



ROO 15 Day Byron Bay to Cairns Tour

Stray Journeys - Australia East Coast

RETAIL: AUD\$4,625

STARTS: Byron Bay; **FINISHES:** Cairns

DURATION: 15 days

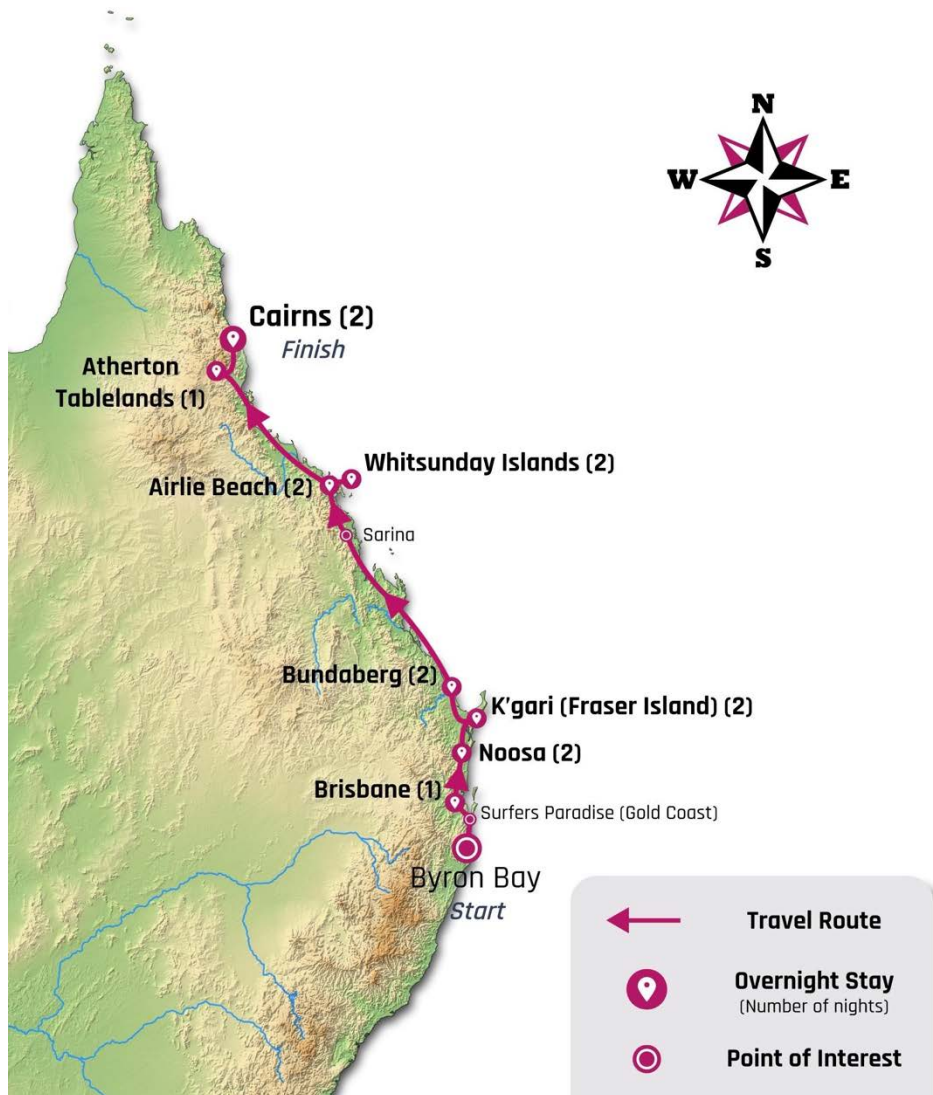
START DAY: Sunday

2022 DEPARTURES: 9 Oct, 6 Nov, 4 Dec

2023 DEPARTURES: 8 Jan, 5 Feb, 5 Mar, 16 Apr, 14 May, 11 Jun, 16 Jul, 13 Aug, 10 Sep, 15 Oct, 29 Oct

MINIMUM NUMBERS: 8 passengers

MAXIMUM NUMBERS: 24 passengers



Overview

Possibly the most iconic of all Aussie animals is the playful kangaroo. The Roo lives life to the fullest and this 15-Day Tour from vibrant Byron Bay to tropical Cairns is all about fun! You'll explore the world's largest sand island on a 4WD expedition, sail through the idyllic Whitsunday Islands and get off the beaten track at an historic village in Queensland. With a local guide (who will share their insider knowledge) and a bunch of like-minded travellers (who will become lifelong friends) you'll explore everything that Aussie has to offer in style!

