

Southeast Queensland

Brisbane to Hervey Bay

23 Aug – 2 Sep 2024



Photo: Maleny Botanic Gardens
Tourism and Events QLD

What a great time of year to be in Queensland!

From Brisbane, to the bush, to the beach, to the bay...our Southeast Queensland ride promises to be an amazing experience full of glorious scenery and wonderful small Queensland communities. This time of year delivers plenty of blue skies and warm temperatures that make folk in other parts of the country extremely jealous, with daily averages of 20-24°C. Daily cycling distances are set out from 53km to 99 km with a mixture of flat terrain and a few days with some hills to climb – all of which are rewarded with spectacular views of the Sunshine Coast hinterland. This tour is the perfect winter-warmer cycling getaway.

Why We Love It:

- The backroads of the hinterland provide a *truly* spectacular cycling countryside.
- The variety of terrains, landscapes and scenery over the ten days is always refreshing.
- The rest day in Rainbow Beach is a real treat – the location and our accommodation.
- Two additional optional rest days in Woodford and Maleny.
- Did we mention the weather? Queensland in August is perfect...not too hot, not too cold.
- Did we mention the daily distances? Cycling is usually done by lunchtime...not too long, not too short.
- The finish line in Hervey Bay is great place to spend a couple of days after the tour (Fraser Coast/K'gari).
- The AllTrails touch – great crew and great group camaraderie. Lots of fun.

The Tour at a Glance

Dates: 23 Aug – 2 Sep 2024 (10 nights)

Distance: 607 km total

Average Daily: 76 km (shorter options available; ride as much as you like)

Bike Type: Road Bike (ebikes welcome)

Weather: Aug/Sep monthly average is low to mid 20's

Surface/Terrain: Good sealed bitumen roads; flat, undulating, a few decent hills

Difficulty Rating: 7/10

Group Size: 10-20

Meals: Majority included as well as on-road snacks

Accom: City hotels, resort style retreats, good country motels/hotels (one with high quality share facilities)

Who's this tour for? Cyclists looking for a relaxing, warm winter getaway, with spectacular cycling routes, great scenery, varying landscapes, and small-town hospitality.

Pricing and Payment Information (AUD)

	Book Before 23 Jun	Book From 23 Jun
Twin share (per person)	\$5390pp	\$5490pp
Single room	\$6680	\$6780

Groups of 3 or more: deduct \$100 pp from prices above

Included:

- All accommodation
- 10 breakfast, 1 lunch, 7 dinners
- Daily morning teas, snacks and fruit
- Full support: Tour Leader/s
- Bike mechanical assistance
- Support and safety vehicles
- Rider Pack: jersey, bottle, day-bag
- Tour GPS files and directions
- Training schedule

Payment Schedule:

- Deposit on booking (\$400 pp)
- Progress Payment 30 days after deposit (40% of package cost less deposit paid)
- Balance 23 Jun 2024 (60 days before the tour begins)

Travelling on your own

We often have cyclists come on our rides who are travelling alone. If so, you may pay the Single Supplement price to have your own room, or you can put your name on our 'Twin Share Request List'. If we have another solo twin share traveller of the same gender, we will pair you in twin share accommodation – if we cannot find you a match, the single room price will apply which will give you your own room for the entire tour. Contact us anytime to have a chat and check twin share availability – we may already have a match for you.

Travelling with friends

\$100pp discount for groups of 3 or more cyclists.

Optional Extras

Brisbane pre-tour accommodation. Your tour package includes accom in Brisbane on Fri 23 Aug. If you want to arrive in Brisbane earlier, please contact the hotel direct for rates (Royal on the Park).

Hervey Bay post-tour accommodation. Your tour package includes accom in Hervey Bay on Sun 1 Sep. If you want to stay longer in Hervey Bay, please contact the hotel direct for rates (Oaks Hervey Bay Resort and Spa).

Bus Transfer. Hervey Bay to Brisbane Mon 2 Sep, after the tour in the AllTrails bus \$60pp.

Brisbane post-tour accommodation. Mon 2 Sep incl. breakfast \$215 single, \$245 twin/double.

Transfer of bike between Melbourne and tour start/end. In our AllTrails vehicles (contact for more info) \$70 e/w.

Carriage of hard bike case or unfoldable bike bag (pending vehicle capacity) from start of ride to finish \$100.

Carriage of soft foldable bike bag from start of ride to finish \$40.

Carriage of collapsible cardboard bike carton free of charge.

