

14 Days

Taste of Wilderness

including Keppel Island and Fraser Island

Wednesday 7th August 2024

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www.cardwells.com.au



13 Day Taste of Wilderness including Fraser Island

Departs: Wednesday 7th August '24

Price: \$ 6622
(Single Room Option: \$1345)

TOUR INCLUDES: * Free passenger pickup & return (please refer the booking conditions) * GST Inclusive
* All Admission fees, sightseeing * Luxury 5 Star Coach Travel * Tours & Cruises as per itinerary
* No Hidden Extras * Quality Accom. Twin / Dbl * Luggage Labels * Morning & Afternoon teas
* Crew with extensive experience * Name Badge * All Cooked Breakfasts * Fully Inclusive
* All dinners included

HIGHLIGHTS: OPAL MINE TOUR * THE BIG RIG * CATHEDRAL CAVE TOUR
*** HERVEY BAY * FRASER ISLAND * RANGER GUIDED WALK – FRASER ISLAND**
*** BUSH TUCKER TALK & TASTE * WHALE WATCHING CRUISE**
*** NUTWORKS MACADAMIA FACTORY * GINGER FACTORY * COBB & MUSEUM**
*** MONTY BREWERY TOUR * GLEN INNES WOOLLOMONBI FALLS**
*** GOLDEN GUITAR TAMWORTH * CALALA COTTAGE MUSEUM**
*** TARONGA WESTERN PLAINS ZOO and more...**

DAY 1 - Wednesday 7th August '24 DUBBO (L,D)

Welcome aboard our exciting tour to **Carnarvon Gorge** and **Bourke**. Today we travel to Jerilderie for our morning tea break. We continue on through Narrandera to West Wyalong for lunch. Continue our journey north, stopping enroute for afternoon tea, to **Dubbo** where we settle in for our **Overnight Stay** at the **The Matilda Motor Inn**.

DAY 2 - Thursday 8th DUBBO – ST GEORGE (B,L,D)

We continue our journey north today through **Gilgandra** to Castlereagh Highway to **Coonamble** for morning tea. Then travel through **Walgett** and take our lunch stop in **Lightning Ridge** an area well known for its **opal fields**. Our journey then takes us into Queensland through the tiny town of Hebel then onto St George, centre for the large irrigation area, with cotton as the main crop. We settle in at the **Merino Motor Inn, St George**.

DAY 3 - Friday 9th ST GEORGE – ROMA (B,D)

This morning after a hearty breakfast we make our way to **Roma**, a town steeped in history and important today as it supplies natural gas to Brisbane. We stop for morning tea at **Roma's largest bottle tree**, which has the incredible girth of 9.62 metres, a height of 15 metres and a crown of 23 metres, was transplanted by Roma Town Council to its present location from a local property in 1927. The tree was fairly well grown at the time of the transplant and quite possibly originated in the nineteenth century. We visit **The Big Rig** in Roma for an intriguing journey of twists and drama of when oil and gas first flowed in our nation. Be intrigued by the story of our oil and gas pioneers as it comes alive through exhibits, machinery displays, audio-visual features and our knowledgeable local "Roma Rigger" guides. We enjoy lunch in town and a look around before making our way to our accommodation at **Mandalay Motor Inn, Roma**.

DAY 4 - Saturday 10th ROMA - ROCKHAMPTON (B,D)

Today is a chance to sit back and take in the scenery as we travel from **Roma** to **Rockhampton**. There will opportunity to enjoy morning tea, and lunch, enroute. Take in this wonderful landscape. Tonight we settle in at the **Mercure Rockhampton** for two nights.



DAY 5 - Sunday 11th

GREAT KEPPEL ISLAND

(B,L,D)

After a hearty breakfast this morning we head to the glorious **Great Keppel Island**. **Great Keppel Island** is a **white-sand, turquoise-water haven** off the coast of **Yeppoon**, in the **Southern Great Barrier Reef**. Plus, it's just a **short 30 minute trip from the mainland**. Landing on **Fisherman's Beach**, ditch your shoes and **sink your toes straight into the sand**. Then, you can **explore** however you like! If you don't feel like swimming, come prepared with walking shoes for the **wonderful bushwalks** as you discover **undisturbed wildlife** and **foliage**. Alternatively, spend time just **relaxing on the sand and soaking up the sun**. At any time between 11:30am and 2:30pm, make your way to the **Great Keppel Island Hideaway Bistro**. Your day includes **anything from the lunch menu and choice of beer** (XXXX or Great Northern stubbie or can), **house wine or soft drink**. We conclude the day with a return to our accommodation for the evening meal.



