



The fantastic Gold Coast

The Gold Coast is an iconic Australian holiday destination that offers fun, relaxation and adrenaline charged activity across more than 70 kilometres of pristine coastline and 100 000 hectares of World Heritage listed rainforest.

Within this area lies some of the world's best beaches, historic mountain towns and villages, plus of course a party atmosphere second to none. For backpackers especially, there is an abundance of learn to surf schools, nightlife options and a comprehensive catalogue of year-round events and activities that will ensure your visit is a memorable one.

As an industry rich environment the Gold Coast also has ongoing employment opportunities available in the hospitality and trade professions, which make the destination even more appealing.

Beenleigh to the north still embodies the rustic charm of an Australian country town, and is home to Queensland's first Aboriginal Museum, The Yugambah Museum – Language and Heritage Research Centre.

A few minutes to the east you will discover one of Australia's most unique ecological creations, South Stradbroke Island. It offers visitors the opportunity to experience the area with minimal human intervention and celebrate its natural beauty in the comfort of two resorts, Couran Cove Island Resort and South Stradbroke Island Resort. A quick trip further south uncovers new worlds of entertainment. All located within minutes of each other Dreamworld, WhiteWater World, Warner Bros. Movie World, Wet 'n' Wild Water World and the Australian Outback Spectacular will allow you to discover why the Gold Coast is renowned as Australia's theme park capital.

The Broadwater provides a protected playground for visitors enjoying every watersport from high speed jetboating, parasailing and jet skiing to fishing, guided tours and cruises.



Broadbeach

Surfers Paradise is the playful heart of this iconic Australian city, boasting a remarkable stretch of golden sand, renowned surf and a soaring city skyline, this unique suburb also affords world-class shopping and an exciting year-round event calendar. Surfers invites exploration. Its streets are filled with hundred of restaurants, bars, nightclubs, duty free stores, day spas, art and image galleries, fashion houses, jewellery boutiques and entertainment for all ages.

A little further south the streets and boulevards of Broadbeach have created the Gold Coast's new cosmopolitan hub and is home to many of the Gold Coast's hottest dining and nightlife establishments. Complemented by unique alfresco settings, trendy shopping boutiques, beach-side accommodation and an excellent stretch of white, sandy beach, Broadbeach is one of Queensland's most abundant shopping destinations and is the location of Pacific Fair Shopping Centre, a notable precinct of more than 300 department and speciality stores. This area's distinctive style and vibrant cosmopolitan feel is further distinguished by landmark entertainment venues including Conrad Jupiters Casino and the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre that host local and international touring shows, events and acts.

The Southern Gold Coast enjoys many of the region's best kept secrets in the form of tranquil environments, safe beaches with excellent swimming and surfing conditions. Its southern location affords each beach majestic sweeping views of the coast and Surfers Paradise's cityscape skyline.

The Southern Gold Coast is also home to the Gold Coast Airport, located a short five minute drive from Coolangatta. Australia's number one low cost international airport, the Gold Coast Airport has five airlines operating to a large number of domestic and international destinations, including major Australian and New Zealand cities such as Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

To the west of the coastal strip lies a lush bush and hinterland region that offers backpackers an alternative to the sand and surf in the form of a collection of uniquely Australian villages nestled into hectares of ancient forests and national parks.

While there is an abundance of natural attractions including 100,000 hectares of World Heritage listed reserves and hundreds of kilometres of walking tracks, the many charming villages located amongst the natural beauty make the region a truly accessible experience.

Tamborine Mountain towers over three heritage communities, Mount Tamborine, North Tamborine and Eagle Heights. At the centre of the villages lies the Tamborine Mountain National Park and its Gallery Walk, a unique stretch of galleries, restaurants and antique and craft stores.

Above all, the Gold Coast presents a safe and fun destination where backpackers can freely explore and experience the very best that Australia has to offer.

