 Semester 1 / 2015

QUEST GUIDE 2015

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Welcome to QUEST 2015! We will happily be your exchange family while you are here in Brisbane whether that’s for one semester, a whole year or for life! We are here to provide events and trips for you not only for you to hopefully fall in love with Brisbane and our state, but also for you to meet lifelong friends and have the best exchange experience. Throughout the year we have a variety of events organised including weekend trips away, pub nights, day trips and parties just to name a few! Whether you’re on exchange, study abroad, an international or local student, QUEST is for you! The QUEST executive team are made up of a group of volunteer students who are all enthusiastic to meet new people from across the world and love to chat, so don’t be shy come up and say hello! We can’t wait to meet you at our events throughout the semester and we hope you have an amazing time in Brisbane. We hope this guide filled with tips and advice will help introduce you to our city!

Your 2015 President,
Zara
By now you probably received your QUEST 2015 wristband together with this guide. If not, make sure to get one as that is how Questies (QUEST members) can be spotted. From week 4 we will sell more merchandise like our sexy QUEST T-shirt. Keep an eye out for announcements of any T-shirt sales.
Who is behind the Queensland University Exchange Student Society and what do we do?
WHAT IS QUEST?

**Quest**: the Queensland University Exchange Student Society aims to showcase the best UQ and Queensland has to offer, by providing events for exchange and international students that highlight cultural heritage and scenically beautiful places, while making sure everyone has a whole lot of fun!

Quest is run by a bunch of passionate volunteer students, both Australian and international, that are keen to show off the Queensland and Australian lifestyle. Many of our executives are former exchange students, or have traveled widely, appreciating the support needed for our members and wanting to keep the exchange dream alive. QUEST is now in its 6th year of operation, and since its establishment in 2010 has had amazing success at UQ, being awarded the “Best New Club” at UQ in 2010, “Best Overall Club” in 2011, “Best Event” and “Social Club” in 2012, and “Best Event” and “Best Publication” in 2014. So you know you’re in for a good time! We hope to continue our success in 2015 and make this semester amazing, so get involved, meet new people, see new things, and overall have an incredible time at UQ!
QUEST EVENTS

Looking for fun in Semester 1, 2015? Come along to our events and see the cool side of Brisbane and South East Queensland!

QUEST events are all about having fun, meeting new people, and seeing some of the best locations in South East Queensland. This semester will be packed full of parties, day trips, weekend trips, pub nights, and the epic mid-semester road trip up the East Coast! If you're looking for a great time, come get involved!

QUEST is kicking off O-Week with a Welcome Party on Tuesday night, and a Animal Photoshoot Day with BBQ on Thursday. We'll then be running our second QUEST Hunt on Friday, so prepare yourself for a big day! During Week 1, be sure to visit us early on Market Day (Wednesday) to buy tickets for our epic Pub Crawl (on Saturday). The much-loved Quest Nights will also start on the Wednesday night of Week 1. During the semester we'll be enjoying the beach-life of Byron Bay for a weekend, camping out in the Australian bushland, snorkelling and exploring one of Queensland's sand islands, and so much more!

Event pages with more information will be created closer to the event dates, so join the QUEST UQ Facebook Group and become friends with 'Questie Uq' to receive updates. QUEST welcomes everyone, so we have a mix of paid and free events, as well as drinking and dry events. Note: tickets are limited for some events and you must be a member to purchase tickets.

Here is what to expect for this semester:

- **24th Feb:** Orientation Welcome BBQ, Welcome Party at Birdees
- **25th Feb:** Market Day
- **26th Feb:** Aussie Animals & BBQ
- **27th Feb:** The QUEST Hunt
- **28th Feb:** Pub Crawl
- **4th March:** 1st Pub Night
- **6th – 8th March:** Byron Bay Weekend
- **14th March:** Australia Zoo
- **20th – 22nd March:** Moreton Island Weekend
- **1st April:** Mid Semester Party
- **2nd – 12th April:** East Coast Trip
- **18th April:** Surfing / Kayaking Day
- **2nd May:** Hiking / Brewery Day
- **8th – 10th May:** Camping Weekend
- **23rd May:** Winery Tour
- **9th June:** End of Semester ‘Dress to Impress’ Party

Event dates may change or an event will be added, so keep an eye out on the Facebook group.
1. Aussie animal photo op
An opportunity to hold and take photos with cute Aussie animals.

2. Pub Crawl
QUEST will take you on an epic crawl throughout Brisbane!

3. Byron Bay Weekend
Spend an exciting and fun weekend with 250 Questies.

4. Camping Weekend
A glorious weekend of camping and hiking in the Aussie bush.

5. Moreton Island Weekend
Escape the mainland to one of the largest sand islands in the world!
The 2015 QUEST executive is comprised of a bunch of passionate, volunteer students that are essentially the driving force behind this fun, and diverse club. Some of us come from across the seas, with just as much excitement as you to explore Queensland. Whilst others have called Australia home our whole lives, and can’t wait to show it off! The QUEST exec’ are a well travelled bunch, with many having lived overseas, so we know the challenges that exchange students face. We are here to help you get through those homesick blues, give you a taste of our lifestyle and hopefully show you that this really a great part of the world! We are all from different backgrounds, studying different things and we can assure you that there’s something for everyone. Yes, QUEST can party, but we can also hold amazing BBQs, discover islands like no other and camp like true blue Aussies. As we’ve said, we’re all here to help, but remember that we’re students too, and volunteers at that - so help us out, create your own amazing experience and we guarantee QUEST will be there to double the fun! So don’t be shy, find one of us - cheers a coldie and say g’day. Before you know it you’ll be waving our sunny shores goodbye!

We love QUEST and we hope you will too. Lots of Questie love, Your always-keen, 2015 QUEST exec’.
Zara Williams
President

Melanie Stanhope
Treasurer

Rohan Watt
Secretary

Dahra Rezazadeh
Vice President (Publicity)

Veronica Wilson
Vice President (Events)

Ryan Droney
Ashleigh Smith
Isaac Boyd
Zahra Mekki
Jacinta Coogan West
Anders Carøe
William Haysom
Sam Houston
Jock Houston
Amy Cruickshank
Susannah Haaland

Matthew van den Boogaard
Diana Quintero
Tory Hanna
David Lawrence
Kate Dunne
Julia Meekin
Henry Meehan
Jade Rheeder
Matt Wilko
Rakel Hed
Tora Gjengset
The most funny & memorable thing we did was a salsa casino night in the middle of the bushes under the rain on the QUEST camping trip. Definitely one of the best clubs during my studies.

I had never seen such an organised, fun and amazing East Cost trip as QUEST did for us. They are so dedicated and energetic that no matter where you are at it will be always a great moment.

The way QUEST integrated people from all cultural backgrounds is truly remarkable. The Trips were the drivers in eventually creating lifelong friendships we can cherish forever.

From the very first day at uni QUEST was there to socialise with the new exchange students. I’ve met so many fantastic people and QUEST definitely made my Aussie experience a lot easier and better than expected!
Through QUEST, I met people from around the world and had the best times. The people are extremely warm and the diversity is just amazing!

Fun, the funnest club at UQ and Questie deliver it non-stop through out the whole year. This is an achievement by itself!