DAY 6 – Monday 12th

ROCKHAMPTON – HERVEY BAY

(B,L,D)

Time for breakfast! This morning we start our day with a tour of **Cathedral Cave**. This popular tour has something for everyone! Showcasing our largest and most spectacular caves, this walk leaves you with lasting memories of ancient geological history, early explorers, the wonders of wildlife and special cave acoustics. Experienced local guides deliver the captivating stories of this ancient Australian landscape on small-scale interpretive tours. It is recommended to wear enclosed shoes. After working up an appetite we stop at the Queens Hotel in Gladstone for our lunch. We continue on to our accommodation for dinner and an overnight stay at **Ramada By Wyndham Hervey Bay**.

DAY 7– Tuesday 13th

HERVEY BAY – FRASER ISLAND

(B,D)

This morning we have some free time in Hervey Bay to explore or just rest. This afternoon we transfer via ferry to Fraser Island where we check in the **Kingfisher Bay Resort** for the next three nights. We

enjoy Sunset drinks at the Sunset Bar, and a delicious dinner and the Sand & Wood Restaurant before returning to our motel.



DAY 8 - Wednesday 14th

FRASER ISLAND

(B,L,D)

After a satisfying breakfast we head off to enjoy a full day **4WD Beauty Spots Tour**. We visit Lake McKenzie, Central Station and Waggoolba Creek, Pile Valley, The creek is fed by a source coming from the Pile Valley and the water here is truly breathtaking, running clear and cool through the lush green backdrop, it is truly a sight for sore eyes. The creek winds through the tropical rainforest here before finding its way out to the ocean. If you are looking for somewhere to experience nature at its most beautiful, then there aren't many places better to do that than here. We also visit the Seventy-Five Mile Beach. **Driving along the sand highway of K'gari (Fraser Island) is a must while spending time in Australia.** The scenery is unbeatable as you have the open ocean on one side and island views on the other as you make your way around. Along 75 Mile Beach, you will also find **Indian Head Lookout, Champagne Pools,** and the **Maheno Shipwreck,** among others, which are all highlights of the island. You can also spot some iconic K'gari **wildlife** during your treks up and down 75 Mile Beach. **Dingos** often make an appearance, particularly at sunrise or sunset. Just remember that these Australian wild dogs can **potentially be dangerous,** so only admire these creatures from a distance! And during the winter months, be on the lookout for migrating **humpback whales** breaching offshore! We see Eli Creek, Coloured Sands and Stonetool Sandblow, and also enjoy a buffet lunch at K'gari Beach Resort. Tonight we enjoy a Dune Asian Infused three course banquet.



DAY 9 - Thursday 15th

FRASER ISLAND

(B,L)

We enjoy an early breakfast before heading out this morning for a **Whale Watch Cruise**. There's a reason Fraser Island is regarded as Australia's number one whale-watching destination! The humpbacks aren't just passing by each **July through October** - they're taking time out in the calm, sheltered waters off our western bay to socialise, have some fun, learn some essential life skills and nurture their young. For **whale watchers** it really is a case of **who's watching whom on these magical days out...** everyone is encouraged to wave their arms and make a bit of noise, to capture the attention of these inquisitive creatures. The humpbacks' natural curiosity takes over. they glide up to the boats and in return, put on an almighty show - slapping their tails, waving their pec fins and breaching into the air, for a truly larger-than-life spectacle. After a relaxing lunch we take a **Ranger Guided Bush Medicine Walk**. We learn of Bush Tucker and Bush Medicines, aboriginal culture, the Flora and Fauna of Fraser Island, the dingoes, eco-system and other interesting facts. There will be free time explore the K'gari World Heritage Centre. We take part in a **Bush Tucker Talk & Taste Experience**. Tonight's dinner is at leisure (own expense).