Stay awhile & see Surfers

Surf 'n' Sun Beachside Backpackers

'The epitome of Surfers Paradise wrapped up in one big bundle of Backpacker Heaven. With an emphasis on fun and frivolity and staff that love to party, it's no wonder that rooms here get booked up well in advance' - *Lonely Planet 2008.*

Beachside Location and a five minute walk to Surfers Paradise, what more could you want! Surf 'n' Sun offers 6 bed dorms, all with ensuite bathrooms, fans and TV's. Double rooms are available too. Facilities include: Large, modern fully equip kitchen, laundry, Internet access, swimming pool and a rec room with a huge Flat screen TV. There is also a seven-night entertainment plan to make sure you never have a dull moment in our fantastic town. Get discount theme park tickets from our tour desk as well as expert advice on how to spend your days in Surfers Paradise.

Islander Backpackers Resort

Islander Backpackers Resort is located smack bang in the heart of Surfers Paradise on Queensland's Gold Coast, a must-see destination as you travel along the Queensland coast. This is a unique city of exciting contrast – from amazing beaches to happening nightlife, world heritage listed rainforests and hair raising theme park thrills.

Islander Backpackers is the closest hostel to everything you could want in Surfers Paradise -located right next door to the bus station, one block to the beach and only a short walk to shops, pubs, cafes, nightlife and public transport.

The hostel is located on the same property as the Islander Resort Hotel, so you get to use the resort facilities for FREE! A tropical pool, spa, steam room, tennis court, squash court and barbecue area – all for you to use at your leisure. Also onsite is a bottle shop, laundry, common room, kitchen, two internet cafes, car and bike hire, tour bookings, 24 hour reception and DVD library to make you feel right at home.

The rooms are clean and comfortable with an awesome view of the pool. They offer four, five and six share dorm rooms as well as twin/double rooms. All rooms are well equipped with an ensuite bathroom, private lockers, bar fridge, television and balcony.

Islander Backpackers is in a fantastic location to take advantage of all there is to do on the Gold Coast. The tour desk can arrange all of your touring needs, or if you prefer, simply spend your days lazing by the pool or on the beach ... after all, this is Surfers Paradise.

Surf n Sun Beachside Backpackers

THE ONLY HOSTEL ACROSS FROM THE BEACH!

"The epitome of Surfers Paradise... one big bundle of Backpacker Heaven... an emphasis on fun and frivolity and staff that love to party!"
Lonely Planet 2008

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- All with Ensuities and TV's

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Gold Coast to come alive to



The 2009 Nitro SuperGP on the streets of Queensland's Gold Coast will bring together the stars of the world cup of motorsport with the names of Australia's home grown v8s for four days and nights of high-octane action, October 22-25.

One of Australia's premier annual events, the SuperGP is expected to attract more than 300,000 over the four days and will feature for the first time in 2009 the A1GP World Cup of Motorsport alongside Australia's V8 Supercar Championship Series as co-headline acts.

At speeds of over 300 kilometers per hour, those trackside will see some of the finest cars and drivers race around the 4.47km track with the world's greatest coastline and high rise skyline as the backdrop, while Australian Defence Force aircraft soar overhead, sporting and entertainment celebrities come out to play, the crowd soaks up with the weather and atmosphere, bands rock the stage, and the whole Gold Coast comes alive.

The SuperGP is regarded as one of the 'crown jewel' motorsport events worldwide and one of the most popular sporting and entertainment events in Australia each year.

The annual four days and four nights in October, this year being staged for the 19th time, has also developed another peak period for Queensland's tourism industry injecting more than \$60 million into the local economy and claiming six Queensland Tourism Awards for the category Major Festivals and Special Events (1999, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2005, 2006) to its name, being inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002.

While the stars of the show are the V8 Supercars and A1GP Ferraris – with round 11 of the V8 Supercar Championship Series and the first round of the 2009/2010 season of the A1GP set to hit the track – there is also an exciting support racing program and a non-stop flow of entertainment both on and off the track scheduled.

