

QUEENSLAND

LOOKBOOK SWAIN DESTINATIONS

Why Queensland?

Swain Destinations travelers are increasingly drawn to Queensland, attracted by its unique cultural heritage and the trifecta of Australian wilderness: reef, rainforest, and outback.

Why is Queensland the hottest trending destination for 2024?

Adventure is bigger here. With the world's most extensive barrier reef, the oldest living rainforest, and the subtropical city of Brisbane, you're sure to tick more than a few experiences off the bucket list.

Adventure is brighter here. Nicknamed the Sunshine State for good reason, Queensland has over 300 sunny days a year.

Adventure is deeper here. Queensland is home to one of the oldest living cultures on Earth, the Aboriginal people, whose ancient culture revolves around deep respect for nature and its cycles. "Travel is the most wonderful gift we have on this planet. I feel so honored to craft unforgettable trips to amazing destinations for our clients.

When starting Swain Destinations in 1987, our goal was to allow people to visit places that seemed inaccessible or unknown.

It was clear the best way to highlight each destination was through the eyes of the locals. We pride ourselves on our relationships with local operators and vendors who can showcase their country and make our travelers feel welcome."

- Ian Swain, President & Owner



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ADVENTURE BIGGER IN QUEENSLAND

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Brisbane

An Aussie city with a subtropical climate and a history that American travelers will love. Brisbane has all the laid-back charm that you'd expect from the Australians, paired with a culture of outdoor living that will have you asking yourself why you don't live here.

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Brisbanites are outdoorsy folk, so the city has no shortage of parks, walking or biking paths, open-air restaurants and bars, and even an urban riverside beach, giving the city a strong sense of community as you can interact with others at every turn.





Story Bridge

A twilight climb of Brisbane's Story Bridge gives a view of the city from aloft that will take your breath away. Watch the sunset bounce off of the city's buildings and shimmer in the Brisbane River below. A heritage-listed steel cantilever bridge with its own history, get to know its story (pun intended) of Australian perseverance and significance to the city of Brisbane.

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Moreton Island

Moreton Island is the third largest sand island in the world and boasts the world's tallest coastal sand dune standing at 920 feet, Mount Tempest. Its bay is home to one of the world's most unique snorkeling and diving adventures, Tangalooma Wrecks.

The bay provides safe haven for all kinds of coral, tropical fishes, sea urchins, sea turtles, and three different species of dolphin, making it a wonderful day trip from Brisbane for marine activities. Or, enjoy the beauty of this island made completely of sand with a sandboarding or four wheeler adventure.

Scenic Rim

Named for the abrupt area where the Great Dividing Range mountains meet the valleys of Southeast Queensland, the Scenic Rim is located an hour west of Brisbane. Sit aloft sweeping valleys from atop this epic mountain range while staying at Spicers Peak Lodge, and take in this area of spectacular natural beauty in luxury.





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Daintree Rainforest

Tropical flora and wildlife abound in Queensland's Daintree Rainforest. Being home to over 400 bird species and rare prehistoric flora makes it one of the most biologically diverse flora and fauna regions in the world. Drift lazily down the Mossman River and allow the wildlife sounds of the canopy, paired with the sometimes delicate and sometimes heavy flowing rush of the river, leave you with no doubt that you are in the Rainforest.

Queensland Outback

There is nothing as breathtaking as taking a helicopter ride from the rainforest, over the Tablelands, to the open expanse of the Queensland Outback. Drive offroad vehicles and learn more about the region's history and culture. Take in a beautiful morning's sunrise from a hilltop and see how the sun kisses the Outback as it rises above the horizon. Stay at Mt. Mulligan Lodge and enjoy the produce of the Tablelands while overlooking its namesake escarpment.