Studying at UQ was the best time of my student life. Thanks to QUEST & the supportive Exec I made friends from all over the world and enjoyed staying in Australia even more.

QUEST was literally my social life back in my first semester. I’ve met so many wonderful people from many different countries, definitely not an experience I’ll forget.
BRISBANE
Welcome Questies,
Welcome to Brisbane - the city I’ve called home for the last four and a half years. As you already know Australia is a beautiful country and Brisbane attributes to that honour. From my experience the city offers a friendlier and more relaxed atmosphere than Melbourne and Sydney. Superficially, Brisbane may seem boring to some, but I discovered that Good Ol’ Brissie a.k.a. Brisvegas has more to offer than you might think. “Brisvegas,” an ironic, yet affectionate term for the city. As far as I am aware, the term ‘Brisvages’ originated as an ironic association with Las Vegas, to take the mickey out on Brissy’s less-than-perfect nightlife scene and perhaps its general “things to do” factor (in the early 90s), because it was nothing like the 24/7 American party city. And yet, while meant to be an insult initially, recently Brisbanites have “reclaimed” the word of sorts, as an endearing term for a city that, while not exactly “where it’s at” in any sense of the word, is still a pretty cool place to live. You will discover, as I did, that the people here are friendly, easy going and absolute party animals. Plus the weather is fantastic. So go out there and (with help of this guide) explore Brissy’s cool side from the CBD, South Bank, West End to the Valley, New Farm and go beyond the city borders. I will guarantee you that you chose the right city to study at.

Kuda Mangoma
the author of this piece is an UQ Graduate and a former QUEST EXEC from Zimbabwe. After his studies he decided to call Brissy his second home.
GETTING AROUND

From water to road, you can get around Brisbane with ease. Use a concession Go Card to navigate public transport as cheaply as possible, and make sure you also have a Tertiary Transport Concession Card (TTCC) from UQ with you.

1. Buses and Trains
Be sure to buy a Go Card from a Newsagent and ‘touch on and off’ with bus and train trips. On Friday and Saturday nights, ‘Nightlink’ services run hourly between 1am and 5am. Check Translink.com for timetables and also use the Journey Planner or Google Maps application to help find the best route.

2. Taxis
You won’t have trouble finding a cab in the city. All cabs are metered, with extra charges for maxi taxis. Phone 13 19 24 (Yellow Cabs). You can also text 0428 131 924 to order a Yellow Cabs taxi (include your name, pick up address and time, destination and number of people). Uber is also an alternative to taxis.

3. City Cat/Ferries
They’re a great way to get around Brisbane and check out the river sites! The City Cat only runs in two directions: towards UQ and towards the city (and onwards). Check out www.translink.com.au for timetables and be sure to use your Go Card.

4. CityCicle
City Cycle stops are set up all around Brisbane with a lot in the UQ and inner-city area. Sign up online at www.citycycle.com.au to get a pass and ride for 30 minute intervals for free! It’s a great way to explore Brisbane while keeping up fitness and enjoying the sun. Don’t forget to wear a helmet to avoid a fine!
**FINDING INFORMATION**

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**GUMTREE COMMUNITY**
A community-based website that offers free classifieds. So if you’ve just moved in or are heading back home and are looking to buy/sell pretty much anything then this is a good place to start. It also lists rooms available in share houses.


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**QUEST MARKETPLACE**
**STUDENT MARKET / COMMUNITY**
This has been created for Questies to buy, sell and trade their belongings. Feel free to post rooms to rent, bicycles to sell and anything else you may be looking to get rid of or even give away.

[facebook.com/groups/questmarketplace](http://facebook.com/groups/questmarketplace)

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**UQ SPORT**
**SPORT**
UQ SPORT provides cheap gym memberships, fun fitness and dance classes and you can get a group of friends together and enter a team for sociral sport (soccer, netball, waterpolo, etc.).


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**UQnav**
**NAVIGATION APP**
UQNAV is an application for finding buildings and locations on campus! It’s free and available for iPhone and Android smartphones!


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**TRANSLINK**
**PUBLIC TRANSPORT**
The one stop website for getting around Brisbane (and Queensland) via public transport. Just type in where you’re leaving from and your desired destination and it will tell you how to get there and how long it will take.


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**BRISBANE ON A BUDGET**
**COMMUNITY**
This Facebook page can be worth seeing for all things cultural, cheap, and generally worthwhile. Good food, good drink, good adventures - all on a budget, and all in or around Brisbane.

[wwwbrisbaneonabudget.wordpress.com](http://wwwbrisbaneonabudget.wordpress.com)

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**MX Magazine**
**Local Fun Reading**
mX is a free afternoon commuter newspaper in the cities of Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. Targeted at commuters, its main channels of distribution are inner-city public transports stops, and major CBD intersections. It’s a bit of fun light reading.


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**UQ UNION**
**STUDENT HELP**
is a student run organisation here to represent you while you’re studying at UQ. The Student Help on Campus (SHOC) Centre helps students with issues relating to legal, gender or sexuality, welfare, education, and employment. SHOC is a free service for UQ students.


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before Uni starts, QUEST recommends you get on top of the following things.

**Student ID Card:** This is proof of your enrolment and enables you to borrow books from University libraries and is compulsory for exams.

**18+ Card:** We strongly recommend that you invest in an Adult Proof of Age Card (18+ Identification) for going out in Brisbane. All bars and clubs in Brisbane will ask for 18+ ID on entry, and some will not allow you in with some international licenses (note: Student ID cards do not count for 18+ ID). To save yourself a ruined night out, it’s best to have Queensland ID; it also makes a cool souvenir when you go home (Available at the Department of Transport and Main Roads / 229 Elizabeth St).

**Bank Account:** Setting up a bank account in Queensland will make financing your exchange, withdrawing money and paying money substantially easier. We
recommend opening a bank account with the Commonwealth Bank, and there is one on campus near the main refectory area.

**UQ Student Services:** Student Services at UQ offer a broad range of support services from advisors, short-term emergency loans and help settling in.

**Student Clubs and Societies at UQ**
Joining a student society (on top of QUEST, of course) is an excellent way to meet students who share the same interests as you, and to meet local students. Many of the larger societies have society-specific cards that act as proof of membership and get you some really good discounts and deals.

**Public Transport** in Brisbane is not cheap, so we strongly recommended that you purchase a green concession Go Card! They are electronic cards that you touch to a sensor when you board and exit a bus, city cat or in a train station. Go Cards can be topped up from machines positioned around various stations and stops. You will need to have a Tertiary Transport Concession Card (TTCC) in case Translink inspectors check.
GUIDE TO BRISBANE ACCOMODATION

We would recommend finding accommodation in suburbs such as St Lucia, West End, Toowong, Highgate Hill, and others that are nearby UQ. It can be competitive and costly to live near UQ, but if it looks fairly central on a map, that’s a good sign. Also keep in mind that CityCats (ferries) stop along the river to the city, so somewhere close to a CityCat stop can be useful for access to UQ in addition to buses. The main suburbs that you will head to for a night out are the City, Fortitude Valley aka ‘the Valley’, West End, and one place in Toowong, the Royal Exchange Hotel aka ‘the RE’.

