

Welcome Slide

Welcome to the Moreton Bay Research Station Induction presentation. This presentation contains important information to assist in making your trip to Moreton Bay Research Station successful. We greatly appreciate you taking the time to listen.

Traditional Owners

North Stradbroke Island, or Minjerribah, is just 40 km southeast of Brisbane and is the third largest sand island in the world. The region has a rich history, having been inhabited by the Traditional Owners, the Quandamooka peoples, for tens of thousands of years.

We acknowledge the Quandamooka peoples as traditional owners of Minjerribah. We acknowledge their past and continual sovereignty of this land and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

Cultural and historical significance

When conducting your studies around Minjerribah we ask that you respect culturally sensitive areas, address any concerns that local community members may have regarding what you are doing, and respect all archaeological and historical sites.

If any Indigenous items or remains are discovered please do not remove or interfere with them. Instead, record their location and then contact Station management immediately, who will inform the appropriate cultural managers.

Station History

Moreton Bay Research Station was first established in 1949 by the Queensland State Government and was managed by the Queensland Department of Harbours and Marine. Originally known as the “Dunwich Laboratory”, it was regularly used by staff and students from the CSIRO Fisheries Division and The University of Queensland until 1959. In 1961 the station was taken over by The University of Queensland and renamed the Dunwich Marine Station before being rebuilt as a purpose-designed teaching and research facility and opened as Moreton Bay Research Station in 2000.

Staff

We have a team of specialist staff working in different areas around the station. If you have queries or require support during your visit, please don't hesitate to talk with any of our friendly staff. Office hours are Monday to Sunday 8:30am to 4:30pm. Late comers and day visitors should visit the reception on arrival to sign in.

Environment

North Stradbroke Island is a fragile environment and it is important that we all work together to preserve it. As part of our commitment to the environment, we operate under an Environmental

Management System. This management system defines how the station and our visitors conduct themselves in order to limit the impact of our activities. The station's Environmental Management System is available on our website, and summaries are displayed around the research station. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the main points of the environmental management system.

Green Initiatives

Being situated in such an important and unique natural environment, we have a number of green initiatives in place to reduce our impact. To assist with this, please switch off lights and air-conditioning when rooms are unoccupied. To conserve water, please be mindful of not leaving taps running and have short showers. To assist in waste management please follow the station's comprehensive recycling program, and note that the only thing we do not recycle is food scraps and food contaminated wrappers.

Wildlife of North Stradbroke Island

While on the island, you will encounter a variety of interesting wildlife, such as kangaroos, koalas, and rainbow lorikeets. Events such as the nightly migration of flying foxes, as they leave their roosts in Dunwich, is a sight not to be missed. And for bird lovers, one of the most important high water roosts in Moreton Bay is right in front of the research station.

If you are exploring the marine environment, you may be fortunate enough to encounter some of our amazing marine megafauna, such as dugongs, manta rays, and loggerhead sea turtles. Additionally, Point Lookout has the largest known population of Indopacific Bottlenosed dolphins in the world and nearby Amity Point is an important aggregation spot for the newly identified Australian Humpback dolphin.

Potentially Dangerous Creatures

We encourage you to take every opportunity you can to observe the abundance of island wildlife, but ask that you always do so responsibly. Certain creatures such as blue bottle jellyfish, stingrays and stone fish can be dangerous and cause injury. It may surprise you to know that oysters are the most common cause of injury here at the station as they can cause cuts and infections. To avoid a run in with our somewhat less cuddly wildlife we ask that you wear closed shoes and gloves when in the field. If you don't have appropriate shoes or gloves please talk to the station staff, who will be happy to provide them. If in doubt about any wildlife you encounter, avoid interactions and seek advice from our knowledgeable staff.

Fire

If an alarm sounds, the muster point is on the grassy area across the road by the waterfront. The group leader will perform a head count to ensure everyone is safe and accounted for.

Fire extinguishers and the alarm system are clearly marked with red and white signs and smoke detectors are fitted in all rooms. If you are staying in the house or cabin please call 000 or break the glass alarm outside reception.

First Aid and Emergencies

If during your stay you have a medical issue, please see the station staff who are all first aid trained. First aid kits are also located in all of the laboratories, and oxygen and defibrillation kits can be found in Reception. Additionally, mobile first aid kits can be borrowed and taken offsite while conducting field work.

