



Herald on Sunday Sunday 18/08/2019

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12 OF THE BEST



Tiana Templeman
serves up the cream of
Australia's crop for
shore leave

There are more
ships and cruise
itineraries
to choose

from than ever
before, so there
has never been
a better time to
see Australia by
ship. Here is a
guide to a dozen
of Australia's top
cruise ports.

SYDNEY, New South Wales

Climb the harbour
bridge, explore the historic
Rocks area, go jet-boating
past the Sydney Opera House or
stroll around the harbour. Australia's most
popular cruise departure port offers plenty
of entertainment just a few steps from the
ship.

AIRLIE BEACH, Queensland

Most passengers head offshore to snorkel
the Great Barrier Reef or soak up the sun
on Whitehaven Beach, however this town's
attractive main street is also worth a look.
The 4300sq m Airlie Beach Lagoon has

stunning Coral Sea views and is free to use.

DARWIN, Northern Territory

Darwin is a winner when it comes to
entertaining passengers with diverse
interests. You don't need to venture far
from the ship to see a baby croc, go
shopping for Aboriginal art or discover
Australia's war history at World War II
tunnels near the ship.

MORETON ISLAND, Queensland

Moreton Island is the world's third-largest

sand island
and the jewel
in Moreton
Bay's crown,
with snorkelling
available just
offshore. Other
activities range from sand
tobogganing to Segway tours
along the beach and quad-biking through
the dunes.

ADELAIDE, South Australia

Adelaide's charming CBD is a foodie's
delight with restaurants, cafes and bars
galore and a colourful inner-city market.
Top adventures further afield include
catching a vintage tram to Glenelg Beach
or touring the nearby Adelaide Hills wine
region.

PERTH, Western Australia

Perth is one of Australia's easiest ports to
explore, thanks to the free Central Area
Transit buses that cover the city's main
attractions. If you are in town on Friday,
Saturday or Sunday, check out the 150-plus
stalls and lively atmosphere at Fremantle
Markets.

CAIRNS, Queensland

Day tours abound at this tropical tourist-
friendly town. Snorkel the Great Barrier

Reef or enjoy a
bird's-eye view of





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the rainforest from a gondola on the 7.5km long Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. Cruisers can also cool down at the city's free swimming lagoon.

MELBOURNE, Victoria

Discover the city's famous laneways with their funky boutiques, restaurants, cafes and bars or enjoy some art and culture at one of Melbourne's many museums. Don't miss the fabulous graffiti art in Hosier Lane near Federation Square.

HOBART, Tasmania

Hobart's historic waterfront area is hard to beat but those who venture beyond the city centre are rewarded with contemporary art at the world-famous Mona gallery and the rich convict history of Port Arthur.

BUSSELTON, Western Australia

Most passengers

tour the picturesque Margaret River wine region but the pretty town of Busselton is also a lovely spot for a stroll. It's home to a Heritage-listed 1.8km jetty, which has its own train, a Cultural Heritage Museum and Underwater Observatory.

BRISBANE, Queensland

Queensland's capital is renowned for its sunny weather and laidback charm. Explore the city's excellent museums and galleries or go swimming at South Bank's free inner-city beach. The Gold Coast is just an hour away by car.

NEWCASTLE, New South Wales

Newcastle is the unsung hero of Australian ports with beautiful inner-city beaches and one of the country's most famous wine regions, the Hunter Valley, located just 45 minutes away from the cruise terminal by car.



Moreton Island.
Photo / Tourism
and Events



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Sydney's cruise ship dock is in the centre the action. Photo / 123RF



*Cairns' rainforest
from a gondola.
Photo / Tourism
and Events
Queensland*



*Busselton Jetty,
Western Australia.
Photo / 123RF*