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Nestled in the caldera of an ancient shield volcano, the Tweed region in northern NSW offers a unique combination of World Heritage listed rainforests, lush rolling farmland and unspoilt beaches, all within a relatively compact area.

The coastline stretches along 37kms of uncrowded, unspoilt beaches offering your choice of laid-back seaside village accommodation or the luxury resorts of Salt and Casuarina. A short drive away you'll find art and craft villages, National Parks and rainforest hideaways in and around the Mt Warning (Wollumbin) Caldera; while Tweed Heads, on the Queensland/NSW border is renowned for the live concerts and entertainment offered by world-class sporting and services clubs.

160 words

Nestled in the caldera of an ancient shield volcano, the Tweed region in northern NSW offers a unique combination of World Heritage listed rainforests, lush rolling farmland and unspoilt beaches, all within a relatively compact area.

The main hub of Tweed Heads is renowned for the live concerts, affordable dining and entertainment offered by world-class sporting and services clubs, while in the rural coastal and valley areas, you'll find popular attractions such as Tropical Fruit World, Catch a Crab Cruises, Tweed River Cruises, Madura Tea, Ilnam Wines and more that cater for coach and group tours.

The Rainforest Way driving route takes you out to the smaller villages and National Parks around Mt Warning where you can incorporate short or long bushwalks, roadside fruit stalls, art and craft galleries, traditional country pubs and home-style cafes and restaurants into your itinerary.

Tweed Tourism Visitor Information Centres are located at Tweed Heads, Kingscliff and in the World Heritage Rainforest Centre at Murwillumbah.

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Directly across the state border from Australia's most famous holiday destination, the Tweed region offers a tranquil, nature-based alternative to the busy resorts and glittering highrises of the Gold Coast.

Just 15 minutes drive south of the Gold Coast Airport, you'll discover a unique combination of quintessentially Australian experiences – unspoilt beaches, World Heritage rainforests, rural

villages, eclectic communities, lush farmland and more – all centred around the sweeping slopes of Mt Warning.

The entire region is contained within the caldera of an ancient shield volcano that encircles the base of the mountain, rising up to jungle-shrouded cliff-faces in the west and opening out onto the rolling Pacific coastline in the east.

Over the millennia, the rich volcanic soils have nurtured deep pockets of lush rainforests where easy and challenging bushwalks take you into a magical world of tangled vines and palm glades interspersed with crystal clear creeks and tumbling waterfalls.

Travelling through the valley, those same soils give nourishment to acres of emerald green farmland blanketed across gently rolling hills, dotted with a string of quirky villages where the Tweed's eclectic artisans and craftspeople showcase their talents in country galleries and at weekend markets. Friendly bed-and-breakfasts, luxury homestays and hideaway cabin retreats offer the ideal base for explorations, while you relax and soak up the serenity.

The other side of this paradise is found along the 35 kilometres of Pacific coastline where an endless stretch of uncrowded surf beaches and calm river inlets are a major drawcard for Australian and international holidaymakers.

Catering for all vacation styles, exclusive resorts like Peppers, Mantra, Casuarina Beach and Santai offer oceanfront luxury; four-star hotels and motels present affordable accommodation in quiet fishing villages; and beachside camping grounds are a firm favourite with caravanners and backpackers.

Against this idyllic beach-and-bushland backdrop, a wealth of activity options cater for visitors of all persuasions: There's the adrenalin rush of deepsea fishing charters; the challenge of climbing Mt Warning; the thrill of fly-fishing for Australian bass; the excitement of learning to surf; the joy of whale watching from June to November; the simple pleasure of kayaking, cruising or houseboating along the creeks and riverways; and much, much more.

Tweed Tourism provides a central reservations and information service for all of the region's many attractions. Brochures are available by phoning 1800 674 414 or on the internet at www.tweedtourism.com.au.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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