



# Ballina Byron

Photo: Pawel Papis/shutterstock



Steve Simkins/shutterstock



Shanti Hesse/shutterstock



Silken Photography/shutterstock

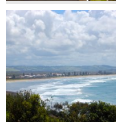
The Ballina/Byron region is delightfully diverse. It ranges from the quiet family world of Ballina to Byron Bay, the former hippy capital of Australia. Byron Bay was once a simple whaling station later rediscovered by surfers. Now, long after the 60s, the place is swarmed with tourists and celebrities wishing to experience this alternative town, which is still one of the most hippy destinations on the East Coast.

## Featured



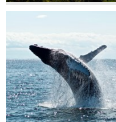
### Cape Byron Lighthouse

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### Lennox Head

Lennox Head is a laid-back village at the northern end of Seven Mile Beach a...



### Whale Watching

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### Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

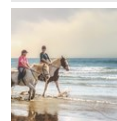
Fur, feathers, fine food and family fun — Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary is fu...



### Surfing in Byron Bay

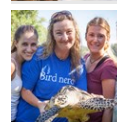
Byron Bay's beaches face many different directions, increasing the chance fo...

## Top 5



### Seven Mile Beach

Just a few kilometres north of Ballina's centre, Seven Mile Beach is one of ...



### Australian Seabird & Turtl...

The Australian Seabird Rescue, Research, Rehabilitation and Coastal Educatio...



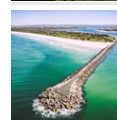
### Byron Bay From The Air

Take the opportunity to get another perspective of Byron Bay and the amazing...



### Big Prawn

About 9 metres high, the Big Prawn is exactly what you'd expect it to be: a ...



### Historic Ballina Waterfront...

Put your hiking shoes on and start a scenic walk from the boardwalk of Balli...

## THE CITY



*GotKom/shutterstock*

There is a plethora of pleasures to be experienced in Ballina, Byron Bay, and the surrounding areas. Creative types are particularly attracted to this region, with many authors and filmmakers seeking inspiration alongside surfers and sun lovers.

Ballina originally gained its reputation as a fishing and timber port on the wide Richmond River. Then, road transportation took over, leading to one of the most curious decisions in town planning history: Ballina's main street was set back from the river, with buildings on both sides blocking river views. However, this has now changed with the development of the river foreshore area.

Only three decades ago, Byron Bay was a small, sleepy enclave unaware of the hustle and bustle it would later experience. Nowadays, it has a small-town charm mixed with a cosmopolitan — yet alternative — lifestyle that attracts people from all over the world. Among its attractions are kilometres of unbroken sandy beaches and excellent surf waves, as well as pristine nature and wildlife. Due to its location as Australia's most eastern point, majestic humpback whales can be spotted twice a year on their migratory routes. There is always a local market taking place somewhere, and several festivals occur

throughout the year.

Despite its reputation as a laid-back and alternative coastal town, Byron Bay is anything but boring. Visitors have the time of their lives in both Ballina and Byron Bay.

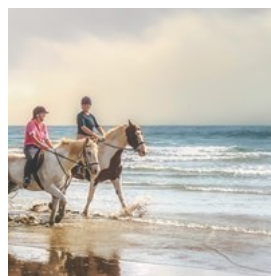
## DO & SEE



*Susan Harris/shutterstock*

There is no lack of beaches along the coastline if you want to enjoy a day on the sand. Once you're rested, outdoor and water activities are a must in Ballina and Byron Bay. Walking, picnicking, kayaking, swimming, surfing, snorkelling — you'll be spoilt for choice. Day trips in the surrounding villages are also possible, as well as museum visits and spotting dolphins and whales.

### Seven Mile Beach



Just a few kilometres north of Ballina's centre, Seven Mile Beach is one of Australia's finest and longest beaches. Wildlife, including dolphins and eagles, populates the area. Swimming, surfing and sunbathing are of course the recommended activities.

For an unusual experience, Pegasus Park Equestrian Centre offers horseback rides under the supervision of an expert E.F.A. Grade 1



instructor.

Photo: K. Mitch Hodge/unsplash

Address: Pacific Parade, Lennox Head NSW

### Australian Seabird & Turtle Rescue



The Australian Seabird Rescue, Research, Rehabilitation and Coastal Education Centre in Ballina offers a comprehensive

educational experience for people of all ages. Participants experience first hand the issues in their local environment. The interactive, hands on approach gives everyone an unforgettable experience that they can take home and share with others.

All presentations include a one hour informative talk by one of their trained volunteers, as well as a chance to see wildlife that may be in their care. Animals that you may get the opportunity to get a close-up look at may include pelicans, other sea birds, shore birds, and even the fascinating and endangered sea turtles.

Photo: Australian Seabird Rescue/Destination NSW

Address: 264 North Creek Road, Ballina NSW

Phone: +61 2 6686 2852

Internet: seabirdrescue.org.au

### Byron Bay From The Air



Take the opportunity to get another perspective of Byron Bay and the amazing nature surrounding it by... jumping out of an

airplane. This exciting experience will be a safe one thanks to Skydiving Byron Bay.

