

MOVING TO THE GOLD COAST



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MOVING TO THE GOLD COAST

We understand that moving to a new country can be an exciting and stressful time. The Bond University Human Resources Department has collated information that aims to make your transition to the Gold Coast as seamless and informed as possible.

To find out where your nearest Consulate is in Australia, please [click here](#).

PROFILE OF THE GOLD COAST

Time Zone: AEST - Australian Eastern Standard Time
(UTC+10)

Located approximately 90 kilometers SSE of Brisbane, the Gold Coast is the sixth largest and one of the fastest growing cities in Australia. Its current population is 576,918. This is expected to continue to grow by 13,000 to 16,000 people per year, so that by 2026 City of Gold Coast will be home to more than 730,000 residents. Gold Coast City has been identified as one of the most desirable places in the world to live ranked on political, social, economic and environmental factors, personal safety and health.

Stretching along 57 kilometres of stunning coastline, the City of the Gold Coast is best known for its surf, sand and sunshine, bordered by its lush hinterland. The tourism destination spans Beenleigh and South Stradbroke Island to the north, Cabarita and Kingscliff to the south, west to Beaudesert including World Heritage Listed national parks. Its natural beauty, relaxed lifestyle and ideal location make the Gold Coast one of the most unique cities in which to live and work.

The Gold Coast offers one of the largest choices of themed attractions in the southern hemisphere with interactive experiences and plays host to exciting events, a year-round balmy climate, extensive services and some of Australia's largest shopping centres.

Infrastructure is well established with professional tourism and business services. There are more than 65,000 bed spaces, more than 40 resort and championship golf courses, around 500 restaurants and major convention and exhibition venues.

WEATHER

The Gold Coast has a comfortable subtropical climate ideal for outdoor enjoyment all year round. The city averages 245 days of fine and sunny weather each year with an average rainfall of about 1,400mm annually, the majority of which falls in the summer period (December - February). Daytime temperatures on the coast are generally in the mid 20°C.

Temperature	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	28.6	28.5	27.7	25.7	23.4	21.3	21.1	21.8	23.8	25.2	26.6	27.7	25.1
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	21.8	21.8	20.7	18.3	15.3	13.1	12.0	12.4	14.8	16.9	18.9	20.4	17.2

HEALTH CARE AND HOSPITALS (DIAL 000 FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES)

If you are from a country with a reciprocal health care agreement to Australia, you may be eligible to access Medicare. For further information you should refer to the Medicare Australia website. ([Medicare Australia - Visitors to Australia](#))

There are two public hospitals and three private hospitals on the Gold Coast. Information about these facilities can be accessed via the links below.

- [Gold Coast University Hospital - Southport \(Public\)](#)
- [Robina Hospital - Robina \(Public\)](#)
- [John Flynn Private Hospital - Tugun](#)
- [Pindara Private Hospital - Benowa](#)
- [Gold Coast Private Hospital - Southport](#)

In some instances, it is a condition of employment that you obtain private health insurance and be able to evidence currency of this upon commencement within the role or as requested.

GOLD COAST PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Below is a list of the 2018 public holidays on the Gold Coast. Some public holidays will result in retail outlets, services, attractions and restaurants being closed.

Holiday	Date	Holiday Type	Area
New Year's Day	Monday, 1 January, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Australia Day	Friday, 26 January, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Good Friday	Friday, 30 March, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Easter Saturday	Saturday, 31 March, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Easter Sunday	Sunday, 1 April, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Easter Monday	Monday, 2 April, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Anzac Day	Wednesday, 25 April, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Labour Day	Monday, 7 May, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Gold Coast Show Holiday	Friday, 31 August, 2018	Public	Gold Coast only
Queen's Birthday	Monday, 1 October, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Christmas Day	Tuesday, 25 December, 2018	Public	QLD Wide
Boxing Day	Wednesday, 26 December, 2018	Public	QLD Wide

FINDING A PLACE TO LIVE

The most common websites to use when searching for available rental accommodation or purchasing real estate are [realestate.com.au](#) and [domain.com.au](#).

When renting, be aware that generally four weeks deposit is required at the time of signing a rental agreement. Rental agreements are usually between six and 12 months in length. More information about renting can be found via the Rental Tenancies Authority [rta.qld.gov.au](#).

LOCAL SHORT TERM ACCOMMODATION

The Chancellor Apartments are located in Varsity Lakes and are a five minute walk from Bond University and five minutes' drive from Robina Town Centre. For further details please visit [thechancellor.com.au](#).

The Gold Coast City Council is the governing body that provides community services, facilities, maintenance and waste disposal for the city. To access comprehensive information from the council's website, [click here](#).



