

# Moreton Island conditions report

Your safety is our concern, but your responsibility.

Last updated 4 September 2020

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## BRISBANE BAR – QUEENSLAND

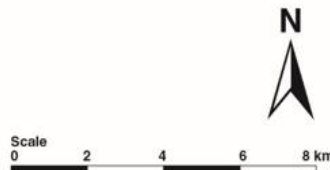
LAT 27° 22' S LONG 153° 10' E

Times and Heights of High and Low Waters

### SEPTEMBER

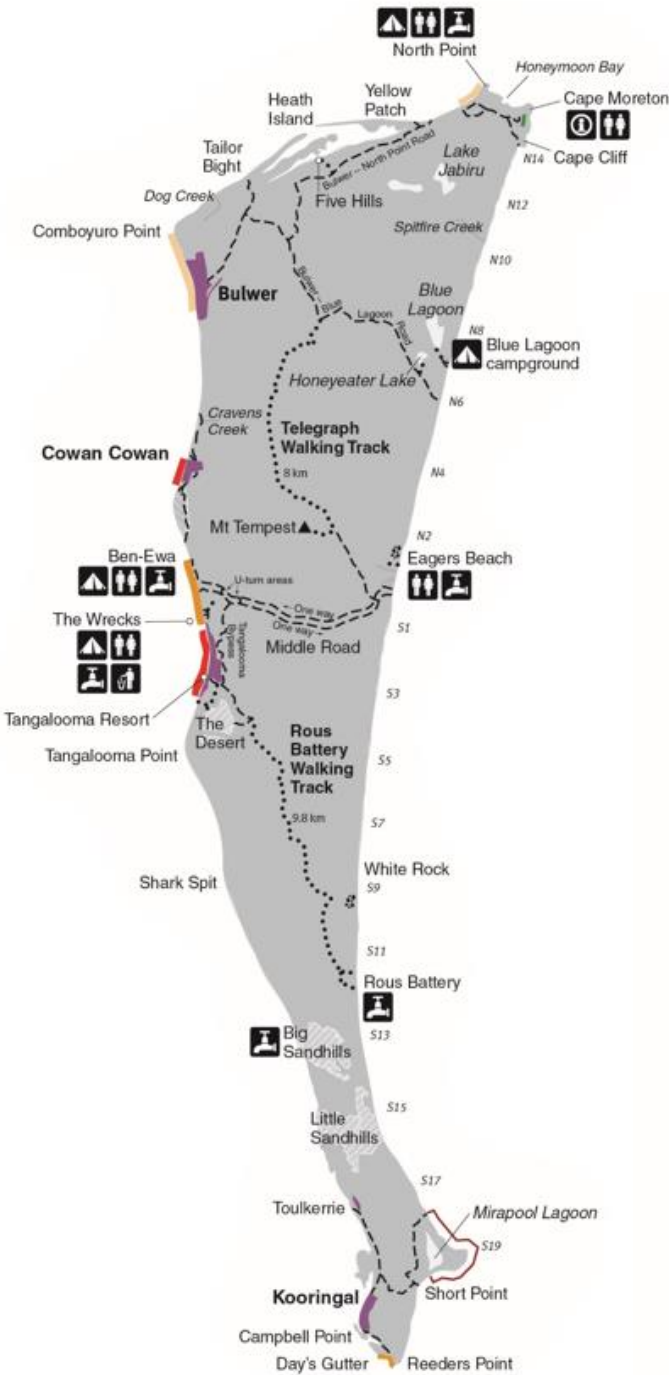
Time	m	Time	m
<b>1</b> 0326	0.43	<b>16</b> 0252	0.36
TU 0902	1.86	0830	1.97
2123	2.40	WE 1439	0.26
		2055	2.57
<b>2</b> 0400	0.43	<b>17</b> 0335	0.27
0938	1.91	0917	2.09
WE 1539	0.39	TH 1528	0.20
○ 2157	2.36	● 2138	2.59
<b>3</b> 0430	0.43	<b>18</b> 0416	0.21
1011	1.95	1003	2.19
TH 1613	0.42	FR 1617	0.19
2227	2.31	2221	2.54
<b>4</b> 0458	0.43	<b>19</b> 0455	0.19
1042	1.98	1049	2.27
FR 1645	0.46	SA 1705	0.24
2255	2.24	2303	2.42
<b>5</b> 0523	0.44	<b>20</b> 0532	0.21
1115	2.00	1136	2.30
SA 1718	0.52	SU 1753	0.34
2323	2.14	2344	2.23
<b>6</b> 0550	0.45	<b>21</b> 0609	0.27
1150	2.00	1224	2.29
SU 1753	0.60	MO 1845	0.48
2351	2.02		
<b>7</b> 0618	0.49	<b>22</b> 0029	2.00
1226	1.98	0648	0.36
MO 1830	0.71	TU 1316	2.24
		1944	0.64
<b>8</b> 0021	1.87	<b>23</b> 0119	1.77
0649	0.54	0731	0.48
TU 1307	1.94	WE 1415	2.17
1913	0.82	2057	0.75
<b>9</b> 0056	1.72	<b>24</b> 0224	1.57
0725	0.62	0827	0.60
WE 1356	1.90	TH 1526	2.12
2007	0.91	○ 2224	0.78
<b>10</b> 0142	1.57	<b>25</b> 0352	1.47
0811	0.69	0942	0.68
TH 1458	1.88	FR 1644	2.11
● 2121	0.96	2345	0.70
<b>11</b> 0253	1.46	<b>26</b> 0520	1.51
0917	0.73	1106	0.68
FR 1615	1.93	SA 1754	2.16
2256	0.91		
<b>12</b> 0428	1.45	<b>27</b> 0047	0.59
1037	0.70	0628	1.64
SA 1729	2.04	SU 1219	0.61
		1851	2.22
<b>13</b> 0015	0.78	<b>28</b> 0137	0.50
0547	1.54	0720	1.77
SU 1148	0.60	MO 1316	0.54
1830	2.20	1938	2.27
<b>14</b> 0115	0.62	<b>29</b> 0217	0.43
0648	1.69	0802	1.88
MO 1250	0.48	TU 1403	0.48
1923	2.36	2018	2.28
<b>15</b> 0206	0.48	<b>30</b> 0252	0.40
0741	1.83	0839	1.97
TU 1346	0.36	WE 1443	0.45
2010	2.49	2053	2.27

