

INDEPENDENT TRIPS

East Coast Aussie Explorer 17D/16N

18 to 30 somethings

17 Days / 1 Country

Australia

Departure city: **Sydney, Australia**

End city: **Cairns, Australia**

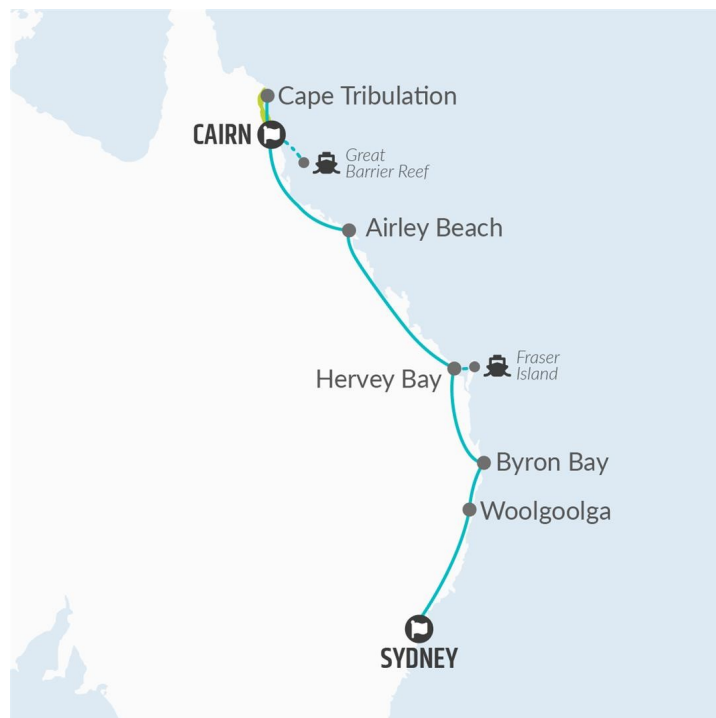


HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy day trips to Fraser Island and Whitsundays
- Snorkel through the spectacular Great Barrier Reef
- Cruise on a boat along the Daintree River
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Travel from Sydney to Cairns on this 17-day adventure to experience the jungle and the pristine beaches and islands along Australia's beautiful East Coast!

MAP



What is included



Independent Trips

Include all of your accommodation, transport and experiences on a pre-set trip that you can customize to perfectly suit your travel needs.



Accommodation: 15

- 15N Mixed Accommodations
1N in Hervey Bay
- 1N in Sydney
3N in Airlie Beach
- 2N at Spot X Surf Camp (Only Hostel Dorm)
5N in Cairns
- 2N in Byron Bay
1N in Cape Tribulation



Transport: 9

- All Transportation as per itinerary
Overnight Hervey Bay to Airlie Beach
- Bus Transportation
Airlie Beach to Cairns
- Sydney to Woolgoolga
4WD
- Woolgoolga to Byron Bay
High Speed Sailing Boat
- Byron Bay to Hervey Bay
Cruise



Meals: 8

- 2 Breakfast(s), 4 Lunch(es), 2 Dinner(s),



Guides:

- English speaking guide for some of the activities

What is not included

- *Other Meals/Drinks
- *Transfers to/from bus stations
- *Optional Activities
- *Personal Expenses
- *Travel Insurance
- *Tips
- *20 EMC reef tax; paid locally

*Prices for optional activities are subject to change at any time without prior notice. Please confirm these prices before departing on your trip.

Itinerary

Day 1: Sydney, Australia

Sydney Airport Pick-up

As you arrive at Sydney airport you will be picked-up and transferred to your Sydney accommodation for check-in. Enjoy the day at leisure to settle in and overnight.

Day 2: Sydney - Woolgoolga, Australia

Travel from Sydney to Spot X Surf Camp (D)

Make your way to the bus terminal and board an early bus from Sydney to Woolgoolga Spot X Surf Camp. Your bus has WIFI, charging stations by your seat and panoramic windows to see the beautiful landscape during this 11-hour journey! On arrival in the evening make your way to your accommodation and overnight.

Overnight Accommodation at Surf Camp (beach-side dorm share)

Day 3: Woolgoolga, Australia

Spot X Surf Camp (B/D/L)

Enjoy a full day at Spot X Surf Camp, a place totally devoted to the surf lifestyle. Located in a National Marine Park, Spot X provides a unique opportunity to spend time in one of Australia's most beautiful coastal areas. Long days in the sun and waves leading to memorable nights around the campfire, Spot X is truly a place you don't want to miss.

With great food, awesome staff and comfortable clean accommodation, this is going to be an amazing experience, taking optional surf lessons if you wish and enjoying the beach lifestyle.

