



# WHAT'S ON GUIDE

TOURS & ACTIVITIES | DINING | GENERAL INFORMATION

THIS WEEK:

03 January 2026 - 09 January 2026

[TANGALOOMA.COM](http://TANGALOOMA.COM)

# HANDY RESORT INFORMATION

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## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### Duty Manager

(After 7:00 pm)

 \*6246 (any resort phone)

 0418 810 669

### First Aid

 9 or 8 from your room

 3410 6000 on mobile

## Moreton Island Police

### Emergency Police Link

 000

 131 444



## BOAT DEPARTURE TIMES

Times may change subject to weather and tide.  
Please confirm with reception. Please collect your tickets from the Ticket Hut **30 mins prior to departure** (for the last boat\*, proceed directly to the boat)

9:30am	Daily
2:30pm	Daily
4:00pm	Daily
7:00pm*	After dolphin feeding

## PLEASE REGISTER

### Wild Dolphin Feeding Registration (if included in your overnight package)

Registration is required for Wild Dolphin Feeding. Please visit the Eco Centre (located under Deep Blue Apartments, near the jetty) between 1.00pm – 4.00pm to speak to one of the Eco Rangers and book your spot.

Don't want to get wet? Waders & wetsuits are available for hire near the Dolphin feeding area.

## RESORT WI-FI

**Up to 200MB free.** Additional data can be purchased on the go from your smartphone, laptop or tablet. See reception for details. **How to log on?** Choose *Tangalooma Guest* to log in. No password required.

## TANGACLUB

Become a **TangaClub Member today** and receive discounts of up to 20% off normal rates.

**How to become a TangaClub Member?** Simply stay at Tangalooma Island Resort and fill out the 'post stay survey' after you check out - it's that easy!

## NEED A BEACH TOWEL?

Visit the **Reception desk** for a beach towel. A refundable deposit is required.

## RESORT SWIMMING POOLS

From 7.00am-10.00pm. For the safety of our guests, no glassware is permitted in the pool area at any time.

## RESORT DRESS CODE

Casual Resort attire and footwear is required in the Resort centre and restaurants after 6pm.

## SWIM SAFETY

Lifeguards generally do not patrol the waters or pools of Tangalooma Island Resort, so guests must exercise extreme caution in the water at all times, and enter the water at their own risk. Young children and non-proficient swimmers should remain within arms-reach of a responsible adult at all times. Swimming near the jetty is prohibited due to the arrival and departure of the Resort boats. Tangalooma Watersports operates a number of supervised tours for almost all levels of swimming proficiency, and they also have a limited supply of swim-safety devices available to guests. Swim within your capabilities, always swim with a friend, and never enter the water after consuming alcohol.

### Beware strong currents and injury at the Wrecks:

Tangalooma Island Resort recommends that any guest planning to swim or snorkel at the wrecks, does so on an official supervised tour to maximise their personal safety and enjoyment.

## NO DRONES

CASA & Resort restrictions prevent all recreational and commercial drone use within 5.5km of the Resort property. See [www.tangalooma.com/drones](http://www.tangalooma.com/drones) for full drone policy.



## BOOKING OUTLETS & RESORT SERVICES



All times are correct at the time of printing, but are subject to last-minute changes

### Reception Desk

Located in the Resort Centre

3410 6000

Sun-Thu 8:00am-5:00pm

Fri & Sat 8:00am-7:00pm

7:00am-7:00pm

### Phone hours

### Tours Desk

Located in the Resort Centre

3410 6920

For all 4WD bus tours and Quad Bike tours.

Daily 8am-4:30pm

### Tangatours

Located next to Fire & Stone

3410 6927

For all guided water activities & Segway tours.

Daily 8:45am-5:00pm

### Tangalooma Watersports

3410 6924

Located near the main pool

Hire beach & water equipment.

Daily 8:30am-5:00pm

### The Helicopter Hut

Located next to the Resort Centre

For all scenic helicopter flights and transfers.

8:30am-4:30pm

### The Eco Centre

Located under Deep Blue 1

Register here for Wild Dolphin Feeding and find out more about our daily educational talks.

3410 6927

Located next to the Resort Centre

All bookings at TangaTours.

9:00am-5:00pm

### Tangalooma Photo Shop

3410 6975

Located under Deep Blue 1

Professional photos of your Tangalooma experiences.

Daily 8:30am-4:00pm & 6:30pm-7:00pm

Sunset Photos - starts 5:45pm

### The Resort Shop

3410 6926

Located under Deep Blue 2

Stock up on groceries, drinks & souvenirs.

