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Northern Peninsula Area

# Indigenous languages map of Queensland

 or  

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## Abodja *[a-bod-jah]*

Niiyalang, 'hello to a group' in Wik Mungkan, the language of Aurukun region on Western Cape York. Wik Mungkan is an umbrella term for several languages including Abodja, more commonly referred to as Wik Paach. Abodja was traditionally spoken in the Archer River Delta and is spoken today in Aurukun community. This language belongs to a genetic language family (shared origins) which includes: Wik-Mungkan Y57; Wik-liyanh Y177 and Y172; Wik-Ngatharr Y51; Wik-Ep Y52; Wik-Me'anh Y53; Wik-Keyangan Y173; Mungkanho; Kugu-Uwanh Y176; Kugu Muminh Y43; Kugu-Ugbanh Y175 and Kugu-Mu'inh Y53 (Sutton, 1993:32).

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### SYNONYMS

Wik Paach, Wikapatja. See also Wik Mungkan languages/dialects.

### DIALECTS

This language belongs to a genetic language family



Boys in front of buildings at Aurukun, 1909, John Oxley Library, Record number: 275663

# Greek Cafes in Queensland

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## Greek cafes in Queensland

A [shortening](#) article from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

**Greek cafes** were a significant cultural phenomenon in the history of [Queensland](#), Australia, arising from a chain migration from Greece to Australia.<sup>[1]</sup> Almost every town in Queensland had a Greek cafe, and as many as ten operated in larger towns like [Brisbane](#) and [Toowoomba](#) during the 1920s, 1940s and 1960s—the heyday of the Greek cafe. Cafes were routinely open from 7am to midnight seven days a week, meals were cheap, portions were generous, and the menu was mostly the same countrywide. They have been described as the [jewels](#) of their time.<sup>[2]</sup> Although operated by Greek families, Greek food was not served in these cafes which sought to appeal to the tastes of the Anglo-Australian community.<sup>[3]</sup>

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### History

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The pioneer of [Greek cafes in Australia](#) was Arthur D. Corrino from [Kythera](#). He landed in Sydney in 1913 and within five years had established a small fish shop at 38 Oxford Street. When other Greek people heard cafes in Australia were doing well, it prompted others, mostly under 25 years old, to leave Kythera. The popular pattern was for Greek migrants to arrive in Sydney and earn some money working in existing Greek food establishments, before travelling to country towns such as Queensland to establish their own businesses.<sup>[4]</sup>

In 1900 a Corrino's Oyster Saloon & Cafe was operating in [Queen Street, Brisbane](#). After 1900 the Corrinos moved into [Bassalters, Caloundra, Mackay, Grafton, and Townsville](#), making Corrino cafes almost as conspicuous in Queensland as they were in New South Wales. Other Kytherians followed the Corrino family into cafes in Queensland. By the 1930s there would be at least one Greek cafe in almost every Queensland town and city.<sup>[5]</sup>

By the start of [World War II](#) over 10,000 Greeks had settled in Australia and the Kytherians, who by then constituted about 23% of the total, remained by far the dominant regional group. The largest group of pre-World War II Queensland Greeks were also from Kythera, the most significant being the Corrinos, Coroulis and Prelogakis families. Although much larger numbers of Greeks would move to Australia after World War II, the earlier immigrants carved out a niche in Australian culture, thereby giving rise to the institution of the Greek Cafe, which acted as the social hub of many country towns until the 1960s.<sup>[6]</sup>

In 1911 a census of [Australian Greeks](#) revealed that, of the 178 Greeks in Brisbane, 140 worked in cafes and related trades. The ratio for the rest of Queensland was 188 out of 407. Other main occupations before 1920 included drapers and tailors, harness, tradesmen, taxi drivers, cane cutters, fruit wholesalers, and travelling "picture show men". In the 1948 Queensland Alphabetic Post-Office Directory, listed Corrino businesses included: restaurant (1), wine sellers (1), picture theatres (1), fruit merchants (3), tobacconists (1), grocers (1), drapers (2), restaurant and draper (1), and "traveling immigrants" (2).<sup>[7]</sup>

