

THE LEGENDARY PACIFIC COAST GO COASTAL



7-DAY COASTAL ITINERARY

Explore the legendary coastal towns from Sydney to Brisbane that meander along The Legendary Pacific Coast.

WORLD-CLASS SURF BEACHES will tempt you into the azure waters all along the coast. Check out the 'dolphin capital' Port Stephens, then jump into one of the world's best dive spots in the Macleay Valley.

INTIMATE HIDEAWAYS perfect for a romantic getaway are dotted throughout the Central Coast's many coves and inlets.

THE FRESHEST SEAFOOD and local produce can be found in any of the small towns along your route. Drop into the markets at Byron Bay or Bellingen for a taste of the local alternative culture.

GET BACK TO NATURE amidst Stockton sand dunes (Worimi Conservation Area), Crowdy Bay National Park or Cape Byron Marine Park.

DAY 1: 74KM / 1¼HR Sydney – Gosford, Central Coast

Just an hour north of Sydney the Central Coast embraces 30 surf beaches and intimate hideaways tucked in small beaches and coves. One such hideaway is Bells at Killcare Boutique Hotel Restaurant and Spa; a luxurious alternative with fine food by leading Italian chef, Stefano Manfredi. Popular family accommodation includes Toowoona Bay, Ocean Beach or Norah Head Holiday Park. Each offering easy access to bushwalking, fishing, water sports and a profusion of wildlife. The cosmopolitan resort town of Terrigal is home to the beachside Country Comfort Hotel. Don't forget to check out the legendary Norah Head Lighthouse! Other popular seaside villages include Avoca Beach, Pearl Beach, Ettalong and The Entrance – all with a wide choice of accommodation, dining, shopping, fishing and water sports.

DAY 2: 144KM/2HR Central Coast – Port Stephens

On the way to Port Stephens take time to explore Lake Macquarie (four times the size of Sydney Harbour!) Take the scenic route via Merewether Beach, swing by the array of restaurants on Newcastle's Honeysuckle foreshore, then stop over at The Gateway Inn, Newcastle, located 10 minutes from the heart of the city. Alternatively, travel to Port Stephens, often described as a blue-water paradise and Australia's 'dolphin capital'. Its sapphire waters are home to more than 160 bottlenose dolphins that thrive in the large, scenic bay. Tamboi Queen Cruises, the longest-running cruise operator in the port, knows every inch of the bay for fishing, whale and dolphin watching.

Adventure seekers can quad bike or 4WD through Stockton Beach sand dunes; snorkel or dive Fly Point Marine Park; spot koalas at Tilligerry Creek. Located on a peninsula yet central to the Port, Soldiers Point Holiday Park is the perfect spot for fishing or exploring the shores by kayak. Travel around to Fingal Bay Holiday Park, staying at the popular surfing beach made famous by Tourism Australia's 'Where the Bloody Hell are you?' campaign.

DAY 3: 100KM / 1½HR Port Stephens – Great Lakes

The Great Lakes takes great pride in the natural beauty of its beaches and intricate lake systems. Stretching from the Myall Coast in the south, through to Tea Gardens, Hawks Nest, Seal Rocks and the Myall Lakes National Park – home to one of the largest coastal lake systems in Australia. Further north is Pacific Palms amidst Booti Booti National

Park and best known with its fabled Boomerang, Elizabeth and Bluey's beaches. Here you will find Bluey's Retreat with its spacious, self-contained, 2 and 3br accommodation, and the award-winning Kingfisher restaurant.

The twin towns of Forster Tuncurry are nestled where the Wallis Lake meets the ocean. This region's clear waterways, lakes fringed with paperbark trees, long beaches and shady camping areas are legendary favourites among generations of travellers.

