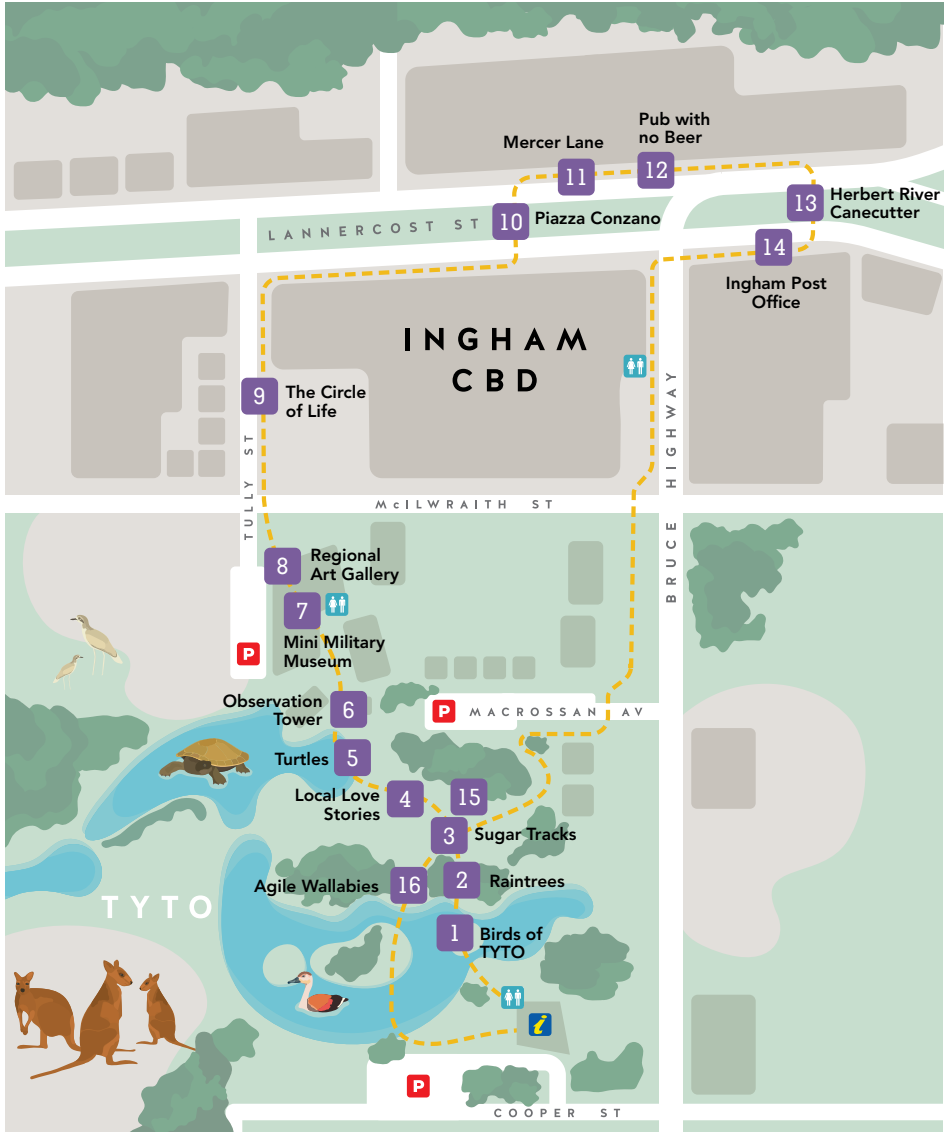


HINCHINBROOK WAY

WALK



1 BIRDS OF TYTO



TYTO Wetlands is named after the Eastern Grass Owl, *Tyto longimembris*. This unique and majestic species is a nocturnal master of the wetlands. Their superior eyesight, flight capabilities and ability to walk through tall grasslands make them deadly hunters.

Eastern Grass Owls camouflage their nests on the ground, making a nest chamber with a tunnel runway leading out of the tall grass. The owls range in size from 32cm to 42cm in height with a wingspan from 100cm to 116cm, comparable to the height of an average 6-year-old child.

2 THE RAINTREES OF HINCHINBROOK



Raintrees once dominated the Ingham streetscape and can still be seen in picturesque abundance at the local Macknade Mill. They gave shade to passengers waiting to board a steam train, a hitched horse, a tired mother and her children, or a cane cutter waiting impatiently to sign-on for the cane-cutting season.