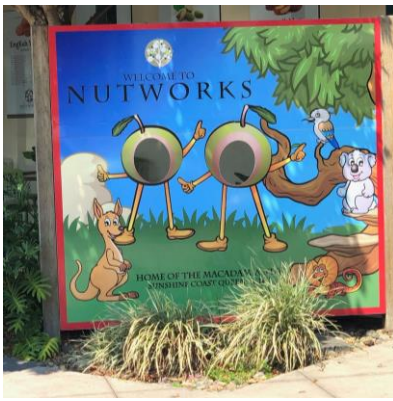
DAY 10 - Friday 16th

FRASER ISLAND

- TOOWOOMBA

(B,D)

After a hearty breakfast it is time to depart Fraser Island and head back to River Heads. We head off to Yandina to explore two interesting factories, **Nutworks Macadamia Factory & Ginger Factory**. The Nutworks journey began way back in 1993 when four Sunshine Coast macadamia growers joined forces to build a processing plant at Verrierdale in the Noosa Hinterland. The processing plant allowed them to offer a better supply of hand-sorted raw kernels to local shop keepers who then roasted, flavoured and sold them to the public. The iconic Ginger Factory offers fun rides, fascinating tours, a unique retail precinct and cafe surrounded by beautiful sub-tropical gardens for all to enjoy. Then its onward to **Toowoomba** for our overnight stay at **Oaks Toowoomba Hotel**.



DAY 11 - Saturday 17th TOOWOOMBA – GLEN INNES (B,L,D)

This morning, after breakfast, we head off to the **Cobb & Co Museum**. The world-class Cobb+Co Museum is part of the Queensland Museum Network and home to the National Carriage Collection. We enjoy morning tea in the **Queens Park** before heading to the **Monty Brewery** for a tour and lunch. Visit to discover a variety of interactive displays, exhibits and heritage trade workshops. We depart and travel to **Glenn Innes** with 30 heritage-listed buildings and picture-postcard main street. We stay at our overnight accommodation at the **New England Motor Lodge**.

DAY 12 - Sunday 18th GLEN INNES - TAMWORTH (B,D)

Breakfast time! Then we head off to the **Wollomonbi Falls Picnic Area**. If you love the raw power and beauty of rugged wilderness, then a visit to Wollomombi Falls picnic area in New England is your idea of heaven. After heavy rain the waterfall cascades 220m over the dramatic cliffs to the valley below. If it's been raining, you'll soak up more than just the scenic views as the massive gorge fills with mist. We travel on to **Tamworth** for a visit to the **Golden Guitar** and the **Calala Cottage Museum**. Tonight's accommodation is at the **Stockmans Motel, Tamworth**.



DAY 13 - Monday 19th TAMWORTH - PARKES (B,D)

This morning we enjoy a hearty breakfast before heading out for the day. What tour is complete without animals! Today we enjoy a visit to the **Taronga Western Plain Zoo**. Experience the ultimate zoofari at Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo! There's so much to see and do. The Zoo is home to hundreds of rare and endangered animals including giraffes, rhinos, elephants and big cats. Daily keeper activities (included in zoo entry) and special tours deliver magical experiences you will never forget. Tickets are valid for two consecutive days, giving you ample time to experience all that is on offer. The Zoo's free access Savannah Visitor Plaza includes a shop, playground and cafe overlooking the Savannah Lake and Primate Island, home to Black-handed Spider Monkeys and Ring-tailed Lemurs. Tonight our accommodation is at **North Parkes Motel, Parkes**.



DAY 14 - Tuesday 20th

PARKES - HOME

(B,D)

We enjoy the last breakfast of the tour before heading off to visit the Henry Parkes Centre. The Henry Parkes Centre is a modern tourism complex and cultural precinct located on the northern side of town, incorporating Parkes Visitor Information Centre, the King's Castle Elvis Exhibit, Parkes Motor Museum, Moat Cottage Replica, Henry Parkes Museum, and Antique Machinery Collection. We continue on to **West Wyalong** before returning to our respective destinations after a memorable Taste of Wilderness tour.



BOOKING CONDITIONS

A deposit of \$150.00 per person is required on booking to confirm your reservation.