Photo: Germanskydiver/Shutterstock.com

Address: Skydive Byron Bay, Hangar 1, Tyagarah Airport, Pacific Highway, Tyagarah NSW

Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

Phone: +61 1300 663 634

Internet: [www.skydive.com.au/byron-bay](http://www.skydive.com.au/byron-bay)

Email: [info@skydive.com.au](mailto:info@skydive.com.au)

### Big Prawn



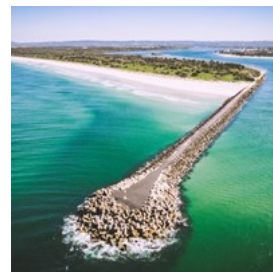
About 9 metres high, the Big Prawn is exactly what you'd expect it to be: a huge sculpture of a crustacean. You'll find it in a parking lot on River

Street outside Ballina's town centre. Just park your car and take a few pictures with this Australian icon, likely among the oddest monuments you'll ever encounter.

Photo: Cloudcatcher Media/shutterstock

Address: 507 River Street, West Ballina NSW

### Historic Ballina Waterfront Trail



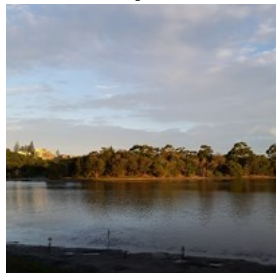
Put your hiking shoes on and start a scenic walk from the boardwalk of Ballina RSL club, walking alongside the Richmond River, cross the

Missingham Bridge and continue towards the North Wall. Along the road you'll find 19 panels with information about the area. At the end of the walk you can relax on Lighthouse Beach or just enjoy the view from North Wall. You might be able to spot dolphins, turtles and various birds.

Photo: Tony Partridge/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Grant Street, Ballina NSW

### Shaws Bay



The scenic Shaws Bay is located just ten minutes from Ballina by car. Surrounded by beaches and parks, the area lends itself to long walks and picnics, as well as water activities like swimming, snorkeling and canoeing.

Photo: kellyocs/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Shaws Bay, Ballina NSW

### Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary



Fur, feathers, fine food and family fun — Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary is full of little surprises! There are lots of native furry friends and cuddly nursery animals, mini golf, train rides, playgrounds and barbecues. There's rabbit petting, face painting, a treehouse, and a reptile display including the local Brown Snake and Death Adder. All safe behind glass, of course. Visit the crocodile exhibit and cuddle a croc.

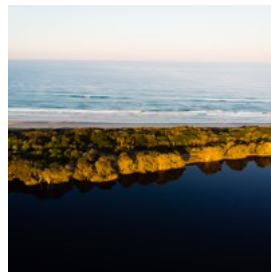
Treat yourself to breakfast or lunch with some great local coffee and delicious food. Enjoy pancakes, homemade cakes and cookies. Specialties include macadamia baked cheesecake and their famous beef burger infused with macadamia nuts.

The shop on the premises offers a wide range of gourmet macadamia products and tastings of hot, roasted nuts. There's a fascinating gift shop and a full display of the macadamia nut industry.

Photo: Julija Sopic/shutterstock  
Address: 1699 Pacific Highway (419 Hinterland Way), Knockrow NSW

Phone: +61 1300 945 354  
Internet: [byronbaywildlifesanctuary.com.au](http://byronbaywildlifesanctuary.com.au)  
More Info: Formerly known as The Macadamia Castle.

### Lake Ainsworth



Adjacent to the Seven Mile Beach and within walking distance from Lennox Head village lies Lake Ainsworth, a fresh water lake surrounded by

trees. Tea-tree tannins and oil infuse this freshwater lake for the most refreshing swim of your life. Have a picnic or a barbecue and then take off on a water adventure such as kayaking, swimming and windsurfing.

Photo: Tony Partridge/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Pacific Parade, Lennox Head NSW

### Diving & Snorkelling



The sea around Byron Bay has abundant marine life among the rocky reefs. If you are not a certified diver yet, Byron Bay Dive Centre is the

place to go for a guided experience and maybe complete your training. They will take you to the beautiful Julian Rocks Aquatic Reserve, one of Australia's major diving sites.

Photo: Sebastien Burel/shutterstock  
Address: Byron Bay Dive Centre, 9 Marvell Street, Byron Bay NSW  
Phone: +61 2 6685 8333  
Internet: [www.byronbaydivecentre.com.au](http://www.byronbaydivecentre.com.au)  
Email: [info@byronbaydivecentre.com.au](mailto:info@byronbaydivecentre.com.au)  
More Info: Check their website to pick the best time of the year to dive.

### Surfing in Ballina



With more than 32 kilometres of beautiful winding coastline, you will not have to look hard to find a good surfing spot. The calm sandy

beaches and rising swells are perfect for getting your surf on.

Ballina Surf School offers tailored packages for personalised session. They specialise in private classes with small numbers but also do group sessions.

Photo: Kudriavtcev Mikhail/Shutterstock.com

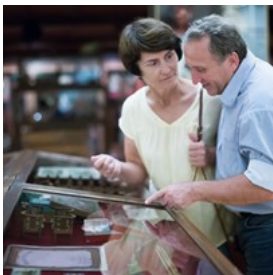
Address: Tamar Street, Ballina NSW

Phone: +61 402 152 732

Internet: ballinasurfschool.com

Email: info@ballinasurfschool.com

### The Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum



The Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum has an eclectic collection of different kinds of ships, not to mention exhibitions on maritime history, life

at sea and in the navy. The most famous attraction is the raft Las Balsas, which landed in Ballina on 21 November 1973 after a 178-day journey from Ecuador.

