

FRASER ISLAND (K'GARI)

WORLD HERITAGE AREA
AND RECREATION AREA
GREAT SANDY NATIONAL PARK

Breathe refreshingly



WELCOME TO FRASER ISLAND (K'GARI)

K'GARI IS THE TRADITIONAL LAND OF THE BUTCHULLA PEOPLE.

K'gari is my favourite place of all! As a Ranger I love educating people about my country. What's good for our country comes first—even before family, because with no country there is no place for the family.

K'gari to me is Mother Earth and is home. Respect her and she will respect us.

Naa yin bunna See you later.~

Ranger Conway



Conway Burns, Fraser Island Ranger and Butchulla man.
Photo: Darren Blake © Qld Govt



WHY WORLD HERITAGE?

World Heritage areas protect the best examples of natural and cultural heritage on Earth. Fraser Island's outstanding natural features include:

- long uninterrupted sweeps of ocean beach and strikingly coloured sand cliffs
- continually evolving complex coastal dune formations
- unusual and diverse plants and animals.

DISCOVER THE ISLAND

Relax into island time and experience a getaway adventure on a sand island paradise. Fraser Island (K'gari), the world's largest sand island, has something for almost everyone. Discover exquisite views, treks over snow-white sandblows, and forest drives. Enjoy springtime wildflowers, lakes, beaches and wildlife. With so much to see and do you'll want to come back again and again.



(Top banner)
Traditional Butchulla welcome dance, performed as part of the determination celebration for Butchulla native title; (left) Fraser Island—sweeping landscapes and a beach that goes on forever.

Photos: (top banner) Image courtesy of Queensland South Native Title Services (QSNTS); (left) © Tourism and Events Queensland

GETTING THERE AND AROUND

You'll need a 4WD with high-clearance and low-range capacity to drive on the island. Not keen to take the wheel? Sit back and enjoy a guided tour by vehicle, boat or plane. Choose from plenty of day and overnight tours all offering glimpses of the island's countless attractions.

Bookings essential for River Heads barges (ph: 1800 227 437) and plane flights (ph: 07 4125 3600) from Hervey Bay. No bookings required for the Inskip barges (near Rainbow Beach), which operate 6am to 5.30pm (busy periods have extended hours and are published on their website). Ph: 0418 872 599.

BE A WORLD HERITAGE HERO

Thanks for caring enough to prevent weeds and pests damaging this beautiful island. Before you visit:

- wash your car tyres and walking shoe soles
- sweep or vacuum camping equipment and car interiors
- bring no pets, soil or plant materials to the island.

BUSH WALKS GALORE!

If you love bushwalking, you'll love Fraser! There's a walking experience for everyone's capabilities, even a 90km, 6–8 day, adventure walk—Fraser Island Great Walk—with secluded walkers' camp sites along the way. Walk around freshwater lakes and under arching canopies of lush rainforest and feel the warmth of the subtropical sun on a beach that goes on forever.

Great Walk planning information and maps:
npsr.qld.gov.au/experiences/great-walks

VENTURE SAFELY

Make your visit to Fraser Island memorable for all the right reasons.

LET DINGOES LIVE WILD

Dingoes are protected by law on Fraser Island (K'gari) and are significant to Butchulla people. You might see these wild predatory animals any time of day or night. Follow these simple rules to stay safe around dingoes.



Photo: Robert Ashdown

BE DINGO-SAFE!

- ✓ NEVER feed dingoes.
- ✓ Always stay within arm's reach of children, even small teenagers.
- ✓ Walk in groups.
- ✓ Do not run or jog.
- ✓ Camp in fenced areas where possible.
- ✓ Lock up food stores and iceboxes (even on a boat).
- ✓ Never store food or food containers in tents.
- ✓ Secure all rubbish, fish and bait.

Report dingo interactions:

- email: dingo.ranger@npsr.qld.gov.au
- ph: (07) 4127 9150.

LOOK UP AND LOOK OUT

Fraser's eastern beach is Queensland's sandiest national highway. Some parts are also a landing strip for authorised small planes. Give way to planes landing or taking off. Aircraft landing zones are clearly marked with cones and signs and ground crew will direct you if required.

Walkers on the beach cannot hear cars approaching over the sound of wind and waves. People, especially children, can move unexpectedly. Drivers, please remember that 'slower is safer' and all Queensland road rules apply.

