## Parks at a glance

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<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Camping</th>
<th>Park Information Centre</th>
<th>Toilets</th>
<th>Park Area</th>
<th>Lookout/Viewing Point</th>
<th>Short Walk</th>
<th>Hiking Track</th>
<th>Mountain Biking</th>
<th>Horseriding</th>
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<td>Burleigh Head NP</td>
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<td>Moogerah Peaks NP</td>
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- on the SEQ horse riding trail network only (refer to npsr.qld.gov.au for map)
- nearby
- in Numinbah section only.

This is not a comprehensive guide of all the walks available in the parks. There are a number of longer walk options available. Find out more at [queenslandnationalparks.com.au](http://queenslandnationalparks.com.au)

Photo (front cover): Mount Barney National Park © Ben Blanche. Photo (this page): Mount Barney National Park © Lachlan Gardiner
Welcome to the Gold Coast and Scenic Rim! From the ocean to the majestic mountains framing the western skyline, we invite you to explore this beautiful wilderness. Come for a day or several weeks and uncover this region’s hidden gems. Be well prepared and respect the land and you will be rewarded with many unforgettable and magical experiences.

Andy Dutton, Park Ranger
on behalf of the Park Rangers of the Gold Coast and Scenic Rim

Be inspired!

**Breathe**
crisp mountain air laced with the scents of wildflowers, native herbs and mint-fresh gum leaves. Stand high atop the summit with arms thrown wide and your spirit soaring.

**Tread**
the ancient paths of Aboriginal people, their stories woven around the rocks, animals and trees. Sit quietly beneath the forest canopy and feel your own connection with the land.

**Recharge**
under a brilliant night sky, your camp site cocooned by shadowy rainforest and nocturnal wildlife rustlings. Bathe in stellar celestial views far from the glow of city lights.

**Gaze**
out from windswept headlands to whales and dolphins breaching playfully in the ocean and eagles soaring through the vanilla dawn sky.

**Venture**
into an endless playground of wild and vibrant places. Rocky escarpments, lush rainforests and river gorges brim with trails for adventure by foot, hoof or wheel.

**Witness**
prehistoric landscapes carved by tumbling waterfalls and cascading creeks. Imagine megafauna roaming beneath the towering hoop pines and Antarctic beech trees in the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area.

**Breathe**

**Tread**

**Recharge**

**Gaze**

**Venture**

**Witness**
**Track and Trail Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Suits</th>
<th>Track Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wheelchairs and strollers</td>
<td>No bushwalking experience required. Flat even surface with no steps or steep sections.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Families with young children</td>
<td>No bushwalking experience required. The track is a hardened or compacted surface and may have a gentle hill section or sections and occasional steps.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>People with some bushwalking experience</td>
<td>Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface and many steps.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Experienced bushwalkers</td>
<td>Tracks may be long, rough and very steep. Directional signs may be limited.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Very experienced bushwalkers</td>
<td>Tracks are likely to be very rough, very steep and unmarked.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Novice riders and experienced horses with basic skills and fitness</td>
<td>Wide trail with a gentle slope and a relatively obstacle-free, hardened natural slope.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Experienced riders and horses with moderate skills and fitness</td>
<td>Trail with obstacles, variable surface and moderate slope. May include steep sections.</td>
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</table>
Escape magically

Plan your getaway

Venture into the green beyond the gold, where open woodland and rainforest adorn rolling valleys and peaks, and seemingly impassable ranges reach to the clouds. Write your own story on a day trip or holiday to this vast and beautiful landscape, exploring all that this region has to offer.

Best time to visit

Along the coast the climate is mild and subtropical with temperatures ranging from 20°C to 28°C in summer and from 11°C to 21°C in winter. But in the west and on the mountain plateaus winter mornings can fall below a frosty 0°C and hot summer days can reach a simmering 25°C to 40°C, especially on the exposed ridges.

Walking in the cooler months from April to September is best when rain and leeches are less common.

Add some local flavour

Add one of the region’s fun-loving events or tourist attractions to your journey.

Slow dance with a special someone at a jazz festival, steal through neon-lit city streets for some late-night shopping, treasure hunt at a local market or scream upside down on a rollercoaster ride.

Dress up and enjoy a day out at the country races, ride your bike past farmland and open country plains, celebrate at a firefly festival or savour regional flavours at a country pub, teahouse or winery.

Find out more at visitscenicrim.com.au and visitgoldcoast.com

Guided tours

If you prefer someone else to do the planning, or you’re simply short of time, you can join tours with experienced guides—for just a day or several nights. See visitscenicrim.com.au and visitgoldcoast.com for more information.

(Above) Albert’s lyrebird; (right) exploring David Fleay Wildlife Park; (below) Lamington National Park.

Photos: (clockwise from top left) © Bruce Thomson; Briony Masters © Qld Govt; Anna Osetroff © Qld Govt
**Choose your adventure**

Whether you want to picnic beside a freshwater creek, tackle a challenging bushwalk or treat yourself to an overnight stay in the country, there is a park adventure waiting for you! Take your time—explore the natural beauty of this region on a leisurely scenic drive. Here are some suggestions to help plan your journey.

**Travelling from the West (Warwick)**

**Day and overnight trips**
- Enjoy a peaceful morning tea and easy bushwalks with great views at Mount French section, Moogerah Peaks National Park.
- Stroll through rainforest and take in spectacular lookouts and cascades at Goomburra section, Main Range National Park. With plenty of space for the kids to run, this is the perfect place to camp overnight with the family.
- Picnic amid tall forest and witness a majestic waterfall at Queen Mary Falls section, Main Range National Park.

