

Whittley Club Qld

Keppel Islands September 14th – 21st, 2025

This trip has won the “Trip of the Year” on many occasions, so it is one you don’t want to miss! Great Keppel Island is arguably one of the best destinations on the Qld Coast for trailerable cruisers as it offers fantastic anchorages along with great snorkelling and fishing opportunities as well. Great Keppel has 17 separate white sandy beaches, great bush walking and even a licensed café! This Island has something for everybody!

If we don’t have a rest day on Sunday 14th we plan to head north and stop at Gin Gin overnight. The following day we’ll continue on to Rosslyn Bay, launch there, and stay overnight in the marina.

We typically book a table at the marina Waterline Restaurant or the Beaches Restaurant around the corner which both have great options and cold beverages to recover from the long drive. I’ll run everyone through a full briefing that evening on what we should expect weather wise and what anchorages and attractions we should be expecting to experience.

With a double check on the weather, we plan to head to Great Keppel Island on the Tuesday morning. Great Keppel has many anchorage options depending on the prevailing winds. It is not uncommon for a 5 day stay to have 3 or 4 different anchorages during the stay which makes each day interesting with something new to offer. The Island is less than 10 Nautical Miles from the marina and with its relatively small size fuel usage is typically not an issue even for an extended stay.

Launch Facilities

The launching ramp is located within Rosslyn Bay Harbour on the outskirts of the township of Yeppoon. The multilane ramp is suitable for all tide conditions and there is also a pontoon to make launching and retrieval a simple process. Fuel is also available within the harbour for those that prefer on water refuelling at a slightly dearer price at the fuel wharf after you launch. There is an Ampol at the top of the hill just before you enter the harbour (where I refuel).

If you need it, trailer storage is available from CapCoast Storage (0488004785) located within a short distance of the harbour. I have now used the public marina carpark several times without issue.

Tides

Tides at this destination are typically much larger than we are used to in Brisbane.

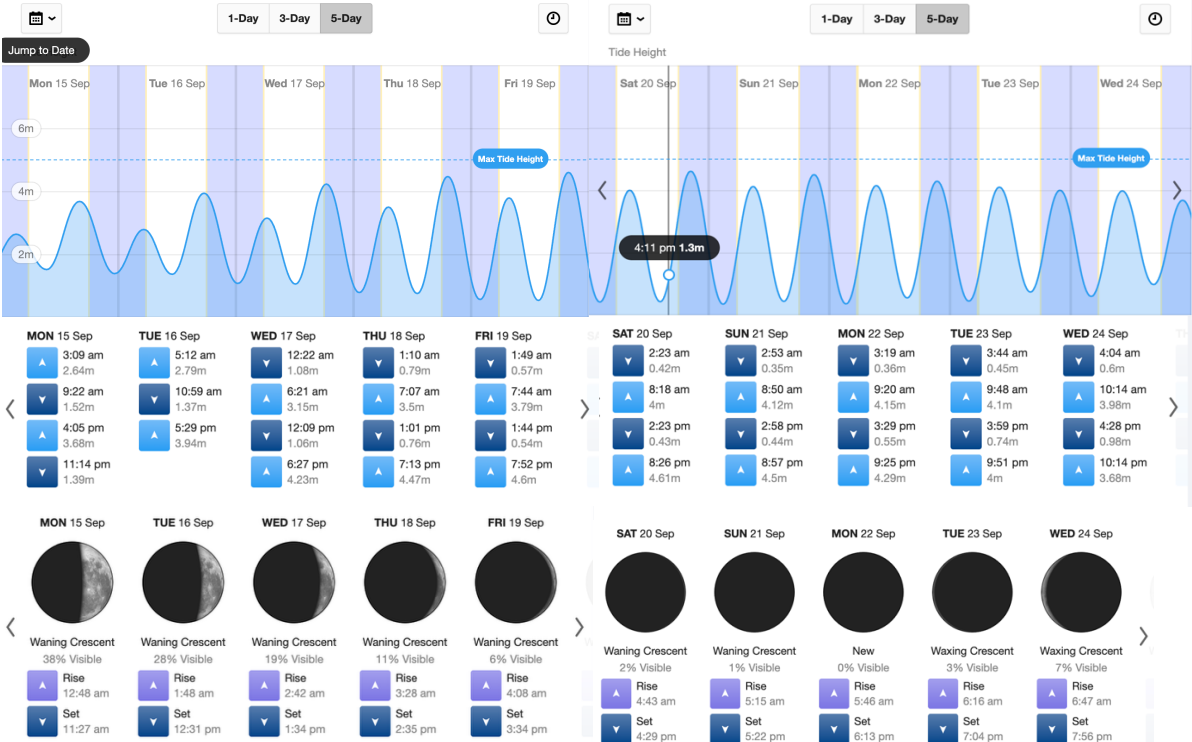
With a new moon during our visit there will be some tidal variations of over 4 metres! Something to definitely keep in mind when anchoring close to shore or leaving our boats unattended for long periods.

See below for tide, sun, and moon times during our stay and a graph showing the rule of 12ths to help plan your anchoring!

As you can see during the 3rd or 4th hour either side of the tide you have 1/4 of the tidal range for each of those hours. This means on some days (let’s say sundowners on the beach on Tuesday) we will have over 1m of water change during the first hour of our drinks. Anyone for the Duck Award for running aground!