DAY 4: 111KM/1½HR Great Lakes – Port Macquarie

Port Macquarie is a thriving regional centre and holiday magnet midway between Sydney and Brisbane. Its sister towns Wauchope, Laurieton, Kew, Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills are all within a half hour drive of Port's centre; adding to its appeal with more great beaches, sightseeing and attractions and a host of accommodation options. Beachfront Holiday Park lies in the heart of North Haven. On the river in town is award-winning Rydges Port Macquarie. Further up the road is multi-award-winning The Observatory, overlooking Town Beach. Close to Flynn's Beach is Wyndham Vacation Resorts and the Aston Hill Motor Lodge has a quiet residential location.

For dining and entertainment, Port Macquarie Panthers is a first choice for many, while the family attraction, Timbertown serves up food, shopping and a great glimpse into a pioneering past.

Get close to nature along the boardwalk at the Sea Acres Nature Reserve or visit Crowdy Bay National Park's Camden Head and Crowdy Head beaches.

DAY 5: 162KM/2½HR Port Macquarie – Coffs Harbour

The Macleay Valley coast is another Mid North Coast gem – home to South West Rocks with Smoky Cape Lighthouse in Hat Head National Park and Trial Bay Gaol in the Arakoon State Conservation area. Smoky Cape Lighthouse overlooks one of the world's best dive spots and the Fish Rock Dive Centre can take you there – choose to stay at Scotts Head Holiday Park or Nambucca Headland Holiday Park on the headland in Nambucca.

Further explore the Macleay staying at Crescent Head Holiday Park or Urunga Heads Holiday Park just before Coffs Harbour. Coffs Harbour is a legend in its own right with its world famous attractions; the Big Banana, The Pet Porpoise Pool and the Coffs Harbour Butterfly House, enchanting people of all ages. The city is enhanced by neighbouring towns and villages including Bellingen, the creative heart of

the Coffs Coast with great food, arts and music. Choose Wyndham Vacation Resort Coffs Harbour or Dolphin Sands Holiday Villas as a great Coffs base from which to explore the region.

DAY 6: 220KM/3¼HR Coffs Harbour – Lennox Head

Woolgoolga is home to the largest regional Sikh/Punjabi population in Australia. Yamba at the mouth of Clarence River is the second largest fishing port in Australia famous for its Yamba prawns. Stay at the Blue Dolphin Holiday Resort on the banks of the Clarence or the beautiful Angourie Rainforest Resort perfect for the whole family and located close to the beginning of the awe inspiring Yuraygir Coastal Walk and Blue Pools or just outside of the township of Woolgoolga stay a night at Corindi Beach or Red Rock Holiday Parks. Ballina, on an island in the centre of the Richmond River, is a gateway to the region's outdoor playgrounds. Shaws Bay and Terrace Reserve are ideally situated on pristine bays and beaches. Alternatively, try the Ramada Hotel and Suites and meet the locals at the vibrant family friendly Ballina RSL Club. Located in the relaxed village atmosphere of Lennox Head is the Headland Beach Resort and Lake Ainsworth Holiday Park, only 200m from iconic Seven Mile Beach, a National Surfing Reserve.

DAY 7: 186KM/2½HR Lennox Head – Gold Coast

Byron Bay serves up a relaxed, alternative lifestyle including surfing, yoga, shopping, diving and dining. The Byron on Byron Resort and Spa embraces the local culture with style in a private rainforest location complete with an award winning restaurant and spa and an atmosphere to soothe the soul.

Visit Cape Byron Marine Park to view dolphins, fish, seabirds, turtles and whales (whale migration June-November). Stay overnight at Ferry Reserve or Terrace Reserve Holiday Park in Brunswick Heads.

Further north Surfers Paradise beckons with its colourful nightlife, shopping and dining. Relax in its cosmopolitan restaurants and cafés, shop till you drop, cruise the river or relax on a beach. The perfect places to stay and enjoy your final destination.

Centrally located Wyndham Surfers Paradise Resort or the Treasure Island Holiday Park on the edge of town are options for accommodation.



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SYDNEY TO BRISBANE. AUSTRALIA