

# Welcome to **BRISBANE** QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

## *fact sheet*



## *Welcome to Brissie!*

Well, you haven't arrived yet, but you will be here soon. This sheet is to help you with the planning of your trip to the 'Sunshine State', or if you live here, this sheet might give you new ideas of what to do in your free time.

We hope you enjoy your stay and go home with fabulous memories of a busy, fun, interesting and delightful time.

Brisbane, sub-tropical capital city of Queensland, is an ideal place for business, pleasure, relaxation and fun. From South Bank to Mt Coot-Tha, there is much to see and do with sites and activities to please the young and not so young.

As in any city, there are way too many things to do in one weekend, with a conference to attend as well. We suggest you come a bit earlier, or leave a bit later, or take some leave and add it to Easter, and stay just a little longer to enjoy the delights and sights of what us 'cane toads' or 'banana benders' can offer.

During March, the average daily temperature range is between 15-20°C with warm days and coolish nights. As every seasoned traveller does, pack your brolly ... and a jacket – just in case.

### **AIRTRAIN**

<https://airtrain.com.au/ticket-information>

If you are flying in, the Brisbane domestic and international airports are on the Airtrain line and for \$17 one way, or \$32 return you can be at South Bank in just over 30 minutes.

What's so lovely about the Airtrain is that you get on at the airport, get off at South Brisbane, then after a very short walk, you are either at Rydges Hotel, (our conference accommodation), or any number of accommodation options, or the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre where the conference is being held.

### **TAXI**

Taxis are more expensive and depending on what time you arrive, you may find it takes a while to cut across town, especially if you are arriving in peak hour traffic. It could cost approximately \$80 for a one-way ride to South Bank.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

[www.bcec.com.au/attend-an-event/attend-accommodation](http://www.bcec.com.au/attend-an-event/attend-accommodation)

There are over 66 hotels within 3 kms of the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC), so lots to choose from, ranging from high end to basic and comfortable. Wherever you choose to stay from that list, you won't be far away from South Bank. For some options, courtesy of the BCEC, check out their website listed above.

Of course, if you have mates that live in beautiful Brissie, give them a hoi and ask for a bed/sofa/airbed/mattress on the floor or granny flat out the back so that you can spend time checking out how we live in the 'burbs and get a feel of what life is like in Brisbane.

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## THINGS TO SEE AND DO

There are so many things to do in South Bank and in greater Brisbane and I hope you enjoy browsing the following sites for ideas and inspiration for your trip to Brissie in March.

**Public Art Trails** – Brisbane City Council has 4 public art walking trails. For trail maps, images and more information, visit: [www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/sports-leisure/walking/walking-trails/public-art-trails](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/sports-leisure/walking/walking-trails/public-art-trails)

**Free City Hopper** – This Free City Hopper meanders along the Brisbane River allowing you to jump on and jump off at the leisure, visit: [www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/traffic-transport/public-transport/citycat-ferry-services/cityhopper](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/traffic-transport/public-transport/citycat-ferry-services/cityhopper)

**South Bank** – Brisbane's cultural, educational and recreational precinct. The precinct is located in the suburb of South Brisbane, on the southern bank of the Brisbane River. From markets to music, fitness to food, playgrounds to pleasant walks, South Bank has much to offer, visit: [www.visitbrisbane.com.au/South-Bank?utm\\_source=redirects&utm\\_medium=www.visitsouthbank.com.au&utm\\_campaign=301\\_Redirects](http://www.visitbrisbane.com.au/South-Bank?utm_source=redirects&utm_medium=www.visitsouthbank.com.au&utm_campaign=301_Redirects)

**The Collective Markets** – run Friday night (5:00pm-9:00pm) Saturday (10:00am-9:00pm) and Sunday (9:00am-4:00pm) offer handmade goods, vintage finds, art, live music and more. The extended hours will work beautifully with the conference programme, visit: [www.collectivemarkets.com.au/southbank/](http://www.collectivemarkets.com.au/southbank/)

## ON FOOT

Walking is one of the best ways to get to know any city. The river is a perfect place to start and no matter which way you turn, the track will be flat and the sights interesting. Just even ambling along the Arbour, under the bougainvillea, along the length of South Bank is enough to whet the appetite for more. Stop for a good coffee and people watching at any one of the many coffee outlets at South Bank.

For the budding historians, one walk which shows some of Brisbane's history can be found at: [www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/sports-leisure/walking/walking-trails/heritage-trails/secrets-south-brisbane-heritage-trail](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/sports-leisure/walking/walking-trails/heritage-trails/secrets-south-brisbane-heritage-trail)

The City Botanical Gardens in Alice St, Parliament House on George St and the Museum of Brisbane in Adelaide St can provide you with enough to see and do to fill a day or two.

Keep an eye out for free fitness classes at South Bank and for more information closer to March, visit: [www.visitsouthbank.com.au](http://www.visitsouthbank.com.au)

## FOOD & DINING OUT

Choices, choices, choices. So many choices – where to start??? I won't even begin to suggest eateries in South Bank, West End or the City as there truly are way too many. Instead, let your eyes and fingers do the pre-visit search, while your tummy cries out for food, visit: [www.eatsouthbank.com.au](http://www.eatsouthbank.com.au)

If you are staying at South Bank, grab your copy of 'Nosh A Local's Food Guide to South Bank' for up to date and tempting suggestions.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

We know that not everyone likes to be 'outdoorsie'. Some would prefer to take in some culture. GOMA is worth a visit and is conveniently situated right beside the Queensland Art Gallery ([www.qagoma.qld.gov.au](http://www.qagoma.qld.gov.au)) and the Queensland Museum ([www.qm.qld.gov.au](http://www.qm.qld.gov.au)). During the conference weekend you can visit the 'Medieval Power: Symbols and Splendour' exhibition, direct from the British Museum (<http://qm.qld.gov.au/Events+and+Exhibitions/Exhibitions/2015/12/Medieval+Power#.VjXi2YQVgdc>). If you wanted to see everything, doing only these 3 venues would take a weekend. Thank goodness there are places to eat, get a cold or hot drink, have a seat, take a rest and watch the passing parade if it all gets too much.

The suburb of West End lies flush against South Bank and is quirky. It is a hub of international flavours, unusual shops, students, eclectic charm, good coffee and a delightful destination for your morning walk.

If you are a lover of books and if rummaging through fine book stores floats your boat, then visit Archives Fine Books at 40 Charlotte St, City, Avid Reader at 193 Boundary Rd, West End or Bent Books at 205A Boundary St, West End.

Boundary Street Markets ([www.boundarystreetmarkets.com.au](http://www.boundarystreetmarkets.com.au)) offers an alternate shopping delight to the South Bank Collective Markets and is housed in the historic 'Peter's Ice Cream Factory'.

A nursery worth a visit is Ecotone Local Native Nursery, at Mollison St, West End, visit: <https://ecotonenursery.wordpress.com/about/> Here you will find plants native to the south east corner of Queensland.

Have fun, stay a while, be daring, try new things and get to know this small spot of delights we call South Bank.