Photo: Caftor/Shutterstock.com

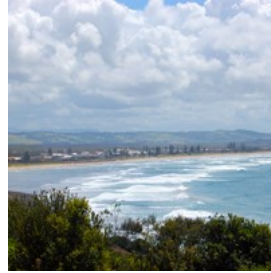
Address: Regatta Ave, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Daily 9am–4pm

Phone: +61 2 6681 1002

Internet: www.ballinamaritimemuseum.org.au

### Lennox Head



Lennox Head is a laid-back village at the northern end of Seven Mile Beach and a mecca among surfers with its world-renowned breaks

at Lennox and Boulders Point.

Photo: jessicakirsh/Shutterstock.com

Address: Lennox Head, Ballina NSW

### Brunswick Heads



Brunswick Heads, located about 20 minutes by road north of Byron Bay, is approximately what Byron used to be before the hippie invasion — a

sleepy little village on a super-scenic inlet, with top boating and fishing, several bars and restaurants, and a great cafe culture. It is the perfect place for a peaceful getaway.

Photo: Phillip Minnis/Shutterstock.com

More Info: Just off the Pacific Highway.

### Whale Watching



From May to July, grandiose humpback whales pass Byron Bay on their journey to calving and breeding grounds further north. In

September and October they pass Byron Bay again when they migrate back to the Antarctic with their youngsters. Several companies organise boat trips out to sea to watch the whales. One of those companies is Whale Watching Byron Bay.

Photo: Todd Cravens/unsplash.com

Address: Whale Watching Byron Bay, 9 Marvell Street, Byron

Bay NSW

Phone: +61 2 6685 8333

Internet: [www.byronbaywhalewatching.com.au](http://www.byronbaywhalewatching.com.au)

Email: [info@byronbaywhalewatching.com.au](mailto:info@byronbaywhalewatching.com.au)

### Cape Byron Lighthouse



Cape Byron Lighthouse, Australia's most eastern lighthouse, is an iconic sight of Byron Bay.

Construction started in 1899 and the plans for

the lighthouse were done in the style of New South Wales colonial architect of the day, James Barnet. The view from the top is magnificent and on a good day you might even spot dolphins or whales with your binoculars. The hill where it's located is also a nice place to see the colours of sunset itself liven up the landscape.

Photo: [ian woolcock/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Cape Byron Walking Track, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Daily 10am-4pm

Internet: [www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/historic-buildings-places/cape-byron-lighthouse](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/historic-buildings-places/cape-byron-lighthouse)

### Surfing in Byron Bay



Byron Bay's beaches face many different directions, increasing the chance for great waves. For those who still need to learn, Byron Bay is the perfect

place to take surfing lessons with its often mellow waves.

### Mojosurf Byron Bay surf school:

Photo: [ohrim/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Ballina Surf School, Shop 6/4 Jonson Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 10am-4pm

Phone: +61 2 6639 5100

Internet: [www.mojosurf.com](http://www.mojosurf.com)

Email: [info@mojosurf.com](mailto:info@mojosurf.com)

### Kayaking with Dolphins



Get up close and personal with the local bottlenose dolphins in the bay. A kayak is a great and sporty way of observing these lovely mammals.

Tours are available everyday for both whale and dolphin watching.

Photo: [Tory Kallman/Shutterstock](#)

Address: Go Sea Kayak Byron Bay, Opposite 56 Lawson Street, Byron Bay NSW

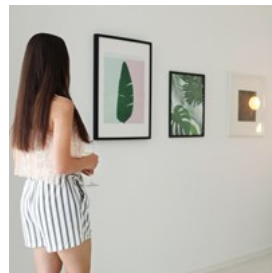
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 8am-5:30pm, Fri 8am-5pm, Sat & Sun 8:30am-1pm

Phone: +61 416 222 344

Internet: [www.goseakayakbyronbay.com.au](http://www.goseakayakbyronbay.com.au)

Email: [info@goseakayakbyronbay.com.au](mailto:info@goseakayakbyronbay.com.au)

### Northern Rivers Community Gallery



If you're into contemporary art, Northern Rivers Community Gallery might be an interesting detour from beach days and

outdoor activities. They have four exhibition spaces showing diverse artwork mostly by local artists, but not exclusively. Check their website to see what exhibitions, cultural programs and events are currently going on.

Photo: [New Africa/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: 44 Cherry Street, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Wed-Fri 10am-4pm, Sat & Sun 9:30am-1pm

Phone: +61 2 6681 0530

Internet: [www.nrcgballina.com.au](http://www.nrcgballina.com.au)

Email: [nrcg@ballina.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nrcg@ballina.nsw.gov.au)



## DINING



svry/shutterstock

The Ballina/Byron Bay region has some top restaurants, highlighting the region's fine produce, like the world's best macadamia nuts. Fresh seafood also plays a leading role in the local cuisine.

### Beanz (Ballina)



prices.

For a quick, healthy and light lunch, head over to Beanz. In addition to salads, you'll find falafel, tacos, sandwiches, and burgers, all at reasonable

Photo: Marie C Fields/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 222 River Street, Ballina NSW  
Opening hours: Daily 11am-4pm  
Phone: +61 2 6686 6170

### Che Bon (Ballina)



Che Bon is an authentic French restaurant owned by a couple from Burgundy. Here you'll find typical French dishes like escargot, foie gras, and crème brûlée, but also seafood dishes along with many gluten/dairy free as well as vegetarian options.