A tilt of the head skywards will also captivate patrons as the Sea FM Air Show produces amazing aerobatics featuring Australian Defence



Force flying machines over the four days. Whether it is the F-111 Dump 'n' Burn, the Roulettes or Navy and Army Helicopters, fans will be spellbound by the sight and sound of these awesome aircraft.

And yet there is more for spectators on track aside from the cars, stunts and planes. Miss SuperGP girls feature prominently over the entire week, while there is an enormous range of merchandise, and food and drink outlets and the chance to get up close and personal with drivers and celebrities, while spectators can go on Pit Walk Tours at regular intervals and enjoy the entertainment and autograph sessions on the Sea FM Stage.

While so much action is happening on the track, it is the activity off track throughout the Gold Coast area that has enabled the SuperGP to rival the Melbourne Cup as an event which can engage a whole city.

Annually a huge and diverse listing of Official Off Track Events combine to make the SuperGP a carnival of entertainment with something for



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everyone. Family days, street parades, car exhibits, sport's modeling, extreme sports, beach events, cocktail parties, driver functions, singing and dancing competitions, gala balls and nightclub parties are some of the activities that traditionally feature.

SuperGP Chairman, the Honourable Terry Mackenroth said the SuperGP is a carnival of entertainment that captivates the entire Gold Coast and showcases its beauty, beaches, and value as both a holiday and commercial destination to the world.

“The SuperGP is a truly amazing event that people from the Gold Coast to all points on the globe recognise, love and appreciate,” said Mackenroth.

“It all comes down to experiencing the SuperGP. We find that one of the reasons why the event continues to prosper is because people come, taste the action and atmosphere, have a great time, and make it an annual pilgrimage.

“The atmosphere on the Gold Coast is phenomenal during event week. In one of the most picturesque holiday destinations in the world, a busy commercial and residential area is transformed into a bustling entertainment zone featuring high speed motor racing, amazing aerial acrobatics, a multitude of functions and parties celebrated by hundreds of thousands of fans.”

While popular with racefans the SuperGP is one of the most popular events for the corporate world as well with more than 350 national and international companies annually securing corporate hospitality packages in the 160 corporate facilities on offer around the circuit.

With more than 6000 corporate guests attending each day over the Event (more than 24,000 over the four days), more than 26,500 corporate meals are provided over the four days of the Event, with more than 650 trained casual staff employed in the production and delivery of the meals which included 39,750 bread rolls; 7,850kg of mixed



salad; 550kg of cheese; 9,000 pieces of sushi; and 8,500 desserts. The seafood and meat menu included 35,000 peeled prawns; 8,000 oysters; 400kg of fresh salmon; 8,500 chicken tenders and 5,500 beef medallions. The fruit platters included 1,300 punnets of strawberries; 500 rockmelon; 2,000 apples; 3,000 bananas; and 150kg of grapes. To wash all this down guests were supplied with 65,000 bottles of soft drink supplied by Coca Cola; 98,000 cans of beer provided by Fosters; 5,000 bottles of Berringer Blass wines with these drinks chilled by no less than 16 tonnes of ice cubes.

For those wishing to soak up the atmosphere, there are a wide range of ticketing options to suit every need from general admission four day passes and single day passes to a wide array of grandstand options, which can be purchased through Ticketek, www.supergp.com or at the gate with or without on-track accommodation, and once you have your ticket in hand – you can ride free to the event on Queensland Rail and Surfside Buses.

The Event's official website – www.supergp.com – is the place to watch for more information on travel packages, holiday options, ticket prices and corporate information as the 2009 SuperGP approaches.



best picks

Greyhound's top 4 Traveller Passes

Greyhound's traveller passes are similar to the Mini Traveller, the only difference is passengers have six months to complete their travel. Passengers can hop on and off as much as you like between two destinations in one direction. You can start travel at either end and check out all of the places you want to with ease.

