

## Port Macquarie Koala Hospital Self - Guided Tour

- Established 1973
- Not-For-Profit Organisation
- Cares for up to 300 Koalas a year
- Staffed by over 175 volunteers

**R**escue: 24 Hour Rescue Hotline

**R**ehabilitate: Treat Injuries and Illness

**R**elease: Back Into The Wild

**R**esearch: 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.



Feeding and supplement formula twice daily, at 8:30am and 3pm.

## 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:** A Koala eats up to 500 grams of fresh Eucalyptus leaves 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 future admission 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 (currently closed due to Covid19)  
**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

**1. Lismore Myrtle:** Came to the hospital from Lismore Friends of the Koala. When she was admitted to Lismore Friends of the Koala she weighed just 783g. She was released several times but always lost weight and condition.

**2. Zenani:** Was unfortunately burnt in a bushfire back in 2013. She sustained injuries to her hands and feet. As a result her claws do not grow properly anymore.

**3. Lismore Rose:** This young abandoned koala was admitted into care with Lismore Friends of the Koala and transferred to Currumbin Wildlife Hospital in 2018 weighing around 550g. Rose presented to the hospital underweight, anaemic and with poor kidney function. With good treatment Rose responded and gained weight.

**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 together.

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

**5. Barrington Xavier:** Came to the hospital with his eyes completely covered over with tissue from Chlamydial infection. This disease has left him with minimal vision.

**6. 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.

**7. Guyra Allen:** Is a 'mountain' koala, much bigger than a coastal one. He arrived with chronic conjunctivitis caused by a severe case of Chlamydia. Even with treatment and surgery the disease was so severe that he is blind.

**8. Ballina Franklin:** This young koala was admitted into care with Friends of the Koala in Lismore NSW weighing in at just 622 grams. Franklin was found in poor condition, dehydrated and likely to have been abandoned by his mother. Once Franklin was old enough he was placed into the pre-release program where he deteriorated and lost condition. Consequently, it was decided that he was unlikely to survive in the wild.

**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 still not well enough to be released.

**10. Byabarra Jones:** Came from a farming area 80kms west of Port Macquarie in 2017. Was admitted with bilateral glaucoma (both-eyes). His right eye was so enlarged and under such pressure that the eye had to be removed. "Jonesey" has minimal vision. He has settled in well into captivity and will remain in permanent care with us.

**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. They wrapped him up and brought him straight to the hospital where 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. His fur was singed so he looked like a dark brown ball. 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. Ruins Way Baz is unable to climb large trees but although he can manage small trees 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

