

# Explore

## FISHING THE FITZROY (TUNUBA)



Image: Fishing near the Rockhampton CBD

### HOME OF THE BARRA

The Fitzroy River (Tunuba) is famous for barramundi, pronounced “bardda moon di” by the Darumbal people, defining the Fitzroy River catchment as the genuine Home of the barramundi in Australia.

As the largest river catchment on the Eastern seaboard of Australia, the Fitzroy River (Tunuba) provides prime estuary, freshwater and marine fishing options with barramundi, king threadfin and giant trevally being the favourites.

Rockhampton is the only city in Australia where you can fly in, check in and boat out in less than an hour. No matter how you want to fish or what you want to catch, the Rockhampton region is ready to welcome you.

Find out more | [fishingthefitzroy.com.au](http://fishingthefitzroy.com.au)

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Tag us | [#FishingTheFitzroy](https://twitter.com/FishingTheFitzroy)

## FISH LIKE A LOCAL



### WHEN TO COME

If you're heading to Rockhampton to target trophy barra, it's best to visit in barramundi season. Starting at 12.01am on 1 February each year, barramundi season stretches right through to 11.59pm on the 1 November and allows you to target barramundi and take home your catch.

King threadfin salmon can also be found aplenty and can be targeted all year round.

#FishingTheFitzroy

### WHERE TO FISH

Accessing the water is easy, whether you have a boat, a charter or just a fishing rod and a dream! We have put together a full list of boat ramps and land-based fishing pontoons across Rockhampton, Mount Morgan No. 7 Dam and Port Alma.



Scan the code to see the list

### FUN FACTS

// Freshwater barramundi have a darker upper body, golden under-body, and a thick tail.

// When found in freshwater, particularly in land-locked billabongs or lagoons, the barramundi will have large fat deposits.

// Saltwater barramundi have a blue or green-grey colour on their upper body, silver on the lower body, and usually have very little internal fatty tissue.

// King threadfin can grow to 140cm long and can live to at least 10 years of age.

## KNOW THE RIVER RULES



### VOLUNTARY CODE OF PRACTICE

The Rockhampton Recreational Fishing Voluntary Code of Practice (VCOP) is designed to encourage local and visiting recreational fishers to adopt sustainable and responsible fishing practices while fishing in Rockhampton's Net Free Zone.

#### The code sets out four values:

1. Maintaining healthy fish stocks through sustainable harvest behaviours. We do this by limiting the take of barramundi and King threadfin to a maximum of two of each species per trip.
2. Proper care and handling of all fish being released to maximise survival rates.
3. Zero tolerance for illegal fishing activities.
4. Care and respect for the environments where fish live.

These sustainable fishing behaviours ensure our region's fish will continue to thrive, creating a playground that visitors can return to time and again.

### SIZE MATTERS

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries regulates the size and bag limits for barramundi and king threadfin. The below suggested sizes for catch and release form part of the Rockhampton Recreational Fishing VCOP.

#### Barramundi

Minimum legal size: 580mm  
Keep zone: 600mm - 1000mm  
Catch & release zone: 1000mm+  
Maximum legal size: 1200mm

#### King Threadfin

Minimum legal size: 650mm  
Keep zone: 650mm - 1000mm  
Catch & release zone: 1000mm+



*Scan the QR code  
to sign up to the VCOP*

## BOOK A FISHING CHARTER



### GUIDED FISHING DOWNUNDER

Guided Fishing DownUnder provides personalised guided fishing charters for lure, live bait and fly anglers in the Rockhampton region, specialising in barramundi, king threadfin, Southern Saratoga and Coastal Pelagic.

0400 221 055  
[guidedfishingdownunder.com.au](http://guidedfishingdownunder.com.au)



### HOOKED FISHING CHARTERS

Hooked Fishing Charters is a home grown fishing charter company operating primarily in the Fitzroy Delta and river system, with two charter boats and experienced skippers.

0455 888 855  
[hookedfishingcharters.com.au](http://hookedfishingcharters.com.au)



### REEL FISHING CQ

Offering a range of fishing experiences from targeting barramundi and king threadfin in the Fitzroy River (Tunuba) to reef and pelagic species on the Capricorn Coast. Fishing gear, food and drinks supplied. Also offers boat hire through Boat Hire CQ.

0499 883 434  
[reelfishingcq.com.au](http://reelfishingcq.com.au)



### RIVER CRUISES CQ

Take a break from fishing and experience the city from a different perspective with River Cruises CQ. The 90 minute sunset cruise is a must do and includes nibbles, drinks available for purchase and rewarding views of the historic buildings and wildlife along the river.