To find accommodation, try websites such as:
www.realestate.com.au/,
www.brisbanestudents.com.au, and
Another option is to look on Gumtree (www.gumtree.com.au). It’s a site (like Craigslist) where anyone can make a post selling stuff. Often if people are looking for an extra housemate they will post there. However, it’s not an official rental website so it can be a bit dodgy. It can be a great way to meet and live with some locals though, so can be worth the gamble if you find good housemates.

Another useful resource is the QUEST Marketplace (www.facebook.com/groups/questmarketplace/). Questies can use this space to post if they are looking for housemates or if they are looking for someone to take over their room. Just assume a lot of other students will be arriving and looking for accommodation around the same time as you, so be active at that time.

As an idea for how much rent you will pay, it’s often roughly $180 per week give or take about $20. It really does depend on what you are looking for though, as cheaper options certainly do exist.
$180 (or thereabouts) should get you something nice and in a good location. You can get a room in a decent share house for much less but you will usually have to compromise on either location or quality unless you are lucky. Over $200 per week should set you up in a great house in an amazing location with bills included and maybe the landlord to massage you once a week (^^). 

Most new students who come over do initially stay at a hostel and most manage to find somewhere that suits their tastes in that time so don’t worry! You could also possibly find a temporary room somewhere until you find a (more) permanent one – try QUEST Marketplace or Gumtree.

Some students look at Urbanest student accommodation in Southbank as it has a great location. However, you may find it to be a comparatively more expensive option. Students often opt for a nice share house in suburbs around UQ.

If you are looking to stay at one of the colleges on campus, just know that they are more like frats, which can get noisy. They are expensive and full of first-years (freshman/freshers) aged around 17 and 18, but can still be a really good way to meet people.

It really comes down to what you are looking for e.g. a big house filled with a lot of people or a quiet one where you can just relax. If you want to have parties and find an active social house make sure you grasp what the people are like before you move in – but that’s just common sense.

It is worth consulting the Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA) website to grasp your rights as a tenant on topics such as ending a lease and the required notice that landlords must give in circumstances of visiting the property.
Brisbane is a vibrant and diverse city with lots of hidden secrets. We’ve given you a rundown of some of Brisbane’s hottest suburbs to get you started on your adventures.

1. St Lucia
Our guess is that you will be spending a lot of time in this suburb since it features the UQ St Lucia campus. Along with the lecture theatres and libraries, the university also has tonnes of sporting facilities such as a gym, tennis courts and a swimming pool. Join a belly-dancing or fitness class or get some friends together for a casual game of squash – all at student prices. If you live on or near campus you should get acquainted with Hawken Village. This short strip of shops has a variety of restaurants, ranging from Thai and Japanese to Mexican and fish and chips. The good news is that most of them offer student friendly prices or discounts.

2. Toowong
Right next door to St Lucia you’ll find Toowong. Toowong Shopping Village is the place that you really need to know about. Here you’ll find supermarkets, cafes, restaurants and an assortment of shops and services. There is also a train station at the shopping centre and a major bus stop on High Street.

3. Indooroopilly
Also close to St Lucia is Indooroopilly, which is home to the largest shopping centre in Brisbane’s western suburbs. With around 250 stores, you’re certain to find anything you need and it’s just a short bus ride from the university. It’s also a convenient suburb for UQ students to live in because of the many public transport options.

4. Milton
The heart of Milton is Park Rd, a quintessential café strip mixed with restaurants and bars.
Dominating Park Rd is the Italian themed La Dolce Vita restaurant and café sitting prime-of-place under the miniature Eiffel Tower (yeah OK, so they seem to be a bit geographically confused). Another local secret is Arrivederci Pizza which serves up a one metre pizza! A little further from the river is Rosalie Village, yet another vibrant café and restaurant hub with a massive range of flavours. Other places of interest include the XXXX Brewery – which offers tours and tastings – and Suncorp Stadium, which is home to the Brisbane Broncos, the Reds and the Brisbane Roar.

5. South Bank
This is the must-see cultural precinct of Brisbane. It’s definitely worth strolling through the Queensland Museum or the spectacular Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) – both have free entry. The Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) also provides the opportunity to see a play or ballet. Keep walking past the Wheel of Brisbane and you’ll come to South Bank’s man-made beach where you can relax on those hot summer days. The Parklands often feature weekend craft markets and some form of open-air show or entertainment. Grey St and Little Stanley St are jam-packed with restaurants that serve everything from Malaysian to Turkish to Americana to Eastern European to Spanish. And let’s not forget the many places such as San Churros and Max Brenner, which only serve dessert. After dinner, why not catch a movie at the Southbank Cineplex which has cheap student tickets?

6. Brisbane CBD
The Brisbane CBD is the obvious place to go for shopping. The heart of it all is Queen St Mall, which has various surrounding arcades. Among its thousands of stores you can even find international chains such as Topshop. If history is more your thing, visit Brisbane City Hall. You have the option of visiting the Museum of Brisbane or taking the elevator to the top of the clock tower. There are also free guided tours of the building. Parliament House also offers free guided tours. Catch the free CityHopper ferry (different to the CityCat) to see the city from yet another angle. This is especially beautiful at night! There are also a range of nightlife options dotted around the city. Near Queen St Mall you can find Irish pubs and Strike Bowling Bar where you have the option of getting in some bowling or laser tag between drinks. Venture a little further afield and you will find venues
such as the Victory Hotel (the Vic) or the Exchange Hotel – both have student deals on Thursday nights. Another popular area is Riverside which is home to some of Brisbane’s most celebrated restaurants. Here you will also find bars such as Friday’s, which coincidentally is very popular on Fridays. When you’re all partied out and the late night munchies set in, head to the Pancake Manor. Housed in a former old church, the Pancake Manor serves a massive selection of pancakes and savoury crepes and the best part is that they are open 24/7.

7. New Farm
New Farm is another super trendy gentrified suburb on the outskirts of the CBD. Check out James Street for window-shopping, café culture and some top-notch restaurants. New Farm’s most well-known attraction is New Farm Park. This huge park is accessible by both bus and ferry and is great for picnics and throwing a frisbee or football around with friends. Don’t forget to gawk at the mansions across the river in Bulimba; one of them is surely inhabited by Batman. While you’re there, explore the Powerhouse for different events and exhibitions. It has stand-up comedy every Sunday and entrance is free.

8. West End
This suburb is a melting pot of old school hippies, Gen Y hipsters, artists, musicians, activists, students and internationals. Due to its central and riverside location, West End is increasingly gentrifying into a more affluent suburb, however many of the quintessential charms remain. At the heart of West End is Boundary Street, overflowing with cosy cafés, unpretentious pubs, highly pretentious bars, and seriously good Greek, Middle Eastern and Asian restaurants. If you are looking for cheap weekend farmer’s markets, yoga schools, an abundance of foodie spots, alternative hippie stores and hipster boutiques then you will find it in West End.

