

 Purple star approved

Making Strides

Travel Guide

Places to book, things to do and what to see around the Gold Coast and surrounding areas.

Written by Making Strides

The Making Strides Travel Guide

The purpose of this travel guide is to assist clients of Making Strides in planning their trip to the Gold Coast by providing essential information on accessible transportation, accommodation, and local amenities.

Traveling with a disability can present unique challenges, and this guide aims to simplify the process by offering practical tips, trusted recommendations, and key insights to ensure a smooth and enjoyable journey.

By addressing common concerns and highlighting accessible options, we strive to empower clients with the confidence to travel independently while maximising their experience both at Making Strides and throughout the Gold Coast.

Accommodation

Accommodation	Accessibility rating	Distance to Making Strides Burleigh	Distance to Making Strides Ormeau
Solnamara	★★★★	4.3km	49km
Quest Robina	★★★★★	8.3km	34km
Swell Resort	★★★★	3.9km	40km
Mercure	★★	16km	30km
Star Casino	★★★★	11km	33km
Burleigh Esplanade	★★★★	4.3km	49km
Burleigh Caravan Park	★★★★	4.1km	49km

Solnamara

About the facility

Solnamara Beachfront Apartments in Burleigh Heads offers a selection of wheelchair-friendly accommodations designed to provide comfort and accessibility for guests who use wheelchairs. These spacious, air-conditioned apartments feature roll-in access directly from the street into the lifts, ensuring seamless mobility throughout the property. Each apartment boasts a fully equipped kitchen, laundry facilities, and a private balcony with stunning ocean views, allowing guests to enjoy a self-contained stay with all the comforts of home. The property's prime beachfront location offers easy access to patrolled beaches, beachside parks, and nearby shops and restaurants, enhancing the convenience and enjoyment for guests.



Location proximity

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| • Making Strides Burleigh | 4.6km |
| • James Street, Burleigh Heads | 1.6km |
| • Pacific Fair shopping centre | 7.7km |
| • Stocklands shopping centre | 3km |
| • Robina Town Centre | 7.7km |
| • GCUH (hospital) | 21.8km |
| • Robina Hospital | 9.6km |
| • GC airport | 12.6km |

Rooms available

- 1 x 3 Bedroom Apartment
- 3 x 2 Bedroom Apartment



Solnamara

Who is this accommodation suitability for?

Solnamara Beachfront Apartments offers spacious living areas and an open-plan main bathroom, makes it a great option for individuals with high-functioning disabilities or those who travel with their support teams. While the apartments are designed with accessibility in mind, features such as small ramps to access the balcony and standard kitchen facilities mean that a certain level of independence or assistance may be required. The fully equipped kitchen provides the opportunity for meal preparation, adding to the convenience and comfort of the stay. Overall, Solnamara is an ideal choice for guests who need accessible yet independent living spaces, supported by the presence of companions or carers if required.



Equipment the accommodation provides

Shower chair and toilet commode can be supplied by the accommodation.

Local suppliers can deliver hired equipment to the facility. Drop off and pick up needs to be organised with the Solnamara management and must be picked up before check out time.

Quest Robina

About the facility

Quest Robina offers a modern and accessible accommodation experience in the heart of the Gold Coast's health and knowledge precinct. Conveniently located within walking distance to local attractions. Quest Robina is located next to Robina train station and close to the highway providing easy access to Brisbane and surrounding suburbs like Burleigh.

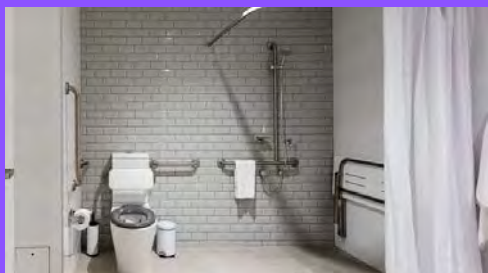
Each apartment is thoughtfully designed with fully equipped kitchens, laundry facilities, and ergonomic workspaces, ensuring a comfortable stay for both business and leisure travellers.

Additional amenities include a heated outdoor swimming pool (with step to access), fitness center, business lounge, conference facilities, a communal barbecue area, and pet-friendly apartments. The property also features step-free access, wide doorways, elevators to all floors,.



