

# Smoke-free areas in Queensland national parks

## Information for park visitors

### Breathe easier...

From 1 February 2017 it is against the law to smoke in areas of Queensland national parks.

### Where will the bans apply?

Smoking is banned within 10 metres of in-use campsites and any public facilities such as picnic tables, toilet blocks, barbecues, visitor information centres, shelters, jetties and boat ramps.

Signs will be installed in picnic areas to remind visitors about the rules.

These diagrams show examples where the smoking ban applies.

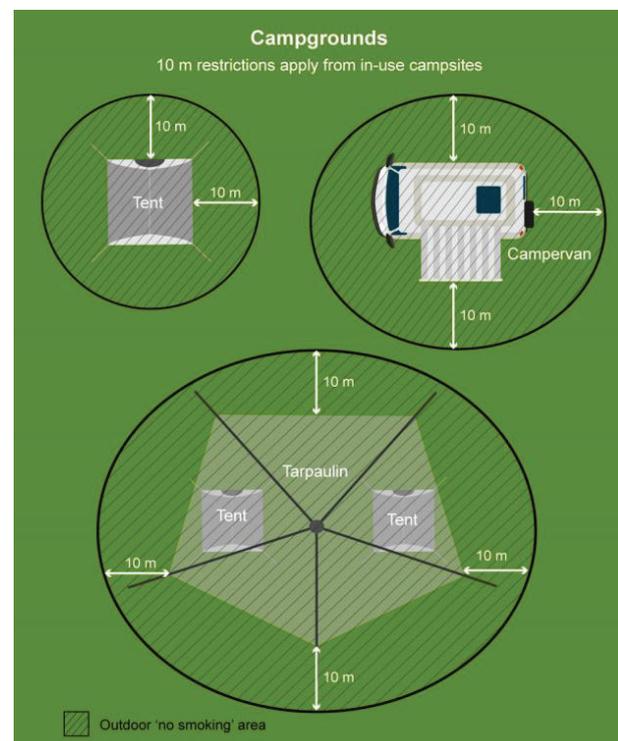
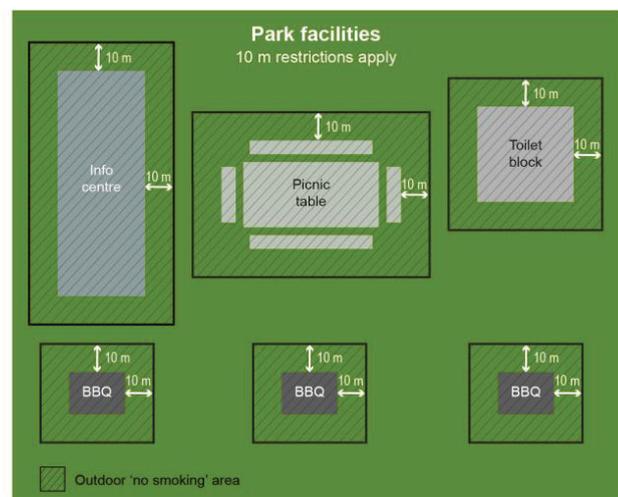
### Why does the ban exist?

Restricting smoking ensures that visitors can enjoy fresh air in parks without being exposed to second-hand smoke.

Smoking remains a significant cause of preventable death and disease in Australia.

Smoke-free public places protect non-smokers from the adverse health effects of passive smoke in public areas.

Every year in Queensland 3700 smokers die from smoking-related diseases.



## How will the ban be enforced?

There is strong community support for banning smoking at public places. This means most people comply with the smoking bans and typically encourage others to do so.

The tobacco laws will be enforced by Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service rangers as well as Queensland Health environmental health officers. These officers can provide advice about the smoking bans, issue individuals warnings and on-the-spot fines and respond to possible breaches.

To report a possible breach of the legislation call 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

## What penalties might apply?

Smokers who do not comply with a warning to stop smoking in a smoke-free area can be issued with an on-the-spot fine.

The maximum penalty for someone breaching the legislation is twenty penalty units, with an on-the-spot penalty of two penalty units.

As at July 2016, the current penalty unit amount is \$121.90. This amount increases annually. For more information on current penalty amounts call 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

## How will people know about the restrictions?

Visitors to parks will have access to information on the smoking bans when they are planning a visit as well as while in a park through:

- information on camping tags
- the Queensland National Parks Booking Service
- posters and signs in smoke-free areas in national parks
- National Parks, Sport and Racing website - [www.npsr.qld.gov.au](http://www.npsr.qld.gov.au), the parks website - [www.queenslandnationalparks.com.au](http://www.queenslandnationalparks.com.au) and the Recreation, Sport and the Arts website - [www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/camping](http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/camping)
- social media posts
- messages on national park brochures.

## Would you like to quit smoking?

To improve your chance of quitting smoking for good, it is a good idea to plan ahead. You may find the tips helpful:

### Get support

- Quitline's trained counsellors are available seven days a week to help you through the process of quitting – call Quitline 13 QUIT (13 78 48) for free information, practical assistance and support.

### Talk to your health professional

- Discuss quitting smoking with your nurse, doctor or general practitioner and plan your quit strategy together.

### Consider using pharmacotherapy

- Different products are available to help you quit smoking. Nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) includes patches, gum, lozenges, inhalers and mouth spray.

## How can I find out more?

For more information:

- Visit [www.health.qld.gov.au](http://www.health.qld.gov.au)
- Call the Quitline on 13 78 48 for support to quit smoking.
- Visit [www.nprsr.qld.gov.au](http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au), [www.queenslandnationalparks.com.au](http://www.queenslandnationalparks.com.au) or [www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/camping](http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/camping)

To view the legislation visit:

<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/T/TobaccoOSmPrR10.pdf>