

QUEENS PARK

Milford Street, Ipswich

PARKS OF IPSWICH



Ipswich Region



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Ipswich

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QUEENS PARK

WELCOME TO QUEENSLAND'S FIRST PARK

It's amazing to think that the first park to be established in Queensland is still growing more beautiful every day. We're adding new activities all the time that encourage a healthy, relaxed way of life. Sport and social pursuits are balanced with nature, education and the arts. At Queens Park you can reflect on the proud history of our city and look forward to a greener future at our new Environmental Education Centre. Queens Park is fun, interactive and inspirational. It's an escape in the city - and it's one of our favorite spots. See you at the park.

AN ESCAPE IN THE CITY

Queens Park is the perfect location for a day out with the family. Inside this book you'll see that our uniquely themed playground with its adventurous rides is just one of the areas to explore. Queens Park is home to theatre groups, scout troops and croquet hoops. Check out all the options then use the map on the back to lose yourself for a while in the middle of the city.

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FAMILY FUN

WE HAVE LIFT OFF 4

There's nothing like a flying fox to lift the spirits. And there's nothing quite like our adventure playground, themed to celebrate Ipswich's rich mining and railway heritage. Kids can swing, climb and slide to their hearts' content. We want everyone to have fun. We have a liberty swing to give children in wheelchairs the experience of flying. Once the kids have explored the playground, it is just a short walk to the Queens Park Café for refreshments.



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QUEENS PARK

MAP OUT YOUR VISIT



LEGEND

- 1 Queens Park Environmental Education Centre
- 2 Ipswich Nature Centre
- 3 Nerima Gardens
- 4 Playground
- 5 Queens Park Café
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- 9 Bush Chapel
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- Parking
- Toilets
- Disabled Toilets
- Playground
- Barbeque
- Drinking Fountain
- Shelter
- Scouts

FAMILY FUN

IT'S EASY BEING GREEN 1

The Environmental Education Centre is much more than an exhibit. It's a place where everyone can discover how to be green, how to get support through Ipswich City Council landholder programs and how to join volunteer groups that protect the local environment. There's a large conference room where community groups,

schools and businesses can learn about practical steps that can make a real difference to our environment. Wander by, grab a brochure and inspect the building. It is a shining example of environmental design, featuring large overhangs, passive solar technology and one of the first Green Walls in South East Queensland.



HOTTEST SHOWS IN TOWN 10

The Incinerator designed by Walter Burley Griffin stopped burning long ago but, since 1969, it's been a place that fires up the imagination. This unique and historic building with its garden setting and courtyard bar is home to Ipswich Little Theatre. If you're keen to pursue your thespian ambitions, you can audition for any of the five entertaining plays produced each year. As well, Young Theatricals, Junior Theatre, S Troupe, Daytime Theatre Troupe and Tourific Troupers cater for all ages and abilities. Check the Opening Hours page for contact and booking details.

WALK WITH THE ANIMALS 2

Take a walk through the Ipswich Nature Centre - our very own zoo. Follow the boardwalk as it meanders through authentic habitats for our native animals. You will discover an amazing variety of animals including wombats, wallabies, emus, quolls, snakes, and even bilbies. Kids love to get up-close and interact with all the friendly farm animals in our barn. The rainforest bird aviary is alive with colour and sound. The Nature Centre is one of the most popular places in Queens Park - certainly not to be missed!



GARDENS

VISIT OUR SISTER CITY 3

Did you know that since 1994 Ipswich has had a sister city in Japan called Nerima? You may never get there, but a stroll through the Nerima Gardens can transport you there. Opened in 2001, the garden is a representation of the rivers, mountains and vegetation that make

up the local landscape. The Japanese design cleverly incorporates native plants from the Ipswich region, including rare and endangered species. The Azalea, as the floral emblem of Nerima, is in harmony with our own emblem, the Plunkett Mallee (*Eucalyptus curtisii*).

