

8 ways to have cheap school holiday fun in Brisbane | Skyscanner Australia

School holidays can be a drain on the family budget. Here are our tips on some fabulously frugal fun in Brisbane!

School holidays can be a financial drain but school holiday fun doesn't need to break the holiday budget. Check out [Skyscanner](#) flights to Brisbane for fabulously frugal holiday fun in the Sunshine State's capital!

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1. Get close to Koalas at the Daisy Hill Koala Centre

A koala education facility set up by the Queensland government back in the 1990's, the [Daisy Hill Koala Centre](#) has a vast outdoor koala enclosure as well as interactive displays. Celeste is a 10-year old koala who was born at the Big Pineapple's former wildlife sanctuary. She's popular with visitors and is easily recognisable by her unique all white bottom. Harry is a seasoned crowd pleaser whose youth was spent at Dreamworld – now that sounds like a perfect childhood!

While you're there, climb the observation tower to get a koala's eye view of the world, learn about their life cycle and biology along with programmes aimed to protect koalas as well as care for those that are sick or injured.

Cost: Free

Where: Daisy Hill Conservation Park, Daisy Hill



Children at Daisy Hill Koala Centre. Photo courtesy of [Daisy Hill Koala Centre](#)

2. Take advice from kids

[Bound Round](#) is a kids' travel website and app chock full of videos, games, photos and fun stuff to do in Brisbane's own backyard. It's a unique resource by kids for kids with reviews of places, activities and attractions all done by kids. Creating the travel reviewers of the future (look out TripAdvisor!), Bound Round is a terrific go-to resource for parents. It's also a handy tool for engaging kids in upcoming travel plans. Time to check out their ideas about their favourite places for Brisbane school holiday fun.

Cost: Free



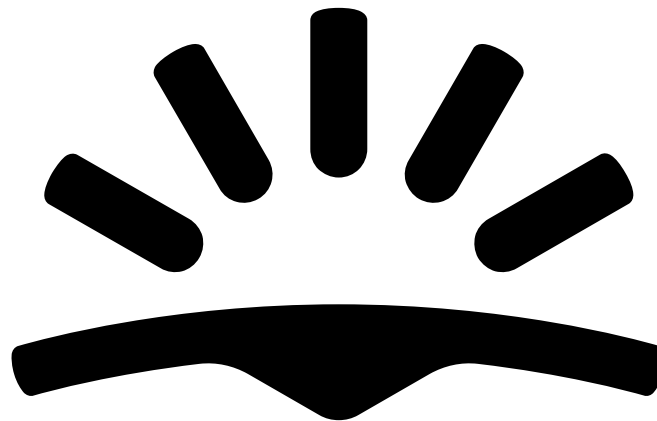
Family fun doesn't have to cost a cent – the beach is always free!

3. Get creative at GOMA

Officially [The Gallery of Modern Art](#), most know the art centre on Brisbane Rivers south bank simply as GOMA. Free to enter, they have a Children's Art Centre for kids to unleash their creativity. The kids art centre collaborates with artists on publications and interactive projects aimed squarely at young folk. Parents are welcome to enjoy galleries and exhibitions while the kids are entertained, learning about how art interacts with every day lives. Budding Picassos, this is for you, with the opportunity to take home your masterpiece and frame it on the wall. There's nothing stuffy about this art gallery!

Cost: Free

Where: South Brisbane



Children at play in the Children's Art Centre. Photo courtesy of [GOMA](#)

4. Splash around at Settlement Cove Lagoon

On the beachfront in suburban Redcliffe, [Settlement Cove Lagoon](#) is a man-made lagoon-style swimming pool (lifeguard patrolled) designed just for families (it's alcohol- and smoke-free). Colourful toads rise from the pool spraying jets of cool water while lushly landscaped gardens offer plenty of shady places to stay cool on the grass.

Cost: Free

Where: Redcliffe Pde, Redcliffe



Settlement Cove Lagoon in Brisbane's northern suburbs. Photo courtesy of Tourism & Events Queensland

5. Swim and learn at the South Bank Parklands

The south side of the Brisbane River is a Brisbane's cultural and lifestyle precinct across 17 hectares of glorious parklands. If you can't find some way to entertain the kids at [South Bank Parklands](#), well you're really not trying! Streets Beach is Australia's only inner city man-made beach with its own sparkling lagoon swimming pool (lifeguard patrolled). If swimming is a little too passive, Aquativity is an interactive water-play park featuring educational elements. Kids learn about marine life and mammal species like the elusive dugong, as well as the nearby Brisbane River and its native inhabitants.

Cost: Free

Where: South Brisbane



South Bank Brisbane lights up at night. Photo courtesy of Tourism & Events Queensland

6. Book the Brisbane Greeters

[Brisbane Greeters](#) must have the coolest jobs on the planet. Admittedly the pay is lousy (they're volunteers), but that's a minor inconvenience for these passionate city ambassadors. Greeters offer two choices to best make the use of their local knowledge and insider tips. A Greeters Choice tour is a tour angled on whatever specialty the Greeter knows and loves best. Whether it's art or architecture, food or fashion, you'll get the inside running. The other option is to choose a tour of your own interest and they'll match a Greeter to suit. Either way, you'll get to see Brisbane from a local's perspective, and probably make a friend in the process. It's an incredible personalised tour that's likely to be a highlight of your Brisbane visit. Bookings are essential.

Cost: Free

Where: City-wide



Brisbane Greeters conduct pre-booked personal tours. Photo courtesy of Tourism & Events Queensland

7. Get onto Brisbane's free WiFi map

Everyone likes to stay connected when on holidays, even if it's just to upload fun holiday snaps to make friends and family at home green with envy. Finding free WiFi is one of those pesky holiday chores that often takes up way too much valuable fun time. [Brisbane's free WiFi map](#) makes it super easy. Beware though, it may cost you friendships as those back home tire of seeing your social media boasting with a constant barrage of fun pics from Brisbane.

Cost: Free

Where: Everywhere!



Free wifi is a travel essential for tech-savvy travellers

8. Sleep near the attractions

[Mantra South Bank Brisbane](#) has 2-bedroom spacious apartments perfect for families. It's right in the heart of Southbank's arts and entertainment precinct and the aforementioned South Bank Parklands. With everything on your doorstep, transport costs are virtually banished. Plus it's super easy to retreat for a mid-afternoon rest or quiet time when kids grow weary.

Did you think that hostels were only for backpackers? Not true! [Brisbane City YHA](#) has gone family-friendly. Fully renovated a few years back, its central city location, rooftop pool, TV/games room, self-catering kitchen are winners for families. The ensuite family rooms sleep 4.

Cost: Mantra South Bank Family rooms start from \$269/night (sleeps 4)

Cost: YHA Brisbane ensuite family room is \$126/night (sleeps 4)