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CBD short-term parking the most expensive in Australia

River City motorists were charged more on average for short-term off-street parking than any other Australian capital city, according to RACQ research released today.

The Club's latest CBD Parking Prices Report revealed Brisbane drivers paid on average \$31.41 to park in the city for one hour and \$18.30 for just 30 minutes.

RACQ spokesperson Renee Smith said Brisbane drivers not only coughed up more for short-term off-street parking than those in Sydney and Melbourne but were also slugged just \$1 less than the most expensive capital city for all-day parking.

"It's highway robbery for motorists and what we end up seeing is CBD shops and restaurants punished because people can't justify the cost of a visit," Ms Smith said.

"Drivers will also be appalled to learn parking all-day in Brisbane, at \$76.77, is only on average \$1 cheaper than in Sydney. The price jumped more than \$4.00 in the past year.

"If we don't see better parking rates in the city, more and more drivers will favour suburban shopping centres where parking is either free or much cheaper."

Ms Smith said while one parking station slugged motorists a whopping \$97 per day, it was encouraging the number of parking stations charging a maximum fee of \$89 per day had dropped from seven to four in the last year.

"Drivers still need to employ frugal tactics in order to avoid being stung at the exit station including booking ahead online and taking advantage of early bird rates," she said.

"Brisbane City Council's parking stations at Wickham Terrace and King George Square are the cheapest at \$35 per day and anyone with an electric or hybrid vehicle may even qualify for a bigger discount.

"During the week Southbank is half the price of the city for all day parking, but on the weekend, you'll be stung an average of \$23, so it's important to plan your parking accordingly."

Brisbane had the cheapest on-street parking at \$5 per hour, when compared with Melbourne and Sydney at \$7.00 per hour and \$7.40 per hour respectively.

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of the 1.6 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, finance, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.

Parking breakdown ranked by dearest all day price:

Rank	Carpark	30 minutes	1 hour	All day
1	40 Tank Street – Care Park	\$20	\$39	\$97
2	Eagle Street Pier - Wilson	\$12	\$26	\$89
3	Waterfront Place 1 Eagle, – Wilson	\$10	\$25	\$89
4	Central Plaza 2 – Wilson	\$10	\$23	\$89
5	363 Adelaide Street – Wilson	\$10	\$23	\$89

Parking breakdown ranked by dearest 30 minute price:

Rank	Carpark	30 minutes	1 hour	All day
1	Treasury Hotel – Private*	\$50	\$50	\$70
2	Festival – Care Park	\$30	\$30	\$85
3	Central Plaza 1 – Secure	\$29	\$42	\$84
4	Emirates House – Secure	\$29	\$41	\$82
5	Transit Centre - Secure	\$27	\$36	\$79

*Privately operated hotel carpark.

Parking breakdown ranked by dearest 1 hour price:

Rank	Carpark	30 minutes	1 hour	All day
1	Treasury Hotel – Private	\$50	\$50	\$70
2	Central Plaza 1 – Secure	\$29	\$42	\$84
3	Post Office Square– Secure	\$24	\$42	\$85
4	Macarthur Central – Secure	\$23	\$42	\$85
5	Wintergarden - Secure	\$23	\$42	\$85

Parking breakdown ranked by cheapest all day price:

Rank	Carpark	30 minutes	1 hour	All day
1	King George Square – BCC	\$10	\$18	\$35
2	Wickham Terrace – BCC	\$10	\$18	\$35
3	344 Queen Street – Care Park	\$9	\$18	\$35
4	222 Margaret Street – Apollo	\$5	\$10	\$50
5	Myer Centre – Myer	\$19	\$28	\$58

Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Renee Smith 0409 573 193; Principal Media Advisor Clare Hunter 0427 261 932.

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