



**brisbane**  
australia's new world city



HOST CITY OF THE  
**G2014**  
LEADERS SUMMIT

WEBSITE [choosebrisbane.com.au](http://choosebrisbane.com.au) EMAIL [g20@brisbanemarketing.com.au](mailto:g20@brisbanemarketing.com.au)

# Invest In Brisbane

## Where Brisbane stands

- Australia's new world city, Brisbane is an emerging economic powerhouse and gateway to the Asia Pacific. As the closest Australian eastern seaboard capital city to Asia, Brisbane offers an attractive business environment in a region supporting an ever-increasing share of global economic growth.
- Brisbane is a major hub for large resource and energy companies, a significant centre for research and innovation, and the engine room of much of Australia's continued economic growth, in defiance of the global downturn of the past five years. The city's \$135 billion economy is predicted to grow to more than \$217 billion by 2031, having been a key driver of the Australian economy throughout its 21 continuous years of growth.

## Growth industries

- Brisbane offers investors opportunities across a broad range of sectors – including energy and resources, digital industries, food and agribusiness, logistics and distribution, innovative manufacturing, clean technologies and infrastructure.

## Energy and Resources

- Investment in Australia's resource and energy sector is currently at record levels, and Brisbane, as Queensland's business centre, is home to over 170 of the sector's largest resource and energy regional and global company headquarters. There are in excess of \$175 billion in future resource investment projects in the pipeline and activity in the sector is set to continue as the major source of growth for the Queensland and Australian economies.

- The resources sector is Queensland's single largest industry in terms of gross value-add, placing in the top five of global producers of silver, copper, lead, zinc and bauxite. Queensland remains the world's largest seaborne exporter of coal, with over 190 million tonnes exported in 2013. Australia's known gas reserves have grown rapidly over the past two decades, the fourth-largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the world, projected soon to be the second-largest once Queensland comes online. Brisbane acts as a major services hub for Queensland's unfolding gas boom, supporting over \$60 billion worth of LNG projects under construction in the state and a further \$20-30 billion in mooted future projects.

## Innovative manufacturing

- Brisbane excels in the area of advanced manufacturing and is one of the few Australian cities where manufacturing sector growth is forecast over the next 20 years. Melbourne University labour market economist Jeff Borland says "Queensland has enjoyed an absolute, as well as a relative, increase in manufacturing jobs. The spread of manufacturing jobs as a share of total jobs in each state has converged dramatically." Currently, manufacturing is the third-largest industry in Brisbane in terms of employment with 54,405 (8.6%) people working in this industry. As just one example, the city is home to Volvo Trucks' Australian manufacturing operation, where the Swedish automotive giant is producing its new FH truck series.

## Infrastructure

- Development of key economic infrastructure remains a priority

for Queensland, with more than \$35 billion of road, rail and water projects currently in the investment pipeline. These major infrastructure projects are rapidly changing the face of Brisbane:

- Brisbane's \$5 billion Bus and Train (BaT) tunnel project is one of the biggest infrastructure projects ever undertaken in the city. The 5km tunnel will feature a world-first design, combining a railway and busway in a single, double-decked, 15m-wide tunnel beneath the Brisbane River and central business district. The project will lay the foundation for a sophisticated, international-standard, "turn up and go" transit system for South East Queensland. BaT will revolutionise public transport and create more than 18,000 full-time jobs in Brisbane. Geotechnical drilling investigations began in the Brisbane River in January and the final reference design and environmental impact statement are expected to be available for public comment later this year. The project is due to be completed in 2020 and operational in 2021.
- Two bidding consortia have been shortlisted to submit detailed proposals to develop a potentially multi-billion dollar integrated resort development at Queen's Wharf Brisbane. They are Greenland Group and Crown Resorts Ltd and Destination Brisbane Consortium (Echo Entertainment Group and Far East Consortium/Chow Tai Fook Enterprises). This is one of Queensland's most exciting tourism projects – a six-star multi-billion dollar integrated resort development at Queen's Wharf in Brisbane's CBD. The development will draw increasing numbers of international tourists and businesses to the city. A





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gaming licence has been offered to encourage the provision of a world-class integrated resort for the under-utilised 9ha government-owned site adjacent to the north bank of the Brisbane River. It will include facilities such as six-star hotels, retail, restaurant and entertainment zones, convention facilities, and public open spaces. The short-listed companies will be required to lodge fully-developed proposals by late 2014 and a formal announcement regarding the successful developer and its development scheme is expected early next year.

