A Slow Scenic Drive

2 night itinerary

Beaudesert to Kalbar via Farm Gates and Country Pubs

Boutique browsing, paddock-to-plate lunches and quiet country roads make this gentle Scenic Rim drive an ideal overnight escape.

Less than two hours from Brisbane, the Scenic Rim offers a softer version of a road trip — one where the pleasures are small but satisfying: a beautifully curated farm shop, a long lunch among the vines, a heritage country hotel and a quiet dam framed by mountains. This two-day loop from Beaudesert to Kalbar is designed for travellers who prefer browsing to bush-bashing, and lunches that linger well into the afternoon.

Day One

Beaudesert to Kalbar via Vineyards and Vintage Finds

Begin in Beaudesert, a classic country town with just enough polish to feel inviting without losing its rural heart. Make your first stop at The Pantry Vibe, a beautifully styled organic food and produce store where shelves are lined with small-batch condiments, artisanal pantry goods and gifts that feel far more considered than the average country souvenir.

Just down the road, The Drunken Farm Hand delivers a playful counterpoint — part farm store, part curiosity shop, the sort of finds that beg to be taken home.

From here, the drive opens into farmland and rolling hills as you make your way to The Roaastbeef and the Frog at the Overflow Estate 1895 Vineyard for lunch. Set among vineyards with sweeping views across the valley, Overflow is the kind of place where lunch stretches lazily into the afternoon.

After lunch, continue the gentle drive north to Kalbar, a heritage town quietly reinventing itself as a destination for slow travellers. Spend the afternoon indulging in retail therapy at Wiss Emporium, a beautifully curated homewares and gift store that feels more country Hamptons than country Queensland, with linen, ceramics and thoughtful design pieces filling the airy interior.

For pure indulgence, check into Mount French Lodge , luxuriously set on a 100-acre escarpment with commanding views over the Scenic Rim landscape.

Roastbeef and the Frog

The Wiss Emporium

Day Two

Farm Gates, Flowers and Country Pub Lunch

Wake slowly and head out for brunch at the Scenic Rim Farm Shop and Café, a true paddock-to-plate experience showcasing produce grown in the surrounding region. Expect seasonal fruit, fresh baking, local cheeses and excellent coffee — all enjoyed under the Jacaranda trees.

Just nearby, wander through Elderflower Farm, a small, family-run flower farm where rows of blooms offer a gentle, sensory stroll and a chance to pick up botanical products, dried flowers or handmade soaps.

By late morning, make your way toward Aratula Hotel for lunch — a classic country pub done well. The menu is hearty, unfussy and comforting, the sort of food that feels exactly right after a morning of wandering and fresh air.

From Aratula, take the scenic drive to Lake Moogerah, where the road curves toward a wide, glassy dam framed by rugged peaks. Pull over, stretch your legs, breathe in the mountain air, stroll across the dam wall and enjoy one last pause before looping gently back to Kalbar and the journey home.

Scenic Rim Farm Shop & Café

Elderflower Farm

Lake Moogerah