

Queensland Tropical

9 days, departs Aug 30



Paronella Park



Tour Highlights

- Historic Cooktown
- Endeavour River Sunset Cruise
- Mareeba Coffee Works
- Kuranda Village
- Tranquil Palm Cove
- Paronella Park
- Millaa Millaa Falls

Day 1 (L,D) HOME, CAIRNS

Today we fly north to tropical Cairns. We explore the city before arriving at our home for the night, the Cairns Harbour Lights. Some time to relax or perhaps stroll the Esplanade prior to dinner.

Day 2 (B,L,D) CURTAIN FIG TREE, ATHERTON, MAREEBA

This morning we head into the Atherton Tablelands, visiting the amazing Curtain Fig Tree at Yungaburra before arriving in Atherton, the major centre for the tablelands. Rich volcanic soil and abundant rainfall make this one of Queensland's greenest areas, a rich farming area with crops including macadamias, coffee, sugar and cattle. On to Tolga to visit the Tolga Woodworks Gallery, view craftsmen at work and browse the showroom. Lunch here today before continuing to Mareeba. Home for tonight, the Jackaroo Motel.

Day 3 (B,L,D) MAREEBA, COOKTOWN

We travel via Mt Molloy along the Peninsula and Cooktown Development Roads, with lunch at Lakeland en route to the northern-most point of our holiday, Cooktown, on the Endeavour River. Captain Cook beached the Endeavour here to make repairs after running aground on a coral reef. Over 2,000 kilometres north of Brisbane, the area was once part of the northern gold rush. Home for three nights, the River of Gold Motel.

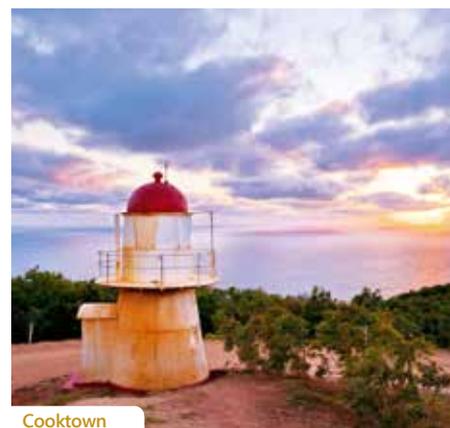
Day 4 (B,L,D) COOKTOWN

Explore this delightful relaxed and historic northern town, located on the banks of the Endeavour River and discovered by Captain Cook in 1770. The port was opened at the time of the gold rush in the 1870's. We visit the wonderful James Cook Museum, opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1970, stroll along the heritage precinct of Charlotte Street, and visit Grassy Hill, overlooking the township.

Day 5 (B,L,D) COOKTOWN, ENDEAVOUR RIVER SUNSET CRUISE

Enjoy a morning relaxing at our hotel or perhaps explore nearby Anzac Park. Later in the morning we visit the Cooktown Botanic Gardens where stone pitched waterways and shaded paths were restored in the late 1980's enhancing an area neglected for 70 years. Following lunch we visit Keating's Lagoon bird sanctuary and the beautiful Quarantine Bay. A highlight this evening as we enjoy a relaxing sunset cruise on the Endeavour River. A later dinner follows the cruise.

At a leisurely pace we explore Queensland's Tropical Coast combining stays in both Cairns and Cooktown as well as a night in Mareeba enroute to Cooktown. A highlight is our scenic return flight from Cooktown to Cairns. Experience the charming village of Kuranda, Palm Cove and stunning Daintree as we journey through some of Australia's most spectacular tropical coastal scenery.



Cooktown



Curtain Fig Tree

All meals / most morning and afternoon teas

Queensland Tropical



Keating's Lagoon- Cooktown

Day 6 (B,L,D) COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, PALM COVE

Following a leisurely breakfast we take the short scenic flight back to Cairns. On arrival we visit the northern beaches and the beautiful setting of Palm Cove, a delightful village setting with shaded grassed areas between the beach and the village thoroughfare. Time to settle into our home for three nights, the 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



Kuranda Railway- photo courtesy of Robin Yao

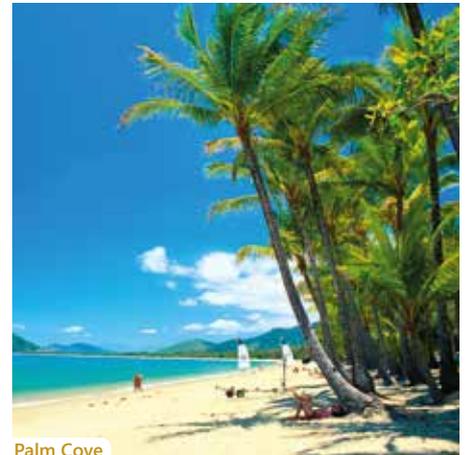
luncheon before returning to Cairns on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway Gondola. Spanning 7.5 kilometres over pristine rainforest, we glide just metres above the ancient rainforest canopy.

Day 8 (B,L,D) PARONELLA PARK, MILLAA MILLAA FALLS

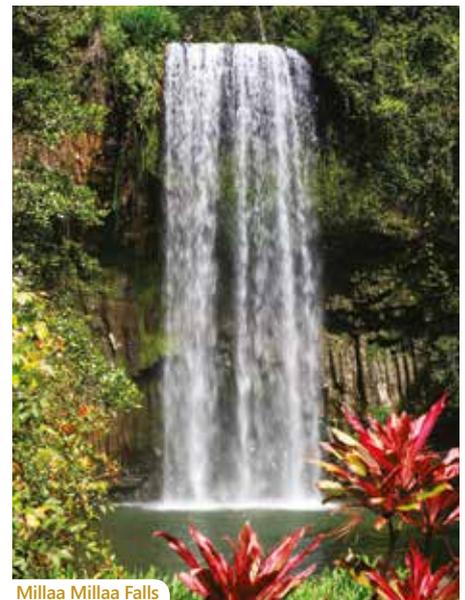
Heading south, we travel to the amazing Paronella Park. Built in the 1930's on five hectares (13 acres) of rainforest beside Mena Creek Falls, this fantasy creation of Jose Paronella was a tribute to his wife and includes a collection of castle-like buildings, magnificent gardens and North Queensland's first hydro-electric system. After lunch we return to Cairns via the picturesque Millaa Millaa Falls and the village of Malanda.

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.



Palm Cove



Millaa Millaa Falls

All prices are per person twin share

Tour Price*	\$5,165
Adelaide	\$5,765
Brisbane	\$5,465
Canberra	\$5,765
Hobart/Launceston	\$5,815
Melbourne	\$5,615
Perth**	\$6,540
Sydney	\$5,565
Single supplement	\$ 580

*Tour commences and ends in Cairns.

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

Deposit of \$550 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.