

Passenger records held in Brisbane

Passenger records, such as passenger lists and passenger cards, can provide evidence of the arrival of a person in Australia and are therefore a valuable source of information for family historians and researchers. Passenger lists are arranged by the date, name of the ship and the port of arrival or departure. Unless you know these details your search may be very time consuming.

Records held in Brisbane

Passenger lists

The National Archives office in Brisbane holds inwards and outwards passenger lists for all Queensland ports, with those for the port of Brisbane dating from as early as 1852. Details of the passenger lists held for all Queensland ports are listed in the table below. Note that lists may be available as originals or as microfilm copies. Lists that pre-date the Archives holdings for individual ports may be held by the [Queensland State Archives](#). Prior to 1924, passenger lists also included a list of crew.

Registers of passenger lists

Registers of passenger lists shown in the table below can help you determine which passenger lists you are looking for. Registers show the names of the vessels, number of passengers, date of arrival or departure and the origin or destination of the ship.

Registers of passenger lists held in Brisbane

Collection references

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
Register of inwards/outwards Asian passengers *	1918–24	J3047
Register of passenger lists – outwards – Townsville	1924–65	J1501
Register of passenger lists – inwards – Townsville	1924–65	J1502
Register of passenger lists outwards – Brisbane, volumes 1 (1924–36) and 2 (1936–47)	1924–49	BP159/28, volume 1
Register of passenger lists outwards – Brisbane, volumes 1 (1924–36) and 2 (1936–47)	1924–49	BP159/28, volume 2

<u>Register of passenger lists inwards – Brisbane, volumes 1 (1924–36) and 2 (1936–47)</u>	1924–47	BP159/29, volume 1
<u>Register of passenger lists inwards – Brisbane, volumes 1 (1924–36) and 2 (1936–47)</u>	1924–47	BP159/29, volume 2
<u>Register of ships passenger lists – inwards – Cairns</u>	1924–52	BP273/3
<u>Register of ships passenger lists – outwards – Cairns</u>	1924–52	BP273/4
<u>Register of ships passenger lists – inwards – Rockhampton</u>	1924–62	BP358/2
<u>Register of ships passenger lists – outwards – Rockhampton</u>	1924–62	BP358/3
<u>Arrivals register – coloured persons arriving in Queensland ports, volumes 1 (1924–44) and 2 (1944–59)</u>	1924–59	BP384/10, volume 1
<u>Arrivals register – coloured persons arriving in Queensland ports, volumes 1 (1924–44) and 2 (1944–59)</u>	1924–59	BP384/10, volume 2
<u>Particulars of coloured persons leaving the State of Queensland for parts beyond the Commonwealth, volumes 1 (1924–44) and 2 (1944–59)</u>	1924–59	BP384/11, volume 1
<u>Particulars of coloured persons leaving the State of Queensland for parts beyond the Commonwealth, volumes 1 (1924–44) and 2 (1944–59)</u>	1924–59	BP384/11, volume 2
<u>Register of passenger lists – inwards – Brisbane</u>	1947–65	BP319/2
<u>Register of passenger lists – outwards – Brisbane</u>	1949–65	BP319/1

* available as microfilm

Ships passenger lists for Queensland ports

Inwards passenger lists

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
<u>Bowen</u> *	1897–1963	J723
<u>Brisbane</u> *	1852–1964	J715
<u>Brisbane and other Queensland ports</u>	1965–74	BP264/1
<u>Bundaberg</u> *	1948–50	J733
<u>Cairns</u> *	1897–1964	J725
<u>Gladstone</u> *	1924–64	J717
<u>Mackay</u> *	1924–64	J729
<u>Maryborough</u> *	1929–50	J731
<u>Rockhampton</u> *	1898–1962	J727
<u>Rockhampton</u>	1966–70	BP659/2
<u>Thursday Island</u> *	1924–64	J719
<u>Townsville</u> *	1895–1964	J721
<u>Townsville</u>	1963–70	BP659/3

* available as microfilm

Outwards passenger lists

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
Bowen	1897–1963	J724
Brisbane (lists for 1852–1911 are available as microfilm)	1852–1964	J716
Brisbane and other Queensland ports	1965–75	BP264/2
Cairns	1897–1964	J726
Gladstone	1924–64	J718
Mackay	1924–61	J730
Maryborough	1929–50	J732
Rockhampton	1898–1964	J728
Thursday Island	1924–64	J720
Townsville	1895–1964	J722

Ships passenger lists for other Australian ports

The Brisbane office also holds microfilm copies of passenger lists for the following Australian ports in States other than Queensland.

Collection references

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
NSW – Newcastle – inwards	1865–84	C667
NT – Darwin – inwards	1898–1934	E1019
SA – Adelaide – inwards	1941–64	D5077
Vic – Melbourne – inwards	1924–64	B4397

Related records held in Brisbane

The Brisbane office also holds the following records of arrivals to Queensland:

- surface vessel passenger arrival cards for Queensland ports for 1948–50 (see [BP26/1](#)); and
- nominal rolls of British migrants who arrived in Queensland under the Assisted Passage Scheme (also known as the Bring out a Migrant or Bring Out a Briton Scheme) for 1961–62 (see record series [BP384/23](#)).

Sources in other offices of the Archives

Further information on passenger lists held by the National Archives is available in:

- *Fact sheet 38 - Passenger records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet 56 - Passenger records held in Perth*

- *Fact sheet 64 - Passenger records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet 172 - Passenger records held in Melbourne*
- *Fact sheet 184 - Passenger records held in Hobart*
- *Fact sheet 256 - Passenger records held in Adelaide*