**Multi-day trips**
- Stay at a local cottage or camp in Mount Barney National Park and spend a couple of days exploring the rugged landscape on epic bushwalks and rock climbs. For experienced walkers only!
- Take your hiking boots or ride your horse and discover the rocky escarpments of Glen Rock State Forest, camping overnight at Casuarina camping area.

**Travelling from the East (Brisbane and Gold Coast)**

**Day and overnight trips**
- Visit David Fleay Wildlife Park for a wildlife encounter, ranger-led show and Devonshire tea, before walking along Tallebudgera Creek mangrove boardwalk to ocean views at Burleigh Head National Park.
- Begin with a morning bike ride in Nerang National Park and State Forest then drive to Tamborine National Park to discover cool rainforest walks, cafes and boutiques, and the local hospitality of a cosy bed and breakfast.

**Multi-day trips**
- Bushwalk through rainforest and past waterfalls to drink in scenic views at Lamington National Park, before camping under the stars or staying at a local guesthouse.
- Enjoy an outdoor barbecue on a weekend retreat to Springbrook National Park, venturing on bushwalks with waterfalls, rock caves and breathtaking views.
- See panoramic views at Mount French section, Moogerah Peaks National Park, before driving to the waterfall at Queen Mary Falls section, Main Range National Park, staying at the privately-owned campground. Return via Cunninghams Gap section, Main Range National Park for a rainforest walk on the escarpment.

**Tackle a Great Walk**

Meander through a living museum of rainforest, mangroves and eucalyptus trees and imagine a time when this was once an abundantly-forested golden coast. Venture to the top of the headland and discover hexagonal-shaped basalt columns jutting out from the earth, cracked from the ancient Tweed Valley lava flow. Feel the sea spray blowing in from the ocean as you watch waves roll into the beach.

**Burleigh Head National Park**

Discover tumbled basalt boulders, pandanus groves and sweeping ocean views on a walk through this peaceful coastal park.

**MUST DOS**

- Stand atop Tumgun lookout and be mesmerised by humpback whales breaching gracefully in the coastal waters during winter and spring.
- Glory in sea, surf and sun hitting the waves on a surfboard at the world-renowned Burleigh Heads surf break.
- Escape the summer heat and crowds and retreat into cool rainforest.

**GETTING THERE**

Travelling from Brisbane on the Pacific Motorway, take exit 89 and drive into Burleigh Heads. Turn right onto the Gold Coast Highway and left into Goodwin Terrace. Travelling from New South Wales, take exit 92 and drive into Palm Beach. Turn left onto the Gold Coast Highway and right at the traffic lights north of Tallebudgera Creek.

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**Fishing**

Throw a line out at Echo Beach to catch a seafood dinner fresh from Tallebudgera Creek. There is a wheelchair ramp to the fishing platform on Tallebudgera Creek.

**Wildlife spotting**

Spy bearded dragons and mottled carpet pythons sunning themselves on rocks, and Australian brush-turkeys obsessively tending their leafy nesting mounds. In mid-summer, jewel-coloured Richmond birdwing butterflies flit through the forest feeding on rainforest nectars. Walk along the rocky foreshore and delight in dolphins playing in the waves, and white-bellied sea-eagles and whistling kites riding the ridge updrafts on the hunt for fish.

**Places to go**

1. **Oceanview track**
   - 1.2km one way (30mins). Grade 3
   - Wander the rocky coastal headland from Tallebudgera Creek, exploring rainforest and pandanus groves sheltering abundant wildlife.

2. **Rainforest circuit**
   - 2.3km return (45mins). Grade 3
   - Duck into cool rainforest on this uphill hike to superb views of the coast from Tumgun lookout.

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David Fleay Wildlife Park

Venture into this much-loved wildlife park, beneath dappled eucalypt and arching fig tree canopies, in search of some of Queensland’s most intriguing and rarely seen animals.

**MUST DOS**
- Flinch at the ‘snap’ of jaws closing, as estuarine crocodiles launch out of the water to snatch prey from Park Rangers at feeding time (September–February, subject to change).
- Marvel at the playful escapades of Wally, the resident platypus, as he forages for crayfish and slides down his waterfall.
- Feel like an excited kid again as Park Rangers introduce you to amazing wildlife, some rarely seen in the wild.

**Getting there**
Take the Burleigh Heads turn-off (exit 89) from the Pacific Motorway and follow the signs along West Burleigh Road, West Burleigh to the park entrance.

Imagine yourself on safari, glimpsing prehistoric-looking cassowaries, tree-kangaroos, dingoes, emus and iconic koalas from the boardwalk. Wander through wetlands, rainforest and open woodlands, where animals roam free in the natural surroundings. The park is open from 9am to 5pm daily, except Christmas Day and ANZAC Day morning—opening at 1pm. Admission fees apply. Phone (07) 5576 2411.

**Things to do**

- **Watch daily wildlife shows**
  Join Park Rangers to learn about the unique wildlife that share our backyard, as well as elusive, endangered, and even dangerous critters! Snakes, gliders, cassowaries and crocodiles all have their time in the spotlight.

