



SC22: Sydney to Cairns 22 Day Inclusive Tour

Departs: Sydney

Arrives: Cairns

Departure Day: Monday

Block Out Dates: Dec 9, 16, 23, 30

Valid: 30 Sept 2019 – 9 March 2020

Note: Passengers receive a personalised itinerary 6 weeks before their departure, confirming the daily activities, meeting and departure times, as well as providing important information for this package tour.

DAY 1: Sydney to Barrington Tops

We head to the Hunter Valley wine area to do a tasting at one of Australia's most famous vineyards. We then head through the backcountry to our stunning stop on the edge of Barrington Tops National Park (a World Heritage Listed Area). Tonight, we stay in a private lodge overlooking the Barrington River, and we have included river tubing down a scenic part of the river for this afternoon. Warm up and relax in the giant hot tub before dinner.

STAY: Hilltop Lodge – dorm share accommodation

EAT: Dinner

Day 2: Barrington Tops to Surf Camp

Wake up in the morning and enjoy breakfast with an amazing view. We then head north, with a short break to visit a koala hospital to learn about their efforts in preserving Koalas, and at a nature reserve to spot wild kangaroos hopping along the incredible coastline. We then travel on to our waterfront accommodation at the Surf Camp, arriving in the early evening.

IMPORTANT NOTES: Female only dorms cannot be guaranteed at this location.

STAY: Spot X Surf Camp – quad share accommodation

EAT: Breakfast and Dinner

Day 3: Surf Camp to River Retreat

This morning you can take part in a group surf lesson or just relax on the beach. The surf lesson is included in the price of the tour package. In the afternoon we travel to our River Retreat and go for a guided canoeing trip, spotting wildlife along the way. In the evening have an Aussie BBQ, learn how to cook some damper and toast marshmallows around the campfire.

STAY: Shared Cabins

EAT: Breakfast and Dinner

DAY 4: River Retreat to Byron Bay

We leave our camp and head north towards Byron Bay, Australia's famous surf and arts town. We stop in the picturesque town of Yamba along the way and go for a walk or a swim at the Angourie blue pools (weather dependent). We have an orientation drive on the way to Byron Bay to help you get your bearings.

STAY: Backpacker Resort Byron Bay

EAT: Breakfast

DAY 5: Free Day in Byron Bay

Explore, learn to surf, party, visit the alternative town of Nimbin (additional cost), or just relax and take in the laidback, hippy vibe. We recommend taking a walk to the lighthouse to view the Australian mainland's most easterly point.

IMPORTANT NOTES: Your Stray guide won't be hanging out with you today or tomorrow, as he/she is getting a hard-earned rest. They will, however, be able to help you book any activities or give you some tips on restaurants etc before you arrive in Byron on day 4.

STAY: Backpacker Resort in Byron Bay
NO MEALS

DAY 6: Free Day in Byron Bay

Today is free for you to continue to enjoy this laidback little town.

STAY: Backpacker Resort in Byron Bay
NO MEALS

DAY 7: Byron Bay (via Gold Coast & Brisbane) to Rainbow Beach

This morning we depart Byron Bay and cruise up to the New South Wales/Queensland border, we then drive into the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Noosa before we continue onto Rainbow Beach for the night. We recommend taking a walk up to Carlo Sand Blow for sunset (weather permitting).

STAY: Frasers on Rainbow, 18 Spectrum St, Rainbow Beach
EAT: Dinner

DAY 8 & 9: Rainbow Beach ↔ Fraser Island (2days/1night)

Get ready for two full days of exploring World Heritage Fraser Island. After a short 10-minute ferry ride from Rainbow Beach you start your adventure of four-wheel-driving on the roads of sand.

During your stay on Fraser you will have the chance to spot dingoes in the wild, swim in crystal clear freshwater lakes and swimming holes, hike through world heritage rainforest and explore the diverse landscapes in this unique habitat.

Before heading to bed don't forget to look up to enjoy the millions of stars and maybe even spot the five stars on the Aussie flag – the Southern Cross.

In the late afternoon of day eight your guide will return you to your Rainbow Beach accommodation where you have dinner included.

STAY: Eurong Beach Resort, Fraser Island
Frasers on Rainbow, Rainbow Beach
EAT: 2 x Breakfasts, 2 x Lunches, 2 x Dinners

WEDNESDAY - DAY 10: Rainbow Beach

Today you will have the chance to witness some of the spectacular marine wildlife the Fraser Coast is famous for. You will be treated to a dolphin-watching kayak tour and Great Beach 4WD ride within the Great Sandy National Park.