HANG OUT WITH YOUR BUDS 8

Buds have been blooming in Queens Park greenhouses since 1890. Buildings that were beyond repair have been demolished over the years, however, just opposite the Curator's House, one Bushhouse and one Glasshouse remain. You can walk through these heritage listed buildings on open days and imagine what it must have been like for the early curators cultivating exciting plant varieties in an indoor rainforest environment. In 2007, the Glebe Garden Club took over the maintenance of the Glasshouse. Similarly, the Ipswich Orchid Society maintains the Bushhouse.

A BEAUTIFUL WEDDING ADDRESS 9

Many a romance has blossomed in Queens Park. And there have been plenty of proposals accepted here too. So what better place to tie the knot? The bush chapel is located at the top of the park off Merle Finimore Avenue, nestled in behind the historic bushhouse and glasshouse. The perfect setting for a beautiful day. Please read the Opening Hours page for booking details.



GARDENS

IS THE CURATOR HOME? 7

This home was commissioned to allow the Queens Park curator to live on site. Beside the house is a Buxus hedge that has been cut to display the words 'Queens Park'. The floral emblem of Ipswich may have been changed to the



endemic *Eucalyptus curtisii*, but the Bougainvillea, the original emblem choice of curator F.W. Turley, still stands proudly in the grounds. The dwelling now houses Council offices, but the garden surrounds are still open to the public.

STANDING FOR THE CAPTAIN

When Captain Patrick Logan was exploring the area in 1826-27, he commented on sighting unusual looking grass trees growing around the area. Because the grass trees in Queens Park are believed to be part of the original colony, they were left standing when the park was first laid out.

OUTDOOR & ACTIVE

BOWLED OVER 12

If Francis Drake insisted on finishing his game of bowls before taking on the Spanish Armada, there must be something very addictive about this ancient game. Since 1902 the Ipswich Bowls Club has been luring players of all ages down to the park. Who knows, after a bit of free coaching, you could be hooked too. With room for a 130 seated guests, bar staff, ample parking and a dance floor, the clubhouse is great for functions. If you're thinking of booking, check the Opening Hours page.

SHOOT SOME HOOPS 11

Founded in 1902, the Ipswich Croquet Club (Queensland's second oldest), is the home of Association croquet, Golf Croquet and Gateball. If you're old enough to hold a mallet, you're welcome to come and try your hand at one of these skilled and strategic games Tuesdays and Saturdays. The clubhouse is available for hire for well-organised social functions and community groups and includes a kitchen. Check the Opening Hours page for booking details.





OUTDOOR & ACTIVE

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

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Championship tennis in 1906 meant cucumber sandwiches, white trousers and wide brimmed hats. It also involved a bit of travel to various courts around Ipswich. Eventually the Ipswich Tennis Association (now Ipswich and West Moreton) centralised their facilities, moving to Queens Park in 1934. Today there's a choice of eight courts that are available day and night all week. Please read the Opening Hours page for booking or competition details.

HISTORICAL

A SACRED PLACE

Queens park remains sacred to the Traditional Owners of Ipswich, the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People. Sacred sites are very important to the Traditional Owners, as they provide a link between Country and personal identity and allow the passing on of cultural knowledge. Some of the sacred sites include quarry sites, traditional food resources, story places, pre-contact and historical camp sites, fighting grounds, ceremonial sites, bora rings and women's business sites.



HISTORICAL

A SEED PLANTED IN 1842

Surveyed in 1842, Queens Park was the first park to be developed in Queensland. Its original architectural design dates back to 1862 and included the current site of Ipswich Girls' Grammar School as well as the waterfront land now maintained by the railway. It was named in honour of Queen Victoria. In 1915 F.W. Turley took on the role of park curator and planted many trees that still stand today. Over the years Queens Park has hosted band concerts, sporting events, theatre productions and Royal visits. It's also grown more beautiful. Through the introduction of special attractions and the preservation of historical treasures, the park has continued to win the hearts of each new generation.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

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One of the best vantage points in the city is the Lions Lookout. The site opens up a fantastic view of Ipswich framed by Cunningham's Gap and the Great Dividing Range. It's no wonder so many photographers bring their wide-angle lenses to this spot. Located at the top of Queens Park, Lions Lookout is a great place to look out over the attractions and plan your day in the park. Sunsets over the range are spectacular too; very romantic.



