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The Best B&Bs in Australia

A state-by-state guide to the best B&Bs in Australia.

There is something utterly romantic about the humble B&B. In an era when boutique hotels and self-catering apartments are becoming more prevalent, sometimes it's the small operators who offer the best holiday experience for couples seeking a winter snuggle away from home.

The following privately owned properties go well beyond your typical room-and-breakfast package, offering equal parts personalised service and just the right amount of privacy. There are many wonderful boutique properties that didn't make the cut for the simple reason that the owners are based off-site or the breakfast part was lacking.

We gave special dispensation to a couple of operators who provide gourmet DIY breakfast hampers, but we wanted this story mostly to champion the B&Bs that do things the old-fashioned way, with a leisurely start over a fresh-cooked and lovingly made breakfast.

Best B&Bs in Queensland

WITCHES FALLS COTTAGES

Queensland's oldest national park is right on the doorsteps of these cute gabled cottages in the Gold Coast hinterland, less than an hour from Brisbane. Each cottage is completely private, with a verandah, courtyard, fireplace and bathrobes. Breakfast is delivered to your room and barbecue hampers are available on request.

SOMETHING SPECIAL: Witches Falls Cottages won the Hosted Accommodation category at the 2010 Queensland Tourism Awards. Packages include the Seashell Massage package or a Visit Mt Tamborine tour, which includes pick-up from the Gold Coast or Helensvale train station.

HOW MUCH? Rates start at \$238 per night per cottage, and there's a minimum two-night stay over weekends.

WHILE YOU'RE HERE: Visit the glow-worm caves; go on a hot-air balloon ride over Lamington National Park; stroll along the Tamborine Mountain Rainforest Skywalk; visit the thunder-egg mine; trawl the village antiques shops.

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