Day 1 - Sunday: Byron Bay to Brisbane via Surfers Paradise

This morning, meet your guide and group outside the Surf House hostel at 8:50am. Then we'll jump on the Stray bus and depart north across the NSW border to Queensland, and head to the famous Surfers Paradise where we'll stretch our legs and grab some lunch. We'll then head to a nearby nature reserve to spot some wild kangaroos, before continuing to Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland for the night. We'll head down to Southbank for a walk along the Brisbane River and then check out some of the many bars and restaurants. We'll then head to a nearby nature reserve to spot some wild kangaroos, before continuing to Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland for the night. We'll head down to Southbank for a walk along the Brisbane River and then check out some of the many bars and restaurants.

Accommodation: Brisbane YHA or similar

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, restaurants

Free activities: Visit Mullumbimby, Surfers Paradise, kangaroo spotting, catch the Brisbane city ferry

Day 2 - Monday: Brisbane to Noosa

It's a relaxed departure today as we leave Brisbane mid-morning and make our way north to Noosa. We'll stop along the way for lunch and a walk to see incredible views of Noosa and Noosa headlands before arriving at our accommodation in the afternoon.

Our Noosa accommodation is less of a hostel and more of a resort, with a pool and a licensed cafe (did someone say poolside margaritas?) as well as designer dorms with privacy screens and USB charging points. This evening, we'll grab a drink at the bar and make plans to head and explore Noosa.

Accommodation: Bounce

Meals included: Breakfast, drink on arrival

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, dinner at hostel

Free activities: Swim, walks, lookouts

Day 3 - Tuesday: Noosa Free Day

Today you have a completely free day to spend doing whatever you like. Explore the Everglades by kayak or book a skydive and see Noosa and surroundings from above. Grab a sun lounger and get some much-needed R&R, go for a walk around the incredible headland, visit the beach or have a long, lazy lunch in the sun. The Noosa Surf Club is one of our faves so if you'd like to go out for dinner, you can't go wrong with a local hotspot!

Accommodation: Bounce

Optional paid activities: Everglades Kayak, Skydive, Surf Lesson

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, restaurants

Free activities: Chilling by the resort pool, going for a walk in the National Park, visiting the famous beach or checking out the local boutiques and cafes

Day 4 - Wednesday: Noosa to K'gari (Fraser Island)

It's an early start this morning as you head out for your 3-day, 2-night K'Gari (Fraser Island) adventure. During this amazing experience you'll explore the largest sand island in the world on a 4WD expedition, see the magical Lake Boorangoora (McKenzie), discover towering rainforests, spot a wild dingo, cruise along endless sandy beaches and lose yourself in the magic of stargazing. If you fancy learning how to drive a 4WD, you can do that! This is going to be one of the best experiences of your whole trip and is definitely the best way to explore this world-heritage listed National Park.

After a bus, ferry and 4WD transfer, you'll arrive at Beach Camp on K'gari (your accommodation for the next 2 nights). You'll have some tasty lunch and then you can check out the camp which has a kitchen and a deck with ocean views. We'll then head out for your first adventure to see some of the Island highlights. This evening, you'll arrive back at camp to enjoy dinner, share stories, play the didgeridoo around the campfire and engage in some mind-blowing stargazing. Tonight, you'll be lulled to sleep by the sound of the waves as you settle into your safari tent (which includes a comfy mattress and hotel quality linens).

Accommodation: Beach Camp K'gari (Fraser Island) Safari Tents*

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Snacks

Included activities: K'gari adventure tour

**Between Oct-Nov 22, the groups will be staying in cabins rather than safari tents*

Day 5 - Thursday: K'gari

This morning, wake up to the gorgeous golden sunrise over the ocean, enjoy breakfast and get ready for a fun-filled morning exploring K'gari and her hidden treasures. Enjoy lunch on the beach and then spend the afternoon discovering more lakes (there are over 100!) and epic views before arriving back to camp in time for another dinner under the stars and some fun evening activities.

Accommodation: Beach Camp K'gari (Fraser Island) in 2-3 share Safari Tents*

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Snacks

Included activities: K'gari adventure tour

**Between Oct-Nov 22, the groups will be staying in cabins rather than safari tents.*

Day 6 - Friday: K'gari to Bundaberg

After breakfast today you'll hit the inland tracks to discover towering trees and take one last refreshing dip, enjoy lunch in the forest and then begin your journey back to the mainland, arriving into Rainbow Beach around mid-afternoon ready for your next journey north up to Bundaberg.

Bundaberg is well-known for sugarcane, rum, ginger beer and more recently has been called the 'Bundaberg Bowl' for its reputation of growing and producing fresh food that's served across the country. Your accommodation in Bundaberg is a relaxed eco-resort, this time you'll be located by a nature reserve and have access to a spa, sauna, tennis courts and more! Tonight, we'll have a group BBQ dinner and a chilled evening.