FINDING SCHOOLS FOR YOUR CHILDREN

My School is a website that enables you to search detailed profiles of Australian schools simply by entering a school's name, suburb or postcode.

On this site, you can quickly find statistical information about schools of interest to you and then compare their resources and performance with similar schools across the country.

2018 QUEENSLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL TERMS

Term	Dates	Length
Term 1	Monday 22 January - Thursday 29 March	10 weeks
Term 2	Tuesday 17 April - Friday 29 June	11 weeks
Term 3	Monday 16 July - Friday 21 September	10 weeks
Term 4	Monday 8 October - Friday 14 December	10 weeks

*Please note that private and independent schools may have varying terms, it is recommended that you check directly with the school.

FINDING CHILD CARE FOR YOUR CHILDREN

The [mychild.gov.au](#) website is Australia's online child care portal. On this website you will find information on different types of child care and how to get assistance with the cost of child care. You can also search a database to find child care centres in your local area. In many cases, you will also be able to find the services' vacancy and fee information.

Goodstart Early Learning offer discounted child care rates for eligible employees at Bond University. Enquiries can be directed to corporate.enrolments@goodstart.org.au or by calling 1800 816 208. More information can be found [here](#).

AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE

Before you start work, or soon after, you may need to obtain a tax file number (TFN). The tax you pay will include income tax, which is charged on income you receive. To avoid being over taxed, we recommend that you apply for a TFN. Information regarding how to apply for a TFN is found [here](#). The Financial Year in Australia runs from 1 July – 30 June.

At the end of the income year (30 June), most people need to lodge an annual tax return.

SUPERANNUATION

Superannuation in Australia refers to the arrangements which people make in Australia to have funds available for them in retirement and is compulsory for Bond University to pay into a nominated fund. In your employment pack, you will find information pertaining to superannuation. More information can be found [here](#).

Please note that we are unable and are not authorised to provide advice regarding taxation and superannuation.

GETTING AROUND ON THE GOLD COAST

Public transport is available on the Gold Coast via trains, buses and the light rail system. The preferred and most economical method of payment is via a Go Card (cashless system). These cards can be purchased online or via some news agencies and train stations.

You can plan your journey here or at the websites below:
[Translink](#)
[Lightrail - G:Link](#)
[GC Cabs](#)
[Uber](#)

Toll Roads - Some roads in Queensland and Australia have tolls payable. Information pertaining to tolls and how they can be paid are found [here](#).



ROAD SAFETY

Please familiarise yourself with the following road safety rules for drivers and pedestrians in Australia:

- Drivers must always keep to the left hand side of the road.
- Pedestrians should always look right first before crossing a road.
- Seat belts and child restraints must be worn by all vehicle occupants.
- Always carry a copy of your driver's licence in English.
- Do not drive faster than the speed limit signs allow, and drive slower in rain or fog.
- Drinking alcohol and then driving is not permitted. For experienced drivers the blood alcohol level is 0.05. Provisional drivers and young drivers cannot have any alcohol before driving.
- Fatigue causes many crashes in Australia. When driving long distances, stop and rest every two hours.

Further information relating to Road Safety and Licensing can be found at tmr.qld.gov.au.

BEACH SAFETY

- Protect yourself from the sun: Always wear a hat, sunglasses, a shirt and SPF 30+ sunscreen and drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- Smoking and drinking alcohol is not allowed on the beach.
- Never leave your valuables unattended.
- Only swim between the red and yellow flags.
- Never swim where you see the 'Dangerous Current' sign or when the beach is closed.
- If in trouble, raise one arm to attract the lifeguard's attention.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