Sun-Thur 8:00am-6:30pm/Fri- Sat 8:00am-7:00pm

### Tursiops Buffet Breakfast

Located in the Resort Centre

Mon - Fri 7:00am-9:30am

Sat & Sun 7:00am-10:00am

### The Coffee Lounge

Located in the Resort Centre

For light meals, snacks and your daily coffee fix.

Daily 7:00am-9:00pm

### Beach BBQ

Located outside The Coffee Lounge

Enjoy a modern Australian dinner in this alfresco venue.

Daily 5:00pm-8:30pm

T & F (Burger Stand Only) 11:00am-3:00pm

### The Beach Cafe

Located in the Resort Centre

Fuel up with burgers, pizza, pasta, salads & lighter meals.

Daily 11:30am-3:30pm / 5pm-9pm

Tues & Fri 11:00am-3:30pm / 5pm-9pm

### B&B's Bar

Located in the Resort Centre

Daily 10:30am - Late

Tues & Fri 10:00am - Late

### The Wheelhouse Deck

Located above B&B's Bar

Sip delicious cocktails as you watch the sunset over Moreton Bay from the best seat in the house!

Deck Access (Daily) 5:30pm-7:00pm

M,T,W, &F - Bar Open

### Fire & Stone Restaurant

Located next to Tangatours

3410 6791

Reservations available.

Dine at Fire & Stone for an a taste of Asian flavours.

Daily 11:30am-2:30pm / 5pm-8:30pm

### In Room Delivery

Scan the Guest Information QR Code in your room for menu options.

6:00pm-8:00pm

15% surcharge on all Food & Beverage outlets on Public Holidays.

