Broadwater Parklands

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) updates

Parks remain open with visitors encouraged to take recommended health and social distancing precautions.

Sports fields and parks are open for use by families, friends and members of the same household (up to 20 people) for outdoor non-contact activity. Community sport and recreation clubs can return to activity, as long as they meet the Queensland Government COVID-19 restrictions. This includes the completion of all the requirements documented in any associated Industry COVID Safe Plan before activity begins. Visit Queensland Government - Return to Play for details.

For the latest update on the City’s response, visit cityofgoldcoast.com.au/covid19

Stretching three kilometres of the Broadwater in Southport, is the Gold Coast’s world class, Broadwater Parklands (The parklands).

The parklands offer many diverse spaces and facilities which are available for hire. These spaces cater for everything from large scale events to small family gatherings.

There are plenty of shady spots for a picnic. Barbecue facilities are available to use for free or hire for that special occasion to secure your use. For a more intimate occasion the Pier and Rooftop offer a unique event space. Both feature the spectacular back drop of the Surfers Paradise skyline.

Kids will love running around our vast open spaces, playing on one of the playgrounds or splashing around in the popular, fun-filled Rockpools – a great way to cool down on a summer day.

The Parklands’ dedicated Management and Maintenance team keep the park in pristine condition. The enjoyment of our outdoor facilities is one of our highest priorities.

Location

Marine Parade, Southport

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Check out our image gallery to see more of what the Broadwater Parklands has to offer.

Bookings

Public events

Planning an event open to the public? You will need to complete the Community and Major event application below. Allow two weeks to four months to process this application. The time frame reflects the complexity of the event.

With every public event application, applicants must submit:

- site plans
- risk management plans, and
- public liability insurance certificates.

If your event includes the sale of alcohol you will need to submit an Event Management plan as part of your application to the City. You will also need a permit from the Office of Liquor and Gaming.

If your event requires road closures, you must provide a Traffic Management plan and submit an application for Temporary Road closure.

There are many great resources and templates available to help with these supporting documents. Visit the Events Toolkit and resources page for more information.

Private events

Planning a private event like a birthday party, engagement or wedding? You need to complete the Private Gathering application below. This application requires at least 10 business days to process. For a list of spaces for hire please see the Hireable spaces tab below

Need help choosing a location or have some questions about the facilities? Contact us on broadwaterparklands@goldcoast.qld.gov.au

Book online:

Weddings and private gatherings  Community and major events
Hireable spaces

The parklands has some of the most stunning views on the Gold Coast. Many people have enjoyed hiring space within the park, taking advantage of these views to host their public or private events.

Please see a list of the most frequently hired areas below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barbecues (BBQs)</th>
<th>Outdoor spaces</th>
<th>Indoor / partly-covered areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stingray BBQ and shelter</td>
<td>Northern Peninsula</td>
<td>Northern Pavilion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jellyfish BBQ and shelter</td>
<td>Fisherman’s Lawn</td>
<td>Southport Bathing Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hammerhead BBQ and shelter</td>
<td>The Great Lawn</td>
<td>The Rooftop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leatherjacket BBQ and shelter</td>
<td>The Little Lawn</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snapper BBQ and picnic tables</td>
<td>Southern Lawn</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barramundi BBQ and picnic tables</td>
<td>Southport Pier</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barnacle BBQ and picnic tables</td>
<td>Casuarina Grove picnic area</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanner Crab BBQ and shelter</td>
<td>Pandanus Point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seagrass BBQ and shade sail</td>
<td>Mud Crab shelter</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewfish BBQ and shade sail</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dugong BBQ and shelter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Osprey BBQ and shelters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sea Eagle BBQ and shelter</td>
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</table>

If the area you are interested in is not listed or you would like further information please contact the Broadwater Parklands Management Team directly to discuss hiring options.

Please see the Broadwater Parklands fees and charges for the respective hire fees.

Accessibility

We pride ourselves on being an accessible park. There are parking spaces for people with a disability in each of the park's carparks. The barbecues in the northern section of the park are accessible by wheelchairs.

Fancy a swing? Don't miss out, have a go on the Liberty Swing found at the Washington Waters Playground. Please contact our onsite security for access.

Each toilet block at the Parklands has an accessible option. Broadwater Parklands is also home to one of only five, Changing Places toilets on the Gold Coast. This toilet includes an adjustable height change table, ceiling tracking hoist and shower. A Master Locksmith Access Key (MLAK) is required for access. For more information, see our Changing Places toilet - Broadwater Parklands page.

The Southport CBD and Broadwater Parklands mobility map is a great resource. Find the location of accessible toilets, change facilities, accessible car parking spaces, pathway gradients, location of kerb ramps and key buildings and services. Transport information for light rail stations, bus stops and bus routes are also featured.

Things to do and see

Eat

The Parklands has many a shady tree to sit under where you can enjoy a picnic. You can use one of our 14 free barbecues or, if you would like something prepared for you, visit one of our onsite restaurants. You can either dine in or takeaway one of their delicious options.

The Fish Shak and Shak Expresso

The Fish Shak eatery offers only the best locally caught fresh seafood, straight from the trawler to your plate. Dine in or grab some fish and chips for a picnic in the park.

Shak Expresso is an espresso and ice cream bar offering freshly-made barista coffee using a unique blend of Piazza Doro beans. Shak Expresso is open seven days a week.

