

## Mackay



Snorkelling

**INSIDER TIP**  
It's not all beach and reef in the north. Check out the **bushwalks** around Mackay, too.

**SHOP TALK**  
What looks like a quaint little shop from the outside is really a **Déjà Vu Experience**, a hideaway for ladies that lunch. This shop oozes French provincial ambience, sells beautiful gifts and boasts a quaint teahouse out back. 29 Sydney St, tel: +61 (0)7 4951 2057, www.dejavuexperience.com.au

**JAVA JOLT**  
Overlooking Mackay's Bluewater Lagoon, **Sugar Restaurant** is the place for a complete dining experience or just great coffee. The choice is yours. 26 River St, tel: +61 (0)7 4951 2648, www.sugarrestaurant.com.au

**CHEAP EATS**  
Serving fresh seafood, the **Lighthouse Takeaway** at Mackay Marina is a local institution. Bear in mind that while there may be a queue to order, it is always worth the wait. Mackay Marina, Mulherin Dr, tel: +61 (0)7 4955 5722

**TOP TABLES**  
The lengthy menu of classic Italian fare at **Sorbellos** can seem daunting but you are

hereby challenged to find something you don't like. Top things off with a treat from the huge selection of traditional desserts. 166 Victoria St, tel: +61 (0)7 4957 8300, www.sorbellos.com.au

**AT YOUR LEISURE**  
Being that it's in a smaller regional centre, **Artspace Mackay** is a surprisingly good contemporary art gallery. Regularly changing exhibitions provide plenty of reasons to revisit. Civic Centre Precinct, Gordon St, tel: +61 (0)7 4951 2299, www.artspacemackay.com.au

**LATE & LIVELY**  
The **Code Bar and Nightclub** boasts a style all its own, one that's unique among Mackay's nightspots. Keep an eye on the website for news of theme nights and other happenings. Victoria St, tel: +61 (0)7 4953 2252, www.thecodenightclub.com.au

**OVERNIGHT**  
Fully furnished, self-contained serviced units are the drawing card at **Lanai Luxury Apartments**, which offers river views and is close to downtown. 20 River St, tel: +61 (0)7 4957 4401, www.lanaiapartments.com.au

## Melbourne



Brighton Beach

**INSIDER TIP**  
Catch great flicks at venues city-wide during the **Melbourne International Film Festival** from 22 Jul–8 Aug. www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au

**SHOP TALK**  
Collingwood's **Smith Street** is home to a wide range of second-hand shops, designer boutiques and cheap-as-chips factory outlets that lean towards sportswear. The best sales are on weekdays. Between Collingwood and Fitzroy

**JAVA JOLT**  
When other cafés around town come to **Atomica Caffe** for their coffee beans, you know it's a winner. A great breakfast menu complements the selection of house-roasted and blended beans. 268 Brunswick St, Fitzroy, tel: +61 (0)3 9417 4255

**CHEAP EATS**  
**The Queen Victoria Market** is home to a host of culinary treasures but the **Bratwurst Shop** is the pot of gold. Choose a spicy bratwurst, have it smothered with onions and fresh sauerkraut, then chow down while strolling among the stalls. Shop 99, Deli Section, Queen Victoria Market, www.qvm.com.au

**TOP TABLES**  
**Mamasita** is at the forefront of an influx of Mexican eateries. It's all about simple flavours, cooked with love and skill, and served up in a refreshingly down-to-earth space. Try the octopus tostaditas. 11 Collins St, tel: +61 (0)3 9650 3821, www.mamasita.com.au

**AT YOUR LEISURE**  
Fitzroy Football Club is no more but their amateur team plays most weekends next to the beautiful Edinburgh Gardens. Catch some great **Aussie Rules** from the historic grandstand. WT Peterson Community Oval, Brunswick St, Fitzroy, www.fitzroyfc.com.au

**LATE & LIVELY**  
Home to the best beer list in town, the **Local Tap House** attracts the type of crowd that doesn't mind paying a bit more for quality. 184 Carlisle St, St Kilda East, tel: +61 (0)3 9537 2633, www.thelocal.com.au

**OVERNIGHT**  
The city's newest hotel might be its best. The views, service and amenities at the **Crown Metropal** are second to none and it's in Southbank, so inner-city attractions are just a short stroll away. 8 Whiteman St, Southbank, tel: +61 (0)3 9292 8888, www.crownmetropol.com.au

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