The Marie Rose Clinic is the local ambulance and emergency department and is located next to the Station. Clinic hours are from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday. A 24 hour emergency button is available outside these hours; pressing the button alerts the medical staff to your presence at the medical centre. In emergencies in which the injured or ill person cannot be moved, an ambulance can be arranged directly via 000 for a landline, or 112 for a mobile phone or via UQ Security on 3365 3333.

Security

Both your personal security and the security of your belongings are very important to us. To minimise any potential risk, all rooms have been fitted with digital locks. At night, please ensure all doors are locked and gates are closed. For afterhours emergencies please don't hesitate to call the relevant emergency services via 000 or UQ security on 3365 3333. For personal or group safety concerns, duress buttons are located on the station near the upstairs library, outside the kitchen and in the VIP House at the top of the staircase.

Community

As we are located in the middle of an idyllic island village, we aim to ensure that we are respectful and provide minimum disruption to the surrounding residents. As such, we ask you to please keep noise to a minimum after 10pm, and when walking through the community at night. It is important to also be courteous to fellow station guests and staff. Please respect each other's privacy and try to prevent the doors in the station from slamming at night. Moreton Bay Research Station has a strict no alcohol policy for all education groups, however if arranged prior to arrival special permission may be obtained for research, conference and workshop groups. If driving UQ vehicles, please remember that you are representing The University of Queensland and we ask that you drive responsibly and courteously.

Island Activities

North Stradbroke Island supports a variety of diverse habitats on which to focus research and educational programs. Habitats include rocky shores, mangrove forests, mud and sand flats, wallum scrub, fresh water lakes, sclerophyll forests, sand dunes, wetlands, coral reefs and seagrass beds.

There are many natural places to explore on the island, including Point Lookout, Brown and Blue Lakes, Eighteen Mile Swamp and countless beaches. Talk to station staff about all the activities you can do if you find yourself with some spare time to explore.

Housekeeping

Shortly after arriving on the research station, you'll be shown to your accommodation. Please note that there is no need to bring sleeping bags and bedding on your trip. You will be provided with a pillow, a doona, and linen to make up the beds. We do recommend you bring your own towel, however we can provide towels on request for a small charge.

Our check out time is 10am on the day of departure. However, if you are not leaving the island until later in the day, we can arrange storage for bags and other personal gear. For further information, please consult the 'checking out check list' located on the back of the door in your room.

Smoking

Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes, vapour pens or other devices is not permitted on any UQ campus. This policy includes staff, students, visitors, contractors and volunteers. If you wish to smoke, please do so in the suggested smoking area on Flinders Ave.

OHS Guidelines

It is important to be aware that all visitors must abide by occupational health and safety guidelines. OHS guidelines have been created to assure the greatest level of safety for our visitors. All workers and supervisors of students in the workplace are required to manage the risk of all exposed hazards for your relevant activities. This risk management is to be registered within your parent organisation's safety management system prior to coming to the Island. Evidence of risk management may be requested by Station staff.

Bringing other people, including children, on site requires prior approval and is subject to terms and conditions, contact the station for more information.

Catering

With all the activities you'll be doing, there is no doubt you'll work up an appetite! Make sure to introduce yourself to the friendly catering staff and inform them of any special dietary requirements that you might have. Note that some food items (such as peanut butter) may not be available during your stay if any guests present at the time have severe allergy restrictions. We want everyone to have a happy, healthy stay on the station!

While the caterer will certainly spoil you, we still need you to do your part. Please ensure that the dining room is kept clean and tidy. It is the responsibility of each guest to clean up after themselves to allow the kitchen and dining room space to be enjoyed by all.

If self-catering please label and store food in appropriate areas and remove all food at the end of your stay.

MBRS is predominantly a dry station however alcohol can be served with catered meals in the station dining room. All visitors are subject to compliance with the MBRS Consumption of Alcohol Guidelines.

Communication

No doubt many of you will be keen to keep in touch with the mainland while visiting us. Although reception on the island can be temperamental, we have found Telstra and Optus to be fairly reliable providers. Internet access is readily available on the station through the eduroam or UQVisitor signals. Please speak to staff if you have any trouble connecting.

Feedback

That concludes our induction presentation. We are constantly striving to improve and value your feedback which can be provided online via our visitor feedback form. We look forward to seeing you on the research station soon and remember, please contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you and enjoy your stay!