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HISTORICAL

BE PREPARED FOR ADVENTURE

Did the Queens Park Ipswich scout troop know what they were starting in 1922? Proudly carrying on the traditions of Baden Powell, Ipswich's second oldest scout troop knew they were prepared for anything once their Den was built in 1937. The hall was named in honour of King George V.

MONUMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Glassey Monument 14

Thomas Glassey was a champion of workers' rights who set up the Ipswich Coal Miners' Mutual Protective society in 1886. Two years later he was elected to the Queensland Parliament as a trade union candidate for the seat of Bundamba. As the first Labor member of State Parliament, Glassey tackled many challenges. Over a 17 year period, he represented numerous electorates in the Lower House and the State Senate. Despite the fact that his fervent beliefs made him unpopular in some circles, both sides of politics attended the unveiling of the Cairn in 1936 to honour a man who dedicated his life to the worker.



Naval Memorial 15

The Naval Cairn is a memorial commemorating all Navy servicemen of the district. It was erected in 1967 by the Ipswich and West Moreton sub-section of the Naval Association. We have recently enhanced this monument with the installation of an original Bofors Gun from the HMAS Ipswich (II), which was unveiled in May 2011.

Cunningham's Monument 16

Named in honour of Alan Cunningham, the celebrated explorer and botanist who passed through Ipswich in 1828 on his way to Cunningham's Gap, this monument is a part of the Limestone Terraces. Located on the northern side of Queen Victoria Parade the terraces were built by relief workers during the depression of the late 1930's. These limestone terraces are vivid reminders of Ipswich's heritage as a convict out-station used for sourcing quicklime.

Macfarlane Monument 17

This monument was erected in 1895 in memory of former Ipswich Mayor and Member of Parliament John Macfarlane. Between 1873 and 1875 he held the seat of Ipswich in the Queensland Parliament before being elected Ipswich Mayor in 1876. He then returned to state politics between 1877-1879.



OPENING HOURS

VENUE	DAYS	OPEN	CLOSE	COMMENTS
Environmental Education Centre	7 Days	9.30am	4.00pm	Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday
	Public Holidays	10.00am	3.00pm	
	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat	9.30am	5.00pm	
Queens Park Café	Thursday	9.00am	9.00pm	Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday
	Sunday	8.00am	5.00pm	
	Public Holidays	10.00am	3.00pm	
Ipswich Nature Centre	ANZAC Day	12.00pm	4.00pm	Open Public Holidays except Christmas Day and Good Friday. Only open Mondays during school holidays. Free entry, gold coin donations accepted.
	Tue-Sun	9.30am	4.00pm	
Nerima Gardens	Weekdays	9.00am	3.45pm	Open Public Holidays except Christmas Day and Good Friday. Only open Mondays during school holidays
	(Sept - Easter) Sat and Sun	9.00am	5.45pm	
	(Easter -Sept) Sat and Sun	9.00am	4.00pm	
Glass house/Bush house				Open only at selected occasions

MEETING TIMES

Incinerator Theatre - Ipswich Little Theatre			For information phone 3812 3450 or 3281 4437
Young Theatricals	Wed	Evening	During school term
Junior Theatre	Sat	Morning	During school term
S Troupe	Sun	Afternoon	During school term
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Wed	Morning	During school term
Croquet Club	Tues and Sat		Playing days are Tuesday and Saturday
Tennis Club	7 days		Playing days are Sunday to Saturday

MEETING TIMES

Environmental Education Centre - Conference Room	Ipswich City Council, phone 1300 IPSWICH (1300 477 942)
Performances - Incinerator Theatre	www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au, phone 3281 0555
Tourific Troupers (Incinerator Tours)	www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au, phone 3281 4437
Ipswich Bowls Club	Phone 3281 1420
Croquet Clubhouse	Phone 3201 0303
Tennis Club	Phone 3281 6037
Bush Chapel	Ipswich City Council, phone 1300 IPSWICH (1300 477 942)