

## LAKE AINSWORTH



Plunge into the therapeutic tea tree infused waters of Lake Ainsworth; it is an exhilarating experience to swim between the salty ocean and the fresh water lake. The calm waters make it a great swimming spot for all ages and perfect for kayaking, paddling, sailing or simply just relaxing. The lake is also complimented with wonderful barbecue and picnic facilities.

### WANT TO SEE MORE?

Meander peaceful country roads, filling your picnic basket with fresh local delights on Tourist Drive 28



# ballina

coast & hinterland



♥♥ FROM BYRON TO BALLINA, BEACH TO RIVER, THIS DRIVE WILL ALLOW YOU TO EXPERIENCE ONE OF THE MOST SCENIC COASTAL DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY. ♥♥

#### Ballina Visitor Information Centre

9am - 5pm, 7 days a week

Cnr of River St & Las Balsas Plaza Ballina NSW 2478  
balinfo@ballina.nsw.gov.au | 1800 777 666



discover

ONE OF THE BEST  
COASTLINES IN AUSTRALIA

BYRON BAY TO BALLINA

🚗 31KMS



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## TOURIST DRIVE 30 coastal drive

Discover one of the best coastlines in Australia. Tourist Drive 30 boasts kilometres of pristine coastline with sweeping beaches, world class surfing, crystal clear waterways & local delights, including fresh seafood.

Allow at least four hours to experience the attractions between Byron Bay and Ballina (31km), however a full day is recommended. Attractions with a 📍 symbol are Visitor Centre recommendations, other attractions can be found following the white on brown tourist drive signage. These attractions are open a minimum five days per week including Saturdays and Sundays.



### WILDLIFE

The Richmond River plays a major role in the life of the local community; offering both recreation and rejuvenation. Hire a kayak and paddle the 9km lap of Ballina Island. You are likely to see dolphins playing in the open waters, migratory birds wading across sand flats, and azure kingfishers darting through the sheltered environments of Fishery Creek and the North Creek Canal.

## 10 THINGS you must SEE & DO



Be guided to the top balcony of Cape Byron Lighthouse and admire the breathtaking views



Discover an Aboriginal dreamtime story on a coastal cliff top walk through littoral rainforest



Enjoy a gentle fresh water swim or try stand up paddle boarding at Lake Ainsworth, on the Richmond River, or at Shaws Bay



Four wheel drive on the white sands of Seven Mile Beach



Spot whales breaching as they come close to the east coast headlands



Kids will love finding sea creatures and shells in the rock pools of Flat Rock or Shelly Beach



Paddle a kayak in the calm waters to see waterways teaming with marine creatures & wildlife



Take a scenic flight over the coastline to spot whales, view the two lighthouses and the spectacular waterways



From the evaluated coastline of Pat Morton Lookout, relax and watch hang and paragliders cruising above



Indulge in today's fresh catch from one of the seafood outlets or the oyster shack





## discover ONE OF THE BEST COASTLINES IN AUSTRALIA

### BYRON BAY



Visit ♥ **The Farm** (92 Woodford Lane, Ewingsdale) on your way to the town centre of Byron Bay (6kms) and see firsthand a working farm in operation.



Take in the stunning views and scenic headland walk from Australia's most easterly point at the **Byron Bay Lighthouse** (Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay). Book a tour with National Parks and Wildlife Service to visit the Lighthouse, offering a bird's eye view of the Cape Byron Marine Park and hinterland from the top balcony. While in the town centre of Byron visit the family-friendly beaches at ♥ Main Beach, ♥ Clarkes and ♥ Wategos.

### SUFFOLK PARK



Heading south on the Bangalow/Broken Head Road approx. 7kms from Byron town centre you will find ♥ **Suffolk Park**. This small seaside community is dotted along the pristine and uncrowded Tallow Beach. Suffolk has its own bakery café, family friendly pub and a laid back Indian diner that is very popular with the locals.

### BROKEN HEAD



Stop in at ♥ **Broken Head Nature Reserve** (Broken Head Reserve Road, Broken Head) where the lush rainforest meets sandy beaches. Wander through the rainforest along the Three Sisters walking track, a stunning cliff top walk to a lookout. The rocky outcrops, known as the Three Sisters, are part of a Bundjalung dreamtime story that you can read about on the trail. Just past the Three Sisters, a stepped path leads to a palm-covered rocky cove, a great spot to relax away from the crowds.

### LENNOX HEAD



From Broken Head, continue 11kms south to the small cosmopolitan village of **Lennox Head**, a mecca among surfers, a popular holiday spot for families and foodies paradise. Enter Lennox via Byron Street and follow the road through to the final intersection; this will bring you directly to the beach. Turn left onto Pacific Parade (heading north) to discover the tea-tree stained waters of **Lake Ainsworth** (Pacific Parade, Lennox Head). Plunge into the calm therapeutic waters, a great swimming spot for all ages, and perfect for kayaking or stand up paddle boarding. The Lake is complimented with barbecues and shady picnic facilities.



From the Lake, follow Pacific Parade for 1km to the heart of Lennox where you will find a theatre (Park Lane, Lennox Head), boutiques, galleries, a children's playground, funky cafes and restaurants all directly across from **Seven Mile Beach** (Ballina Street, Lennox Head), offering views of Pat Morton Headland.

