

12-DAY LOOP FROM BRISBANE: HINTERLAND AND COASTAL VIEWS



HINTERLAND & COASTAL ROAD TRIP


Distance
824.4 Kms

Duration
11 Days

Best Time Of Year
All Seasons

Highlights

- Hike to the top of **The Pyramid** in Girraween National Park
- Sip wine and sample local produce in Stanthorpe's **Granite Belt**
- Feel the mist at **Queen Mary Falls** in the **Scenic Rim**
- Watch the sunrise from **Cape Byron Lighthouse**
- Discover rainforest views at **Minyon Falls Lookout**
- Explore the colourful, quirky streets of **Nimbin**
- Camp just steps from the ocean in Byron Bay

Day 1: Brisbane to Boonah

Distance: 98 Kms **Time:** 1 hour 22 minutes

- **Morning:** Pick up your motorhome in **Brisbane** and get stocked up with groceries and supplies at a major supermarket (e.g. *Woolworths Cannon Hill* or *Coles Annerley*). Hit the road heading southwest towards the **Scenic Rim** region.
- **Afternoon:** Arrive in **Boonah**. Enjoy lunch at a local café like *Flavours Café* or *Arthur Clive's Bakery Cafe*. In the afternoon, head to **Mount French** for a short scenic walk and panoramic views from the **Logan's Lookout**.
- **Evening:** Settle in at the caravan park, cook a *relaxed dinner in your motorhome*, and enjoy a peaceful evening under the stars. If you're up for it, walk into town for a drink at a local country pub.
- **Where to stay:** Boonah Caravan Park Caretakers, 12 Melbourne St, Boonah QLD 4310.

Day 2: Boonah to Queen Mary Falls

Distance: 60.6 Kms **Time:** 1 hour

- **Morning:** Depart Boonah and enjoy a scenic drive south through rolling farmland and small country towns. Stop in the town of **Warwick** for a coffee and continue towards **Killarney**, a quaint township nestled near the **Great Dividing Range**.
- **Afternoon:** Arrive at **Queen Mary Falls** in Main Range National Park. Stretch your legs on the easy *Queen Mary Falls Circuit* (a 2 km return loop) and admire the spectacular **40-metre waterfall** plunging into the gorge below.
- **Evening:** Settle into your peaceful campsite surrounded by bushland. Take in the fresh mountain air, enjoy a campfire dinner (season permitting), and listen to the soothing sounds of the falls nearby.
- **Where to stay:** Queen Mary Falls Caravan Park & Café, 676 Spring Creek Rd, Killarney QLD 4373.

Day 3: Queen Mary Falls to Girraween National Park

Distance: 91.3 Kms **Time:** 1 Hour 30 minutes

- **Morning:** Wake up to birdsong and a peaceful bush setting before heading back on the road. Make your way southwest through rolling farmland towards **Stanthorpe**, passing through the heart of the **Granite Belt** region. Stop in Stanthorpe for morning tea or to visit a local winery or fruit stall.
- **Afternoon:** Continue on to **Girraween National Park**, known for its massive *granite boulders*, clear creeks, and spectacular walking tracks. Upon arrival, check in to your campsite and set out on a short walk—try **The Pyramid** track (3.6 km return) for a rewarding view, or start easy with **Bald Rock Creek Circuit** (2.2 km return).
- **Evening:** Enjoy a quiet night under the stars in one of **Queensland's most scenic national parks**. If you're visiting in spring, you may catch the region's famous wildflower displays.
- **Where to stay:** Sommerville Valley Tourist Park, 63 Sommerville Ln, Stanthorpe QLD 4380.

Day 4: Girraween National Park to Stanthorpe

Distance: 35.6 Kms **Time:** 30 minutes

- **Morning:** After breakfast, enjoy one last walk in Girraween—**Castle Rock** or **Dr Roberts Waterhole** offer great early morning options with beautiful light and fewer crowds. Then, pack up and take a short, scenic drive north to Stanthorpe, the heart of the Granite Belt wine region.
- **Afternoon:** Explore Stanthorpe's local charm. Visit the *Granite Belt Brewery*, take a stroll through the *Heritage Museum*, or do a wine tasting at one of the region's many cellar doors, such as **Ballandean Estate Wines**.
- **Evening:** Park up at a friendly country caravan park and cook dinner in your motorhome, or head to a cosy local restaurant like *Varias Restaurant* for something special.
- **Where to stay:** Top of the Town Tourist Park, 10 High St, Stanthorpe QLD 4380.



Image: Ballandean Estate Wines, Tourism & Events Queensland

Day 5: Stanthorpe to Tenterfield

Distance: 56.6 Kms **Time:** 45 minutes

- **Morning:** Enjoy a slow morning in Stanthorpe. Grab breakfast at *Zest Pastries*, then hit the road south toward **Tenterfield**, crossing into NSW. Along the way, consider a stop at **Bald Rock National Park** for a short walk or scenic lookout—the area features Australia's largest exposed granite rock.
- **Afternoon:** Visit the **Tenterfield Saddler**, stroll through the main street shops, or explore the *Sir Henry Parkes School of Arts Museum*. If you're travelling with kids, the **Tenterfield Railway Museum** is also worth a stop.
- **Evening:** Relax at your campsite nestled near the countryside. Enjoy a BBQ or head to the Commercial Boutique Hotel for a classic pub meal with a modern twist.
- **Where to stay:** Tenterfield Lodge Caravan Park, 2 Manners St, Tenterfield NSW 2372.