Spot X has all the facilities including laundry, cooking area, a shop for all your basic necessities, an entertainment area with internet access, tour desk, TV & DVD, a kick-ass sound system, bean bags, hammocks, volleyball court and a pool table.

Overnight Accommodation at Surf Camp (beach-side dorm share)

Day 4: Woolgoolga - Byron Bay, Australia

Today you will catch a bus to Byron Bay (B)

After breakfast, enjoy the morning at leisure before being transferred back to Woolgoolga to catch a 3-hour bus to the hippie town of Byron Bay where you can relax, sip on a latte at the local cafes or even get your heart pumping while skydiving or kayaking with Dolphins.

Overnight Nomads Byron Bay OR Lord Byron Resort OR The Byron at Byron Resort & Spa

Day 5: Byron Bay, Australia

Byron Bay free day.

Today is your day to relax on the beach, check out the town or choose from one of the many optional activities available here – visit the hippy town of Nimbin, try skydiving or join a Kayak with Dolphins tour.

Overnight Nomads Byron Bay OR Lord Byron Resort OR The Byron at Byron Resort & Spa

Day 6: Byron Bay - Hervey Bay, Australia

Byron Bay to Hervey Bay via Brisbane & Sunshine Coast

Mostly famous for the incredible humpback whale watching opportunities, beside being the gateway to Fraser Island, together with its climate, beaches, gorgeous ocean, and a laidback local community, you will fall in love with Hervey Bay. On arrival, check-in your accommodation and overnight.

Overnight Palace Backpackers Hervey Bay OR Mantra Hervey Bay OR Ramada Hervey Bay

Day 7: Hervey Bay - Airlie Beach, Australia

Fraser Island Experience - Hervey Bay to Airlie Beach Overnight Bus (L)

Get ready to experience Fraser Island. Today you will be picked-up from your accommodation in Hervey Bay to be transferred to the beautiful island! Aboriginal legend names Fraser Island K'Gari, meaning paradise, probably because there are about 75 miles of incredible nature to enjoy: fresh-water lakes with turtles, rocky outcrops with magnificent views and a natural jacuzzi – all perfect to relax or swim.

Tour Highlights:

Central Station: this former logging station is now a tourist stop. Stroll along the Wanggoolba Creek boardwalk to discover the ancient King Ferns, towering Gum and Pine trees.

Lake McKenzie: enjoy a revitalising swim in the crystal blue waters and relax on the sandy white beaches... it's picture perfect!

Seventy-Five Mile Beach: as you drive along this sandy highway, you may spot birds of prey flying above or humpback whales as they migrate past (between July – November).

Eli Creek: float down this fast-flowing freshwater creek pouring out 80 mega-litres of water daily into the ocean.

Maheno Shipwreck: enjoy a photo stop at the rusting wreck of the Maheno washed ashore during an out-of- season cyclone in 1935 – it's one of Fraser Island's most recognisable sites.

The Pinnacles Coloured Sands: learn how these Technicolor sand formations were created and the Butchulla legends surrounding them. We stop to take a picture as we drive along Seventy-Five Mile Beach.

Returning to Hervey Bay in the evening, you will have time to grab dinner before catching an overnight bus to Airlie Beach (about a 12-hour duration).

Day 8: Airlie Beach, Australia

Airlie Beach free day.

This morning you will reach the beautiful Airlie Beach. On arrival make your way to your new accommodation to drop your bags and explore the town and coast before checking in from 3:00PM. Airlie Beach has a beautiful waterfront with a large lagoon to dip your feet and take in some sun surrounded by nature! Enjoy the rest of the day sunbathing or visiting the many cafes and restaurants Airlie Beach has to offer, before overnight.

Overnight Nomads Airlie Beach OR Airlie Beach Hotel

Day 9: Airlie Beach, Australia

Whitsundays Sailing Experience (L)

Have an early start today with a morning accommodation pick-up to set sail on a Whitsundays Sailing adventure. Departing the mainland, Camira will sail through the islands and onto the most famous of them all: Whitsunday Island. Here you'll be awe-struck by Whitehaven Beach, undoubtedly one of the most beautiful beaches in the world, which stretches for a spectacular seven kilometres and the sand is almost 100% silica, giving it a vivid white colour. As you step ashore and sink into the powder-fine sand you will realise why this place is so famous. At Whitehaven, you can enjoy swimming, snorkelling, beside taking in the beautiful beaches and bays. Before feeling the thrill of high speed sailing again, enjoy a delicious BBQ lunch and get ready to return to Airlie Beach, where you will spend the night.

Overnight Nomads Airlie Beach OR Airlie Beach Hotel

Day 10: Airlie Beach, Australia

Airlie Beach free day.