Accommodation: Kelly's Eco Resort in villas or similar

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Snacks, BBQ Dinner

Included activities: K'gari adventure tour

Day 7 - Saturday: Bundaberg Free Day

It's a day of exploring Bundaberg today! After breakfast we'll head to the Mon Repos turtle centre for a wholesome morning learning all about these amazing animals. The centre supports the largest concentration of nesting mating turtles on the eastern Australian mainland. You can grab a snack or lunch at the onsite indigenous inspired Gidji cafe.

In the afternoon we'll head to the Bundaberg Rum Centre for a tour of their distillery and a tasting of their iconic rum. Or, if you'd prefer a full day out on the water and the chance to visit the Southern part of the Great Barrier Reef, your guide can book you onto the incredible Lady Musgrave Full Day Snorkel Tour for a day of snorkelling, a boat cruise, island walk and delicious food.

Accommodation: Kelly's Eco Resort or similar

Meals included: Breakfast

Included Activities: Mon Repos Turtle Centre, Rum Tasting

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, restaurants

Optional paid activities: Lady Musgrave Full Day Snorkel Tour

Free activities: Checking out Bargara Beach

Day 8 - Sunday: Bundaberg to Airlie Beach

Today is a big drive day to Airlie Beach, the gateway to the amazing Whitsunday Islands, so load up on the snacks, make sure your phone is charged and you've got some good tunes loaded up. We'll make some stops to stretch our legs and see some sweet views along the way, arriving in Airlie in the evening.

Accommodation: Base Airlie Beach or similar

Meals included: Breakfast

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, bakery, restaurants

Day 9 - Monday: Airlie Beach to Whitsunday Islands

This morning, enjoy a sleep in, take a stroll down to the Airlie lagoon for a dip and then check in and receive your briefing for your sailing trip. After lunch, head down to the marina to meet your crew and jump onboard a 76-foot, maxi sailing yacht which will be your home for the next two days. As you leave the marina and Airlie Beach behind you, watch your crew hoist the sails for an exhilarating cruise out to the Whitsunday Islands - part of the World Heritage Listed Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Once you arrive out around the Islands, jump in for a swim or snorkel amongst the fringing reef and then enjoy the sunset with a drink in hand on one of the crew's favourite little beaches. In the evening relax on deck, have a few drinks, get to know the crew, stargaze and let the calm waters gently rock you to sleep - for the adventurous, mats are provided to sleep on deck under the stars or if you prefer a bit more comfort, a bed awaits you below deck.

Accommodation: Shared dorm cabins/sections on a maxi sailing yacht

Meals included: Afternoon Snacks, Dinner & Dessert (BYO drinks)

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes

Included activities: Sailing, snorkelling and exploring the Whitsunday Islands

Day 10 - Tuesday: Whitsunday Islands

This morning you'll be forgiven for thinking you're in paradise, as you wake up on a yacht surrounded by beautiful islands and enjoy a delicious breakfast on deck as you sail towards Whitsunday Island, home to the best beach in the world - Whitehaven Beach. You'll disembark and enjoy a bush-walk to Hill Inlet Lookout and then spend the rest of the day exploring and relaxing on Whitehaven Beach. You can also go snorkelling today, enjoy a sunset beach session and another fun evening onboard with your group and the crew.

Accommodation: Shared dorm cabins/sections on a maxi sailing yacht

Meals included: Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Snacks, Dinner & Dessert

Included activities: Whitehaven Beach, Hill Inlet Lookout, bush-walk, sailing, snorkelling

Day 11 - Wednesday: Whitsunday Islands to Airlie Beach

Enjoy your final morning on-board the yacht, jump in for another magical swim or snorkel and then sail on back to Airlie Beach. This afternoon once you've checked back into your hostel, go and laze in the sun by the lagoon or explore the town before freshening up and meeting your group and boat crew for the after party! There will be a reserved table, drink discounts and meal deals - so get ready for a big night.

Accommodation: Base Airlie or similar

Meals included: Breakfast, Morning Tea

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, restaurants

Included Activities: Sailing, snorkelling

Day 12 - Thursday: Airlie Beach to Yungaburra

Today we'll get on the road again and head up to the stunning Atherton Tablelands. We'll stop at the famous Millaa Millaa Falls along the way for a swim and some amazing photo ops.

Tonight, we're staying at a cosy eco-lodge in the historic village of Yungaburra. We'll check in and have a BBQ dinner before heading out for a moonlit paddle for some amazing stargazing through the rainforest at Lake Tinaroo. This night canoeing tour is the best way to spot unique nocturnal rainforest animals in their natural habitat.