- **Visit the nocturnal house**
  Uncover the secret night-time antics of platypus, woma pythons and mahogany gliders inside the nocturnal house. Have a ‘Eureka’ moment far from the hot, dry grasslands of their native outback homes, discovering endangered bilbies and the story of the people trying to save them.

**Places to go**
Free attractions outside the park.

1. **Mangrove boardwalk**
   800m return (15mins)
   Grade: very easy; wheelchair accessible
   Weave through fringing plants living between land and water, peeping through to stunning views of Tallebudgera Creek. Delight in azure kingfishers and rainbow bee-eaters darting through the mangroves.

2. **Canoeing and kayaking**
   Be enchanted on a peaceful paddle along the mangrove-lined Tallebudgera Creek, where you can drift past fish, stingrays, sea-eagles, and if you’re lucky, dolphins.
Feel your adrenaline surge as you horseride or mountain bike through the forested hills and gullies of this delightful bushland park.

Crisscrossed with a network of exhilarating shared trails and designated mountain bike tracks, explore this popular bush retreat by foot, hoof or wheel. Just make sure to look out for other trail users!

**THINGS TO DO**

**Mountain bike and horseriding**

Grab your mountain bike and test your skills on one of five technically-challenging single mountain bike tracks, mastering small drop-offs and rock gardens as you go. Saddle up for a more relaxed adventure riding horseback along creek banks bathed in golden afternoon haze.

**Wildlife spotting**

See goannas dozing in gum trees or photograph a royal blue forest kingfisher swooping for lizards from low branches.

**GETTING THERE**

Nerang National Park is 12km from Surfers Paradise and 70km south of Brisbane. Access is along Matilda or Coolibah roads, from the Pacific Motorway, Nerang township or Beaudesert–Nerang Road.

**MUST DOS**

- Listen for the ‘crack’ of glossy black-cockatoos greedily breaking open casuarina seeds above.
- Ride along Pete’s, Brett’s or the Casuarina tracks for one last mountain bike challenge before you leave.
- Tiptoe along the creek line in search of shy golden swamp wallabies, koalas and echidnas.

**PLACES TO GO**

**1. Casuarina Grove circuit**

2.7km circuit plus optional 800m loop (30–40mins riding time)

Enjoy an easy, family-friendly ride through a grove of casuarina trees.

**2. Three hills track**

2km one way (20–30mins riding time)

Wind through open forest of ghostly grey gum and tallowwood with steep hilly sections.

**3. Brett’s track**

2.7km one way (30–40mins riding time)

Challenge yourself on a ride through dry sclerophyll forest and cool green gullies, with steep climbs and exciting descents.

**4. Pete’s track**

1.7km (15–20mins riding time)

Enjoy a flowing ride from Brett’s track back to the car park.

**5. Pete’s extension track**

650m (5–10mins riding time)

Hone your skills on this quick and fun access track with technical trail features, linking to the Casuarina Grove circuit.

For a detailed mountain bike trail map visit npsr.qld.gov.au/parks/nerang or scan this QR code with your smartphone camera and use a QR-app to download the map.
**MUST DOS**

- Breathe in the perfume of delicate wildflowers—wallum wedge pea, yellow peabush and prickly broom heath bloom in late winter and spring.
- Peek through binoculars and spy sacred kingfishers, rainbow bee-eaters and variegated fairy-wrens darting through the paperbark swamp forest.

**GETTING THERE**

Pine Ridge Regional Park is in Runaway Bay, 10km north of the Gold Coast city centre, accessed via Oxley Drive off the Gold Coast Highway.

**PIECE RIDGE REGIONAL PARK**

Escape the bustling coast to the golden banksia woodland and flowering heathland of a park rich with Aboriginal cultural significance.

Connect with this sacred land of the Kombumerri-Ngarangwal people, a place where meals made from local bush foods, fish and shellfish have been shared by the Traditional Owners for thousands of years. Discover shell heaps (middens) piled with ‘kinyingurra’ (oyster) shells and imagine past feasts. Be a botanist for the day and try to distinguish the abundant forest types growing here—eucalypt forest with fragrant wattle, banksia woodland, paperbark swamp and coastal heath bursting with wildflowers.

**THINGS TO DO**

**Picnic**

Relax with a picnic under the shaded forest canopy. Picnic tables are provided.

**Walking and cycling**

Unwind on a gentle bushland walk or cycle along the forested trail, past the last remaining patch of wallum banksia heath on the Gold Coast.

**Wildlife spotting**

Watch for echidnas snuffling in the leaf litter, and ‘borobi’ (koalas) and ‘yowgurrah’ (goannas) in the tall bloodwood trees.
Walk through ethereal rainforest and silvery eucalypt woodland, the fresh air revitalising your every step. Red-necked pademelons bound between slender palm trunks and towering buttress roots, while platypus and frogs dip into cool lagoons. Admire sweeping views of Mount Warning, Mount Barney and Lamington National Park and the sparkling Pacific Ocean.

Declared in 1908, Tamborine National Park was Queensland’s first national park, (originally Witches Falls National Park). Today’s park has 14 separate sections for visitors to explore.

Did you know?
The place name ‘Tamborine’ comes from the local Yugambeh language. It means wild lime and refers to the finger lime trees that grow wild on the mountain and were eaten by the traditional Aboriginal people of this land.

TAMBORINE NATIONAL PARK

Lose yourself in the shade of white-washed flooded gums and rainforest gullies thick with piccabeen palms on a scenic mountain escape.

