



TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND

AGENT: Tiffany Rudd from helloworld Eastgardens

DAY 1

Fly into Cairns and be greeted at the airport and taken to your amazing hotel staying 1 night at the Shangri-La Hotel-Cairns.

We hire some bikes and ride around the cycle paths and take ourselves to Rustys Markets

Time for a swim and then to hit the bars, restaurants and pubs – so many to choose from!

DAY 2

Today we catch the 11am ferry for 3 Nights on Green Island.

An amazing Island Suite, great facilities and when the day trippers leave, the island is yours. Green Island is a true coral cay, located on one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Australia's beautiful Great Barrier Reef.

Great Adventures high speed catamaran transfers depart Cairns daily. The trip is 45 minutes by fast catamaran. Return vessel transfers from Cairns Marina, welcome sunset drinks, glass bottom boat tour, use of snorkelling equipment and lycra suit, guided evening nature walks, self-guided island walks, fish feeding daily, use of windsurfers, kayaks and canoes, beach volleyball and Great Barrier Reef Day Adventure cruise.

DAY 3

We head back to Cairns today, this time staying at the Doubletree by Hilton.

Wander Sailfish Quay admiring super yachts and checking out the game fishing fleet in the Cairns Marlin Marina before enjoying a cocktail on the waterfront. Watch the Great Barrier Reef boats return around 5pm as the sun slowly sinks over the mountains ending another beautiful day in the tropics.

DAY 4

Today is a full day with Kuranda Scenic Rail

We experience the contrast of the regions oldest railway and the world's most beautiful Cableway, knowing that we have taken care of all the details with your Kuranda Boarding Pass. Tjapukai is our first stop, including lunch and an Indigenous guide for the morning. Then board Skyrail for your journey, before some free time in Kuranda. We have avoided the ticketing lines before boarding the famous Kuranda Scenic Rail, our Kuranda Boarding Pass ensures we will have preferential seating.

DAY 5

60 Minute Deluxe Reef/Rainforest Voyager

This morning are doing a 60 minute flight with stunning views of Cairns City as well as flying over Copperlode Dam, Rainforest-clad Mountains and the magnificent Barron Gorge before we fly past the Northern Beaches over Double Island. The isolation of Upolu or Middle Sand Cays are amazing as we continue the helicopter flight of a lifetime

Our afternoon is getting us back on the water, the Barron River is perfect for anyone who has never tried White Water Rafting or those looking for an afternoon of fun and excitement. Our guide takes you on an eco-adventure through the Barron Gorge

National park aboard your 8 person inflatable raft, tackling grade 2 and 3 rapids including the infamous Rooster Tail where an action photo will be taken. Plus we get the chance to try raft surfing (dependent on water levels) and to cool off with a swim in Lake Placid.

DAY 6

Pick up car and drive via the Atherton tablelands to Port Douglas.

We follow the "Taste of Savannah" route pretty closely, trying to get in as many local cheeses, chocolate, coffee honey and seafood tastings we spend 5 Nights at Mandalay Beachfront Apartments

DAY 7

Sunday Brunch at one of the many restaurants and then wander through the Port Douglas Markets,

This evening a Sunset Sail An exhilarating twilight sail on board the luxury Lagoon sailed from France. Soak up the peace and tranquillity of a tropical sunset over the Coral Sea with spectacular mountain views. This sunset cruise is for adults to relax, unwind and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of pure sailing.

DAY 8

Full Day Low Isles Cruise

We have a memorable day with exploring Great Barrier Reef aboard the Sailaway IV vessel. The cruise sets sail to Low Isles, a protected coral cay on the Great Barrier Reef. Be a castaway without being lost and experience the feeling of a remote tropical island with its white sand fringed by swaying coconut trees and surrounded by the coral laden azure waters. The islands are closely surrounded by 55 acres of coral reef making it the ideal location for snorkelers, bird watchers and nature lovers alike.

