

The Reef

April/May 2018

RV lifestyle awaits

Buying an RV?

Here's what you need to know

On display

Our gorgeous Gardenia will have you holidaying in your own home

Artists in residence

Artistic minds unite at Palm Lake Resort Bargarra



Welcome to Bargara

Welcome back! We hope you've been well and enjoying the slightly more comfortable temperatures as summer changes to autumn. It's a truly wonderful time of the year in our part of the world. Did you know that Bargara offers a temperate climate similar to Hawaii? With year-round sunshine, we are lucky to be able to holiday at home right here!

The Sales team has seen many busy days. Stage 7 is almost sold out and we have more functions coming, so keep an eye out for your invitation.

We also have a great promotion on at the moment featuring our ready-built homes – these villas are brand new, complete and ready for your new resort lifestyle. Our range of stunning ready-built homes are designed for the Queensland coastal climate and feature open-plan living with luxury fittings and finishes, Caesarstone benchtops, Smeg appliances and much more. If you purchase a ready-built home before April 30, 2018, upon settlement you will receive a free \$5000 gift card from Coles Myer to get you resort ready. You'll have to act fast though, as we only have a handful of ready-built homes available at Bargara.

Come and visit the sales team at 39 Wearing Road, Bargara. Our office is open seven days from 9am-4.30pm. Otherwise you can always freecall us on 1800 501 119 or email the team at salesbargara@palllake.com.au We look forward to hearing from you.

Brittany Baldwin
Regional Sales Manager

Staying connected

Here are some of the regular activities we offer at Palm Lake Resort Bargara:

- Yoga
- Tai chi
- Zumba
- Line dancing
- Bridge, Rummikub, 500
- Mah-jong
- Bingo
- Knit and Knatter
- Craft
- Pottery
- Art group
- Scrapbooking
- Walking group
- Golf simulator
- Tennis
- Table tennis
- Golf
- Mixed lawn bowls
- Ladies-only lawn bowls
- Aqua aerobics
- Darts
- Billiards/Pool

APRIL / MAY

What's happening



Stay a night for free!

Many of our Palm Lake Resort Bargara enquiries come from people in distant locations right around Australia. If you are coming to visit us from out of town, freecall 1800 501 119 to arrange a resort tour and a complimentary night's accommodation on us.

This offer is subject to availability and conditions apply, but there's never been a better excuse to indulge in a stopover to properly inspect our world-class facilities and welcoming homes.

What's on in Bargara

Agrotrend Meet the Palm Lake Resort Bargara team at our stand at Agrotrend on April 27-28. The event will be a feast of family fun. Enjoy meeting furry friends at the Australian Alpaca Show and the Working Cattle Dog Trials. Marvel at the Strongman Competition and tractor pull. Take in the amazing aromas of the Bundaberg BBQ Competition. There will also be vintage vehicle displays, robots and drones, a rodeo, live entertainment and more. Head to the Bundaberg Recreational Precinct, University Drive, Bundaberg.

Seniors Forum At the upcoming Seniors Forum: Mind, Body & Soul, participants will enjoy free morning tea, a bag of goodies and presentations on mental and physical wellbeing in seniors, getting around the community with/without a car and, travelling with dementia. Reps from the Public Trustee and BreastScreen Qld will be available to chat at morning tea. It's on at the Bundaberg Multiplex Function Centre on May 1, from 8.30am-noon.

Art Feast This is an exciting celebration of local art that also supports the Bundaberg BUSHkids charity. Hosted and curated by St Luke's Anglican School, Art Feast allows local artists to promote and sell their art. The exhibition will run from May 19-20 with workshops and a cocktail evening as well. Find it at 4 Mezger St, Bundaberg. Admission is \$5.

Doggie day out comes to Bundaberg

Million Paws Walk is the RSPCA's biggest annual fundraiser. On May 20, thousands of supporters in 20 locations across the state will walk with their pooches to fight animal cruelty. We know how much Palm Lake Resort Bargara residents love their pooches in our pet-friendly resort, so join the walk locally at Lions Park, Queen St, Bundaberg, from 8am-1pm. There will be food, competitions and kids' activities - a great day out for your friends, family and dogs! Purchase your tickets at www.millionpawswalk.com.au