9. Fortitude Valley
Known to locals as “The Valley” this is the place to be for nightlife and if you can help it, not much else. The Valley is notably a little rough around the edges.
during the daylight, however Brunswick Street has some eclectic collectors markets on the weekend and a handful of hipster cafés such as LTD that are open on weekdays. While you’re there check out Chinatown for cheap food and fun. Most of the restaurants allow BYO, making Chinatown a great place to pre-drink before a night out. Wagaya is a good choice if you can get a seat. Certain areas of the Valley have been working hard to shake its somewhat trashy image.

10. Paddington
Situated north of Auchenflower and Toowong, Paddington is a gorgeous suburb filled with typical Brisbane homes called “Queenslanders”. Paddington is perhaps the best place in Brisbane to go Café hopping. A few good picks are Anouk and Sasaafra. If you venture slightly north into Red Hill, Real Food Botanica boasts a scrumptious but rather paradoxical mix of Salads and Cupcakes. Paddington is also a great place to shop, boasting beautiful clothing boutiques, antique stores and thrift shops. A short walk from Paddington is the Iconic Caxton Street, which is overflowing with bars, mostly catering to those attending the many sport events at Suncorp Stadium. Check out Lefty’s Old Time Music Hall if a bit of country music is your thing.

11. Mount Coot-tha
This is a must-see tourist site overlooking the entire Brisbane landscape all the way to the bay. Mt Coot-tha is a great place to go when you first arrive to grasp Brisbane’s geography. You can catch the 471 bus from the city to the top of the mountain or if you are feeling adventurous, you can hike up from the bottom. While you’re there why not make a stop at the Botanic Gardens.

12. Bulimba
Bulimba is a bit fancy. Make a ferry trip over to see a film at the Balmoral Cinema and enjoy the abundance of restaurants and boutiques. Grab an ice-cream, sit by the harbour and enjoy Brisbane’s balmy afternoons.

13. Kangaroo Point
Although decidedly lacking in Kangaroos, this spot makes up for it by being really, really pretty. Set against the backdrop of the Kangaroo Point Cliffs and overlooking the CBD harbour, Kangaroo Point is perhaps the most glorious place for a picnic or BBQ in Brisbane. If you are feeling adventurous, check out RiverLife for water sports, rock-climbing and abseiling. There are often casual tightrope walkers hanging out who will probably let you have a go if you ask nicely. Being a short and scenic stroll from Southbank, Kangaroo Point is easy to access.
There are a few peculiarities to the law in Queensland of which you should be aware. As a general rule, don’t do anything stupid and apply common sense and you shouldn’t have any trouble with the police or the law. That said, be aware of the following:

- **Drinking in public**: this is illegal and refers to having an open bottle in a public place, even if that bottle is empty. On the spot fine: $110.

- **Urinating in public**: don’t do it. Maximum fine: $200.

- **Drugs**: all drugs are illegal in Queensland. Possession of cannabis for personal use (a small amount) is illegal, but is unlikely to be prosecuted. Possession of larger amounts (even if for personal use) will make you liable for a trafficking offence, which carries hefty sentences and 80% minimum non-parole sentences.

- **Assault/Affray**: avoid any physical altercation or fights when out in Brisbane. You can be prosecuted (with heavy sentences), and even if you’re a victim, you may be liable for ‘affray’.

- **Drink driving**: the legal Blood alcohol content permitted is 0.05 for an open license. Driving with a BAC over 0.05 will lead to severe penalties (expect a ~$1000 fine at least) and potential jail time. Don’t do it; get a bus, taxi or walk.

- **Noise/Party restrictions**: If you hold a party that gets really out of hand, you may be liable under recent changes to Queensland law. As a general rule, let your neighbours know you’re having a party and try to minimise noise after 11pm by turning speakers down or moving your party inside. That said, St Lucia residents are reasonably tolerant of noise.

**Interaction with police**

If you use common sense while in Queensland, you should be able to avoid any interaction with the police. If you do have a run in with the police, be aware of the following:

- Police can arrest or search you on the ‘reasonable suspicion’ of committing an offence without a warrant.

- Police can strip search you if they have reasonable suspicion; but they must: minimise embarrassment, only allow half your person to be naked at one time and have you searched by someone of the same gender.

- Police must use force that is ‘reasonably necessary’; if you’re compliant with police requests they should not mishandle you.

As a general rule, apply common sense and don’t do anything stupid and you shouldn’t have any trouble with the police or the law.
You have the following rights:

• Right to remain silent; Except: you must provide your name and address when asked.
• In a police interview have a friend/relative AND a lawyer; and if you struggle to understand the police, you are allowed a translator. If you think the police have mistreated you, contact UQ Student services.

For more information go visit a Police Station or a Police Beat, and/or visit the official QLD Police homepage: www.police.qld.gov.au

In semester 1 2014, there were some student reports of suspicious people and behaviour at night around the Green Bridge parking areas. Please be careful and look out for your friends, and remember that UQ has a free Safety Bus after 6pm that covers the campus and parts of St Lucia. Security can also walk you to your car or bus stop at late hours or you feel uncomfortable, if you ask.

UQ Security is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Call: 3365 1234 or 1800 800 123.
For emergencies call 3365 3333.
GOLD COAST

Brisbane’s neighbouring coastal city has some of the best surf beaches in Australia. The Gold Coast is known for its vibrant nightlife, range of theme parks, and beautiful nature from the hinterlands to the coastline. It’s more famous and fast-paced than the Sunshine Coast, and there’s plenty to experience.

Some great surf spots include Burleigh Heads, Surfers Paradise, Currumbin Beach, and Coolangatta. Check out the Coastal Watch website for the low-down on surf and beach conditions, and remember to swim between the flags. While tourists are often drawn to Surfers Paradise, it’s worth exploring further down the coast and finding your own favourite spot – maybe even visit the local surf club for lunch. For a big night out, try Cavill Avenue in Surfers Paradise or Broadbeach with its Jupiters Casino.

The good news is that it’s easy to travel down and back without a car. Trains depart every half-hour and there are connecting buses to various beaches. Alternatively you could hire a car and road trip further south; Tweed Valley, Byron Bay and other great spots are not far over the NSW border.
A magnificent stretch of beaches and picturesque Hinterland. Great for keen surfers, the adventurous bush-walker, or the simple sunbaker.

SunsHine Coast beach culture is generally more laid back, relaxed and less touristy than the Gold Coast. A prime spot for tourists is Noosa Headlands, however if you don’t mind a bit of a walk, then there is always a beach hidden away that you can find. The locals are generally helpful and welcoming! You’ll most likely need a car to make your way to these beaches, as the sunshine coast transport is tiresome and irregular.
Although Australia looks like one giant island (plus Tasmania, of course), you will find a bunch of beautiful islands scattered off the Queensland coastline that make for relaxing escapes from city life. Here are a few favourites.

1. Moreton Island
is 98% National Park and boasts an impressive coastline with sand dunes and unique nature. It’s the perfect location for four-wheel-driving, snorkeling at shipwrecks, camping, and whale watching. It’s only a 75 minute ferry ride from the Port of Brisbane to Moreton, so pack a four-wheel-drive with some food and other supplies and enjoy!

2. North Stradbroke Island
“Straddie” also has a beautiful natural landscape and is the more developed southern neighbour of Moreton Island. Make sure you have a walk around the Gorge Headland at Point Lookout and keep an eye out for whales, dolphins, and turtles! Straddie has a respected Aboriginal presence with the Quandamooka people, and there are opportunities to learn about cultural traditions.