Visitors often remarked on the "magnificent raintrees," which gave Ingham "an air of quiet dignity unique in Queensland." In later times the removal of the raintrees was done so under community protest as they gave background to so many memories of long gone days.

3 THE SUGAR INDUSTRY TODAY



The Herbert region plays an important role in the Australian sugar industry. Throughout the crushing season that runs between the months of June and November, 4.5 million tonnes of sugarcane is harvested from 57,000 hectares of farming land. This sugarcane is processed at the region's two Wilmar Sugar Australia mills; Victoria Mill and Macknade Mill. Harvested sugarcane is transported from paddocks to the mills by cane trains. The raw sugar is delivered to the Lucinda Sugar Terminal for storage, before being shipped to international and domestic customers.



4 LOCAL LOVE STORIES

Under an Australian sun, Italian courtship and marriage traditions were transformed. Early immigrants tended to marry others from their own region. Single men often returned to Italy to find a marriage partner or sent a self-portrait home for their family to arrange a marriage. Soon however, Italian immigrants were marrying local non-Italian girls.

As many more people from diverse backgrounds moved to the Hinchinbrook region, it was inevitable that new cultural values would be formed. The history of cultural adaptation and respect for traditions is one of Hinchinbrook's greatest strengths.



5 KREFFTS SHORT-NECKED TURTLE

Kreffts Short-Necked Turtles (*Emydura macquarii krefftii*) can be seen basking in the sunshine on a rock or paddling beneath the water, head popping up now and then, opportunistically hoping for passing insects. The traditional custodians of the land, the Nywaigi, Warrgamay and Bandjin Peoples included turtles in their diet, both marine and freshwater. The flesh was eaten roasted and the shells were used to make fishhooks.

Kreffts Short-Necked Turtles can survive droughts for months by burrowing underneath the surface into the mud, only to reappear with the first storms of the wet season.

6 OBSERVATION TOWER



Scale the 11m Observation Tower for a birds eye view of TYTO and beyond. From the observation deck cast your eyes out over the canopies of raintrees and melaleucas, observe the many species that inhabit the main lagoon, follow the rich green cane fields that stretch across alluvial plains to sweeping mountain ranges or watch the daily hustle and bustle of Ingham. A great photo opportunity for a unique perspective on the region!

Open Daily



7 MINI MILITARY MUSEUM

World War I was fought very close to home. With danger imminent, local young men joined the Militia or Citizens Military Force. The World War I local militia was a Company of the 31st Battalion, with personnel coming from Townsville, Bowen, the Burdekin, Charters Towers and Ingham.

To discover the story of the 31st Battalion, Kennedy Regiment, visit the mini Military Museum, located within the Hinchinbrook Shire Library.

8 TYTO REGIONAL ART GALLERY



Marvel at the latest exhibition with the contemporary space showcasing local artisans and craft enthusiasts through an annual program and retail outlet. This occurs alongside national travelling exhibits. Complementary workshops and activities are presented through the What's On Hinchinbrook Way Program to champion further creativity and imagination.

Open daily from 10.00am-4.00pm (excluding Christmas periods and public holidays)

9 NATURE INSPIRED URBAN DESIGN



John Heard's stunning public artwork, The Circle of Life encapsulates the emerging nature inspired urban design theme found throughout Tully Street; reflecting the proximity and influence of Australia's most diverse urban wetland, TYTO Wetlands.

For more info about local artist John Heard and his inspiring artworks visit: www.hinchinbrookway.com.au

10 PIEMONTE TO QUEENSLAND – CESARE COSTANZO'S JOURNEY



The name Costanzo is common in Casale Popolo, but in Ingham, the name is only borne by two families. That one of those families is here, bears witness to the courage of Guiseppe Costanzo, who following World War I made the long journey alone to Australia in the hope that he would make enough money to raise the fares for his wife and children to join him.

A living was scarcely to be had in the rural countryside surrounding Casale Popolo, a village just 14 kilometres from Conzano, in the province of Alessandria in Piemonte. By 1927, storm clouds of discontent that would lead to an unimaginable World War II were already brewing.

16 year old Cesare Costanzo found nothing to be optimistic about as his tummy rumbled and his young back strained as he carried and laid bricks.

