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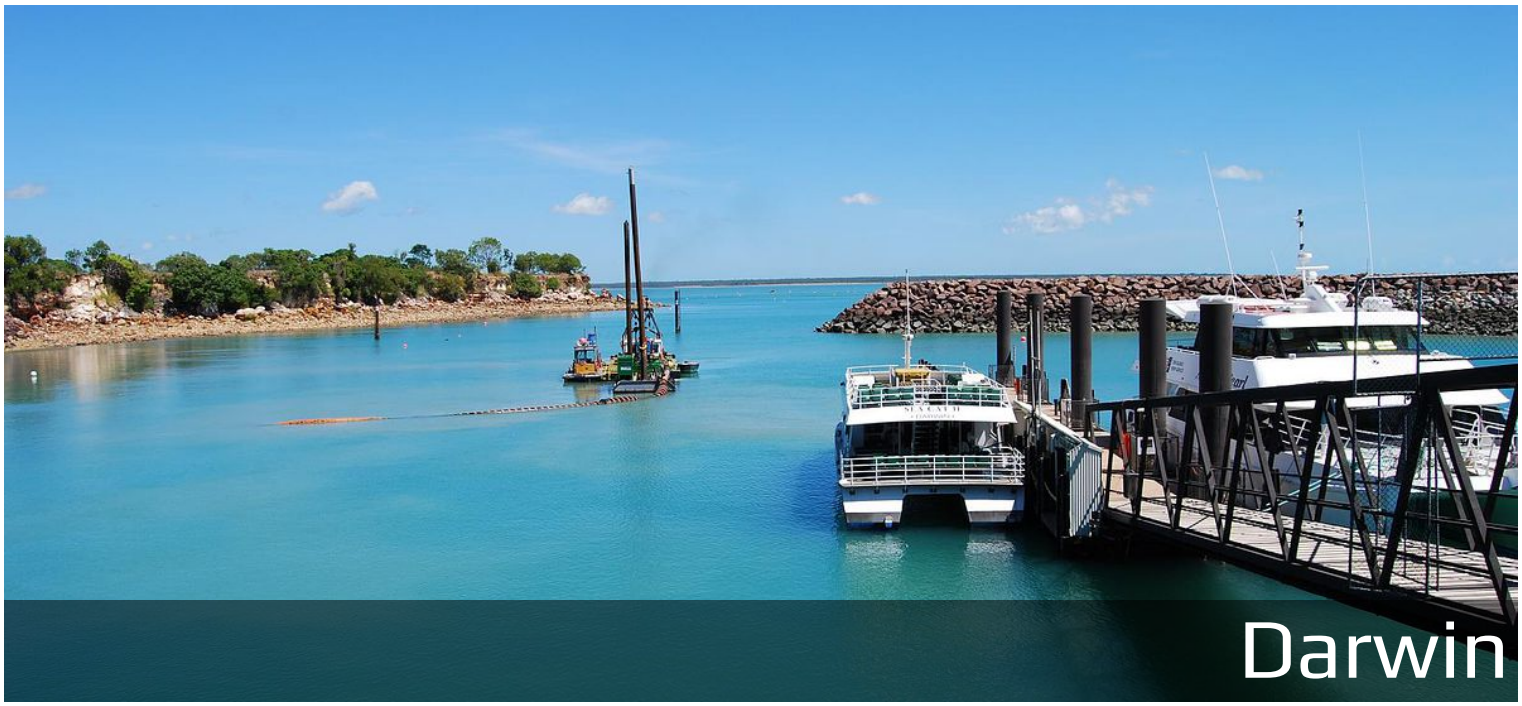

Darwin

Photo: 22964658@N05

Photo: Ken Hodge

Darwin is a thriving and prosperous city with lively bars and a wide-ranging cosmopolitan cuisine. This is the gateway to top end outback adventures such as the world heritage Kakadu National Park and Litchfield National Park. Darwin is the most multicultural (75 nationalities) city in Australia with a large indigenous population (25 percent) and a diverse range of immigrants from Asia.