Balance is due by 17th June '24. Full payment is required if booking after the above date.

Name Badges:- Will have your **Preferred** First Name displayed.

Please Advise:- Your Phone/Mobile Number, Email, Address & any Special Meal or Room Requirements.

Accommodation Preferred:- Twin / Double / Single / Triple / Will Share – Passengers who are willing to share with other passengers. *Please Note: For all 'Will Share' Passengers we will endeavour to find another single traveller of the same gender with whom you can share a room. In the event that we are unable to find someone to share with you then SINGLE SUPPLEMENT WILL APPLY.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

FREE PASSENGER PICKUP & RETURN SERVICE: For the convenience of all our passengers CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL provide **Free** Passenger Pickup & Return Service from all major Towns in North, North-East, Central Victoria & Southern NSW. (For Example: Albury, Wodonga, Wangaratta, Benalla, Seymour, Bendigo, Finley, Kerang, Echuca, Deniliquin, Yarrawonga, Corowa, and towns within these areas). For Passenger's who live outside these areas Cardwell's provide Overnight accommodation in Numurkah and 'Free lock up car storage' at our Numurkah depot.

CANCELLATION POLICY: To cover the costs involved the following cancellation fees apply. Notice given 42 days or more \$25 per person Administration Fee and monies that have been paid on your behalf will not be refunded. Under 42 days or once tour has departed No Refund will be given.

FARES & ITINERARIES: CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL costs published & outlined in the brochure are frozen, errors or printing mistakes are subject to correction. However, policy changes by rail/air/sea operators or changes in Government duties or taxes are outside the control of CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL. Air fares and other discount travel arrangements may be subject to availability of seats/berths, as determined by transport companies. No increases apply once full fare is paid. The Tour duration includes the day of departure and the day of return. Fares shown make no allowance for extra accommodation or transfers necessitated by en-route stopovers caused by rail/air/boat schedules, strikes or other reasons. Your Travel Agent will forward deposits and other payments to us on your behalf. Receipt of deposits and also subsequent payments by the travel agent does not constitute receipts of those monies by us. There is no liability on our part in respect of any monies paid to your Travel Agent unless and until we notify you (by way of Booking Confirmation Advice or Payment Receipt Advice) that monies have been received by us. CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL reserves the right to cancel any ticket or booking or to refuse to carry any passenger where payment has not been received by CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL and has the right to accept wait listed passengers in place of those failing to finalise within the prescribed time.

DISCOUNT FARES & CONCESSIONS: CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL offers all Past Passengers & Pensioners the Discount Fare as shown on the brochure. Where Trains/Boats offer discounts they have been calculated into our tour fares.

ELIGIBILITY: No passenger will be permitted to embark or continue on the tour while their mental or physical condition is, in the opinion of CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL, such as to render them incapable of caring for themselves, or they become objectionable to other passengers. However, any person/s who cannot travel independently or needs special assistance must be accompanied by a companion.

ITINERARY CHANGES: Itineraries, tours and cruises are subject to alteration with or without notice and intended as a guide only. Alterations may come about due to road or weather conditions, strikes, non-performance by a supplier or any other reasons CARDWELL'S COACH TRAVEL act in your best interest in any such changes.

FUEL SURCHARGE: Due to the instability of world oil prices, in the event that fuel reaches \$2.00/litre a Fuel Surcharge of \$5/person per day will apply to the final payment. Subject to change.

SEAT CHANGES: A seat rotation system everyday ensures that all passengers have the opportunity to enjoy similar seating arrangements.

LUGGAGE: One medium suitcase per person, not exceeding 20kg (42lbs) and one carry bag for inside the coach. Over limit luggage cannot be carried.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: We can arrange for passengers to take out travel insurance to cover any unforeseen circumstances which may arise (including cancellation fees, medical & curtailment expenses, loss of luggage, early departure from tour due to death or illness etc.) Ask your travel agent for details at time of booking.

FORCE MAJEURE: If by any means of any event of force majeure (which shall include terrorism, pandemic or any cause or event outside our control) we shall be delayed in or prevented from performing our obligations, then such a delay or non-performance shall not be deemed a breach or entitle a damages claim. Our obligations shall be suspended whilst such event of force majeure



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