



# West Mackay

## OVERVIEW

Home to Mackay's beautiful Botanic Gardens, **West Mackay** is a suburb featuring many gracious homes. Well-established and popular with residents as well as investors, it lies close to the City centre, between the Pioneer River and Paradise St.

Towering palms, pine and eucalypts offer ample shade to spacious gardens and giant poinciana trees delight with their fiery blooms. Frangipani of all colours abound in many a garden, scenting the air with their sweet perfume and giving the suburb a lovely, tropical feel.

Busy Nebo Rd slices through West Mackay's centre and is where many of the city's motels are located. Turn off Nebo Road though and, despite its central location, the suburb's residential streets are remarkably peaceful.

West Mackay was one of the earliest suburbs to be developed and as such, a fair number of traditional Queenslanders can be found here. Many have been tastefully renovated and are owned by professionals who prefer a little extra room under the house for storage of essential big-kids' toys.

Streets closest to the Botanic Gardens have a mix of brick-and-tile homes and older weatherboard or fibro dwellings. Although a little less architecturally detailed than their Queensland neighbours, they are popular with investors due to the low-maintenance nature of their construction.

Alexandra St contains some of West Mackay's last remaining acreage property and is close to the walking trails and the reserve.

Across Nebo Rd, homes are a little older and the streets a little more busy. A newer pocket of homes is located to the south near the railway line, where brick dwellings were built in the mid-1990s. Close to the industrial suburb of Paget, George Milton and Podosky streets and Steinbeck and Mitchener courts are among the most popular in the enclave.

## BEST STREETS

The historic Queenslanders lining Tait and Beaton streets must surely be among West Mackay's prettiest.





## COMMUNITY STYLE

West Mackay has an interesting community mix of retirees and young professionals.

## SCHOOLS

West Mackay Pre and Primary; St Francis Xavier Catholic.

## WHERE TO SHOP

Takeaways and corner stores line Nebo Rd, but it is to the sprawling Caneland Central shopping centre that residents head for the weekly shopping run.

## WHERE TO STAY

Mackay has to be one of Queensland's most welcoming cities; and the range of visitor accommodation really is astounding. Nebo Rd is positively bursting at the seams with dozens of motels offering rooms to suit budget travellers, business travellers and families.

## GETTING AROUND

Mackay Transit Route 2 services the area.

## EMPLOYMENT

Being so close to the City centre Paget and Mount Pleasant, West Mackay residents really are spoilt when it comes to short commutes to work.

## WHERE TO PLAY

The Mackay Regional Botanical Gardens showcase a diverse selection of Central Queensland's tropical vegetation. The 33ha site extends along the banks of the meandering "Lagoons" that apparently once formed part of the main channel of the Pioneer River.

Officially opened in 2003, it is one of Australia's newest Botanic Gardens and encompasses a system of walkways, bridges, ramps and boardwalks.

The petals and stamens of the Cooktown Orchid Flower were the inspiration behind the design of the Visitors' Centre, where a café allows patrons to gaze out across the central part of the Lagoon and gardens.

The Botanic Gardens can be accessed from Lagoon St and entry is free of charge.

Adjoining the gardens is City Gates Park with the South Sea Islanders' Long House and a wonderful display of carved/ painted artwork scattered throughout the surrounding grounds. Again, entry is at no cost.