- Cairns to Brisbane**
Travel: Cairns-Brisbane or Brisbane-Cairns.
ADULT \$326 CONC \$293
- Cairns to Melbourne**
Travel: Cairns-Melbourne or Melbourne-Cairns.
ADULT \$445 CONC \$401
- Cairns to Sydney**
Travel: Cairns-Sydney or Sydney-Cairns.
ADULT \$390 CONC \$351
- Sydney to Adelaide**
Travel: Sydney-Adelaide or Adelaide-Sydney.
ADULT \$170 CONC \$153

Greyhound's top 5 Mini Traveller Passes

Greyhound's popular mini traveller passes are an ideal way to travel areas of Australia. Available for 45 days travel these passes let you hop on and off as much as you like between two destinations in one direction. You can start travel at either end and check out all of the places you want to with ease.

- Cairns to Sydney**
Travel: Cairns-Sydney or Sydney-Cairns.
ADULT \$357 CONC \$321
- Cairns to Brisbane**
Travel: Cairns-Brisbane or Brisbane-Cairns.
ADULT \$295 CONC \$265
- Cairns to Melbourne**
Travel: Cairns-Melbourne or Melbourne-Cairns.
ADULT \$404 CONC \$364
- Cairns to Byron Bay**
Travel: Cairns-Byron Bay or Byron Bay-Cairns.
ADULT \$307 CONC \$276
- Airlie Beach to Sydney**
Travel: Airlie Beach-Sydney or Sydney-Airlie Beach.
ADULT \$307 CONC \$279

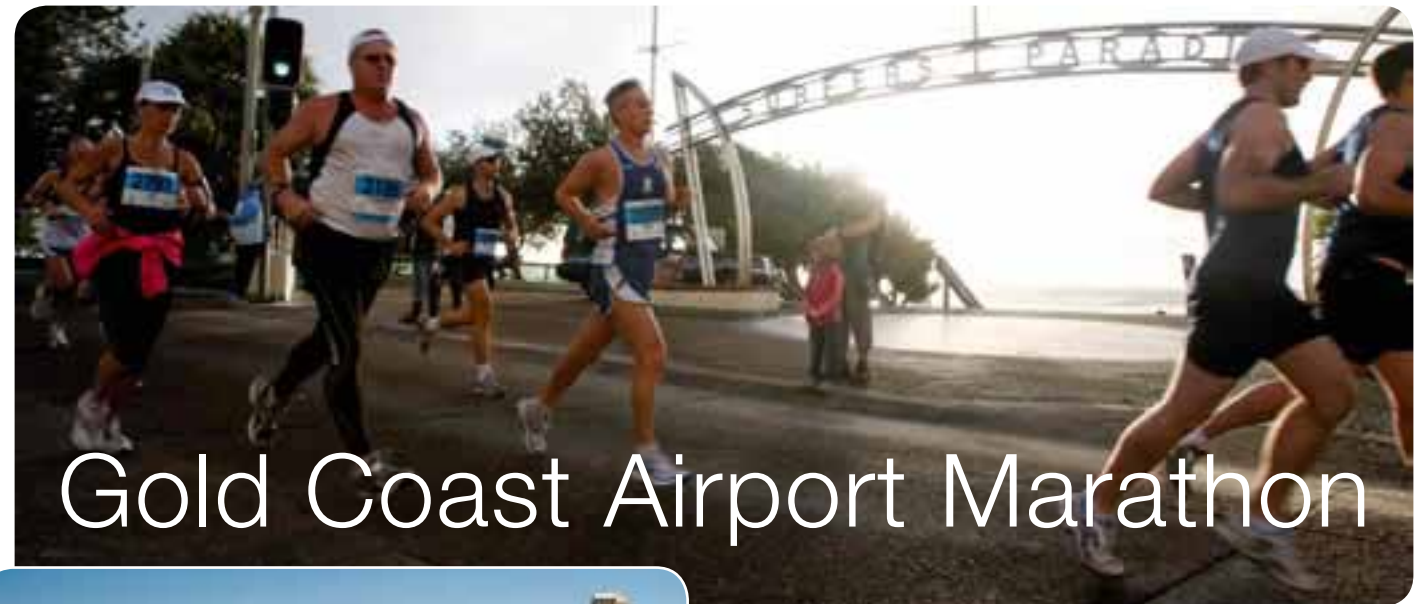
All passes valid 45 days from first day of travel. Must commence travel within 12 months from day of purchase.