STAY SAFE!

- Never dive or jump into Lake Wabby or other lakes and creeks—they are often more shallow than they look and have hidden obstacles. Spinal injuries have resulted from these actions.
- Do not run, slide or roll down sand dunes. They are steep and unstable. Spinal injuries have resulted from these actions.
- Do not swim in the ocean; rips and sharks are common and it's not patrolled.
- Take extra care at Champagne Pools. Serious injuries have happened here.
- Where campfires are permitted, put your campfire out with water, not sand. Children have suffered terrible burns walking over fires covered with sand.
- Beach driving is best 2hrs either side of low tide.
- Avoid night driving—obstacles and wash-outs are very difficult to see especially when sea mists blow onshore.
- Do not take trailers on inland roads in dry conditions. Bogged vehicles can hold up traffic for hours. Be self sufficient with vehicle recovery gear. QPWS Rangers, if nearby, can offer some assistance, they cannot pull you free.
- Tune into local radio stations for weather updates.
- Best walking conditions are in the cooler months from May to September and in the cooler parts of the day, especially over sandblows.
- For the longer walks, let someone know where you're going, when you plan to return and what to do if you fail to return.
- In case of bushfires, stay away from thick bushland, and stay low to the ground where the air is coolest.

PERMITS

Book your vehicle and camping permits online before your visit to avoid disappointment at qld.gov.au/camping

RANGERS' PICKS

There are more than 30 walks on Fraser Island you and your friends can enjoy. Here are some of the best.

PILE VALLEY

4km circuit. Class 4. Allow 2hrs from Central Station

Breathe 'fresh air' as you walk through rainforest and along crystal-clear Wanggoolba Creek silently flowing past rainforest giants.

KIRRAR SANDBLOW

1.9km return. Class 3. Allow 1hr from eastern beach

See striking 'sandscapes' at Rainbow Gorge, where layers of ochre reds, yellows and browns swirl into the sand profiles creating earthy-coloured artpieces. The gorge opens up to Kirrar Sandblow, an awesome, lunar-like landscape.

LAKE ALLOM

1.4km circuit. Class 2. Allow 1hr from Lake Allom day-use area (off Northern Forest scenic drive)

An easy stroll with picture-perfect water reflections mirroring the towering brushbox and satinay trees. On warm days the air is scented with the spicy fragrance emitted by the leaves of the carrol shrubs that grow close to shore.

BEST WALKS AT A GLANCE

To	From	Class	Distance & time
Best boardwalks			
Eli Creek boardwalk	Eastern beach, Eli Creek	2	400m return Allow 30mins
Wanggoolba Creek boardwalk	Central Station day-use area	2	700m circuit Allow 30mins
Champagne Pools boardwalk	Middle Rocks	3	700m return Allow 30mins
Best circuit			
Wun'gul Sandblow circuit	Dundubara	4	5.5km Allow 2.5hrs
Best lookouts			
Lake Wabby lookout	Lake Wabby lookout car park, along Central Lakes scenic drive	3	900m return Allow 30mins
Knifblade lookout	Small car park on Woralie Road, part of Northern Lakes scenic drive	3	1km return Allow 45mins
Dundonga Creek walk	Kingfisher Bay Resort	3	3km return Allow 1.5hrs
Best lake walks			
Basin Lake	Central Station day-use area	4	5.6km return Allow 3hrs
Lake Allom	Lake Allom car park	2	1.4km circuit Allow 1hr
Best long walks			
Lake McKenzie	Kingfisher Bay Resort	4	23.2km circuit Allow 9hrs
Fraser Island Great Walk	Dilli Village or Happy Valley	4	90km one way Allow 6-8 days 8 walkers' camps along the way

WALKING TRACK CLASSIFICATION



Class 2

Formed track. May have gentle hills and some steps. Clearly signposted. No experience required.



Class 3

Formed track, some obstacles, 20km or less. May have short steep hills and many steps. Some experience recommended.



Class 4

Rough track. May be long and very steep with few directional signs. For experienced bushwalkers.



(Above) The stunning Fraser Island Great Walk meanders 90km from Dilli Village to Happy Valley; (below) Eli Creek boardwalk; (right) Wallum banksia (*Banksia aemula*) growing on coastal sand dune heath plain.