Enjoy a full day at leisure in Airlie Beach. Sit by the beach or lagoon and read a book, take in the sun and enjoy all the beauty this amazing location has to offer.

Overnight Nomads Airlie Beach OR Airlie Beach Hotel

Day 11: Airlie Beach - Cairns, Australia

Travel from Airlie Beach to Cairns.

It is time to say goodbye to Airlie Beach as you board the bus early to head up to Far North Queensland, into Cairns, the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef. Your bus will arrive in the evening after a 10-hour ride, check-in your accommodation and overnight.

Overnight Nomads Serpents Cairns OR Comfort Inn OR Holiday Inn

Day 12: Cairns, Australia

Cairns Free Day.

Enjoy a full day at leisure the explore Cairns, a stylish city, which is also renowned for its relaxed, tropical climate and laid back ambience, and the famous getaway to the World Heritage wonders of the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest. Overnight in Cairns.

Overnight Nomads Serpents Cairns OR Comfort Inn OR Holiday Inn

Day 13: Cairns, Australia

Great Barrier Reef Experience (L)

Today you will be picked-up from your accommodation to cruise the Great Barrier Reef via Green Island. Enjoy five hours visiting two spectacular Outer Great Barrier Reef destinations on board of a large luxury vessel that will provide a superior ride in all weather conditions, no big crowds and exclusive protected Reef locations. Professional, friendly and attentive staff will ensure a safe and enjoyable fun filled experience.

During the cruise you will go on a guided snorkelling tour, and receive a scuba diving lessons for you to understand what it is all about. On board, there will be live musical entertainment and you will enjoy a delicious BBQ lunch including prawns, fish, steak, sausages, vegetarian, tropical salads and pastas.

After the tour, return to your accommodation in Cairns for overnight.

Overnight Nomads Serpents Cairns OR Comfort Inn OR Holiday Inn

Day 14: Cairns, Australia

Cairns Free Day

Have another free day in Cairns to discover this subtropical paradise on your own, or to just chill and enjoy the city life trying out delicious food and checking-out the local pubs. Overnight in Cairns.

Overnight Nomads Serpents Cairns OR Comfort Inn OR Holiday Inn

Day 15: Cairns - Cape Tribulation, Australia

Cairns to Cape Tribulation & Daintree National Park

Today you will go on a journey through the majestic rainforests, pristine rivers and white sandy beaches of the World Heritage listed site of Cape Tribulation as well as Daintree National Park.

After being picked-up from your Cairns accommodation you will head North and travel along Australia's Premier scenic coastal road in a comfortable air-conditioned bus. The first stop is the famous Mossman Gorge, a magical location for a refreshing swim, surrounded by lush rainforest. The clear mountain river cuts through thick rainforest and tumbles over boulders on its journey to the sea.

After the Gorge you will have morning tea before crossing the mighty Daintree River on a cable ferry and enter the Cape Tribulation section of the Daintree National Park. Here the road narrows and the rainforest towers over you as you enjoy the ever-increasing beauty of this ancient Gondwana Rainforest.

Stop at the Alexandra Range Lookout, which gives you a bird's eye view of the Daintree River, Port Douglas and on a clear day, landmarks south of Cairns. After the lookout, experience the Marrdja or Jindalba Boardwalk. Here you will see trees that have been caught in a time capsule – they haven't changed in millions of years. As you cross the ancient rainforest, the Marrdja Boardwalk leads you over an incredible and complex mangrove swamp system.

After the tour you will be transferred to your new accommodation for check-in and overnight.

Overnight PK's Jungle Village Backpackers OR Cape Trib Beach House OR Ferntree

Day 16: Cape Tribulation - Cairns, Australia

Cape Tribulation - Cairns - Daintree River Boat Experience

Today, you will travel back to Cairns. As you head back to the Daintree River, if time allows, you will stop by the Daintree Ice-Cream Company to give you a chance to buy a tropical fruit Ice-Cream.

Once you reach the river, get ready for an amazing wildlife spotting adventure by boat on the Daintree river, at the large Estuarine Crocodiles. Look-out for crocodiles, Pythons, Tree Snakes, Butterflies and lots of other wildlife, as you take in all of the natural beauty of the area.

After the boat tour visit the picturesque township of Port Douglas, before stopping at Rex Range lookout and arriving back in Cairns for overnight.

Overnight Nomads Serpents Cairns OR Comfort Inn OR Holiday Inn

Day 17: Cairns, Australia

Cairns Airport Drop-off

Today is your last day. After checking-out of your accommodation you will be transferred to Cairns Airport for your outbound flight. We wish you safe travels onward.