3. Fraser Island
is World Heritage listed and the largest sand island in the world. Fraser is full of beautiful lakes and creeks, and is home to a wide range of birds, reptiles, mammals, marine life, and perhaps most famously, dingoes. It’s a three and a half hour drive north from Brisbane to get the ferry over; again, you will need to hire a four-wheel-drive to...
get around and see all of Fraser’s splendour!

4. Heron Island
is a small and secluded coral cay with extensive fish and coral species. It’s a lovely little part of the Great Barrier Reef—another World Heritage listed treasure—and is off the coast of Gladstone, a six-hour drive north of Brisbane.

5. Hamilton Island
is a popular destination in the tropical Whitsunday Islands, situated halfway up the Queensland coast. It’s worth sailing out to Whitehaven Beach and getting up close to marine life by snorkeling or diving at the Great Barrier Reef. Perfect for mid-semester break!

6. Bribie Island
is a bit different as it has a bridge connecting it to mainland Australia and is thus accessible by car. Bribie makes for a nice seaside day-trip and there is the option of using public transport to get there and back.
AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE

AustrAlia is home to a wide variety of animals, with some 80% of all fauna inhabiting the continent being endemic. The island continent's high level of endemism can be attributed to Australia's long geographic isolation, tectonic stability, and pattern of climatic change. Its relative scarcity of placental mammals means that marsupials - a group of mammals that raise their young in a pouch, including kangaroos and possums - occupy many of the ecological niches placental animals occupy elsewhere in the world. A great subject to do whilst at UQ if you are interested in the country's wildlife, fauna and flora, is BIOL2001 (Australian Terrestrial Environments). Not only do you learn about Australia's koalas, possums and kangaroos, but the course also goes on a week long trip to Fraser Island.

Aside from the hard facts about our animals, there are also a few quirky things that you will learn over your stay here in Queensland that will undoubtedly sound ridiculous on paper. The first is that our bats look like foxes and eat flowers. The second is that koalas in mating season sound like soul devouring demons. And the third is that our biggest spider, the huntsman, is virtually the only non-poisonous arachnid we have. Australia is of course infamous for its deadly critters. If the safety talks about spiders and venomous snakes haven’t left you wearing steel cap boots then you may as well brave it like the rest of us and stick with your thongs and Glen 20. ■

CASSOWARY

Imagine, you’re out for a nice stroll in the Australian bush when you see a colourful and harmless looking bird. You go to give it bread like its some kind of overgrown duck, when suddenly it kicks out and kicks again. And again. You’ve just been killed by the deadliest bird in the world...

BLUE RINGED OCTOPUS

It hangs around in rock pools and, when cornered, will produce blue rings on its body that are meant to be a warning. Although its only 10cm, it has very potent venom, which currently has no Anti-Venom. Death can occur in as little as two hours.
Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders are the traditional peoples of Australia, and are recognised as having the oldest continuous culture on the planet. Their rich culture, deep connections to the land and spiritual beliefs are incredibly interesting, unique and form a vital part of Australian history. Boomerangs and dot paintings only scratch the surface of their immense and intricate culture.

Brisbane is situated on Turrbal tribal land. Many of the Turrbal people lived along the Brisbane River (Maiwah), where Coronation Drive is located now. The large population of Indigenous Australians living here attracted the settlement of Brisbane by European settlers.

Throughout Brisbane there are a tonne of places to visit and learn about the Aboriginal culture first hand – and we highly recommend it! The Aboriginal Art Trail at Mount Coot-ha is a great introduction to Aboriginal art. The walk is quick – a 500 metre side step from the main hike – and is an awesome way to experience rock paintings the way they were originally intended. Many suburbs and places in Brisbane have names derived from Turrbal words. Woolloongabba is derived from either woolloon-capemm meaning “whirling water”, or from woolloon-gabba meaning “fight talk place”. Toowong is derived from tuwong, the onomatopoeic name for the Pacific koel (a local bird). Bulimba means “place of the magpie-lark”. Indooroopilly is derived from either nyindurupilli meaning “gully of leeches”, or from yindurupilly meaning “gully of running water”. Enoggera is a corruption of the words yauar-ngari meaning “song and dance”.

CAFES & RESTAURANTS
**Cafes**

Brisbane over the past couple years has established itself a rich coffee culture. Not as great as in Europe, but hey give us some slack, we are getting there. Therefore, we recommend you the following student friendly cafes to show you that Brissy can keep up with the European counterparts.

**Flamingo - 5 Winn St, Fortitude Valley**
Flamingo is located in the Valley, which is best known for its crazy nightlife. However, this little cute café is very different from its party crazed surroundings. Hidden in a small laneway, the café really pops with its colourful, kitsch and quirky interior. Go for breakfast or lunch, or perhaps one of their wonderful coffees. The food is fairly simple, but good. Serving things like coconut lemon muffins, chicken and slaw sanga, haloumi and beetroot salad, pulled lamb salad, fresh juices and an array of mouth-watering milkshakes.

**Bonsai Botanika - 109 Elizabeth Street, CBD**
This cafe in the heart of the CBD has the most unique interior and we have not seen anything like it in Brisbane. It is a mix between very modern and edgy and then a honey and earthy feel. So we say again: UNIQUE. When grabbing one of their delicious flourless chocolate cakes or one of their smooth coffees, you end up spending the meantime looking around at all the little cool features. Unquestionably worth a try!

**The Three Monkeys - 58 Mollison Street, West End**
A classic of West End and is mostly known for their wide range of cakes. They serve great coffees, an amazing chai latte and yummy smoothies. They also serve basic dishes, such as sandwiches and salads. It is a busy place, but it never loses its relaxed bohemian atmosphere. Definitely check out their lovely and leafy courtyard – it’s an amazing place to hang out.

**Wordsmith Cafe - UQ St Lucia Campus**
Nestled between the Co-op Bookshop and the new Learning Innovation Building, Wordsmiths – The Writers Café tree-shaded café tables are set amongst endearing sandstone sculptures by Rhyl Hinwood.
PLACES TO EAT

Like many cities around the world, Brisbane offers a huge variety of places to eat. Picking the good ones can be a task, though. So how about you skip that part and check out the ones we recommend?!?

WRAPTURE
This is a little treasure in West End where you can get a delightful and tasty wrap in a relaxed and chill environment. It’s like an explosion of flavours in your mouth, brought to you by a wrap, and the staff is always friendly and welcoming too.

Location: Corner of Browning Street and Russel Street, West End

ARCHIVE
Archive has it all. It literally has everything you could ever want in a place to eat and drink. The food is seriously good, especially on Wednesdays when there’s a 2for1 deal, making it a great place to eat before Quest night. They also have a great selection of beer, so there will always be something to drink for everyone – so thoughtful of them. And there is something happening every night, be it bingo or live band, you’ll never be bored at Archive.