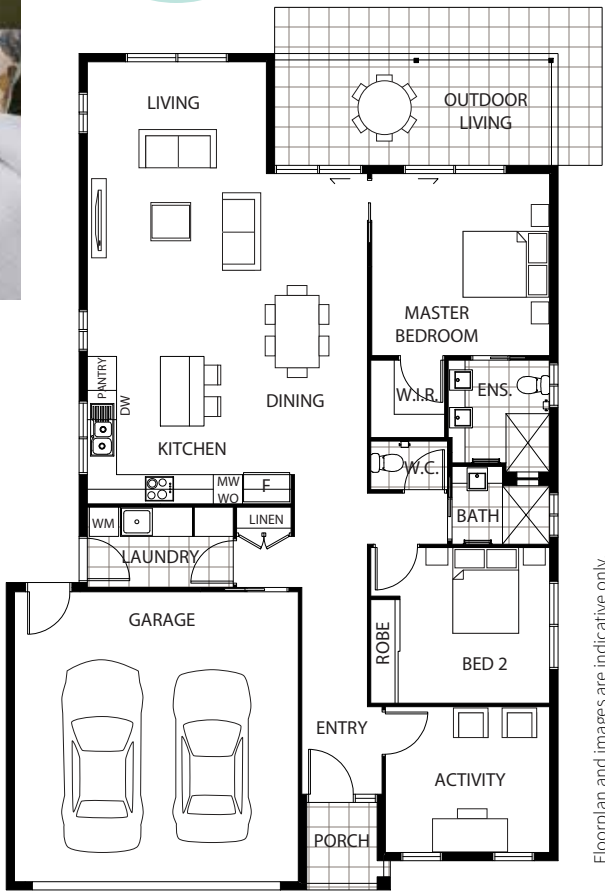
Ready-built
Gardenias now
available



Gardenia in full bloom

The Bargara area offers beautiful beaches, stunning rocky coastlines and friendly locals. With our delightful Gardenia, your perfect sea change awaits.

This house is designed for comfort with a large master bedroom, ensuite bathroom and walk-in-robe all overlooking the outdoor living area. A beautiful open-plan kitchen, dining and lounge area will no doubt be the hub of this home. There's a second bedroom and your additional activity room is multipurpose. Use it as a dedicated office/study space, for an overflow of visitors, or to house your passion project (maybe for you it's a sewing/craft room, a library or even an art studio?).



Floorplan and images are indicative only, conceptual in nature and subject to change.

BATHS 2	BATHS 2	LIVING 1	ACTIVITY	OUTDOOR LIVING	GARAGE 2
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Getting back to nature

Botanical prints are on-trend in interior design right now. Bring a little bit of nature inside with leaf prints, natural fibres and pops of glorious green, as seen in our popular display homes.



Left: According to colour experts, green represents growth, nature, money, fertility and safety. The colour green is relaxing and full of balance.



Above: Jute rugs make a natural statement while being hard wearing and functional. There are so many styles to choose from.



Below: Leaf prints can be busy if used in excess. Choose a few statement cushions or an ottoman for on-trend botanical interest.



Above: Create moments of relaxation among your new indoor jungle via a statement armchair in gorgeous green.



Hit the road right

RV, caravan, campervan, motorhome... Whether you're an RV rookie or a caravan connoisseur looking to invest in a 'cubby house on wheels', have you considered these points?

Choosing an RV to suit your needs can be an overwhelming task. Aside from your home and car, it can be one of the biggest purchases you'll make. With so many different products available in Australia, how do you know whether you're making the right choice? Truth be told, there are usually a number of styles of RV that will match any physical and budgetary requirements. We asked the experts at Brisbane Camperland for their thoughts on how to choose the perfect RV and what questions buyers should ask themselves during the buying process...

Have you set a budget?

Setting a budget is the first and most critical point to consider to help determine the range of products available to you. For example, will you purchase your RV brand new or pre-loved?

What's your vehicle towing capacity?

Every make and model of vehicle is given a tow rating by its manufacturer. The ratings are known as 'towing capacity' and 'ball weight' or 'downball load capacity', and it's essential that you understand these capacities before choosing a caravan. Some people even prefer to select their caravan before purchasing their tow vehicle, to ensure that their vehicle will be suitable.

What's your towing ability?

When buying a caravan, another thing to consider is how confident you are in towing, reversing and parking that van? You may need to opt for a smaller caravan initially or enrol in a towing safety course to build up your skills.

Where will you store your RV?

