



# ROO ADVENTURE

## 15 Day Byron Bay to Cairns Tour

Stray Journey - Australia East Coast

RETAIL: AUD\$5595

STARTS: Byron Bay FINISHES: Cairns

DURATION: 15 Days / 14 Nights

START DAY: Sunday

FINISH DAY: Sunday

2025 DEPARTURES: 14 Sept, 12 & 26 Oct, 9 & 23

Nov, 7 Dec

2026 DEPARTURES: 18 & 25 Jan, 8 & 22 Feb, 18 & 22

Mar, 12 & 26 Apr, 17 May, 21 June, 19 July, 16 Aug, 13

Sep, 11 & 25 Oct, 8, 22 Nov, 6 Dec

MIN. / MAX. NUMBERS: 6 / 22 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 in our own private mini coach for walks, lookouts and waterfalls along the way. 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 Straya has to offer in style!

Join us on this road-trip, where we believe in more! Featuring shared 4-8 bed mixed dorm-style accommodation and bucket loads of adventure, we've cranked up the excitement dial.

We believe in MORE! More authentic experiences, more iconic sights, more stops along the way and more connection. Keep a look out for sections in our itinerary where you can **See More** and **Do More**, these are unique ways to experience the Real Australia!

### 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 and we'll depart north across the NSW border to Queensland, stopping for some lunch and a walk around the famous

Surfers Paradise. Next, we'll head to a nearby nature reserve to spot some wild kangaroos, before continuing to Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland for the night. This evening, we recommend going for a stroll down to Southbank for a walk along the Brisbane River and then check out some of the many bars and restaurants.

**Accommodation:** Roamer Brisbane or similar

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

**Included activities:** Visit Surfers Paradise, kangaroo spotting,

**Free activities:** Explore Brisbane and catch the Brisbane city ferry

## Day 2 - Monday: Brisbane to Noosa

This morning we say farewell to the city and head back to the Coast and the boutique beach town of Noosa. We'll stop along the way to stretch our legs and see the amazing panoramic views of the Glasshouse Mountains and the Sunshine Coast before enjoying some lunch in the quirky town of Eumundi, known for its artisanal crafts. We'll go for another walk to see some views of Noosa and the gorgeous 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 bar/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 and dinner at the bar and make plans to explore Noosa.

**Accommodation:** Bounce Noosa

**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. Noosa is home to Australia's Everglades (one of only two on the planet). Consider taking an adventure canoe or a relaxing afternoon cruise to explore this special place.

Other options include: grabbing a sun lounger and getting some much-needed R&R, going for a walk around the incredible headland, visiting the beach or having 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 this local hotspot!

**Accommodation:** Bounce Noosa

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**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

**Optional paid activities:** Everglades Cruise and/or Canoe

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

It's an early start this morning as you head out for your 3-day, 2-night K'gari (formerly 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 coolest way to explore this world-heritage listed National Park.

After a bus, ferry and 4WD transfer, you'll arrive at The Eco Retreat on K'gari (your accommodation for the next 2 nights). You'll have some tasty lunch and then you can check out the retreat's ocean views before heading out for your first adventure to see some of the Island highlights. This evening, you'll arrive back at The Eco Retreat to enjoy dinner, practice throwing a boomerang, share stories and learn to play the didgeridoo around the campfire. Tonight, you'll be lulled to sleep by the sound of the waves as you settle into your beach cabin accommodation.

**Accommodation:** The Eco Retreat on K'gari

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Snacks

**Included activities:** K'gari adventure tour

***Do More:** Take part in a beach clean up on the island of K'gari and contribute to keeping this piece of paradise as nature intended.*

## Day 5 - Thursday: K'gari (formerly Fraser Island)

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 at The Eco Retreat in time for another dinner under the stars and some fun evening activities.

**Accommodation:** The Eco Retreat on K'gari

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Snacks

**Included activities:** K'gari adventure tour

## Day 6 - Friday: K'gari (formerly Fraser Island) 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 in the coastal suburb of Bargara and have access to a spa, sauna, tennis courts and more (we know, we

treat you well!).

**Accommodation:** Kelly's Beach Resort in villas or similar

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Snacks

**Included activities:** K'gari adventure tour

## Day 7 - Saturday: Bundaberg / Bargara

This morning we'll have breakfast at the resort and then head to a nearby Coral Farm for a special land-based reef experience. Have a behind-the-scenes look at the incredible beauty and science of coral cultivation and the future of reef restoration. There are over 70,000 individual corals and 200 marine species for you to view!

