

# LIVING IN Brisbane



*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

King George Square

**Christmas in Brisbane**  
**Kangaroo Point Bridge opens**  
**\$2 Summer Dips**

## \$2 Summer Dips are back: Lord Mayor

The weather is heating up and one of the best ways to stay cool is to jump in one of our Council pools.

So we've made the decision to bring back \$2 Summer Dips to help keep costs down for families.

Entry to Council pools is just \$2 per person until the end of February 2025, making it easy to splash out on more dips and cool down for less than the cost of a coffee.

Best of all, there's no limit, so you can go as often as you like to your local pool and continue to save.

Last December, visits to our Council pools more than doubled with families saving close to \$2 million in pool entrance fees during summer.

We're working hard to keep costs down for you and \$2 Summer Dips are a great way to see and do more right across the city, for less.



Lord Mayor, Adrian Schrinner





## Christmas in the suburbs

There's plenty of Christmas spirit in and around Brisbane's suburbs. Save these free events to your calendar.

### Friday 13 December

#### 12 Days of Christmas Twilight Walk, Chermside Hills, 5.30pm

Enjoy a guided twilight walk. Bookings required.

### Saturday 14 December

#### St Lucia Christmas Fest, 3pm

Bring the whole family along to celebrate.

#### Carols in the Park, Mitchelton, 4pm **EVENT CANCELLED**

#### Carols in Frew Park, Milton, 4pm

Join in an evening of fun, food and music for the whole family.

#### Gasworks Plaza Christmas Markets, Newstead, 5pm

Explore stalls from more than 50 local creatives.

Find these and more Christmas carols, markets and festive events on our website.



## Christmas in Brisbane

Experience the magic of Christmas this December as Brisbane comes alive with a line-up of free and festive events.

Share in the Christmas spirit with pop-up performances in Queen Street Mall from 6 December, and a sleigh-full of new decorations!

In King George Square, the always-popular City Hall Lights returns on 6 December, running every 15 minutes from 7.30pm to midnight.

While you're in the city, don't miss Brisbane's dazzling Christmas tree and get all of your Christmas shopping sorted!

### DID YOU KNOW?

It takes 4 days to build the Brisbane Christmas tree. Decorations include 8,640 multi-coloured LED lights, 2,000 pieces of foliage, 60 chrome baubles, 30 gold stars, 24 candy canes and 22 red bows.





**LORD MAYOR'S  
CHARITABLE TRUST**






# Christmas Appeal

Your support, no matter how big or small, can bring joy to vulnerable families this Christmas. Please consider giving now to the Lord Mayor's Charitable Trust Christmas Appeal!

[www.lmct.org.au](http://www.lmct.org.au)





## Dip, Dip, Hooray! \$2 Summer Dips are back

Pack your swimmers, towels and sunscreen because our \$2 Summer Dips are back, with entry to Council pools only \$2 per person until Friday 28 February 2025.

From serious lap swimmers to summertime soakers, there is a pool for everyone.

Visit our website to find local pools with wading pools, drop buckets, bubblers and water jets.

Don't forget to be sun smart and slip, slop, slap, seek and slide.

Program exclusions include Chermside Water Park, Newmarket Large Water Slide and Learn to swim, squads, school swimming and aqua aerobic programs.



## Brisbane's newest playgrounds

Family fun is a walk in the park with adventures that can be found across Brisbane.

For thrill-seeking kids, Victoria Park's new urban pump track offers 260 metres of excitement on 2 wheels.

There's a new nature playground to enjoy under the iconic fig trees at Sherwood Arboretum, which is one of 3 Brisbane botanic gardens.

Visit the reimagined Archerfield Wetlands District Park where kids can explore the adventure playground, splash in the water play area or shoot hoops on the full-sized basketball court.

To plan your next family day out at one of more than 2,180 parks across the city, search 'playgrounds' on our website.



## Discover Murarrie Recreation Reserve

Now home to the brand-new Brisbane International Cycle Park, Murarrie Recreation Reserve offers more for the whole family to enjoy.

Why not start with a walk or ride around the scenic 1.5-kilometre pathway that outlines the reserve?

There are connecting bikeways that link to local amenities, a skate park, the Vicki Wilson Playground and plenty of spots to relax and enjoy a picnic while watching all the action.