Storage is an important consideration when choosing your RV. Luckily, Palm Lake Resort Bargara offers on-site RV storage facilities and

RV homes with extra-long and high garages designed to let you park your RV right there within your own home. Consider where your RV will be kept during downtime and assess conditions like weather, security and space – this will also determine the maximum size it can be.

Will you stick to the bitumen or travel off the beaten track?

This will determine whether you should consider an on-road or off-road model. Certain models are ideally suited to highway travel and the odd dirt road, as long as it's free of corrugations. On the other hand, RVs offering a stronger chassis, upgraded suspension, additional ground clearance and off-road wheels and tyres are more suitable for beaches, dirt roads and more remote locations.

Where will you be setting up camp?

If you plan to stay mainly in caravan parks with amenities and power, you may choose an RV without ensuite facilities or solar/battery equipment. If you plan to stay in free camps or campgrounds without facilities, you should consider an RV with an ensuite offering a shower and toilet, solar panel and battery (to power lights, pumps and appliances) and larger water storage capacity (preferably two or more water tanks). A grey water tank is also recommended, but not essential. It is also worth noting that most of these options can be added to a variety of different RV types, so consider this when making your final decision. The type of holiday and duration of your adventures will also help to determine what products will be most suitable. You should consider this as part of your purchasing process as it's important to purchase an RV that will meet your minimum requirements.

Easy clean!
Palm Lake Resort Bargara's on-site undercover wash bay makes caring for your RV a breeze

Roam if you want to...

The Palm Lake Resort Bargara 'Roamers RV Group' is an active band of residents who go on holiday adventures together, touring places both near and far. You need not own a caravan or motorhome to be part of the group - you may just have a tent or maybe you would prefer to rent an on-site van or cabin at one of the locations they visit?

Trip organiser Steve (Villa 227) says although the Roamers meet at organised locations, there is no compulsion to travel together or stay for the same period of time – members are free to come and go as they wish. However, the beauty of being a member of the Roamers is that some caravan parks and holiday locations offer discounts for groups. And, of course, there's all the laughs, camaraderie and fun that goes along with membership and travelling together! To check out what the Roamers have been up to recently, see Page 11.

RV homes prove popular

Did you know construction is now underway for RV homes in Stage 9 at Palm Lake Resort Bargara? As well as all the traditional luxury designs and finishes, RV homes have extra wide and long garages to securely house your motorhome, caravan or camper trailer. Check out our Flame Tree, Pandanus and Grande RV designs. And, remember, while you're away travelling in your RV, your home is safe here in our secure lifestyle resort community. Perfect.



Around the grounds

Right: Roy and Viv caught this impressive 1.3m blue fin tuna recently, within sight of our beach at Bargarra!



Above: Our Red Claw Bowls Club held an event recently, sponsored by the Indigenous Wellbeing Centre. The day was well supported by local bowlers. A great result in the raffle saw Theo and Robyn (pictured) win three meat trays!



Above: Check out this group of Bargarra ladies doing their bit for the Cancer Council by making turbans to donate. Well done, girls!



Above left: Some of the smiles from the recent official opening event for our Milon gym and lap pool. **Above right:** The Palm Lake Resort RV Roamers caravan and motorhome enthusiast group had their first outing for 2018 to Cool Waters Van Park at Yeppoon. This group of likeminded adventurers always has a great time on the road.



Knitting for a worthwhile cause

The Monday afternoon Knit and Natter group recently hosted two visiting ladies from Edon Place women's shelter, for victims of domestic violence. These guests told residents about Edon Place and thanked them for the Christmas stockings and gifts they donated for needy local mothers and children.

Many members of this group have been knitting Easter baskets and donating Easter eggs to fill them. They have been sewing and knitting clothes, jumpers, beanies and blankets for the children. Our resort guests returned to Edon Place with a car-load of donated goodies ready for winter.

Wool is always being donated by the fellow residents of Palm Lake Resort Bargarra for members to use for these purposes. New members are most welcome to Knit and Knatter, so come along and join in for a rewarding afternoon. For more information, contact Denise (Villa 10), Kerry (Villa 41) or Cathy (Villa 95).

Mah-jong news

Recently, 19 Palm Lake Resort Bargarra mah-jong players attended their first competition held at the Bundaberg Civic Centre. The ladies had been practising for several weeks in the Sea Breeze Clubhouse in the lead up to the competition. Anyone in the Clubhouse at these times would have noticed there was plenty of happy laughter and homemade cake shared. Many residents wished the team well and there was definitely excitement in the air.