Photo: Kimble Young

Photo: Erik Totten

New App coming soon

ANDROID APP ON Google play

Available on the App Store

Top 5

Museum & Art Gallery of the Nor...
The museum has a good selection of local artifacts including maritime and natural history exhibits, aboriginal art and a room ...

Indo-pacific Marine & Australia...
An exhibition about the local pearling industry and a tropical aquarium with living coral, sea horses, clown fish and the leth...

Mindil Beach Sunset Market
Epitomising outdoor living, this is a very popular rendezvous for families. There are usually 200 stalls selling aboriginal ar...

Fish The Top End
Fishing for Barramundi – Australia's most popular game fish. There are countless companies offering fishing trips. Fish the T...

Crocodylus Park
Everything you ever wanted to know about crocodiles and then a lot more. They also have a good collection of other Australian ...

THE CITY

Photo: Ken Hodge

Darwin is the administrative capital of the Northern Territory and is called the capital of tropical Australia because it is lush and green, full of tropical plants and the perfume of Frangipanis. The cyclone season is from November to April, when there are stunning electrical storms and predictable afternoon rains. The city was virtually rebuilt after being devastated by cyclone Tracy in 1974.

Significant Darwin suburbs include Fannie Bay, Casuarina and Cullen Bay:

Fannie Bay lies five minutes from the city centre and is home to the Fannie Bay Sailing Club – great for seafood and sunsets at the racetrack Fannie Bay Goal (1882) with a museum and an old gallows.

Casuarina is situated 15 minutes from the city centre and has a major shopping centre with cheap eats, clothes and specialty stores. A free shuttle service departs from many city centre hotels on the hour every hour.

Cullen Bay is the home of Darwin's first Marina and includes trendy restaurants and cafés. It's the place to catch a harbour cruise, book fishing charters or dive tours for marine life and wrecks.

The Stuart Highway - The Track - is the only road out of town and runs 2,800 km south to Adelaide. Since 2004, Darwin has had a rail link to the great southern cities of Adelaide, Melbourne, Perth, and Sydney. The Ghan passenger train service runs twice a week.

DO & SEE

Photo: Kimble Young

Central Darwin is compact and easily explored on foot, although the suburbs spread out for 12-15 km. In the past, Darwin has had a reputation for hard drinking and a casual outback attitude to culture and refinement. But, in recent years, it has become very cosmopolitan with fabulous multicultural markets, shopping centres, casinos, nightclubs, a smorgasbord of restaurants and – of course – pubs galore.

Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

The museum has a good selection of local artifacts including maritime and natural history exhibits, aboriginal art and a room where you can experience the power of Hurricane Tracy.

Address: Conacher St, Bullocky Point, Fannie Bay
Phone: +61 8 8999 8264
Internet: www.magnt.nt.gov.au

Indo-pacific Marine & Australian Pearling Exhibition

An exhibition about the local pearling industry and a tropical aquarium with living coral, sea horses, clown fish and the lethal Box Jellyfish.

Address: Stokes Hill Wharf precinct
Phone: +61 8 8999 6573

Mindil Beach Sunset Market

Epitomising outdoor living, this is a very popular rendezvous for families. There are usually 200 stalls selling aboriginal arts and crafts along with musicians and entertainers. A great place for sampling a wide range of food from 60 different food stalls including Thai, Malay, Indonesian, Chinese, Indian, and Greek.

There are other markets at Parap (Saturday morning), Rapid Creek (Sunday) and Nightcliff (Sunday).

Address: Mindil beach
Opening hours: Sunday 4pm-9pm and Thursday 5pm-10pm during April to October.
Phone: +61 8 8981 3454
Internet: www.mindil.com.au

Fish The Top End

Fishing for Barramundi – Australia's most popular game fish. There are countless companies offering fishing trips. Fish the Top End' is a travel agency offering a wide selection of river and ocean charter fishing.

Address: Casuarina
Phone: +61 8 89457686
Internet: www.fishthetopend.com

Crocodylus Park

Everything you ever wanted to know about crocodiles and then a lot more. They also have a good collection of other Australian animals.