Grab the whole family and find your next adventure at Murarrie Recreation Reserve!



## Milestone for Beams Road

A new signalised intersection at Dorville Road will soon operate as part of the Beams Road upgrade.

It replaces the previous roundabout and includes a widened road on Beams Road to improve safety and ease congestion.

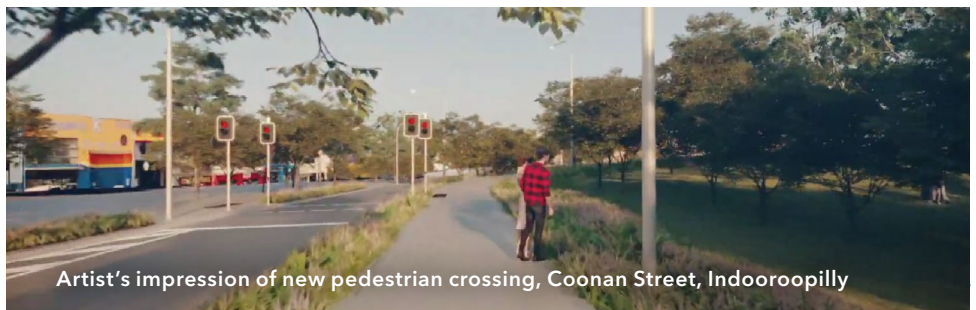
Construction work is continuing along the corridor between Lacey Road and Balcara Avenue.

We're planning more improvements between Carselgrove Avenue and Handford Road. These include widening the road, constructing a new shared path and a shared underpass at Cabbage Tree Creek for people walking and riding.

The Beams Road upgrade is jointly funded by our Better Roads for Brisbane program and the Australian Government.



Aerial view of Beams Road construction



Artist's impression of new pedestrian crossing, Coonan Street, Indooroopilly

## Good news for pedestrians on Moggill Road

It will soon be a lot easier to walk between the 2 major shopping strips at Indooroopilly.

We've listened to community feedback and are currently constructing paths and a signalised pedestrian crossing at Coonan Street.

The pedestrian signals on Moggill Road will also be relocated to allow access to the shared paths under the overpass.

You can stop and rest on new seating or grab a quick drink at a water bubbler for yourself or your 4-legged friends.

Visit [brisbane.qld.gov.au](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au) for more information on the pedestrian facilities included in the upgrade.

## Here's to keeping Brisbane moving

In 2024, we took some big steps forward in creating more sustainable transport options for our city.

The free City and Spring Hill loops buses picked up their 1 millionth passenger, a milestone more than 3 years in the making.

We brought ferries back to Dockside, started CityCats at Howard Smith Wharves and upgraded Mowbray Park ferry terminal to be more accessible and flood resilient.

We completed active transport bridges at Breakfast Creek, Jindalee and Aspley, and will soon open the Kangaroo Point Bridge.

Metro services also launched on route 169 as part of a Brisbane Metro preview phase. More high-frequency, turn-up-and-go services will launch early 2025.

This is all part of our plan to keep Brisbane moving today and into the future!





# Brisbane's newest bridge set to open

Kangaroo Point Bridge will officially open on Sunday 15 December 2024.

The new bridge is expected to reduce car trips across the river by up to 84,000 trips per year and shave up to half an hour off residents' trips between Kangaroo Point and the CBD.

Making it easier to walk or ride between Kangaroo Point, the eastern suburbs and the city, the bridge celebrates our subtropical river city. It provides a convenient, safe and accessible connection for everyone.

Features include dedicated bike and pedestrian paths and viewing platforms with panoramic river views. At either end of the bridge, you'll be able to safely connect to active transport links in the city and Kangaroo Point.

The Kangaroo Point Bridge is partially funded by the Australian Government through the South East Queensland (SEQ) City Deal. Search 'Kangaroo Point Bridge' on our website for more information.



## Bridge history preserved for future generations

A slice of history has been preserved at the Kangaroo Point Bridge, with a time capsule buried full of artefacts to highlight the bridge's history, design and legacy.

Items include samples of materials the bridge is made from, memories from those who worked on its construction, a copy of *The Courier-Mail* and predictions of what Brisbane will look like in 50 years as imagined by New Farm State School students.