Getting to and from the tour

Arriving in Brisbane:

Our meeting place is The Royal on the Park Hotel on Alice St, Brisbane CBD. You will need to arrive before our orientation briefing at 3pm on Fri 23 Aug. You can fly directly into Brisbane airport and catch a taxi, rideshare or bus transfer to the hotel which is 15km from the airport (approx \$50 + \$5 tolls). Airtrain \$20 to the CBD.

Departing from Hervey Bay:

Your tour will officially end after breakfast on Mon 2 Sep at the Oaks Resort and Spa, Hervey Bay. You may want to stay on for a day or two to explore the area – in particular Fraser Island / K'Gari. Hervey Bay airport is 10 minutes drive away with daily flights to Brisbane and Sydney with connections beyond. Jetstar now also have direct flights to Melbourne. Reception can help with taxis if required. AllTrails are also driving to Brisbane on Mon 2 Sep and are offering transfers for cyclists.



Queensland's sunny winter mornings



Queensland's beautiful landscapes

Itinerary

Daily distances are set out below. Shorter distances and support vehicle also available.

Meals and Accommodation inclusions: Breakfast = B, Lunch = L, Dinner = D, Accommodation = A

Location	Distance	Date	B	L	D	A
Brisbane Arrival Day (before 3pm)		Friday 23 Aug 2024	-	-	D	A
Brisbane to Wamuran (o/n Woodford)	82km	Saturday 24 Aug 2024	B	-	D	A
Woodford Loop via Kilcoy (optional rest day)	68km	Sunday 25 Aug 2024	B	-	-	A
Woodford to Maleny	57km	Monday 26 Aug 2024	B	-	D	A
Kennilworth to Maleny	53km	Tuesday 27 Aug 2024	B	-	-	A
Maleny to Gympie	99km	Wednesday 28 Aug 2024	B	L	D	A
Gympie to Rainbow Beach	73km	Thursday 29 Aug 2024	B	-	D	A
Rainbow Beach Rest Day	NA	Friday 30 Aug 2024	B	-	-	A
Rainbow Beach to Maryborough	93km	Saturday 31 Aug 2024	B	-	D	A
Maryborough to Hervey Bay	82km	Sunday 1 Sep 2024	B	-	D	A
Hervey Bay		Monday 2 Sep 2024	B	-	-	-
Total Distance Cycled	607 km		10	1	7	10
Average Daily Distance	76km/day					



Rainbow Beach rest day – Day 8



Montville rest stop – Day 5



Rainbow Beach accommodation – Day 7 & Day 8



Happy cyclists – every day!

Day to Day

Brisbane Arrival Day (before 3pm) Friday 23 Aug 2024

Day 1. This afternoon we will meet at our downtown Brisbane hotel to run through our orientation briefing followed by bike set-up with our mechanic. The excitement builds as we share a welcome dinner together where cyclists get to know the crew and meet their fellow riders, ready to begin our adventure tomorrow.

Brisbane to Wamuran (o/n Woodford) 82km Saturday 24 Aug 2024

Day 2. It's on! The first leg leads us out of the city on a network of bike paths that snake alongside the river, through urban parks, beside creeks and brooks, hugging motorways, then sneaking through the backstreets of the inner suburbs. Before you know it we mount the impressive Ted Smout Memorial Bridge at Brighton, that marks our first morning tea stop at Pelican Park. After morning tea we continue through the outer suburbs and enjoy a final section on the Caboolture to Wamuran Rail Trail – a fully sealed and well-maintained trail popular with local commuters. Cyclists stop here and grab some lunch before we board the bus and head to Woodford for the night. Congratulations on your day one effort!

Woodford Loop via Kilcoy (optional rest day) 68km Sunday 25 Aug 2024

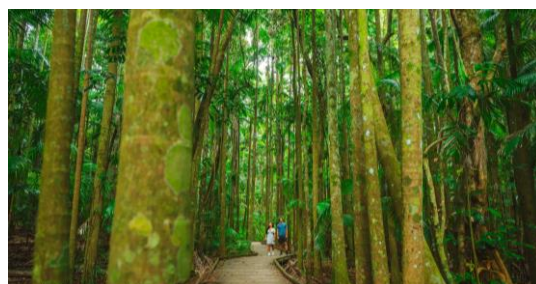
Day 3. Today presents a totally different vibe to yesterday's ride. We are well and truly out of the urban sprawl here, with lovely rich land that produces strawberries, bananas, pineapples and pawpaw - you may even want to stop by a roadside stall and select some produce fresh from the farm for a snack. Kilcoy is our morning tea stop this morning, after which we head back to Woodford via a stunningly scenic ride through the open, green farmlands that eventually give way to bushland, as the quiet road becomes enveloped by trees on either side as it follows the flow of Delaneys Creek back to the highway and back to our accommodation at Woodford.