Address: 815 McMillans Rd, Berrimah
Phone: +61 8 8922 4500
Internet: www.wmi.com.au

Outdoor Deck Chair Cinema

Open from April to November, showing mainly art and non-mainstream films in the fresh air.

Address: Jervois Road
Phone: +61 8 8981 0700
Internet: www.deckchaircinema.com
More Info: Off Kitchener Drive, Darwin Waterfront

Aquascene

A unique opportunity to touch and hand-feed sea fish at high tide. Very popular with children.

Address: 28 Doctors Gully Rd
Phone: +61 8 8981 7837
Internet: www.aquascene.com.au
More Info: By the Esplanade

The Didgeridoo Hut

This aboriginal owned and run shop/workshop is half an hour by car down the Arnhem Highway from Darwin. If you ring in advance you may be able to meet and watch artists at work and watch a didgeridoo being made.

Address: 1 Arnhem Highway, Humpty Doo
Phone: +61 8 8988 4457
Internet: www.didgeridoohut.com.au

Outback and Aboriginal Culture Tours

Take part in an extraordinary cultural adventure where you will view unique termite mounds and explore many fascinating waterfalls. Amongst the lush national park, the rock holes and waterfalls are the perfect place to take a dip for a refreshing swim on a hot tropical day. Throughout the day you will also have the opportunity to view and touch natural bush resources.

"Northern Territory Indigenous Tours is a wholly indigenous owned, locally based family company specialising in tours of the beautiful Litchfield National Park."

Address: Howard Springs
Phone: +61 8 8983 1434
Internet: www.ntindigenoustours.com

Kakadu National Park

A 2-3 day trip into Kakadu is a must and should include a boat ride on the Yellow Water Billabong, aboriginal rock paintings at Nourlangie Rock or Ubirr, crocodiles and an endless array of other wildlife.

Internet: www.deh.gov.au/parks

Litchfield National Park

This is a two hour drive and an easy day trip taking in giant termite mounds, bush walking, spectacular waterfalls and swimming in freshwater creeks.

The Jumping Croc excursion is a must do' half-day trip on the Adelaide River, which can also be combined with a Litchfield daytrip.

Internet: www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks

Angler's Choice

For river and ocean charter fishing from 1 to 10 days.

Phone: +61 8 8928 0370
Internet: www.anglerschoice.com.au

Katherine Gorge

Katherine Gorge is world famous, with walls 70 meters high, winding 12 km through the Nitmiluk National Park. There are a total of 13 gorges that were formed 23 million years ago.

Address: 74 McMinn Street
Phone: +61 8 8941 2167
Internet: www.katherinegorge.com

EATING

Photo: Erik Totten

Australian dining is almost always an easy-going and casual experience, even in smart restaurants. Darwin restaurants have a fabulous range of fresh seafood and its star turn has to be the superb local Barramundi fish. Local wildlife such as kangaroo, crocodile, buffalo, emu and camel can also be found on many menus.

International cuisine is also on offer including Mediterranean, Thai, Malay and Chinese. Pubs also have very large menus and are a popular alternative.

Pee Wee's at The Point

Pee Wee's is considered one of Darwin's best restaurants and offers fine dining beside the ocean with views of Fannie Bay and the Darwin skyline. Serving mainly modern Australian cuisine with buffet, table d'hote and à la carte service.

Address: Alec Fong Lim Drive, East Point Reserve
Phone: +61 8 8981 6868
Internet: www.peewees.com.au
More Info: 4 km from city centre

Hanuman Thai Restaurant

This attractive restaurant has a great local reputation for authentic Thai and Malaysian food. The chef only uses freshly sourced ingredients and the restaurant has an excellent wine list.

Address: 93 Mitchell St
Phone: +61 8 8941 3500

Internet: www.hanuman.com.au

Lizards Outdoor Bar and Grill

A casual garden dining experience offering modern Australian steak and seafood, as well as some Asian options.