Location: Boundary st, West End. You can’t miss it.
Price: Food $18-30 (Minus Wednesday), Beverages start at $7.
www.archibebrewboutique.com.au

UNDO CHURRASCO
If you can get someone to pay for your meal and drinks, go here, or if you just really fancy a meat fest, go here! In this traditional Brazilian style of grilling you are served as much as you want of twelve different types of meat, in addition to several side dishes to complement the meat. It is safe to say you leave as a balloon. But it is the best meal I ever had in Brisbane, hands down. Sure it’s an expensive night, but it is definitely worth it. A great place to bring parents if they come to visit.

Location: 63 McGregor Tce, Bardon.
Price: Depending on time of the week $38.5 or $42.5 per person, Beverages start at $6.5.
www.mundochurrasco.com.au
GRILL’D
At Grill’d you can choose from a variety of interesting burger combinations. They serve beef, chicken, lamb and veggie burgers, sandwiches, salads and of course fries, possibly the greatest fries you will ever have on a Sunday arvo with a banging headache.
Location: All over Brisbane
Prices: Bring $15 and you should be good, but depends on side orders, so bring $20. www.grilld.com.au

JACKPOT NOODLES
This is where you want to go for a cheap but nonetheless decent Asian meal. The plates are always filled to the rim with delicious food, and there is so much to choose from that you’ll have to come back several times to find your favourite.
Location: CBD, West End, Toowong.
Prices: Most meals at $10. www.jackpottdining.com.au

LITTLE GREEK
Little Greek is one of the many Greek restaurants in West End and is definitely a winner! The prices are extremely decent and you can BYO. A great place for groups sharing food, the lemon potatoes are to die for and I would recommend a Yiros! Reserve a table if you’re planning on going on Friday nights or the weekend as they are popular and get extremely busy!
Location: 1 Browning Street West End
Price: $15 - $20 and you will be full and satisfied!

PUNJABI PALACE
This is the fancier Indian option in West End; it is a proper restaurant and as such, more expensive. The food arrives in what I can only assume are traditional Indian serving plates with exactly the portion needed to fill you to the point of never needing to eat again. But you can’t help but finish because the curry, rice and naan are all just so good.
Location: Melbourne St, West End.
Price: $15 and up. www.jpunjabipalace.com.au

OLÉ
If you have cravings for tapas you need to visit Olé. Their tapas to share are a great way to get a taste of several dishes and will fill you right up. If you aren’t too hungry, you can easily be three instead of two sharing. Sharing a jug of sangria among two is the perfect way to go about it. It is a great place for both small and big groups to share a meal and some drinks.
Location: Grey St, South Bank
Price: Depends on how much you order, bring $30.
www.olerestaurant.com.au
The nightlife in Brisbane caters for a variety of different tastes and styles. Being one of Australia’s hippest cities there is no shortage of good venues. Here are our favourite nightlife spots throughout the three major nightlife areas Fortitude Valley, CBD and West End.
FORTITUDE VALLEY

The Valley is where Brisbane’s best clubs are located. Brisbane’s main nightlife is focused here and there are a variety of reasons why. Located just outside the city, accessible by train, bus or car, and open to the wee hours of the morning, it offers a unique and enjoyable experience that has been entertaining locals for numerous years. In the Valley you can find venues to suit your needs, live band cafes, hippy-style bars, R&B reggaeton discotheque joints and massive rave-style clubs. The choice is yours, the Valley being your oyster, on what type of music you’re in the mood for and what vibe you feel like experiencing. A large police presence in the Valley also allows added protection and discourages public nuisance, so you can spend more time partying and less time worrying.

The Met

One of the biggest clubs in town, with two dancefloors allowing patrons to choose depending on their musical taste. Dress codes are standard, only requiring trousers and a t-shirt for guys. There are always international DJs playing and it is popular amongst big groups of people because of its size and ease getting in. The Met is centrally located in the Valley making it easy to find.

Alfred & Constance

This is a must go for students. The venue itself is based on an old Queenslander home and has the same atmosphere as a house party. There is a really good vibe that attracts a lot of young people. It has become a popular new bar to catch up with mates and scope out the local talent!

GPO

As one of the hottest nightspots in Brisbane’s entertainment precinct, GPO HAs been iconic in Brisbane for over a decade. With a range of national and international DJ’s from around the globe gracing the decks of the main room over the past 10 years GPO.

Family

Located in the Valley, this is Brisbane’s biggest nightclub, and has been labeled as Queensland’s best. Family features four floors with a dancefloor on each playing different types of music, and thus allows a large congregation of different music lovers to party at the same place. It is very popular with deep house and R&B, as well as techno and other electronic music. International DJs like Laidback Luke have played in this venue. The Family is a must try for newcomers to Brissie so that a complete grasp of the dance scene in Brisbane is understood.
The city of Brisbane is small in comparison to other cities, which means that finding clubs and pubs is not a difficult task. The majority of watering holes are located in relatively close proximity and thus having a night out in the city is convenient and fun. Most of the clubs and pubs in the city do not have a cover charge, which allows freedom to move on to other venues that are nearby without spending any money. Makeshift pub-crawls are common with groups of people in the city who are keen to explore new venues and discover local talent.

The Down Under Bar (DUB) is a hostel/backpacker bar that is conveniently located across the road from Central station. It is also situated in the same building as BASE central, a hostel popular amongst many travelling tourists who are passing through Brisbane. One of the best things about DUB is that it is open every night, and every night there is always a decent crowd enjoying the cheap drinks and party atmosphere that the venue provides. It is also a good place to meet Aussies and internationals alike. The best night to go to DUB is on a Tuesday, which is ladies night and also its busiest night. Boys can dress up as girls to receive even cheaper drinks and on some occasions, win bar tabs and score a lot of respect from the rest of the patrons.

Be sure to have a form of ID that is recognised in Queensland! QUEST recommends getting an Adult Proof of Age Card from Queensland Transport to save any hassle. Otherwise, YOU WILL NEED YOUR PASSPORT or (if it has English characters) international drivers license.


ALSO, IT HELPS TO KNOW THE DRESS CODE FOR THE VENUE. SOME PLACES REQUIRE GUYS TO WEAR LEATHER LOOKING SHOES AND A COLLARED SHIRT, WHILE OTHERS DON’T CARE. IT’S A PAIN BUT YOU’VE GOT TO PLAY BY THEIR RULES.

Fridays

Friday’s is a lounge bar/club that is located right by the river. It is popular with young working professionals who enjoy the view and atmosphere that Friday’s creates. The large outdoor patio overlooking the river allows people to have easy flowing conversations without the music from inside interrupting them, which is ideal to explore Brisbane’s nightlife and meet new people. The best night to go, as the name suggests, is on a Friday where students and working professionals can be seen mixed into a vibrant group. The dress code for Friday’s is a collared shirt and leather shoes for men, and it can be best to arrive earlier on Friday to avoid lines.
THE GLOBAL GATHERING

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Prizes and Giveaways Every Week
The Biggest Friday Night Party in Brisbane!

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West End is a suburb located just across the river from the CBD. It is one of Brisbane’s most multicultural areas with diverse people living, working and cooking together as one community. West End has several good cafes, restaurants and bars, which correspond to the vibrancy that the suburb creates. Everything chic, hippy, indie etc is accepted in this area and you can expect to not only have a good night but become addicted to its personal charm and great vibes.