Walk through ethereal rainforest and silvery eucalypt woodland, the fresh air revitalising your every step. Red-necked pademelons bound between slender palm trunks and towering buttress roots, while platypus and frogs dip into cool lagoons. Admire sweeping views of Mount Warning, Mount Barney and Lamington National Park and the sparkling Pacific Ocean.

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MUST DOS

• Witness Cameron Falls tumbling over the cliff top on the Sandy Creek circuit.
• Trace the footsteps of folklore on a walk at Witches Falls—local children once believed this forest was haunted by witches and giants.
• Go for a scenic drive stopping for a relaxing picnic with a view at The Knoll or Palm Grove.

GETTING THERE

Tamborine Mountain is 80km south of Brisbane. Travel via Nerang–Beaudesert Road and Oxenford–Tamborine Road from the Pacific Highway, or Tamborine Mountain Road from Canungra.

WILDLIFE SPOTTING

Listen for strange gurgling sounds beneath your feet—these may be giant Tamborine earthworms travelling through waterlogged underground burrows. Let Richmond birdwing butterflies and colourful noisy pittas beguile you in summer.

PICNICKING

Enjoy popular picnic areas in Cedar Creek, Palm Grove, The Knoll, Witches Falls and MacDonald sections.

HORSE RIDING

Ride your horse on designated trails in some sections of the park. Access is from Beaudesert–Beenleigh Road or Tamborine Mountain Road. Visit npsr.qld.gov.au/experiences/horse-trails/ for information about the SEQ horse riding trail network.

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PLACES TO GO

1 Cedar Creek Falls lookout track
500m return (15mins). Grade 1
Take a walk to Cedar Creek Falls lookout and admire views of the gorge, waterfalls and rock pools. The track to the lookout is suitable for strollers and assisted wheelchair access.

2 Cedar Creek Falls track
900m return (30mins). Grade 3
From Cedar Creek Falls lookout, descend through eucalypt forest and dry rainforest to the rock pools below. This section from the lookout to the rock pools is not suitable for strollers or wheelchairs.

3 Curtis Falls track
1.1km return (30mins). Grade 3
Be enchanted on a walk beneath towering flooded gums into lush rainforest.

4 Lower creek circuit
2km return (1hr). Grade 4
Branch off Curtis Falls track and cross Cedar Creek before passing a giant, fallen strangler fig.

5 MacDonald rainforest circuit
1.4km return (30mins). Grade 2
Enjoy an easy, gentle walk past strangler figs and lush groves of piccabeen palms.

6 Palm Grove circuit
2.6km circuit (1hr). Grade 3
Discover peaceful piccabeen palm groves, rainforest with emergent strangler figs and distinctively-buttressed yellow carabeens. See fascinating fungi along the way.

7 Jenyns circuit
4.5km circuit (1.5hrs). Grade 4
Veer off Palm Grove circuit into drier eucalypt forest featuring a grove of ancient cycads.

8 Witches Chase track
1.5km one way (1–2hrs). Grade 3
Wander down this track to Witches Falls lookout and continue through rainforest with large red cedar trees and eucalypt forest.

9 Witches Falls circuit
3.1km return (1hr). Grade 3
Zigzag down the mountain side through an open forest of banksia trees and into rainforest with giant strangler figs before reaching the lookout.

10 Sandy Creek circuit
2.6km circuit (1hr). Grade 4
Explore lush rainforest with towering trees emerging through the canopy, admiring views across the valley to Flinders Peak and Brisbane from Cameron Falls lookout.

Note: Limited bus, caravan and motorhome parking is available in Joalah, MacDonald and Witches Falls sections only.

SAFETY
The steep narrow roads from Nerang and Canungra are unsuitable for buses, trailers, caravans and trucks.
Strap on your hiking boots and submerge into lush subtropical rainforest, open eucalypt woodland and montane heath, the sound of tumbling creeks and songbirds in the air. Witness the power of roaring cascades as they continue to sculpt rocky escarpments and caves. Feel you’ve reached the world’s edge as you venture atop lookouts and take in breathtaking views of the valleys below.

**Did you know?**

Glow-worms seen at Natural Bridge are not actually worms but the larvae of a small fly. The light you see is a chemical reaction occurring inside the glow-worm’s body. Known as bioluminescence, meaning ‘living light’, this quirk of nature is used to lure prey.

**Getting there**

Springbrook has four sections—the plateau, Mount Cougal to the east and Natural Bridge and Numinbah to the west.

**Springbrook plateau section**

Exit the Pacific Motorway at Nerang and follow Nerang–Murwillumbah Road to the Springbrook turn-off at Pine Creek Road. Or take Mudgeeraba turn-off and follow Gold Coast–Springbrook Road.

**Mount Cougal section**

Exit the Gold Coast Highway at Currumbin and follow Currumbin Creek Road to its end.

**Numinbah and Natural Bridge sections**

Exit the Pacific Motorway at Nerang and follow Nerang–Murwillumbah Road. Signs on your journey to Natural Bridge can be more reliable than your GPS in this area.

**Must dos**

- Stand on the suspension bridge and feel the spray of Purling Brook Falls plummeting into the rock pools.
- Walk among ancient gnarled Antarctic beech trees dripping with wispy lichens in the cool temperate rainforest on the Best of All lookout track.
- Visit Natural Bridge by day to see the unique waterfall, and by night to be entranced by the blue-green lights of thousands of glow-worms.

