



# Ballina Byron

Photo: Pawel Papis/Shutterstock.com



Steve Simkins/Shutterstock.com

The Ballina/Byron region is delightfully diverse. It ranges from the quiet family world of Ballina to Byron Bay, the former hippy capital of Australia. Byron Bay was once a simple whaling station later rediscovered by surfers. Now, long after the 60s, the place is swarmed with tourists and celebrities wishing to experience this alternative town, which is still one of the most hippy destinations on the East Coast.

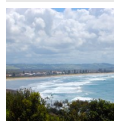


Shanti Hesse/Shutterstock.com



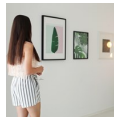
Silken Photography/Shutterstock.com

## Featured



### Lennox Head

Lennox Head is a laid-back village at the northern end of Seven Mile Beach a...



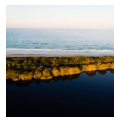
### Northern Rivers Community ...

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### Surfing in Byron Bay

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### Lake Ainsworth

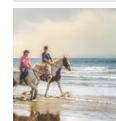
Adjacent to the Seven Mile Beach and within walking distance from Lennox Hea...



### Diving and Snorkelling

The sea around Byron Bay has abundant marine life among the rock reefs. If y...

## Top 5



### Seven Mile Beach

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### Byron Bay From The Air

Take the opportunity to get another perspective of Byron Bay and the amazing...



### Big Prawn

About 9 metres high, the Big Prawn is exactly what you'd expect it to be: a ...



### Historic Ballina Waterfront...

Put your hiking shoes on and start a scenic walk from the boardwalk of Balli...



### Shaws Bay

The scenic Shaws Bay is located just ten minutes from Ballina by car. Surrou...



## THE CITY



*GotKom/Shutterstock.com*

There are a plethora of pleasures to be experienced in Ballina, Byron Bay and the surrounding area. Creative types are particularly attracted to this region and there are many authors and film-makers who seek their inspiration alongside surfers and sun lovers.

Ballina originally gained its reputation as a fishing and timber port on the wide Richmond River. Then, road transportation took over, and with it came one of the craziest moves in town planning history: Ballina's main street was set way back from the river, with buildings on both sides of the street blocking all river views. However, this has now changed with the development of the river foreshore area.

Only three decades ago, Byron Bay was a small sleepy enclave unaware of the hustle and bustle it would later experience. Nowadays, it has a small town charm mixed with a cosmopolitan — yet alternative — lifestyle that attracts many people from all over the world. Among its attractions, there are kilometres of unbroken sandy beaches and heaps of great surf waves to catch, but also pristine nature and wildlife. Due to its location as Australia's most eastern point, the majestic humpback whales can be spotted twice a year on their migratory routes. There's always a local market taking place somewhere

and all through the year several festivals take place.

Despite the coastal town's reputation as being laid-back and alternative, it is anything but boring and visitors have the time of their lives in Ballina and Byron Bay.

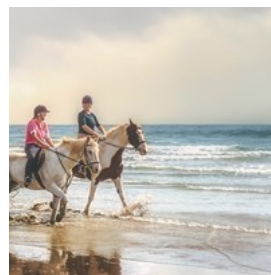
## DO & SEE



*Susan Harris/Shutterstock.com*

There is no lack of beaches along the coastline if you want to enjoy a day on the sand. Once you're rested, outdoor and water activities are a must in Ballina and Byron Bay. Walking, picnicking, kayaking, swimming, surfing, snorkeling... You'll be spoilt for choice. Day trips in the surrounding villages are also possible, as well as museum visits and spotting dolphins and whales.

### Seven Mile Beach



Just a few kilometres north of Ballina's centre, Seven Mile Beach is one of Australia's finest and longest beaches. Wildlife, including dolphins and eagles, populates the area. Swimming, surfing and sunbathing are of course the recommended activities.

For an unusual experience, Pegasus Park Equestrian Centre offers horseback rides under

the supervision of an expert E.F.A. Grade 1 instructor.

Pegasus Park Equestrian Centre

+61 2 6687 1446

[www.pegasuspark.com.au](http://www.pegasuspark.com.au)

Hours: 9am-5pm

Photo: K. Mitch Hodge/unsplash.com (cropped)

Address: Pacific Parade, Lennox Head

### Byron Bay From The Air



Take the opportunity to get another perspective of Byron Bay and the amazing nature surrounding it by... jumping out of an

airplane. This exciting experience will be a safe one thanks to Skydiving Byron Bay.

Photo: Germanskydiver/Shutterstock.com

Address: Hangar 1, Tyagarah Airport, Pacific Hwy, Tyagarah

Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

Phone: +61 1300 663 634

Internet: [www.skydive.com.au/byron-bay](http://www.skydive.com.au/byron-bay)

Email: [info@skydive.com.au](mailto:info@skydive.com.au)

### Big Prawn



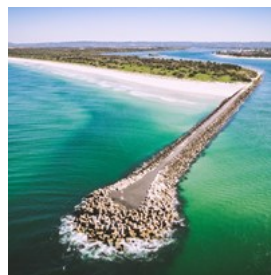
About 9 metres high, the Big Prawn is exactly what you'd expect it to be: a huge sculpture of a crustacean. You'll find it in a parking lot on River

Street outside Ballina's town centre. Just park your car and take a few pictures with this Australian icon, likely among the oddest monuments you'll ever encounter.