The Hi-Fi

The Hi-Fi is a live-band venue bar that features a variety of live acts including internationally known bands every week. Gigs range depending on the scale and size of the gig, from cheap Matt Corby and John Butler Trio gigs to more expensive Stereophonics and Franz Ferdinand shows. It is an excellent place for music-lovers, as new bands can be heard free most nights, and it is very common to hear samples of up-and-coming artists based in and around Brisbane. Drinks aren’t expensive and the atmosphere is always very energetic.

Archive / Loft

The Archive Bar and Loft Lounge is one of West End’s best craft beer taverns. Many thirsty students come to the Archive to have a cold craft ale for reasonable prices. The food is really good and decently priced, which pairs well with a nice cold brew. The interior is decked out with comic book pages and old books, which give the venue a suave look and atmosphere. There are also trivia nights and pool competitions on certain nights. Loft Lounge is located directly above Archive and is a bit more fancier, with large old-fashioned couches and chandeliers covering the place, appealing to a mature crowd but at the same time having decent prices.

Lock’ n’ Load

Located in the heart of Brisbane’s vibrant West End, Lock’ n’ Load caters to the discerning palate in a relaxed environment. With a tranquil courtyard to escape the city streets, food prepared with love, live music to the ears and slick service, West End’s focal of bohemian lifestyle is right here. Cranking it up since 2005! Lock’n’Load hosts some of the best up and coming local talent as well as seasoned artists from the Eastern Seaboard and abroad. Relaxing Dinner jazz on Tuesday turns to party tunes on the big nights and there’s always some great chilled vibes to finish up with a legendary Sunday session.
TOURISTY
BRISBANE

Congratulations! According to Lonely Planet, you have chosen Australia’s hippest City!

But before you merge in with the locals, you should spend a few days as a tourist. So get your gear together and check out these touristy places: Start by exploring Kangaroo Point, climb the cliffs or opt for the Story Bridge Adventure Climb, one of only three in the world. At 74 metres above the Brisbane River, you will be rewarded with amazing views of the city skyline and all the way out to Moreton Bay. Stroll along the Brisbane River or even kayak or paddleboard up the river, to the South Bank Parklands. During the daytime, you can enjoy the public beach, lagoons and picnic and BBQ areas there. On the weekend, you can go on a little treasure hunt at The Collective Markets South Bank, where handmade jewellery, art and fashion are sold. South Bank also features the Wheel of Brisbane, giving you a 360 degree panoramic view of the city, as well as countless events such as outdoor movies, festivals and live music. If you had enough of walking, jump on the free CityHopper and get off at Eagle Street Pier to indulge in a variety of food, overlooking the Brisbane River. Afterwards, you can explore the CBD and do some shopping along Queen Street or sign up for CityCycle and bike along the river, following the Bicentennial Bikeway. Be sure to stop in Milton and get a tour of the heritage-listed XXXX Brewery. Learn about the beer brewing process, get taught how to pour the perfect beer and taste it like a brewer. Those skills surely make for a good conversation starter at any QUEST event.

While you have now seen the heart of the city, your family at home is eagerly awaiting pictures featuring Australia’s national animals. Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary is only a bus-ride away from you and is the world’s first and largest koala sanctuary. Cuddle a koala, feed a kangaroo or ask for upcoming wildlife encounters and presentations.
TOP FIVE DAY TRIPS

Want to go beyond Brisbane’s borders for a day? Here are our five recommendations!

GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS
About 1 hour drive north of Brisbane, the Glass House Mountains are a beautiful group of volcanic crags sticking up from the coastal plain. They are listed on the Queensland and National Heritage Register as a landscape of national significance. Aborigines believed these peaks to be a family of mountains spirit. You can discover several walking tracks which lead through open forests to wonderful lookout. We strongly recommend Mt Ngungun and Mt Tibrogargan walking tracks! (Respectively 1 hour and 2-3 hours long if you climb to the top).

MOOLOOLABA on the Sunshine Coast.
In the south of Noosa and only 1h30 drive of Brisbane, Mooloolaba is one of the most pleasant coastal centers of the Sunshine Coast. Here you will find a beautiful beach, a good surf spot and some excellent restaurants. Like seafood? Go to the seafood market at pilot station road and enjoy delicious king prawns on the beach! If you have your own car, you should drive to the Beacon Lighthouse Reserve in Buddina to enjoy the amazing view there. (10 minutes drive from Mooloolaba main beach) You can also access Mooloolaba by train (2 hours of travelling time from Brisbane city).

MOUNT TAMBORINE
About 1 hour drive south of Brisbane, Tamborine Mountain is divided into nine small national parks offering tumbling cascades and great coast views. This unspoiled environment is easily accessible by car or on organized tours from the Gold Coast. Here you can enjoy different short walking tracks (around 1 hour each). Some of the best spots are Witches Falls National Park, Cedar Creek Falls where you can swim, and Cameron Falls. There’s a visitor information centre at Doughty Park, North Tamborine.

DAGUILAR NATIONAL PARK (Brisbane Forest Park)
Discover remote gorges, sheltered pockets of subtropical rainforest and spectacular views; all within an hour drive from Brisbane.

This park is a great area for bushwalks, cycling, horse riding, camping and scenic drives. At the entrance to the park in an area called the Gap that is the Brisbane Forest Park information centre, which has info about the park and maps of walking trails. Besides the information centre is Walk-About Creek which is a wildlife centre where you can see fish, lizards, pythons and turtles. For bush-walkers, we recommend Greenes Falls and Morelia walking trails.

You can also access the park entrance with any bus for The Gap from the corner of Albert and Adelaide St in the city (Number 385 is an express service).
There are plenty of things to do in wonderful Brisvegas. However, tourists, students and locals alike, want to have a weekend getaway every now and then.

While most Brisbanites will head towards one of South East Queensland’s amazing beaches, there are plenty of other options to suit all budgets and timeframes. This is a list of our Top 5 Weekend Trips, including but not exclusively sending you to the sun, surf and sand at the Gold Coast, and Sunshine Coast.

**Ambourine**

Still on the Gold Coast but with a change of scenery, here you can experience the beauty and tranquility of the Gold Coast Hinterland. Take it to new heights and go on the rainforest skyline walk, visit wineries and distilleries and taste what they have on offer. Stroll along the Tamborine Gallery Walk and peruse around unique craft stalls, beautiful artesian shops and trendy cafes. There is also the opportunity to visit the illuminating glow worm caves plus many more attractions to fit into a short weekend visit and all this is wrapped up with some amazing views of the Gold Coast Hinterland.

**Byron and surrounding Hinterland**

Although famed for its pristine beaches, café culture and laid back hippy lifestyle, Byron and the surrounding area has a lot more to offer. A short drive north you find Brunswick Heads, hosting the infamous Hotel Brunswick pub which is a great place for a relaxing afternoon after spending the day at Torakina beach, swimming, enjoying water sports or bridge jumping.

Bangalow, 15 minutes into the Hinterland, is the perfect spot for boutique shops and funky coffee houses. If you’re there on the right weekend you might even catch the Bangalow billycart derby, an annual tradition. If you’re after a less touristy spot, Lennox Heads boasts Lake Ainsworth, a tea-tree stained fresh water lake as well as many festivals in the area.