**Springbrook National Park**

Spectacular waterfalls and cool ancient forests await you in this beautiful World Heritage-listed Gondwana rainforest.

Strap on your hiking boots and submerge into lush subtropical rainforest, open eucalypt woodland and montane heath, the sound of tumbling creeks and songbirds in the air. Witness the power of roaring cascades as they continue to sculpt rocky escarpments and caves. Feel you’ve reached the world’s edge as you venture atop lookouts and take in breathtaking views of the valleys below.

**Things to do**

**Horseriding**


**Wildlife spotting**

Spot brilliant blue spiny crays, frogs and long-finned eels swimming in the sparkling mountain streams. Shy pademelons, swamp wallabies and potoroos roam the forest floor wary of visitors and glossy-black satin bowerbirds forage for blue treasures to decorate their bowers. At night, glow-worms provide a magical experience inside the cave at Natural Bridge.

**Rangers’ tip**

Enjoy the drive through the scenic Numinbah Valley, passing the stunning Egg Rock ‘Kurraragin’, on the way to Natural Bridge.

**Places to camp**

**The Settlement camping area**

Pitch a tent beside your car or bring your camper trailer or campervan to this beautiful mountain top camping area and slumber peacefully under a starry sky. Take a short walking track from here to the top of Purling Brook Falls.

(Above) Blue spiny crayfish; (right) swamp wallaby.

Photos: © Robert Ashdown
PLACES TO GO

1. **Goomoolahra Falls lookout and track**
   200m return (5mins). Grade 2
   Take in the view stretching to Stradbroke and Moreton islands from several lookouts at the top of the 60m high Goomoolahra Falls.

2. **Best of All lookout track**
   600m return (30mins). Grade 2
   Venture past Antarctic beech trees to a spectacular view of northern New South Wales dominated by Mount Warning, an ancient extinct volcano.

3. **Purling Brook Falls circuit**
   4km return (2hrs). Grade 3
   Pass through open eucalypt forest with tall New England ash, ancient lepidodermas, hakeas and wildflowers before descending into the gorge to view the falls from the suspension bridge over the rock pools. With 265 steps this walk is best travelled in a clockwise direction.

4. **Twin Falls circuit**
   4km return (2hrs). Grade 3
   Pass behind two waterfalls, through rock clefts and among palms and treeferns on this exciting bushwalk through changing forests.

5. **Warrie circuit**
   17km return (allow 5–6hrs). Grade 4
   Follow the base of The Canyon cliffs to Goomoolahra Falls before descending into the mossy green depths of the rainforest to reach the ‘Meeting of the Waters’, where all watercourses draining The Canyon meet.

6. **Natural Bridge circuit**
   1km return (1hr). Grade 2
   Walk across Cave Creek to witness the waterfall plunging into the arched cave. At night the cave is illuminated by glow-worms and fungi and alive with the flutter of little bent-wing bat wings. This track is best walked in a clockwise direction.

7. **Cascades track**
   1.6km return (1hr). Grade 2
   Walk through subtropical rainforest beside Currumbin Creek to a viewing platform overlooking scenic cascades and an old bush sawmill.

**SAFETY**
Be cautious near cliff edges, remain on formed walking tracks and stay well outside the restricted access area at the top of Purling Brook Falls and on Cave Creek at Natural Bridge. Do not jump into rock pools at Mount Cougal. Serious injuries have occurred.

(Top) Natural Bridge; (above) Twin Falls.
Photos: (top) © Scott Viney; (above) Maxime Coquard © Qld Govt
Reinvigorate your spirit on a short or full-day bushwalk past roaring cascades and rainforest groves, under the twisted arms of ancient Antarctic beech trees and through blankets of flowering heath. Lamington’s rainforests are remnants of ancient Gondwanan forests that once covered Australia. With each step feel a connection with this beautiful land—a sacred and spiritual place for the Yugambeh people.

**Did you know?**
The Albert’s lyrebird can imitate sounds from its surrounding, from bird calls to human sounds, including chainsaws, car horns and alarms, barking dogs, crying babies and musical instruments.

**Rangers’ tip**
The best way to truly experience this historic World Heritage gem is to stay overnight. Discover the park’s special stories at the Binna Burra and Green Mountains information centres.

**Places to camp**

1. **Green Mountains camping area**
   Enjoy tent and campervan camping on this grassy, gently-sloping camping area 200m from the Green Mountains information centre. Large campervans, camper trailers or caravans are not permitted. A private campground is located at Binna Burra.

2. **Remote bush camping**
   A few bush camp sites are available in remote areas of Lamington National Park, accessed by walking using either a topographic map or GPS. All remote bush camping sites are closed from 1 December to 31 January.
PLACES TO GO

Green Mountains section

1. **Centenary track**
   - 1.8km return (30mins). Grade 1
   - Pass through tall hoop pines into subtropical forest on this easy walk, stopping to pause at the bench seating provided to watch for regent and satin bowerbirds darting through the branches.

2. **Rainforest return**
   - 1.4km return (30mins). Grade 2
   - Watch for yellow-throated scrubwrens and logrunners among the leaf litter on this short rainforest stroll at the start of the lengthy Border Track. Go a little further to see the historic track building camp at Morans Creek.