Grimly determined to better his lot, he decided to follow his father Guiseppe. Cesare followed not only in his father's footsteps but in those who since 1891 had been leaving the harsh economic conditions of Piemonte to labour in the cane fields of Tropical North Queensland. Here, there were jobs to be had and money to be made.

For Cesare and his family the gamble of migration paid off. He purchased a shop in the small township of Trebonne, his sister a delicatessen in Ingham and his son, in time, would become a Councillor of the Hinchinbrook Shire Council.

11 MERCER LANE



Mercer Lane houses an incredible 42 metres of mosaic art panels depicting the history of the local sugar cane industry. Local business woman Karen Venables and artist Kate Carr rallied the community together, resulting in over 1,500 locals and visitors participating in the project. The medium of mosaics was used because it can be quickly learned, and because of its association with the artwork of ancient Italy and Italians who make up a significant percentage of the local population.

To find out more about local artist Kate Carr visit www.hinchinbrookway.com.au

12 LEE'S HOTEL



During the World War II period, Lee's Hotel, then known as the Day Dawn Hotel, was the first hotel encountered by troop convoys as they passed through Ingham. Upon their arrival, regardless of the hour, the bar opened for service. Because of the war, the hotels beer supply was restricted by quotas and on one hot thirsty day, the troops drank the bar dry. Amazed at being unable to buy beer at his favourite pub that day, local poet Dan Sheahan wrote the poem "A Pub Without Beer". Years later, the song "A Pub With No Beer", written by Gordon Parsons and sung by Slim Dusty, was released based upon the original verses of Dan Sheahan's historic poem.



It is a long time since cane cutters toiled "like heroes" "to gather in the harvest" but Mario Torrissi is determined that the unique way of life and work of the heroic cane cutter is never forgotten.

Post World War II Australia experienced an economic boom and immigration was again encouraged, particularly of the Displaced Person Refugees, Italians and Spaniards. These groups were regarded as the saviours of the cane industry in a time of over full employment when it was nearly impossible to entice local young men into the cane fields. Immigrant ships plied the seas between Europe and Australia, one being the Toscana on which young Mario Torrissi travelled with little more than a suitcase and hope. After emigrating from

Sicilia – Giarre province, Catania Italy, Mario arrived in Sydney in January in 1951 and by June was a 'new chum' cutting cane in North Queensland.

Mario had a daily routine that was dirty, back breaking and even dangerous at times, and included laying the portable rail, loading the previous day's rake of cut cane, cutting the next rake, and finally burning for the next day's cut. By 1962 Mario was no longer a "new chum" cane cutter but a loco driver at Victoria Mill. There he witnessed, from another perspective, the transition from hand cutting to mechanical cutting and the final exodus of the cane cutter from the cane fields.

14 INGHAM POST OFFICE



In 1874 mail took 45 days to arrive from Brisbane, if at all, and when it arrived at the Dungeness seaport there was nobody there authorised to receive or forward it.

Dissatisfaction led to a petition sent to the Post-Master General but it was only with the increased traffic on the stock route that the Lower Herbert Post and Telegraph Office was opened on the newly gazetted Town Reserve on Palm Creek in 1875.

In 1935 a new post office was built. Its heritage value today is described as “one of the last generally Colonial revival post offices in Australia”.

15 SUGAR TRACKS



A journey that brings to life a yesteryear that shaped the great pioneering cane community of Hinchinbrook.

The farm machinery you will see, demonstrates an industry as it changed over time from horse to tractor power, from manual to mechanical processes. Inanimate as they are, to them still clings the romance of, and nostalgia for, an industry whose activities in the days of the manual cane cutter, woke the Valley each June from the long sleep of the slack into the exhilarating days of the crushing season.

16 AGILE WALLABIES



The Agile Wallaby (*Macropus agilis*) frequents TYTO Parklands during early morning and late evening feeding on succulent grasses. They often live in smaller groups of up to 10 individuals but can be seen at TYTO in much larger mobs feeding with their Joeys at foot. With a permanent water source and plenty of open grassy areas to feed upon, they are able to breed all year round. If you take your time and walk through either TYTO Parklands or TYTO Wetlands you may be pleasantly surprised by the abundance of photographic opportunities these normally shy creatures provide.

To find out more about Hinchinbrook's wildlife carers or make a donation visit: www.nqwildlife.org.au



TYTO PARKLANDS