Photo: HUANG Zheng/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 37/41 Cherry Street, Ballina NSW  
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 5pm-10:30pm  
Phone: +61 2 6687 8221  
Internet: [chebonrestaurant.com](http://chebonrestaurant.com)  
Email: [mail@chebonrestaurant.com](mailto:mail@chebonrestaurant.com)

### The Boardwalk (Ballina)



The Boardwalk is a restaurant, brasserie, and bistro with a waterfront location. They keep their menu varied and affordable, serving

anything from seafood and salads to pastas and steaks. At sunset, enjoy a truly stunning view of the Richmond River through its big windows.

Photo: chndkmn/shutterstock  
Address: Ballina RSL Club, 1 Grant Street, Ballina NSW  
Phone: +61 2 6681 9500  
Internet: [ballinarsl.com.au/dining](http://ballinarsl.com.au/dining)

### Raes on Wategos (Byron Bay)



This elegant hotel restaurant is located in front of the beautiful Wategos Beach. They serve a selection of dishes belonging to

modern Australian cuisine with Mediterranean influence.

Photo: msheldrake/shutterstock  
Address: 6/8 Marine Parade, Byron Bay NSW  
Phone: +61 2 6685 5366  
Internet: [raes.com.au](http://raes.com.au)  
Email: [contact@raes.com.au](mailto:contact@raes.com.au)

### Harvest Newrybar (Byron Bay)



At the Harvest Newrybar, they use seasonal local and organic ingredients that translate into an ever-changing and creative menu. On

Saturday and Sunday mornings they host an a la carte breakfast. Beside the restaurant you'll find a deli, a bakery, and a lovely garden that you can also see from their patio.

Photo: Helga Chirk/Shutterstock.com

Address: 18/22 Old Pacific Highway, Newrybar NSW

Opening hours: Wed, Thu, Sun & Mon noon-5pm; Fri & Sat noon-5pm / 5:30pm-8:30pm; Tue closed

Phone: +61 2 6687 2644

Internet: [harvest.com.au/restaurant](http://harvest.com.au/restaurant)

Email: [goodtimes@harvestcafe.com.au](mailto:goodtimes@harvestcafe.com.au)

### Fishmongers (Byron Bay)



Fishmongers serves fresh, fast seafood in Byron Bay, from prawns and calamari to octopus and oysters. They are particularly proud of their

gourmet fish and chips and the vegetable tempura. There are some tables to eat on the spot, but take-away is a popular option as well.

Photo: Janet Faye Hastings/Shutterstock.com

Address: 9 Bay Lane, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily noon-late

Phone: +61 4 1205 9771

Internet: [fishmongersbyron.com.au](http://fishmongersbyron.com.au)

Email: [eat@fishmongersbyron.com.au](mailto:eat@fishmongersbyron.com.au)

More Info: Behind the Beach Hotel

## CAFÉS



Kichigin/shutterstock

With the city now being home to a beguiling mix of surfers, new-agers, artists, craftspeople, writers and film makers, this is a perfect place for people watching while sipping a cup of coffee. Sit down and enjoy the relaxing atmosphere at one of many cafés in Ballina and Byron Bay.

### The Gallery Cafe (Ballina)



Adjacent to the Northern Rivers Community Art Gallery you'll find this sophisticated cafe with outdoor tables in a lovely garden. The menu

features eggs cooked in a variety of ways, pancakes, healthy salads, but also more substantial options like burgers and pasta.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: 46 Cherry Street, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Open seasonally. Check hours on their social media pages.

Phone: +61 2 6681 3888

Internet: [www.thegallerycafeballina.com](http://www.thegallerycafeballina.com)

Email: [ballinagallerycafe@gmail.com](mailto:ballinagallerycafe@gmail.com)



### Swish Cafe (Ballina)



Swish Cafe is a busy, popular place in the heart of Ballina, just a short walk from the beach. Until 11:30am, they offer huge breakfast specials

for those who want to start their day on the right foot. They also have an excellent variety of cakes and sweets, as well as light lunch options like salads, wraps, and sandwiches.

Photo: Olga Nayashkova/Shutterstock.com

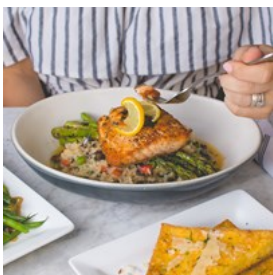
Address: Wigmore Arcade, 147 River Street, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-2:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +61 2 6681 4033

Internet: [www.instagram.com/swish.cafe](https://www.instagram.com/swish.cafe)

### The Belle General (East Ballina)



The Belle General a takeaway store and beachside cafe with smoothies, cold press juice, amazing coffee.

Absolutely perfect for late

breakfast or lunch. They specialise in gluten & dairy free range, stay very vegan friendly but also have plenty of classic meals like burger and chips. Stop by and have "Something Healthy with Salmon" in this venue with industrial design and exceptionally good coffee.

Photo: Travis Yewell/unsplash.com

Address: 12 Shelly Beach Road, East Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Daily 8am-2pm

Phone: +61 411 361 453

Internet: [www.bellegeneral.com](https://www.bellegeneral.com)

More Info: A stone's throw away from stunning Shelly Beach.

