

# GP training in the Townsville region

There are six main placement sites in this region where you may be based during your GP training. These include: Ayr, Charters Towers, Ingham, Palm Island and Townsville.

Townsville lies in the Burdekin Dry Tropics Region, which covers approximately 95,000 square kilometres and includes Bowen, Ayr and Charters Towers.

Townsville is Australia's largest urban centre north of the Sunshine Coast and is considered the unofficial capital of North Queensland. Townsville hosts a significant number of government, community and major business administrative offices for the northern half of the state.

The Townsville Hospital and Health Service comprises 18 hospitals and community health campuses.

Offering big city opportunities without the traffic. Practice small town medicine with the beach or the outback at your door, whilst accessing GP focussed training in areas such as skin cancer management or sports medicine. Train with specialists at the Townsville University Hospital in pain management or palliative care amongst other specialties, and of course there are incredible opportunities to work in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector too.



## Lifestyle



With over 300 days of sunshine a year, this region provides a laid back tropical lifestyle that is complemented by nearby capital city comforts.



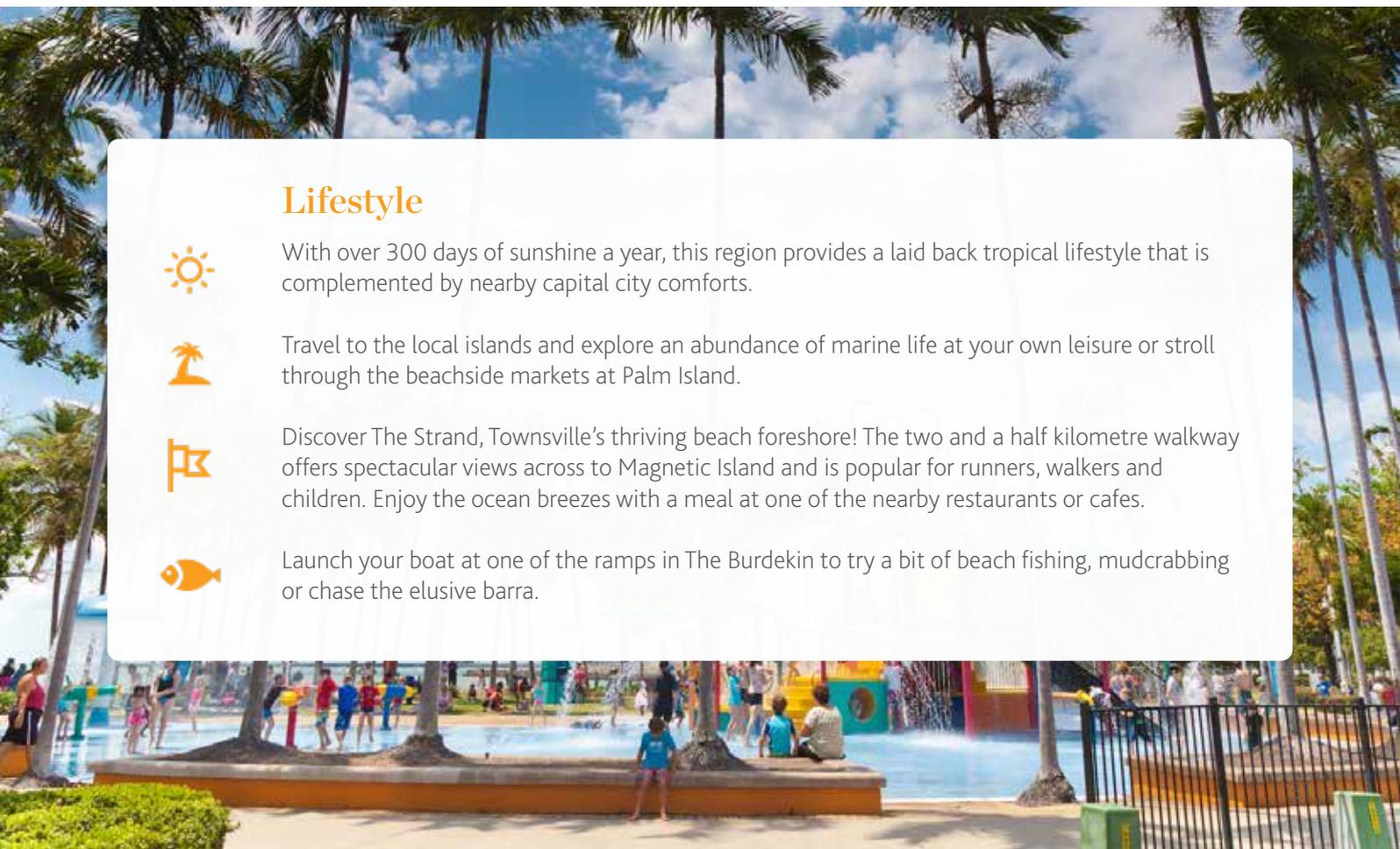
Travel to the local islands and explore an abundance of marine life at your own leisure or stroll through the beachside markets at Palm Island.



Discover The Strand, Townsville's thriving beach foreshore! The two and a half kilometre walkway offers spectacular views across to Magnetic Island and is popular for runners, walkers and children. Enjoy the ocean breezes with a meal at one of the nearby restaurants or cafes.



Launch your boat at one of the ramps in The Burdekin to try a bit of beach fishing, mudcrabbing or chase the elusive barra.





## Attractions

### MAGNETIC ISLAND

With 23 bays and beaches, Magnetic Island is the island playground of Townsville. The island is only 20 minutes from the city centre.

Do as little or as much as you like on Magnetic Island with activities ranging from snorkeling, boat charters, guided tours, water sports, golf, diving expeditions, jet skiing, fishing, horse riding, bush walks and more.

### CHARTERS TOWERS

Take a step back in time and discover the enchanting outback town of Charters Towers, just an hour and a half west of Townsville. Driving through the streets of Charters Towers is like viewing a living montage of Australian history and heritage.

Charters Towers offers a real Australian outback experience with many activities lending a nod to an era gone by including gold mining, farming and more.



### THE BURDEKIN

Famous for being the sugar capital of Australia, The Burdekin district is located an hour south of Townsville. Its two popular townships, Ayr and Home Hill, are linked by the iconic Burdekin Bridge.

By far the district's greatest claim to fame is its fishing. The Burdekin is well-known for its barramundi, mudcrabs and off-coast reef fishing.

Along the coast you will find Alva Beach, a popular launching spot for dive boats heading out to explore the S.S Yongala shipwreck. This shipwreck has been ranked as one of the top 10 wreck dives in the world.





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I chose to complete my GP training in Townsville due to the lifestyle Townsville offers. My weekends include a morning stroll and coffee along the strand with friends, a picnic and swim at crystal creek and not to mention my favourite weekend activity visiting beautiful Magnetic Island where I grew up. It is also within close proximity to some of the most beautiful holiday destinations in Australia including Cairns and the Whitsundays which provide great weekend escapes.

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**Dr Eliza Elsworth**  
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