- Spanish company Acciona Infrastructure has a strong presence in Brisbane where it is delivering one of the country's biggest transport tunnel projects. The company is part of a joint venture to design, construct, operate and maintain for 10 years the \$1.5 billion Legacy Way. The tunnel will link residential growth areas in Brisbane's western suburbs to the airport in Brisbane's east when it opens to traffic in 2015.
- The \$1.3 billion parallel runway being undertaken by the Brisbane Airport Corporation is a critical component of a multi-billion dollar investment into capacity-building infrastructure. The project will have significant short and long-term benefits. It will deliver a regional economic benefit of about \$5 billion a year by 2035. Construction has begun with \$50 million worth of site works already underway.
- The \$1.7 billion Toowoomba Second Range Crossing will have a major effect on the future development of Brisbane. The project has attracted a \$1.3 billion commitment from the Australian Government - the

single largest regional road infrastructure investment in Queensland's history. The 41km road project will be shovel-ready in early 2015, driving Queensland's economic growth by creating 1800 new jobs. It will provide the missing link between the Surat Basin, where an estimated \$30 billion worth of mining and development projects are planned or underway, to international gateways via the Port of Brisbane and the labour and support services in South East Queensland.

- Construction is expected to start mid-2015 on the reactivation of the Howard Smith Wharves, a culturally-important precinct situated at Petrie Bight below the Story Bridge. The 3.4ha site provides an opportunity to revitalise the riverside precinct through mixed-use commercial and community facilities. Current plans include new parkland, a boutique hotel, restaurants, cafes, bars and exhibition space, helping further shape Brisbane's city centre while catering for its growing population and increased visitation. Construction of a new 170m timber wharf has already been completed. The restoration captures the site's history as a working wharf. The cliffs surrounding the site have undergone stabilisation to ensure the safety and protect five World War II air raid shelters.

### Research and Development

- Brisbane is home to Australia's largest minerals and energy innovation precinct, the Queensland Centre for Advanced Technology (QCAT). With more than 360 researchers, QCAT works closely with governments, universities and industry to develop the technologies and innovations that are required

for Australia's future. Its focus on mining-related technologies is supported by research in construction, agriculture, ICT and robotics.

### Hotels

- In late 2013, Brisbane's economic development board Brisbane Marketing commissioned research showing the city's hotel capacity could grow by 330 rooms per annum to 2022. Since then the city has successfully attracted hotel investment and new brands into the city, welcoming five new hotels and 587 new rooms. These include Four Points by Sheraton, Gambaro's, Alpha Mosaic, TRYP and NEXT Hotel.
- The city's strategy to target hotel investors, developers and operators was driven by data that demonstrated growth in demand for rooms well exceeded growth in supply. Between 2010 and 2013 the number of hotel rooms available in Brisbane grew just 2.8 per cent compared to a 4.9 per cent increase in demand (total visitor nights).
- Strong future demand and significant investment in new infrastructure and major tourism precincts is expected to drive ongoing investment in the city. This will in turn improve the city's appeal as a visitor destination with both leisure and corporate travellers, generating more business events, conventions and growth in the major events calendar. Brisbane continues to offer significant opportunities for hotel operators, investors and developers seeking to gain a foothold in a growth market.





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## City of the future

- Brisbane is regularly singled out as a city to watch due to its optimal location, growing depth of talent, innovation and diverse economic growth potential.
- The 2013 World Bank Doing Business Annual Report, named Australia one of the most “business friendly” countries in the world and Brisbane was recently rated ahead of Moscow, Abu Dhabi and Geneva as a global innovation leader as part of the 2thinknow Innovative Cities Index.
- Brisbane was last year named the most business-friendly region in Australia as part of the Regional Australia Institute [In] Sight Index. The results of the index also show Brisbane as the number one city in Australia for local government assistance to business and Brisbane City Council as the local government with the most influence on its state and federal counterparts when it comes to bettering the business environment.
- Brisbane has rapidly grown in status as a destination of choice for international business events, and being selected to host the G20 Leaders Summit in 2014 is a ringing endorsement of its cosmopolitanism and state-of-the-art venues.
- Investment opportunities
- With its proximity to the Asia-Pacific, Brisbane offers an attractive operating base for investors seeking to leverage opportunities in the region’s tiger economies.
- Australia is expected to realise an average annual rate of real GDP growth of 3.2 per cent between 2012 and 2017 – reflecting the highest anticipated

growth amongst major advanced economies. Brisbane is synonymous with Australia’s ongoing economic success and increasingly it’s a location of choice for businesses with ambitions to leverage the world’s fastest growing economic region.

For more information, visit **[choosebrisbane.com](http://choosebrisbane.com)**