Address: Mitchell St
Phone: +61 8 8981 6511
More Info: The Top End Hotel, Daly St/Mitchell St

Yots Café

Yots is more a restaurant than a simple café, with dining on the boardwalk overlooking the marina. It has an excellent range of seafood from straightforward barramundi to more exotic spicy Asian dishes and a wood-fired pizza oven and also offers light snacks.

Address: 54 Marine Boulevard, Cullen Bay
Phone: +61 8 8981 4433

Stokes Hill Wharf

Watch the sunset and look for dolphins at one of Darwin's most popular eating venues with more than a dozen independent restaurants (take-away style) sharing common seating on a jetty in Darwin harbour. Food choices include Thai, Chinese, local seafood, crocodile and simple fish and chips. There is also a bottle shop selling beer and wine.

Address: Stokes Hill Wharf

Bella Amore Restaurant

Bella Amore Restaurant has a great setting with fabulous waterside views across Cullen Bay marina. The food is mainly Italian and modern Australian with several vegetarian options. It also does a more adventurous Aussie grill of Kangaroo, Emu and Crocodile.

Address: 52 Marina Boulevard, Cullen bay
Phone: +61 8 8981 4988

Pizza Pasta Pasta Pizza

An Italian owned restaurant/café offering traditional Italian fare in a simple, casual setting. It also has a take away service.

Address: 11 Knuckey St
Phone: +61 8 8981 2680
Internet: www.pizzapasta.com.au

CAFES

Photo: Erik Totten

Darwin is a young city with a young population and is packed with young travellers during the dry season. Outdoor living is the norm and outdoor activities are its main attraction. Mitchell St, and a few blocks around it, is the entertainment hub of the city.

Roma Bar

This is a café with a funky modern style, popular for its great Aussie breakfast and genuine espresso coffee.

Address: 9-11 Cavenagh St
Phone: +61 8 8981 6729
Internet: www.romabar.com.au

The Banyan Tree

Opens at 5.30am and is a popular breakfast stop for travellers off on early start excursions. Typical daily lunchtime specials include cottage pie and beef stroganoff.

Address: 69 Mitchell St
Phone: +61 8 8981 8577

Dolce Espresso

A modern stylish café with indoor and outdoor seating serving gourmet pies, sandwiches, salads and ice cream.

Address: 48 Smith St
Phone: +61 8 8941 6382

Salvatores

This is a small café with a big Italian menu – pizza, pasta, salad, quiche and burgers – and its own pastry chef creates a wonderful selection of cakes, tarts and pastries.

Address: Smith St
Phone: +61 8 8941 9823
Internet: www.salvatorescafe.com
More Info: Knuckey St/Smith St

Café Olio

An attractive poolside café located in a mainly backpackers hotel. Serves mostly Mediterranean style food and casual snacks such as bowls of nachos, and accompanied by loud music.

Address: 12 Cavenaugh St
Phone: +61 8 8981 2600
More Info: The Cavenagh Hotel

Café 21

This is a good central Darwin location for alfresco dining away from traffic. It is a popular morning coffee and lunchtime venue.

Address: 21 Smith Street Mall
Phone: +61 8 8942 3111
Internet: www.cafe21.com.au

Moorish Café

Moorish Café offers a wide range of North African tapas dishes including the Berber-spiced kangaroo. It is open for breakfast and closes after midnight, and is as much a restaurant as a café.

Address: 37 Knuckey St
Phone: +61 8 8981 0010
Internet: www.moorishcafe.com.au

Bar Zushi

This new restaurant is part of a national chain and serves traditional Japanese cuisine including sushi, sashimi, teriyaki and bento boxes.

Address: 247 Trower Road, Casuarina
Phone: +61 8 8945 7622
Internet: www.barzushi.com
More Info: Casuarina Shopping Square

BARS & NIGHTLIFE

Photo: Andrew Turner

Darwin has always had a reputation for playing hard, and now young travellers keep up the tradition, especially on the weekends. Just about every pub also serves food and some have rather extensive menus.

Shenannigans

This is a classic Irish theme pub serving Guinness and Kilkenny on tap with an air-conditioned interior and a large street-side veranda. Serves up a filling Irish stew along with regular live music.