**Distance markers** are located on the ocean beach at 2 km intervals north (N followed by an even number) and south (S and an odd number) of Middle Road. In an emergency dial 000 or if no mobile reception try 112. If calling from ocean beach, advise operator of your closest distance marker. (Marker positioning not to scale)



**Legend**

- Recreation area
- Settlements
- Sand
- No vehicle access
- 20 km/hr zone
- 30 km/hr zone
- Special protection zone and low tide access only
- 4WD vehicle track
- Walking track
- Creeks
- Rocks, intermittently exposed
- Camping area
- Toilets
- Water (treat before use)
- Bins
- Information
- Distance markers



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### Tide variations

- Tides on Moreton Island vary in a number of places:
- Ocean Beach is 1hr 30mins earlier than Brisbane Bar
  - Day's Gutter is 45mins earlier than Brisbane Bar.
  - Tangalooma is 40mins earlier than Brisbane Bar.

**Caution:** The beach between Koorungal and Tangalooma is not always trafficable. Debris and shifting sand may make the beach impassable even at low tide.

While this information was prepared with care and based on the best available information at the time it is indicative only. Visitors are reminded that conditions change constantly due to climatic fluctuations and other factors. No liability is accepted by the Queensland Government for any decisions or actions taken on the basis of this information.

## Camping and Facilities

For all camping or vehicle access permit enquiries visit [mulgumpincamping.net.au](http://mulgumpincamping.net.au) or phone (07) 3506 2371.

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to monitor and receive guidance from the Government in relation to COVID-19 health and safety information. All day visitors should practice social distancing and hygiene protocols at all times – wash hands often with soap and water and if this isn't possible, use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser. Cover your coughs and sneezes with your elbow or a tissue, keep your rubbish secure and dispose of in the bins provided or take home, and stay at home if you are unwell. Only visit sites where there are car spaces available in the carpark, follow social distancing measures and adhere to public gathering numbers.

**Ensure you have checked barge operation times and tidal conditions to allow for travel to and from the island.**

## Beach driving conditions

Recent rainfall and tidal influences have caused creeks to over flow across beaches creating steep drop offs on both eastern and western beaches. Drivers should use extreme caution and check depth before attempting all creek crossings. Driving on dunes, vegetated areas and on unofficial tracks can cause significant damage to the dunal systems, and contribute significantly to the risk of further erosion.