# TOURS & ACTIVITIES

## Scheduled Activities *All tours & activities are subject to availability. Bookings are essential.*

	<b>Description (All tours must be paid for at the time of booking)</b>
<b>ATV Quad Bike Tour</b>	Tours run daily. Please check schedule for times (45mins including briefing & training). Enclosed shoes required. <b>Book at Tours Desk.</b> \$85pp single \$130 tandem (License required for Tandem bikes). 2nd single ride special \$65pp.
<b>ATV Quad Bike Workshop</b>	Thinking of doing a Quad Bike Tour? Find out all you need to know about this fun activity and hop on a Quad Bike for a great photo opportunity! Meet at the Quad Bike area near the jetty. Free activity.
<b>Blue Lagoon</b>	(Runs November - February) Explore Moreton Island's largest freshwater lagoon and surrounds on a 4WD bus (3hrs). <b>Book at Tours Desk.</b> \$90 \$45C (please see tours desk staff for availability)
<b>Catamaran Briefing</b>	Want to rent a catamaran? Attendance is mandatory at our catamaran briefing. (10mins) <b>Enquire or meet at Tangalooma Watersports.</b> Free activity.
<b>Clear Bottom Kayak Day Tour</b>	Explore the Tangalooma shipwrecks in a clear bottom kayak & see the abundance of marine life that live amongst the wrecks. (1.5hrs) Minimum age 8 years. <b>Book at TangaTours.</b> \$79 single \$139 double
<b>Clear Bottom Dusk Kayak Tour</b>	Embark on a kayak tour like no other! Paddle your way into the sunset on a clear bottom kayak. (1.5hrs). Minimum age 8 years. <b>Book at TangaTours.</b> \$79A \$59C
<b>Desert Safari Tour + Sand Tobogganing</b>	Take a 4WD adventure to the desert for a thrill-seeking sand tobogganing experience. (1.5hrs) <b>Book at Tours Desk.</b> \$55A \$39C
<b>Discover Scuba diving</b>	Explore the Tangalooma Wrecks and beyond. Introductory and Certified dives. <b>Please see the dive master at Tangalooma Watersports.</b> 1-2hr packages available.
<b>Easy Rider Quad Bike Tour</b>	A more relaxed Quad Bike tour, perfect for beginners. Cruise alongside the sparkling clear water of Lucinda Bay and don't forget to look out for dolphins! <b>Book at Tours Desk.</b> A\$85 Tandem: \$130 <b>Please Note: All Drivers must have Driver Licenses in order to participate.</b>
<b>Fishing Tour</b>	(Catch and release) Join the TangaTours team at 2 unique fishing locations. (1.5hrs including all equipment & bait). <b>Book and confirm tour time at TangaTours.</b> \$99A \$69C
<b>Helicopter Workshop</b>	Learn how the helicopter flies and meet the pilot. Great photo opportunity and lots of fun for the kids! Meet at the Helicopter pad near the jetty. Free activity.
<b>Illuminated Wrecks Tour</b>	Join us as we illuminate the breathtaking beauty of this underwater world. (1.5hrs). <b>Book at TangaTours.</b> \$79A \$59C
<b>Live Music</b>	Join us at the Resort Centre for some live music. No bookings required.
<b>Marine Discovery Cruise</b>	Journey along the coastline in search of dolphins, dugongs, green sea turtles, rays and more! Great for all the family! (1.5 hrs). <b>Bookings required at TangaTours.</b> \$69A \$55C
<b>Motor Boat Briefing</b>	Want to rent a tinnie? Attendance is mandatory at our boat safety briefing. (10mins) <b>Book at Tangalooma Watersports.</b> Free activity.
<b>Whale Watching Bus Tour</b>	Explore North Point before heading to the oldest lighthouse in Queensland at Cape Moreton. (4hrs). <b>Book at Tours Desk.</b> \$132A \$82C
<b>Night Activities</b>	Join us at the <b>Resort Centre</b> for Bingo, Trivia, Karaoke & Horse Racing for lots of family fun!!
<b>Sea Scooter Safari</b>	Book a Sea Scooter Safari & experience snorkelling with an extra boost of speed! (1.5hrs). Minimum age 8 years. <b>Book at Tangalooma Watersports.</b> \$109A \$89C
<b>Wrecks Sightseeing &amp; Fish Feeding Cruise</b>	This tour is fantastic for all ages and a great way to see the beautiful Tangalooma shipwrecks & marine life below. (45mins). <b>Book at TangaTours.</b> \$45A \$39C
<b>Snorkel the Wrecks</b>	Explore the Wrecks on this fully guided snorkel tour. (1.5hrs including all snorkel gear). Minimum age 6 years. <b>Book at TangaTours.</b> \$69A \$59C
<b>Southern Safari Tour</b>	Explore the Southern end of pristine Moreton Island aboard the Southern Safari Tour. (6hrs including lunch in Kooringal). <b>Bookings essential at the Tours Desk.</b> \$165A \$115C.
<b>Sunset Cruise</b>	Cruise out in time for a stunning sunset over the water, with cool drinks provided. Enjoy the best sunsets on the East Coast! Returns in time for Dolphin feeding. (1hr). <b>Book at TangaTours.</b> \$79A \$59C
<b>Sunset Stand Up Paddle Board Tour</b>	Explore the Wrecks at sunset from a different vantage point while paddling on a stand-up paddleboard. (1.5 hrs). Minimum age 12 years. <b>Book at TangaTours.</b> \$79pp.
<b>Sunset Photos</b>	Capture unforgettable moments with your loved ones through a sunset photo shoot. No reservations needed – just show up and let our talented photographers work their magic as the sun sets in paradise. Daily at sunset, on the beach out the front of the resort shop. (Weather permitting) <b>Book at Tangalooma Photo Shop.</b>

<b>Whale Watching Cruise</b>	(Runs June - October) Join our Eco Rangers and see the amazing humpback whales! (3hrs including a light boxed lunch). <b>Bookings essential at the Tours Desk.</b> \$85A \$65C departing from the
<b>Yoga - Vin Yin</b>	Get the best of 2 yoga styles in one session. Vin Yin is a combination of Vinyasa and Vin Yoga. (45mins) <b>Book at Tours Desk.</b> \$15 per person

# TOURS & ACTIVITIES

## Non Scheduled Activities *All tours & activities are subject to availability. Bookings are essential.*

	<b>Description</b>
<b>Bush Walking</b>	Explore the island on foot. Pick up a walking map from <b>Tours Desk</b> . Self-guided walk.
<b>Banana Boat Rides</b>	Grab some friends together for a banana boat fun ride! Minimum age 8 years. All safety gear provided. Minimum 2 people + spotter. <b>Book at Tangalooma Watersports</b> . From \$39 per person
<b>Helicopter Scenic Flights</b>	Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to fly high above Tangalooma for stunning views of Moreton Island. Scenic tours start from \$99 per person for 6 minutes. Minimum 2 people required. Weight and age restrictions apply. <b>Visit the Heli Hut to book!</b>
<b>Massage &amp; Beauty</b>	Choose from a wide range of pampering or therapeutic treatments in the beauty room or the beachside of massage hut. <b>Book at Tangatours</b> .
<b>Parasailing</b>	Fly high above the shorelines of Tangalooma for the best 360 degree views of Moreton Island! <b>Visit Tangatours for package options</b> . From \$99 per person solo, \$90 per person tandem
<b>Segway Tours</b>	Cruise along the white sandy beaches of Tangalooma on this unique self-balancing transporter. <b>Book at Tangatours</b> . From \$55 per person. Ask us about our daily specials!
<b>Self-Guided Water Sports</b>	Hire a catamaran, motorboat, snorkel, kayaks or stand up paddle boards. <b>Visit Tangalooma Watersports</b> .
<b>Sports Equipment Free Hire</b>	Tennis, squash, croquet, boule, cricket, golf putting, table tennis, badminton & beach volleyball. <b>Visit Tangalooma Watersports</b> . \$20 refundable deposit required.