Photo: [cn2480.com.au/Wikimedia](https://cn2480.com.au/Wikimedia) Commons (upscaled and with noise reduction)(image cropped)

Address: 507 River St, West Ballina

### Historic Ballina Waterfront Trail



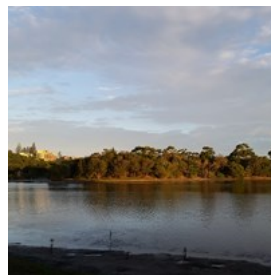
Put your hiking shoes on and start a scenic walk from the boardwalk of Ballina RSL club, walking alongside the Richmond River, cross the

Missingham Bridge and continue towards the North Wall. Along the road you'll find 19 panels with information about the area. At the end of the walk you can relax on Lighthouse Beach or just enjoy the view from North Wall. You might be able to spot dolphins, turtles and various birds.

Photo: Tony Partridge/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Grant Street, Ballina

### Shaws Bay



The scenic Shaws Bay is located just ten minutes from Ballina by car.

Surrounded by beaches and parks, the area lends itself to long walks and

picnics, as well as water activities like swimming, snorkeling and canoeing.

Photo: kellyocs/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shaws Bay, Ballina

### Macadamia Castle and Animal Park



About half-way between Byron Bay and Ballina, the Macadamia Castle offers an insight into local animal life. Expect to see, among others, koalas,

goats, rabbits, various birds and reptiles. The park also has leisure facilities like mini golf, playgrounds, a train ride and a cafe, making it a popular venue for family trips.

Photo: Julija Sagic/Shutterstock.com

Address: 419 Hinterland Way, Knockcrow, Ballina

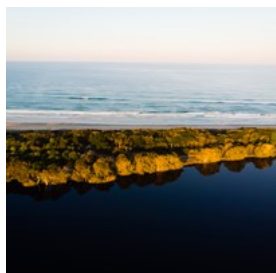
Opening hours: Daily 9am-4pm

Phone: +61 2 6687 8432

Internet: [www.macadamiacastle.com.au](http://www.macadamiacastle.com.au)

Email: [info@macadamiacastle.com.au](mailto:info@macadamiacastle.com.au)

### Lake Ainsworth



Adjacent to the Seven Mile Beach and within walking distance from Lennox Head village lies Lake Ainsworth, a fresh water lake surrounded by

trees. Tea-tree tannins and oil infuse this freshwater lake for the most refreshing swim of your life. Have a picnic or a barbecue and then take off on a water adventure such as kayaking, swimming and windsurfing.

Photo: Tony Partridge/Shutterstock.com

Address: Pacific Parade, Lennox Head

### Diving and Snorkelling



The sea around Byron Bay has abundant marine life among the rock reefs. If you are not a certified diver yet, Byron Bay Dive Centre is the place to go

for a guided experience and maybe complete your training. They will take you to the beautiful Julian Rocks Aquatic Reserve, one of Australia's major diving sites.

Photo: Sebastien Burel/Shutterstock.com

Address: 9 Marvell Street, Byron Bay

Phone: +61 2 6685 8333

Internet: [www.byronbaydivecentre.com.au](http://www.byronbaydivecentre.com.au)

Email: [info@byronbaydivecentre.com.au](mailto:info@byronbaydivecentre.com.au)

More Info: Check their website to pick the best time of the year to dive.

### Surfing in Ballina



With more than 32 kilometres of beautiful winding coastline, you will not have to look hard to find a good surfing spot. The calm sandy beaches and rising swells are perfect for getting your surf on.

Ballina Surf School offers tailored packages for personalised session. They specialise in private classes with small numbers but also do group sessions.

Photo: Kudriavtcev Mikhail/Shutterstock.com

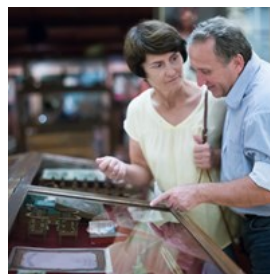
Address: Tamar Street, Ballina

Phone: +61 402 152 732

Internet: [ballinasurfschool.com](http://ballinasurfschool.com)

Email: [info@ballinasurfschool.com](mailto:info@ballinasurfschool.com)

### The Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum



The Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum has an eclectic collection of different kinds of ships, not to mention exhibitions on maritime history, life at sea and in the navy. The most famous attraction is the raft Las Balsas, which landed in Ballina on 21 November 1973 after a 178-day journey from Ecuador.

Photo: Caftor/Shutterstock.com

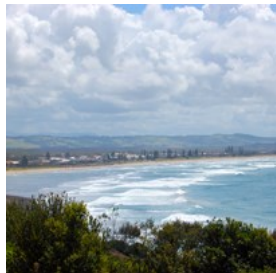
Address: Regatta Ave, Ballina

Opening hours: Daily 9am-4pm

Phone: +61 2 6681 1002

Internet: [www.ballinamaritimemuseum.org.au](http://www.ballinamaritimemuseum.org.au)

### Lennox Head



Lennox Head is a laid-back village at the northern end of Seven Mile Beach and a mecca among surfers with its world-renowned breaks at Lennox and Boulders Point.

Photo: jessicakirsh/Shutterstock.com

Address: Lennox Head, Ballina

### Brunswick Heads



Brunswick Heads, located about 20 minutes by road north of Byron Bay, is approximately what Byron used to be before the hippie invasion — a

sleepy little village on a super-scenic inlet, with top boating and fishing, several bars and restaurants, and a great cafe culture. It is the perfect place for a peaceful getaway.

Photo: Phillip Minnis/Shutterstock.com

Address: Brunswick Heads, North South Wales, Australia

More Info: Just off the Pacific Highway

### Whale Watching



From May to July, grandiose humpback whales pass Byron Bay on their journey to calving and breeding grounds further north. In

September and October they pass Byron Bay again when they migrate back to the Antarctic with their youngsters. Several companies organise boat trips out to sea to watch the whales. One of those companies is Whale Watching Byron Bay.