During the 1910s changes in cafe design occurred which produced the layout common from the 1920s to the 1960s: at the front was a display window, then a refrigerated milk bar, with pantry and confectionery counter; and then a dining room, with a kitchen at the rear. Cafes profited from the growth of the popularity of picture theatres as they fed patrons at intervals and after the show. In the country towns especially, the cafes depended on the business gained in the evening from the picture theatres.<sup>[8]</sup>

The Great Depression in Australia caused problems for cafes, and many failed. A recovery in the late 1930s saw rebuilding and renovation occur in country cafes. Increased size was made of cubicles to separate the dining tables, and more decoration was added, as an elegant interior could be translated into increased profits. Reception halls or foyers were also added to cafes for larger functions. Greek cafes in 1900+ Gympie, Innisfail, and Bundaberg each had reception halls or dance floors upstairs.<sup>[9]</sup>

### Heritage listings

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Lycos Bros Central Cafe, Surfers Paradise<sup>[10]</sup>

  
General dining room of the Lycos Brothers Central Cafe at Thuringowa<sup>[11]</sup>

  
Corrino's Central Cafe, Brisbane, circa 1918<sup>[12]</sup>

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### JOHN OXLEY LIBRARY SEARCH RESULTS FOR: GREEK CAFE

1801

**GREEK CAFÉS: A SPECIALTY IN QUEENSLAND'S CENTRAL WEST**

24 OCT 2011 | HIGHLIGHTED | SHARE



Guest blogger Tom Brett Young writes that many of the customers knew the real name. To most of us he was just Sotiris – Sophie ran the Parthenon (or was it the Paris?), a Greek cafe in Dalby Street, Barcaldine, their main street. His nickname came from his trademark response to orders from his customers. [Read more](#)

**PATHWAY TO SUCCESS: THE GREEK CAFÉ**

24 OCT 2011 | CHRISTOPHEROS | SHARE



Guest blogger Tom Brett Young, 2011 Queensland Business Laureate Hall of Fame Fellow, The Greek coffee strand chapter in the history of two nations: it was a pathway to success for unyielded, determined Greek migrants, and it was a community hub where Australians socialised over mousakas and banana splits, mixed grills and toasted sandwiches. [Read more](#)

**CAFE MIMOSA, MARYBOROUGH**

24 OCT 2011 | HIGHLIGHTED | SHARE



The Antoniou Bros. Jim and George, formerly from the Greek island of Kythera, advertised their Cafe Mimosa in Hart Street, Maryborough in the local newspaper proudly proclaiming, "We serve the best brands of tea—Pure Ceylon Tea—Best Quality Cocoa. Brokers in Chocolates and general and Geelong Antoniou and their families assist them...". [Read more](#)

**ECONOMOS' CAFÉ, ROCKHAMPTON**

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Restaurant proprietors Emanouil, Dimitri and Nicolas Economos, trading as the Economos Bros., ran their business in East Street, Rockhampton. East Street was a bustling metropolis when the brothers opened their traditional Greek cafe in the 1920s. Previously known as the Australian Cafe, the brothers renamed it the Busias Cafe. The Rockhampton Greek menu... [Read more](#)

**PARIS CAFÉ, CLERMONT**

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John Demitrouis Vassilis and his wife Maroulis ran the Paris Cafe in Clermont. The interior features frosted counters and a refrigerator attached at the front, with tables and chairs in a dining area towards the back. A fire in the nearby Central Hotel destroyed the cafe in 1946. It was rebuilt in 2010. [Read more](#)

**PARAGON CAFE, DALBY**

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Paragon Cafe, Dalby, 1950s. [Read more](#)

**CAFE MANY PEAKS, BOYNE VALLEY**

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Exterior view of Cafe Many Peaks in Boyne Valley. [Read more](#)

**ATLAS CAFÉ, BRISBANE**

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Exterior view of Atlas Cafe in Brisbane. [Read more](#)

**BALONNE CAFÉ, ST GEORGE**

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Exterior view of Balonne Cafe in St George. [Read more](#)

**MY BIG FLASH GREEK WEDDING**

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Group photo of a Greek wedding. [Read more](#)



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