

# Woolloongabba, Queensland

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## Woolloongabba

[Brisbane](#), [Queensland](#)



Queensland versus [Victoria](#) in a [one-day cricket](#) match at the [Brisbane Cricket Ground](#) (The Gabba), during the mid-1980s

**Population:** 3,832 (2004) <sup>[1]</sup>

**Postcode:** 4102

**Coordinates:** [27°29′08″S](#)  
[153°01′45″E](#)[27.4856°S](#)  
[153.0291°E](#)[Coordinates: 27°29′08″S 153°01′45″E﻿ / ﻿27.4856°S 153.0291°E﻿ / -27.4856; 153.0291](#)

**Area:** 2.4 km<sup>2</sup> (0.9 sq mi)

**Location:** 4 km (2 mi) from [Brisbane](#)

**LGA:** [City of Brisbane](#),  
East Brisbane Ward

**State District:** [South Brisbane](#)

**Federal Division:** [Griffith](#)

### **Suburbs** around Woolloongabba:

<a href="#">West End</a>	<a href="#">Brisbane City</a>	<a href="#">Kangaroo Point</a>
<a href="#">Highgate</a>	<b>Woolloongabba</b>	<a href="#">East</a>

<a href="#">Hill</a>		<a href="#">Brisbane</a>
<a href="#">Dutton Park</a>	<a href="#">Annerley</a>	<a href="#">Coorparoo</a>

**Woolloongabba** is an [inner suburb](#) of [Brisbane, Australia](#) located 4 km south of the [Brisbane CBD](#). Experts are divided regarding the Aboriginal meaning of the name, preferring either 'whirling waters' (*woolloon* and *capemm*) or 'fight talk place' (*woolloon* and *gabba*).<sup>[2]</sup> The locals refer to the suburb as The Gabba.<sup>[2]</sup>

## History

Because the area was low-lying and swampy, it was known as the [One Mile Swamp](#). Although this name appears to be unofficial, it was in common use until the early 1890s.<sup>[3]</sup>

The suburb has a significant link to the history of [transport in Brisbane](#). Between 1884 and 1969 the main [railway locomotive depot](#) for lines south of the [Brisbane River](#) was beside Stanley St. It was reached via a line that ran beside Stanley St, then crossing it, [Logan Road](#) and [Ipswich Road](#) to the main line at [Dutton Park](#). By the 1960s services from the depot were causing significant delays to traffic as they crossed these three major roads.

The suburb was served by horse-drawn [trams](#) from 1885 to 1897, which were replaced by electric trams, which in turn ceased operation on 13 April 1969. All but one of Brisbane's [trolleybus](#) routes traversed the suburb, from 1953 to 1969. The Gabba Fiveways (the intersection of Stanley St, Main St, Logan Rd and Ipswich Rd) was a complex junction with tram and railway lines, and tram and trolleybus overhead. Trams were controlled by a signalman, who operated the points (or [switches](#)) from a [signal cabin](#) near the eastern side of the junction. Trains were escorted across the junction by a flagman. Curiously, the Queensland Railways always referred to the branch line as the Woolloongabba Branch, i.e. only one 'l'.<sup>[4]</sup>

From 1927 until 1969 the largest of the [Brisbane City Council](#)'s tram depots was on Ipswich Road, opposite the [Princess Alexandra Hospital](#). It was also used by the council's buses.

## Attractions



Main entrance to the [Princess Alexandra Hospital](#)

The suburb is home to the [Brisbane Cricket Ground](#) (known as "The Gabba") and the [Princess Alexandra Hospital](#). Woolloongabba has many [apartment](#) buildings due to river views, and the suburbs proximity to the [Brisbane central business district](#) and [South Bank Parklands](#). The Norman Hotel is a local landmark that has served customers since 1890.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Demographics

In 2006, Woolloongabba had 39.4% of residents born overseas and 30.0% of residents speaking a language other than English. The most common languages other than English spoken at home were Vietnamese 2.3%, Cantonese 1.6%, Greek 1.6%, Mandarin 1.5% and Italian 1.3%.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Transport



The [Pacific Motorway](#) in Woolloongabba

[Park Road railway station](#) and [Mater Hill](#) and [Woolloongabba Busway Station](#) provide access to public transport. The [Pacific Motorway](#) cuts through the suburb with an exit south into Vulture Street and a Stanley Street exit for vehicles heading north.