



World Heritage Magnetic Island is set in the centre of the Great Barrier Reef and has abundant wildlife.

Magnetic Island is 65% National Park. That means that you should keep to the 60km speed limit and keep an eye out, especially at dusk, for wildlife which may be crossing roads.

If you see any animals in distress call Magnetic Island Fauna Care Organization on 0427 918 130.

KOALAS

(Year round)

Magnetic Island has a healthy population of koalas, that can be most easily seen on The Forts walking track.

James Cook University researchers have been working on Magnetic Island in recent years and for the first time they can provide us with a better understanding of the Magnetic Island koala population. Denise McGregor has published a paper on the

[*Distribution and Abundance of an Island Koala Population.*](#)

CURLEWS BREEDING & HATCHING

(July to February) Article courtesy of www.magnetictimes.com

Magnetic Island is famous for its curlews. Every night most residents go to sleep with curlews' mournful cries ringing out somewhere nearby, or else don't go to sleep because their cries are under the bedroom window!

Curlews are everywhere and in big numbers too. But what many residents don't realise is that there is not one, nor two, but three types of "curlew" on Magnetic Island.

For more information on this article visit [Magnetic Times.](#)

NB: Keep in mind that breeding birds strongly defend their territory, but at other times of the year are non-territorial. Just give breeding curlews their distance during breeding times to reduce stress.

WHALE WATCHING

(August to October)

Humpback whales migrate between their Antarctic feeding grounds and the Great Barrier Reef, where they mate and breed in the warm waters.

They are playful and powerful, yet often the most gentle creatures of the ocean. Magnetic Island is uniquely placed to be able to see these beauties of the deep on their migration.

They can be seen in Cleveland Bay on the southern side of the island, as well as near Horseshoe Bay on the northern side.

CORAL SPAWNING

(Once off event between October - November) Article courtesy of www.magnetictimes.com

The world's largest sexual act is about to occur - when the corals of the Great Barrier Reef spawn their eggs and sperm into the dark warm waters between the second and sixth nights after the spring full moon.

For more information on this article visit [Magnetic Times.](#)

TURTLE BREEDING AND HATCHING

(November to January)

Predominantly: Nelly Bay, Radical Bay, Horseshoe Bay

Article courtesy of www.magnetictimes.com

Let her nest in peace Residents who encounter a female turtle on the beach must be very careful not to disturb her. During the nesting process, turtles are easily disturbed by light, noise and movement.

Please report turtle nesting activity to the Wildlife Care Station Magnetic Island or QPWS. By assisting Rangers to locate turtle nesting sites ensures the site will be monitored and protected if in a vulnerable area such as a road or close to street lights.

If residents observe a turtle or turtle tracks on the beach please call Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services (QPWS) Magnetic Island on **4778 5378** immediately.

For more information on this article visit [Magnetic Times](#).

Have you seen turtle tracks?

If residents observe a turtle or turtle tracks on the beach please call Magnetic Island Fauna Care Organization on **0427 918 130** or National Parks Magnetic Island on **4778 5378**.