0499 883 434 (for more information)  
[reelfishingcq.com.au](http://reelfishingcq.com.au) (for tour times and bookings)



## ROCKHAMPTON REGION

The estuary side of the Fitzroy River (tunuba) is 45km, with plenty of fishing opportunities to be found. There are plenty of locations to put in your boat or bag a monster from the bank. With access from both the north and south side of Rockhampton, the freshwater side of the river is mostly sheltered and is perfect for fishing either with powered or unpowered vessels. In the dry season, freshwater lagoons offer great access to barramundi fishing.

## KNOW WHAT THE LOCALS KNOW

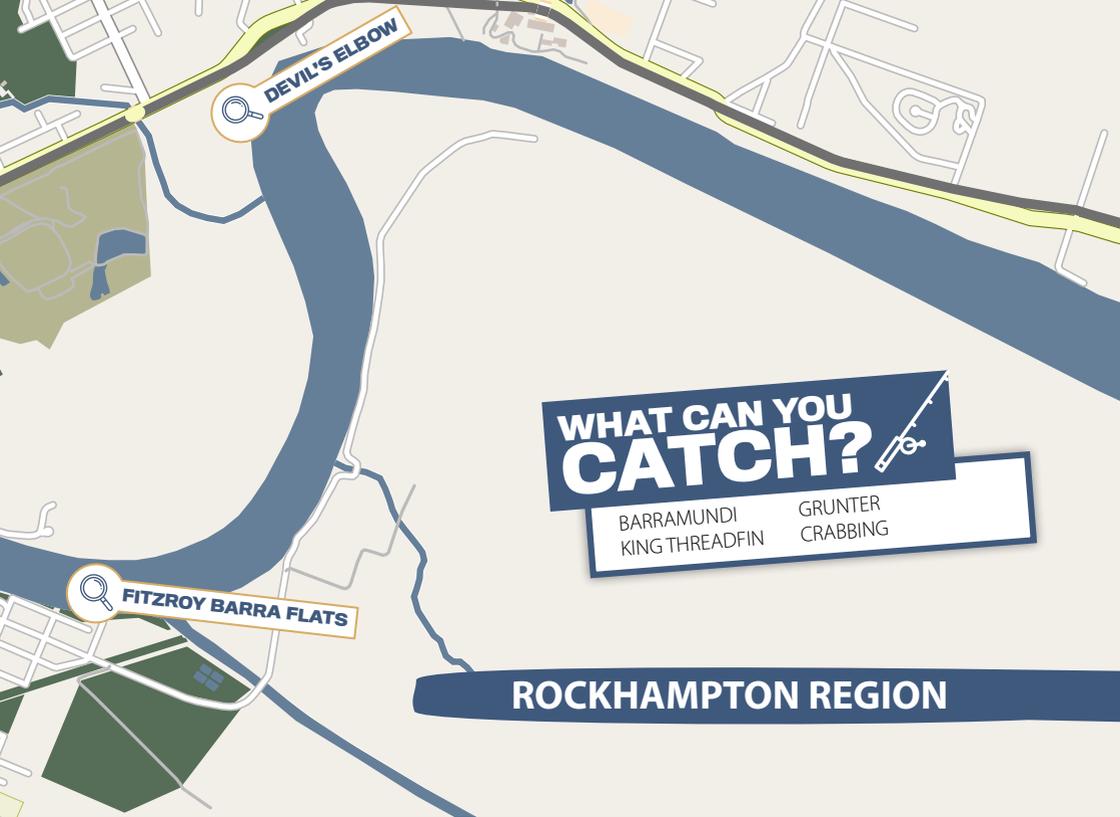
The Neville Hewitt Bridge (known as the 'new bridge') is an excellent fishing spot, around the bridges, rock bars and structures. barramundi and king threadfin are often found in these areas.

Downriver fishing spots include the Cut Through and Devil's Elbow. The Cut Through is a great fishing area, with numerous snags and fish holding structures. Devil's Elbow (the elbow bend just as you head downstream from the Rockhampton CBD) is the first of the deep water

bends in the river and has rock piles that break the water flow as well as old gum trees in the water. This provides the perfect habitat for both king threadfin and barra. When fishing for barra and king threadfin, look for the cleanest water possible as this will give the fish the best chance of seeing your lure!

The most popular baits for barra and threadfin are prawns which can be found in the Fitzroy River from the town reach all the way to the mouth. Cast nets from the boat are the preferred method of capture. If you are using cast nets, take extreme care as there are crocodiles in our river system.

