

On the road

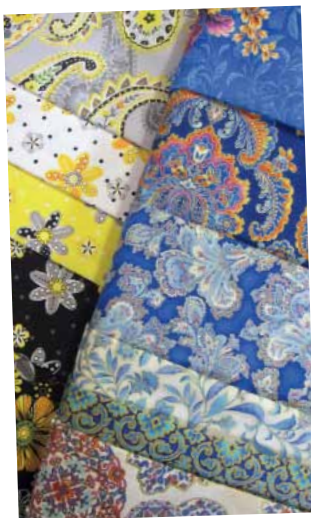
CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

TOUR GUIDE

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BRISBANE

1. Howard VANCOOTENS HOWARD DRAPERY



Where's Howard: Howard is a small, rural town located in the Fraser Coast region, just 25 minutes from Hervey Bay and 20 minutes from Maryborough.

Where in Howard: 71 Steley Street. We're located just down the street from our local Friendly Grocer Store.

Who plays host: Owned and run by Trevor Whitby and helpful staff member Mandy.

Worth visiting because: Established over 40 years ago, we are a must-visit destination for any crafter or visitor to the area. The store houses more than 6,000 bolts of fabric for patchwork, and all the accessories a patchworker needs – from pins to backing fabrics and batting. you name it! But this is just the start of what we have in store. We have curtain and dress fabrics, haberdashery and assorted craft accessories, and not to mention manchester, clothing, shoes, wallets, bags and giftware. We're a good old country store, with good old country hospitality. Large and small craft groups are welcome to visit; just contact us to make a group booking. Find us on Facebook to keep up to date with what's going on in store.

What we recommend: While we have a large range of fabrics to suit any serious patchworker, we also pride ourselves on helping beginners. We stock lots of great patchwork panels, which make a great starting point for an easy and quick quilt for anyone new to the craft.

Address: 71 Steley Street, Howard, Qld 4659

Phone: (07) 4129 4785

Email: vancootens@bigpond.com

Website: www.vancootensdrapery.com

2. Bundaberg TEACUP QUILTS AND NICETIES



Where's Bundaberg: In subtropical Queensland, four and a half hours north of Brisbane.

Where in Bundaberg: Shop 1, Bonalea Arcade, 58-62 Woongarra Street. Near the CBD McDonalds, and only two shops from the local ABC shop.

Who plays host: Julia Jenkins

Worth visiting because: When you visit, you'll be amazed by my range of 3,000 bolts of fabric, which includes some of the most loved manufacturers – Tilda, Lecien, Moda and Liberty of London, just to name a few. I have your sewing essentials well covered, with Floriani products for machine embroidery, Belgian linen, bits and bobs for general sewing needs, a great selection of patterns from both Australian and American designers and more. I also host a wide range of classes. Larger groups can easily be accommodated with notice, and these get-togethers include morning tea.

What we recommend: I'm always finding new and exciting products to sell in store, including felted wool for appliqué.

Address: Shop 1, Bonalea Arcade, 58-62 Woongarra Street, Bundaberg, Qld 4670

Phone: (07) 4153 6953

Fax: (07) 4151 8049

Email: turtlz@bigpond.com

3. Bundaberg THE QUILTERS SHACK

Where's Bundaberg: Approximately 350km north of Brisbane, 20km inland from the coast.

Where in Bundaberg: 77 Boundary Street. We've recently moved from opposite the Burnett River to a much quieter area in town. Just continue south from the river, down Walla Street, which then turns into Boundary Street. We're just on the corner of Boundary and McCracken Streets in a bright pink shop (shown, at right) – you can't miss us.

Who plays host: Sue Ellen and her team.