The time capsule is planned to be opened on 1 October 2074, providing future generations insight into the work and design that went into the bridge, and a glimpse of what life looked like in 2024.

## Kangaroo Point Bridge fast facts

There are lots of interesting facts and figures about the Kangaroo Point Bridge. Here are just a few.

- ♦ The bridge's 75 solar panels generate 154 kilowatt-hours per day – each year, that is enough to power 10 Queensland homes.
- ♦ The bridge weighs a total of 1,752 tonnes.
- ♦ The combined length of the bridge cables is 3,500 metres – long enough to go from the main mast to the Breakfast Creek Bridge, Newstead.
- ♦ It's Brisbane's tallest bridge, with the mast standing at 95 metres above the Brisbane River.
- ♦ The bridge contains 7,991 cubic metres of concrete, which would fill more than 3 Olympic-size swimming pools.
- ♦ Banjo Patterson's poem, *Mulga Bill's Bicycle*, inspired the name of the bridge's riverside café, opening in 2025.
- ♦ The bridge features dedicated walking and cycling paths, bike racks and a lift from the bridge deck to C.T. White Park.

### YOU'RE INVITED!

**Join the celebrations and be one of the first to cross Brisbane's newest (and tallest) bridge. See you at the city end of the bridge, corner of Edward and Alice streets from 8am Sunday 15 December.**



## Local news



### STAY SAFE AROUND WATER

Ensure the safety of your friends and family around the pool this summer by making sure your pool fence is secure, with no gaps and no objects nearby that can be climbed. Check that the gates are self-latching, always remember to close the gate and always supervise children in pool or spa areas.

### WYNNUM WADING POOL UPGRADES

Family favourite Wynnum Wading Pool Park will soon get some exciting upgrades including improvements to the dry playground (near the Whales Waterplay). Works are expected to start in February 2025.

### WYNNUM HALL'S NEW LOOK

Residents and visitors to Wynnum will be in for a treat when they next visit Wynnum Hall. The heritage-listed building recently re-opened after a full roof replacement and brand-new entrance stairs as well as upgrades within the building. Why not consider hiring the space for your next function or event? Visit [brisbane.qld.gov.au](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au) to find more information.

## Explore our heritage trails

Did you know Brisbane has more than 20 self-guided online heritage trails?

Learn about Aboriginal cultural ties to Boondall Wetlands on the Nurri Millen Totem Trail, where you can find 18 cast aluminium totems marking important foods, plants, animals, tools and Dreaming stories.

Our newest trail – the Brisbane River Heritage Trail – can be enjoyed from the CityCat as you cruise past 32 historic places from Hamilton to St Lucia.

For more information, visit [brisbane.qld.gov.au](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au) and search 'heritage trails'.



## Waste less and save more this Christmas

Save money and reduce waste by making the most of your gift wrapping and food this festive season.

- ◆ Make your own wrapping paper with scarves or fabric, inspired by the Japanese art of furoshiki.
- ◆ Ensure any wrapping paper you buy is recyclable by avoiding cellophane and metallics and rethinking ribbons and glitter.
- ◆ Carefully unwrap gifts to save your wrapping paper for next year or get creative by transforming it into decorations and gift tags. Place recyclable wrapping paper loosely into your recycling bin.
- ◆ Reduce festive food waste by meal planning, checking what you have already and catering for the exact number of guests.
- ◆ Ask guests to bring take-home containers for leftovers and compost your food scraps.

For more tips, search 'food waste' on our website.







## School holidays checklist

Bust summer holiday boredom with this checklist of free and affordable school holiday activities.

- ♦ On 16 December, make your own Christmas cards at Toowong Library in this free craft session.
- ♦ Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding along the Manly foreshore on 16 and 17 December and 13 and 14 January for kids aged 10-17. Each class costs \$6.
- ♦ Gain confidence and learn self-defence skills in Kuraby for girls aged 5-17 on 17 December. It's free to join.
- ♦ Help your tweens and teens find their inner zen in Victoria Park at slow mindful yoga on 8 January.

Search 'school holidays' on our website for more inspiration and bookings.



## Get creative at Visible Ink

Located in the heart of Fortitude Valley, Visible Ink Youth Hub is the place for young people aged 12-25 to explore new ideas and develop creative skills for free.

