

# Angles

## Angles - February, 2010

### Southern Queensland

#### Scenic Rim View Cottages

The award-winning Scenic Rim View Cottages at Warrill View near Boonah in Queensland's Scenic Rim region offer a picturesque country escape in absolute luxury and privacy.

The five-star boutique B&B offers accommodation in individual, open plan cottages with timber cathedral ceilings, cosy wood fires for the winter months, air conditioning for warmer days and large verandahs with panoramic views. Each cottage is well-separated by landscaping to ensure guests absolute privacy. Stays can be fully catered with all meals served to the cottage and self-catering is also available. The Cottages won the award for Best Hosted Five-Star Rated Accommodation at the 2009 National Hotel & Motel Accommodation Industry (HMAA) Awards for Excellence and are located around 70km south west of Brisbane. [www.scenicrimviewcottages.com.au](http://www.scenicrimviewcottages.com.au)

### Queensland Cities

#### Guided walking tours

Visitors to Brisbane can discover what makes Australia's new world city tick on a choice of walking tours.

My Australia Tours run a daily three hour tour during which expert guides cover everything from the Battle of Brisbane, Stolen Generations, the native Police, World Expo 88, South Bank, Aboriginal culture, ANZACs, the origins of Lamingtons and much more. No matter your budget you'll have a great time discovering the sights and sounds of Brisbane on foot. The free tour starts everyday at 11am from King George Square. Visitors looking to explore the city at night will be interested in the Pub Crawl tour, starting each night from 9.30pm. [www.myaustriatours.com](http://www.myaustriatours.com) The Visitor Information Centre (VIC) in the Queen Street Mall offers free guided walks around Brisbane's CBD every weekday at 12pm. Starting and finishing at the VIC, the hour-long walk takes in the city's iconic buildings including the Brisbane Arcade and City Hall, historical George and William Streets to the Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Parliament House. Bookings are essential.

[www.visitbrisbane.com.au](http://www.visitbrisbane.com.au)

### Outback

#### Wetherby Station

John and Kathleen Colless, owners of the 1,618 hectare Wetherby Station in Mount Molloy in Tropical North Queensland, have built a specially-designed arena to cater for tourists hungry to learn about the beef industry.

A working cattle station, Wetherby Station breeds high grade commercial Droughtmaster beef cattle. The station's show arena is often the first time many tourists have seen cattle up close and offers a glimpse at the modern day beef industry. The history of Wetherby Station dates back to 1878, when it was one of the first properties to be founded in the Mount Molloy. This genuine Outback experience offers guests the opportunity to learn about the property's history, the Droughtmaster breed and cattle in general. Groups from 10 to 400 can be catered for, with the station offering a magnificent location for a dinner on the lawns or on the homestead verandahs, a casual Australian-style barbeque or a rollicking bush dance. [www.wetherbystation.com](http://www.wetherbystation.com)

## Nature and Wildlife

### Noosa Everglades

Explore the dramatic coloured sand cliffs, dark waterways and long golden beaches of the Cooloola section of the Great Sandy National Park, the world's largest sand mass, on a Noosa Everglades Discovery tour.

The spectacular Cooloola Coast stretches 65km from Noosa to Fraser Island. Cooloola's 56,600ha park is a refuge for plants, animals and birds including many endangered species and offers diverse natural landscapes. Noosa Everglades Discovery offers three tour options – all advance eco-accredited. Choose from a barbecue lunch cruise, an afternoon cruise or a full day tour combining four-wheel-driving past the coloured sands with an everglades cruise, onboard the MV Cooloola Queen, a purpose-built vessel designed specifically for the Noosa Everglades with a roof-top sundeck for open air viewing. Explore, take a swim in the pristine waters, photograph the abundant birdlife or simply relax in this unique natural environment.

[www.noosaevergladesdiscovery.com.au](http://www.noosaevergladesdiscovery.com.au)

## Journeys

### Air Fraser Island

Fraser Island from the ground is spectacular but from the air the vast expanse of the world's largest sand island is mind-blowing.