Photos: (above) © Ben Blanche; (below and background) © Lise Pedersen; (right) Adam Creed © Qld Govt



(Right) Pile Valley circuit; (far right) Be still and, like magic, Kreffts river turtles pop out of the tea-coloured waters as they swim past the Lake Allom viewing platform.

Photos: (above) © Lise Pedersen; (right) Jenna Tapply © Qld Govt

Find out more ways to explore on foot—visit npsr.qld.gov.au/parks/fraser/walking-tracks

Keep DISCOVERING



By foot, 4WD, bus or tag-along tour, Fraser Island (K'gari) will enchant you. With coloured sands, rugged headlands and lakes galore, one visit is never enough!

STAY SAFE – RANGER TIPS

Driving on all beaches is best around low tide on the harder sand surface. Driving is easier on you, your passengers and your car.

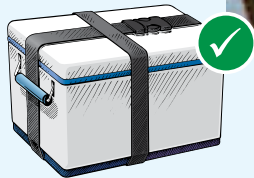
Ranger Jim

If you see some of the island's wild dingoes, let them roam free and find their own food. We need to remember to give dingoes space. K'gari is their place.

Ranger Dan



Photo: Troy Gellach



Bring metal, or very hard plastic, food storage boxes with strong latches or flat straps. Fishers, you should use a bait bucket with a tight-fitting lid, so dingoes can't get into them while you're watching your line.

Ranger Jenna

Emergency!

Call triple zero (000).

Vehicle recovery and assistance

On-island towing 0428 353 164

Fraser Island taxi (07) 4127 9188 and 0429 379 188



RANGER FAVOURITES

I was awestruck when I first saw Lake Wabby. I stood at Lake Wabby lookout and watched spellbound as the shadows of clouds danced across the sandblow's undulating dunes and the sun glinted off the emerald green waters of the lake.

Ranger Kim



I love to freeze time with my camera and capture the action when waves foam and fizz into Champagne Pools between half and full tide.

Ranger Emma





Warning: estuarine crocodiles have been sighted in Great Sandy Strait. Be croc wise. Stay back from the water's edge.

Caution: Approach with caution, may be impassable on higher tides.

Campfires are prohibited on QPWS managed areas of Fraser Island, except in fire rings at Dundubara and Waddy Point.

Caution: Beach may be impassable due to tides.

Warning: Do not swim in the ocean; it is unpatrolled and there are rips and sharks.



My favourite?
Eli Creek—a great cooling off place for families!
Ranger Jason



On days off I love to join my mates for a bit of fishing. We throw our catch straight onto the barbecue and savour the fresh sea taste.
Ranger Daniel



What diversity! Stingrays, sharks, dolphins, and in spring, whales cruising around Hervey Bay.
Ranger Sven

Photos: (top to bottom) Briony Masters © Qld Govt; © Qld Govt; © Lise Pedersen; © Qld Govt; © Tourism and Events Qld

SCENIC DRIVES AT A GLANCE

Drive times vary depending on track conditions and your driving ability. Always allow extra time for stops and drive along the beach around low tide.

Drive	Distance	Features	Extra hints
Central Lakes scenic drive Start at Central Station and head north	27.2km allow 3hrs	Through tall forest and open banksia woodland to eastern beach with a stop at Lake Wabby Lookout.	Peak visitor numbers between 10am–3pm daily. Consider car pooling with others in your group to improve chances of getting a car park.
Southern Lakes scenic drive	27.6km allow 3hrs	Through scribbly gums and banksia to lakes Birrabeen and Boomanjin.	Not suitable for vehicles towing trailers or camper trailers.
Lake Garawongera scenic drive	19km allow 2hrs	A remote rough drive through tall closed forest with a stop at tannin-stained Lake Garawongera. Head to Poyungan Valley and back to the eastern beach.	Experienced four-wheel drivers in high clearance 4WDs only. Good recovery and communication equipment essential. No mobile phone reception. Sections may be overgrown or blocked by recent tree falls.
Northern Forests scenic drive	42.4km allow 4hrs	Remote driving experience through Yidney Scrub's huge brush box and kauri trees. Short walk at Lake Allom	Experienced four-wheel drivers in high clearance 4WDs only.