



Cemetery Frequently Asked Questions



What is a plot?

A plot is a grave and is sometimes referred to as a site or a position.

What is a niche?

A niche is used for interment of ashes and can be sited in a columbarium wall or garden area set aside for that purpose.

Can I reserve or buy a plot or niche?

Yes, you can reserve or pre-purchase both. The purchase fee does not include the cost of burial.

Do I own the land occupied by the plot?

No the land remains under the administration of Fraser Coast Regional Council. You will become the burial rights holder which means you have exclusive right to authorise any burials or ashes placements for that site.

Can I choose the location of my site?

Yes, subject to availability.

I would like my partner to be placed in the same site as myself, is that possible?

Yes, the majority of burial plots are prepared for two burials. It is recommended to consider this when choosing a site. The columbarium wall niches are single interments only, however multiple interments are possible in some garden niches.

Can I be buried in an old grave?

Yes, in the majority of cases. Each site needs to be investigated as in some cases the land is not suitable for more than one burial. Ashes can also be placed in most grave sites. In all cases, the burial rights holder would need to provide permission.

Can ashes go into a grave?

Yes, with the permission of the burial rights holder.

When I pass away, what is required for my family to use my reserved site?

Your family will contact your nominated funeral director who will attend to confirmation of your reserve and burial arrangements.

What happens to the burial rights when I pass away?

The burial right is considered to be part of the holder's personal estate. The holder's executor or heirs and successors would usually administer the estate under these circumstances. Council will require proof of authority in this case.

Can I sell my reserved burial site?

You are not able to sell the site, however you can relinquish the plot to Council and Council will provide a refund.

Can I give my site to someone else?

A burial right can be transferred or bequeathed. An application for transfer and appropriate fee is required before the records can be amended. The application must be signed by the current burial rights holder and it is advisable that families are made aware of rights and responsibilities pertaining to the future management of their sites.

Can anyone place a monument or plaque on a grave?

No, the burial rights holder or a person nominated by the burial rights holder may apply. In instances where the burial rights holder has passed away, the executor or beneficiary of the estate would usually submit the application to Council with the appropriate fee.

Restrictions apply to the type of monument or plaque that can be installed.

The cost of a standard plaque is included in the fee for an ashes interment in a niche and the installation of the plaque is arranged by Council.

Can I plant trees on a grave site?

No, trees, shrubs and other plantings are not permitted.

Who looks after the plaques and monuments?

Cemetery grounds are maintained by Council, however monuments and plaques are the responsibility of the burial rights holder or family and descendants. Council will need to be advised prior to any maintenance.

What sort of things can I leave on my family grave?

To ensure that these areas remain pristine, honouring the memories of those within, the following policy has been implemented to ensure suitable access and safety to the public and cemetery staff.

- Standard plastic vases are available free of charge from dispensing points within the cemetery grounds. Stands are provided for easy access to and display of vases.
- A maximum of 3 standard plastic vases can be placed on each individual gravesite.
- All standard plastic vases and their contents will be inspected each fortnight and old fresh flowers or plastic flowers from each gravesite will be removed.
- The standard plastic vases will be returned to the dispensing points for reuse.

- Remains of the fresh and old plastic flowers will be placed in refuse bins for disposal.
- Suitable plastic flowers will be placed in designated areas for reuse.
- Trees, shrubs or other plants are not permitted. If planted they will be immediately removed from the lawn or beam sections within the Cemeteries.
- Wooden crosses, ornaments, jars, glass or ceramic containers are not permitted within the **lawn sections** and will be removed.
- Mementos and items placed on new graves will be removed after six months from the date of burial.

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Telephone us
1300 79 49 29



Email us
enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

