



Photos (clockwise from turtle hatching): Robert Ashdown © Qld Govt; Paul Beutel © Bundaberg Tourism; Tourism and Events Qld; Paul Beutel © Bundaberg Tourism.



Photos: Robert Ashdown © Qld Govt (above); Tourism and Events Qld (background).

Blue tiger butterfly Photo: Robert Ashdown © Qld Govt

Mon Repos is a quiet retreat rich in wildlife and history. Come and sink your toes into the sandy beach which comes alive in the summer months with nesting and hatching marine turtles. Enjoy this little coastal gem. Gary, Diane and John. Mon Repos Turtle Volunteer Leaders

## Mon Repos Conservation Park

Mon Repos is special! Located in the Southern Great Barrier Reef region, it supports the largest concentration of nesting marine turtles on the eastern Australian mainland and has the most significant loggerhead turtle nesting population in the South Pacific region. The success of the nesting and hatching turtles at Mon Repos is critical for the survival of this endangered species. At this globally significant breeding site you can have a unique up close and personal turtle encounter.

## Mon Repos Volunteers

For more than 55 years Mon Repos has been supported by a large number of community volunteers. Volunteers fought to have the area declared as a park in 1981 and since that time have been an integral part of the programs focused on turtle research, conservation, ecotourism and revegetation.

## Welcome to our ancient country

The Port Curtis Coral Coast region encompasses the traditional estates of four identified First Nations groups—Taribelang Bunda, Gooreng Gooreng, Gurang, and Byellee. As Traditional Owners our identity is tied to caring for places on country and being actively involved in looking after animals and plants on country. Our ancestors have hunted and fished in this sea country since time immemorial and there are many important cultural sites in our region that we cherish, some of them here, at Mon Repos. For us it is a special place. Taribelang Bunda, Gooreng Gooreng, Gurang, and Byellee peoples.



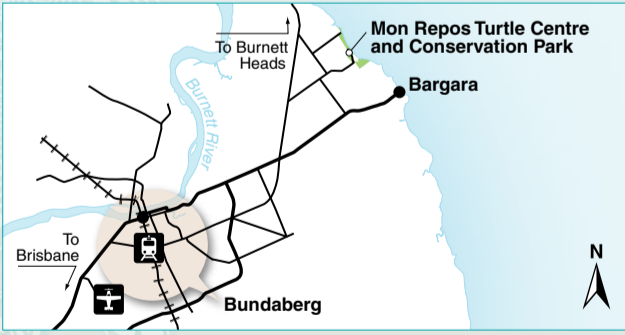
Illustrations: © Joe Butler



Red-backed fairy-wren Photo: Robert Ashdown © Qld Govt

## Getting there and around

- Mon Repos Turtle Centre is about a 4.5hr drive north of Brisbane, 15min east of Bundaberg and 10min from Barga.
- Bundaberg Regional Airport has daily flights to and from Brisbane.
- Queensland Rail has several daily services that stop at Bundaberg.
- If you don't have your own vehicle, contact Bundaberg Visitor Information Centre on 1300 722 099 for taxi and transfer options.
- Cycle or walk north from Barga, past Nielson Beach to Mon Repos on the council's Turtle trail pathway.



## Further information

- [qld.gov.au/MonRepos](http://qld.gov.au/MonRepos)
- [qldnationalparks](https://www.facebook.com/qldnationalparks)
- [@QldParks](https://www.instagram.com/QldParks); [#QldParks](https://www.instagram.com/QldParks)



Scan to check park alerts

This brochure is available online at [qld.gov.au/ParkBrochures](http://qld.gov.au/ParkBrochures)

## Opening hours and fees

Check current opening hours and fees, and book tickets online [qld.gov.au/MonRepos](http://qld.gov.au/MonRepos)

### Mon Repos Turtle Centre

Turtle Centre is open 7 days-a-week 9am–2pm (closed 25 December and 25 April). Entry is free.

Within the centre:

- **Milbi Cafe and gift shop** is open 9am–2pm.
- **Turtle Tales Immersive Experience** (includes interactive displays and theatre). Open from 9am with last admission at 1:15pm. **Admission fees apply. Purchase tickets online. Allow 40min for this self-guided activity.**

### Turtle Encounter tours

7 nights-a-week during turtle tour season from November to late March (closed 24, 25 and 31 December).

Turtle Encounters tour ticket holders also have access to the Turtle Centre and Turtle Tales Immersive Experience from 6.30pm on the evening of their tour.

The Milbi Café and gift shop are open to Turtle Encounter ticket holders each evening. Contact 4330 3005 for further details.

**Tour admission fees apply—bookings are essential** and can be made through **Bundaberg Visitor Information Centre:**

- online at [bundabergregion.org](http://bundabergregion.org)
- by phone 1300 722 099
- over-the-counter at 36 Avenue Street, Bundaberg East Qld 4670
- visit [facebook.com/visitbundaberg](https://www.facebook.com/visitbundaberg)



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## Explore

Grab your bike and take a relaxing ride, shaded by seaside forests and flanked by a pristine beach, or take a short walk to discover the park's natural and historic features. The shared trail and walking track within the park are easy grades and are open during daylight hours.