new picks

Greyhound's newest Mini Traveller Passes

Greyhound has been busy introducing new routes for passengers. These new passes are designed to give more choice for travel between the most popular destinations in Australia. Mini Traveller passes pick the best bits for travellers to see in shorter timeframes.

- Cairns to Alice Springs**
Travel: Cairns-Alice Springs or Alice Springs-Cairns.
ADULT \$306 CONC \$275
- Cairns to Darwin**
Travel: Cairns-Darwin or Darwin-Cairns.
ADULT \$321 CONC \$289
- Darwin to Broome**
Travel: Darwin-Broome or Broome-Darwin.
ADULT \$306 CONC \$275



Gold Coast Airport Marathon



"With our significant growth in participant numbers over recent years, moving the expo and registration centre offsite will free up much space for additional race day infrastructure and reduce traffic congestion around our race precinct in the days leading into the event.

"It also enables greater visitation to the Asics Sport & Leisure Expo by the wider community to check out the latest in fitness and sporting products and services."

Following the success of the 2008 event, a number of initiatives launched last year will also continue including 5km split times for the marathon and a webcast, both live on the official website www.goldcoastmarathon.com.au.

The 31st annual Gold Coast Airport Marathon to be held on Sunday 5 July will feature a new segment to its waterfront course, a brand new race on its program and a new home for the Asics Sport & Leisure Expo and Registration Centre.

Queensland Events Gold Coast General Manager Cameron Hart said these changes will add additional appeal for participants and the community as well as streamlining the operation and management of the event. The full 42.195km Gold Coast Airport Marathon course which starts at the Southport Broadwater Parklands will this year stretch all the way to a southern turnaround point at Burleigh Heads, rather than the previous turnaround at Miami.

"This will add another scenic and flat section to the course at the southern end taking in one of the most beautiful and well known beaches in the world, Burleigh Heads," said Hart.

A new 5km event to be called the Gold Coast Bulletin 5km Challenge has been added to the program for both runners and walkers, replacing the previous 7.5km Walk. This will be a great introduction for those runners who may not feel ready to tackle a 10km race.

"The new event will allow a runner to start with the 5km this year and then 'Embrace the Next Step' to a longer distance next year.

"The 5km is also a good distance for the walkers, many of whom are participating for the health and fitness benefits as well as to enjoy the atmosphere of the Gold Coast Airport Marathon with friends or colleagues," said Hart.

The Event Registration Centre and Asics Sport & Leisure Expo will this year be located at the Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre at Broadbeach from Thursday 2 to Saturday 4 July, moving from its previous temporary facility in the Start and Finish Precinct at the Southport Broadwater Parklands.

"The move to a permanent convention and exhibition centre will enhance the standard of our expo and registration centre," said Hart.

This year's race start times on Sunday 5 July are as follows:

- 6.15am Wheelchair Half Marathon
- 6.20am Asics Half Marathon
- 6.45am Southern Cross University 10km Run
- 7.30am Gold Coast Airport Marathon
- 8.25am Gold Coast Bulletin 5km Challenge
- 10.00am 2.25km Junior Dash
- 10.30am 4km Junior Dash

The full Gold Coast Airport Marathon will have a cut-off time of 6 hours 30 minutes this year ensuring all races have concluded by 2.00pm.

For further information including entry fees visit www.goldcoastmarathon.com.au. Entries will open for this year's Gold Coast Airport Marathon on Tuesday 14 April via the website www.goldcoastmarathon.com.au.

