The Gold Coast offers a capital city experience alongside sun-drenched beaches and World-Heritage listed rainforest. As one of Australia’s fastest growing cities, the Gold Coast is attracting a workforce of highly skilled and talented professionals. The city’s industry sectors include creative industries, health and medical, and environmental science.

**KEY INDUSTRY SECTORS**

**HEALTH AND SCIENCE**
The city has a wealth of health and medical infrastructure with the industry contributing over AUD1.5 billion in annual revenue. The Gold Coast University Hospital is one of Queensland’s largest clinical teaching and research facilities, and Griffith University’s Institute of Glycomics is conducting unique research into the use of carbohydrates for drug and vaccine discovery. The new Griffith Health Centre is one of Australia’s most advanced schools of dentistry, with specialised laboratories and research facilities.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**
As one of the Gold Coast’s fastest growing industry sectors, more than 400 companies operate within the environmental industry, focusing on construction, coastal and marine consulting, urban planning and design, water treatment technology, professional services in the carbon market and emissions trading. Bond University’s Mirvac School of Sustainable Development is Australia’s first six-star carbon neutral sustainable building.

**CREATIVE INDUSTRIES**
The Gold Coast has over 1,000 businesses engaged in the city’s creative industries, including film and television, performing arts, music, writing and publishing, architecture, advertising and graphic design. A number of academies and training facilities support these creative industries, including the Queensland College of Art and the Queensland Conservatorium at Griffith University’s Gold Coast campus.

**FILM**
The diverse landscapes and vast studio facilities located on the Gold Coast have made the region a film industry hot spot both in Australia and around the world. Seventy-six per cent of all film production in Queensland happens here, with recent blockbusters including ‘Pirates of The Caribbean’ and ‘Thor’ in 2016. Village Roadshow Studios is one of the largest studios in the Southern Hemisphere.

**DIGITAL INDUSTRIES AND INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY**
The Gold Coast ICT industry includes both small to medium enterprises and large national and multinational companies. The city’s four universities are delivering a talented pool of students in fields including software engineering, artificial intelligence, enterprise architecture, multimedia, computer game development and information systems. IBM has an Australia Development Laboratory (ADL) in the city, which is responsible for developing, expanding and supporting IBM’s software portfolio for clients locally and globally.

**SPORT**
The Gold Coast is host of the 2018 Commonwealth Games. It’s a world leader in the sports industry with over 33 first-class training and competition standard facilities plus a range of auxiliary and support services for international sporting teams and associations. The city also hosts international sporting competitions like the Australian Surf Lifesaving Championships and the Quiksilver Pro and Roxy Pro.

**TOURISM**
More than 13 million visitors flock to the Gold Coast every year and the industry employs 36,000 people.
ASSOCIATION FACT SHEET

The Gold Coast has an outstanding track record of hosting a wide range of prestigious international conferences, including:

- 13th Congress of the World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology 2015
- Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference 2016
- 19th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Otitis Media (RAOM) 2017
- Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases 2018

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (GCCEC)

Exhibition space: 10,000 sqm
Meeting rooms: 22
Largest tiered theatre capacity: 6,000 people
Total capacity: 6,000 people

Key Attractions

The Gold Coast has a range of entertainment and attractions, with theme parks, over 40 international standard or championship golf courses, 600 restaurants and cafés and an abundance of natural wonders. Key attractions include:

- Visit Dreamworld theme park and come face-to-face with crocodiles and koalas and experience some of the fastest rides in the world.
- Take a private or group surfing lesson on the Gold Coast.
- Partake in Australia’s highest external building climb. SkyPoint Climb, at the top of Q1, provides 360 degree views of the Gold Coast and beyond.
- Take a scenic flight to Lady Elliot Island, a coral cay on the Great Barrier Reef.
- Visit Mount Tamborine, located 50 minutes from the Gold Coast, and explore rainforest canopies on the Tamborine Rainforest Skywalk.

Planning & Logistics

Access

The Gold Coast is serviced by two major international airports, Gold Coast Airport and Brisbane Airport. Brisbane Airport is within one-hour drive of the city.

Accommodation

With over 42,000 accommodation rooms, the Gold Coast meets accommodation needs with ease. Choose from a wide variety of international hotels, resorts, apartments, as well as mountain and spa retreats.

Smart City

The 200-hectare Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct is a rapidly growing vibrant community where people live, learn and work. Already home to the Gold Coast University Hospital and Griffith University, the AUD550 million Commonwealth Games village will be built within the precinct.

Upcoming Key Developments

More than AUD13.5 billion in major infrastructure projects are planned or underway, including:

- Revitalising the city centre at Southport, including the construction of an AUD6.8 million Chinatown precinct.
- Creation of a AUD365 million Gold Coast Cultural Precinct which will include a garden-style amphitheatre that can cater up to 5,000 people.
- Extension of a light rail system connecting key health, knowledge, business and cultural precincts.
- Major expansion of Jupiters Hotel and Casino, including a six star, 17-storey luxury hotel tower, completed before 2018.

Weather

Gold Coast has a sub-tropical climate. Average maximum temperature:

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