

SMITHFIELD REGIONAL PARK

Home of the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup 2014 and 2016; and the UCI Mountain Bike and Trials World Championships 2017

SPECIAL SMITHFIELD

- On the northern edge of Cairns, this small, 278ha park encompasses the foothills of the Cairns coastal range—the steep, vegetated ridges rising 350m behind the suburbs of Smithfield and Trinity Beach—and extends onto the coastal plain and the alluvial flats of Atika and Moon creeks.
- The park boasts world-class mountain bike trails and hosts major national and international events. Mountain biking in north Queensland is growing in popularity and facilities, and Smithfield Regional Park’s mountain bike park is an integral part of this growth.
- One short trail in the park, dedicated just for walkers, leads to a long-distance walking trail through Kuranda National Park, offering magnificent forest views.
- Smithfield Regional Park is managed by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) and shares borders with the Smithfield residential area, Kuranda National Park and the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

NATURAL TREASURES

- Dense rainforest within Smithfield Regional Park clads the southward-facing slopes as well as the damp gullies and creeks of the northern and eastern slopes.
- Eucalypt woodland, with pink bloodwoods and Moreton Bay ash, covers the steep slopes and ridgelines, along with patches of acacia and swamp box open forest.



Photo (left): © Qld Govt
 Photo (top): Tam Vallance © Qld Govt
 Photo (bottom): © Lawrence Perks

- Fifty resident and migratory species of birds have been recorded here including species of conservation significance. Near threatened (rare) Australian swiftlets and vulnerable Macleay’s fig-parrots are found in the park, as are endangered southern cassowaries, one of the world’s most imposing birds.
- James Cook University uses the park as an on-going study site for cyclone and climate change research, remote sensing of fire damage and habitat mapping.





ANCIENT CONNECTIONS

- Smithfield Regional Park is within the Yirrganydji Aboriginal people's traditional country, which extends north from the Barron River to the Mowbray River and Port Douglas.

HISTORY

- A small area of what is now Smithfield Regional Park was quarried, and during World War II the Australian Armed Forces used part of the park as a bombing range.
- In the 1990s mountain bikers used the area and built much of the existing trail network from the early quarry and logging trail network.
- The park was gazetted in 2000.

CARING FOR THE PARK

- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) rangers work to conserve the park's natural and cultural values and to provide a range of recreational opportunities for visitors, through partnerships with key stakeholders.
- Park rangers have worked tirelessly since 2014 to drastically improve access for emergency vehicles and spectators.
- The Cairns Mountain Bike Club has long-standing formal agreements with QPWS. The park is the club's official base and they look after the trails, monitor rider behaviour and hold regular rides and events.
- These trails are used during events and are also available for recreational use anytime. The competition downhill is a restricted access area and to ride this trail you need to join an organised club ride or get a permit from QPWS.

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 queenslandnationalparks.com.au

 Visit npsr.qld.gov.au/parks for detailed park information

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