Address: 69 Mitchell St
Phone: +61 8 8981 2100
Internet: www.shenannigans.com.au

Kitty O'Shea's

This is another large Irish theme pub at the other end of Mitchell St, serving Irish stouts, with a large food menu and regular live music.

Address: Mitchell St/Herbert St
Phone: +61 8 8941 7947

Squires Tavern

This bar offers pokies - gambling machines, arcade games,

pool tables and a juke box, but, alas, no food. A great place for quiet relaxing or night time paryting.

Address: 3 Edmunds St
Phone: +61 8 8981 9761

The Cavenagh

The Cavenagh has a funky 70's retro look and live music on Sundays. It serves food and has a large cocktail menu. There is comfy seating in smoking or non-smoking sections, and a deck area with a swimming pool in the garden.

Address: 12 Cavenagh St
Phone: +61 8 8941 6383
Internet: www.thecavenagh.com

Darwin Sailing Club

This is not an up-market sailing club, but it is one of the best places to sip a quiet drink and watch the sunset over the Indian Ocean. It is also a popular alfresco dining option.

Address: Atkins Drive, Fannie Bay
Phone: +61 8 8981 1700
Internet: www.dwnsail.com.au

Novotel

Its internal tropical cocktail bar is set among palm trees, flowers and flowing water. It is a good alternative from the Mitchell St pubs for a quiet and more sophisticated evening drink.

Address: 100 Esplanade
Phone: +61 8 8941 0755

Sky City

This hotel/resort has a beautiful beachside location with several restaurants and bars. Ranging from fine dining to bargain eating options and has the only full casino in the Northern Territory.

Address: Gilruth Avenue
Phone: +61 8 8943 8888
Internet: www.skycitydarwin.com.au

Throb

A lively gay and lesbian nightclub venue, open to everyone. Friday and Saturday from 11pm-4am.

Address: 64 Smith St
Phone: +61 8 8942 3435
Internet: www.throbnightclub.com.au

Darwin Entertainment Centre

The Darwin Entertainment Centre offers more formal evenings out watching plays, ballet, cabaret and concerts.

Address: 93 Mitchell St
Phone: +61 8 8980 3366
Internet: www.darwinentertainment.com.au

SHOPPING

Photo: Ken Hodge

Darwin is no great shakes as a designer shopping venue except in terms of outback necessities and aboriginal artifacts. There are no large department stores, although they can be found in the nearby Casuarina shopping mall. Darwin's main shopping streets are Mitchell Street and the parallel pedestrian precinct of Smith Street.

Mitchell St is mainly tour excursion shops, cafés, bars, Internet cafés, aboriginal art and artifacts and a few other miscellaneous shops. There is also the air-conditioned Mitchell St Shopping Mall with stores selling jewellery, mobile phones, clothes, photographic equipment and toys along with Cole's 24 hour supermarket.

The Smith Street pedestrian precinct is a more relaxing

retail environment with fountains, outdoor cafés, bookshops, shoe shops and tourist stores. Unique local specialty buys include the rare pink diamonds from the Argyle Diamond mine at Creative Jewelers, south sea pearls from Paspaley Pearls and crocodile fashion accessories (locally farmed) from di Croco.

A few minutes' walk from Smith Street is the NT General Store in Cavenagh St. This huge store is the best place to buy all your camping, hiking and other outdoor necessities for exploring the harsh Aussie outback.

SLEEPING

Photo: Kimble Young

The city-wide airport shuttle bus serves all Darwin hotels, and tickets can be purchased at the airport or at Darwin's transit centre. Arrange airport transfers by telephone or from the hotel reception.

Crown Plaza

As part of an international hotel chain, this centrally located tower block hotel is considered to be one of the best hotels in the city centre.

Address: 32, Mitchell Street
Phone: +61 8 8982 0000
Internet: www.crownplaza.com.au

Sky City

This is a smart beachside resort hotel with several restaurants, golf course, casino and a brand new infinity swimming pool.