Phone: 07 5532 0109
Email: fresh@thefishshak.com.au

Café Catalina

Cafe Catalina is a full service restaurant here in Broadwater Parklands with the outdoor bar embracing its fantastic position on the Broadwater side of the Gold Coast Aquatic Centre.

Enjoy breakfast and lunch seven days a week, and dinner on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.
Visit The Rockpools Water Play

This is an exciting, sculptural water playground. The water play area is designed with cool water fountains and vibrant marine-themed equipment. It includes a creek bed and several tidal rockpools for children to splash, dam and explore.

The Rockpools will remain open operating under a COVID-19 safe plan. The revised rockpools opening hours are currently 9am to 3pm, seven days a week.

Visit our play attractions

With three different playgrounds within the parklands there is something to suit every child and age.

The Northern play attraction will be subject to a multi-million dollar upgrade in the 2020-21 financial year, with additional parking being added in that section to cater for park patrons. Visit the Broadwater Parklands Play Attraction project page for more information.

The Adventure play attractionist in the centre of the park just near The Rockpools. This playground caters for younger children with a make-believe pirate ship and interactive learn, play equipment.

Washington Waters play attraction sits adjacent to Australia Fair. Fly through the air on the Flying Fox or take a tandem pedal ride on the monorail. The play equipment in this playground caters to the older child who enjoys a rigorous and energetic play session.

Jump around on the Bouncy Pillow

Please note that the Bouncy Pillow has been closed until further notice due to the current restrictions.

Catch a ride on the Hopo Ferry Service

COVID-19 update: Please note, the HOPO ferry service has been temporarily suspended.

The City of Gold Coast, together with local business Ferry I, have launched the city's first public ferry service called Hopo.

The two-year Hopo ferry trial will link key destinations with initial ferry stops at:

- Sea World at Main Beach
- Broadwater Parklands at Southport
- Marina Mirage at Main Beach
- Home of the Arts (HOTA) at Surfers Paradise
- Appel Park at Surfers Paradise.

For further information including timetables and pricing please visit the Hopo website.

Go for a swim in the swimming enclosure

The swimming enclosure is popular with children and those who prefer calm natural swimming waters. The Southport swimming enclosure is located near the Washington Waters Playground with easy access to toilets. The enclosure even has a permanent jumping pontoon.

Residents and visitors are reminded to follow this advice when using the swimming enclosure:

- supervise children at all times
- keep clear of floating collar and underwater net
- take care when entering as depth will vary with tide
- do not swim alone
- be aware marine creatures may exist within the enclosure
- do not attempt to swim to enclosure boundaries.

Visit GC Aqua Park (Seasonal)

GC Aqua Park calls Broadwater Parklands home between September and April. Swim, jump, slip and slide along the 300m obstacle course of awesome inflatable fun. It is always best to book in advance, GC Aqua Park can also cater for parties.

Visit the GC Aqua Park website to find out more and book online.

Visit the Gold Coast Aquatic Centre

Upgraded in 2014 to meet international competition standards the centre now has six pools. Centre facilities include:

- a learn to swim pool
- two 50-metre pools (including a 10-lane competition pool)
- an impressive dry land dive training facility
- a fully-equipped fitness centre
- an onsite café
- a crèche
- multi-function meeting rooms.

Check out the Gold Coast Aquatic Centre page for more information.

**Exercise at Broadwater Parklands**

With over five kilometres of footpath spanning from Sundale Bridge to Loders Creek and back, Broadwater Parklands is the perfect spot for a walk, run or cycle. Please remember that the footpaths are shared so please be careful if on a bicycle of pedestrians, children and animals.

In addition to the perfect cardio workout, in 2019 an outdoor gym became the next addition to the parklands. The outdoor fitness area provides a range of static equipment for body weight & functional movement exercises. The equipment caters for people with varying degrees of skills and abilities, including people in wheelchairs.

**Dogs at Broadwater Parklands**

Friendly dogs on the leash are welcome at Broadwater Parklands. There are no dog off leash areas within the park. Visit our Dog exercise areas page to find the closest dog off leash area.

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**Subscribe to our mailing list**

Get updates delivered directly to your inbox and keep up to date with all the great activities and events happening at the Broadwater Parklands.

[View our Privacy notice]

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**Related information**

- Free Wi-Fi at the Parklands
- Changing Places toilet - Broadwater Parklands
- Mobility maps
- Park bookings

**Key information**

**Brochures, fact sheets & reports**

- Broadwater Parklands fees and charges
- Broadwater Parklands event information
- Changing Places toilets - resources

**External links**

- Broadwater Parklands virtual tour
- Broadwater Parklands Aerial Showreel
- Broadwater Parklands Community Events
- Broadwater Parklands Major Events
- Café Catalina
- GC Aqua Park
- Glink website
- Hopo ferry service
- Queensland Government - Return to Play
- Gold Coast
Forms & applications

Broadwater Parklands community and major events booking form

Please read the Broadwater Parklands terms and conditions carefully before booking a space within the parklands.

Submit online form

Broadwater Parklands weddings and private gatherings booking form

Please read the Broadwater Parklands terms and conditions carefully before booking a space within the parklands.

Submit online form

Temporary Road Closure and Works Zone Permit application

Please note a minimum of seven business days notice is required for all applications with the exception of full road closures, which require a minimum of 14 to 21 days notice.

Submit online form

Downloads: Temporary Road Closure and Works Zone Permit application (0.11mb)

Downloads: Temporary Road Closure and Works Zone Permit application (0.08mb)