Eighty players attended the event in total, some coming from as far as Rockhampton, Yeppoon, Gympie and Brisbane. Games promptly began at 8.30am and the organisers did a great job of setting up the room and keeping the day's proceedings on track. Play finished by 2pm for the presentations.

Many prizes and raffle gifts were won and although our local team didn't win overall, members say they were winners in their own right as they gained great experience and had a fun day out. The top scorer for our club was popular 'funny girl', Lorraine Van Damme.

Caretakers' notes

Hi everyone – How fast is this year moving?! We are pleased to welcome some new residents since our last newsletter. We know that you will be excited with this next chapter in your life: New neighbours, new friendships and, who knows, you may bump into someone you already know.

Our residents are making the most of all the amazing activities we have on offer here at beautiful Palm Lake Resort Bargarra. With our latest additions to the resort, the Milon gym and lap pool have become very popular. Indoor carpet bowls is another fairly new addition. Wow, is this sport popular! There's so much laughter and so much fun had!

At the end of the day, join us at the Sea Breeze Country Club for a beautiful meal. Meals are served on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6pm as well as Wednesdays at 12 noon. Then on Fridays, Bistro is at 12 noon with two choices on offer. How nice, when you don't even have to do the dishes.

As always, a HUGE thank you to the wonderful work our resort volunteers do.

See you around the resort!

Phil & Robyn
Resort caretakers

Artist in residence

Meet Ngari Pearce, the Palm Lake Resort Bargara resident who took an RV-sized garage and made it her own art workshop.

If you happen to be walking past the residence of Kel and Ngari Pearce on a Friday afternoon, you'll probably hear them before you spot them – the eight-strong group of paint-splattered ladies, chatting and laughing around easels in Ngari's expansive garage-turned-art studio.

As big fans of their weekly Tuesday art group in the resort's beautiful art room, and monthly tuition from a local artist who visits from outside the resort, the ladies decided they'd like to take up an extra weekly session to learn even more new skills. Award-winning artist Ngari's home seemed like the perfect fit.

"A few of the girls wanted to try some of the techniques I use, so they came up to my house so I could show them," says Ngari (pictured right). "That was about 12 months ago, and we've carried on meeting in my garage every Friday ever since. There are around eight of us now, and I don't think we can fit any more!"

Aside from a few workshops here and there, Ngari is basically a self-taught artist and her work has attracted a lot of attention from the local community. She has permission to open her garage gallery during resort open days and has recently been commissioned to paint a piece for her neighbour's villa.

"The ladies are producing some really nice stuff and we're going to be holding an exhibition at the Gin Gin Courthouse Gallery throughout May," says Ngari. "We're all just doing it as a hobby and are so appreciative of the facilities at the resort – we see this social group as a way to build upon what we learn in the art lessons."



Hassle-free horticulture

Palm Lake Resort homes offer low-maintenance yards which means there's more time to focus your energy on cultivating your indoor plant display. Succulents have sent the décor world into a spin in recent years and their low-maintenance care regime means they're popular for more than just their looks.

Whether you've got them grouped in small pots or large specimens dominate the corner of your living space, cacti and succulents bring a certain something to the atmosphere of a room.

Paired best with more natural textures like wicker, wood, leather or marble, these plants always add interest to a room or any simple vignette. But the real reason people opt for a cactus or succulent is because they are so easy to maintain or, rather, how hard they are to kill!

Native to the arid, dry landscape of the American desert, cacti in particular require far less water than your standard house plant. Because there is no one type of cacti, the amount of water and sun they require varies. However, a good rule of thumb is to water them when the soil has dried out and to keep them in an environment that is most similar to their natural environment – somewhere hot and sunny.

The same general rules also apply to succulents which, fun fact, is an umbrella term that can also include cacti. Most popular succulents, like mother-in-law's tongue and snake plants, can tolerate moderate light and low humidity, and won't shrivel up and die if they are neglected for a week or two like other house plants.

Thanks to their origins in the tough conditions of the desert, cacti and succulents have developed the ability to store water for long periods of time – meaning more green living spaces and less plant funerals for you!

Green thumb mum

Give mum some luxe gardening essentials this Mother's Day for a practical gift that she'll love.



1. Gardening gloves, \$50
2. Compost scoop, \$30
3. Greenhouse caddy, \$35

Items available from
www.annabeljames.co.uk



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