

Mon Repos Conservation Park
Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia



Mon Repos Turtle Encounters





 Robert Ashdown © Qld Govt

Mon Repos Turtle Encounters

Witness an ancient life cycle of the animal kingdom, as majestic sea turtles make their journey to the shore to lay their eggs. Delight at the sight of their young, hatching months later, and making their perilous journey to the sea.

Mon Repos is special! Located in the Southern Great Barrier Reef region, it supports the largest concentration of nesting marine turtles on the eastern Australian mainland and has the most significant loggerhead turtle nesting population in the South Pacific region. The success of nesting and hatching turtles at Mon Repos is critical for the survival of this endangered species. At this globally significant breeding site you can have a turtle encounter like very few others in the world.

Our turtle encounters

Every year, from November to March, you can join Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service rangers at the Mon Repos Turtle Centre on a guided tour to watch nesting (November to January) and hatching (January to March) marine turtles.

To protect nesting and hatching turtles, public access to Mon Repos beach is restricted from 6pm to 6am. Turtle viewing is only available through the Mon Repos Turtle Centre. The Centre opens at 7pm for tour participants to explore the displays and prepare for their turtle encounter.

Turtles are wild marine animals and occasionally they do not arrive. While this is unusual, we can't guarantee you will see nesting turtles or hatchlings.

On the night

- Arrive 6.45pm for a 7pm start. On arrival, please queue at the information centre with your booking details, where you will be given a numbered group sticker which must be worn and clearly visible.
- Staff patrol the beach for turtles. Groups are called as events occur. You will be escorted onto the beach only when your allocated group is called.
- Be aware that if turtles are scarce you may have to wait for two or more hours before going onto the beach. The total visit time at Mon Repos can be up to six hours. Come prepared.
- Spend time looking at our displays in the Turtle Centre and watching our ranger shows and videos in the amphitheatre.

For the best experience

Rangers want to provide you with the most memorable experience while looking after the turtles.

Nesting turtles are easily disturbed by artificial light and movement especially when leaving the water, crossing the beach and digging their nests. Hatching turtles emerging from their nests are disorientated by lights. Always listen to rangers on the beach and follow their instructions.

- To protect our nesting and hatching turtles, keep lights off, avoid sudden movements and remain with your allocated group.
- Rangers will let you know when you can take advantage of the limited photo opportunities.
- Please be patient—turtles don't have watches and may arrive any time after dark.

Prepare for your evening

To ensure you have an enjoyable visit:

- Wear footwear suitable for walking along a sandy beach.
- Pack rain jackets as shelter is limited and umbrellas are not permitted on the beach.
- Bring a warm jacket as it can be cold.
- Bring your own drinking water and insect repellent.
- Cold and hot food and drinks are available for purchase at the food outlet.

Tour fitness

Moderate level of fitness required. Visitors need to be able to:

- Walk up to 1.6km at night in natural light or with limited light in some sections.
- Stand on uneven surfaces for approximately one hour.
- Traverse sandy surfaces including short steep sandy sections on vegetated dunes, and boardwalk ramps.



Book your turtle encounter now!

Mon Repos Turtle Encounters operate seven nights a week from November to late March (closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve).

Bookings are essential and can be made through the Bundaberg Visitor Information Centre:

- visit: bundabergregion.org
- phone: 1300 722 099
- book over-the-counter:
271 Bourbong Street, Bundaberg Qld
- visit: [facebook.com/visitbundaberg](https://www.facebook.com/visitbundaberg)

How to get there

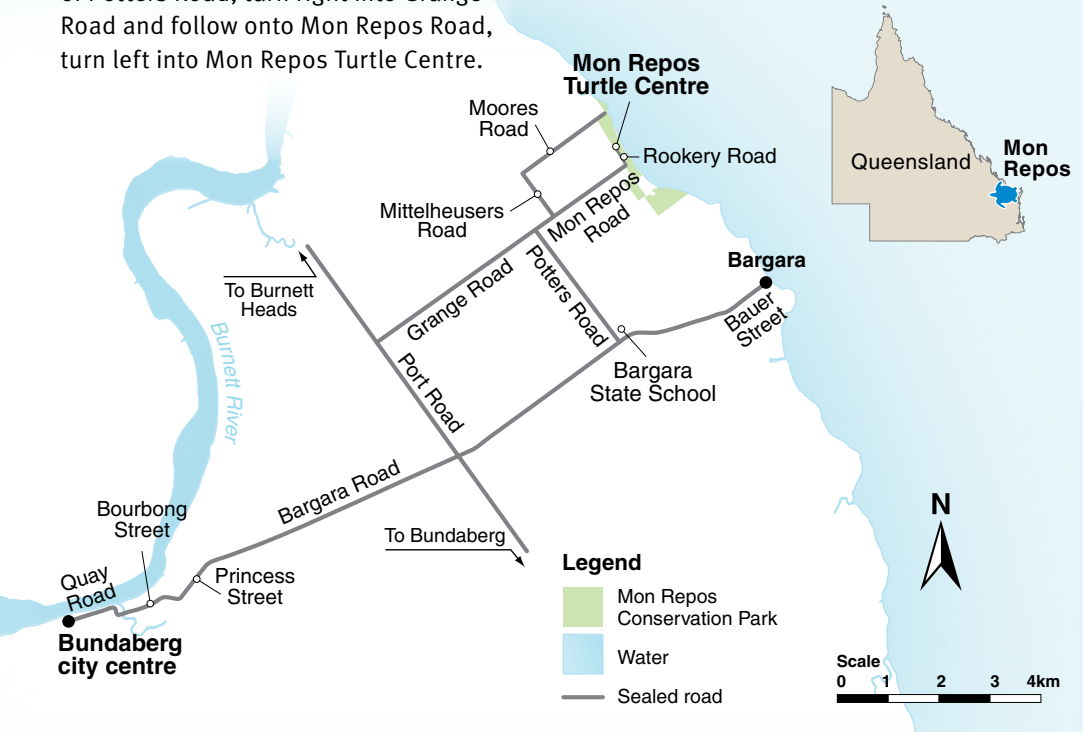
Mon Repos Turtle Centre is about a 4.5hr drive north of Brisbane, 15mins east of Bundaberg and 10mins from Bargara.

From Bundaberg, follow the signs to Bargara along Bargara Road. Or, from Bargara follow the signs to Bundaberg along Bargara Road.

From either direction, at Bargara State School turn into Potters Road. At the end of Potters Road, turn right into Grange Road and follow onto Mon Repos Road, turn left into Mon Repos Turtle Centre.

If you don't have your own vehicle, contact Bundaberg Visitor Information Centre on 1300 722 099 for taxi and transfer options.

During the day, entry to Mon Repos Conservation Park is via the park access road or the daytime boardwalk. Daytime visitors are welcome at the turtle centre. There is no charge for day access.



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Mon Repos Turtle Centre

(turtle season Nov–Mar)

Phone: (07) 4159 1652

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