

Queensland Coastal Journey

9 days, departs Aug 21



Airlie Beach -photo courtesy of jipe7

Day 1 (L,D) HOME, PROSERPINE, AIRLIE BEACH

Our tropical getaway begins on arrival at Whitsunday Airport where we take the short journey to the coast, arriving at our home for three nights, Coral Sea Resort, overlooking the Whitsunday Passage. The afternoon is yours to explore the township of Airlie Beach. Browse the main street or perhaps take a stroll along Beach Lagoon or the Bicentennial Boardwalk.

Day 2 (B,L,D) CROCODILE SAFARI

A unique experience as we join a crocodile safari. Cruise along the mangroves and estuaries of the Proserpine River, the natural habitat of approximately 150 saltwater crocodiles. Following our cruise we make our way to the Safari Camp, enjoying a BBQ lunch with billy tea and damper on what was the site of Proserpine's river port, some 100 years ago. In the afternoon we board an open air tractor train for a guided tour through the Goorgana Wetlands before returning to our hotel.

Day 3 (B,L,D) WHITSUNDAYS CRUISE, HAMILTON ISLAND

A breathtaking highlight today as we cruise the crystal clear aqua waters of the Whitsunday Islands. We travel by ferry to the island resort of Hamilton Island. On arrival enjoy some time to explore the marina or the shops along Front Street. Time then to relax on board the MV Hamilton Star, a delightful

way to spend the afternoon cruising through spectacular scenery. On return to Hamilton Island we reboard the ferry back to Airlie Beach.

Day 4 (B,L,D) AIRLIE BEACH, PROSERPINE, BOWEN, TOWNSVILLE

Departing Airlie Beach we travel to Proserpine for a tour of the Whitsunday Gold Coffee Plantation, continuing on to Bowen, which sits in what is known as the "dry tropics". We explore the township, including viewing some of the 25 murals that are displayed throughout Bowen's streets. Following lunch we continue through Ayr to Townsville, with time exploring the heritage and cultural precinct, at the former military site, Jezzine Barracks. Our home for two nights, the Oaks M on Palmer.

Day 5 (B,L,D) TOWNSVILLE, REEF HQ, BILLABONG WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

A relaxed day exploring some of Townsville's unique attractions including REEF HQ, the world's largest living coral reef aquarium. We enjoy the sweeping views across the city to Magnetic Island at Castle Hill before we visit Queens Gardens, a heritage listed botanic garden dating back to 1870. Our afternoon is spent at the Billabong Wildlife Sanctuary with time to enjoy some of the wildlife shows and zookeeper talks. The interpretive displays showcase

Tour Highlights

- Whitsunday Islands Cruise
- Crocodile Safari
- Billabong Wildlife Safari
- Reef HQ Aquarium
- Paronella Park
- Kuranda Scenic Railway
- Skyrail Rainforest Cableway
- Tranquil Palm Cove



Experience the best of Queensland's tropical north on this easy paced touring holiday. This nine day tour features two and three night stays allowing for a more relaxed holiday while still visiting many of the region's most notable attractions.



Australia's unique wildlife and offers some of Australia's best interactive animal experiences.



Reef HQ Aquarium

All meals / most morning and afternoon teas

Queensland Coastal Journey



Hamilton Island

Day 6 (B,L,D) TOWNSVILLE, PARONELLA PARK, CAIRNS

Continuing north, we travel to the amazing Paronella Park. Built in the 1930's on five hectares (13 acres) of rainforest beside Mena Creek Falls, this fantasy creation of Jose Paronella was a tribute to his wife and includes a collection of castle-like buildings, magnificent gardens and North Queensland's first hydro-electric system. Later this afternoon we arrive into Cairns and our home for three nights, Cairns Harbour Lights Hotel.

Day 7 (B,L,D) KURANDA SCENIC RAILWAY AND SKYRAIL RAINFOREST CABLEWAY

A special experience as we join the spectacular Kuranda Scenic Railway and journey into the hinterland, passing through World Heritage protected tropical rainforest, beautiful waterfalls and into the breath-taking Barron Gorge on our

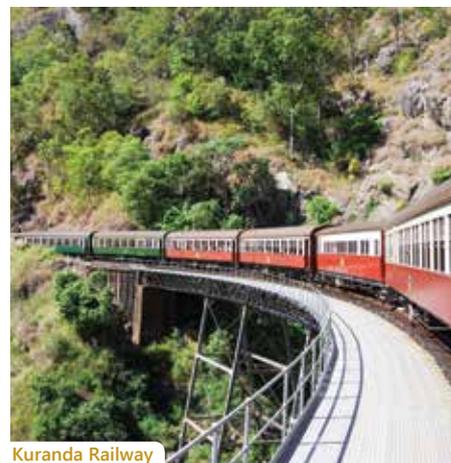
way up to the "village in the rainforest". At Kuranda we have time to explore and enjoy a light luncheon before returning to Cairns on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway Gondola. Spanning 7.5 kilometres over pristine rainforest, we glide just metres above the ancient rainforest canopy.

Day 8 (B,L,D) TRINITY INLET CRUISE, PALM COVE

A leisurely breakfast before a calm water cruise along Cairns' picturesque mangrove-lined estuary, Trinity Inlet. This afternoon we take the short drive to the Northern Beaches and enjoy the magnificent scenery of Palm Cove, one of the most beautiful beaches in the world. Some time to enjoy the quaint village like atmosphere along the ocean facing Williams Esplanade.

Day 9 (B,L) CAIRNS, HOME

Following a leisurely breakfast we transfer to Cairns Airport for our homeward flights completing a most enjoyable tropical Queensland holiday.



Kuranda Railway



Wombat at Billabong Sanctuary
photo courtesy of Brian Giesen



Palm Cove

All prices are per person twin share

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| Tour Price* | \$5,285 |
| Adelaide | \$6,085 |
| Brisbane | \$5,685 |
| Canberra | \$6,085 |
| Hobart/Launceston | \$6,085 |
| Melbourne | \$5,985 |
| Perth** | \$6,535 |
| Sydney | \$5,885 |
| Single supplement | \$ 695 |

*Tour commences in Proserpine and ends in Cairns.

**Pre-tour overnight Melbourne, includes airport transfers, dinner & breakfast.

Deposit of \$600 due within 7 days of booking, plus any additional deposit needed for non-refundable airfares.

Balance due 60 days prior to departure.

Prices from other cities available on application.