### Turtle trail

Winding along the Woongarra coast and passing through the leafy Mon Repos Conservation Park, this 7.7km Bundaberg Regional Council walking and cycling trail links Bargara to Burnett Heads. The trail passes by the heritage listed stone wall built by South Sea Islanders.

### Mon Repos coastal track

4.5km return allow 2hr



Explore the park along this coastal walk and see salt pans, mangroves, pandanus forests, and coastal scenery. Check tides before setting out as sections of the walk can be difficult to access during very high tides. Take drinking water and protect yourself from the sun. Carry insect repellent.

### Beach recreation

Mon Repos is a peaceful beach fringed by the Great Sandy Marine Park. The basalt slabs and reefs that form much of this coastline provide an ideal canvas for colourful displays of corals, sponges, barnacles and shellfish. This stunning diversity of sea life so close to shore has made the Woongarra Coast one of Australia's popular shore-diving areas.

### Keep in mind

To protect nesting and hatching turtles, from mid-October to the end of April the Turtle trail, Mon Repos Coastal track and beach access are closed to general public access from 6pm to 6am.

-  Please keep off the sand dunes—in and out of turtle season. The dunes are critical habitat for nesting and hatching success.
-  Dogs are **always** prohibited on park (including walking tracks and trails) and on the beach.



## Our turtle encounters

Witness an ancient life cycle of the animal kingdom, as majestic marine turtles make their journey to the shore to lay their eggs. Approximately 8 weeks later, delight at the sight of their young making their journey to the sea.

Every year, from November to March, you can join Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Rangers at the Mon Repos Turtle Centre on a guided tour to watch nesting (November to January) and hatching (January to March) marine turtles.

Turtles are wild marine animals and occasionally they do not arrive. While this is unusual, we can't guarantee you will see nesting turtles or hatchlings.

### Our turtles are precious

To protect nesting and hatching turtles, during this time, public access to Mon Repos beach is restricted from 6pm to 6am. Turtle viewing is only available through Ranger-guided tours from the Mon Repos Turtle Centre. The nightly program begins at 6.30pm for tour participants. Explore the displays and prepare for your turtle encounter.

### Check your fitness

Moderate level of fitness required. Visitors need to be able to:

- Walk up to 1.6km at night in natural light or with limited light in some sections.
- Stand on uneven surfaces for approximately 1 hour.
- Traverse sandy surfaces including short steep sections on vegetated dunes, and boardwalk ramps.

### Be prepared

For some of the evening you will be outside on the beach. To ensure you have an enjoyable visit:






















- Wear footwear suitable for walking along a sandy beach.
- Pack rain jackets as shelter is limited and umbrellas are not allowed on the beach.
- Bring a warm jacket as it can be cold.
- Bring a refillable water bottle and insect repellent.
- Food and drinks are available for purchase at the Milbi Cafe.

### On the night

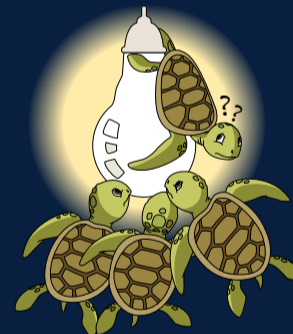
- Head to the entry desk to check in. Turtle Encounter groups are predetermined when bookings are made.
- Once the turtles arrive, Rangers will call your group and guide you onto the beach—where the adventure truly begins.

Sometimes the turtles don't come on cue! Please be aware that you may need to wait for several hours before going onto the beach. Your total visit time at Mon Repos can be up to 6 hours.

### Legend

-  Mon Repos Conservation Park
-  Mon Repos Turtle Centre
-  Parking
-  Disabled parking
-  Long vehicle parking (campervans and caravans)
-  Bus drop-off point
-  Bike rack
-  Toilets
-  Cafe
-  Amphitheatre
-  Main nesting area
-  Rocks
-  Sealed road
-  Pathway
- Walking tracks**
  -  Mon Repos coastal track—4.5km return
  -  General walking track
  -  Boardwalk
- Shared trail (walkers and bicycle riders)**
  -  Turtle trail
  -  Trail link bikes only road section (shared with vehicles)
  -  Trail link walkers only section
  -  Bundaberg Regional Council pathway

## Cut the glow



Artificial lights interfere with a turtle's natural habits and instincts. You can make a difference by cutting the glow of lights affecting beaches.

Find out more at [qld.gov.au/MonRepos](http://qld.gov.au/MonRepos)

### Be turtle friendly

- If you see a nesting turtle coming ashore to lay her eggs, stay still.
- If you see a hatchling turtle on the beach, watch and enjoy, but do not touch.
- Turtle nests are dug and eggs laid in the dunes—keep off them.
- Make it as easy as possible for turtles—don't leave obstacles on the beach or dig holes in the dunes.
- Always take all your rubbish with you.



Photos: Robert Ashdown © Qld Govt (above hatchling); © Tourism and Events Qld (all other images).