3. **Python Rock track**
   - 3.1km return (1hr). Grade 1
   - Pass through rainforest into an open eucalypt forest with grasstrees, hakeas and various wildflowers. Enjoy views of Morans Falls, Castle Crag and the Lost World from Python Rock lookout.

4. **Morans Falls track**
   - 6.2km return (2hrs) via the Centenary track. Grade 4
   - See Morans Falls and drink in the scenic panorama across Morans Creek Gorge to Fassifern Valley and distant ranges.

Binna Burra section

5. **Rainforest circuit**
   - 1.2km return (30mins). Grade 2
   - Pass through warm subtropical rainforest listening for bowerbirds and catbirds on this self-guided walk.

6. **Bellbird lookout**
   - 2km return (1hr). Grade 4
   - Descend through rainforest and open forest to Bellbird lookout with excellent views of Ships Stern, Turtle Rock, ‘Kurraragin’ (Egg Rock) and Numinbah Valley.

7. **Caves circuit**
   - 5km return (1.5hrs). Grade 4
   - Wind through open forest and rainforest taking in views of Coomera Valley.

8. **Tullawallal circuit**
   - 5km return (1.5hrs). Grade 3
   - Walk through cool temperate rainforest before arriving at a pocket of ancient Antarctic beech trees.

Safety

A high level of physical fitness and navigational skills are essential to walk more remote parts of this extremely rugged mountain park. Arrive early to complete any full-day walks and avoid getting lost at night.
Ramble along rugged grasstree-lined escarpments with coral-red giant spear lilies clinging to almost-vertical slopes beneath. Subtropical rainforest hugs the park’s moist gullies while the sunny slopes burst with fragrant eucalypt trees, wattles and casuarinas. Discover the secret world of the endangered eastern bristlebird and vulnerable black-breasted button-quail. Stroll along easy trails to visit heritage sites and amazing lookouts, or head off-track for a challenging hike into remote areas where you’ll feel like the only soul.

Did you know?

History is alive in these hills! It is believed that up to 13 people are buried at the Pioneer gravesite at Spicers Gap. One grave is reputed to be that of Mrs Collins, the wife of a bullock driver, who fell from a loaded wool dray while descending the ‘pinch’ (narrow road), and for whom Mother Collins Pinch was named after.

Things to do

Wildlife spotting
Glimpse brush-tailed rock-wallabies balancing precariously on the cliffs or Cunningham’s skinks sunning themselves on rocky outcrops. Listen for the throaty ‘ok-ok-ok-ok-ok-ok’ call of the Fleay’s barred-frog after rainfall. Delight in wedge-tailed eagles soaring overhead and treecreepers scurrying up tree trunks to sneak unsuspicious prey.

Picnicking
Enjoy a scenic picnic at Cunninghams Gap, Spicers Gap, Queen Mary Falls (pictured below) or Goomburra.

Main Range National Park

Spend a few hours, a day or a week discovering this historic arc of mountains stretching spectacularly from Mount Mistake to Wilsons Peak.

Getting there
The park has four sections—Cunninghams Gap and Spicers Gap at the top of the range and Goomburra and Queen Mary Falls in the sheltered foothills.

Cunninghams Gap section
Cunninghams Gap is 166km south-west of Brisbane, 21km from Aratula, or 50km north-east of Warwick.

Spicers Gap section
To access Spicers Gap turn south off the Cunningham Highway into Lake Moogerah Road then turn right into Spicers Gap Road. This road is steep in places and is not suitable for campervans or caravans.

Goomburra section
Goomburra can be reached from either the New England Highway south of Allora or from the Cunningham Highway west of Cunninghams Gap. The last 6km of road to the park is unsealed and may be flooded after heavy rain.

Queen Mary Falls section
Queen Mary Falls is 11km from Killarney and 64km south-west of Boonah on Killarney–Boonah Road. The scenic road from the east is steep and not suitable for caravans.

MUST DOS

- Stand at the edge of a receding escarpment when you visit Sylvester’s lookout and feel as if you’re soaring above the valley below.
- Guess the age of gnarled giant brush box on the Rainforest circuit boardwalk at Cunninghams Gap.
- Behold spectacular Queen Mary Falls plunging 40m into the lush boulder-strewn valley below.
- Follow the footsteps of early explorers and pioneers at Cunninghams and Spicers gaps.
**PlACES TO CAMP**

Camping at Goomburra is a fantastic family experience with plenty to see and do. Book your camp site well in advance for school holidays and long weekends to make sure you don’t miss out.

1. **Poplar Flat camping area—Goomburra**
   Enjoy an open, flat, grassy camping area adjacent to Dalrymple Creek.

2. **Manna Gum camping area—Goomburra**
   Manna gums provide ample shade during the warmer months in this open, flat, grassy area next to Dalrymple Creek.

3. **Spicers Gap camping area**
   For a more cosy experience, pitch a tent in this small, grassy area set in a clearing on the eastern side of Spicers Gap.

**Remote camping**
Some opportunities for remote, walk-in bush camping are available. Minimal impact camping is encouraged within the park—please, if you pack it in, pack it out. There are no facilities at these remote camp sites.

**PLACES TO GO**

1. **Queen Mary Falls circuit**
   2km return (40mins). Grade 3
   Take a leisurely stroll through the eucalypt-covered ridge top to the rainforest gorge and witness Queen Mary Falls from the lookout.

2. **Sylvesters lookout**
   940m return (30mins). Grade 3
   Take in magnificent views over the coastal plains from Sylvesters lookout, including the southern tip of Lake Moogerah and the rugged Border Ranges to the south.