Drop in during staffed hours to access fully equipped creative and rehearsal spaces, including a Maker Space, Zine Library and art and media studios.

Resources are available to help bring ideas to life, including cameras, tripods and DJ equipment.

Regular art and open mic sessions provide opportunities to showcase skills and meet like-minded people.

To learn more, search 'Visible Ink' on our website.

## Summer reads

Check out Brisbane libraries' hottest recommendations and join the Summer Reading program at your local library, from 2-25 January, for a chance to win prizes.

### Adult literature

- ♦ Crime fiction addicts will love Chris Hammer and Benjamin Stevenson.
- ♦ Fall in love with books from Maya Linnell and Fiona McArthur.
- ♦ Literary fiction doesn't get better than Trent Dalton and Melissa Lucashenko.
- ♦ Non-fiction enthusiasts should dive into Kári Gíslason and Grantlee Kieza.

### Junior fiction

- ♦ Solve a mystery with David Walliams and R. A. Spratt.
- ♦ Share the magic with Allison Rushby and Matilda Rose.
- ♦ Roll around laughing with Anh Do and Real Pigeons.
- ♦ Travel to new dimensions with Rick Riordan and Melanie La'Brooy.
- ♦ Go on an adventure with Remy Lai and Andy Griffiths.

### Young adult fiction

- ♦ Indulge your romantasy obsession with Holly Black and Sarah J. Maas.
- ♦ Explore coming-of-age stories with Rhiannon Wilde and Gary Lonesborough.
- ♦ Escape to other worlds with Lili Wilkinson and Amie Kaufman.





## Stop summertime mozzies and flies

Summer is a great time to enjoy Brisbane's outdoor lifestyle, but mozzies and flies can put a dampener on activities. Protect yourself from mozzies with these simple tips.

- ♦ Wear loose-fitting, light-coloured clothes with long sleeves and trousers.
- ♦ Use insect repellent containing picaridin or DEET on exposed skin.
- ♦ Limit your time in mosquito-prone areas, especially at dawn and dusk.
- ♦ Use mosquito coils, lanterns and insecticide emanators.
- ♦ Screen windows and doors.
- ♦ Empty backyard containers that can hold water.
- ♦ Make sure rainwater tank screens are in good condition.
- ♦ To limit flies, it's important to keep outside areas clean, bins well-sealed, and pet food and excrement cleaned up.

For more information, visit **brisbane.qld.gov.au** and search 'invasive plants and animals'.



Donate unwanted items at Council's resource recovery centres

## New year, clean slate

Start 2025 afresh by tidying up and giving your unwanted furniture, household items, clothes and books a new life by donating them to our Treasure Troves.

Drop items at any of our 4 resource recovery centres for free. You can use your waste vouchers for general or green waste.

Don't forget to keep an eye out for our free drop-off days for household hazardous waste across the year.

Make the most of your garden by ordering a green bin to recycle lawn clippings, prunings and leaves from the comfort of your own home.

Visit our website and search 'waste and recycling facilities' for more information.



## Bushcare volunteering

Are you and your family passionate about taking care of your local environment? Would you like to make new friends and enjoy Brisbane's great outdoor lifestyle?

Bushcare volunteering might be for you! Our Habitat Brisbane program supports 150 community bushcare volunteer groups that get together for regular hands-on working bees to help our natural environment thrive.

For these and other volunteering opportunities across Council, visit **brisbane.qld.gov.au**





Japanese Garden, Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha

## Reconnect with nature

Brisbane has plenty of places to unwind in nature.

Here are a few great places to enjoy the outdoors.

- ♦ Get a dose of fresh air at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha, a living museum of plant collections, lush greenery and walking trails.
- ♦ Learn about our incredible native flora and fauna at our environment centres at Boondall Wetlands, Downfall Creek (Chermside West) and Karawatha Forest.
- ♦ Head to Brisbane's bayside for coastal views and seaside parks including Nudgee Beach Reserve, Tinchi Tamba Wetlands Reserve, Bald Hills and Fig Tree Point Park, Lota.
- ♦ Enjoy a scenic walk or a bike ride along the river and stop at a park along the way for a picnic with a view.

To discover more than 2,180 parks throughout Brisbane, search 'parks' on our website.