You can access Casuarina Creek via the hole in the wall, this is a gap in the rock wall just north of Thompson Point. Or you can come in from the Port Alma side, which is unique in that it runs in from both ends. Take care when using the hole in the rock wall as it is only narrow and the tide runs fast. If in doubt use the next creek along to the south which also links Casuarina, which is also good mud crabbing country.



**WHAT CAN YOU CATCH?**

BARRAMUNDI KING THREADFIN      GRUNTER CRABBING

**ROCKHAMPTON REGION**

**1 Boat Ramp & Pontoon**  
 Quay Street Boat Ramp, Littler Cum-Ingham Park, Rockhampton City  
 4 boat lanes, 1 pontoon

**2 Boat Ramp**  
 Reaney Street, Berserker (access via Bridge St and Goodsall St)  
 1 boat lane, 8 car and trailer park

**3 Boat Ramp**  
 Robert Clark Drive, The Common (access via Bridge St and Goodsall St, opposite Callaghan Park Racecourse)  
 4 boat lanes, 45 sealed car and trailer parks, 10 sealed single car parks

**4 Jetty**  
 Queen's Wharf, below William and Quay Street, Rockhampton City

**5 Land-based Fishing Pontoon**  
 Sir Raymond Huish Drive, Wandal

**6 Boat Ramp**  
 50 Harman Street, Wandal (Ski Gardens boat ramp)  
 1 boat lane, 20 car and trailer parks, landing area

**7 Boat Ramp**  
 Larcombe Street, Kawana (access via Glenmore Road and Macalister Street)  
 1 boat lane, 30 car and trailer parks, landing area



## WHAT CAN YOU CATCH?

BARRAMUNDI  
KING THREADFIN  
BLUE THREADFIN

MUDCRABS  
GOLDEN SNAPPER  
BLACK JEW

## PORT ALMA REGION

### PORT ALMA REGION

Port Alma is 60km south of Rockhampton and is right on the south end of the Fitzroy Delta, a massive estuary system right in the middle of the Rockhampton region. Port Alma is the main access point for Casuarina Creek, Inkerman Creek, Raglan Creek, Connors Creek, the Narrows, the northern point of Curtis Island and Yellow Patch. Port Alma is also a setting-off point for offshore fishing, as well as a location for fly fishing.

### KNOW WHAT THE LOCALS KNOW

Offshore access to the southern part of Keppel Bay is available for smaller vessels via the Port Alma boat ramp. In Keppel Bay, you can bottom bash for species like coral trout, sweetlip and red emperor, or troll for species like spanish mackerel, cobia, long tailed tuna or large and small mouth nannygai.

Raglan Creek adjoins Port Alma and runs between Curtis Island and the mainland. This is the creek to fish for barramundi, thanks to the mangroves and tidal habitats.

Casuarina Creek is larger in size and feeds directly back into the Fitzroy River – it's a great spot for king threadfin.

Port Alma Mouth is your hotspot for blue threadfin and large black jew fish.

### 1 Boat Ramp

Bajool - Port Alma Road (at the end of the road)  
2 boat lanes, 15 car and trailer parks

### 2 Thompson Point

Thompson Point Road (Gravel 4WD only, access at high tide with reasonable unsealed road access via Nicholls Road. For tide times, add 20 minutes to Gladstone tide times.)  
2 boat lanes and pontoon

### 3 Boat Ramp

St Christophers Chapel Road, Nerimbera  
4 boat lanes



## WHAT CAN YOU CATCH?

GOLDEN PERCH  
(YELLOWBELLY)

SARATOGA  
REDCLAW

No. 7 Dam

1

Byrne Parade

Burnette Highway

## MOUNT MORGAN REGION

### MOUNT MORGAN

The Mount Morgan No. 7 Dam is 2km from the centre of Mount Morgan, roughly 45kms south-west of Rockhampton on the Burnett Highway. The No. 7 Dam is a great spot for family fishing, with barbecues, a playground and wide-open spaces for the kids to run. The Dam has a speed restriction on boats, so it's also a great kayak fishing option.

#### 1 Boat Ramp

Byrne Parade, Mount Morgan  
1 boat lane, 8 car and trailer parks

## SAFETY ADVICE



Mobile phones may not have service in some locations.



Coast Guard UHF Channel 22VHF Marine.



Estuarine crocodiles inhabit these waters, please be croc wise.



For rainfall, river and barrage information visit the Emergency Dashboard [emergency.rockhamptonregion.qld.gov.au](http://emergency.rockhamptonregion.qld.gov.au)



Scan the QR code for a full list of boat ramps and pontoons