Photo: Todd Cravens/unsplash.com

Address: 9 Marvell Street, Byron Bay

Phone: +61 2 6685 8333

Internet: [www.byronbaywhalewatching.com.au](http://www.byronbaywhalewatching.com.au)

Email: [info@byronbaywhalewatching.com.au](mailto:info@byronbaywhalewatching.com.au)

### Cape Byron Lighthouse



Cape Byron Lighthouse, Australia's most eastern lighthouse, is an iconic sight of Byron Bay.

Construction started in 1899 and the plans for the lighthouse were done in the style of New South Wales colonial architect of the day, James Barnet. The view from the top is magnificent and on a good day you might even spot dolphins or whales with your binoculars. The hill where it's located is also a nice place to see the colours of sunset itself liven up the landscape.

Photo: ian woolcock/Shutterstock.com

Address: Cape Byron Walking Track, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Daily 10am-4pm

Internet: [www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/historic-buildings-places/cape-byron-lighthouse](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/historic-buildings-places/cape-byron-lighthouse)

### Surfing in Byron Bay



Byron Bay's beaches face many different directions, increasing the chance for great waves. For those who still need to learn, Byron Bay is the perfect

place to take surfing lessons with its often mellow waves.

Mojosurf Byron Bay surf school:

Photo: ohrim/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shop 6/4 Jonson St, Byron Bay NSW 2481

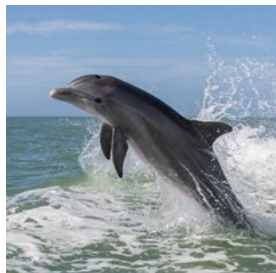
Opening hours: Daily 10am-4pm

Phone: +61 2 6639 5100

Internet: [www.mojosurf.com](http://www.mojosurf.com)

Email: [info@mojosurf.com](mailto:info@mojosurf.com)

### Kayaking with dolphins



Get up close and personal with the local bottlenose dolphins in the bay. A kayak is a great and sporty way of observing these lovely mammals.

Tours are available everyday for both whale and dolphin watching.

Go Sea Kayak Byron Bay:

Photo: Tory Kallman/Shutterstock.com

Address: Opp 56 Lawson Street, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Daily 8am-6pm

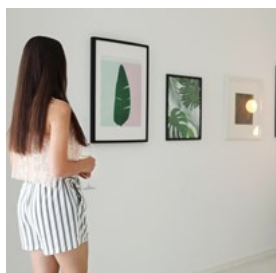
Phone: +61 416 222 344

Internet: [www.goseakayakbyronbay.com.au](http://www.goseakayakbyronbay.com.au)

Email: [info@goseakayakbyronbay.com.au](mailto:info@goseakayakbyronbay.com.au)

More Info: On The Park - Opposite 56 Lawson Street

### Northern Rivers Community Gallery



If you're into contemporary art, Northern Rivers Community Gallery might be an interesting detour from beach days and

outdoor activities. They have four exhibition spaces showing diverse artwork mostly by local artists, but not exclusively. Check their website to see what exhibitions, cultural programs and events are currently going on.

Photo: New Africa/Shutterstock.com

Address: 44 Cherry Street, Ballina

Opening hours: Wed-Fri 10am-4pm, Sat & Sun 9:30am-1pm

Phone: +61 2 6681 0530

Internet: [www.nrcgballina.com.au](http://www.nrcgballina.com.au)

Email: [nrcg@ballina.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nrcg@ballina.nsw.gov.au)

### DINING



*svry/Shutterstock.com*

The Ballina/Byron Bay region has some top restaurants, highlighting the region's fine produce, like the world's best macadamia nuts. Fresh seafood also plays a leading role in the local cuisine.

### Beanz (Ballina)



For a quick, healthy and light lunch, head over to Beanz. In addition to salads, you'll find falafel, tacos, sandwiches, and burgers, all at reasonable prices.

Photo: Marie C Fields/Shutterstock.com

Address: 222 River Street, Ballina

Opening hours: Daily 11am-4pm

Phone: +61 2 6686 6170

### Raes on Wategos (Byron Bay)

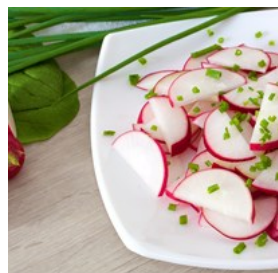


This elegant hotel restaurant is located in front of the beautiful Wategos Beach. They serve a selection of dishes belonging to modern Australian cuisine with Mediterranean influence.

Photo: *msheldrake/Shutterstock.com*

Address: 6/8 Marine Parade, Byron Bay  
Phone: +61 2 6685 5366  
Internet: [www.raes.com.au](http://www.raes.com.au)  
Email: [contact@raes.com.au](mailto:contact@raes.com.au)

### Harvest Newrybar (Byron Bay)



At the Harvest Newrybar, they use seasonal local and organic ingredients that translate into an ever-changing and creative menu. On

Saturday and Sunday mornings they host an a la carte breakfast. Beside the restaurant you'll find a deli, a bakery, and a lovely garden that you can also see from their patio.

Photo: Helga Chirk/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 18/22 Old Pacific Highway, Newrybar Village, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Wed-Sat 12-11pm. Sun 12-5pm  
Phone: +61 2 6687 2644  
Internet: [www.harvestnewrybar.com.au](http://www.harvestnewrybar.com.au)  
Email: [goodtimes@harvestcafe.com.au](mailto:goodtimes@harvestcafe.com.au)

### Earth 'n' Sea Amazing Pizza (Byron Bay)



Gourmet pizza garnished with fresh, local ingredients can be found at Earth 'n' Sea Amazing Pizza. Here you can choose between 22 types

of pizza, with vegan and gluten free options available. Their specialty are baked pizza dough balls served with garlic butter. You might also want to check their deals for large and family pizzas.