**Yamba and Angourie**

Yamba is a coastal town in northern NSW not yet fallen victim to major commercial franchises. While boasting untouched beaches and great surf, it also provides an amazing salt water ocean pool as well as some great whale watching opportunities.
and an array of national parks. While you’re there, it’s worth the short drive south to Angourie, which is renowned for its fresh blue and green water pools - popular with the locals.

**Cairns** – While this is a little bit further north and higher on the budget lines, heading up to north Queensland will prove to be an unforgettable experience. Whether you choose to fly up for the weekend or take a little extra time off and road trip it up there, you will be sure to have a good time. Go snorkeling, diving or swimming and experience the beauty of the Great Barrier Reef, take the Skyrail Rainforest Cable-way up and catch the Kuranda Scenic Railway back while enjoying the views. You can also get adventurous and go jungle-surfing, the best way to experience the Daintree and Cape Tribulations Rainforest or relax at one of the many pubs and trendy bars on offer.

**Australian Outback Tours and Farm Stays**

A little more low-key but definitely worth the time, there will be something for everyone. Many farms are within a couple hours drive from Brisbane, depending on where and what you choose to do. Experience the Aussie outback where you have the opportunity to see and stay at working Australian farms, cattle and sheep stations. At many you have the chance to see and often feed native wildlife, horse riding and later cool off with a swim in a dam.

See what life is like in outback Australia for our jackaroos and jillaroos and if you aren’t scared to get a little dirty down under, this is a must.

While most of these places are close enough to Brisbane for a weekend getaway, take a plane and definitely try to experience Australia’s other major cities - if the budget allows. To get the most out of these trips, a long weekend would best suit as there are a million and one things to do in each city.
**BRISBANE TO BYRON EXPRESS BUS**

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www.brisbane2byron.com
Sick of drinking the same beer every time? Looking for an alternative to goon sacks for your Friday night? Lucky for you Brisbane has a craft beer scene that is growing every year! With small microbreweries popping up around the city there are multitude of beers to try and taste. There is even a craft beer festival called Brewsvegas, which starts on March 21st. From the sweet and crisp apple ciders to the dark and bitter IPA beers, there is something for everyone to enjoy!

Here’s some of the top picks for Brisbane’s craft beer bars:

**Yard Bird Ale House**
Full of delicious beers from Australia and the US, Yard Bird Ale House delivers a fun and exciting pub experience. A must-have is the chilli-cheese fries and if you’re feeling hungry try the Buffalo wings. Craft beers from the US are usually found here too. It is located at 6/24 Martin Street, Fortitude Valley.

**The Scratch**
An alternative to the XXXX brewery just up the road, the Scratch offers a huge selection of craft beers. With different beers being sold there each fortnight it’s hard to keep track of their selection. With friendly staff, relaxed atmosphere and many delicious drinks on offer, you’ll find it hard not to enjoy this tucked away bar. Located at 8/1 Park Road, Milton (just behind Milton train station).

**Tomahawk Bar**
The younger sister of the popular Tippler’s Tap, Tomahawk bar is a great place to relax in the heart of Southbank. In has a large list of craft beers that change throughout the week and as well as offering great food. The pulled pork burger and popcorn chicken are especially delicious. It’s located at 5/182 Grey Street, South Brisbane.
AH QUEENSLAND THE SUNSHINE STATE.
Well, not always. Brisbane is actually the storm capital of Queensland and in between the stereotypical sun-soaked beach days, you might find yourself stuck in a rainstorm, or five. Not to worry! Here’s a list of 5 cheap, fun things to do around Brisbane without looking like a drowned rat.

1. Two words – Cheap. Movies. Southbank cinemas has amazing student discounts and you can see any of the latest flicks for about $6. Event cinemas Indooroopilly has also just re-launched their UQ student deal and now also has movie deals for only $6.50.

2. QPAC, and GOMA. Southbank Cultural Centre has everything to fulfil your inner art nerd. If art ain’t your thing check out the science museum. Although the activities are often filled with kids I think we can all agree that spinning around in chairs and playing with massive Lego blocks are activities that can be enjoyed by all ages.

3. If you are one of those rare exchange students who is financially OK, then Brisbane offers two great shopping centres – Carindale on the Southside and Chermside on the north. Both easily accessible by public transport.

4. Feeling competitive? Brisbane city has Strike Bowling right on Queen Street. It doesn’t just have bowling, but laser tag AND, even better, karaoke.

5. What’s the main thing missing from your life? If you answered ‘100 trampolines’, you’re in luck! BOUNCEinc has recently opened in Tingalpa and has a massive interconnected trampoline space for you to go crazy and jump off the walls.
When you were back home ready to come to Australia, if you met somebody who had visited Australia and found out you were going too, there’s a good chance they asked you this: “Can you pick me up some Tim Tams?” Chances are your reaction was “No!, I mean, wait, what IS a Tim Tam?”. A Tim Tam is a famous Australian chocolate biscuit that has gained celebrity status around the globe. It is often in the carry-on luggage of departing expats and tourists. It’s more famous than Crocodile Dundee in some parts of the world and it’s a freaken biscuit! Arnotts make the biscuit, and until 1992 it was one of Australia’s favourite companies. At that point it was bought out by a massive US company which was a big deal at the time. Nonetheless, Tim Tams are still classed as an Aussie institution. One thing foreigners often don’t know about a Tim Tam is that there is a special way to eat it. It’s called a Tim Tam Slam and it is awesome. Here’s how you do it:

1. Make yourself a glass of hot Milo, tea, coffee or milk.
2. Bite a little bit off one corner of the Tim Tam.
3. Now bite a little bit off the diagonally opposite corner of the Tim Tam.
4. Lean down towards the glass and put your mouth over one corner of the Tim Tam, like a straw.
5. Dip the other corner into the glass so it is slightly submerged.
6. Suck the liquid through the Tim Tam.
7. As soon as you taste the liquid, put the whole Tim Tam in your mouth.

What happens then is a true miracle in the chocolate sense of the word. If you have a hot drink (which is the preferred method), then the Tim Tam melts completely in your mouth. It is amazing.

As mentioned, this is a bit of a local secret that has been passed on since the dawn of the Tim Tam. Now, when your parents come to visit, you can make them try it. Once you have mastered the Tim Tam Slam, spread the word!
Notes
DOWN UNDER Bar & Grill

FULL ON, FLAT OUT!

BRISBANE'S #1 STUDENT BACKPACKER PARTY BAR

7 DAY PARTY PLAN

Monday - Bar Wars
Huge $200 Bar Wars Team Comp!

Tuesday - Ladies Night!
Dudes in Drag

Wednesday's Gone Wild
Brisbane's #1 Beach Party!

Thursday - No Bulls#it
No Bull - Just Party!

Friday - I ❤ Fridays!
Weekend Kickstarter Party!

Saturday - Smirnoff Saturday
VIP Girls Night Out

Sunday - Sound Off
Day & Night DJ Sessions Massive Meal Deals!!

FOX SPORTS WE SHOW ALL SPORTS

Under Base Backpackers
308 Edward Street - Brisbane

Down Under Bar & Grill practices RSA

WE ♥ JARS

#FRIDAYS
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