Worth visiting because: Visitors to Bundaberg will be in for a treat when they visit The Quilters Shack. We have a huge range of fabrics, approximately 5,000 bolts – everything a quilter needs! We also stock a large range of patterns and kits, ready to go. Our thread ranges include Rasant, YLI, Wonderfil, Signature, DMC and Cottage Garden stranded cottons, just to name a few. You will also find a range of haberdashery, bear-making fur, sewing accessories, yarn, giftware and much more. We are also dealers for Pfaff, Husqvarna and Singer sewing machines and Handi Quilter quilting machines, so you'll find everything you need under one roof. Our helpful and friendly staff are always there to lend a hand, and they are very experienced in all facets of patchwork and quilting, so you can be sure to get the best advice and help for your projects.



What we recommend: We simply love Libby Richardson's designs, such as her beautiful *A Little Bit Country* design. It is available as a block of the month for \$35 per month (a full kit is \$350 and the pattern set is \$121, all with additional p&h).

Address: 77 Boundary Street, Bundaberg, Qld 4670

Phone: (07) 4154 4486

Email: girls@thequiltersshack.com

Website: www.thequiltersshack.com

4. Bundaberg & Gladstone THE FABRIC PALETTE & SEW DARN FINE

Where are Bundaberg & Gladstone: You'll find Gladstone just south of Rockhampton, on the coast right near Curtis Island. Travel a bit further south and inland and you'll find Bundaberg.

Where in Bundaberg & Gladstone: 38 Targo Street (Bundaberg). The Fabric Palette is located in the CBD opposite McDonalds. 3/65 Tank Street (Gladstone). Sew Darn Fine is just outside the CBD, up from the town swimming pool going towards the showgrounds. We are right opposite the showground entrance.

Who plays host: Husband-and-wife team Julie and Mark Morgan.

Worth visiting because: Whether you're visiting our Bundaberg or Gladstone store (or both), you can expect to find a great range for your crafting needs. The Fabric Palette at Bundaberg is in a big barn, with wonderfully high ceilings, which give us plenty of space. The store is full of wonderful fabrics, lace and dress fabrics – it's like a lolly shop for quilters. One of the things that we're most well-known for is our great facilities for the travelling quilter. We often have visitors travelling through Bundaberg drop in to work on their sewing. At Sew Darn Fine in Gladstone, we're all about the fabric, with a huge selection of funky fabrics you'll love. We're also stockists of Husqvarna Viking and Janome sewing machines, and we offer service and repairs of machines. Keep up to date with both stores by liking us on Facebook.

What we recommend: We run a heap of classes in the Gladstone



store, and we're more than happy to have visitors join in the classes when you're travelling through.

Address: 38 Targo Street, Bundaberg, Qld 4670
3/65 Tank Street, Gladstone, Qld 4680

Phone: (Bundaberg) (07) 4153 3909, (Gladstone) (07) 4972 3526

Email: julesatsewdarnfine@hotmail.com

5. Gladstone SEW PATCH N QUILT



Where's Gladstone: On the Capricorn Coast, situated between Rockhampton and Bundaberg. Approximately one and a half hours south of Rockhampton. Turn off the highway at Calliope and head towards the coast.

Where in Gladstone: Shop 2, 281 J Hickey Avenue, Clinton (a suburb of Gladstone). We're in the Airport Shopping Village, just down from the airport. Go past the airport and turn left into J Hickey Avenue. The shopping village is on the corner of Col Brown Avenue and J Hickey Avenue, one block down.

Who plays host: Terri and Heathe are always ready to help you.

Worth visiting because: We offer a huge range of everything

you need to sew, patch and quilt. Pick up a new sewing machine from Pfaff, Janome, Bernina, Brother or Elna, or treat yourself to a new quilting machine from HandiQuilter. Our technician provides quality service and repairs on all makes of machine. The shop is a mass of bright and beautiful colour, with our fabric shelves groaning under the weight of our huge range. We carry all the bits and bobs you need to start and complete your quilts and sewing projects, and if we don't have what you need in store, we're happy to order it in for you. We have over 30 backing fabrics in stock, and we also offer a machine-quilting service. If you want, you can even rent our long-arm machine to quilt your own quilts quickly and easily. Classes are our speciality, and you can learn all about patchwork, machine embroidery, dressmaking and pattern drafting. We also have a Kid's Club, which has been a popular addition to our class schedule.