We'll then head to Bundaberg township for lunch, after which we'll visit the Bundaberg Rum Distillery and if you're keen, a tasting of their iconic rum (extra cost). In the afternoon, relax, take a walk on the beach or why not play a game of tennis at the resort?

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 Experience for a full day of snorkelling, a boat cruise, guided island walk and delicious food.

Tonight, we'll have a traditional Aussie BBQ dinner at the resort.

**Accommodation:** Kelly's Beach Resort or similar

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Included Activities:** Coral Farm Tour and Distillery Visit

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

**Optional paid activities:** Lady Musgrave Experience Full Day Tour, Rum Tasting

**Free activities:** Swimming, tennis or checking out Bargara Beach

**See More:** *Learn about the cutting-edge research of this farm aimed at supporting future reef restoration and the preservation of these critical marine ecosystems. .*

## Day 8 - Sunday: Bundaberg to Airlie Beach

Today is a big travelling day to Airlie Beach, the gateway to the amazing Whitsunday Islands, so load up on snacks and we'll get the tunes going to get us through the day. We'll make some stops to stretch our legs and arrive in Airlie in the evening.

**Accommodation:** Nomads 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 or take a stroll down to the Airlie lagoon for a dip. If you'd like to see the Whitsundays Islands from above, there's time for a sneaky skydive or scenic flight or skydive over the Islands and outer Great Barrier Reef (including Heart Reef) before our 2-night sailing tour departs.

After lunch, head down to Coral Sea 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 trip 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, 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.

***Do More:** Sailing is already one of the most environmentally friendly ways to travel—and thanks to Stray's support, the sailing company we partner with now plants 10 trees for every trip taken by a Stray group!*

**Accommodation:** Open shared dorm style accommodation on a maxi sailing yacht

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Afternoon Snacks, Dinner and Dessert (BYO drinks)

**Meal options:** Self-cater, local cafes

**Included activities:** Sailing, snorkelling and exploring the Whitsunday Islands

**Optional paid activities:** Skydive or scenic flight

## 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 next few hours 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:** Open shared dorm style accommodation on a maxi sailing yacht

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

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

## Day 11 - Wednesday: Whitsunday Islands to Magnetic Island via Airlie Beach

Enjoy your final morning on-board the yacht, have one last magical swim or snorkel and then sail on back to Airlie Beach. This afternoon we'll jump back on the bus and head to Townsville. We'll then catch the ferry over to our next destination of Magnetic Island in the late afternoon. Nearly 50% of 'Maggie Island' is national parkland, and it's surrounded by amazing beaches and abundant wildlife. Your guide will fill you in on the activities you can do around the island over the next couple of days.

**Accommodation:** Bounce Magnetic Island in cabins or similar

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Morning Tea

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

**Included Activities:** Sailing, snorkelling, Magnetic Island Ferry

***See More:** This island paradise is your best chance on the East Coast to see koalas in the wild. Keep your eyes out for these sleepy marsupials, rock wallabies, and colourful birds as you explore the forested island.*

## Day 12 - Thursday: Magnetic Island Free Day

Today you will wake up in paradise and have a full free day to explore. This beautiful island is home to the historic Forts Complex, which you see in a scenic walk with your Guide. At the end, you'll be rewarded with some incredible views over the island and ocean beyond. Spend the rest of your day relaxing on the secluded beaches, hiking through native bush or searching for wildlife! Top tip: stay alert and keep your eyes on the trees, Maggie Island is one of the best places in Australia to see koalas in the wild!

**Accommodation:** Bounce Magnetic Island or similar

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Meal options:** Self-cater, bakery or cafes

**Included Activities:** Forts Complex walk

**Free activities:** Explore the island, relax on the beach, spot koalas

**Optional activities:** Snorkel

## Day 13 - Friday: Magnetic Island to Cairns via Josephine Falls

This morning we'll catch the ferry back to the mainland and then we'll get on the road again and head to our final destination of our tour, Cairns - the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef.

On the way, we'll stop in Tully (home of the giant Gumboot), for a lunch break, then head to the beautiful Josephine Falls for a walk through lush rainforest and, if conditions allow, a refreshing swim.

