Bowen Station

William St, Bowen, 4805

Contact: PoliceLink 131444

www.police.qld.gov.au

Only 1 minute off the highway, approximately mid way between the East Coast towns of Mackay and Townsville, Bowen is certainly the "Top of the Whitsunday's".

Bowen is surrounded by 8 magnificent sandy beaches, all within a radius of 5 km of the Post Office. Many of these are fringed with inshore reefs and it is possible to snorkel directly from secluded bays. Flagstaff Hill gives you some of the best coastal scenery in Australia with views inland and out across the northern Whitsunday area. The Division is bounded by the Home Hill police division to the north, Proserpine police division to the south and Collinsville police division to the west.

Bowen was first settled in the year 1816 and is North Queensland's oldest town. Fishing is both a popular past time in Bowen as well as a thriving industry. A mixture of rural and residential properties coexist in Bowen as a number of small crop farms produce large quantities of tomatoes, mangoes, capsicums and melons. In fact Bowen supplies almost 75% of tomatoes for the east coast of Australia at certain times of the year.

As with any regional location along the East Cost of Australia, the population is steadily increasing, as such new developments and infrastructure have been either built or upgraded. In 2011, the Police Citizens Youth club built a new facility to cater for the local community. This building accommodates squash courts, basketball / netball courts and convention amenities which is utilised by various community and business groups.
There is a large coal loading facility (Abbott Point) located to the North of Bowen and there are a number of current and proposed mines to the west of the town. Bowen is also an ideal tourism destination due to its perfect weather and beautiful beaches, subsequently come winter time, just about every accommodation venue is booked out by southern tourists.

**Locality Profile:**

The population of the town of Bowen is approximately 9000; the Divisional population is approximately 12,000. The average daytime temperature in summer is between 29 to 34 deg. and in winter 12 to 24 deg. The average annual rainfall: 900mm. Located approximately 1200kms north of Brisbane, 200 kms from Mackay and Townsville and 90 km from Airlie Beach.

The Bowen Division includes the Townships of Merinda, Guthalungra and Gumlu to the north and Heronvale (more commonly known as Brisk Bay) to the south. Bowen Borders the divisions of Proserpine and Whitsunday to the south, Home Hill to the north and Clare and Collinsville to the west.

**Housing:**

Accommodation is provided by way of two Department of Housing Guaranteed Rental premises, Private rental housing is available in town but the availability varies depending upon the picking season which runs from March to October due to influx of seasonal workers. The average rental for reasonable private houses and units, ranges from $250 to $400 per week.

**Education:**

Bowen has 5 Child Care Centres -3 State Primary Schools - 1 Catholic Primary School - 1 State High School to grade 12.

**General Information:**

Grocery prices in Bowen is on par with other regional locations and their is an abundance of fresh produce in the area due to the agricultural industry. Meat and seafood are also in plentiful supply, again due to the location. Bowen has a Woolworths located in Centre Point Plaza with a number of other variety shops including sporting goods store, clothing stores and a Jeweller. A Super IGA is located in town and offers a competitive environment to Woolworths. The CBD has a number of specialists and variety stores to cater for most needs. Major Shopping Centres are located in Cannonvale, Mackay and Townsville. All Major Banks are located in Bowen along with a number of smaller financial institutions.


**In an emergency, dial Triple Zero (000).**