## ECO CENTRE WALKS & PRESENTATIONS

### Free Scheduled Activities *All tours & activities are subject to availability*

	<b>Description</b>
<b>Back of House Tour</b>	Take a peek behind the scenes of a fully operational tourist resort. (1hr). Shoes required. <b>Meet at the Eco Centre 5mins before</b> .
<b>Bush Tucker Eco Walk</b>	Learn about the edible plants used by the Aboriginal people of Australia. (1hr). Enclosed shoes required. <b>Meet at the Eco Centre 5mins before</b> .
<b>Discover the World of Dolphins video</b>	Learn about the Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Feeding Program, the dolphins' characteristics, family groups and wild dolphin behaviour. (20mins). <b>Meet at The Eco Centre</b> .
<b>Historic Whaling Station Tour</b>	Learn about the history & operations of the Tangalooma Whaling Station with one of the Eco Rangers. (1hr). Enclosed shoes required. <b>Meet at the Eco Centre 5 mins before</b> .
<b>Kookaburra Feeding</b>	Ever wanted to learn more about this iconic Australian bird up close? (15mins). <b>Meet Eco Rangers in front of the Resort Shop</b> for the daily Kookaburra feeding.
<b>Marine Beach Eco Walk</b>	Learn about the amazing marine life in Moreton Bay! (1hr). <b>Meet at the Eco Centre 5 minutes before</b> .
<b>Pelican Feed and Sea Bird Talk</b>	Learn about the Pelicans & other sea and shore birds that call Moreton Bay home. As all are wild animals, attendance cannot be guaranteed. <b>Meet at the jetty</b> .
<b>Island Explorer Bush Walk (Hat/enclosed shoes/water bottle)</b>	Join one of our Eco Rangers and learn all about the flora/fauna and history of the island. The bush walk is 2.5miles (4km) long and features an elevation gain of approximately 300feet (90m).The trail takes you along the beach, through the forest and out to the Desert. This is a difficult hike with many steps, inclines and uneven, undulating terrain and soft sand (2hr). <b>Meet at the Eco Centre 5 mins before</b> .

### Tours & Activities Terms & Conditions:

All pricing, tours and activities are subject to weather and minimum numbers.

For more information, please visit the booking outlets. All pricing and description is correct at the time of printing and subject to change without notice, E.&O.E.



# SCHEDULED TOURS & ACTIVITIES

	MORNING (AM)							(PM)		
	8:00		9:00		10:00		11:00		12:00	
Vin/Yin Yoga	7:00 Th F									
ATV Quad Bike Workshop			9:00							
ATV Quad Easy Rider - *Not Operating on CruiseShip Day			9:00 Th							
ATV Quad Bike Tour			9:00		10:00		11:00			1:00
Northern Safari Tour				9:30 W						1:00 S
Southern Safari Tour										
Blue Lagoon Tour										
Desert Safari Tour			9:00							1:15
Motor Boat Briefing			9:00							
Helicopter Workshop				9:30						
Catamaran briefing				9:30						
Pelican Feeding							11:00			
Segway Tours				9:45		10:45		11:15		1:00
Parasailing				9:30		10:30		11:30		
Scuba diving				9:30						1:00
Sea Scooter Safari				9:30						1:00
Snorkel Tour				9:30						1:00
Marine Discovery Cruise										12:30
Historic Whaling Station Tour										
Bush Tucker Eco Walk										
Back of House Tour										
Sightseeing & Fish Feeding Cruise										
Discover the World of Dolphins Video										
Fishing Tour (catch and release)										
Kookaburra Feeding										
Dusk Guided Kayak tour										
Sunset Photos										
Illuminated Wrecks Tour										
Sunset Cruise										
Kids Movie										
Wild Dolphin Feeding at the jetty										
Live Music										
Night Activities	MON - Bingo / TUE - Trivia / WED - Karaoke / THUR- Horse Racing / FRI&SAT - Live Music									