## Prepare an emergency kit

Be prepared for severe weather by making an emergency kit and storing it in a safe and easy-to-access location. Use this handy checklist to help you get started.

### Emergency kit checklist:

- ♦ an emergency plan covering all scenarios
- ♦ waterproof torch
- ♦ portable radio
- ♦ batteries
- ♦ mobile phone with car charger
- ♦ cash and credit cards
- ♦ spare house and car keys
- ♦ first aid kit including essential medications and copies of prescriptions
- ♦ drinking water and non-perishable food
- ♦ sealable waterproof bags
- ♦ food utensils and manual can opener
- ♦ sturdy gloves and rubber boots
- ♦ pet food and supplies
- ♦ baby food and supplies
- ♦ tools such as pliers and a utility knife
- ♦ copies of important documents.

For information on emergency plans, emergency kits and disaster readiness, search 'Be Prepared' on our website.

## Be prepared for severe weather

Sign up for Council's free Brisbane Severe Weather Alert

[brisbane.qld.gov.au](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au)

[Brisbane Severe Weather Alert](#)





# What's On

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✂-✂-✂ FREE AND AFFORDABLE EVENTS ✂-✂-✂

FREE

## ELF'S TINY DOORS WORKSHOP, 7-8, 14-15 AND 21-22 DECEMBER, Queen Street Mall, Brisbane City

You've found all the Christmas tiny doors scattered through the city, now it's time to create your very own! Drop by the Queen Street Mall Stage to decorate a tiny door to take home. [brisbane.qld.gov.au](http://brisbane.qld.gov.au)

VARIOUS

## BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT 29 DECEMBER-5 JANUARY, Queensland Tennis Centre, Tennyson

The Brisbane International is set to heat up Queensland once again this summer. Celebrate the new year with some of the world's best tennis players battling it out for glory. [brisbaneinternational.com.au](http://brisbaneinternational.com.au)

FREE

## LORD MAYOR'S NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS, 31 DECEMBER South Bank Parklands, South Bank

Arrive early to secure a spot so you can ring in 2025 with free spectacular fireworks at 7.45pm and midnight, set against the Brisbane River and CBD skyline. [brisbane.qld.gov.au](http://brisbane.qld.gov.au)

VARIOUS

## DARK SIDE OF THE MOON, UNTIL 31 DECEMBER

Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium, Mt Coot-tha

Now in its final weeks, don't miss breathtaking views of the Solar System and beyond, played out to Pink Floyd's iconic album *The Dark Side Of The Moon*. Book your ticket without delay. [brisbane.qld.gov.au](http://brisbane.qld.gov.au)

VARIOUS

## LI'L ELVIS JONES AND THE TRUCKSTOPPERS,

10-18 JANUARY 2025, Brisbane Powerhouse, New Farm

Visit Council's iconic home of culture and art and watch a brand-new family musical adventure blending nostalgia with rock 'n' roll. Join Li'L Elvis Jones and friends on their journey. [brisbanepowerhouse.org](http://brisbanepowerhouse.org)

FREE

## OUTDOOR GALLERY: ASIA PACIFIC TRIENNIAL KIDS UNTIL 5 MAY 2025, various locations

Explore Brisbane's laneways and city streets and discover the newest Outdoor Gallery exhibition with eye-catching displays by artists included in QAGOMA's Asia Pacific Triennial Kids. [brisbane.qld.gov.au](http://brisbane.qld.gov.au)



Please check details and confirm with organisers that events are still going ahead before you make plans.



Check out the  
Brisbane app for  
more event listings!

## REGIONAL EVENTS



\$6

10-17 YRS

### STAND-UP PADDLE BOARDING

16 December, 10-11am,  
Bayside Park, Manly

Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding. To book, visit [scsurfschools.com.au](https://scsurfschools.com.au)



\$6

10-17 YRS

### FISHING FUN

21 December, 2-5pm,  
Colmslie Reserve, Morningside

Enjoy learning or brushing up on your fishing skills. Equipment provided. Bookings essential. To book, visit [2bentrods.com.au](https://2bentrods.com.au)



FREE

10-17 YRS

### SLOW MINDFUL YOGA

9 January, 2-3pm,  
Whites Hill Reserve, Camp Hill

Reduce your stress and anxiety and enjoy the outdoors with gentle yoga poses. To book, visit [nicoledooley.com.au](https://nicoledooley.com.au)



