THE GLADSTONE REGION

The Gladstone Regional Council local government area is located in Central Queensland, about 550 kilometres north of Brisbane. It is bounded by the Coral Sea in the north-east and east, the Bundaberg and North Burnett Regional Council areas in the south, the Banana Shire in the west and the Rockhampton Regional Council area in the north-west.

The region is a rapidly growing residential hotspot, with significant rural, residential and industrial development. With a population of 66,097 and encompassing a total land area of 10,489.1 square kilometres, the region comprises national parks, state forests, pristine coastline, beaches, islands and major industry, including two of the world's largest alumina refineries, an aluminium smelter, a power station, cement and chemical manufacturers and Queensland's largest multi-commodity port, based on volume.

In addition, the Gladstone State Development Area continues to attract large industry to the region, including the current construction of three Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plants on Curtis Island.

The Gladstone Region is as diverse as it is attractive, providing its population with an enviable lifestyle within a strong and dynamic economy. A strong retail and service sector within the modern urbanised city of Gladstone, together with major industry, tourism and primary production, provide abundant choice for workers and opportunities for business people.

Balanced with large areas of green open space, including several national parks, historical sites, bush walks, trails and marine and recreational opportunities, residents have a wide choice to explore and experience the great outdoors.

The region boasts an ideal tropical climate; with average temperatures ranging from a moderate 18-20 degrees Celsius in winter and up to 27-29 degrees Celsius in summer, it makes for the perfect holiday destination. On average it receives 967mm of rainfall annually.

Well developed infrastructure and services, including a modern and recently upgraded award-winning regional airport, continue to support the localised identity of the communities across the region.

The Gladstone Region comprises the urban centres of Gladstone, Calliope, Boyne Island/Tannum Sands plus the small towns of Agnes Water, Ambrose, Baffle Creek, Benaraby, Bororen, Builyan, Lowmead, Miriam Vale, Mount Larcom, Many Peaks, Nagoorin, Raglan, Rosedale, Seventeen Seventy, Targinnie, Turkey Beach, Ubobo and Yarwun. Many small localities also exist in between.

The region is the gateway to the majestic Southern Great Barrier Reef, with access points for the iconic Heron and Wilson Islands. Day trips also depart from the Seventeen Seventy Marina, allowing residents and visitors to visit some of the best parts of the Great Barrier Reef.

The beach at Agnes Water is enticing for surfers, as it is the most northern surf beach on the east coast of Australia. One of Australia's premier freshwater fishing locations, Lake Awoonga, is also located within the region. Famous for its elusive barramundi, Lake Awoonga's world-class barramundi fishing draws many fishing enthusiasts to the region.

Like many other local government areas in Queensland, a challenge ahead will be to maintain the standard of our current environment amid the impacts of rapid growth and development.



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