



Heading north of Cairns are several options. Palm Cove is only a short drive north and this stretch of beach offers travellers a range of accommodation. We chose to stay in a self-catering apartment overlooking the resort pool and towards the beach. We spent a few days beachcombing and swimming and enjoying local restaurants. One day we took the historic Kuranda railway up to the tablelands and returned on the Skyrail high above the rainforest canopy. We also visited the Tjapukai heritage centre nearby which gave us an interactive experience with the local community.

Heading north we stopped for a few days at the lovely Thala Beach Lodge. This retreat is quiet and delightful, our accommodation was hidden in the nature reserve, peering through the native trees there were glimpses of the Coral Sea glimmering. Days were spent walking the trails, swimming in the pool or off the pristine beaches, learning from the resident rangers about the environment and the night sky and the sharing of stories by the local Kuku Yulangi people. Ospreys restaurant was a highlight, perched high on the hill with magnificent views and open sided to the balmy tropical air. This was a treat and one I could easily repeat.

Beckoning further north was Port Douglas. This township has developed over the last couple of decades into hub for good restaurants and places to stay. From here we took a day trip to the outer barrier reef to snorkel and ended up tickling a giant Murray Wrasse who was as inquisitive of us as we were of him. Another day we walked in the Daintree rainforest before stopping at Mossman Gorge to swim in the river and discover the waterfalls.

There is so much to discover in Far North Queensland. Sitting here on Sunday afternoon with the sun shining, yet the cold wind blustery outside and thinking of lighting the fire, FNQ certainly is calling. Contact Travelling Places to discover this wonderful world in our own back yard. Phone 55451600