



As time goes on and I am spending more time creating journeys within Australia and focusing on Queensland for now, the more fascinating the offerings become that I want to share with you.

This weeks itinerary starts in Townsville – you can fly or take the overnight train to Queensland's capital of the north. Stay for a couple of nights on the Strand overlooking the beach and the islands beyond. Take a drive up Castle Hill for views across the region, history buffs will enjoy a visit Jezzine Barracks and the army museum, discover deserted beaches, and visit the Reef HQ aquarium – the centre for marine research of the Great Barrier Reef. Magnetic island is a short ferry trip away – be sure to explore on a day trip or spend a few days relaxing, there is a thriving local community as well as secluded areas to find.

Take a 30 minute helicopter flight from Townsville to wonderful Orpheus Island. Be pampered at this exclusive lodge with everything included – gourmet meals, beverages and most activities. Sail a catamaran, snorkel or scuba dive, go fishing for the day, take a dinghy out to explore, kayak or paddleboard - there are lots of water sports on offer. Lounge by the pool or in a hammock on a deserted beach. Take a picnic and explore the island – there are treks inland or coastal areas. Join a guided eco tour and help preserve the pristine reef with volunteer for a day programs. Orpheus is a tonic for the soul and an escape away from the everyday.

Head west on the overnight train the Inlander to Mt Isa. As we all know this is one of Australia's largest centres for mining. Yet there is more to explore in this north west region. Join a 3day trip to Adel's Grove, a hidden gem of the gulf savannah country. Settled and developed in the early 1900's this haven for wildlife is also a sanctuary for rare flora, many species unique to the region. It is difficult to reach as the dirt roads make for a challenging drive – the property runs these 3 day trips that pick you in Townsville and let you relax and enjoy the exploration. Cruise on the waterways of Lawn Hill Gorge and explore the wilderness of Boodjamulla National Park. Meet the locals and unwind in this remote part of Queensland.

And there is more to explore .... Contact Travelling Places to put a wonderful immersive trip together for you to enjoy. P: 0755451600