Location proximity

- Making Strides Burleigh 8.1km
- Making Strides Ormeau 38.7km
- James Street, Burleigh Heads 10.8km
- Pacific Fair shopping centre 8.1km
- Stocklands shopping centre 9.2km
- Robina Town Centre 1.4km
- GCUH (hospital) 16.2km
- Robina Hospital 1.1km
- GC airport 22.7km



Quest Robina

Who is this accommodation suitability for?

Quest Robina is committed to accessibility, offering apartments designed for guests with mobility needs.

Full accessible rooms include features such as roll-in showers, grab rails, shower chairs, and height-adjusted vanities.

Apartment rooms with moderate accessibility features are also available. These include larger showers and open planned living. Ramps to access the balcony and all furniture can be requested to be removed to allow for hire mobility beds to be installed.



Rooms available

Fully Accessible Rooms

2 x Two-Bedroom

2 x One-Bedroom (with the option to add a joining (non-accessible) studio room)

Apartment-Style Rooms accessible rooms

9 x Two-Bedroom, Two-Bathroom

6 x Two-Bedroom, One-Bathroom

9 x One-Bedroom, One-Bathroom



Swell Resort

About the facility

Swell Resort Burleigh Heads offers a stylish and contemporary accommodation experience in the heart of Burleigh Heads on Queensland's Gold Coast. Located just a short stroll from the iconic Burleigh Beach, the resort is perfectly positioned near vibrant local cafés, restaurants, boutique shops, and scenic coastal walks.

Swell Resort is committed to accessibility, offering wheelchair-friendly access throughout the property. With step-free pathways, elevator access, and accessible common areas including the heated outdoor swimming pool, spa, full-size tennis court, gymnasium, and BBQ area



Location proximity

- Making Strides Burleigh 3.5km
- Making Strides Ormeau 47.4km
- James Street, Burleigh Heads 700m
- Pacific Fair shopping centre 9.3km
- Stocklands shopping centre 2km
- Robina Town Centre 9km
- GCUH (hospital) 23km
- Robina Hospital 12km
- GC airport 11.1km



Swell Resort

Who is this accommodation suitability for?

The accessible room at Swell Resort Burleigh Heads has been thoughtfully designed to cater to a wide range of disabilities, ensuring comfort, functionality, and inclusivity. The apartment features a spacious main bedroom with ample room to accommodate a hoist, providing essential support for guests with significant mobility needs. An open-plan bathroom allows for easy maneuverability and use of commodes or shower chairs, enhancing independence and convenience. Located on the ground floor, the apartment offers seamless access to a large, fully accessible courtyard—perfect for relaxing outdoors. While the kitchen maintains an open-plan layout for ease of movement, guests with upper body mobility restrictions may require the assistance of a carer for cooking tasks.

This room provides a practical and welcoming environment, tailored to meet the diverse needs of all guests.



Rooms available

Fully Accessible Rooms

1 x Two-Bedroom, Two bathroom with ground level courtyard and lock up garage.



Mercure

About the facility

Nestled in the tranquil surrounds of Carrara, the Mercure Gold Coast Resort offers a peaceful retreat just minutes from Surfers Paradise and the region's stunning beaches. The resort features 24-hour reception, ensuring assistance is always available for guests' needs. Accessibility is a key focus, with wheelchair-friendly pathways, ramps to the pool area, and accessible dining venues. The Oasis Pool area boasts ample space for relaxation, and guests can enjoy food and beverage service poolside. While the resort provides many accessible features, it's important to note that there is no pool hoist available. Overall, Mercure Gold Coast Resort combines comfort, accessibility, and attentive service in a serene setting.



Location proximity

- Making Strides Burleigh 12.7km
- Making Strides Ormeau 38km
- The Oasis, Boradbeach 6.5km
- Pacific Fair shopping centre 6km
- Stocklands shopping centre 14km
- Robina Town Centre 7.8km
- GCUH (hospital) 11.4km
- Robina Hospital 7.6km
- GC airport 26km