What we recommend: We are so excited to introduce the new Simply Sixteen stand-up quilting machine from HandiQuilter! Now you can quilt all sizes of quilts on a compact frame, perfect for those who would love an affordable long-arm quilting system, but don't have the space. Ask us for a demo in store.

Address: Shop 2, 281 J Hickey Avenue, Clinton, Qld 4680
Phone: (07) 4978 7772 **Email:** info@sewpatchnquilt.com.au
Website: www.sewpatchnquilt.com.au

6. *Biloela* THE FABRIC NOOK



Where's Biloela: Biloela is in Central Queensland, one and a half hours southwest of Rockhampton or one and a half hours west of Gladstone.

Where in Biloela: 59 Kariboe Street. Kariboe Street is off Gladstone Road, the main highway that runs straight through town.

Who plays host: Lorraine Pitman is the owner and does all the dressmaking, alterations and mending. Staff member Tracy runs a lot of the groups and classes and designs quilts and other projects

exclusively for the store. We also have help from staff member Lyn, who has years of experience in patchwork and quilting.

Worth visiting because: We have all your craft needs covered, from patchwork and quilting, to knitting, crochet and embroidery. Browse our range of over 2,500 bolts of patchwork fabrics, and more than 100 different panels for soft books, cot quilts, cushions, Christmas projects and more. There is also a great selection of dress fabric, patterns, books, kits, precuts, quilt backings and battings and a large range of haberdashery, including ribbons, lace, buttons, threads and fabric dyes. We also have Elna sewing machines, and our machine serviceman comes regularly to service all brands of sewing machines and overlockers. Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with what we have going on in store.

What we recommend: If you're interested in joining some classes, we have lots of groups and classes to suit your needs. Monday night is craft; Tuesday is Mums & Bubs group; Wednesday morning is craft; and we also run kids' classes and our monthly project class. All visitors are welcome to join our groups, or just come in and have a cuppa and a chat.

Address: 59 Kariboe Street, Biloela, Qld 4715

Phone: (07) 4992 4399

Email: orders@thefabricnook.com.au

Website: www.thefabricnook.com.au

7. *Rockhampton* PATCHWORK PARADISE

Where's Rockhampton: Situated on the Tropic of Capricorn, along the Bruce Highway, in Queensland. Rockhampton is known as the 'Beef Capital' of Australia.

Where in Rockhampton: 128 William Street. On the south side of Rockhampton, turn down William Street, and the store is only a block and a half from the highway.

Who plays host: Owned and run by Margaret Olive, with the help of Suellen, Debbie and Heather, and a couple of ring-ins when the need arises.

Worth visiting because: The store is always abuzz with lots of classes and groups happening daily. Classes are held Monday, Tuesday and Saturday, while sewing groups meet all day on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and on Saturday mornings. We also have visiting tutors running classes throughout the year. As for our ranges, we really are a patchworker's paradise, with a huge variety of fabrics, patterns, haberdashery and sewing needs. Along with traditional piecing and quilting supplies, we also specialise in English paper piecing, Sashiko, art quilts, toy making, clothes-making classes, machine embroidery and more. Between all the staff, we cover all fields of the patchwork industry.

What we recommend: We're a Quiltworx Certified shop, with a Certified Instructor on hand as well. We do lots of



foundation paper piecing with a huge range of batiks and the Quiltworx patterns.

Address: 128 William Street, Rockhampton, Qld 4700

Phone: (07) 4927 6628

Email: info@patchworkparadise.com.au

Website: www.patchworkparadise.com.au

8. Rockhampton NEEDLEWORK COTTAGE

Where's Rockhampton: Located just 40km from the coast in Central Queensland. It's well worth a stop if you're making your way through the beautiful state of Queensland.

