

Port Macquarie Koala Hospital Self - Guided Tour

- Established 1973
- Not-For-Profit Organisation
- Cares for up to 250 Koalas a year
- Staffed by over 200 volunteers

Rescue: 24 Hour Rescue Hotline

Rehabilitate: Treat Injuries and Illness

Release: Back Into The Wild

Research: Diseases, Drug Therapies, Habitat



Why do Koalas need a hospital?

- Loss of Habitat
- Motor Vehicle Strike
- Disease
- Dog Attacks

Behind The Scenes



Fresh leaf is harvested from 6-8 trees everyday to feed the koalas.



Daily room service for each Koala in each yard enclosure.



Medication and supplement formula given as necessary

Rehabilitation Yards

Koalas are treated, rehabilitated and prepared for release back into the wild.



Did You Know?

AGE: A male can live to approximately 15 years and a female to 18 years in the wild. They can live longer in human care. You can estimate age by looking at their teeth. Koalas' teeth wear down with age.

EAT: An adult Koala may eat 500g of fresh Eucalyptus leaves or more each day.

EAR TAG: All Koalas that are admitted, treated and released are fitted with an ear tag and microchip. This is for identification for any future admissions and to keep a record of their health.

LIVE: Koalas are found from Cairns, in North Queensland, down along the eastern seaboard to Adelaide in South Australia. Koalas are also found in scattered populations in western Queensland, western New South Wales and inland Victoria.

SLEEP: Koalas conserve their energy by sleeping 18-20 hours a day. This is due to their diet being low in nutrients. It is NOT because they are intoxicated by the Eucalyptus leaves, or that they are lazy.

How can you help?

- Adopt a Koala
- Plant Trees
- Donate
- Volunteer



To ROTO HOUSE and CARPARK



- A - Koalaseum
- B - Souvenir Shop
- C - Clinic Viewing Area



- A. Koalaseum:** Interactive exhibition, displays and information
- B. Shop:** All sales support funding for the not-for-profit Koala Hospital. Koala Adoptions can be done at the shop.
- C. Clinic:** Procedures under anaesthesia such as sonography, pathology, treating of injuries, research sample collection and minor surgery is done here. Major procedures such as orthopedic surgeries are done at Port Macquarie Veterinary Hospital who we have worked with for forty years.

Exhibit Koalas

Patient Board - There are 4 different areas of the Koala Hospital - Exhibit Koalas, Koalas in Rehabilitation, Intensive Care and Home Care. The Patient Board shows the name of the koala, reason for admittance, age, gender, date admitted, problem, cause and treatment.

1. Educational Display - Information about Koalas, their habitat, modern day threats and much more

2. Currently no koala in this enclosure

3. Evans Head CW: This young male koala was observed by a member of the public walking in circles. On examination CW was found to have a ruptured left eye and minor limb injuries consistent with being hit by a car. His left eye had to be removed.

4. Ocean Summer: Was an orphan who was raised in home-care. She was with her mother when they were hit by a car. Sadly, her mother did not survive. The accident has left Summer with a brain injury causing blindness. Ocean Summer and Emerald Downs Mary share an enclosure

Emerald Downs Mary: You will often see her at the top of the tree in her yard. Mary had glaucoma from an injury in her right eye which was so bad that sadly the eye had to be removed. The left eye has shrunk in the eye socket so she is blind. Despite this she still loves to climb, and does so safely.

5-7 No koalas currently in these enclosures.

8. Wauchope Jade: This koala was found wandering in township of Wauchope. Koalas haven't been seen in Wauchope for almost 80 years so we don't know where she came from. A concerned local captured Jade and called the Koala Hospital. Jade is healthy and in good condition but can't be released as her home range is unknown.

9. Maria River Road Jan: In late summer of 2019 a small male joey was found curled up in the middle of the road and was lucky not to have been hit by a car. Jan (pronounced Yarn) was very underweight, anaemic, had a distended abdomen and was worm infested. He responded well to treatment but is not suitable for release.

10. Murwillumbah Bobby: Bobby was attacked by a dog and had lost feeling and movement in his right hindlimb. He was treated with massage, acupuncture, laser therapy and physiotherapy with Friends of the Koala in Lismore and is now able to use his injured hind leg to some degree. He did not recover his climbing and jumping abilities enough to survive in the wild so he was transferred to Port Macquarie Koala Hospital.

Training Yard. Ruins Way Baz: During the peak of the 2019/20 bushfires, National Parks and Wildlife service personnel were fighting these fires when two of their team came across a little burnt koala sitting on the side of the track. Staff named him "Baz" after one of the firefighters. He was quite badly burnt with partial to full thickness burns on his hands, feet and nose. Baz struggled for many weeks to cope, with staff fearing that we may lose him. Unfortunately the extent of his burns has resulted in permanent loss of claws on his hands and feet, plus scar tissue on digits and his chin. He is unable to climb large trees although he can manage trees narrow trunks quite well.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Birpai people as the traditional custodians of the land on which the Koala Hospital stands, and pay respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

Find us on