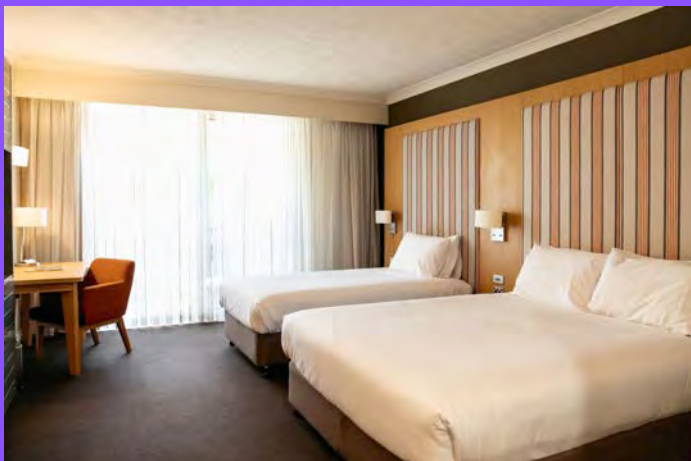
Mercure

Who is this accommodation suitability for?

The four accessible rooms at Mercure Gold Coast are hotel-style accommodations, best suited for short-term stays. Each room includes a spacious accessible bathroom, but the main living area offers limited space, which may not comfortably accommodate mobile hoists or larger equipment. These rooms are more appropriate for individuals who require minimal support with transfers. The broader facility is designed with accessibility in mind, featuring pathways and ramps throughout, including the pool area. The poolside space is generous and well-suited for families, with an outdoor BBQ area and the option to have food served poolside—making it an enjoyable and convenient setting, especially for those with young children.

Rooms available

- 4 accessible rooms
- 1 queen and 1 single in each room.
- 2 rooms have the option for adjoining rooms with a non accessible room, perfect for a family stay.



Star Casino

About the facility

Located in the heart of Broadbeach, the Star Casino provides great accessibility with high-quality 24-hr concierge services to assist with baggage handling, ordering taxi's, room service and access around the Casino. The staff at the Star Casino are happy to assist with removing any unwanted furniture to make room for accessible equipment if required.

The Star offers an accessible pool hoist allowing guests to access the ground level pool. This pool has an accessible bathroom and an on-site lifeguard.

The accommodation is located inside the Casino facility which hosts plenty of Restaurants, bars and entertainment options during your stay.



Location proximity

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| • Making Strides Burleigh | 11.5km |
| • Making Strides Ormeau | 40km |
| • The Oasis, Boradbeach | 550m |
| • Pacific Fair shopping centre | 2km |
| • Stocklands shopping centre | 8.5km |
| • Robina Town Centre | 9.1km |
| • GCUH (hospital) | 13.5km |
| • Robina Hospital | 10km |
| • GC airport | 18km |

Star Casino

Who is this accommodation suitability for?

The accommodation at The Star Casino offers hotel-style rooms with accessible features, including an accessible bathroom and user-friendly design elements to support mobility needs. However, the room itself is relatively compact, which may make it challenging to use larger equipment such as mobile hoists comfortably. This option is best suited for individuals who do not require a high level of assistance. That said, the friendly and accommodating staff are happy to assist with rearranging or temporarily moving non-essential furniture to help make room for necessary equipment, ensuring guests have as comfortable a stay as possible.



Rooms available

The Star Casino offers 10 accessible rooms with options including the City Accessible King Room, Accessible Executive King Room, and Accessible River King Room.

Facility inclusions

The Star Casino offers dining and entertainment venues, pool area with cabanas, 24-hour room service & concierge service, valet parking, and ample casino gaming options for the adults



Burleigh Esplanade

About the facility

Located on the beautiful Burleigh Esplanade with scenic views of the ocean, the Burleigh Esplanade accommodation offers a prime location with resort-style self contained apartments.



Location Proximity

- Making Strides Burleigh 4.3km
- Making Strides Ormeau 49km
- The Oasis, Broadbeach 7.5km
- Pacific Fair shopping centre 8km
- Stocklands shopping centre 2.7km
- Robina Town Centre 8.1km
- GCUH (hospital) 22.2km
- Robina Hospital 10.8km
- GC airport 12.3km

Rooms available

Accessible Rooms

4 x 2 Bedroom standard apartment

1 x 2 bedroom superior apartment.



Burleigh Esplanade

Who is this accommodation suitability for?

