

EXPERIENCE BRISBANE

Local Connections in the Bigger Picture

Brisbane's wider surrounds teem with their own cultures, cuisine, festivals and landscapes. Put your finger on the pulse of Brisbane's bigger picture and spend a day outside the urban environment in and around Moreton Bay. Want to stick close to the city? Then take a cruise, or guided tour to see the city beyond the brochures.

HALF-DAY ITINERARIES

- 1. River City Cruises** (☎0428 278 472 📄 rivercitycruises.com.au) Sit back and enjoy the ride. Jump aboard the *MV Neptune* for a morning or afternoon cruise along the Brisbane River and take in the historical commentary with a dose of sun on the deck.
- 2. Brisbane Cruises** (☎07 3630 2666 📄 brisbanecruises.com.au) Tour Moreton Bay's crystalline waters in a high-speed catamaran, a stately cruiser with varnished timber decks, or a luxury yacht. Chart a morning-course south or a night course north to historic St Helena Island.
- 3. Dinner cruise on the Brisbane River** (☎07 3221 1300 📄 kookaburrriverqueens.com) Coasting up and down the river is a great way to see Brisbane's majestic peaks and troughs. Opt for an evening cruise on a restored wooden paddle steamer and enjoy the city lights with dinner and drinks.
- 4. Brisbane Lights Tours** (☎07 3822 6028 📄 brisbanelightstours.com) Brisbane's skyline glimmers once the sun goes down – see the best of it on a tour. Dine on inner-city Mod-Oz cuisine, take in stunning lookouts and hop aboard a river cruise all in one night.

FULL-DAY ITINERARIES

- 5. Wynnum/Manly** (Brisbane's Bayside ☎07 3348 3524 📄 moretonbayislands.com.au) These sister suburbs, wedged between Brisbane and Moreton Bay, are well-known for seafood, sailing adventures and the glorious Manly Harbour. Stroll or cycle around the marina, lunch on Moreton Bay Bugs and be back in Brisbane for dinner.
- 6. Redcliffe** (☎1800 659 500 📄 moretonbayislands.com.au) Head 35km north of Brisbane's CBD and you'll reach the pretty peninsula village of Redcliffe. Brisbanites head here on weekends for a quick dip at Suttons Beach, for fabulous fish and chips, or to cast a line off the Redcliffe Jetty.
- 7. Coochiemudlo Island** (Redlands Shire ☎07 1300 667 386 📄 moretonbayislands.com.au) Just south of Brisbane, this tranquil little island boasts 4km of soft beaches, mangrove forests and rust-red terrain. Constant fairs, exhibitions and markets make it the perfect getaway for new-age refugees in need of a gentle culture boost.

Delve a Little Deeper

Skip the tourist trail and see what Brisbanites really get up to on a lazy Sunday afternoon. Invest in home-grown designer duds, or spend an afternoon hopping through neighbourhood markets. For the best of the city's local flair plant yourself in Fortitude Valley, New Farm, Kangaroo Point and Bulimba and mix and match these suggestions for a morning, afternoon or evening with the locals.

AM - MORNING ITINERARIES

- 8. Craft Queensland** (Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley ☎07 3215 0800 📄 craftqld.com.au) Set in the Valley – Brisbane's artistic and design core – this innovative space beckons artists and curators from around the globe. Exhibits here transcend aesthetics and set the grey matter pondering issues such as commercialising creativity.
- 9. Explore an urban village** (Bulimba 📄 experiencebrisbane.com) A short *CityCat* ride from Brisbane's city centre is the very beautiful urban village of Bulimba. Stroll down the main drag of Oxford St and spend time in renowned Riverbend Books, the heritage-listed Balmoral Cineplex, Oxford 152 or popular pizza haunt Pancho's.
- 10. Yum Cha** (Chinatown, Fortitude Valley 📄 experiencebrisbane.com) Brisbane's compact and colourful Chinatown is the best spot in town for brunch... well, yum cha, that is. Vietnamese, Thai and Malaysian restaurants also reside here, so you can also tuck into your rice-paper rolls for breakfast, lunch or dinner.

PM - AFTERNOON ITINERARIES

- 11. Gallery hopping** (Fortitude Valley 📄 experiencebrisbane.com) Brisbane is a breeding ground of small and independent galleries and this dynamic suburb is where they converge. Check out Philip Bacon Galleries,

Jan Murphy Gallery, CQgallery, Fusions Gallery, Galloway Galleries and Fire-Works a little further afield in Newstead.

- 12. Merthyr Bowls Club** (Oxlade Dr, New Farm ☎07 3358 1291) Once the domain of wily pensioners, lawn bowls is now the game to play for Brisbanites and a day at the green has never been more social. Organise a group and soak up the sunshine and river views from this perfectly located club.

PM - EVENING ITINERARIES

- 13. Brisbane Jazz Club** (Annie St, Kangaroo Point ☎07 3391 2006 📄 brisbanejazzclub.com.au) The who's who of jazz have strutted their stuff at Brisbane's best jazz venue for over 35 years. Swing and soul, boogie, horn and contemporary jazz lures devotees on a nightly basis. And the views! Perched on the banks of the Brisbane River, the club has million-dollar waterfront and city vistas.
- 14. The Zoo** (Ann St, Fortitude Valley ☎07 3854 1381 📄 thezoo.com.au) Local musos know the score and so do their fans – The Zoo has been hosting the best indie rock, soulful folk and electronic soundscapes for years. This is your best chance to see raw talent.



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