Great Keppel Island Tide Times and Heights

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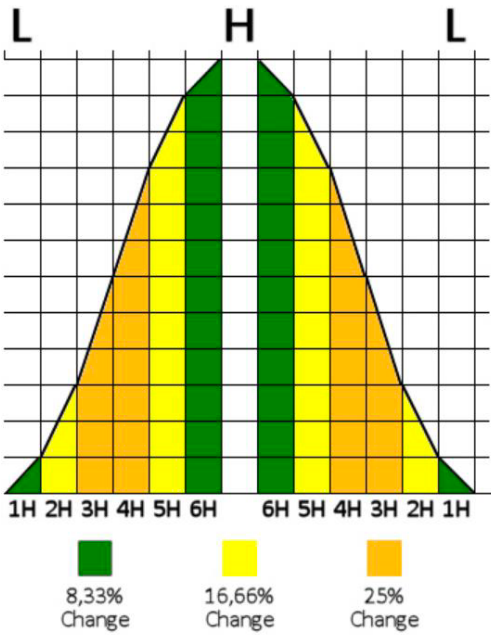


Great Keppel Island Sunrise / Sunset Times

Australia / QLD / Fitzroy / 📍

1-Day 3-Day 5-Day

MON 15 Sep	TUE 16 Sep	WED 17 Sep	THU 18 Sep	FRI 19 Sep	SAT 20 Sep	SUN 21 Sep	MON 22 Sep	TUE 23 Sep	WED 24 Sep
First Light 5:30 am	First Light 5:29 am	First Light 5:28 am	First Light 5:27 am	First Light 5:26 am	First Light 5:25 am	First Light 5:24 am	First Light 5:23 am	First Light 5:22 am	First Light 5:21 am
Sunrise 5:52 am	Sunrise 5:51 am	Sunrise 5:50 am	Sunrise 5:49 am	Sunrise 5:48 am	Sunrise 5:47 am	Sunrise 5:46 am	Sunrise 5:45 am	Sunrise 5:44 am	Sunrise 5:43 am
Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:51 pm	Sunset 5:51 pm	Sunset 5:51 pm	Sunset 5:52 pm	Sunset 5:52 pm	Sunset 5:52 pm
Last Light 6:12 pm	Last Light 6:12 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:14 pm	Last Light 6:14 pm	Last Light 6:14 pm	Last Light 6:15 pm



High Tide

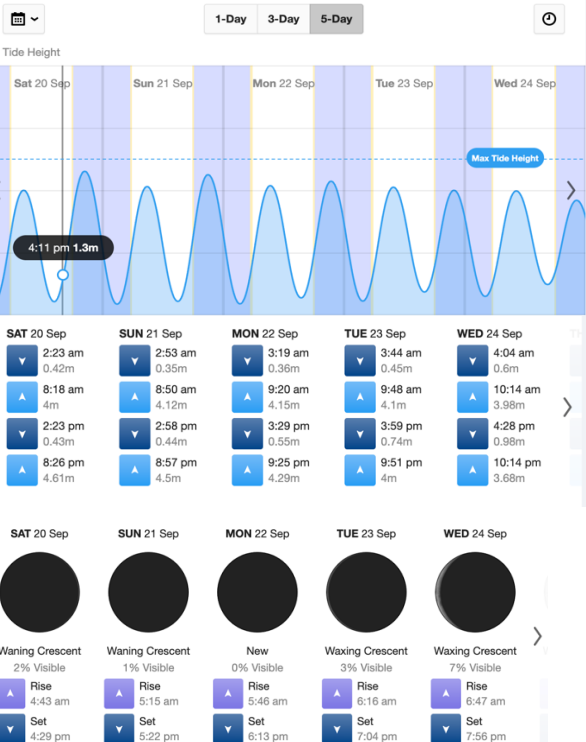
RISE OF TIDE
IN 6 HOURS:

$$\begin{aligned} &1/12 + 2/12 + 3/12 \\ &+ 3/12 + 2/12 + 1/12 \\ &= 12/12 \end{aligned}$$

Low Tide

Great Keppel Island Tide Times and Heights

Australia / QLD / Fitzroy / 📍



Great Keppel Island Sunrise / Sunset Times

Australia / QLD / Fitzroy / 📍

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Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:50 pm	Sunset 5:51 pm	Sunset 5:51 pm	Sunset 5:51 pm	Sunset 5:52 pm	Sunset 5:52 pm	Sunset 5:52 pm
Last Light 6:12 pm	Last Light 6:12 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:13 pm	Last Light 6:14 pm	Last Light 6:14 pm	Last Light 6:14 pm	Last Light 6:15 pm

Marina Booking

If you are staying at the marina please complete the berth licence form and contact Keppel Bay marina on 07 4933 6244 or <https://keppelbaymarina.com.au/marina/casual-berth-booking/> You will also need to supply a copy of your current boat insurance certificate upon booking and complete a permit to stay form. Berthing fees are \$61 per night. Toilet facilities are of course available as well as showers also. Washing facilities also available if you require.

See below map highlighting main features of the Marina facility.



Rosslyn Bay Marina

Points to Note:

Don't forget the earlier mention of tide. Allow sufficient room for incoming and sufficient depth for outgoing tides! Minimum of 5 x depth allowing for high tide please!!!

This trip can be hard on trailers and its components. Make sure you have your bearings and brakes in top condition and don't forget to ensure your tyres are less than 6 years old and filled to recommended pressures. Always check tyre and hub temps during any refuelling stops and periodically during your rest stops. Also don't forget your tie downs and safety chains/ bow tie downs as well.

We might be lucky enough to encounter some whales. Whale watching has some special rules which we will need to follow if we are lucky enough to see any of these on their last part of their southern return. Please take note of the following approach zone guide and use the link below for more information.

https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0025/88900/marine-mammal-proximity-brochure.pdf

Most areas have surrounding coral and rocky reefs, pay particular attention to your chart plotter and sounder when navigating these areas particularly if travelling into and around Humpy Island and Monkey Beach.

Monitor radio on Channel **VHF 72**.

My mobile number is 0400 240 402 for those wanting to reach me off radio.

Regards,

Jon and Kim

Trip Co-ordinators