Photo: Dream79/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 2/3 Marvell Street, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Wed-Sun 5-8pm  
Phone: +61 2 6685 6029  
Internet: [www.earthnsea.com.au](http://www.earthnsea.com.au)  
Email: [info@earthnsea.com.au](mailto:info@earthnsea.com.au)

### Fishmongers (Byron Bay)



Fishmongers serves fresh, fast seafood in Byron Bay, from prawns and calamari to octopus and oysters. They are particularly proud of their

gourmet fish and chips and the vegetable tempura. There are some tables to eat on the spot, but take-away is a popular option as well.

Photo: Janet Faye Hastings/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 9 Bay Lane, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Daily noon-late  
Phone: +61 4 1205 9771  
Internet: [www.fishmongersbyron.com.au](http://www.fishmongersbyron.com.au)  
Email: [eat@fishmongersbyron.com.au](mailto:eat@fishmongersbyron.com.au)  
More Info: Behind the Beach Hotel

### OSushi (Byron Bay)



At OSushi, they serve upscale Japanese and modern Asian fusion cuisine and drinks, offering several vegan and vegetarian options.

Most of the ingredients come from the northern rivers region and the sushi selection is ever-changing. There are lunch specials that allow you to try a few dishes for a fixed price, while for dinner you can share a more substantial "premium set menu".

Photo: kamui29/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Shop 15, 90-96 Jonson Street, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Daily noon-8:30pm  
Phone: +61 2 6685 7103  
Internet: [www.osushi.com.au](http://www.osushi.com.au)  
Email: [info@osushi.com.au](mailto:info@osushi.com.au)  
More Info: Shop 15 Woolworths Plaza

### Che Bon (Ballina)



Che Bon is an authentic French restaurant owned by a couple from Burgundy. Here you'll find typical French dishes like escargot, foie gras, and crème brûlée, but also seafood dishes along with many gluten/dairy free as well as vegetarian options.

Photo: HUANG Zheng/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 37/41 Cherry Street, Ballina  
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 5pm-10:30pm  
Phone: +61 2 6687 8221  
Internet: [www.chebonrestaurant.com](http://www.chebonrestaurant.com)  
Email: [mail@chebonrestaurant.com](mailto:mail@chebonrestaurant.com)

### The Boardwalk (Ballina)



The Boardwalk is a restaurant, brasserie, and bistro with a waterfront location. They keep their menu varied and affordable, serving anything from seafood and salads to pastas and steaks. At sunset, enjoy a truly stunning view of the Richmond River through its big windows.

Photo: chndkmn/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 1 Grant Street, Ballina  
Opening hours: Lunch: daily noon-2pm; Dinner: Sun-Thu 6pm-8pm, Sat 5:30pm-8pm  
Phone: +61 2 6681 9500  
Internet: [www.ballinarisl.com.au/dining/the-boardwalk](http://www.ballinarisl.com.au/dining/the-boardwalk)  
More Info: At the Ballina RSL club

## CAFÉS



*Kichigin/Shutterstock.com*

With the city now being home to a beguiling mix of surfers, “new-agers”, artists, craftspeople, writers and film makers, this is a perfect place for people watching while sipping a cup of coffee. Sit down and enjoy the relaxing atmosphere at one of many cafés in Ballina and Byron Bay.

### The Gallery Cafe (Ballina)



Adjacent to the Northern Rivers Community Art Gallery you'll find this sophisticated cafe with outdoor tables in a lovely garden. The menu features eggs cooked in a variety of ways, pancakes, healthy salads, but also more substantial options like burgers and pasta.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 46 Cherry Street, Ballina  
Opening hours: Open seasonally. Check hours on their social media  
Phone: +61 2 6681 3888  
Internet: [www.thegallerycafeballina.com](http://www.thegallerycafeballina.com)  
Email: [ballinagallerycafe@gmail.com](mailto:ballinagallerycafe@gmail.com)

### Bayleaf Cafe (Byron Bay)



Located in the heart of Byron Bay, Bayleaf Cafe is one of the most popular spots in town for brekkie and lunch. They gather ingredients from local suppliers, including their coffee beans. Expect healthy and creative dishes served in generous portions. The green breakfast bowl is a big favourite.

Photo: Borys Vasylenko/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 2A Marvell Street, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Daily 7am-2pm  
Internet: [www.bayleafbyronbay.com](http://www.bayleafbyronbay.com)  
Email: [hello@bayleafbyronbay.com](mailto:hello@bayleafbyronbay.com)

### Swish Cafe (Ballina)



Swish Cafe is a busy, popular place in the heart of Ballina, just a short walk from the beach. Until 11:30am, they offer huge breakfast specials for those who want to start their day on the right foot. They also have an excellent variety of cakes and sweets, as well as light lunch options like salads, wraps, and sandwiches.

Photo: Olga Nayashkova/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 147 River Street, Ballina  
Phone: +61 2 6681 4033

### Brewsters Cafe (Ballina)



Open since 1989, Brewsters Cafe is the oldest coffee shop in Ballina. Don't worry if you wake up late, as they serve breakfast all day long and their award-winning coffee will surely keep you awake. Besides toasts and pancakes,

they also have light lunch options.