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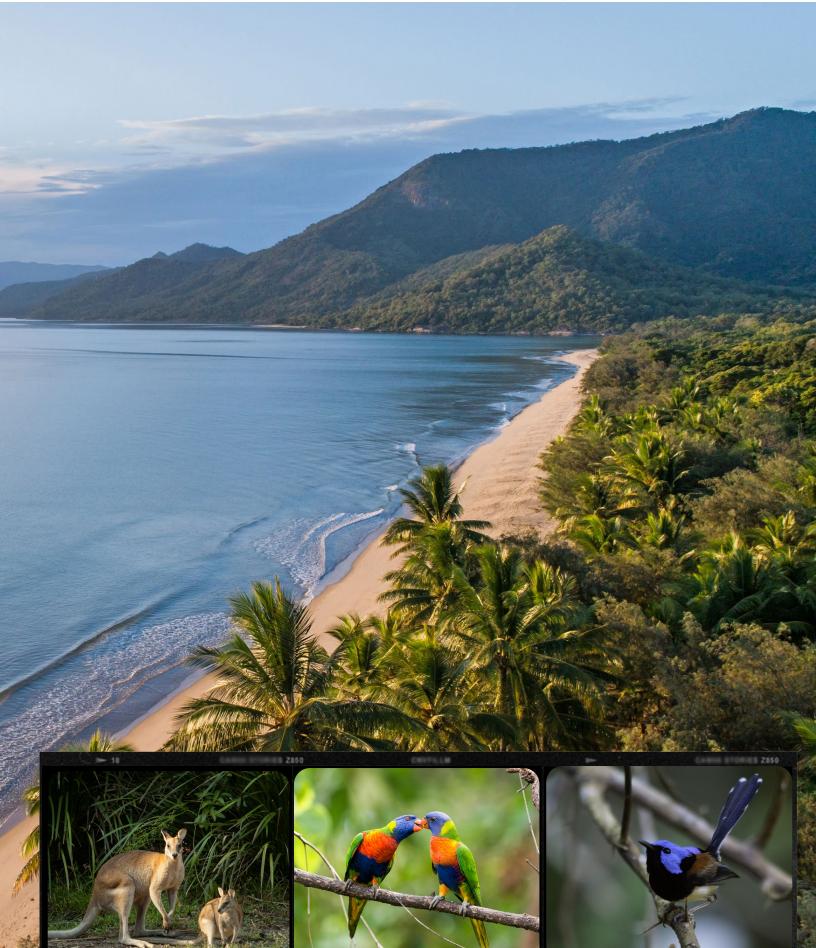




Port Douglas

The Port Douglas area is a picturesque destination from which one can explore both rainforest and reef. Just 15 minutes south of Port Douglas, Thala Beach Nature Reserve is nestled perfectly between the ecosystems of the rainforest and the reef on 143 acres of nature and wildlife reserve. Explore Thala's private beach, Oaks Beach, or pop into Port Douglas for shopping and dinner in town before returning to the canopy of the Daintree Rainforest for a restful night in one of their eco-friendly bungalows.

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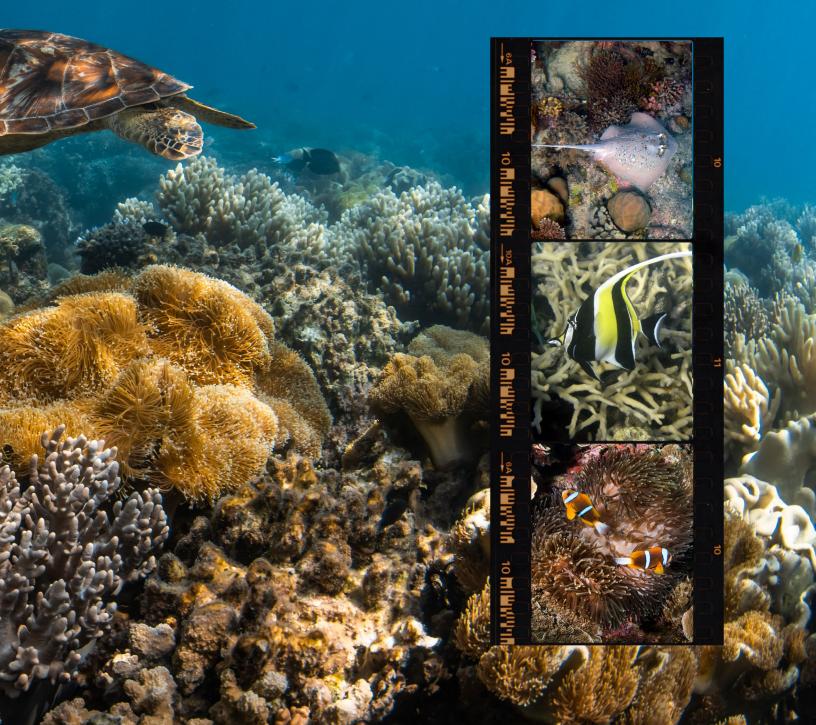




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Great Barrier Reef

If an island stay is your preference, stay on a Great Barrier Reef island where your snorkel adventures just require you to step a few feet off the beach. We love Lizard Island for its Giant Clam Gardens, serene sea turtles grazing on the seagrass, beautiful coral reef and the fact that it's all accessible by snorkeling just a few paces from your beachfront suite. Add to that the island is a National Park and home to a highly acclaimed reef conservation research station, and you will find no end to the exploration on offer.



Your Adventure Starts Here

There are so many unbelievable sights and experiences around Queensland, it's not hard to see why it has earned its spot as one of Swain Destinations travelers' top destinations.

Now that you've learned what makes Queensland so special, you're ready to start planning your dream trip to experience the Sunshine State for yourself.

Speak to our Swain Destinations Travel Experts, who are ready to customize your perfect Queensland adventure on 1-800-22-SWAIN (1-800-227-9246), or visit <u>www.</u> <u>swaindestinations.com</u> for even more Aussie inspiration.

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