

Rimini by the River

Sunshine Coast



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I'd been looking forward to spending the weekend lazing in a hammock drinking piña colodas, diving into the surf and going on long, steamy bushwalks with magnificent views. Where better

than sunny Noosa? Or so I thought. Yes, it rained. For two days. And two nights.

Alas, no hammocks, no trips to the beach (at least not in cossies), and no bushwalks, although there were plenty of piña colodas and an opportunity to eat ourselves silly at the myriad cafes and restaurants Noosa has to offer.

Fortunately, the Rimini by the River holiday apartments, just 50m from the Noosa River, provided welcome shelter from the inclement weather and the

hustle of Noosa proper. With smart plantation-style fittings, our one-bedroom unit, although simple, was quiet and spacious, and came with a kitchen that we would have been happy to use if it weren't for the excellent restaurants a stone's throw away. The TV got a good workout, mostly for the weather reports, although we did watch several movies from the somewhat limited '80s and '90s selection of DVDs and videos.

Still, I can't complain. Rimini by the River provides reasonably priced accommodation in what is probably the most expensive destination on the Sunshine Coast, and Noosa's Hastings Street and Main Beach are just a seven-minute drive or 25-minute walk away. There is also a frequent bus service.

Hosts Cecilia and Philip couldn't have been more helpful and suggested lots of trips to while away our rainy days, including one to the colourful Eumundi markets and another to the fragrant ginger factory at Buderim. And I *did* get to go for one swim, albeit in Rimini by the River's pool.

But next time, if there is a next time, bring on the sun. **Elaine Gowran**



Cost: from \$165 a double a night. Discounted rates are available for longer stays.

Distance: 140km (1½ hours' drive) north of Brisbane airport; 40km (35 minutes) from Maroochydore airport. A shuttle service runs between Maroochydore airport and Noosa.

Accommodation: 15 one-bedroom and three two-bedroom fully self-contained apartments.

Features: Austar, broadband internet, DVD/video/CD player; kitchen includes refrigerator, dishwasher, oven and microwave; separate laundry with washing machine and dryer; pool with spa; barbecue area; private balcony with outdoor setting.

Nearby: Noosa's Hastings Street and Main Beach, restaurants, shopping, bushwalking, golf courses, cycle paths and bird-watching trails. The Glasshouse Mountains, Montville and Maleny are all about a 40-minute drive away.

Bookings: two to three weeks ahead in peak season.

Children: yes.

Wheelchair access: no.

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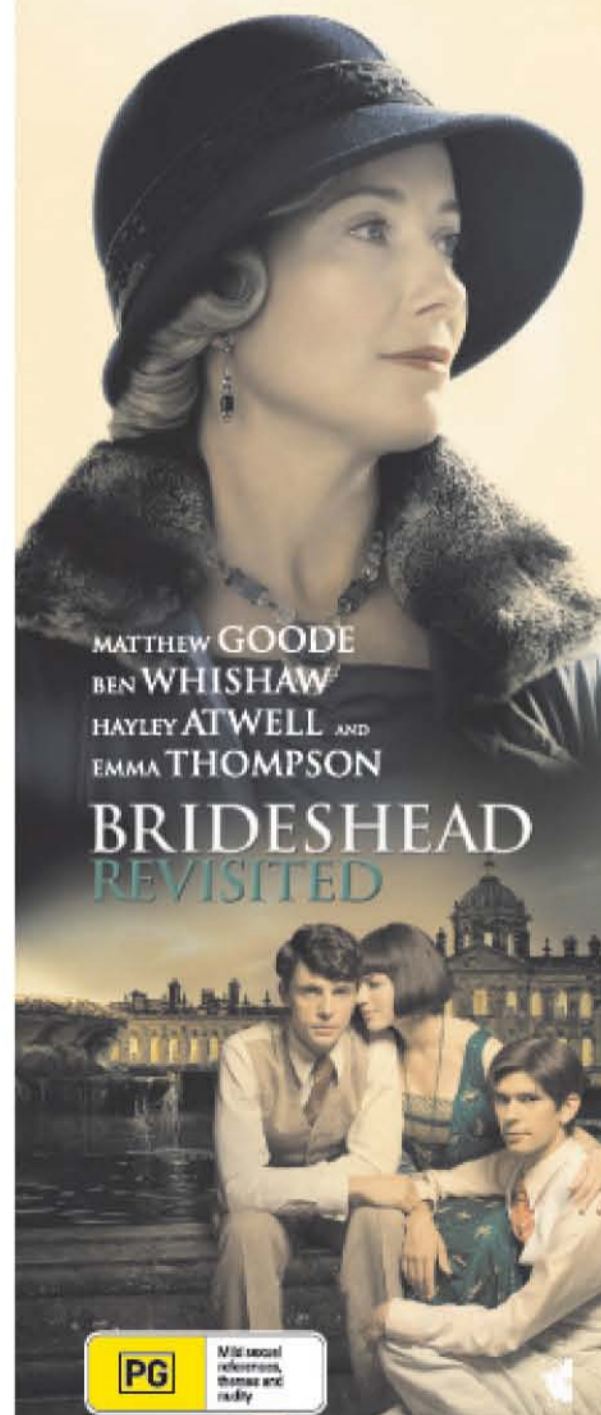
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BRIDESHEAD
REVISITED

PG

Mild sexual
references,
themes and
smoking

ONLY AT THE MOVIES!
OCTOBER 23