Burleigh Esplanade Apartments offer a spacious and welcoming option for travellers requiring accessible features, particularly those with a high level of confidence in their functional mobility. While the apartment includes accessibility considerations, such as an extra-large main bedroom that provides sufficient space for equipment like a hoist or a shower chair transfer, it is not purpose-built for fully independent accessible living. The bathroom includes a small 20mm lip into the shower, which may present a minor challenge for some users, and the large balcony can be made more accessible with ramps upon request. This accommodation is best suited for individuals who require some accessibility support but are largely independent or travelling with a support person.



Facility inclusions

The Burleigh Esplanade offers a range of amenities for guests and their families to relax and unwind. Onsite amenities include a BBQ area, heated outdoor swimming pool, sauna, spa, games room, and gym. However, please note that these shared facilities are not fully accessible. Access to some areas may require assistance with lifting up a step or the use of a portable ramp, which can be arranged personally through local equipment hire providers.



Burleigh Caravan Park

About the facility

The property's prime beachfront location offers easy access to patrolled beaches, beachside parks, and nearby shops and restaurants, enhancing the convenience and enjoyment for guests (see the Travelers Guide Booklet). Given the high demand for this accessible cabin, it is advisable to book well in advance to secure your preferred accommodation.



About the Room

Burleigh Beach Tourist Park offers an accessible self-contained cabin perfect for guests with mobility needs. The cabin features a ramped entry, wide doorways (900mm), and an open-plan design for easy wheelchair movement. It accommodates up to four guests with

two double beds and includes a fully equipped kitchen, bathroom with grab rails, and an outdoor balcony with a BBQ.

Guests can enjoy free use of an all-terrain beach wheelchair and accessible beach matting at Burleigh Beach, just opposite the park. Additional amenities include air conditioning, Foxtel TV, and a comfortable living area.



Facility inclusions

Burleigh Beach Tourist Park strikes the perfect balance between accessibility, family convenience, and vibrant coastal charm.

Accessibility across the park

- There are two designated accessible parking spaces located by reception which features a ramp access and an automatic door.
- Smooth, level pathways and roads within the park area accessible via wheelchair, pram or mobility scooter.

Family friendly attraction and activities

- Nearby playgrounds
- Beach and Creek access
- Seasonal (during school holidays) in-park activities



Location Proximity

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| • Making Strides Burleigh | 4 km |
| • Making Strides Ormeau | 48 km |
| • James Street, Burleigh | 800m |
| • Pacific Fair shopping centre | 7.5 km |
| • Stocklands shopping centre | 2.5 km |
| • Robina Town Centre | 10 km |
| • The Oasis, Broadbeach | 7.5 km |
| • GCUH (hospital) | 24 km |
| • Robina Hospital | 12.5 km |
| • GC airport | 11.5 km |



Care Support Recommendations



Siblings Care

About Siblings Care

Siblings Care is a Gold Coast based, independent provider specialising in personalised support for individuals living with spinal cord injuries (SCI), particularly quadriplegia.

Founded by William, who has been the full-time carer for his brother Jason since a snowboarding accident in 2016 left Jason a C4 quadriplegic, Siblings Care is built on firsthand experience and a deep understanding of SCI care.

Drawing from their lived journey, William and Jason have developed practical skills and insights that they now share with others facing similar challenges. Siblings Care offers services including personal care, overnight support, assistance with daily activities, and community participation, all tailored to empower clients to lead fulfilling lives.

Beyond direct care, they focus on training and equipping families and support teams with the knowledge and techniques essential for effective SCI care.

Care Services offered

Daytime Care

- Morning personal care routine
- Community participation
- Goal achieving

Night Time Care

- Help with night time activities such as dinner & cleaning
- Night time care routine
- Getting into bed

Overnight Shift

- On site on call during the night at your place of residence



Siblings Care

Additional services available

- SCI Family & Friends Training
- Vehicle Hire
- Hoist Hire



Funding

Siblings Care is available across the Gold Coast and is NDIS-registered and also accepts private paying clients.

Committed to making a broader impact, Siblings Care pledges over 5% of its profits annually to spinal cord injury research and related charities. Their mission is to help individuals with SCI overcome barriers and achieve their goals, ensuring that the injury does not define or limit their aspirations.

Contact details

To learn more or make a booking, visit
www.siblingscare.com.au
or contact hello@siblingscare.com.au



Bro Support Services

About Bro Support Services

Bro Support Services is a local, independent support provider based on the Gold Coast, offering highly personalised care to people living with disability, including those travelling for intensive rehabilitation at Making Strides.