Air Fraser Island is an award-winning, tourist based air charter service specialising in aerial tours of the island and using the beach and its unique airstrip. Choose from a range of flight options from scenic flights and charters, aerial tours meeting up with a four wheel drive bus tour, island day tours and fly/drive packages. Whale-watching tours are also available when the humpbacks are in the region between August and November. Pickups are available from Hervey Bay and the Sunshine Coast and all transfers and tours to and from the island include a scenic flight with knowledgeable commentary from an experienced pilot. [www.airfraserisland.com.au](http://www.airfraserisland.com.au)

## Islands of the Great Barrier Reef

### Haggerstone Island

Think luxury Swiss Family Robinson and you have conjured up Haggerstone Island, 600km north of Cairns.

Listed the number one destination for the 21st century by the prestigious Conde Nast Traveller magazine USA (2002), the family-friendly island is located near the tip of Cape York and accessed via a two hour plane flight from Cairns and 20 minute boat trip. Your hosts are former English couple, Roy and Anna Turner, who have spent 20 years creating their island paradise of hand-crafted free form buildings in the midst of the northern Great Barrier Reef. A maximum 12 guests can be accommodated in four lodges, each with individual charm. The Lagoon Hut is a roundhouse lodge situated on the islands' lagoon with an expansive deck, The Kwila Hut is an open-plan lodge set under a forest canopy with timber shutters to let in the cool sea breeze and The Beach Hut is situated right down on the beach away from the main resort with an open shower and wash room to allow guests to really get back to nature. Mawu is a three bedroom house offering the ultimate in seclusion, a magnificent outdoor dining area and luxurious furniture and fittings. Meals are enjoyed in the Main Pavillion or beside an open fire out on a jetty. There are plenty of ways to enjoy this unique part of Queensland, including all types of fishing, scuba diving, snorkelling, bird watching, beach combing, heli fishing and tours and guests have access to a 40 foot boat.

[www.haggerstoneisland.com](http://www.haggerstoneisland.com)

## Food, Wine & Lifestyle

### Urbane Restaurant

One of Brisbane's most well-regarded restaurants - Urbane - has reopened after much anticipation having undergone renovations for the past three years.

Located on Mary Street, diners are spoilt for choice with three extra wining and dining choices in addition to the restaurant - Sub Urbane (wine cellar and function space), The Euro cafe and The Laneway bar (the first laneway bar in Brisbane). The design of the venue retains the original elements of the restaurant with the exposed brick of the heritage building preserved, but is enhanced by solid timber walls and floors and special modern touches. The menu features the modern fine food that Urbane is famous for, with more emphasis on organic premium products.

[www.urbanerestaurant.com](http://www.urbanerestaurant.com)

## Coastal Lifestyle

### Istania, South Stradbroke Island

Imagine a luxury, island beach house, only an hour from Brisbane, complete with calm water lapping the sand below the front deck.

Istania is located on South Stradbroke Island, a 15 minute boat ride from Runaway Bay on the Gold Coast. The two-storey house features three double bedrooms, a funky kids bunkroom, three

bathrooms, laundry and a huge living space with designer kitchen, large lounge/dining area with a gas pebble fire plus an outdoor swimming pool. There's a barbecue on deck and Couran Point Resort, five minutes' walk away, has a restaurant and bar. Several kayaks and bicycles are supplied for guests. It's a 15 to 20 minute well-marked walk to the sand dunes on the ocean side of the island and its 22km stretch of beach. Istanian is accessible by water taxi. [www.istanian.com](http://www.istanian.com)

## **Aboriginal Experience**

### **Kalwun Dreaming Tours**

An indigenous tour around the Gold Coast's Burleigh Head's region is teaching visitors more about the area's ancient history before the region became a tourism mecca.

Kalwun 'Paradise Dreaming' tours include visits to an ancient burial ground where skeletal remains date back around 1,200 years and to an initiation bora ring where young boys were prepared for manhood. Traces of Aboriginal camps and bora rings survived well into the 19th century before being erased by development and this is one of the few that remain in the area. It also includes a visit to a midden, an ancient feasting ground, on the side of Burleigh Mountain, a dance troupe performance, and an anointment session where guests are each anointed by a dancer and told a personalised story. [www.kalwun.com.au](http://www.kalwun.com.au)