3. **Mount Castle lookout**
   960m return (30mins). Grade 3
   Gaze at views over Laidley Valley and the Little Liverpool Range from Mount Castle lookout.

4. **Dalrymple circuit**
   1.2km return (30mins). Grade 3
   Explore the rich history and natural values of the forest on this self-guided signed circuit, ideal for young family groups.

5. **Pioneer Graves track**
   260m return (15mins). Grade 2
   Venture on a short walk from the picnic area to a small cemetery where 13 people are believed to be buried.

6. **Governors Chair lookout**
   300m return (15mins). Grade 3
   Visit Governors Chair, the large rock on the edge of the cliff face, which was reportedly a popular resting spot for early governors of Queensland journeying through Spicers Gap. Look out over Fassifern Valley.

7. **Rainforest circuit**
   1.6km return (25mins). Grade 3
   Pass the Allan Cunningham monument before detouring to Fassifern Valley lookout, offering a spectacular view over distinctive volcanic peaks, Fassifern Valley and Lake Moogerah.

8. **Box Forest track**
   5km return (2hrs). Grade 3
   Pass through rainforest and open forest to arrive at brush box-lined West Gap Creek.
**Mount Barney National Park**

Very experienced bushwalkers can climb sheer rugged mountain peaks to witness awe-inspiring views of craggy ridges and distant ranges.

Rising dramatically above the surrounding grazing and farmlands, mounts Barney, Maroon, May, Ernest, Ballow and Clunie form this hiking mecca. Feel sheltered beneath tall spreading eucalypts and brush box trees on the grassy slopes, rising into subtropical rainforest and wet mallee forest—home of the endangered Coxen’s fig-parrot and vulnerable plumed frogmouth.

For the less adventurous, embark on a more moderate bushwalk along the mountains’ base.

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**Places to go**

1. **Lower Portals track**
   - 7.4km return (3hrs). Grade 3
   - Discover the delights of beautiful rock pools along a gorge on Mount Barney Creek.

2. **Cronan Creek track**
   - 13km return (3hrs). Grade 4
   - Walk along the fire trail past the base of South Ridge into cool green riparian rainforest.

3. **Upper Portals track**
   - 8km return (3hrs). Grade 4
   - Crisscross Yamahra Creek through patches of rainforest, eucalypt and hoop pine forest before refreshing at a cool waterhole.

4. **South Ridge track**
   - 8–10hrs. Grade 5
   - Leaving from Yellow Pinch car park, walk 1hr (3.5km) along Cronan Creek track before starting your long climb to the epic summit of Mount Barney. This climb is arduous and should only be undertaken by very fit and experienced bushwalkers.

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**Cotswold track**

8hrs. Grade 5

In spring, admire spectacular wildflower displays set against the craggy peaks of the Scenic Rim on this challenging summit hike to Mount Maroon.

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**Places to camp**

Remote bush camping

All remote camping sites in Mount Barney National Park can only be reached by foot. Minimal impact camping is encouraged within the park—please, if you pack it in, pack it out. There are no facilities at the camp sites.

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**MUST DOS**

- Challenge yourself and scale Mount Maroon to delight upon spectacular wildflowers on the summit in spring. For experienced climbers only!
- Sit quietly beside crystal-clear Mount Barney Creek at the Lower Portals and scout for tell-tale bubbles of platypus activity breaking on the water’s surface.

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**GETTING THERE**

From Mt Lindesay Highway turn right onto Boonah–Rathdowney Road at Rathdowney and left onto Barney View–Upper Logan Road, following signs to either Lower Portals or Yellow Pinch.

To get to Upper Portals track, turn off the Boonah–Rathdowney Road onto Burnett Creek Road or Newman Road, then turn onto Waterfall Creek Road. A high-clearance 4WD vehicle is required for access beyond Waterfall Creek camp site.

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**SAFETY**

Climbing the peaks of Mount Barney National Park is extremely challenging, with exposed rocky sections, steep cliffs and areas requiring rock scrambling and climbing skills. They should only be attempted by fit and experienced bushwalkers. Clouds on the summit can make navigation challenging. A topographic map, navigational and map reading skills are essential.

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**THINGS TO DO**

- **Wildlife spotting**
  - See kingfishers swoop over rock pools and honeypathers and robins flitting in the trees. Grey kangaroos and red-necked wallabies bound through the foothills.
Explore the mountains, venturing through eucalypt woodland, extremely rare brigalow scrub and dry rainforest laced with hoop pines, vines and slender piccabeen palms. Emerge onto rocky summits with montane heath hugging the craggy outcrops and the wind blowing across your face.

**Things to do**

**Rock climbing**
Crack climbing at its best! Chalk up and scale the sheer rock face of world-famous Frog Buttress on Mount French. This is for experienced climbers only!

**Wildlife spotting**
Be amazed by the acrobatics of Peregrine falcons performing near-vertical dives into the valleys. Colourful finches dart through the grass and goannas cling to the tree trunks around you. Small populations of the rarely-seen black-breasted button-quail live on Mount French.

**Places to go**

1. **North cliff track**
   720m return (15mins). Grade 2
   Walk to Logans lookout for panoramic views over Fassifern Valley, with the Main Range escarpment to the west and Flinders Peak and beyond to the east.