**To avoid a fine drive only on officially constructed roads, tracks and beaches.** **Tangalooma to Kooringal** (western beach) is accessible at low tide only. **Tangalooma to Bulwer** (western beach) access mid to low tide; use caution when crossing creeks. **Bulwer to North Point** (via northern beach) is constantly changing and rarely trafficable due to the natural outflow of the Heath Island tidal creek system. Sand erosion is apparent between Comboyuro Point and Heath Island, use caution when traversing this area. Shallow creeks and draining gutters are boggy in this area and extreme caution is required before attempting any water crossing. **Cape Moreton to Mirapool Bypass** (eastern beach) – deep holes can occur along the entire length of Eastern Beach, exposing coffee rock and making travel difficult between mid and high tides. Tides can cause unexpected and hidden banks, washouts and gutters. Care should be exercised during high tides around the timbered area north of the Kooringal-Mirapool Road and between Cape Moreton and Bulwer Blue Lagoon Road. **North Point** – low tide vehicle access only to North Point beach due to changing dune movement. Beach hazards such as steep hidden banks, fallen trees and washouts are likely in this area. Travel two hours either side of low tide only to avoid being stranded at North Point and Champagne Rocks. **Yellow Patch** – beach lagoons and waterways are constantly changing. Caution: deep water at some creek and lagoon crossings with quicksand on lagoon edges and shoreline erosion.

## Inland track conditions

Lack of rainfall has made the roads and tracks soft but trafficable and without ongoing rainfall will continue to dry out quickly and conditions will deteriorate. **Check your tyre pressure.** Too much tyre pressure can make driving difficult and damage roads and vehicles. **Cowan Bypass** – is soft in some places and drying out quickly. Ensure tyre pressures of your vehicle and as well as towed vehicles are reduced to the appropriate level. **Bulwer-North Point Road** (via Five Hills) is firm with some rough sections. Suitable for high clearance 4WD vehicles only. **Bulwer-Blue Lagoon Road** is soft in some sections but trafficable. **Blue Lagoon day-use access track and carpark** is soft but trafficable. Alternative access to Blue Lagoon is available via the walking track from Blue Lagoon camping area. **Mirapool Bypass Road** is firm but rough in some spots. **Tangalooma Bypass Road** is mostly firm but rough with some soft sections. **Middle Road** is mostly firm but dry and very rough in some sections.

## Walking track conditions

Telegraph, Five Hills, the Rous and Tempest walking tracks are open and in fair condition. Take your own water and stay hydrated in hot conditions. **Note:** there are no water points along these walks. Check for Park Alerts before setting out and obey any track-closed signs.

## General Alerts

- **QLD road rules apply and are enforced on island tracks and beaches.** Ensure that you acquire & display a valid vehicle access permit.
- Low clearance and all-wheel drive vehicles are not suitable for Moreton Island's inland tracks. Ensure your vehicle is in 4WD and freewheeling hubs (if fitted) are in the locked position.
- **For beach driving, travel at low tide or within two hours either side of low tide.**
- **Vehicle recovery equipment is essential. Know where your recovery points are and know how to use your recovery equipment.**  
**Reducing your tyre pressure will assist when driving on soft sand.** Remember to keep within the tyre manufacturer's specifications, as reduced tyre pressure will affect your vehicle's performance. When driving with reduced tyre pressure, avoid sharp turns, sudden braking, high speeds and driving over rough surfaces. Tyres can come off their rims and cause serious accidents.  
**Tangalooma Wrecks** - Visitors should obey all warning signs and avoid getting too close, climbing on, or swimming through the shipwreck structures. Strong currents exist through this area. Swimmers should be competent in these conditions.  
**Vehicle Recovery Service** - A private vehicle recovery service operates on Moreton Island. For assistance and pricing contact Moreton Island Recovery Service on **07 3408 3545 (0414 949876)** or **07 3408 3930 (0475 563642)**.  
**Marine Animal Strandings** - Contact **1300 130 376** to report any injured or dead dugong, turtles, whales or dolphins.  
**Additional Information** - Check **Park Alerts** for updates and information regarding changes to park conditions.