### PAT MORTON LOOKOUT



Enjoy the elevated panoramic views over the Lennox Head township and beyond to Cape Byron from **Pat Morton Lookout** (The Coast Road, Lennox Head). This is a perfect place to watch pro surfers, hang gliders, migrating whales (in season) and to soak up the sunshine. Take the stairs from the car park area, up the hillside to enjoy part of the coastal track through littoral rainforest heading south along cliff tops to Boulder Beach (Rocky Point Road, East Ballina) and into Ballina. The pathway near the carpark that leads back down the crest, along Seven Mile Beach and into the township of Lennox, 1.5kms away, is a beautiful scenic walk.



Continue the tourist drive by venturing south on the Coast Road, past Boulder Beach for an awe-inspiring view over Sharpes Beach towards **Flat Rock** (Flat Rock Road, East Ballina). Keep an eye out for the local marine life, particularly a pod of dolphins that can often be seen surfing the waves at Sharpes Beach.

### FLAT ROCK AND COASTAL RECREATIONAL PATH



Travel 4.3kms from Pat Morton Lookout, heading south towards Ballina, turning left at Flat Rock. Take the short 1.4km stroll (each way) between Flat Rock and Angels Beach along the ♥ **Aboriginal Cultural Ways** (The Coast Road, East Ballina) (part of the 12km Coastal Recreation Path between Ballina and Lennox Head) to learn about local Aboriginal heritage through a series of 22 interpretive panels.



Drive 1.3kms from Flat Rock, via the Coast Road, turning left at Angels Beach roundabout, following the Coast Road to reach the ♥ **Mackay Harrison Gallery** (79 Bayview Dr, East Ballina). Pop in to view this world renowned artist's collection of fabulous bronze sculptures, a technique that is a 6000 year old tradition.



From the Gallery walk 500m south along Beachfront Parade to the intersection of Barwen Street to see the Aboriginal Murals within the ♥ **Jingi Wahla Reconciliation Tunnel** (Bayview Drive, East Ballina) that tell stories of Bundjalung ancestors life. Walk through the tunnel to connect back onto the Coastal Recreation Path and follow the ♥ **Heritage Walk** to the culturally significant Black Head Lookout, another sacred place also rich in Aboriginal dreamtime stories and history.

### SHELLY BEACH



Turn left in to Shelly Beach Road (approx. 1km south of the Gallery) and find out why the locals love the popular café along the beachfront. Explore the rock pools of ♥ **Shelly Beach** (Shelly Beach Road, East Ballina) or take in the 180 degree view from Ballina Head Lookout, a perfect vantage point for watching the annual humpback whale migration from June through to October. You will see the **Ballina Lighthouse** (Harbourview Street, East Ballina) on the hill behind the lookout.

### LIGHTHOUSE BEACH



Just 700m along from Shelly Beach is **Lighthouse Beach** (Lighthouse Parade, East Ballina) with its surf. Enjoy a coffee or some local seafood at the cafe within the Surf Club and take in the coastal views from its balcony that seems to float above the sand.

### BALLINA RIVERFRONT



Stretch your legs and take a scenic stroll along Ballina's stunning riverfront, ♥ **The Historic Ballina Waterfront** (The North Wall, Lighthouse Parade to Moon Street, Ballina) trail extends along the Richmond River, and showcases Ballina's history and the River's significance to the community. From here you can walk the entire way to the town centre along the riverfront. Keep your eyes open for the amazing marine life you might encounter; dolphins, turtles and birdlife, to name a few. The North Wall is a 900m walk from the Lighthouse Surf Club.



Heading towards Ballina town centre, over Missingham Bridge you can appreciate the views of the north and south break walls and the mouth of the Richmond River and North Creek. There are beautiful places on either side of the bridge to fish or enjoy a swim in the calm protected waters.

### BALLINA ATTRACTIONS



Continue along River Street (1.8kms from Missingham Bridge), it is lined with stylish cafes and specialty shopping. The riverfront boasts parklands, barbeque facilities, playgrounds, cafes and restaurants. Park at the **Ballina Visitor Information Centre** (6 River Street) and enjoy free all day parking to explore the local attractions on foot, all within close proximity.



Behind the Visitor Centre, in Regatta Avenue take a voyage of discovery through the **Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum** (Regatta Avenue, Ballina). The Museum is home to the Las Balsas Raft, part of the world's largest raft voyage that sailed from Ecuador and was ship wrecked at the mouth of Richmond in 1973. Here you can also watch the entertaining film the young voyagers made on the long journey.



**The Ballina Manor** (25 Norton Street, Ballina), located 350m north of the Visitor Centre, offer free guided tours of the historic property. It opened in 1925 as a girl's boarding school; today it is a boutique hotel with many period features including a magnificent two storey wooden staircase. The original college dining room is now an elegant fine dining restaurant.



The ♥ **Northern Rivers Community Gallery** (NRCC) (corner of Cherry and Crane Streets, Ballina) is housed in the historic and former Ballina Municipal Council Chambers built in 1927. The Gallery hosts innovative exhibitions and exciting workshops. It oozes charm and ever changing exhibitions, houses a range of local giftware, and an excellent café. A visit to the Gallery is a must.

### BIG PRAWN



A trip to Ballina would not be complete without taking a photo with the iconic ♥ **Big Prawn** (Corner of Horizon Drive & River Street, West Ballina) as a memento! Ballina is synonymous with fresh local seafood, so indulge in today's catch from one of the fresh seafood outlets at the western end of River Street. The Big Prawn is 4.2kms from the Ballina Visitor Information Centre.