Photo: anshu18/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 105 River Street, Ballina  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7am-3:30pm, Sat & Sun 7:30am-1:30pm  
Phone: +61 2 6686 8313

### The Top Shop (Byron Bay)



As the name suggests, you'll find this little cafe on top of a hill a short walk away from Tallow Beach. Their blackboard menu always displays many burger options, but you'll also find bowls, baked treats, juices, smoothies and, of course, coffee. There is not much seating to eat on the spot, but it's very popular to take away and have a picnic either on the grass or at the beach.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 65 Carlyle Street, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Daily 6:30am-3pm  
Phone: +61 2 6685 6495  
Internet: [www.topshopbyronbay.com.au](http://www.topshopbyronbay.com.au)  
Email: [charlie.topshop@gmail.com](mailto:charlie.topshop@gmail.com)

### Combi (Byron Bay)

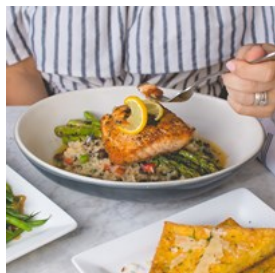


Combi is a family-owned cafe with an organic menu focusing on treats and breakfast offerings. For a healthy and nourishing breakfast, try one of their beautifully-presented super bowls with açaí, granola and fresh fruit. They have plenty of gluten-free, vegan and raw options to choose from.

Photo: zstock/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Shop 5b, 21/25 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Daily 7am-3:30pm  
Internet: [www.wearecombi.com.au](http://www.wearecombi.com.au)

Email: [byronbay@wearecombi.com.au](mailto:byronbay@wearecombi.com.au)

### The Belle General (East Ballina)



The Belle General a takeaway store and beachside cafe with smoothies, cold press juice, amazing coffee.

Absolutely perfect for late breakfast or lunch. They specialise in gluten & dairy free range, stay very vegan friendly but also have plenty of classic meals like burger and chips. Stop by and have "Something Healthy with Salmon" in this venue with industrial design and exceptionally good coffee.

Photo: [Travis Yewell/unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com)

Address: 12 Shelly Beach Rd, East Ballina

Opening hours: Daily 8am-2pm

Phone: +61 411 361 453

Internet: [www.bellegeneral.com](http://www.bellegeneral.com)

More Info: A stone's throw away from stunning Shelly Beach

### The Pass Cafe (Byron Bay)



By making a slight detour on your way to or back from Byron Bay

Lighthouse, you can stop by The Pass and enjoy the beautiful view of Pass

Beach and surf break. Whether it's for breakfast or lunch, you'll find popular foods like pancakes and burgers, and more sophisticated ones like açai bowls or salads with avocado and super greens. They also offer a wide selection of vegan smoothies featuring healthy ingredients like matcha and macadamia milk.

Photo: [NuTz/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)

Address: 1 Brooke Drive, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Daily 7am-2pm

Phone: +61 2 6680 8028

Internet: [www.thepasscafe.com.au](http://www.thepasscafe.com.au)

Email: [eat@thepasscafe.com.au](mailto:eat@thepasscafe.com.au)

### BARS & NIGHTLIFE



*Bruce/Flickr.com (image cropped)*

Byron Bay rocks like jelly in an earthquake and has gained a reputation as one of Australia's very best music venues. Major world-class groups will often tour the major state capitals of Australia 'plus Byron Bay'. In Ballina, there are many places to kick back and relax before you head off to Byron Bay for a lively night.

### The Balcony Bar and Oyster Co. (Byron Bay)



The Balcony Bar and Oyster Co is a chic venue located in one of Byron Bay's last remaining historical buildings. Their list of cocktails includes

several signature drinks like chilli mojito and gin tonic with aniseed myrtle. Happy hour is every day from 4pm to 6pm. On Wednesday, at 5pm it's oyster hour: don't miss the chance to try this delicious seafood at a very discounted price. For some live music, go on Thursday night instead. Fridays are "Drag and Dine".

Photo: [Shebeko/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)

Address: 7/3 Lawson Street, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 12pm-10pm. Sat 10am-11pm. Sun 10am-10pm

Phone: +61 2 6680 9666

Internet: [www.balcony.com.au](http://www.balcony.com.au)

Email: [info@balcony.com.au](mailto:info@balcony.com.au)

More Info: Corner of Lawson Street & Jonson Street

### Light Years (Byron Bay)



Light Years is an airy bar with Vietnamese-inspired design reminiscent of French-colonial Hanoi. Offers with authentic street food such as

roasted duck pancakes and succulent bao buns. Pop in mid-week for Hot Pho and ice-cold beer — the contrast is devilishly delicious.

Their cocktail menu is an artisanal delight. Netflix and Chill comes highly recommended — the perfect marriage of toasty popcorn and smokey rum.

Photo: [Nikita Tikhomirov/unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com/photo-1588151742228-5a9123102800)

Address: 3/17 Lawson St, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Mon–Thu 4:45pm–10pm, Fri–Sun noon–10pm

Phone: +61 423 138 538

Internet: [lightyearsasiandiner.com.au](http://lightyearsasiandiner.com.au)

Email: [lightyearsbyron@arcadeagency.com.au](mailto:lightyearsbyron@arcadeagency.com.au)

### Beach Hotel (Byron Bay)



If you are tired after a long day on the beach, you don't have to look far for a place to cool down with an icy drink, as the Beach Hotel in Byron Bay

has a popular bar serving cocktails, mocktails, wine, and beer. They also often host live music and beach gigs.

Photo: [Here/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/cocktail-glass-1588151742228-5a9123102800)

Address: 1 Bay Street, Byron Bay

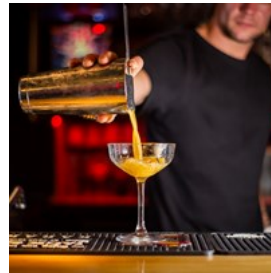
Opening hours: Mon–Sat 8am–1am. Sun 8am–12am

Phone: +61 2 6685 6402

Internet: [www.beachhotel.com.au](http://www.beachhotel.com.au)

Email: [enquiries@beachhotel.com.au](mailto:enquiries@beachhotel.com.au)

### The Bolt Hole (Byron Bay)



The Bolt Hole is a chic whisky, gin and craft cocktail bar with a multinational cast of bartenders behind the shining copper bar.

Open until very late, it's the ideal last stop of the night. Alternatively, come here for pre-drinks with rooftop views and vintage decor.