On this three-hour tour you have the chance of seeing Bottlenose dolphins, Humpback whales (May to

November), turtles, manta rays, sting rays, soldier crabs and an array of marine birdlife.

Make sure you bring along your swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, water, camera, a dry change of clothes and any snacks you may wish to eat.

IMPORTANT NOTES: In the event of inclement weather, the best possible alternative will be provided by Epic Ocean Adventures to give you the best chance of seeing some great marine wildlife and the beautiful coastline of Rainbow Beach. (Both activities are subject to minimum numbers of four people)

STAY: Frasers on Rainbow, 18 Spectrum St, Rainbow Beach
EAT: Breakfast and Dinner

DAY 11: Rainbow Beach (via Noosa) to Emu Park

Today we head to Cooroy where we start our train journey. We travel by train to Rockhampton where we are met by a local bus, to take us to Emu's Beach Resort. Once we are welcomed onto the resort, we find out more about preparing for our overnight stay on a working cattle station and farm tomorrow.

STAY: Emu's Beach Resort, 92 Pattison Street, Emu Park
EAT: Breakfast and Dinner

DAY 12: Emu Park to Myella Farm Stay

Depart bright and early to travel to Rockhampton where a member of the Myella family will pick you up and share information about the farm and its history, over breakfast you will hear more of what you can experience over the coming days.

Ride your horse through the wide open fields where you can ride very close to cattle and kangaroos, returning to enjoy a buffet style salad lunch.

In the afternoon go on a 4WD tour of the farm or join the cow milking team and enjoy an outback sunset to finish the day around the campfire to relax with a home-made beer. Dinner is served in the outdoor dining area.

STAY: Myella Farm Stay
EAT: Breakfast, Lunch and dinner

Day 13: Myella Farm Stay to Emu Park

Take an early morning walk to see the sunrise and wild kangaroos before joining the family for breakfast. Feed the chickens, help sort the milking cows and learn to feed and saddle your own horse. Today you will ride a different route over the 2600 acre farm.

After lunch take the 4WD farm tour or lasso and whip-cracking lessons. Chill in the pool in the afternoon heat before leaving around 4.30pm to make your way back to Rockhampton and Emu park.

STAY: Emu's Beach Resort, 92 Pattison Street, Emu Park
EAT: Breakfast and lunch

Day 14: Free day Emu Park

After such a busy few days we take time to relax today, enjoy the accommodation facilities or have a go at Aussie lawn bowls or maybe visit the local crocodile farm (both extra cost).

STAY: Emus Beach Resort, Emu Park, 92 Pattison Street, Emu Park
NO MEALS

Day 15: Great Keppel Island and Overnight Train to Airlie Beach

This morning we head to a tropical paradise like nowhere else on our Treasure Island Adventure. Our destination Great Keppel Island is located on the southern of the Great Barrier Reef with untouched coral, turtles, reef fish and manta rays all straight off the beach. Relax or have a go at snorkeling or kayaking (additional cost) before exploring the island. We have dinner at Emu's Beach Resort before we catch the train in the evening and travel overnight to Airlie Beach – the gateway to the beautiful Whitsunday Islands. where you will have time to store your luggage before your Whitsundays day trip.

STAY: Overnight train in reclining seats

EAT: lunch and dinner

Day 16: Whitsunday Islands, snorkeling, reef and Whitehaven Beach

Today provides an exhilarating ride to world famous Whitehaven Beach, pristine snorkeling reefs and guided Whitsunday Island National Park walks. Visit the Northern and Southern ends of Whitehaven Beach, spending at least two hours relaxing or exploring the 7km of white silica sand.

Walk to the Southern Whitehaven lookout with breathtaking views of Pentecost Island, join the guided walks to Hill Inlet lookout and snorkel for an hour enjoying the amazing hard and soft corals of the fringing reefs. Upon completion of your Whitsundays day trip, you will have the night free to explore Airlie's great nightlife and choice of restaurants.

IMPORTANT NOTES: Please note that your Stray guide won't be present today and you will be in the safe hands of the crew from Ocean Rafting. Upon completion of your Whitsundays day trip, you will have the night free to explore Airlie's great nightlife and choice of restaurants.

STAY: Backpacker Resort in Airlie Beach

EAT: Lunch

Day 17: Free Day Airlie Beach

Today is a free day, time to relax and enjoy the large lagoon on the esplanade, and the many cafes and restaurants in this quaint coastal town.