Address: Gilruth Avenue
Phone: +61 8 8943 8888
Internet: www.skycitydarwin.com.au

Holiday Inn Esplanade & Holiday Inn Darwin

These well-known international chain hotels have superb sea views from the front and the Holiday Inn Darwin has small balconies. Both have pools, bars and restaurants and guests can use any of them.

Address: 116 and 122 Esplanade
Phone: +61 8 8990 0800
Internet: www.holiday-inn.com

Darwin Central Hotel

The brightly coloured, seven-story Darwin Central hotel is a funky boutique style hotel located in the centre of town. There is a trendy feel to it, and it has a small plunge pool and breakfast is at an adjacent franchise establishment.

Address: 21, Knuckey Street
Phone: +61 8 8944 9000
Internet: www.darwincentral.com.au

Value Inn

Located in the heart of Darwin's action, this hotel has its own Internet café, bar, pool and off street parking.

Address: 50 Mitchell St
Phone: +61 8 8981 4733
Internet: www.valueinn.com.au

Chillis Backpackers

This recently refurnished hostel has double and dorm rooms as well as a bar, restaurant and pool.

Address: 69 Mitchell St
Phone: +61 8 8941 9722
Internet: www.chillis.com.au

Cullen Bay Apartments

Located in a quiet and attractive suburb although not so centrally located for the shops and nightlife of central Darwin. Some rooms have excellent sea views and there is a pool. There are self contained 1 and 2 bedroom

apartments available.

Address: 26 Marina Boulevard, Cullen Bay
Phone: +61 8 8981 7999
Internet: www.cullenbayapts.com.au

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Photo: Kimble Young

Shuttle Bus

This is a roving minibus service, which will collect and transport you anywhere in the city for $3 or further afield for a set fee. It has no set route and is a large minibus style shared taxi.

Arafura Shuttle Service

Phone: +61 8 8983 0577

Airport

Darwin International Airport (DIA) is located 13 km from the city centre. Darwin Airport Shuttle bus ($18 return) meets all flights, tel: 1 800 358 945 or +61 8 8981 5066. A taxi rank is located at the front of the Terminal and costs about $25-30 to the city centre.

Internet: www.darwinairport.com.au

Tips

Don't swim in Darwin waters between Oct-May because of the deadly Box Jellyfish. Also beware of saltwater crocodiles.

Public transport

Darwinbus is the main public transport network in Darwin, incorporating bus and ferry transport in Darwin. Bus interchanges are located at Harry Chan Place in Darwin, Bradshaw Drive at Casuarina Shopping Square in Casuarina, and corner of Temple Terrace and Roystonea Avenue in Palmerston.

Internet: www.nt.gov.au/transport

Taxi

Radio Taxis
Phone: +61 8 8981 3777

Darwin Radio Taxis
Phone: +61 131 008

Tropical Taxis
Phone: +61 8 8947 3333

Post

The Post Office

Address: 48 Cavenagh St
Opening hours: Monday-Friday 8.30am-5.30pm

Campervans

Apollo Motorhomes offers a wide range of quality rental campervans and hire cars at very competitive prices in Australia and New Zealand. All the campervans and motorhomes in their fleet are modern and well-appointed.

Phone: +61 7 3265 9200
Internet: www.apollocamper.com

Pharmacy

Chemmart is located in Mitchell Centre at Mitchell St. Dial +61 8 8981 4442 for advice and more information.