### The Top Shop (Byron Bay)



As the name suggests, you'll find this little cafe on top of a hill a short walk away from Tallow Beach. Their blackboard menu always displays

many burger options, but you'll also find bowls, baked treats, juices, smoothies and, of course, coffee. There is not much seating to eat on the spot, but it's very popular to take away and have a picnic either on the grass or at the beach.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com

Address: 65 Carlyle Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 6:30am-3pm

Phone: +61 2 6685 6495

Internet: [www.topshopbyronbay.com.au](https://www.topshopbyronbay.com.au)

Email: [charlie.topshop@gmail.com](mailto:charlie.topshop@gmail.com)

### Bayleaf Cafe (Byron Bay)



Located in the heart of Byron Bay, Bayleaf Cafe is one of the most popular spots in town for brekkie and lunch. They gather ingredients from local

suppliers, including their coffee beans. Expect healthy and creative dishes served in generous portions. The green breakfast bowl is a big favourite.

Photo: Borys Vasylenko/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2A Marvell Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 7am-2pm

Internet: [www.bayleafbyronbay.com](https://www.bayleafbyronbay.com)

Email: [hello@bayleafbyronbay.com](mailto:hello@bayleafbyronbay.com)

### Combi (Byron Bay)



Combi is a family-owned cafe with an organic menu focusing on treats and breakfast offerings. For a healthy and

nourishing breakfast, try one of their beautifully-presented super bowls with açaí, granola and fresh fruit. They have plenty of gluten-free, vegan and raw options to choose from.

Photo: zstock/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shop 5b, 21/25 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 7am-3pm

Phone: +61 407 143 077

Internet: [wearecombi.com.au](http://wearecombi.com.au)

Email: [byronbay@wearecombi.com.au](mailto:byronbay@wearecombi.com.au)

### The Pass Cafe (Byron Bay)



By making a slight detour on your way to or back from Byron Bay Lighthouse, you can stop by The Pass and enjoy the beautiful view of Pass

Beach and surf break. Whether it's for breakfast or lunch, you'll find popular foods like pancakes and burgers, and more sophisticated ones like açaí bowls or salads with avocado and super greens. They also offer a wide selection of vegan smoothies featuring healthy ingredients like matcha and macadamia milk.

Photo: NuTz/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Brooke Drive, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 7am-2pm

Phone: +61 2 6680 8028

Internet: [www.thepasscafe.com.au](http://www.thepasscafe.com.au)

Email: [eat@thepasscafe.com.au](mailto:eat@thepasscafe.com.au)

## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Roman Odintsov/pexels

Byron Bay rocks like jelly in an earthquake and has gained a reputation as one of Australia's very best music venues. Major world-class groups will often tour the major state capitals of Australia 'plus Byron Bay'. In Ballina, there are many places to kick back and relax before you head off to Byron Bay for a lively night.

### Wharf Bar & Restaurant (Ballina)



At the Wharf Bar & Restaurant, they have many speciality cocktails to choose from. To play it safe, try one of their signature cocktails like

the espresso martini, the Frangelico caipiroska, or the "Gerry bomb" with vanilla vodka, strawberry, lychee, and lime. Of course, you'll also find wine, beer, mocktails, and spirits.

Photo: CharlotteRaboff/Shutterstock.com

Address: Fawcett Park, 12/24 Fawcett Street, Ballina NSW

Phone: +61 2 6686 5259

Internet: [www.wharfbarmallina.com.au](http://www.wharfbarmallina.com.au)

Email: [wharfbarmallina@gmail.com](mailto:wharfbarmallina@gmail.com)

### Westower Tavern (Ballina)



The Westower Tavern is a sports bar and bistro serving pub food and cold drinks. They have a big play area for the children and organise

entertainment for adults as well, like live music nights. On regular evenings you can just get a draft, watch some sports, and have a good time.

Photo: zeljkodan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ballina West Shopping Centre, 89/93 Kalinga Street, West Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-1:30am, Sun 10am-midnight

Phone: +61 2 6686 7272

Internet: [www.westowertavern.com.au](http://www.westowertavern.com.au)

Email: [westower.tavern@alhgroup.com.au](mailto:westower.tavern@alhgroup.com.au)

### The Balcony Bar & Oyster Co. (Byron Bay)



The Balcony Bar & Oyster Co is a chic venue located in one of Byron Bay's last remaining historical buildings. Their list of cocktails includes several

signature drinks like chilli mojito and gin tonic with aniseed myrtle. Happy hour is every day from 4pm to 6pm. On Wednesday, at 5pm it's oyster hour: don't miss the chance to try this delicious seafood at a very discounted price. For some live music, go on Thursday night instead. Fridays are "Drag and Dine".

Photo: Shebeko/shutterstock

Address: 7/3 Lawson Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 11am-late. Limited menu 3pm-5pm

Phone: +61 2 6680 9666

Internet: [balcony.com.au](http://balcony.com.au)

Email: [info@balcony.com.au](mailto:info@balcony.com.au)

### Light Years (Byron Bay)



Light Years is an airy bar with Vietnamese-inspired design reminiscent of French-colonial Hanoi. Offers with authentic street food such as

roasted duck pancakes and succulent bao buns. Pop in mid-week for Hot Pho and ice-cold beer — the contrast is devilishly delicious.