## Key (Please note):

M Monday T Tuesday W Wednesday Th Thursday F Friday S Saturday Su Sunday Wd Weekdays only Ss Sat & Sun only

# SATURDAY 03 January 2026 - 09 January 2026

	AFTERNOON (PM)					EVENING (PM)		
	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00			
Vin/Yin Yoga								
ATV Quad Bike Workshop								
ATV Quad Easy Rider - *Not Operating on CruiseShip Day	2:00 S-M	3:00 S-Th	4:00 S-Th	5:00 S-Th				
ATV Quad Bike Tour	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00				
Northern Safari Tour								
Southern Safari Tour								
Blue Lagoon Tour								
Desert Safari Tour								
Motor Boat Briefing								
Helicopter Workshop								
Catamaran briefing								
Pelican Feeding								
Segway Tours		2:15	3:00	4:00				
Parasailing				4:00				
Scuba diving			3:15					
Sea Scooter Safari			3:15					
Intro To Snorkel Tour			3:15					
Marine Discovery Cruise								
Historic Whaling Station Tour	2:00 M							
Bush Tucker Eco Walk	2:00 Su							
Back of House Tour	2:00 W							
Sightseeing & Fish Feeding Cruise		2:15						
Discover the World of Dolphins Video			3:15					
Fishing Tour (catch and release)								
Kookaburra Feeding				4:45				
Dusk Guided Kayak tour				4:45				
Sunset Photos						From 5:30		
Illuminated Wrecks Tour						5:45		
Sunset Cruise						5:45		
Kids Movie		2:45						
Wild Dolphin Feeding at the jetty								7:00
Live Music								8:00 FS
Night Activities	MON - Bingo / TUE - Trivia / WED - Karaoke / THUR- Horse Racing / FRI&SAT - Live Music							8:00



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Relax. Enjoy. Have Fun!



# Signature Experiences



## ATV QUAD BIKE TOURS

Experience the thrill of riding on an ATV quad bike along the beach and through the bushland at Tangalooma. Our professional guides will assist you regardless of your experience, providing you with basic bush track training to handle the best dedicated ATV quad bike tracks in Australia.

*Tours depart daily.*

*Book at Tours Desk.*



## WILD DOLPHIN FEEDING

The highlight of any visit to Tangalooma is the opportunity to hand feed one of the wild bottlenose dolphins that visit the shores each evening at sunset. There is a large family of these playful dolphins that visit regularly, each with their own distinctive and unique personalities.

*Register at the Eco Centre between 1.00pm-4.00pm, if this is included in your overnight package.*



### CAPTURE MEMORIES

*Book at the Photoshop*

## TANGALOOMA PHOTO SHOP

Capture unforgettable moments with your loved ones through a sunset photo, no booking needed. Just show up and let our photographers do their magic as the sun sets in paradise. Daily sunset on the beach out the front of the Resort Shop (weather permitting) *Open daily.*

## 4WD DESERT SAFARI TOUR

Feel the need for speed? Take a journey to the Tangalooma Desert as part of this thrilling and bumping 4WD bus tour where getting there is half the fun. Guests will receive a unique look into the heart of Moreton Island and experience the exhilarating sport of Moreton Island sand tobogganing, reaching speeds of up to 40km per hour!

*Tours depart daily.*

*Book at Tours Desk.*



## SNORKELLING

Enjoy a guided snorkel tour through the magical Tangalooma Shipwrecks. The crystal clear waters that surround the wrecks are filled with over 200 species of fish and 130 species of coral, not to mention 3 different species of marine sea turtle, dolphins and even our resident Wobbegong sharks and stingrays. This guided tour begins at the Tangalooma beach front, with a short boat ride to the wrecks, with all snorkel gear provided.

*Tours depart daily.*

*Book at TangaTours.*

## CLEAR BOTTOM KAYAKING

Explore the magnificent Tangalooma Shipwrecks in a clear bottom kayak and see the abundance of marine life that lives amongst the wrecks. This is a great way to see what's under the water without having to get in!

*Book at TangaTours.*



## MASSAGE & BEAUTY

Offering a wide range of therapeutic services to relax and revitalise your body and mind, from essential treatments to complete pampering packages.

*Book at TangaTours.*



## MARINE DISCOVERY CRUISE

Venture into the amazing underwater world of Moreton Bay without getting wet! Look out for marine turtles, dugongs, dolphins, stingrays and over 200 different species of reef fish that call our waters home! With full Eco commentary provided, this tour caters for all ages and is great for families!