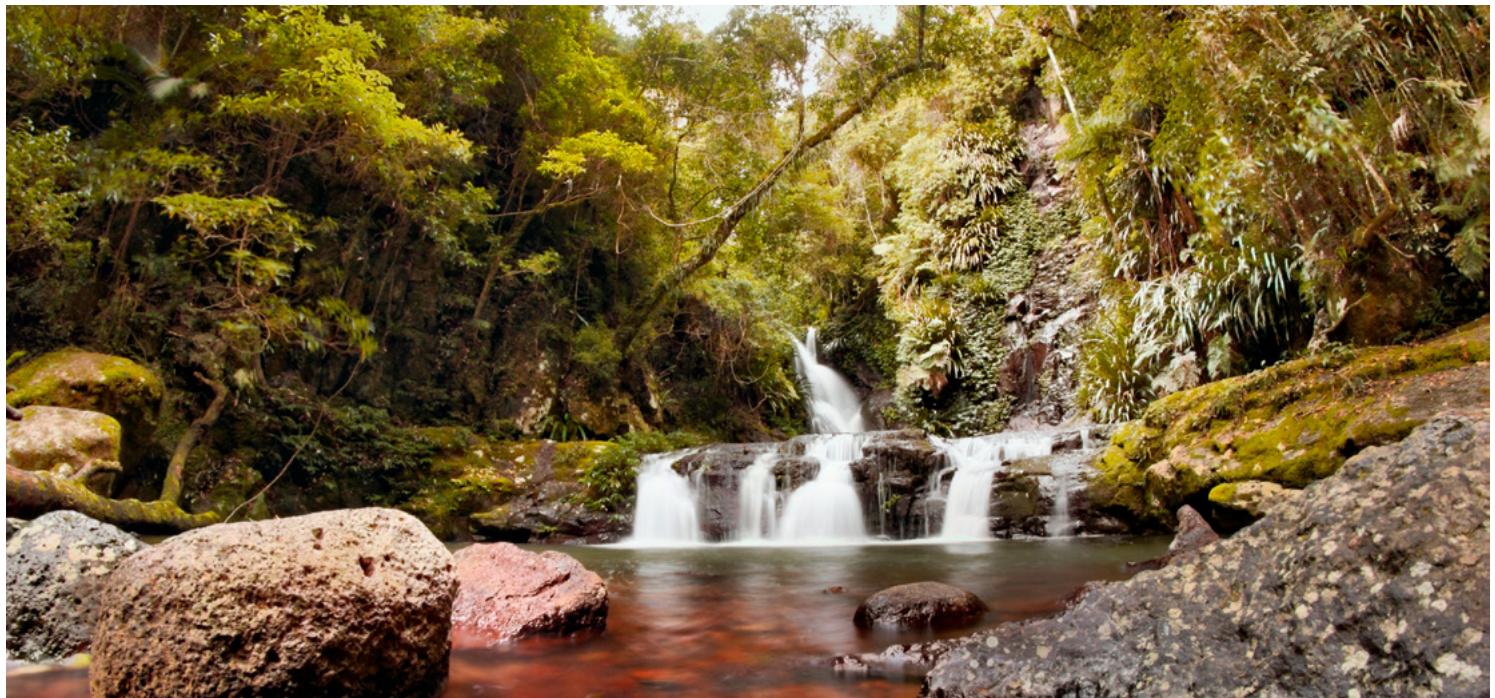
A comprehensive guide of places of worship and religion for the Gold Coast can be found [here](#).

ABOUT THE GOLD COAST - THINGS TO DO AND SEE

The Gold Coast is home to five theme parks (Dreamworld, WhiteWater World, Warner Bros. Movie World, Wet'n'Wild and Sea World). More information can be found [here](#).

The Gold Coast is one of the largest tourist hubs in Australia, a comprehensive list of 'things to do' can be accessed [here](#).

The Gold Coast City Council provides an update list of activities and events. This information can be accessed [here](#). With more than 1,000 pages of content, attachments and quick links, the website aims to provide information for everyone, with a focus on the needs of the 'three pillars' of our community - residents, visitors and businesses.



HELPFUL WEBSITES

IMMIGRATING TO THE GOLD COAST INFORMATION
<https://protocol.dfat.gov.au/Public/Display>

HEALTH CARE AND HOSPITALS (DIAL 000 FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES)
humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/medicare/medicare-card?utm_id=9
www.goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au/hospitals-and-centres/gold-coast-university-hospital
www.goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au/hospitals-and-centres/robina-hospital
johnflynnprivate.com.au
pindaraprivate.com.au
goldcoastprivatehospital.com.au

FINDING A PLACE TO LIVE
realestate.com.au
domain.com.au
rta.qld.gov.au

FINDING SCHOOLS FOR YOUR CHILDREN
myschool.edu.au

FINDING CHILD CARE FOR YOUR CHILDREN
mychild.gov.au

AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE
ato.gov.au/Individuals/Tax-file-number/

SUPERANNUATION
ato.gov.au/Individuals/Super/

GETTING AROUND ON THE GOLD COAST
queenslandrail.com.au
surfside.com.au
translink.com.au
gccabs.com.au
uber.com/en-AU/cities/gold-coast/

ROAD SAFETY
tmr.qld.gov.au

PLACES OF WORSHIP
goldcoastaustralia.com/gold-coast-religion

ABOUT THE GOLD COAST - THINGS TO DO AND SEE
goldcoast-themeparks.com.au
visitgoldcoast.com/things-to-do
www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/thegoldcoast/parks-facilities-140.html

Human Resources

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The information published in this document is correct at the time of printing (December 2017). However, all programs are subject to review by the Academic Senate of the University and the University reserves the right to change its program offerings and subjects without notice. The information published in this document is intended as a guide and persons considering an offer of enrolment should contact the relevant Faculty or Institute to see if any changes have been made before deciding to accept their offer.