Choose from more than 300 whiskies and gins, or go for wines, artisanal spirits and signature craft cocktails. Small bites will keep you satisfied and ready for more fun.

Photo: [Louis Hansel/unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com/photo-1588151742228-5a9123102800)

Address: 9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Wed–Sun 5pm–late

Phone: +61 2 6685 8410

Internet: [www.thebolthole.com.au](http://www.thebolthole.com.au)

### The Railway Friendly Bar (Byron Bay)



The funky Railway Friendly Bar is famous for rocking live music seven days a week, all year around. They have over 20 types of beer on tap, which you can enjoy in the open beer garden.

Photo: [gpoinstudio/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/group-people-1588151742228-5a9123102800)

Address: 86 Jonson Street, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Daily noon–midnight

Phone: +61 2 6685 7662

Internet: [www.therailsbyronbay.com](http://www.therailsbyronbay.com)

Email: [therails@bigpond.com](mailto:therails@bigpond.com)

More Info: Predictably, located at the Railway Station

### The Northern (Byron Bay)



The Northern Hotel has not one, but two bars: the Front Bar and the Back Room. Both venues often host live music sessions, featuring both local and international bands playing mostly rock which you can enjoy with a locally brewed beer and hearty pub grub.

Photo: PrinceOfLove/Shutterstock.com

Address: 35/43 Jonson Street, Byron Bay

Phone: +61 2 6685 6454

Email: [info@byronbayentertainment.com](mailto:info@byronbayentertainment.com)

More Info: Front Bar is walk ins only, while you must buy tickers for Back Room

### Supernatural (Byron Bay)



Supernatural Restaurant & Bar is a stylish slice of Milan by the sea. It is arguably Byron's favourite wine bar, and their cocktails are remarkable. The bar showcases over 50 naturally produced organic wines from around the world. Expert staff will help you select the best wines, which you can pair with salty ocean delicacies including oysters, octopus, kingfish ceviche and zucchini fritters.

Photo: Ash Edmonds/unsplash.com

Address: 9 Bay Lane, Byron Bay

Opening hours: Sun, Tue-Thu 5pm-10pm, Fri & Sat 4pm-10pm

Phone: +61 477 629 271

Internet: [supernaturalbyronbay.com](http://supernaturalbyronbay.com)

Email: [bookings@supernaturalbyronbay.com](mailto:bookings@supernaturalbyronbay.com)

### Mezza @ the Point (Ballina)



From this waterfront restaurant and bar you can enjoy a nice view of the Richmond River. Happy hour is from 3pm to 6pm every day, but you can also grab some cocktails at the sunset or after dinner.

Photo: Ivan Mateev/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2 Martin Street, Ballina

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7am-11pm, Sat & Sun 8am-11pm

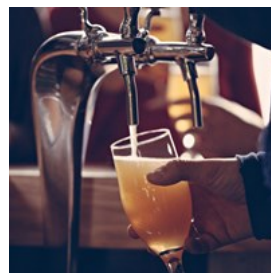
Phone: +61 2 6618 1188

Internet: [www.mezza.com.au](http://www.mezza.com.au)

Email: [info@mezza.com.au](mailto:info@mezza.com.au)

More Info: A la carte menu daily noon-8pm

### Westower Tavern (Ballina)



The Westower Tavern is a sports bar and bistro serving pub food and cold drinks. They have a big play area for the children and organise entertainment for adults as well, like live music nights. On regular evenings you can just get a draft, watch some sports, and have a good time.

Photo: zeljkodan/Shutterstock.com

Address: 89/93 Kalinga Street, West Ballina

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-1:30am, Sun 10am-midnight

Phone: +61 2 6686 7272

Internet: [www.westowertavern.com.au](http://www.westowertavern.com.au)

Email: [westower.tavern@alhgroupp.com.au](mailto:westower.tavern@alhgroupp.com.au)

### Wharf Bar & Restaurant (Ballina)

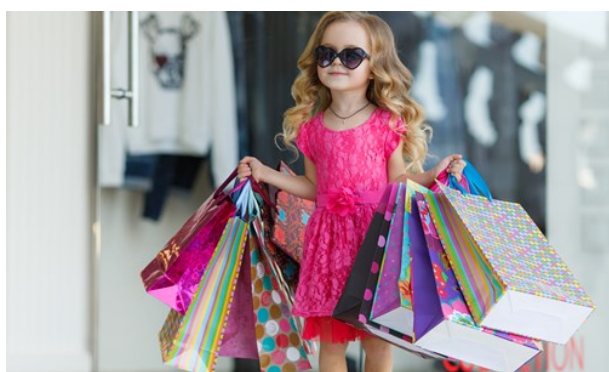


At the Wharf Bar & Restaurant, they have many speciality cocktails to choose from. To play it safe, try one of their signature cocktails like the espresso martini, the Frangelico caipiroska,

or the "Gerry bomb" with vanilla vodka, strawberry, lychee, and lime. Of course, you'll also find wine, beer, mocktails, and spirits.

Photo: CharlotteRaboff/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 12/24 Fawcett Street, Ballina  
Opening hours: Daily 7:30am-8:30pm  
Phone: +61 2 6686 5259  
Internet: [www.wharfbarballina.com.au](http://www.wharfbarballina.com.au)  
Email: [wharfbarballina@gmail.com](mailto:wharfbarballina@gmail.com)

## SHOPPING



*HTeam/Shutterstock.com*

Ballina is known as a regional hub for bargain shoppers, but there are also two shopping centres. In the main thoroughfare, River Street, you'll find a number of intriguing small boutiques. Byron Bay is home to many small boutiques as well, focusing mainly on hippy style clothes and accessories. However, some of the best shopping can be done at the local markets, hosted every weekend in different places. You can get some good deals for yourself and shop souvenirs for friends.