DAY 9

Today we spend the day out an a Full Day Cooktown 4WD Adventure

It's a purpose built 4WD vehicle, and travel north along the Captain Cook Highway, one of Australia's most scenic coastal drives. Your journey will take you across the Daintree River by Cable Ferry through the heart of the World Heritage Listed Daintree National Park. This spectacular wet tropical rainforest, the oldest continuously growing rainforest in the world, renowned for its amazing diversity of plant and animal life. Enjoy the magic of the rainforest as you indulge on tasty homemade scones with jam and cream and sip on the fresh local Daintree Tea or coffee. Your experienced guide will enlighten your journey with incredible stories and history as you continue on the 4WD only Bloomfield Track. This will take you through some of the most incredible scenery in the country, crossing rivers and climbing mountain ranges. Lunch is at the infamous, quirky Lion's Den Hotel one of North Queensland's landmark pubs, built in 1875 made of timber and iron. See the unique geological oddity, "Black Mountain" an environment which is the world's only habitat for at least three animals. Hear the

mystical stories and Aboriginal legends, before arriving in historic Cooktown. Enjoy the spectacular panoramic views from Grassy Hill of the Endeavour River, Coral Sea and Cooktown. Take a stroll down the main street or visit the world class James Cook Museum (entrance not included) Depart Cooktown for the return journey on the inland road, the Mulligan Highway, traveling through a diverse landscape of cattle stations and the Palmer River goldfields region, which is the outback of Far North Queensland.

DAY 10

After a huge day yesterday, time out on the beach...maybe a beach BBQ or just time in the sun with a nice long lunch....

But we have to leave some space as we are going to Flames of the Forest for dinner tonight. Outdoor dining in a rainforest with chandeliers and elegant dining. Can't wait!

DAY 11

Drive to Silky Oaks Lodge for 3 Nights.

Silky Oaks Lodge is one of Australia's premier luxury lodges, offering a unique experience from which to explore Tropical North Queensland, located within easy access from Cairns and a 15 minute drive from Port Douglas.

Spectacularly situated on the Mossman Gorge River, the eco luxury lodge is the ideal location to appreciate the natural tropical environment with a choice Tree house accommodation, all with individual and personalized touches.

The open sided Tree house restaurant which perches high above the river is an exquisite, award winning dining experience, with the freshest of Australian produce and innovative seasonal menus.

Relax and unwind at the Healing Waters Spa.

Activities are abundant. Explore the adjacent World Heritage Listed, Daintree National Park. They offer Guided Rainforest Walks or take a picnic and make your own adventure with the guidance of our in-house Trail Guide. Wonder in the breathtaking beauty of the Great Barrier Reef.

DAY 12

We spend the day driving up to Cape tribulation and relaxing on the beach, wandering around at our own pace.

DAY 13

Dreamtime Gorge Walk

A "must do" for every visitor to Mossman Gorge are the Ngadiku Dreamtime Walks, conducted by the local Indigenous people. Ngadiku (Nar-di-gul) means stories and legends from a long time ago in local Kuku Yalanji language. The walks takes us on a journey along private, gentle tracks, visiting special places and culturally significant sites, past traditional bark shelters and over meandering cool rainforest streams.

We are welcomed with a traditional smoking ceremony that cleanses and wards off bad spirits. The walk then meanders through stunning rainforest and takes in traditional huts or humpies. Our experienced interpretive Indigenous guide demonstrates traditional plant use, identify bush food sources and provide an enchanting narrative of the rainforest and their special relationship with this

unique tropical environment. Your guide demonstrates traditions like making bush soaps and ochre painting. At the end of the tour enjoy traditional bush tea and damper.

DAY 14

We leave Port Douglas and drive down the road a little to Thala Beach Nature Reserve for 1 night before we head home tomorrow

Nestled in 145 acres of native forest on a secluded beach, family-owned Thala is private nature reserve near Port Douglas. Sitting spectacularly atop a headland with breath taking vistas, it provides an island-style vacation on the mainland.

Built high on stilts, 83 timber bungalows are discretely tucked away in the forest canopy and blend in with the natural environment featuring views to the ocean or the forested mountains. Panoramic views are to be enjoyed in the restaurant where guests dine among the birds in the surrounding treetops, whilst enjoying modern Australian cuisine with friendly and attentive service.

We can also enjoy complimentary guided onsite nature tours led by passionate & informative rangers including a coconut odyssey, beach combing, stargazing at an outdoor observatory, wallaby & wildlife walks and bird watching tours.

DAY 15

Drive to Cairns Airport... eventually...

We have booked a late flight out this afternoon, so we spend the mid-morning driving via the "Taste of the Tropics Food Trail" for a delicious ending to our holiday.