Day 6: Tenterfield to Casino

Distance: 128 Kms **Time:** 1 hour 40 minutes

- **Morning:** Leave the highlands behind as you descend toward the lush **Northern Rivers** region. Stop in the small town of **Drake** for a coffee or stretch before continuing on to **Casino**, known as the "*Beef Capital*" of New South Wales.
- **Afternoon:** Visit the *Casino Historical Museum*, take a walk along the **Richmond River**, or learn about the region's cattle heritage at the *Beef Industry Centre*.
- **Evening:** Kick back at a riverside caravan park and enjoy a **relaxing evening** surrounded by nature. Cook dinner in your motorhome or walk to a local pub for a hearty meal.
- **Where to stay:** BIG4 Casino Holiday Park, 69 Light St, Casino NSW 2470.

Day 7: Casino to Nimbin

Distance: 69.5 Kms **Time:** 1 hour

- **Morning:** Depart Casino and head east towards **Lismore**. Stop in town to explore the *Lismore Regional Gallery*, grab a coffee at *The Bank Café & Espresso*, or wander the Saturday farmers market if you're there on the weekend.
- **Afternoon:** Continue to **Nimbin**, the colourful village known for its alternative lifestyle, street art, and laid-back vibe. Explore quirky shops, the *Nimbin Candles*, and the *Nimbin Hemp Embassy* for a slice of local culture.
- **Evening:** Spend the evening soaking up the serenity of the surrounding hinterland.
- **Where to stay:** Nimbin Crystal Tourist Park, 29 Sibley St, Nimbin NSW 2480.



Image: Markets at Nimbin, Richard Whitbread; Destination NSW

Day 8: Nimbin to Byron Bay

Distance: 82.1 Kms **Time:** 1 hour 45 minutes

- **Morning:** Depart Nimbin and head through the lush Byron hinterland towards **Minyon Falls**, located in **Nightcap National Park**. Soak in the panoramic view of the *100-metre waterfall* plunging into the rainforest valley below. If you're up for a longer walk, there's also a *4 km return track* from the lookout.
- **Afternoon:** Continue to **Byron Bay**. Park up and head straight for the beach for a swim or a walk along the sand, or browse the boutiques and galleries in town or grab a smoothie at *Combi Byron Bay*.
- **Evening:** Watch the sun go down over the ocean—either from Main Beach or Clarkes Beach. Enjoy a casual dinner at *The Top Shop* or cook in your motorhome.
- **Where to stay:** First Sun Holiday Park, Lawson St, Byron Bay NSW 2481.

Day 9: Explore Byron Bay

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 hours

- **Morning:** Start your day with sunrise at the **Cape Byron Lighthouse**. The Cape Byron walking track is a scenic *3.7 km loop* offering ocean views, whale-spotting opportunities, and a stop at *Wategos Beach*.
- **Afternoon:** Spend your afternoon how you like it—relax on the beach, take a **surfing lesson**, browse Byron's boutiques, or treat yourself to a spa session.
- **Evening:** Catch **live music** at a local bar or head to *The Rails Kitchen*, a Byron institution with a great pub menu and nightly entertainment.
- **Where to stay:** First Sun Holiday Park, Lawson St, Byron Bay NSW 2481.

Day 10: Byron Bay to Mount Tamborine

Distance: 119 Kms **Time:** 1 hour 30 minutes

- **Morning:** Head north to peaceful hinterland. Consider a quick visit to **Burleigh Heads National Park** for a short coastal walk with beautiful views over the ocean.
- **Afternoon:** Arrive in Mount Tamborine and explore *Gallery Walk*. Visit **Curtis Falls** for an easy rainforest walk or take in views from the *Hang Glider Lookout*.
- **Evening:** Enjoy a tasting paddle at *Fortitude Brewing Co.* or a wine tasting at *Witches Falls Winery* then at your campsite.

- **Where to stay:** Thunderbird Park, Corner Tamborine Mountain Rd & Cedar Creek Falls Rd, Tamborine Mountain QLD 4272.

Day 11: Mount Tamborine to Brisbane

Distance: 83.7 Kms **Time:** 1 hour 30 minutes

- **Morning:** Enjoy a relaxed breakfast in the cool mountain air. Before you leave, stop at **Tamborine Rainforest Skywalk**. Depart late morning for your return journey to Brisbane.
- **Afternoon:** If you have time, stop in **Beenleigh** for lunch or a quick visit to the *Beenleigh Artisan Distillery*. Return your motorhome to the branch by 3:30 pm and reflect on the incredible inland and coastal loop you've just completed!



Image: Burleigh Hill, Tourism and Events Queensland

Packing Tips For Your Easter Road Trip

This **11-day loop** from **Brisbane** to **Girraween National Park** and **Byron Bay** offers the perfect balance of inland adventure and coastal relaxation.

Some things you'll want to bring include:

- **Clothing:** comfortable clothes for driving time, layers for varying temperatures, lightweight jacket or raincoat
- **Shoes:** hiking shoes, walking shoes, tongs
- Hat, sunglasses, **sunscreen**
- Plenty of food, **snacks**, and water
- Maps, journals
- **Camera**, phone, charging cables, **power banks**
- Favourite board games
- **Kids movies** & toys
- Personal toiletries and hygiene items
- **Picnic rug** & thermos
- Head torches for night beach walks
- **Binoculars** for spotting dolphins, whales and birds

Have a great trip!