For afterhours medical service, please dial +61 8 8982 1026 or +61 8 8981 2907

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Telephone

Country code: +61

Area code: 08

Electricity

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A
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Chin Quan Road
Gilruth Avenue
Gardens Park
Lambell St
Merkur Cr
Warrego Ct
Mongola Cr
Beagle Street
Houston Street
Malabar St
Marsina Cr
Morinda St
Smith Street
Mitchell Street
Barossa Street
Manoora Street
Marella Street
Zealandia Cr
Bambra Cr
Packard Street
Larrakeyah Tce
Aquascene
Doc Gully Road
Esplanade
Leichhardt Memorial
Bicentennial Park
Blake St
Melville Street
Gardens Hill Crescent
Gardens Road
Dashwood Cr
Dashwood Place
Harriet Pl
Mauna Loa St
Peary St
Daly Street
Smith Street
Mitchell Street
Briggs St
Mott Cr
Peel Street
Shadforth Lane
Aboriginal Fine Arts Gallery
Lyons Cottage
Old Admiralty House
War Memorial
Damoe-Ra Park
Queen Street
King Street
Margaret Street
Winston Avenue
Gothenburg Crescent
Guy Ct
Guy Street
Tipperary Ct
Dinah Ct
Voyager St
Duke Street
Ramrez Road
Stuart Highway
Burt St
Mirambeena St
Finniss Street
McMinn Street
Buffalo Ct
Dinah Beach Road
Tiger Brennan Woolner Road
Frances Bay
Day St
Harvey Street
Woods Street
Cavenach Street
Mc Lachlan Street
Shepherd Street
Lindsay Street
Frog Hollow Park
Barneson St
McMinn Street
Manton St
Gardiner St
Carey St
Foelsche St
Woods Street
Whitfield St
Searcy St
Edmunds Street
Litchfield Street
Knuckey Street
Austin Lane
Cavenach Street
Chinese Temple & Museum
Leydin Ct
Mavie Street
Frances Bay Drive
Fishermans Place
West Lane
Chapel Lane
Bennett Street
Harry Chan Avenue
Tree of knowledge
Church Ln
Smith Street
Herbert St
Old Town Hall
Old Court House
Esplanade
Huges Ave
Kitchener Drive
Stokes Hill
Indo Pacific Marine Australian Pearling Exhibition
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Austin Lane	C3
Bambra Cresent	A2
Barneson Street	C2
Barossa Street	A2
Beagle Street	A1
Bennett Street	C3
Blake Street	B1
Briggs Street	B2
Buffalo Court	B1 B2
Burt Street	B1
Carey Street	C2
Cavenach Street	B2 C3
Chapel Lane	C3
Chin Quan Road	A1
Church Lane	C3
Daly Street	B2
Dashwood Crescent	A2 B2
Dashwood Place	B2
Day Street	B2 C2
Dinah Beach Road	C1
Dinah Court	D1
Doctors Gully Road	A2
Duke Street	C1
Edmunds Street	C2 C3
Esplanade	A2 B2 C3
Finniss Street	B1
Fishermans Place	D2
Foelsche Street	C2 C3
Frances Bay Drive	D2
Gardens Hill Crescent	B1
Gardens Road	B1 B2
Gardiner Street	C2
Gilruth Avenue	A1
Gothenburg Crescent	C1
Guy Court	C1
Guy Street	D1
Harriet Place	B2
Harry Chan Avenue	C3
Harvey Street	C2
Herbert Street	C3
Houston Street	A1 A2
Huges Avenue	C3 C4
King Street	C1
Kitchener Drive	C3 C4
Knuckey Street	C3
Lambell Street	A1
Larrakeyah Terrace	A2
Leydin Court	C3 D3
Lindsay Street	B2 C2
Litchfield Street	C3
Malabar Street	A1 A2
Manoora Street	A2
Manton Street	C2
Marella Street	A2
Margaret Street	C1
Marsina Crescent	A1 A2
Mauna Loa Street	A2
Mavie Street	D3
Mc Lachlan Street	B2
McMinn Street	B1 C2
Melville Street	B1
Merkur Crescent	A1
Mirambeena Street	B1
Mitchell Street	A2 B2
Mongola Crescent	A1
Morinda Street	A2
Mott Crescent	B2 B3
Packard Place	A2
Packard Street	A2
Peary Street	A2 B2
Peel Street	B3
Queen Street	C1
Ramrez Road	B1
Searcy Street	B3 C2
Shadforth Lane	B3
Shepherd Street	B2 C2
Smith Street	A2 B2 B3 C3
Stuart Highway	C1
Tiger Brennan Woolner Road	C1 D1
Tipperary Court	D1
Voyager Street	C1
Warrego Court	A1
West Lane	C3
Whitfield Street	B2
Winston Avenue	C1
Woods Street	B2 C3
Zealandia Crescent	A2