Their cocktail menu is an artisanal delight.

'Netflix and Chill' comes highly recommended — the perfect marriage of toasty popcorn and smoky rum.

Photo: Nikita Tikhomirov/unsplash

Address: 139 Jonson Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily noon-late

Phone: +61 423 138 538

Internet: [www.lightyearsasiandiner.com.au/byron-bay](http://www.lightyearsasiandiner.com.au/byron-bay)

### Beach Hotel (Byron Bay)



If you are tired after a long day on the beach, you don't have to look far for a place to cool down with an icy drink, as the Beach Hotel in Byron Bay

has a popular bar serving cocktails, mocktails, wine, and beer. They also often host live music and beach gigs.

Photo: Here/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Bay Street, Byron Bay NSW

Phone: +61 2 6685 6402

Internet: [www.beachhotel.com.au](http://www.beachhotel.com.au)

Email: [enquiries@beachhotel.com.au](mailto:enquiries@beachhotel.com.au)



### The Railway Friendly Bar (Byron Bay)



The funky Railway Friendly Bar is famous for rocking live music seven days a week, all year around. They have over 20 types of beer on tap, which you can enjoy in the open beer garden.

Photo: gpointstudio/Shutterstock.com

Address: 86 Jonson Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 11am-midnight

Phone: +61 2 6685 7662

Internet: [therailsbyronbay.com](http://therailsbyronbay.com)

Email: [therails@bigpond.com](mailto:therails@bigpond.com)

More Info: Predictably, located at the Railway Station.

### The Northern (Byron Bay)



The Northern Hotel has not one, but two bars: the Front Bar and the Back Room. Both venues often host live music sessions, featuring both local and

international bands playing mostly rock which you can enjoy with a locally brewed beer and hearty pub grub.

Photo: PrinceOfLove/Shutterstock.com

Address: 35/43 Jonson Street, Byron Bay NSW

Phone: +61 2 6685 6454

Internet: [thenorthern.com.au](http://thenorthern.com.au)

Email: [info@byronbayentertainment.com](mailto:info@byronbayentertainment.com)

More Info: Front Bar is walk-ins only, while you must buy tickers for Back Room.

## SHOPPING



HTeam/shutterstock

Ballina is known as a regional hub for bargain shoppers, but there are also two shopping centres. In the main thoroughfare, River Street, you'll find a number of intriguing small boutiques. Byron Bay is home to many small boutiques as well, focusing mainly on hippy style clothes and accessories. However, some of the best shopping can be done at the local markets, hosted every weekend in different places. You can get some good deals for yourself and shop souvenirs for friends.

### Ballina Farmers & Producers Market



Ballina Farmers and Producers Market is held every Sunday. It's the best way to do your weekly shop: buying fresh fruit, vegetables, and

other produce directly from the growers.

Customers can talk to the farmers about the produce and farming methods. Some farmers' markets are incorporated into weekend markets, but there are also regular weekday stalls and stands at various locations throughout the region.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/shutterstock

Address: Commemoration Park, Bentinck Street, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Sun 7am-11am

Internet: [www.ballinafarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.ballinafarmersmarket.com.au)

### Brunswick Heads Market



Brunswick Heads Market takes place along the riverbank every 1st Saturday of the month. You'll find many artisan stalls selling just about anything from fresh groceries to clothes and accessories.

Photo: [zimmytws/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Memorial Park, Fawcett Street, Brunswick Heads NSW

Opening hours: Every 1st Saturday of the month 8am-2pm

Phone: +61 410 785 554

Internet: [brunswickheadsmarkets.com.au](http://brunswickheadsmarkets.com.au)

Email: [bhwoodchop@outlook.com](mailto:bhwoodchop@outlook.com)

### Beachworkz



After 20 years in business, Beachworkz has become a local institution. Here you'll find everything you need for surfing and skating, from boards and hardware to clothing and accessories.

Photo: [Iakov Filimonov/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: 51 River Street, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-3pm, Sun 10am-2pm

Phone: +61 428 241 299

Internet: [www.instagram.com/beachworkzsurfshop](http://www.instagram.com/beachworkzsurfshop)

Email: [beachworkz@bigpond.com](mailto:beachworkz@bigpond.com)

### Unplugged Byron Bay



Unplugged Byron Bay is a shop selling vintage-inspired clothes and accessories from several brands and for modern men and women.

The shop itself has an old school atmosphere, with vintage rugs, skateboards hanging from the ceiling, film cameras and vinyl records on display.

Photo: [Kaylin Pacheco/unsplash.com](#)

Address: 2 Lawson Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 9:30am-5:30pm

Phone: +61 2 6685 7441

Internet: [unpluggedbyronbay.com.au](http://unpluggedbyronbay.com.au)

Email: [info@unpluggedbyronbay.com.au](mailto:info@unpluggedbyronbay.com.au)

### River Street Boutiques



River Street is the main shopping precinct in downtown Ballina. Its businesses strive to promote and grow a culture of quality and

boutique shopping, seaside chic lifestyle and fine dining at all price levels. Come here for a wide range of gifts, clothing, jewellery, books and homewares.

