

Mon Repos Conservation Park
Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia



Discover Mon Repos

Explore the coastline—discover
cultural heritage and marine turtles





Welcome to Mon Repos

“ We welcome you to Mon Repos, a quiet retreat rich in wildlife and history. Come and sink your toes into the sandy beach which comes alive in the summer months with nesting and hatchling marine turtles. Enjoy this little coastal gem. Gary, Diane and John. *Mon Repos Turtle Volunteer Leaders 2019* ”

A place of many peoples

Traditional custodians of land and sea

Mon Repos is a special place to the Traditional Owners. For generations the area’s rich food sources provided a wealth of seafood from the Burnett River, the rocky coastline, and the sandy beaches. The land too provided an abundance of marsupials, reptiles, bush foods and medicines in the dry rainforest, paperbark swamps and coastal woodlands.

Mon Repos Volunteers

For over 50 years Mon Repos has been supported by a large number of community volunteers. Volunteers fought to have the area declared as a park in 1981 and since that time have been an integral part of the programs focused on turtle conservation, ecotourism and revegetation.

French connections

Mon Repos gets its name from a summer residence built nearby in 1884 by sugar pioneer Augustus Barton—he called his house Mon Repos which is French for ‘my rest’.

In 1893 France chose Mon Repos Beach as the connection point for a telegraph cable stretching from New Caledonia to Australia. For thirty years this cable played an important part in connecting Australia to the rest of the world.

South Sea Islander Rock Wall

A physical reminder of the past is the large rock wall built by South Sea Islanders as they cleared rocks to prepare land for sugarcane crops. Their work was integral to the sugar industry and this heritage listed wall stands as a testament of their contribution to the district. Visit the audio sign alongside the rock wall to hear stories and learn about how Islanders lived and worked here.



Bert Hinkler—Taking to the skies

In 1912 the pioneering Australian aviator Bert Hinkler made his first successful flight at Mon Repos beach.

Born in Bundaberg, Hinkler built his first glider when he was just 19, transporting each piece to Mon Repos by bicycle. In 1928 he became the first person to fly solo from England to Australia.

Things To Do

Grab your bike and take a relaxing ride exploring the coastal shared trails or take a short walk to discover the park's natural and historic features. Shared trails and walking tracks within the park are all easy grade.

Mon Repos Turtle Centre

Marine turtles love Mon Repos too! Drop in to find out more about turtles and how you can help turtles survive.

Turtle trail—2km, allow 2hr

An array of birds and ghost crab holes can be seen along this walk and cycle trail.

Mon Repos coastal track—2.6km, allow 2hr

Community driven tree planting in the park has encouraged native wildlife to return and helps to keep the beach nice and dark for turtles at night.

Ponds boardwalk—300m, allow 10min

Freshwater swamps covered this section of the park in historic photographs—these ponds were introduced to recapture the essence of Mon Repos.

South Sea Islander Rock Wall

It is impressive that this rock wall still stands so strong today at 1.5m tall and 1.6km long.

Cable House Creek circuit walk—1km, allow 30min

The Woongarra rainforest scrub once covered a large area before it was cleared for farming. The scrub you see is the only natural vegetation at Mon Repos, the rest of the park has been replanted.

Beach Recreation

Mon Repos is a peaceful beach fringed by the Great Sandy Marine Park. The basalt slabs and reefs that form much of this coastline provide an ideal canvas for colourful displays of corals, sponges, barnacles and shellfish. This stunning diversity of sea life so close to shore has made the Woongarra coast one of Australia's popular shore-diving areas.

Turtle encounters

Turtle Viewing: November–March

Mon Repos is home to the largest concentration of nesting marine turtles on the eastern Australian mainland and supports the most significant nesting population of the endangered loggerhead turtle in the South Pacific Ocean region. Successful breeding here is critical if the loggerhead species is to survive. Flatback and green turtles also nest here, but in much smaller numbers.

At this globally significant breeding site you can have a turtle encounter like very few others in the world. Visit the Mon Repos Turtle Centre to find out more.



Keep in mind

Turtle breeding season occurs from late October to April. Mon Repos Beach closes from 6pm–6am during this time.

To help look after turtles:

- Keep off the dunes—nests are laid here.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Stay still if you see a nesting turtle coming ashore to lay her eggs.
- If you see a hatchling turtle on the beach, watch and enjoy, but please do not touch.
- Do not dig in the dunes or leave obstacles for turtles on the beach.

Turtle tour seasons

Ranger-guided Turtle Encounters operate seven nights a week from November to late March (excluding 24, 25 and 31 December).

Nesting turtles are best viewed after dark, from November to January.

Turtle hatchlings are best viewed from January to March, after dark.

Getting there and around

Explore Mon Repos in your own time and at your own pace.



Walking, bike riding and picnicking are popular. Mon Repos can be reached



easily by bike or on foot from the



coastal town of Bargara or by driving to the Turtle Centre car park.



Dogs are prohibited on park (including tracks and trails) and on the beach.

For further information visit us online at qld.gov.au/MonRepos

In an emergency call Triple Zero (000).

Connect with Queensland National Parks



qld.gov.au/MonRepos



[qldnationalparks](https://www.facebook.com/qldnationalparks)



[@QldParks](https://www.instagram.com/qldparks); [#QldParks](https://www.instagram.com/qldparks)

Find our park brochures online at qld.gov.au/ParkBrochures