\$6

5-14 YRS

### WOODWORKING IN THE PARK

18 December, 9.30-10.30am,  
Orleigh Park, West End

Make your own ornaments with natural materials. To book, visit [makeandmeld.com.au](https://makeandmeld.com.au)



FREE

6-17 YRS

### LEARN TO SKATE

21 December, 9-10.30am  
The Common Park,  
Coorparoo

Free skateboarding lesson for all skill levels.  
[brisbane.qld.gov.au](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au)



FREE

4-17 YRS

### FREESTYLE SCOOTER CLINIC

13 January, 10-11am, The  
Common Park, Coorparoo

Kids can learn new skills that will help them ride at skate parks safely and have more fun! [brisbane.qld.gov.au](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au)



\$6

10-17 YRS

### ABSEILING

19 December, 8-10am,  
Kangaroo Point Cliffs Park

Conquer fears and experience the thrills of abseiling. Bookings essential. To book, visit [pinnaclesports.com.au](https://pinnaclesports.com.au)



FREE

### WEST END MARKETS

4 January, 6am-2pm,  
Davies Park, West End

Enjoy a slow morning by the river, sip on a fresh coffee and shop a variety of fresh produce.  
[brisbane.qld.gov.au](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au)



FREE

12-17 YRS

### FUN BASKETBALL SKILLS AND GAMES

14 January, 3.30-4.15pm  
Quinn's Street Park, Balmoral

Develop your skills with basketball drills. BYO basketball. To book, visit [madeconceptspty.com](https://madeconceptspty.com)



Listen on Council's website, Spotify or wherever you listen to your favourite podcasts.





# Helpful contacts in case of an emergency

**Police, Fire or Ambulance Services**  
000  
(for life-threatening situations)

**Brisbane City Council**  
**Contact Centre - 24/7**  
3403 8888

**State Emergency Services (SES)**  
132 500  
(storm and flood assistance)

**Translating and Interpreting  
Service (TIS)**  
131 450

**Queensland Health (13 HEALTH)**  
13 43 25 84  
(for non-urgent medical help)

**Queensland Ambulance Service**  
13 12 33  
(for non-urgent patient transfer)

**Energex - Emergency**  
13 19 62  
(for life-threatening emergencies  
like fallen powerlines or shocks  
and tingles)

**Energex - Power outages**  
13 62 62  
(for power outages)

**Urban Utilities**  
13 23 64  
(for water outages, emergencies  
and faults)

**QLDTraffic**  
13 19 40  
(to report a road hazard or  
incident)

**TransLink**  
13 12 30

**Community Recovery Hotline**  
1800 173 349  
(for information about disaster  
recovery funds and connections  
to social support services)

## Save the date for 2025

Brisbane's 2025 is shaping up already. Here's a taste of what's in store.

- ♦ 31 January–9 February, BrisAsia Festival **brisbane.qld.gov.au**
- ♦ 23 April–25 May, Brisbane Comedy Festival  
**brisbanecomedyfestival.com**
- ♦ May, NRL Magic Round **nrl.com**
- ♦ May, Brunswick Street Live **myvalley.com.au**
- ♦ 1 June, Brisbane Marathon Festival **brisbanemarathon.com.au**
- ♦ 9–17 August, EKKA **ekka.com.au**
- ♦ September, Brisbane Festival **brisbanefestival.com.au**
- ♦ 14 September, Bridge to Brisbane **bridgetobrisbane.com.au**
- ♦ October, Valley Fiesta **myvalley.com.au**

Visit the What's On pages on Council's website to stay up to date.



## Win Passes to BrisAsia 2025

We're giving away 4 double passes to BrisAsia Comedy, 5 double passes to Singapore Symphony Orchestra and 6 \$50 vouchers to spend at LUSH on Fish Lane. To enter, visit our website and search 'Living in Brisbane competition'. Entries close at 5pm Friday 17 January 2025.

**WIN**

Brisbane City Council acknowledges this Country and its Traditional Custodians. We pay our respects to the Elders, those who have passed into the Dreaming; those here today; those of tomorrow.



**Brisbane City Council**  
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