Photo: [Kyle Cut Media/unsplash](#)

Address: River Street, Ballina NSW

### Bangalow Market Day



Bangalow Bangalow Market Day is held at Bangalow Showground on the 4th Sunday of the month. It is an excellent excuse for a day trip and to indulge in some shopping. There's a great mix of coffee, juices, food stalls and many local

artists' works showcasing local wares. Check out clothing stores, ceramics, plants etc.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bangalow Showground, 1 Market Street, Bangalow NSW

Opening hours: 4th Sunday of the month 8am-2:30pm

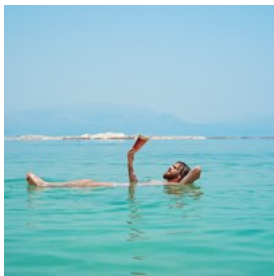
Phone: +61 2 6687 1911

Internet: [www.bangalowmarket.com.au](http://www.bangalowmarket.com.au)

Email: [info09@bangalowmarket.com.au](mailto:info09@bangalowmarket.com.au)

More Info: Note that dogs are not permitted.

### The Book Warehouse Ballina



Right on River Street, there's a lovely book store with friendly staff, great selection of children's and non-fiction books. What can be

better than bringing a brand new book to the beach and unplugging for a few hours.

Photo: Toa Heftiba/unsplash

Address: 85 River Street, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-3pm, Sun 9am-1pm

Phone: +61 2 6686 2436

Internet: [www.thebwh.com](http://www.thebwh.com)

### Byron Bay Community Market



Byron Bay Community Market is a colourful market that is held the 1st Sunday of the month. Among the 300 stalls you will find local crafts and

food, interesting art work made of different materials and other original items. Take your time and explore all of this lively market.

Photo: De Visu/Shutterstock.com

Address: Main Beach Foreshore, Denning Park, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: 1st Sunday of each month 8am-3pm

Phone: +61 2 6685 6807

Internet:

[www.byroncentre.com.au/bcm/byron-community-market](http://www.byroncentre.com.au/bcm/byron-community-market)

Email: [marketssupport@byroncentre.com.au](mailto:marketssupport@byroncentre.com.au)

### Ballina Central



Ballina Central is a shopping centre offering a break from surf and sand. Here you'll find many dining and takeaway options, The

Vast Interior selling furniture and homeware, the health shop Go Vita, more shops and even a gym and a massage centre. The shopping centre is also home to Big W, a popular discount department store with interesting bargains.

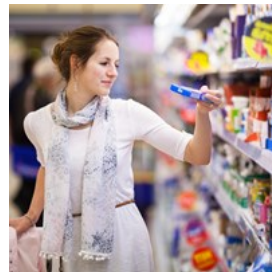
Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: 44 Bangalow Road, Ballina NSW

Phone: +61 2 6681 4260

Internet: [www.ballinacentral.com.au](http://www.ballinacentral.com.au)

### Big W



Big W discount department store is a popular outlet center with interesting bargains, which you'll find inside Ballina Central. Here you

can get everything from clothes and sports wear to food and toys at very low prices: the ideal shopping experience for budget travellers.

Photo: lightpoet/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ballina Central Shopping Centre, Bangalow Road, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

Phone: +61 2 6618 8600

Internet: [www.bigw.com.au](http://www.bigw.com.au)



### Spell Boutique



Spell is a brand based in Byron Bay that has become very popular among young women and celebrities. Their clothes have an unmistakable bohemian style perfect for both beach days and city breaks.

Photo: Halay Alex/Shutterstock.com

Address: 15 Browning Street, Byron Bay NSW

Opening hours: Daily 10am–5pm

Phone: +61 2 8599 7275

Internet: [spellboutique.com](http://spellboutique.com)

### Ballina Fair Shopping Centre



With over 60 retailers, Ballina Fair Shopping Centre is the biggest indoor shopping centre in the area. Inside you'll find local shops like Target,

Best & Less, Woolworths, along with a cinema, a gym and several cafes.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: 84 Kerr Street, Ballina NSW

Phone: +61 2 6686 8555

Internet: [www.ballinafairshopping.com.au](http://www.ballinafairshopping.com.au)

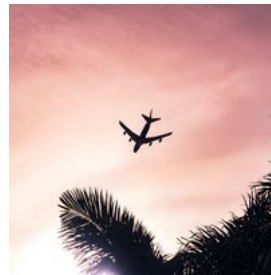
More Info: Hours may vary from shop to shop. Parking is free.

## TOURIST INFORMATION



Larissa Denning/shutterstock

### Airports



Byron Bay is easily accessible by air with a choice of three airports within a 2-hour drive of Byron Bay. The closest airport is only 25 minutes' drive.

- 1. The Ballina Byron Bay Gateway Airport (BNK)**  
This airport is within 5 kilometres of Ballina town centre and is a quick scenic road trip from Byron Bay (25 minutes) and Lismore (30 minutes). Various shuttle buses connect the airport to Byron Bay and other regional destinations.
- 2. Gold Coast Airport (OOL)**  
The airport at Coolangatta, just over the border in Queensland, is served by all domestic Australian carriers and some international ones. Various shuttle buses connect to Byron Bay in about 40 minutes and in about 2 hours to Ballina.
- 3. Brisbane Airport (BNE)**  
Located at Eagle Farm on the eastern side of Brisbane, this airport is served by all domestic and most international carriers. A light rail runs

directly from Brisbane Roma Street transit terminal, which has a choice of buses to Byron Bay. There are also direct shuttles to Byron Bay, which take about two hours.

