Thuringowa's Northern Beaches

Thuringowa's Northern Beaches precinct is located just north of Townsville adjacent to the Bruce Highway. Extending from Bushland Beach to Balgal Beach, encompassing Saunders, Toolakea and Toomulla along the way, a total of five seemingly endless beaches comprise this fantastic area. The unspoilt coastline, coupled with picturesque natural bushland, enables each beach to offer unique attractions, activities and experiences. The Northern Beaches are the perfect place to visit, explore and stay.

Bushland Beach

Bushland Beach is a thriving residential community offering many attractions and facilities. Beachfront resort accommodation and a hotel provide stunning views out to the ocean. Parks with amenities, BBQs and playgrounds are available for use, and a convenience store is located in the area. Bushland Beach is a great spot for fishing and there is a boat ramp nearby.



Saunders Beach

With 6km of golden, untouched beaches, this sparkling coastline provides a picturesque backdrop to Saunders Beach Park. A retreat house or ocean view units are available for rent. A café/takeaway store underneath an extraordinary fig tree is close by or you can try out the local bar and bistro. This is an ideal fishing location with a boat ramp just a stone's throw away. Designated free vehicle camping is available for a maximum of 24 hours.

Toolakea and Bluewater

Toolakea, a beautiful but quieter beach, presents excellent opportunities for fishing and bird watching. Bluewater Park is home to the new Urban Forest and Fitness Trail. Located just off the Bruce Highway, it has a picturesque, shady recreational area with BBQs, toilets, showers and playgrounds. Bluewater Creek is a scenic freshwater creek found right next to the park. It is an ideal swimming and picnic location. The Bluewater Store provides all supplies needed, including a post office, fuel, cappuccinos and a selection of homemade food. Designated free vehicle and tent camping is available for a maximum of 48 hours.



Toomulla Beach

This is a more secluded beach offering excellent bird watching and native wildlife viewing opportunities. A popular fishing location, it also has a boat ramp and allows limited free camping. Designated free vehicle and tent camping is available for a maximum of 48 hours.





Balgal Beach and Rollingstone District

A beachside community with plenty to offer, Balgal is the ideal location for a day trip or overnight stay. The beach has many attractions and includes a patrolled swimming enclosure during marine stinger season from November to May, licensed café and store, picnic/BBQ areas and camping facilities. The Rollingstone General Store provides all supplies needed, including a post office and fuel. The BP Service Station, located on the Bruce Highway at Rollingstone, also provides fuel, tourist information, cappuccinos and a selection of homemade food. The beach and creek are great fishing spots and there are excellent boat ramp facilities available. The natural bush surrounds cater for the native wildlife or bird watching enthusiast. Other popular activities and attractions in the area include a nine-hole golf course, lawn bowls, war memorials, museum and network of interpretive historic signage that showcases the area's colourful history. Vincent "Bushy" Parker Park, a well shaded designated camping area located right next to a scenic freshwater creek, is ideal for swimming. A variety of accommodation is available, including holiday units, a bed and breakfast retreat, a caravan park and the Rollingstone Hotel which is located on the Bruce Highway. Designated free vehicle and tent camping is available for a maximum of 48 hours.



History

Thuringowa's Northern Beaches have a rich and diverse history. The area was originally inhabited by Aboriginals. These traditional owners have occupied the area for at least 40,000 years, possibly more. Early rural development was concentrated along the creeks of the Northern Beaches. Due to the transportation demands of sugar cane, timber and tin mining, a railway line was constructed from Townsville to Cairns. This railway line was also used in World War II to transport water from Rollingstone Creek to Townsville. Military troops were stationed at Rollingstone to survey the coastline as a Japanese invasion was feared. Today, the Northern Beaches have developed into thriving seaside communities.



Timeline

1880s

of the Northern Beaches. 1912 Railway development commences. Rollingstone Railway Station and refreshment 1915 rooms opened. The opening of Rollingstone School. 1916 Isabella Fitzpatrick becomes the first female 1924 Councillor in Queensland elected to the

Occupation by traditional owner groups.

Early Settlement concentrated along the creeks

Thuringowa Shire Council. Military staging area, particularly at Rollingstone 1940 and Balgal Beach. This area was used as a base and the troops trained in the Paluma Ranges and Mount Halifax.

Rollingstone Railway Station closed.

Tour Operators in the Northern Beaches

Where to Stay

Balgal Beach:

Balgal Beach Holiday Units, 4770 7296 Studio 26, 4770 7296
Balgal Station Bed and Breakfast, 4770 7774 Rollingstone Hotel, 4770 7344
Rollingstone Beach Caravan Resort, 4770 7277
Bluewater:

Saunders Beach:

Saunders Beach Ocean View Units, 4778 6486 Jolly Mosh Retreat House, 4723 8824

Bushland Beach:

Woodlands Caravan Park, 4751 6955 Ocean Palms Hotel and Resort, 4757 6700

For more information on free camping, download the "Designated Camping Areas" flyer from: www.thuringowa.qld.gov.au or contact Thuringowa City Council on 4773 8411.

Fisherman's Landing Kiosk, Balgal Beach, 4770 7227 Mystic Sands Golf and Country Club, Mystic Sands, 4770 7355 Ocean Palms Hotel and Resort, Bushland Beach, 4757 6700 Rusty Banana, Yabulu, 4778 7221 Saunders Beach Bar and Bistro, Saunders Beach, 4778 7045 Saunders Beach Take Away and Store, Saunders Beach, 4778 6877.

