

media release



For immediate release

Get the adrenaline pumping on land and sea

Sand boarding down pristine dunes ... snorkeling with turtles ... riding the waves ... sightseeing on a 4WD adventure ... you can do it all in Redlands on Moreton Bay.

From the bushland and coastline of the mainland, to the diverse landscapes of the islands, Redlands on Moreton Bay offers more than simply stunning views and relaxing holidays.

If you want to get active surrounded by some of south-east Queensland's most spectacular scenery, then look no further than the Redlands, where you can enjoy everything from bushwalks and cycling to adrenaline pumping pursuits like wind surfing, scuba diving and rope climbing.

When it comes to water-based sports, Redlands on Moreton Bay has a fantastic range on offer, including kayaking, canoeing, surfing and snorkeling as well as safe swimming beaches and aqua bikes for hire.

A great place to start is North Stradbroke Island, one of the largest sand islands in the world, with kilometres of white sandy beaches on one side and the calm waters of Moreton Bay on the other.

There you can dive or snorkel and maybe spot manta rays, leopard sharks, grey nurse sharks, turtles and dolphins – or even humpback whales at the right time of year.

Another great way to enjoy the water is a sea kayaking tour from Cylinder Beach at Point Lookout. After an instruction session on the beach, you're ready to paddle out through the surf with your guide and explore the waters off Straddie. Or, you could head out on a sail boat or catamaran for a few hours, a day trip or even overnight.

For the ultimate in thrills and spills, you can tackle sand boarding on the island's sand dunes, accessible only by 4WD. Before you launch yourself down the dunes, make sure you take in the spectacular view of the naturally formed sand bowl, with the Pacific Ocean as a back drop.

For something a little less heart-thumping, why not try barefoot bowls or golf? Imagine rolling your bowl down the green on Macleay Island, with soft turf underfoot, a gentle sea breeze and panoramic views across Moreton Bay, or a round of golf on the foreshore at the Redland Bay Golf Club.

If you're looking for a fun day out, you can't go past Coochiemudlo Island, just off the coast from Victoria Point, with its tinnies, canoes, kayaks and aqua bikes available for hire in the protected waters of Moreton Bay.





There's also an extensive network of cycling and walking tracks across the mainland and islands. You can take your bicycle on any of the vehicle ferries servicing the islands for a day trip (some passenger ferry services also allow bikes, subject to space availability).

The Southern Moreton Bay Islands offer adventurous cyclists panoramic views across Moreton Bay, and Macleay and Russell Island in particular have several hill climbs. North Stradbroke Island has the added challenge of sand, as well as spectacular views over bushland, Moreton Bay and the Pacific Ocean. For those on foot, the North Gorge Walk at Point Lookout offers one of the most stunning outlooks along the Queensland coastline.

(Redland City Council produces a cycling and walking guide with maps of the mainland and island networks, available from the Redlands on Moreton Bay Visitor Centre, or online at www.more2redlands.com.au/explore.)

Those really wanting to test their fitness can combine land and water sport for the annual Straddie Salute in October. The North Stradbroke Island event features an off-road triathlon, teams challenge, the Stradbroke Island Fun Run & Walk and The Straddie Gift, a 100m beach sprint. Dubbed "not just a race, it's an adventure", Straddie Salute is presented by Weekend Warrior Events.

If fishing is more your sport, you have a myriad of options. You can throw in a line from mainland and island jetties, take your tinnie out into the bay, or hunt for mud crabs at low tide. There are also deep sea charters for those more adventurous anglers.

So, if you're looking for a way to get active outdoors in beautiful surrounds, you'll be spoiled for choice at Redlands on Moreton Bay.

A 4WD adventure on North Stradbroke Island

Exploring North Stradbroke Island in a 4WD may not be as physically exerting as hiking or riding your way around, but it can be just as exhilarating.

How else can you see the island's hidden lakes, dine with your toes in the sand or follow whales along the beach?

Dave Thelander, who operates Straddie Kingfisher Tours – one of two 4WD adventure specialists on the island – says a 4WD drive tour is a "must do" experience.

"Our eco tours take you off-road, where you get to see things not many people get to see," he says.

The award-winning Straddie Kingfisher Tours offers a range of experiences from half and full-day eco tours, overnight camping trips and tag-along tours, where you can follow a guide in your own 4WD.





Tours take in the island's three freshwater lakes (two of which are only accessible by 4WD), pristine sandy beaches and beautiful natural bushland. They offer the opportunity to spot local wildlife, including dolphins, turtles and humpback whales.

The experience is complete with a barbecue on the beach – “the best dining room in the world”.

What you need to know

Find out everything you need to know about experiences in Redlands on Moreton Bay:

Redlands on Moreton Bay Visitor Centre

Raby Bay Harbour complex 2/152 Shore St West, Cleveland

P: 1300 667 386

Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

Sat-Sun, 9am-3pm

www.more2redlands.com.au/explore

Straddie Kingfisher Tours

5 Guy Crescent, Dunwich, North Stradbroke Island

P: 3409 9502, 0409 123 586

www.straddiekingfishertours.com.au

The Straddie Salute

North Stradbroke Island

Every October

P: 0449 253 173

E: events@weekendwarriorevents.com.au

W: www.weekendwarriorevents.com.au

