

## Drive safely

- Engage 4WD before driving on sand.
- Select low gears for soft, dry sand.
- Avoid sharp turns and sudden braking.
- If you reduce tyre pressure to maintain traction, keep within the manufacturer's specifications.
- Re-inflate your tyres for harder sand or surfaces.
- Use well-established tracks to reach the beach.
- Always bring a reliable tyre gauge and an air pump.

## Park carefully

- Park at the top of the beach away from moving traffic.
- Park at an angle so traffic can see you are stationary.
- Don't park on sand dunes—it's illegal, damages the dune plants and harms any birds nesting there.

## Give way to wildlife

- Drive around (not through) flocks of birds. Don't disturb them, as they are resting after long, exhausting migration flights.
- Never approach or feed dingoes. Don't encourage their attention. Stay in your vehicle and allow them to pass.

## Give way to other vehicles

- Stay alert for oncoming traffic—especially on corners.
- Inland tracks are usually single lane and can be busy.
- Never drive off the track—use passing bays to let others pass.
- Let the closer vehicle to the passing bay, manoeuvre safely off the track.
- Give way to traffic coming downhill.
- Heavy vehicles and vehicles with trailers have right of way because they are more difficult to manoeuvre.
- Show extra courtesy with inexperienced drivers.



## Driving conditions

Inland tracks are often rough. Allow plenty of travel time. Go slower than the speed limit. Drive to suit the conditions.

Search online for the Fraser Island Conditions Report at [www.nprsr.qld.gov.au](http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au).



Do you know what to do if bogged? How to safely use recovery gear? Get advice before your trip.

## Vehicle permits

You must have a vehicle access permit to drive on Fraser Island. Before arriving, purchase your permits at [www.qld.gov.au/camping](http://www.qld.gov.au/camping) or phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68). Mobile phone charges may apply.

## In an emergency

In emergency: dial Triple Zero (000). If no mobile reception, try 112. Help can be hours away. Carry a well-stocked first-aid kit and personal medication. There is no pharmacy on the island.

If your driver is taking stupid risks, say something—it could save your life.

## For further information

Search for Fraser Island on [www.nprsr.qld.gov.au](http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au).

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# Survive your drive on Fraser Island

## Safety guide



*Drive safely.  
Help can be hours away.  
Don't become a statistic.*



Fraser Island's beautiful eastern beach is one of Queensland's worst crash hot spots. Between 2006 and 2010, three people were killed and 43 hospitalised in 24 serious crashes.

Rental vehicles and inexperienced drivers are more commonly involved in crashes.

Make sure your visit to Fraser Island is memorable for the right reasons. Follow these guidelines to stay safe.

## Slow down

Speed has been a factor in most fatalities on the island. The maximum speed limit is 80km/hr on the beach and 30km/hr on inland tracks. Drive to suit the conditions.

## Wear your seat belt

Many people killed or injured on Fraser were NOT wearing seat belts. Don't become a statistic. Belt up or wear a fine! Never allow your passengers to ride unbuckled or outside the vehicle.

## Drive carefully

Driving on sand takes skill. Beach conditions change rapidly. Hazards can be difficult to see. Stay alert—be careful. Hitting hazards at speed damages your vehicle, can cause spinal injuries and has caused rollovers and fatal crashes.

## Stay clear of the water

Swerving to avoid incoming waves has caused crashes. Drive between the low and high tide marks on firmer sand, staying well clear of incoming waves. Travel at low tide, or within two hours either side of low tide.

## Cross creeks carefully

Slow down to cross creeks. Conditions change constantly and can trap the unwary driver. Walk across first to check the depth. Avoid getting stuck—never stop mid-stream.

## Load your gear inside

Uneven loads on top of vehicles can cause rollovers. Put your gear inside. It is illegal to load luggage on the roof of a 4WD hire vehicle. Make sure your passengers stay inside too. Skylarking might look like fun but the consequences can be deadly.

## Never drive drunk or tired

Alcohol impairs your judgement and contributes to crashes. Never drive after consuming alcohol. If you over-indulged the night before, you may be unsafe to drive.

Tired drivers make mistakes. Pay attention.

## Follow normal road rules

It's a beach AND a public road. Keep left. Indicate when overtaking. Pass on the right. Obey all road signs. Slow down!

**Remember:** police patrol the beach. If you drink and drive or speed, you will be caught. Beach traffic is two-way, so keep left.

## Give way to pedestrians

Visitors cannot hear cars approaching over the sound of the wind and waves. Watch out for people fishing and children playing on the beach. Drive around them carefully and slowly. Observe the speed limits in shared zones.



Drive slowly around pedestrians and people playing on the beach.

## Watch for beach hazards

Swerving to avoid unexpected hazards has caused crashes.

- **Rocks.** Don't pass if the tide is high. Use an inland bypass.
- **Pools** left by the falling tide hide dangerously soft sand. Pass on the high side, close to the dry sand.
- **Washouts**—ditches in the sand created by the surf and creeks—are dangerous if hit at high speed.
- **Landing aeroplanes.** Obey signs. Drive higher up the beach if necessary. Planes need firm, hard sand to land.

## Avoid night driving

Night driving is extremely dangerous. Reach your destination well before nightfall.



Approach washouts and creeks slowly.

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service wants your visit to Fraser Island to be safe and enjoyable. Conditions may require experienced drivers in high clearance vehicles only. **Drive to survive. Stay alive.**