Convenience Stores & Petrol Stations

Bluewater Café and Store, Bluewater, 4788 6267 BP Rollingstone, Rollingstone, 4770 7343 Bushland Beach Store, Bushland Beach, 4788 9311 Yabulu 24 Hour Service Station, Yabulu, 4778 6195 Rollingstone General Store, Rollingstone, 4770 7340

Tour Operators in the Northern Beaches Fairdinkum Fishing Tours, 4751 5324

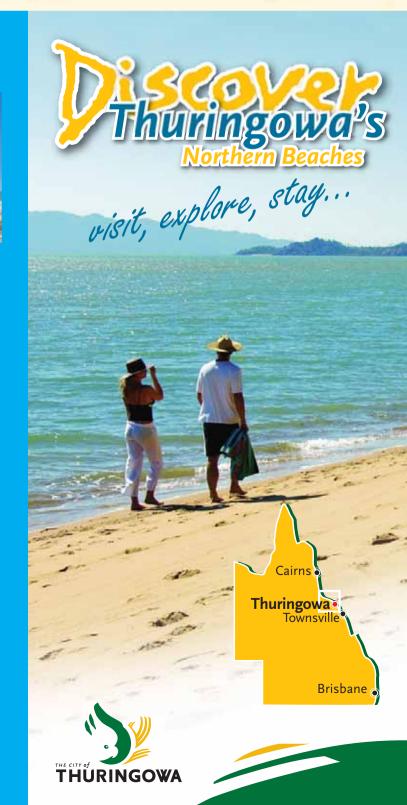
Community Organisations

Rollingstone Historical Society Inc, 4770 7466 Saunders Beach Community Centre Association, 4778 7126 Toomulla Beach Community Association, 4770 7518 Bluewater Community Association, 4788 6333 Rollingstone & District Community Centre, 4770 7153 Rollingstone Community Association, 4770 7153

Thuringowa City Council

Produced by:







10 things to do at Thuringowa's **Northern Beaches**

- Take a day trip to Paluma, Hidden Valley, Frosty Mango, Jourama or Wallaman Falls.
- Enjoy fish and chips at Fisherman's Landing Kiosk, Balgal Beach, and listen to the waves lapping against the beach.
- Follow the eight historical interpretive signs at Rollingstone/Balgal Beach. Take a tour through the Railway Museum located at Vincent "Bushy" Parker Park. For more information contact the Rollingstone Historical Society on 4770 7466.
- Go fishing for a Barramundi in one of the creeks, or try your luck off the beach.
- Have a race with your family and friends to see who can complete the Bluewater Urban Fitness Trail the quickest.
- Swim in the various waterholes located in the area.
- Take a peaceful stroll along one of the pristine beaches.
- Enjoy the native wildlife. Bird watching is a popular activity, and you can refer to the Birds of Thuringowa brochure as a checklist for the types of birds you can spot.
- Have a picnic on the beach and watch the sunset.
- Enjoy the free camping facilities available at Balgal Beach, Toomulla Beach, Saunders Beach, Rollingstone or Bluewater Park.

BUSHLAND BEACH



SAUNDERS BEACH



TOOLAKEA BEACH & BLUEWATTER

• The ANZAC Day Dawn Service is held at the

Memorial on the Balgal Beach Esplanade,

with the main ANZAC Day Service being

held at the Cenotaph in Vincent "Bushy"

• The Rollingstone Big Weekend (May) is a two-day event filled with fun and activates for the whole family.

 Community Markets are held at Rollingstone on the first Saturday of each month during April to September, from 8 am until 12 noon at Vincent "Bushy" Parker Park. · Community Markets are held at Bluewater on the second Saturday of each month during April to September at the Bluewater Community Centre.

 The Northern Beaches Festival runs during May/June and includes concerts, sporting competitions, fishing

Bluewater film nights are held on a monthly basis at the

The Black River Rodeo Grounds, located on Black River

Road, provides an exhilarating environment to watch

For more information please contact Thuringowa City Council's Customer Service Centre on 4773 8411 or logon

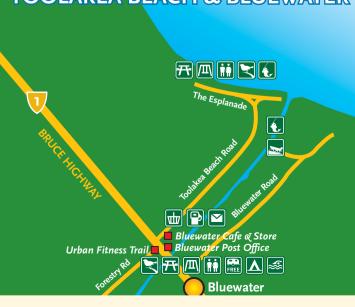
rodeos, motocross or other exciting events.

Parker Park, Rollingstone.

competitions and trivia nights.

Bluewater Community Hall.

to www.thuringowa.qld.gov.au





Main Road

Marine Stinger Resistant Public Toilets - Accommodation Caravaning **Swimming Enclosure** - - - Unsealed Road ATM ATM M Museum Restaurant/Cafe www Convenience Store √ Gas Bird Watching H Cultural & Historic Golfing Picnic Area 🧟 Swimming City Boat Ramp Fishing Township Lawn Bowls /III Playground Licensed Premises M Post Office **A** Camping Free Camping Distance Marker

BALGAL BEACH & ROLLINGSTONE



These maps are indicative and not to scale, please check road conditions and plan your journey carefully. Information correct at time of printing.