*Tours depart daily.*

*Book at TangaTours.*

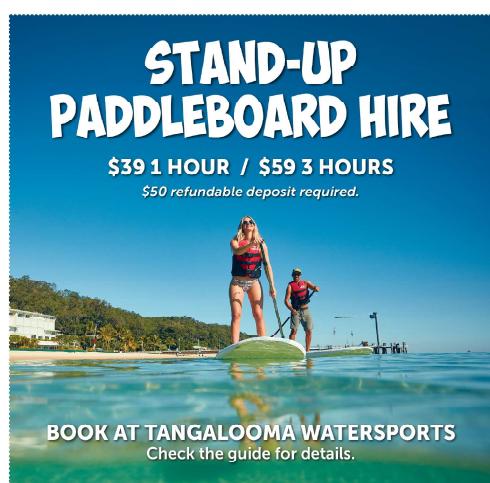
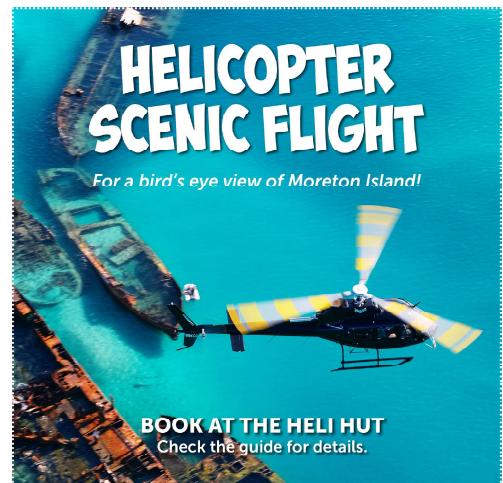
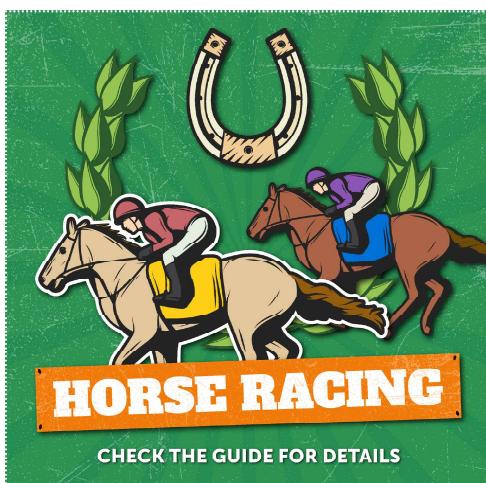
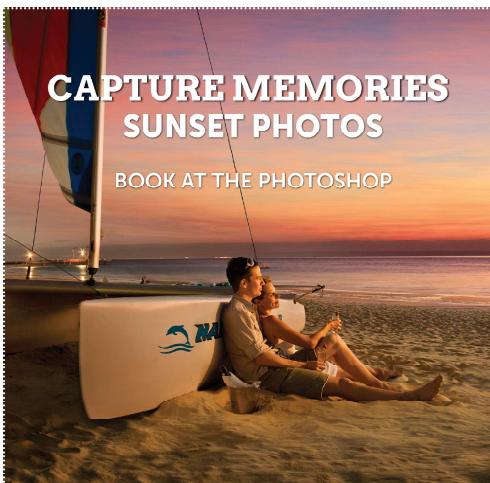
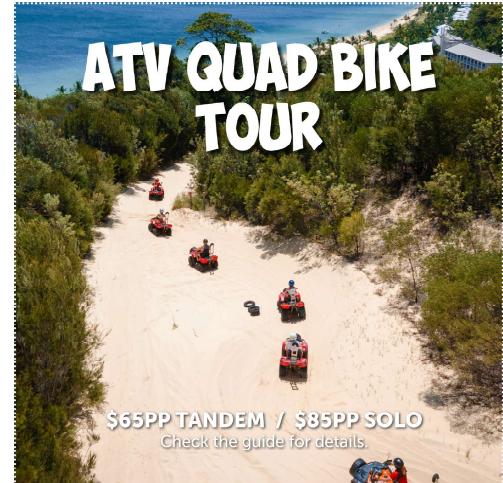
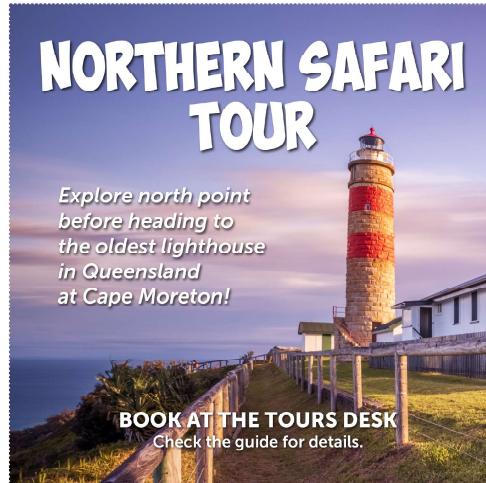
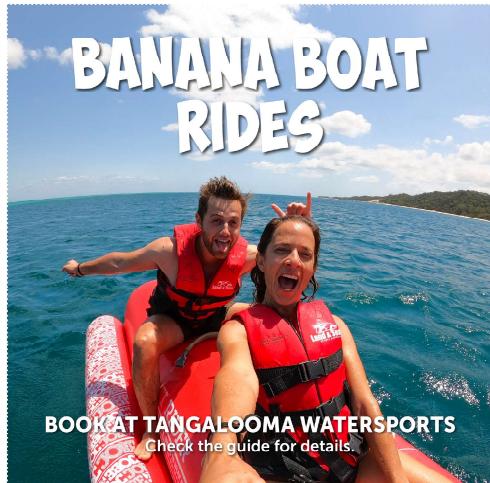
# RESORT INFORMATION

