

QUEENSLAND STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES 2017-18

The 2017-18 Queensland State Budget presents an opportunity for the Queensland Government to future-proof the tourism and transport sectors. Targeted investment in tourism and transport infrastructure will ensure that Queensland remains a great place to live and to visit into the future. The Tourism & Transport Forum Australia (TTF) calls on the Queensland Government to address **six key priorities** in the 2017-18 Budget:

1 INVEST IN CRITICAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE



Secure funding for critical transport infrastructure including Cross River Rail, Brisbane Metro and the extension of the Gold Coast Light Rail to Gold Coast Airport.

2 INCREASE FUNDING FOR DESTINATION MARKETING



Increase funding to Tourism and Events Queensland over the forward estimates to ensure that Queensland remains competitive as a destination of choice for domestic and international visitors.

3 CONTINUE TO FUND THE ATTRACTING AVIATION INVESTMENT FUND (AAIF)



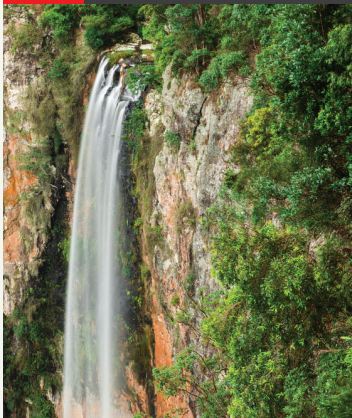
Commit at least \$10 million to the AAIF over the next three years to support the introduction of additional air services to Queensland.

4 SECURE FUNDING TO UPGRADE CRITICAL ROAD CORRIDORS



Work with the Federal Government to secure funding to fast-track upgrades of the Pacific Highway between Varsity Lakes and Tugun and high-risk sections of the Bruce Highway.

5 ENHANCE NATURE-BASED TOURISM EXPERIENCES



Maintain funding for visitor and park rangers, and work with the private sector to deliver tourism infrastructure and developments in and around Queensland's national parks.

6 INCREASE BUSINESS EVENTS FUNDING



Increase funding for business events in real terms over the forward estimates to ensure that Queensland remains competitive in bidding for domestic and international conventions and conferences.

KEY STATISTICS*:

- Tourism consumption in Queensland totaled \$27.7 billion in 2015-16
- Tourism directly contributes \$11.2 billion to the Queensland Economy
- Tourism directly employs 135,000 Queenslanders

*Source – Tourism Research Australia, Tourism Satellite Accounts.

TTF's full Budget Submission, Future Economy Future Jobs, can be accessed [here](#)