### Ballina Market



Welcome to this craft and produce market that is held every 3rd Sunday of the month at the Outdoor Entertainment Centre in Canal Rd. If you're in town, you might want to take a stroll through the

stands. You'll find food, clothes, accessories and souvenirs.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Canal Road, Ballina Byron  
Opening hours: 3rd Sunday of the month 7am-1pm  
Internet: [www.visitnsw.com/destinations/north-coast/byron-bay-area/ballina/events/ballina-market](http://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/north-coast/byron-bay-area/ballina/events/ballina-market)  
More Info: The full name is East Ballina Lions Club Community Market

### Brunswick Heads Market



Brunswick Heads Market takes place along the riverbank every 1st Saturday of the month. You'll find many artisan stalls selling just about anything from fresh groceries to clothes and accessories.

Photo: zimmytws/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Memorial Park, Fawcett Street, Brunswick Heads  
Opening hours: Every 1st Saturday of the month 8am-2pm  
Phone: +61 410 785 554  
Internet: [brunswickheadsmarkets.com.au](http://brunswickheadsmarkets.com.au)  
Email: [bhwoodchop@outlook.com](mailto:bhwoodchop@outlook.com)

### Beachworkz



After 20 years in business, Beachworkz has become a local institution. Here you'll find everything you need for surfing and skating, from boards and hardware to clothing and accessories.

Photo: Iakov Filimonov/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 51 River St, Ballina  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-3pm, Sun 10am-2pm  
Phone: +61 428 241 299  
Internet: [beachworkz.business.site](http://beachworkz.business.site)  
Email: [beachworkz@bigpond.com](mailto:beachworkz@bigpond.com)

### Unplugged Byron Bay



Unplugged Byron Bay is a shop selling vintage-inspired clothes and accessories from several brands and for modern men and women.

The shop itself has an old school atmosphere, with vintage rugs, skateboards hanging from the ceiling, film cameras and vinyl records on display.

Photo: Kaylin Pacheco/unsplash.com  
Address: 2 Lawson St, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Daily 9:30am-5:30pm  
Phone: +61 2 6685 7441  
Internet: unpluggedbyronbay.com.au  
Email: info@unpluggedbyronbay.com.au

### Bangalow Village Market



Bangalow Village Market is held at Bangalow Showground on the 4th Sunday of the month. It is an excellent excuse for a day trip and to indulge in

some shopping. There's a great mix of coffee, juices, food stalls and many local artists works showcasing local wares. Check out clothing stores, ceramics, plants etc.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 1 Market St, Bangalow  
Opening hours: 4th Sunday of the month 9am-3pm  
Phone: +61 2 6687 1911  
Internet: www.bangalowmarket.com.au  
Email: info09@bangalowmarket.com.au  
More Info: Note that dogs are not permitted

### Ballina Book Shop



Right on River Street, there's a lovely book store with friendly staff, great selection of children's and non-fiction books. What can be

better than bringing a brand new book to the beach and unplugging for a few hours!

Photo: Toa Hefitba/unsplash.com  
Address: 85 River St, Ballina  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 9am-1pm, Sun 9am-noon  
Phone: +61 2 6686 2436  
Internet: ballinabookshop.business.site

### Byron Bay Community Market



Byron Bay Community Market is a colourful market that is held the 1st Sunday of the month. Among the 300 stalls you will find local crafts and

food, interesting art work made of different materials and other original items. Take your time and explore all of this lively market.

Photo: De Visu/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Main Beach Foreshore, Denning Park, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: 1st Sunday of each month 8am-3pm  
Phone: +61 2 6685 6807  
Internet: byroncentre.com.au/markets/community-market  
Email: marketssupport@byroncentre.com.au

### Ballina Central



Ballina Central is a shopping centre offering a break from surf and sand. Here you'll find many dining and takeaway options, The

Vast Interior selling furniture and homeware, the

health shop Go Vita, more shops and even a gym and a massage centre. The shopping centre is also home to Big W, a popular discount department store with interesting bargains.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 44 Bangalow Road, Ballina  
Phone: +61 2 6681 4260  
Internet: [www.ballinacentral.com.au](http://www.ballinacentral.com.au)  
More Info: Corner of Pacific Hwy & Bangalow Rd

### Big W



Big W discount department store is a popular outlet center with interesting bargains, which you'll find inside Ballina Central. Here you can get everything from clothes and sports wear to food and toys at very low prices: the ideal shopping experience for budget travellers.

Photo: [lightpoint/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)  
Address: Bangalow Rd, Ballina  
Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm  
Phone: +61 2 6618 8600  
Internet: [www.bigw.com.au](http://www.bigw.com.au)

### Spell Boutique



Spell is a brand based in Byron Bay that has become very popular among young women and celebrities. Their clothes have an unmistakable bohemian style perfect for both beach days and city breaks.

Photo: Halay Alex/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 15 Browning St, Byron Bay  
Opening hours: Daily 10am-5pm  
Phone: +61 2 8599 7275  
Internet: [spellboutique.com](http://spellboutique.com)

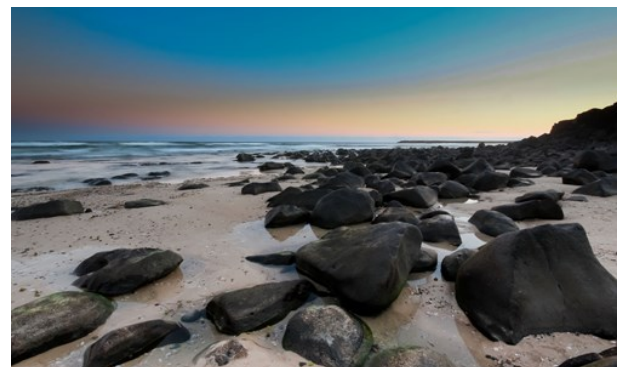
### Ballina Fair Shopping Centre



With over 60 retailers, Ballina Fair Shopping Centre is the biggest indoor shopping centre in the area. Inside you'll find local shops like Target, Best & Less, Woolworths, along with a cinema, a gym and several cafes.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 84 Kerr St, Ballina  
Phone: +61 2 6686 8555  
Internet: [ballinafairshopping.com.au](http://ballinafairshopping.com.au)  
More Info: Hours may vary from shop to shop. Parking is free

### TOURIST INFORMATION



*Larissa Dening/Shutterstock.com*

### Ballina Byron Gateway Airport



Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is the gateway to the whole region. It is situated 5 kilometres from Ballina CBD and about 20 minutes by road from Byron Bay.