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

We have loads of fun tours & activities to entertain the kids these school holidays. From our 'Try Dive' sessions & Little Aviator program to free afternoon movies! Check the schedule for times and enquire at the Tour outlets for more information. Or why not take some well-deserved rest and book the littlies into our Kids' Club between 2pm-3pm? But be quick and book now at the Tours' Desk as availability is limited!

## CRUISE SHIP DAY – TUESDAY 6TH & FRIDAY 9TH OF JANUARY 2026

Thank you for joining us for a day of fun when we welcome Holland American Noordam and Carnival Splendor to Moreton Island. Cruise ship days can be relatively busy between 11am and 4pm so we encourage guests to pre-book all their preferred activities. You can also book these activities on days other than cruise arrival days.



Tangalooma Island Resort aims to be an industry leader in eco-tourism experiences. We are gold certified members of EarthCheck, a global eco accreditation program that works towards protecting our environment, through exemplary business policy and practices.



## THE TANGALOOOMA DOLPHINS AND HOW IT ALL BEGAN

During 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980, the Osborne Family visited Tangalooma as Resort Guests. During that time they enjoyed watching the dolphins visit the Resort jetty at night. Lights had recently been installed on the jetty and they were attracting bait fish for the Dolphins to hunt. In December 1980, the Osborne family purchased the Resort property.

At that time Tangalooma Resort employed 27 staff in total. This is a little different to the 325 staff now employed by Tangalooma.

During the 80's, Brian and Betty Osborne continued to visit the jetty at night to look out for the dolphins that arrived at all different times after sunset. The most regular dolphin at the jetty was a dolphin that had been named Eric. Eric became a much more regular visitor in 1986 when he arrived with a new calf that we named Bobo. It was then obvious that Eric was a female. We then thought it wise to change Eric's name. Betty said that because she had such a beautiful nature, she would be named Beauty.

During that time, Resort guests fishing on the jetty at night started throwing their reject fish and bait to

Beauty, and she slowly began to accept them. She also began to raise her eyes above the water and look for our guests. This only encouraged the guests more and more to feed her. Brian and Betty became concerned about the quality of the fish being cast to the dolphins, so they arranged for a bucket of fresh fish to be left on the jetty each night for guests to cast to Beauty when she arrived. During late 1990 Beauty arrived with a new baby that we named Tinkerbell, and Beauty became a very regular visitor during 1991.

In January 1992 Betty decided that it was time to try to hand feed Beauty as she was becoming very friendly and showed no signs of stress when near Betty on the jetty loading platform. Betty found two other interested staff members and commenced entering the water and casting fish closer and closer. Beauty came close enough in 1992 to take her first fish from Betty's hand. Bobo and Tinkerbell hung back and watched from a safe distance. The jetty lighting was poor and the water was gloomy and quite scary to enter, particularly as Beauty would not come in closer than shoulder deep water to hand feed.

Throughout 1991 and the winter of 1992, Brian and Betty along with their poodle Yoplait, spent every night sitting on their patio waiting patiently for the dolphins to arrive. Yoplait was always the first to hear or smell them when they arrived, and would run along the beach and out onto the jetty barking and looking into the water to greet them.

Once Beauty became comfortable being close to us, she began to encourage her calves Bobo and Tinkerbell to hand feed. Soon after, Bess and Karma started to come in closer to take fish from Betty, and the other Resort staff members.