STAY: Backpacker Resort in Airlie Beach

NO MEALS

Day 18: Airlie Beach (via Townsville) to Magnetic Island

We have a very early start with a local bus to the train, a ferry out to tropical 'Maggie Island', and a local transfer to the accommodation. There is much to explore on the island, as nearly 50% of it is National Park with amazing beaches and abundant wildlife. Your guide will join you on a walk around the island; otherwise you can do more exploring or just relax by the pool.

STAY: Bungalow Bay Koala Village, Magnetic Island

NO MEALS

Day 19: Free Day Magnetic Island

Today you are free to relax or explore as you wish. Maybe take a visit to the wildlife park at the resort (extra cost).

IMPORTANT NOTES: Your guide will not be present today.

STAY: Bungalow Bay Koala Village, Magnetic Island

NO MEALS

Day 20: Magnetic Island to Tully rainforest Experience

We travel back to the mainland on the ferry, travel by train to Tully – getting in at around lunchtime. We travel by bus into the amazing rainforest of Tully Gorge National Park. Cool off with a swim in a beautiful swimming hole, before a BBQ dinner and stories about the campfire.

STAY: Camping in tents in a campground in a World Heritage listed rainforest

EAT: Dinner

Day 21: Tully to Cairns

We wake early at our rainforest camp for breakfast and then have an interpretative walk through the forest, learning about the traditional indigenous use of the land. We then travel back to Tully to catch the train north, arriving into Cairns central train station at approximately 4.30pm. Make your own way to tonight's accommodation.

STAY: Gilligan's, 57-89 Grafton St, Cairns

EAT: Breakfast

Day 22: Cairns ↔ Great Barrier Reef day tour

ReefQuest - This luxury vessel takes you to the Great Barrier Reef in only 90 minutes for a full day of snorkelling and/or the chance to do up to three dives (extra cost).

Enjoy exclusive moorings at various reefs and a variety of dive sites to ensure minimal environmental impact to the pristine coral formations we visit. Dive sites are frequented by a myriad of tropical and pelagic fish, rays, turtles, (friendly) sharks and the ever-popular Maori Wrasse. There are swim-throughs, wall and drift dives to appeal to every level of diver. Your tour includes a wetsuit or stinger suit, as well as floatation noodles. Crew keep a constant watch over the snorkelling sites, so you can enjoy the wonders of the reef in complete safety. Return to Cairns where your East Coast adventure comes to an end.

IMPORTANT NOTES: A direct payment of AU\$20.00 Reef Tax and Fuel Levy is to be paid at check in.

EAT: Lunch

What's Included

- Professional guides
- Private bus and Queensland Rail transport
- Accommodation and camping with all bedding
- All sightseeing, walks and meals as indicated
- All national park fees and return ferries to Fraser Island, Great Keppel Island and Magnetic Island.
- Activities including Hunter Valley wine tasting, river tubing on the scenic Barrington River, Koala hospital visit, a surf lesson at a remote surf camp, 2 day/1 night Fraser Island tour, half day sea kayaking trip with dolphins, Great Keppel Island adventure, horse riding on a cattle station, Whitsundays snorkeling, Whitehaven Beach boat ride, Tully Rainforest Experience and a Great Barrier Reef Trip.

What to Bring

- Hat
- Sunscreen

- Walking shoes/boots
- Insect repellent
- Water bottle
- Swimsuit & towel
- Flip flops/thongs
- Camera

Important Notes

This itinerary is subject to change due to cultural, operational or seasonal conditions. Accommodation included is a guide only and will be confirmed with a personalised itinerary seven days prior to departure.

Although the group you are travelling with will not exceed 24 passengers (41 during peak periods), a number of the activities including the cruise in the Whitsundays, four-wheel-drive touring on Fraser Island, and rail journey are not exclusive to the group. You will travel with additional people and will have larger group sizes on those days. You will also travel with guides specific to those activities, rather than your Stray guide.

As this is a tour package, your guide and group will change throughout your journey. You will travel on Stray transport with Stray guides. While you will have a fixed pre-arranged itinerary, other Stray customers on a more flexible pass will hop on and off throughout the trip.

This is an open-aged tour, however most passengers are between the ages of 18 and 39.

Female dorm customers will be placed in single sex female dorms where possible.

Dietary requirements

Vegetarian diets are generally easily catered for by each of the operators in this tour package if informed before departure. It may not always be possible for more specific dietary needs to be catered for, particularly in more remote areas visited. It is recommended that passengers with specific dietary needs carry snacks and other food items that they are certain will be suitable, as Real Aussie Adventures and its partners cannot be responsible for the ingredients contained in meals provided.