Damien who has over 6 years' experience in the industry, has been supporting young men transition and navigate their way through life. Caring for those with spinal cord injuries (SCI), is very close to home for Damien as in 2022 his younger brother, Mitchell, sustained a C4 spinal cord injury during a tragic accident. This has led Damien to developing a deep, firsthand experience of the physical, emotional, and day-to-day challenges faced by individuals with spinal cord injuries and their families. Understanding the many challenges and realities of SCI care, Damien and his team at Bro Support Services value the importance of building independence and trust, whilst always prioritising privacy and upholding dignity.

It is this firsthand experience that helps shape Bro Support's values and fuels our passion for supporting others. Our team understands how important trust, consistency and compassion are in support work, especially during times of recovery or transition. Whether it's assistance with daily living, community access, therapy attendance, or just having someone there who understands, Bro Support is here to make your journey seamless.

Care Services Offered

Daytime Care

- Morning personal care routine
- Community participation
- Goal achieving

Night Time Care

- Help with night time activities such as dinner & cleaning
- Night time care routine
- Assistance getting into bed

Overnight Shift

- On site on call during the night at your place of residence

Group Care 2:1



Bro Support Services

Additional services available

Vehicle Hire:

Bro Support can help hire accessible vehicles if required to meet the clients requirements. Otherwise, Bro Support Workers can use their own car if the client can access it.



Contact details

To learn more or connect with the team, visit
<https://www.instagram.com/brosupportservices/>
or email
hello@brosupportservices.com

Charter Care Services

About Charter Services

Charter Care Services is a family-owned NDIS registered provider dedicated to delivering personalised, high-quality supports. We pride ourselves on being approachable, flexible, and responsive — ensuring every participant receives care that enhances their independence and lifestyle.



How can we support you

Everyday Support

- Friendly, qualified staff to assist with personal care, daily routines, and community outings, helping you live more independently.

Getting Around

- Comfortable and safe wheelchair-accessible vehicles to get you where you need to be for appointments, activities, or social outings.

Equipment Hire

- A range of mobility aids, including hoists, available for short or long-term hire so you can travel with peace of mind.

Unique Experiences

- Inclusive boat tours designed so everyone can enjoy the beauty of Brisbane and the Gold Coast from the water.

Funding options

NDIS plan-funded (Plan Managed, Self-Managed, and Agency Managed)

Private funding options available for non-NDIS clients

Charter Care Services are in line with the NDIS rates.

They service Brisbane and Gold Coast regions and have up to 140 support workers available.

Charter Care Support Workers are all trained in house and in line with NDIS courses for personal and community care. All support workers have valid drivers licenses.



Charter Care Services



Vehicle Options Available

- We have a fleet of 12 wheelchair accessible vans, each equipped with the latest in accessibility features to ensure smooth and safe transportation for individuals using wheelchairs.
- For those who do not require a wheelchair but still need reliable and comfortable transportation, we offer two well-maintained cars.

Wheelchair Accessible Boat

- Enjoy a day out on the beautiful Gold Coast Broadwater with our wheelchair-friendly boat trips. Whether you're passionate about fishing, eager to explore the scenic islands, or simply want to relax and soak in the stunning views on the water, our boat trips offer a perfect escape. Experience the serenity and excitement of the Broadwater, designed with accessibility in mind to ensure everyone can join in the adventure.



Contact details

To learn more or connect with the team,
visit
enquiries@chartercareservices.com.au

Care Match Services

About Care Match Services

CareMatch Australia is a boutique care provider specialising in personalised support, with a particular focus on spinal cord injury care. They empower clients to take control of their care, fostering genuine, mate like connections rather than merely completing tasks. Their company mission is to help clients break down barriers, build confidence, and maintain independence through tailored, companionship focused assistance.



Care Match Australia offer flexible shift options to get you the care you need.

Day shift: 6am–5pm

Night Shift: 5pm– 12am

Sleepover: minimum 4 hours

Weekends: Saturdays and Sunday,
Minimum 4 hours

Funding Options

CareMatch operates as a registered NDIS provider, meaning their services are available to participants with self managed, plan managed, or NDIA managed NDIS plans, ensuring access to high quality supports aligned with NDIS safety and compliance standards.