It soon became apparent that Beauty and Betty had an affinity together, as Beauty would always swim straight to Betty whenever she was present in the water. Beauty was also very comfortable bringing Tinkerbell in close to Betty.

In August 1992, we decided that we could not continue sitting around up until 2:00 am to feed dolphins. We therefore made a decision that if they had not arrived by 9:00 pm we would pack up and go to bed. It did not take long for the dolphins to learn that lesson and arrive earlier.

### BRINGING DOLPHINS AND PEOPLE TOGETHER

1992 was a big year for the dolphin program. By years end we had 6 regular dolphins with all except Rani hand feeding. We had established our Dolphin Care Protocols, and had them approved by the Marine Park Authority. We installed better lighting on the jetty and in December 92 we tentatively commenced to allow Resort Guests into the water to feed the dolphins. We also announced the program to the media and soon became well known around the world for our program.

During 1993 an old male dolphin that we had named Blind Freddie arrived ( later reduced to Fred ). Fred used to bump into all of us in the water and could not grab the fish properly. We assumed that he was nearly blind. After Beauty, Fred became our second favourite dolphin. For a male, he was just so calm and contented around all of us. Echo arrived in July. His mother brought him in over a period of 3 nights. She stayed out the back, and allowed Echo to investigate. Then they both disappeared for 3 nights and on the fourth night Echo came charging in and commenced feeding greedily straight away. He was only about 8 months old and in very poor condition. It was obvious by then that he had become an orphan. We decided to break our protocol and for the next 2 years, we fed Echo until he was satisfied. He was still too young to survive on his own. Fred took Echo into his charge and they arrived and departed together. At around 2 years old, Echo was observed chasing and eventually catching a fish. We then decided to slowly reduce his feeding intake back down to 20% of his daily requirement like all the other dolphins. Echo is now one of the best and fastest fish hunters in the group. Rani began to feed and with the addition of Fred, Echo, and another arrival Nick, we were up to 9 dolphins feeding on a regular basis. During 1994 Lefty arrived and Karma stopped attending, but is still often sighted around the area. We opened and staffed our Dolphin Education Centre, and we set up the Tangalooma Research Grant Program to help fund Marine Research in conjunction with the University of Queensland. Our best news in 1994 was the arrival of Beauty on 10th October with a new born calf we named Shadow.

The second half of 1995 was a devastating time for us. Beauty suffered an infectious tumour on her rostrum that degenerated to a point where she could not swim fast enough to catch fish. We had Sea World Veterinarians observe her and they concluded that nothing could be done to save her. We then turned our minds to Shadow. She was only 9 months old, and not capable of surviving on her own. Our experience with Echo had taught us a lot, and we knew that we had to try and keep Beauty around for as long as possible to

give Shadow a chance at survival. We again decided to break from our protocol, and we lifted Beauty's feeding allowance and started to encourage Shadow with small fish. Sadly, Beauty last visited us on 24th December, 1995. We searched for her for several days without success. Then on 27th December Shadow arrived on her own and we knew then that Beauty was gone forever.

## OUR WILD DOLPHIN FEEDING PROGRAM TODAY

The next 14 years (1996 to 2010) have seen many changes to the program. A new jetty and grandstand, a new Dolphin Education Centre managed by Trevor Hassard and staffed by our extremely dedicated Marine Biologists and other team members, and an extensive Marine Education Program which provides free programs to all South East Queensland Schools. We have lost Freddie and Bess to natural causes. Bess has left behind her 2 boys, Nari and Rani. Freddie has left us with some great memories and many smiles and laughs.

Beauty has left us with some wonderful memories of how she started it all but more importantly, she has left us with her 3 children, Bobo, Tinkerbell and Shadow, Tinkerbell's 3 children, Tangles, Storm and Phoenix, and Shadow's 2 children Silhouette and Zephyr. What a family it is. All gentle and well mannered like their mother and grandmother Beauty. With 5 females in the list of offspring, we can hope for many more arrivals and generations to come from Beauty. When we visit the jetty now to watch the program, I know that Betty's mind always goes back to remember Beauty as she watches the antics of the young dolphins at play. What an incredible legacy Beauty has left us.

## BRIAN OSBORNE

**Tangalooma Island Resort, Moreton Island. Proudly Australian owned and operated by the Osborne family since 1980.**



## THE ECO CENTRE...

The Eco Centre at Tangalooma provides an up-close & personal look into the environment that is right on the doorstep, with endangered animals frequently passing our shores. Dolphins, Dugongs, Whales, Turtles, Rays, Marine Birds and so much more can be seen daily with guided educational talks provided by the expert Eco Rangers.