The airport offers shuttles and bus services. There are also taxis and car rental companies represented at the airport.

Public Bus Services are operated by Blanchs:  
+61 2 6686 2144  
blanchs.com.au

Byron EasyBus Shuttles  
+61 02 6685 7447  
byroneasybus.com.au

Below you can find a selection of car rental companies:

Avis Car Rental  
+61 2 6686 7650  
www.avis.com.au

Hertz Car Rental  
+61 2 6686 2143  
www.hertz.com.au

Europcar  
+61 2 6686 2992  
www.europcar.com.au

Photo: Juan Garces  
Address: Ballina Byron Gateway Airport, 210 Southern Cross Dr, Ballina  
Phone: +61 2 6681 0555  
Internet: www.ballinabyronairport.com.au

### Passport / Visa



Unless you are a New Zealand citizen granted visa exemption on arrival (in most cases), you will need to obtain a visa prior to visiting Australia.

Citizens of all European Union countries, as well as Andorra, Norway, Iceland, San Marino, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, and Vatican City are eligible for an eVisitor visa, which can be applied for online. For citizens of the United States, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore,

Brunei, South Korea and Malaysia, the Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) entry permit is available, which can be applied for online and grants holders the right to enter Australia an unlimited amount of times for stays of no longer than 3 months per visit.

Citizens of all other world countries (with the exception of Somalia) are also able to apply for a visitor visa online. For more information, visit the official website of the Australian government's department of home affairs: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/lega/lega/form/immi-faqs/what-visa-do-i-need-to-visit-australia>

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

### Best Time to Visit



Here, summer lasts from December to February and can get very hot and busy. Spring (September–November) and autumn (March–May)

are great for avoiding the crowds but still being able to enjoy warm days and outdoor activities like sunbathing or surfing at the beach. The former is also the season with a lower chance of rainfall. July is the coldest month, but winter in the Ballina Byron region is still quite mild, with an average minimum of about 12°C/53,6°F.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

### Public transport



The local bus service in Ballina, Lennox Head and Byron Bay is inexpensive, but the busses don't run very frequently. Blanch's Bus Company runs bus services from Ballina, Lennox Head, Bangalow

and Byron Bay to Lismore.

Blanch's Bus Company  
+61 2 6686 2144  
blanchs.com.au

Another option to explore the area freely is to rent a car. Below you can find a selection of car rental companies:

Avis Car Rental  
+61 2 6686 7650  
www.avis.com.au

Hertz Car Rental  
+61 2 6686 2143  
www.hertz.com.au

Europcar  
+61 2 6686 2992  
www.europcar.com.au

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

### Taxi



It is advisable to check prices before jumping in a taxi and do not forget to add the per kilometres fare depending on time of day, vehicle type and number of passengers.

You can call Australia's national taxi booking phone number, 131 008, for both Ballina and Byron Bay taxis.

Photo: Taxi  
Phone: 131 008

### Post



Look for the red signs to find a post office or mailbox. Yellow mailboxes are used for express post. Post Office Byron Bay 61 Jonson

Street, Byron Bay  
+61 2 6639 7852  
Mon-Fri 9a-5pm, Sat 9am-12:30pm

Post Office Ballina  
85 Tamar Street, Ballina  
+61 2 6613 1318  
Mon-Fri 9a-5pm, Sat 9am-12:30pm

Photo: Andy Fuchs  
Internet: [www.auspost.com.au](http://www.auspost.com.au)

### Pharmacy



There are several pharmacies in both Ballina and Byron Bay. Here are two of them. TerryWhite Chemmart Ballina 102/110 River St,

Ballina  
Mon-Fri 8:30am-6pm, Sat 8:30am-4pm, Sun 9am-3pm  
+61 2 6686 8800  
[www.ballinahealthandbeauty.com.au](http://www.ballinahealthandbeauty.com.au)

LiveLife Pharmacy Mercato  
114 Jonson St, Byron Bay  
Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 8am-6pm, Sun 9am-6pm  
[www.mercatoonbyron.com.au/livelifepharma](http://www.mercatoonbyron.com.au/livelifepharma)

Photo: Gemma Garner

## Telephone



Country code: +61 Area  
code: 02

Photo: Jardson Almeida

## Electricity



230V / 50Hz Plug type I  
(Used in Australia, New  
Zealand, Papua New  
Guinea, Argentina and  
others)

Photo: Stirling Tschan

## Population

Ballina 26,381 (2018)  
Byron Bay 9,246 (2016)

## Currency

Australian Dollar (AUD) \$1 = 100 cents

## Newspapers

Lismore Echo  
Ballina Shire Advocate  
The Byron Shire Echo  
Byron Shire News

## Emergency numbers

000 for any emergency  
Poisons information: 13 11 26

## Tourist information

Ballina Visitor Information Centre  
Corner of River St and Las Balsas Plaza, Ballina  
+61 1800 777 666  
Mon–Sat 9am–5pm, Sun 10am–2pm