A typical view from the handlebars in the hinterland

Woodford to Maleny 57km Monday 26 Aug 2024

Day 4. Woodford is famous for its internationally renowned Folk Festival and you'll ride north of the township today, near the rural site where the famous event is held. There's no time for singing songs around the campfire for us though – we have some ground to cover and a few hills to climb today as we make our way up the Blackall Range. The legs will get a good work out after morning tea but our support vehicle is there to help if needed, and the scenery is well worth the effort both on the way up and at the top – don't miss the short rainforest walk and McCarthy's Lookout. The last part of the day offers a climb through more beautiful countryside as we close in on the Maple tree-lined main street of Maleny – a delightful hinterland town surrounded by picture-postcard dairy country and rainforests.



Mary Cairncross rainforest walk

Kennilworth to Maleny (optional rest day) 53km Tuesday 27 Aug 2024

Day 5. Staying in picturesque Maleny again tonight, we will transfer cyclists to Kennilworth this morning to take on the locals' favourite; the Maleny loop ride. On the road, our cycling group will enjoy lovely backroads, that make their way through a region littered with National Parks, State Forests, Environment Reserves, springs, creeks, falls, parks and lookouts. There are a couple of challenging climbs that cyclists can take on, or skip over in our vehicle, but either way, you'll be back in Maleny for lunch and a relaxing afternoon before our longest day of the tour tomorrow. Want to take the day off? Have a sleep in and check out a few of the local attractions - there's plenty to see and do around Maleny.



Spend two nights in delightful Maleny

Maleny to Gympie 99km Wednesday 28 Aug 2024

Day 6. We head back to Kennilworth this morning but via a different route that includes a long, sweeping downhill section that you surely will enjoy. As if yesterday's ride was not scenic enough, today we are actually on a designated Tourist Drive route which will give you an indication that the scenic cycling is far from over. We hug the Mary River for a time which flows North from Maleny, through Conondale, Kenilworth, Gympie, Tiaro, Maryborough, and then into the sea opposite Fraser Island – a similar route to ours, with a few diversions. Morning tea in Kennilworth and lunch in Kandanga will refuel the energy stocks to get you through to the much larger town of Gympie with its many heritage listed buildings, coffee shops and friendly people. Finishing at 99km?! Take a lap around the block if you are keen to crack the ton. Accommodation tonight is a contemporary and innovative motel in the heart of Gympie – congratulations again on a great day of cycling.

Day to Day cont.

Gympie to Rainbow Beach 73km Thursday 29 Aug 2024

Day 7. It's goodbye to the farms, the rolling hills and the bush as you feel the landscape change heading towards the ocean. Toolara State Forest presents much more open road for our journey today, leading to the Great Sandy National Park, which although is covered in trees, has a sand-base, which encourages very different vegetation than what we have been surrounded by over the last few days. The natural environment of this area was created by wind, waves and changing sea levels resulting in an intriguing landscape of sandblows, coloured sands and, unexpectedly, many freshwater dune lakes. We hit Rainbow Beach township just in time for lunch and check-in at our beautiful accommodation a short walk from the oceanfront.

Rainbow Beach Rest Day Friday 30 Aug 2024

Day 8. Take it easy – you deserve it! And what a place to spend the day. Just do an internet 'image' search for Rainbow Beach QLD and you'll see why we wanted to be here for our rest day. For the adventurous there's 4x4 tours, kayaking with dolphins, horse rides, or even swimming with sharks. For a more low-key day simply sink your feet into the golden sands of Rainbow Beach, check out Carlo Sand Blow on the edge of town (a must-see), or pop into the Visitor Centre to arrange a trip out to Double Island Point Lighthouse or one of the other local tour options. Of course if that is all too much – just relax in your self-contained resort apartment, head down to the heated swimming pool or outdoor spa, then wander to the nearby shops, hotel, restaurants or surf club across the road.