Photo: Eduardo Velazco Guart/unsplash  
Internet: [www.ballinabyronairport.com.au](http://www.ballinabyronairport.com.au)

### Best Time to Visit



On the coast of New South Wales, summer lasts from December to February and can get very hot and busy. Spring (September through November) and autumn (March through May) are great for avoiding the crowds but still being able to enjoy warm days and outdoor activities like sunbathing or surfing at the beach. The former is also the season with a lower chance of rainfall. July is the coldest month, but winter in the Ballina Byron region is still quite mild, with an average minimum of about 12°C.

Photo: Ch P/unsplash

### Public transport



NSW TrainLink runs two services: the Casino XPT and Brisbane XPT. Both run daily from Sydney, stopping at Casino or Grafton, with connecting coaches to Ballina and Byron Bay.

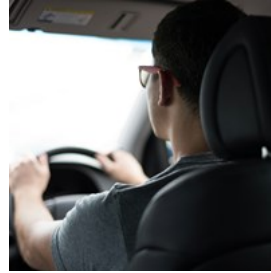
For local public transport, Blanchs ([www.blanchs.com.au](http://www.blanchs.com.au)) run public bus services around the Byron Bay and Ballina region.

CDC NSW ([cdcbus.com.au](http://cdcbus.com.au)) also provides local scheduled bus services to Byron Bay, Ballina, Ballina Airport, Lennox Head, Bangalow,

Mullumbimby, Billinudgel, Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores, Lismore and also within Byron Bay township.

Photo: MountainAsh/unsplash  
Internet: [www.discoverballina.com.au/visit/our-region/travel-information](http://www.discoverballina.com.au/visit/our-region/travel-information)

### Taxi



It is advisable to check prices before jumping in a taxi, and do not forget to add the per kilometre fare depending on time of day, vehicle type and number of passengers.

You can call Australia's national taxi booking phone number, 131 008, for both Ballina and Byron Bay taxis.

Photo: Art Markiv/unsplash  
Phone: 131 008

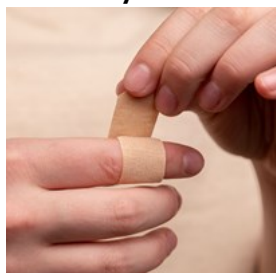
### Post



Look for the red signs to find a post office or mailbox. Yellow mailboxes are used for express post.

Photo: Simona Sergi/unsplash  
Address: Post Office Ballina, 85 Tamar Street, Ballina NSW  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat & Sun closed  
Phone: +61 13 13 18  
Internet: [www.auspost.com.au](http://www.auspost.com.au)

## Pharmacy



In Byron Bay, and Australia more broadly, there are several major pharmacy chains where you can pick up over-the-counter

medications, prescription drugs, personal care items, and more. The major pharmacy chains are Priceline Pharmacy, Chemist Warehouse (nearest one in Lismore), TerryWhite Chemmart, Amcal and Blooms The Chemist. The latter three can be found in Ballina. It's always worth checking the opening hours as these can vary, especially on weekends and public holidays.

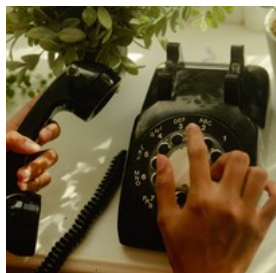
Photo: Diana Polekhina/unsplash

Address: TerryWhite Chemmart Ballina, 102/110 River Street, Ballina NSW

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-6pm, Sat 8:30am-4pm, Sun 9am-3pm

Phone: +61 2 6686 8800

## Telephone



Country code: +61 Area code: (0)2

Photo: Wesley Hilario/unsplash

## Electricity



Australia operates on a 230/240V supply voltage and 50Hz frequency. The country uses Type I power plugs, which feature two flat pins

forming a 'V' shape, along with a grounding pin. This standard is also commonly used in New Zealand, Argentina, China, and several Pacific

island nations. Remember to pack a universal adapter if your devices use a different plug type to ensure hassle-free charging.

Photo: Mitchell Luo/unsplash

## Population

Ballina: 46,190

Byron Bay: 6,330

## Currency

Australian Dollar (AUD) \$1 = 100 cents

## Opening hours

Opening hours vary, but most shops are open 9am-5:30pm on weekdays and 9am-noon on Saturdays. Major centres stay open until 5pm. On Sundays, some bigger shopping centres are open from 10am to 4pm. Many of the bigger centres also have Thursday and Friday late night shopping until 9pm.

## Internet

[www.visitnsw.com/destinations/north-coast/byron-bay-are-a/ballina](http://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/north-coast/byron-bay-are-a/ballina)

[www.discoverballina.com.au](http://www.discoverballina.com.au)

## Newspapers

Lismore Echo: [www.echo.net.au/lismore](http://www.echo.net.au/lismore)

Ballina Shire Advocate:

[www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/ballina](http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/ballina)

The Byron Shire Echo: [www.echo.net.au/byron-echo](http://www.echo.net.au/byron-echo)

Byron Shire News:

[www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/byron-shire](http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/byron-shire)

## Emergency numbers

Police, Fire & Ambulance: 000

Byron Central Hospital: +61 2 6639 9400

Poisons information: 13 11 26

## Tourist information

Ballina Visitor Information Centre

Corner of River Street & Las Balsas Plaza, Ballina

+61 1800 777 666



