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Lonely Planet Queensland & The Great Barrier Reef (Regional Guide)



Synopsis

Admit it: you're here for the beaches, aren't you? Sure, we all know that Queensland's also got great dining, a thriving, accessible indigenous culture and a healthy international vibe. But it's the sun-kissed beaches, gentle warm sea and coral reef you're really here for, isn't it? Get Wet and don scuba or snorkel gear and head beneath the waves to check out the Great Barrier Reef's colorful scenes. Get Bronzed on some of Australia's finest sun-kissed beaches in between dips in clear, warm waters to cool off. Get Scared and whether dangling on the end of a bungy rope, leaping out of a plane or checking out a crocodile farm. Get Stuffed and fill your face with fresh seafood at a posh Noosa eatery, sample eclectic international fare at Cairn's restaurants, or enjoy coffee lattes and live music streetside in Brisbane.

Book Information

Series: Regional Guide

Paperback: 492 pages

Publisher: Lonely Planet; 4 edition (August 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1740594967

ISBN-13: 978-1740594967

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.1 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #8,583,945 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 in Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > Australia > Great Barrier Reef #1351 in Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > Australia > General #3610 in Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > General

Customer Reviews

...for the adventurous traveler who wants to live like a native.' --Real Simple Magazine, June 2005

My husband and I like travelling. We are used to Lonely Planet series. But this one has been almost completely useless. We are always careful to get the most up-to-date version, and if it hasn't been updated in the last two years we definitely don't rely on it alone, only as background information. On the inside of the cover, it is said this 2006 version has been lately reviewed.

However EVERYTHING except some addresses were out of date. Furthermore the guidebook doesn't provide a lot of information or description as we were used when using Lonely Planet guidebooks for our travelling in Asia. We got much more and for free at the Tourist Information Office, which address it is true we had found in the Lonely Planet guidebook. But even the address of the Cairns' QWSP Office (Queensland Wildlife Bureau, where you can get park permits) was wrong. The cost of living, including restaurant were all wrong. It is NOT true that vacation is cheap there. It is definitively more expensive than the US. Indeed Queensland has learnt the value of the Great Barrier, and how much money they can get for it from the tourism. It is a real business. Saying that we enjoyed very much our time there: people are nice (I love their humour), landscape and 'seascape' were marvellous, food expensive but very fresh and tasty, especially seafood. It was just a pity we had to be careful over our spending because we didn't expect and so plan the local expenses. To come back to Lonely Planet guidebooks, it is the second one in few months that has disappointed us. The first one was on Kauai Island, Hawaii. May be we should only consider Lonely Planet for Asia and Latin America destinations.

I traveled across Queensland in 2008, and this book never left my side. I was constantly amazed how much information was in this book. It tells you about every place you could possibly want to go, and it will help you come up with new places off the beaten path that you normally wouldn't have known about. It doesn't just list facts about each place, it really goes into detail about what to expect when you get there, how to plan for it, and the general feel. It definitely helps you decide where to go in order to get the most out of your trip.

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