Care Match Services

Care services Available

1. NDIS & Disability Supports

- Personal care (showering, dressing, grooming, toileting)
- Daily living assistance (meal prep, feeding, mobility support)
- Household assistance
- Community access & participation (social outings, hobbies, sport, events)
- Transport & travel assistance (appointments, shopping, recreational travel)
- Errands & appointments (medical visits, allied health, groceries)
- Therapy support (working alongside OTs, physios, etc.)
- Companionship & social connection (emotional support, mateship)

2. Nursing Supports

- Medication management (administration, monitoring, education)
- Wound care (dressing changes, pressure injury prevention, skin checks)
- Catheter & continence care
- Bowel management
- Ventilation & tracheostomy care
- Enteral feeding (PEG/NG tube support)
- Post-hospital recovery support (specialist SCI nursing care)
- Health monitoring (vitals, chronic condition management)
- Coordination with allied health & medical teams

3. On-Site Shared Supports (OSS) Model

- Shared daily living supports within supported independent living environments
- Rostered care teams to ensure continuity and reliability
- Flexible, scalable support depending on participant needs
- Community-building focus within shared homes

4. Respite Care (Gold Coast)

- Short-term support for participants while carers/families take a break
- Planned or emergency respite depending on circumstances
- Support for families & caregivers to reduce burnout and maintain wellbeing

Equipment Hire Recommendations



Equipment Hire Recommendations

AidaCare | Mobility Rentals | Move Mobility

These reputable Gold Coast local companies offer a wide range of hire equipment, including wheelchairs, mobility scooters, hoists, shower commodes, hospital beds, and more—helping to ensure a safe and comfortable stay while away from home.

Whether you need short-term support equipment for accommodation, transport, or community access, these providers deliver reliable products and flexible hire options, with delivery available across the Gold Coast.

We recommend booking early, especially during peak travel periods, to ensure availability.

Equipment Includes

Bathroom Hire:

- Seats & transfer benches
- Shower Commodes
- Shower chairs/stools
- ShowerBuddy's

Bedroom Hire:

- Bed rails, poles, ladders
- Mattress Supports
- Pillow Supports
- Overbed tables

Manual Handling

- Floor Hoists
- Slings
- Transfer boards

Pressure Care

- Cushion supports

Wheelchairs & Walkers

- Power wheelchairs
- Manual Wheelchairs
- Walking Frames
- Rollators
- Forearm Walkers
- Crutches
- Walking sticks / canes

Braces

- Moon boot hires

Ramps

- Wheelchair door ramps

Equipment Hire Recommendations

AidaCare | Mobility Rentals | Move Mobility

Location proximity

Move Mobility (Robina)

Making Strides Burleigh 7.9km

Making Strides Ormeau 38.7km

Aida Care (Burleigh)

Making Strides Burleigh 1.8km

Making Strides Ormeau 47.8km

Mobility Rentals (Woodridge)

Making Strides Burleigh 69.7km

Making Strides Ormeau 27.4km



Explore hire options at:

www.aidacare.com.au/products/hire

www.mobilityrentals.com.au

www.movemobility.com.au

Vehicle Hire Recommendations

Wheelies Van Hire

Wheelies Van Rentals on the Gold Coast offers several suitable options for transportation whilst on the Gold Coast. Their vehicles cater to a variety of mobility needs and group sizes.

Vehicles available

- VW Caddy (2 available) Smallest vehicle suited for small wheelchairs and passengers not requiring the extra head room. 5 seats plus wheelchair.
- Kia Carnival (8 available) Rear ramp and lowered floor, suits power wheelchairs and taller passengers. 4 passengers plus wheelchair.
- Hyundai Staria (3 available) has rear ramp access and lowered floor. Suits power wheelchairs up to 300kg wheelchair limit. 7 passengers with 2 wheelchairs or 9 passengers and 1 wheelchair.
- Toyota Commuter (6 available) has an electric lift at rear and can hold up to 2 wheelchair uses.



Important details

- Minimum 2 day hire.
- Depart pick up (Arundel) is 24 hours.
- Available Sunshine Coast to Byron Bay.
- Can delivery/pick up for \$120 each way.
- Drivers aged 21-24 excess increased by \$500.

How to book

To book or get more information, visit:

www.wheeliesvanrentals.com.au

If you have any questions or need help checking vehicle measurements, please contact Wheelies Van Rentals directly.