



Brisbane to Cairns or reverse

18 or 21 day tour options - featuring up to 16 National Parks*

- *Journey through the heart of the Queensland outback. Visit fascinating volcanic lava tubes, limestone caves and Aboriginal rock art galleries rarely seen by tourists.*
- *Contrasting walks through three great inland parks offer magnificent forests of Bunya Pines, two towering sandstone gorges and abundant birdlife.*
- *Immerse yourself in pioneering history at the award winning Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame.*
- *Experience in vivid contrast, the World Heritage Listed Wet Tropics region of North Queensland where pristine, ancient rainforests, picture post card beaches, azure coloured waters and tropical islands border The Great Barrier Reef.*

(21 day tour includes National Parks of the Atherton Tablelands and World Heritage Listed Hinchinbrook Island)*

TOUR 2 OUTBACK TO THE REEF

Features include:

BUNYA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK The largest stand of bunya pines in the world, once sacred to the Aborigines who feasted on the Bunya nuts. Waterfalls and abundant wildlife including wallabies and possums, colourful regent and satin bower birds, crimson rosellas and king parrots abound.



CARNARVON NATIONAL PARK The rugged and isolated sandstone cliffs of Carnarvon gorge towering above a magnificent and picturesque creek, an oasis for wildlife and rock hopping hikers, unique Aboriginal artistry (over 4,000 years old), narrow side gorges with lush hidden gardens.



LONGREACH Home to Australia's Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre paying tribute to those hardy individuals and unsung heroes who opened up Australia's vast outback, the pioneers, drovers, ringers, Aboriginal stockmen and ladies of the inland.

HUGHENDEN Famous homeland of the Muttaborrasaurus and other fossil discoveries unearthed on the edge of a vast pre-historic inland sea, 100 million years ago.

PORCUPINE GORGE NATIONAL PARK Queensland's small scale Grand Canyon, with colourful sandstone cliffs capped by ancient basalt lava flow, a fascinating fluted creek bed in the winter, raging erosive forces in the big wet.

UNDARA VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK Home of the unique Undara lava tubes, the longest and best preserved phenomena of their kind in the world, set in a vast savannah landscape.

CHILLAGOE-MUNGANA CAVES NATIONAL PARK A curious landscape of ancient coral reefs, limestone deposited when the area was a shallow sea 400 million years ago, now home to a protected cave system.



QUINKAN GALLERIES An evocative landscape, home to hundreds of extraordinary Australian Aboriginal rock art galleries dating back beyond 14,000 years, the unique literature of ancient peoples and featuring spirit figures of native mythology.



"Your tour was a most special experience for me. I will definitely be back, probably next year"
– Monique of Netherlands



TOUR 2 (CONTINUED)

OUTBACK TO THE REEF

COOKTOWN AND PORT DOUGLAS One village indelibly etched in the seafaring discovery of Australia, the other once a fishing village, now a leading tourist mecca of the far north and closest town to the Great Barrier Reef.

WORLD HERITAGE LISTED WET TROPICS OF QUEENSLAND Daintree Rainforest, a naturalists' delight for birds, crocodiles, primitive lowland rainforest and nocturnal wildlife. Home to 12 of the 19 families of ancestral flowering plants in the world.



MISSION BEACH 14kms of pristine coastline with wide, golden, sandy beaches and rainforest - gateway to exquisite islands and resorts.

ATHERTON TABLELANDS A lush tropical region of crater lakes, waterfalls, wetlands rich with migratory birdlife from far reaches of the globe, rainforests with large flightless Cassowaries and the once volcanically active Mt Hypipamee crater, a deep explosive pipe.

WORLD HERITAGE LISTED HINCHINBROOK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK Its 35kms length relatively unexplored with peaks of 1000 metres, rainforested slopes and winding mangrove lined creeks, surrounded by protected marine habitats including seagrass beds supporting a dugong population.

Other highlights include the volcanic plugs of the Glasshouse Mountains National Park, the mountain village of Kuranda visited by a Skyrail journey through the rainforest canopy.

DETAILS

Accommodation: Comfortable outback motels, environmental and wilderness lodges with private and shared facilities.

Walk Rating: Day/Half Day walks and short strolls of easy to moderate grade.

Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Morning and Afternoon Teas, transport, guides, memento, entry fees, wine, travel treats and more.

Group size: Maximum 14 people.

2005 DEPARTURES

21 days – Apr 11, May 7, Jun 6, July 1 & 27, Aug 21

18 days – Apr 11, May 10, Jun 6, Jul 4&27, Aug 24

*Price on Application: via website or email
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