Accommodation: On the Wallaby Eco Lodge

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Meal options: Self-cater, bakery or cafes

Free activities: Millaa Millaa Falls

Included activities: Night wildlife canoe trip. *Note: depending on conditions, we might do the canoe trip in the morning.*

Day 13 - Friday: Yungaburra to Cairns

Today we have an awesome day planned, visiting lots of cool spots before we reach our final destination of Cairns. In the morning we'll visit the heritage-listed Curtain Fig Tree and Lake Eacham, a beautiful crater lake for a swim and a walk. Then we'll head to the quirky Kuranda markets set in the rainforest, for lunch and a browse before heading to Cairns. Tonight, we're staying at an amazing resort with its own person-made beach! We'll have a group dinner at the resort and then check out the Cairns nightlife.

Accommodation: Gilligans Cairns or similar

Meals included: Breakfast

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, restaurants

Included activities: Swim, walk, markets

Day 14 - Saturday: Free Day Cairns

Today is a completely free day so if you have a few too many cocktails last night, enjoy a lazy sleep-in and perhaps some hair-of-the-dog by the pool in the afternoon. If you're ready for another day of adventure, why not book into a tour of Cape Tribulation or go to see the iconic Great Barrier Reef?

Accommodation: Gilligans Cairns or similar

Meals included: Breakfast

Meal options: Self-cater, local cafes, restaurants

Free activities: Hang out at the amazing resort pool, walk the Esplanade, visit the Botanical gardens

Optional Activities: Cape Tribulation day trip, bungee jump, Great Barrier Reef trip, skydive, rafting

Day 15 - Sunday: Cairns

Today is the final day of your Stray adventure. Give a wave and a hug to your new mates and head off for the next leg of your adventure, taking with you the most incredible memories, everything you've learned about Australia's special culture and wildlife, and of course some classic Aussie lingo - G'DAY MATES!

This itinerary is a guide. Given the spontaneous nature of our trips and lack of control over Australia's weather(!), what we do each day might occasionally vary.

What's Included:

- Experienced tour guide
- Private coach transport
- 14 nights' accommodation in 4-6 shared dorms in a range of hostels, backpacker resorts, eco-lodges, apart from 2 nights K'Gari/Fraser Island (safari tents), Whitsunday Sailing (shared dorms/sections onboard yacht).
- 21 meals (11 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 6 Dinners)
- 3 Day / 2 Night K'Gari 4WD Glamping Tour
- 2 Day / 2 Night Whitsunday Sailing Experience
- Mon Repos Turtle Centre Entry
- Rum Tasting, Bundaberg
- Night Wildlife Canoeing
- Walks and wildlife
- Waterfalls, lookouts and so much more!

What to Bring:

Camera, Sturdy walking shoes/boots, Warm clothing, Waterproof jacket, Hat & Sunscreen, Swimsuit/towel, Water bottle, Toiletries, Motion sickness tablets, Insect repellent

Please Note:

- Luggage is limited to one piece per person with a maximum weight of 20kg plus a day pack
- A basic level of fitness is required for medium length walks
- Accommodation is in 4-6 shared dorms in a range of hostels, backpacker resorts, eco-lodges, apart from 2 nights K'Gari/Fraser Island (safari tents) and 2 nights Whitsunday Sailing (shared dorms/sections onboard yacht).
- 21 meals are included. We make regular supermarket stops so you can self-cater for other meals, or there are usually quite a few cafe/restaurant options in each location.

Highlights:

From the city to a remote sand island, to canoeing and sailing, there are so many awesome inclusions with the Stray Roo Byron Bay to Cairns Tour:

- Drop into the iconic **Surfers Paradise** and enjoy views of kilometres of golden sand beaches
- Spot wild kangaroos in their natural habitat
- Spend a night exploring the buzzing riverside city of **Brisbane**
- Embark on a 3-day 4WD Safari to **Fraser Island**. Camp under the stars, visit a shipwreck and swim in crystal clear waters before enjoying sundowners on deck
- Visit the Mon Repos Turtle Centre to discover how incredible turtles really are and taste some of **Bundaberg's** famous rum
- Explore the breath-taking **Whitsunday Islands** during a 2-days/2-night sailing trip. Snorkel over vibrant fringing reefs and visit some of the world's most pristine beaches
- Discover the magic of the **Atherton Tablelands** - from amazing waterfalls and lush rainforest to a pristine crater lake!
- Go for a moonlit paddle through the rainforest to stargaze and spot wildlife
- Enjoy the relaxed **Cairns** lifestyle and the fun nightlife that it's famous for!