorinn.com.au">excelsiormotorinn.com.au</a>	26	37	62
Palm Court Motor Inn	<a href="http://palmcourtmotorinn.com.au">palmcourtmotorinn.com.au</a>	24	52	77
Port Aloha Motel	<a href="http://portaloha.com.au">portaloha.com.au</a>	19	39	70
Town Beach Motor Inn	<a href="http://townbeachmotorinn.com">townbeachmotorinn.com</a>	18	52	54

# CASE STUDIES

## PROVEN DELIVERY ACROSS BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY EVENTS

Port Macquarie Hastings has a demonstrated track record of hosting business, government and industry events that require professional venues, reliable logistics and effective partnership with organisers.

The following case studies illustrate how conferences and industry gatherings have been successfully delivered in the region, across different sectors and formats.



### NSW Weeds Conference 2025

Multi-day state industry conference delivered at the Glasshouse Arts, Conference and Entertainment Centre.

Strong participation from across NSW. Demonstrated suitability of Port Macquarie for large, technical conferences Positive feedback on venue quality and accessibility





## NSW Oyster Conference 2024

Industry conference hosted at Panthers Port Macquarie.

Delivery of a focused, industry-specific conference program with strong engagement from industry participants and effective use of a single venue for plenary and networking functions.

Reinforced the region's capability to host primary-industry conferences





## North Coast Tourism Symposium 2024

Regional industry symposium with awards integration.

Strong attendance and sector engagement with effective use of multiple venues within a compact footprint.

Demonstrating suitability for conference-plus gala event formats



## Digital Deep Dive 2025

Business and technology conference hosted at Rydges.

A structured, content rich business conference with strong engagement from regional business delegates.

Demonstrating suitability of Port Macquarie as a host location for contemporary business and technology events. Reinforced the region's capacity to support professional development and industry focused conferences



# CONTACT

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