

GP training in the Cape and Torres Strait region

There are five main placement sites in the Cape & Torres Strait where you may be based during your GP training. These include: Bamaga, Cooktown, Injinoo, Thursday Island, Weipa. There are also a number of branch sites for Thursday Island, Cooktown and Weipa.

With a population of Melanesian and Indigenous Australian cultures, training opportunities and experiences include infectious diseases, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, diabetes, tuberculosis, women's health and sexual health.

Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service includes four major hospitals, with visiting medical specialists attending to most locations.

The Torres Strait region is a culturally unique location delivering a captivating work environment with opportunities for fly-in, fly-out clinics to remote outer island communities delivering a variety of work unparalleled in Australia.



Lifestyle



The Torres Strait Islands are north of Cape York and south of Papua New Guinea.



The Islands have stunning, untouched beaches which lead into sparkling, crystal clear waters. Torres Strait Islands are a hidden wonder and visitors will enjoy being in a tropical paradise with a variety of things to do and see.



Cape York Peninsula contains the historic town of Cooktown, remote Savannah and rainforest clad national parks.



From the Western Cape and the Gulf of Carpentaria to the Coral Sea and Great Barrier Reef this remote part of Australia captivates visitors with amazing wildlife, cultural experiences, characters and adventure.



There are plenty of opportunities for great fishing, adventure 4WD and bush camping.



Attractions in the Cape & Torres Strait region

Thursday Island

Thursday Island is a colourful island paradise where time really does seem to stand still. It lies between the northern tip of Queensland and Papua New Guinea in the Torres Strait.

While you walk through town you can also admire the colonial architecture which is left over from World War II.

Make sure you stop and take in the local culture and enjoy the local art and markets. There is a number of restaurants on the islands that serve up some of the freshest and tastiest seafood in all of Australia. You can also go and catch your own seafood and join up with one of the many fishing charters.



Archer Point

The turnoff to Archer Point is about 20km south of Cooktown on the Mulligan Highway, and is 4WD recommended. This is one of the best beach fishing locations on the coast with one of the most spectacular views of the coastline. There is reef close to the shore, which can be walked to at low tide. Bush camping is also permitted.



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Work keeps me busy. But as soon as there's some down time, there's always something fun going on. Despite the long hours, I get to spend quality time with my wife and daughter, and seeing her grow into an island girl has been amazing. She's already got a long list of Aunties and Uncles who are helping raise her in our small community.

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Dr Marlow Coates

JCU GP Registrar Fellow, Director of Medical Services for the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service