Rainbow Beach to Maryborough 93km Saturday 31 Aug 2024

Day 9. It's understandable if you don't want to leave, but we must move on... we wind back through the National Park and past Cooloola Cove where we pause for a brief water stop, then turn onto Maryborough-Cooloola Rd which as you would expect, will take us all the way to our destination town, so no need to worry about turns or directions – just get into your rhythm and push through the kilometres over the vast, flat green expanse of land that sits between the ocean and the forests. Maryborough somewhat sneaks up on you after a day on the bike passing no small townships – all of a sudden we are met with the bustling city of Maryborough, the birthplace of P.L. Travers, serving as the inspiration behind her book Mary Poppins. Maryborough's historic streets are as character-filled as the book itself and you can check it all out from our central accommodation in the heart of it all. Dinner tonight is in one of the region's oldest hotels, with a unique moment in history several decades ago when a plumber mixed up the water pipes with the lines to the keg, resulting in hotel guests finding water coming out of the beer taps and beer falling from the accommodation room shower heads.

Maryborough to Hervey Bay 82km Sunday 1 Sep 2024

Day 10. Our final change of scenery today as we make our way to the bay. Hervey Bay that is...the whale watching capital of the world and World Whale Heritage Site – a recognition awarded for the region's commitment to conservation and protection. And it's not just the wildlife that like it here – a 2010 study by Deakin University showed that people on the Fraser Coast area including Hervey Bay, were the happiest in Australia. What once were seaside villages are now the suburbs of Hervey Bay and today's route guides us through many of those pretty suburbs finishing with a beautiful ride along the sheltered, north-facing bayfront to our resort accommodation near the famous Urangan Pier. Tonight we celebrate our journey with dinner overlooking the magnificent sunset on the bay.

Hervey Bay Monday 2 Sep 2024

Day 11. After breakfast the tour officially disbands but make the most of the Fraser Coast. You are just a ferry ride away from K'gari / Fraser Island – the world's largest sand island and a stunning and fascinating day trip from Hervey Bay. Head down to the Visitor Centre to check out tour options or find your perfect trip online. Thanks for joining us on this wonderful, warm weather winter getaway in Southeast Queensland.



Carlo Sand Blow - Rainbow Beach



Historic Maryborough – A spoon full of sugar...



Hervey Bay sunset – what a finish line

Frequently Asked Questions and Helpful Information

Feel free to contact us at any time if your question is not answered here.

Travel insurance

You may get sick of us reminding you about travel insurance, but it is important and usually very good value – in particular for Australians travelling domestically. Travel Insurance is different to the insurance you get from being a member of a bicycle organisation. If you are investing in a tour like this, it is worth investing in some peace of mind for your payments.

Training for AllTrails tours

To keep to the daily scheduled times on a multi-day road bike tour you need to be a keen cyclist – not necessarily fast, but consistent. To train for your tour, slowly build up until you can cycle close to the average daily distance of your chosen tour, at the expected speed, for two days straight. This will usually put you in a good position to be ready for your tour. We have a training schedule specific to each ride which we send to you after you place your deposit, however we can send this earlier to help you decide if the tour is right for you – just ask us for a copy and we will get it out to you straight away.

For this tour: Average distance 76km/day. Expected average speed 20-25km/hr on flat terrain (more time allowed for sections with hilly terrain).

Support vehicles / scheduled times

Our support vehicle will follow the group to pick up weary riders and bikes if they wish, or if they are falling behind the group. Times will be given on the Day Sheets for morning departure and regrouping stops for morning tea, lunch and water stops. Check the average speed expected for your chosen tour. If cyclists are falling behind the Day Sheet times, for the safety of all cyclists on the ride, they may be asked to board the bus. If conditions allow, we transport cyclists direct to the next meeting point where they can re-join the ride and keep within the times. These times are adhered to for the continuity and safety of the ride, keeping all cyclists, mechanics, medical team, within easy reach in case of emergency, and to meet our pre-booked times for meals and attractions where applicable. Slower riders are often given the chance to depart early, allowing more time to reach the re-grouping points.

Accommodation on our tours

We always try to obtain great accommodation in the best location for you to rest your weary head (and legs) in each town whether it be a motel, hotel, B&B, resort, cabins or lodge. We aim for 4 star where possible and also take into account the welcoming cycle-friendly and group-friendly nature of accommodations. On occasion we travel through some very small towns where accommodation is extremely limited. If for whatever reason, such as limited options, a room is below normal standard, we strive to improve this with an extra good room the next night or nights following.

Sharing rooms – how it works

On the online entry form you can nominate any travelling companions who you would like to share a room with and/or be accommodated close to so that couples or friends can be grouped together. This can be in a double bed or twin beds. If you are travelling alone like many of our riders, a Single Supplement price is available for those who would like their own room for the whole trip. If you wish to share a room as a solo traveller, you can put your name down on a Twin Share Request List and we will try to match you up. If you are a snorer, a very early riser, or have other habits that may affect your fellow roommates, we ask that you book your own room at the Single Supplement price.

