

Mackay's Northern Beaches Drive Itinerary

Mackay – Northern Beaches

Time to complete itinerary: 1 day

Distance travelled: Approximately 60km round trip

Total walking time: Approximately 2-4 hours

Start in Mackay

- Mackay's northern beaches encompass Blacks Beach, Dolphin Heads, Eimeo, Bucasia and Shoal Point and are just a short 15-minute drive from the Mackay City Centre.
- From Mackay, travel north on Highway 1 towards Proserpine. After crossing the Gooseponds Bridge, you should take the exit on your right towards Northern Beaches, (just past Super Amart and Shell Service Station on the left).
- Follow the Mackay-Bucasia Road for approximately 11 km until you reach a large roundabout with a right turn onto Eimeo Road, Turning right at the roundabout will take you to Blacks Beach, Eimeo and Dolphin Heads, or continue straight on to Bucasia and Shoal Point.

Blacks Beach

- Follow Eimeo Road until you reach the large roundabout with signs to Blacks Beach. Turn right at Blacks Beach Road and follow it for about 3km.
- Turn left at Bourke Street and go to the end of the road until you reach the parking area for the beach.
- Blacks Beach is the longest stretch of uninterrupted beach in The Mackay Region at 6km long. There's a playground, amenities and barbecue facilities where you can soak up the relaxing beachside vibes.

Sunset Bay, Eimeo Pacific Hotel and Eimeo Beach

- Drive back to Eimeo Road and turn right at the roundabout. Travel for 5km whereby the road will eventually turn into Mango Avenue.
- Mango Avenue is the focal point of the beautiful Eimeo Village. The 80-year-old heritage-listed mango trees form a spectacular shady canopy 20 metres above.
- **Sunset Bay** is on Heidke Street, the second street on the left along Mango Avenue. This is a spectacular spot for sunset photographs and to enjoy a barbecue on the beach.



Sunset Bay, Eimeo Pacific Hotel and Eimeo Beach (continued)

- Continue driving on Mango Avenue until you reach the hotel on the top of the hill called the **Eimeo Pacific Hotel** where you can enjoy a meal and elevated coastal views overlooking the Coral Sea and Eimeo Beach. It's a great vantage point for spotting whales during migration season.
- Eimeo Beach is in a sheltered bay with powder soft sand and is patrolled during the summer months by volunteer lifeguards. If you're driving back from Eimeo Pacific Hotel, the beach access is on your left. Follow the signs.

Dolphin Heads

- Dolphin Heads is about 2km away from Eimeo. Turn left at Shann Street just after you leave Mango Avenue. Follow the road until you come to a T-intersection and turn left down Admiral Drive.
- Take another left at Beach Road. You will drive past **Dolphin Heads Resort** on your right. It's a family-friendly resort which you can visit for day trips and enjoy lunch beside the pool, or have a few drinks at the bar. The kids will love the huge swimming pool.

Bucasia Beach

- Return to the Mackay-Bucasia Road and travel north for about 3km. Turn right on to Downie Avenue.
- Follow Downie Avenue around for a further 2km until you reach the Bucasia Beach esplanade.
- **Bucasia Beach esplanade** is a great place to enjoy lunch or a picnic. There's lots of room and a great kids playground. You need to walk over the hill to view the beach, where you can take in views of Dolphin Heads and the Cumberland islands.

Shoal Point

- Return to the Mackay-Bucasia Road and travel north for about 4km. The road will lead directly to Shoal Point beach, and the park and playground area where you can set up for the day and enjoy all the area has to offer.
- The famous **Lone Tree** is becoming a popular scene to photograph. Just turn left on to Hodges Road before you reach the parking area and follow it all the way until it becomes a dirt road. If you park up and walk down the beach, you'll see the famous tree sticking out of the sand.

Looking for more ideas on what to do around The Mackay Region?

Mackay Tourism can help on 4944 5888.