

# Beach Safety

## Find out about the beach and conditions

Queensland's beautiful and iconic beaches are famous all over the world, attracting millions of local residents, interstate tourists and international guests alike. However, not all of these beachgoers are aware of the potential dangers they may encounter. The size and strength of the surf, unpredictable rips and gutters, and dangerous marine creatures can all pose a risk for swimmers and beachgoers. With that in mind, it is important to know how to protect yourself in the water and understand the warning signs and flags, to ensure you remember your trip to the beach for all the right reasons.

The red and yellow flagged area, set up by qualified surf lifesavers and lifeguards, represent a safer place to swim than unpatrolled areas. Lifesavers and lifeguards consider a number of factors when determining this area, including wave height, rip currents, wind, and swell direction. When visiting a beach it is important to always swim between the red and yellow flags.

### BEACH SAFETY FLAGS



RED and YELLOW FLAGS:  
Always swim between the flags.



RED FLAG:  
No swimming.



YELLOW FLAG:  
Caution required. Potential hazards.



RED AND WHITE FLAG:  
Evacuate the water.



BLACK AND WHITE FLAG:  
Surfcraft riding area boundary.

There are also a number of signs that lifesavers and/or lifeguards may use to communicate with beachgoers and warn them of any potential hazards. These may include: dangerous surf, closed beaches, and marine stingers.

### BEACH SIGNS

Warning signs (diamond shape, yellow and black) are used to warn you about a hazard(s) at the beach.



WARNING NO LIFESAVING SERVICE



SWIMMING NOT ADVISED



UNEXPECTED LARGE WAVES



MARINE STINGERS

### How else can I enjoy the beach safely?

When at the beach, or in any aquatic environment, children must be supervised both in and around the water's edge. Learning to swim is a skill for life and one everybody should learn. Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide to protect yourself from the sun, and always remember to stay hydrated.

All beachgoers are encouraged to talk to the lifesavers or lifeguards on duty about localised conditions and beach safety before entering the water.

For more information, visit [lifesaving.com.au](https://lifesaving.com.au)

SURF LIFE SAVING  
QUEENSLAND