2. **Mee-bor-rum circuit**
   840m return (25mins). Grade 3
   Pass through heathland and delight in views of Tamborine, Lamington, Mount Barney and the southern section of Mount French.

**Places to camp**

1. **Frog Buttress camping area**
   Relax in a small grassy area set in open eucalypt forest close to walking tracks. This spot is often booked by international and local rock climbers during the climbing season (April to September).

2. **Mount French camp sites**
   Two vehicle camp sites are available in the Mount French car park. This spot is often booked by international and local rock climbers during the climbing season (April to September). Toilets, picnic tables and wood barbecues can be found at the picnic area nearby.
Hear the crunch underfoot as you journey along the park’s gravel roads, where twisted eucalypt trees and grasstrees dot the landscape. Named after a prominent volcanic rock outcrop, this park is the most westerly extent of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area.

**Things to do**

**Wildlife spotting**

Be a wildlife detective and look for tracks and oval-shaped scats left by brush-tailed rock-wallabies. Search for the bright red flash of a glossy black-cockatoo’s tail in nearby casuarina trees.

**Walking, horseriding and cycling**

The park’s management roads provide paths for walkers and riders to explore the unique landscape. Swap boots for hooves and ride in the footsteps of early settlers and farmers on the trail to Top Yards and Christies Loop. Cyclists can enjoy a flowing ride along the shared trails, taking in views down to the rainforest gorge.

**Getting there**

Glen Rock State Forest is 40km south of Gatton and located at the southern end of East Haldon Road on Blackfellow Creek. From Gatton–Toowoomba Road at the western edge of Gatton take the Mount Sylvia Road turn-off. Travel south through Tenthill to Junction View. At Junction View State Primary School turn left and follow East Haldon Road to the park.

**Places to camp**

1. **Casuarina camping area**

This open, flat, grassy camping area is close to Blackfellow Creek and is dominated by the dramatic ridgelines of the surrounding valley. Suitable for tent camping, trailers, caravans and camper vans.

**MUST DOS**

- Let your heart melt as the setting sun passes over volcanic outcrops and forested hills before disappearing into the sweeping pastel-brown plains.
- Picnic leisurely by Blackfellow Creek or camp overnight and listen for the storybook ‘whoo-hoo’ hoot of the powerful owl.

**GLEN ROCK STATE FOREST**

Explore open woodlands, rocky escarpments and rainforest in this beautiful park nestled in Tenthill Valley near Gatton.

Hear the crunch underfoot as you journey along the park’s gravel roads, where twisted eucalypt trees and grasstrees dot the landscape. Named after a prominent volcanic rock outcrop, this park is the most westerly extent of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area.

**Places to go**

1. **Christies loop**

5.2km return

Climb this steep and rocky trail to admire views over Blackfellow Creek Valley and the signature red rock outcrop that is Glen Rock.

2. **Blackfellow Creek trail**

16km return

Follow the creek from the fertile, alluvial flats to the headwaters of Blackfellow Creek, ending at the historic Top Yards.
Camping

It’s best to book well in advance as camp sites in popular parks are in great demand during peak periods such as long weekends and school holidays.

Book your camp sites and purchase your camping permits online at qld.gov.au/camping

Packing Checklist

- Adequate drinking water, food and emergency supplies.
- Complete first-aid kit. Include sun and insect protection.
- Detailed map showing travel routes and distances.
- Reliable camping gear in good working order.
- Sturdy rubbish bags and/or sealable, animal-proof containers. No bins are provided.
- Long distance walkers: take a topographic map, compass and personal location beacon (PLB).

Be Safe

- Walk with a group and avoid walking alone.
- Allow plenty of time to reach your planned destination before dark.
- Stay on formed tracks and do not shortcut.
- Treat all water from taps, creeks and lakes. Boil water for 10mins or use sterilisation tablets.
- Wear sturdy boots, protective clothing and insect repellent to avoid bites, scratches and stings.
- Stay well back from cliff edges and waterfalls.
- Never dive or jump into creeks, waterholes or lakes.
- Remember mobile phone coverage is limited in most parks away from the coast. Inform family or friends of your planned itinerary.

Be Responsible

- Rubbish—pack it in, pack it out. All rubbish (including food scraps, cigarette butts and sanitary and hygiene items) must be carried out.
- Where permitted, light campfires only within existing fire rings.
- Avoid the spread of weeds by checking clothing and equipment regularly for seeds. Wash boots at pathogen control stations where available to stop the spread of dangerous fungi.
- Be frog-friendly—please do not disturb, handle or remove frogs, their eggs or tadpoles.
- Leave your pets at home.
- Please don’t feed wildlife.
- Wash away from streams, gullies and watercourses, minimising use of soap and detergent.
- Where toilets are not provided, bury all faecal waste and toilet paper 15cm deep and at least 100m from waterways, tracks and camp sites.

Your Safety

In high fire danger conditions, walking tracks and other areas may be closed. In the case of a bushfire or any illegal activity, please phone emergency services Triple zero (000) or 112 from your mobile phone as soon as possible.
Useful contacts

Emergencies:
Dial Triple Zero (000) or 112 from your mobile phone.

Road conditions:
Visit the Department of Transport and Main Roads at 131940.qld.gov.au or phone 13 19 40.

Tourism information:
Gold Coast Tourism
visitgoldcoast.com
Scenic Rim Regional Council
visitscenicrim.com.au
tourism@scenicrim.qld.gov.au