Where in Rockhampton: 194 Quay Street. Needlework Cottage is located beside the beautiful Fitzroy River in the historic Quay Street precinct. Stroll along the boardwalk across the road and take in all Quay Street has to offer. Within walking distance of the Rockhampton Art Gallery.

Who plays host: Mother-and-daughter team of Dianne and Sloane, with the support of Ann-Maree.

Worth visiting because: Step inside our beautiful heritage-listed building into the treasure trove that is Needlework Cottage. Discover our unique collection of fabrics, including a wide selection of Australian-themed fabrics, batiks and interesting patchwork fabrics. There is a large range of fabric panels to choose from for cushions, fabric books and quilts. We also love crochet, and we carry Clever Country 4ply cotton and DMC crochet and perle cottons. There is a big range of stitching threads, including DMC and Presencia, and also a great range of stitching fabrics and linens for all types of embroidery. A beautiful range of tapestry canvases are on offer, along with the threads to complete them. Our stamped linen range is also always popular. You can follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date.



What we recommend: We just love to help out with your projects, so come in and have a chat – we are always happy to recommend something to suit you.

Address: 194 Quay Street, Rockhampton, Qld 4700

Phone: (07) 4922 2150 **Email:** dianne@rockyfit.com

9. Emerald EMERALD FABRIC BOUTIQUE



Where's Emerald: About 270km west of Rockhampton.

Where in Emerald: 3/107 Clermont Street. As you come into

town from Rockhampton, we're just on your right, in the main street – you can't miss our bright blue signage!

Who plays host: Shop owners Shayne and Jenita Black, along with our great staff members Gitana, Fran, Christine and Evelyn. We're all happy to help you with any problems or questions you might have.

Worth visiting because: We have such a vast and beautiful range of fabrics, from fashion through to patchwork. All the dressmaking patterns and haberdashery for all your sewing needs are right under our roof. We have Elna machines and also the services of a sewing-machine technician on hand. Some of our other products include craft wool, a variety of battings, laces, curtain backing and much, much more. Follow us on Facebook, or visit our online store to see what we have in store to inspire you.

What we recommend: Our fabrics are of beautiful quality – we can recommend them for your favourite quilt pattern or garment. We run classes for all sorts of projects, and they are always very popular and great fun. We have lots of young mums sewing in this area and heaps of beginner sewers.

Address: Shop 3/107 Clermont Street, Emerald, Qld 4720

Phone: (07) 4982 4286 **Email:** emfab@tpg.com.au

Website: www.emfab.com.au

10. *Barcaldine* THE SILVER THIMBLE



Where's Barcaldine: Geographically, very close to the centre of Queensland, six hours west of Rockhampton.

Where in Barcaldine: 113 Oak Street. Right in the centre of the main street, 150 metres west of the Tree of Knowledge Monument.

Who plays host: Sandy Gray

Worth visiting because: The Silver Thimble was established in 1998, and because of the great selection of products I have in store, along with my expertise, I have so many great customers,

many of them tourists and returning tourists, who just love visiting my shop. I love to keep all quilters happy, so I have a wide range of fabrics to cater for the more traditional quilters, through to modern. You'll find all your favourite fabric brands, along with a great selection of precuts and a large range of solids, so finding that perfect colour for your quilt is easy. I often hear how much visitors to the area like to visit shops in the country locations – they don't call it good old fashioned country hospitality for nothing!

What we recommend: While there has been ongoing drought in the area, heading into our fourth year, it's been difficult to place 'new quilts' at the top of the priority list. However, it is so important to get together with friends and create. There have been many scrap quilts made in the past few years, and I have several tools in store that enable you to simplify cutting and, therefore, make your scraps go even further. I have several half-square triangle and quarter-square triangle tools available for you. When the rain finally sets in, everyone will be looking at the new fabrics, and I'll be ready!

Address: 113 Oak Street, Barcaldine, Qld 4725

Phone: (07) 4651 1999

Email: graysandy@bigpond.com

Website: www.thesilverthimble.typepad.com