Tonight, we're staying at an amazing resort that has its own person-made beach! We'll have a group dinner at the resort before heading out to experience the legendary Cairns nightlife.

**Accommodation:** Gilligans Cairns or similar

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

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

**Included activities:** Magnetic Island ferry, swim, walk, waterfalls

## Day 14 - Saturday: Cairns Free Day

Today is a completely free day so if you were dancing into the early hours, enjoy a lazy sleep-in and perhaps a dip in the pool in the afternoon. If you're ready for another day of adventure, why not book a tour of Cape Tribulation or go to see the iconic Great Barrier Reef?

**Accommodation:** Gilligans Cairns or similar

**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, Great Barrier Reef trip, Kuranda Scenic Railway, skydive, rafting

## Day 15 - Sunday: Cairns

Today is the final day of your Stray adventure. Give a hug or a wave 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 4-8 shared dorms in a range of hostels, backpacker resorts, eco-lodges, apart from 2 nights K'gari/formerly Fraser Island (cabins), 2 nights Whitsunday Sailing (open shared dorm style accommodation on a maxi sailing yacht).
- 22 meals (12 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 6 Dinners)
- Free time in Noosa, Bargara, Magnetic Island & Cairns.
- 3 Day / 2 Night K'gari 4WD Safari Tour
- Coral Farm tour and Distillery visit, Bundaberg
- 2 Day / 2 Night Whitsunday Sailing Adventure
- Return Magnetic Island Ferry
- Historic Forts Complex walk Magnetic Island
- Josephine Falls walk
- Loads more walks and wildlife

- Beautiful beaches, lakes, lookouts, and so much more!

## What to Bring:

Camera, Sneakers/trainers, Waterproof jacket, Hat & Sunscreen, Swimsuit/towel, Reusable water bottle, Toiletries, Motion sickness tablets, Insect repellent

## Please Note:

- This tour starts on a Sunday and ends on a Sunday (15 days later).
- Pick up: Meet your Stray guide and group outside The Surf House hostel, 23 Lawson St, Byron Bay at 8:50am.
- Drop off: Gilligans Backpacker Resort & Hotel, 89 Grafton St, Cairns. Check out is 10am.
- Luggage is limited to one piece per person with a maximum weight of 20kg plus a day pack
- A basic to medium level of fitness is required for walks and activities
- Adventure Tour travellers must be aged between 18-39. If you are 40+ please choose the Select Tour option.
- Accommodation is in 4-8 shared dorms in a range of hostels, backpacker resorts, eco-lodges, apart from 2 nights K'gari/formerly Fraser Island (cabins) and 2 nights Whitsunday Sailing (shared dorm style in double and single beds on a maxi sailing yacht)
- The Adventure and Select Tour customers travel together on the same bus and have the same travel days except for the Airlie Beach / Whitsunday section (Days 15 and 16). There is an option for Adventure Tour travellers to stay on the mainland and take part in the Camira sailing day tour rather than the 2 day / 2 night sailing adventure but they would need to notify Stray at the time of booking.
- 22 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:

Waterfalls, mountains, sailing, wildlife spotting! There are so many awesome inclusions with the Stray Roo Byron Bay to Cairns Tour and we can't wait for you to experience them:

- Drop into the iconic **Surfers Paradise** and enjoy views of kilometres of golden sand beaches
- Spend a night in the buzzing riverside city of **Brisbane**
- Visit the Sunshine Coast and live it up in the resort town of **Noosa**
- Embark on a 3-day 4WD Safari to **K'gari** (formerly Fraser Island). Drive along the beach and through the rainforest, visit a shipwreck, swim in crystal clear waters, before relaxing around a campfire under the stars



- Stay in the relaxed seaside town of Bargara, partake in a **Coral Farm tour** and visit the famous Bundaberg Rum distillery
- Explore the breath-taking **Whitsunday Islands** during a 2-days/2-night sailing trip. Snorkel over vibrant fringing reefs, experience sailing on an ex-race yacht and visit some of the world's most pristine beaches
- Embrace your inner nature-lover on **Magnetic Island**, a wildlife paradise filled with koalas and wallabies
- Take a break at the stunning Josephine Falls for a walk through the lush rainforest and optional swim
- Enjoy the relaxed tropical **Cairns** lifestyle and the fun nightlife that it's famous for!