Room types for solo cyclists

SOLO TWIN: If you are coming on your own and have booked in as twin share, this usually means that you will share a room with one other solo twin share cyclist or crew member of the same gender, however in some cases we may have larger rooms (eg. two-bedroom apartment or a B&B/house with multiple bathrooms) where we may have 3 or more single twin share travellers together.

SINGLE: A Single Supplement booking usually means your own room with ensuite. On very rare occasions when we travel through small towns or we are limited in accommodation options for any reason single supplement bookers may share a larger unit/house/lodge with other single travellers of the same gender. You will have your own room but not necessarily your own ensuite.

Snorers can enjoy their own room

If you are a chronic snorer or have other habits that may affect your fellow roommates, we ask you to book your own room (single supplement cost). This is not just a courtesy to your fellow travelling companions but will also give you the space and privacy you need to enjoy your sleep after a long day on the bike.

Frequently Asked Questions and Helpful Information cont.

Bike type – which is best?

A comfortable road bike with a good seat and puncture-resistant road tyres, such as Continental Gatorskins. A touring bike or gravel bike is also possible if you are comfortable riding the daily distances and average speed of the tour, however these bikes can be slower than a road bike.

Ebikes

Ebikes are always welcome on AllTrails tours and we have special bike racks that can accommodate their unique size and weight, keeping your bike safe when we need to transport it. Our racks (and staff) can carry (lift) bikes weighing up to a **maximum 25kg** (battery removed). The racks carry the bike in a vertical position with the front wheel nestled in a cradle, meaning that any front wheel/fork accessories such as pack racks, panniers or mudguards must be removed prior to coming on tour.

Carrying personal items on the bike

We suggest you carry a spare tube, a full water bottle and your own personal goods such as phone, wallet and rain gear, on your bike with you. We transport your luggage, drawstring day bags, food and extra water. A more detailed list of things to bring and not bring is on our 'Tour Preparation Guide' which is sent out to you before the ride.

Meals and food

Always a big part of any cycling holiday! Check tour details for meal inclusions on your ride. Our emphasis is on fresh food and balanced diet with plenty of carbohydrates, proteins, fruit and vegies catering for a cycling holiday. We successfully cater to most dietary requirements, however feel free to contact us with any questions. Most meals are included as part of our tours, however you may be required to purchase some meals - check the meal inclusions on the itinerary table.

Safety

We have a great safety record, but accidents can happen. We have trained First Aiders as crew, comprehensive First-Aid Kits, a list of hospitals in the areas that we travel through, as well as mobile phones and a satellite phone for emergency calls when we are out of cellular range. Safety discussions are held throughout the tour as part of the daily briefings.

Bike mechanical assistance provided

A staff member with good bike mechanical knowledge will be part of our crew and will have a stand pump for different valves. The mechanic will often be able to help you with a safety check, general tips and advice about your bike and its upkeep, as well as fixing mechanical problems. We will have limited parts available for replacement which will be charged at shop prices. Labour is free for the first fifteen minutes, there after costs may be incurred at the mechanic's discretion. Cyclists with rare or different bikes are asked to contact us at AllTrails as parts can often be very difficult to obtain.

Speak to a past client

We will be happy to give you the names and telephone numbers of people who have participated in the ride or a similar ride to the one which you are considering. Where possible we will provide you with the details of someone within your city or state. Another good place to look is our 'Testimonials' page.



Why book with us?

We only run 10-15 tours per year, always adding fresh destinations each year. This makes every tour as special to us as it is to you because we are not operating the same rides repeatedly week-in week-out - we are just as excited to be there as you. On most occasions the owner-operators of the business will be on tour with you and the reassurance that comes with that is one of many great reasons to have confidence in booking your cycling holiday with us. Also check the hundreds of testimonials on our website.

We are a proud Australian-owned company, with the privilege of taking cyclists to the small towns and communities all over the country, supporting regional economies and offering cyclists the opportunity to experience the hospitality of Australia outside the big cities. We have earned a top reputation in the cycle tour industry through hard work, dedication and genuine care for every person on every tour. Our longevity in the industry and large community of loyal AllTrails customers who keep coming back year after year are testament to the high standard of tours that we provide. We consider ourselves the best in the business, providing tours that represent a high-quality product at a fair price.