



~ Tropical North Qld ~



Tropical North Queensland 10 Days Fully Hosted 11 – 20 May 2024

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Babinda Boulders
- Paronella Park
- Atherton Tablelands
- Gallo Dairyland Cheese
- Herberton Historic Village
- Port Douglas
- Outer Barrier Reef Day Trip
- Mossman Gorge
- Daintree Rainforest
- Kuranda Scenic Railway
- Dreamtime Walk

INCLUDES:

- **Private single rooms** in quality accommodation
- **Meals** as per itinerary - 9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 7 Dinners
- **Sightseeing tours & Airport Transfers** as per itinerary
- **Local Driver/Guide**
- **Fully Hosted** from Cairns / Host Departs from Brisbane

EXCLUDES:

- Flights
- Any meals, transfers or sightseeing other than mentioned above or in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature i.e. laundry, drinks, phone calls, etc
- Travel Insurance

Priced at \$5,603* per person

Terms and Conditions apply. Price is per person Sole Use and subject to availability. *Based on Land Only. Price is correct as at 25 October 2023. Tour requires minimum number of passengers to depart. Host travels from Brisbane. Prices may fluctuate if surcharges, fees, taxes or currencies change. Solo Connections is constantly striving to improve our itineraries and inclusions. If such improvements can be made, or unforeseen circumstances beyond our control make changes necessary, we reserve the right at any time to vary itineraries and to substitute inclusions of equal value. Beverages, additional meals, hotel mini bars, laundry, phone calls, any items of personal nature not included. Further booking conditions apply, please check all prices, availability and other information with your travel agent at time of or before booking. Package cancellation fees apply. Denise Marie Falsay trading as Solo Connections. ATAS Accredited A11424. ABN 92 582 582 99



Day 1 – Saturday 11 May 2024
Arrive Cairns

D

Welcome to our amazing tropical **North Queensland** tour, exploring some of the state's most beautiful destinations. Cairns is considered to be the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and is a laid back city best enjoyed outdoors. Your Solo Connections Tour Host will be travelling from Brisbane today and those passengers not travelling from Brisbane will meet the host and fellow travellers at Cairns Airport. During the week your Host will ensure that everyone who wants to be, is included in any additional activities outside of the confirmed itinerary. Tonight, we enjoy a **Welcome Dinner** at our hotel.

Accommodation: Novotel Cairns Oasis Resort or similar (3 nights)

Please check with reservations for Airport Transfer times, before booking your flight.

Day 2 – Sunday 12 May 2024
Babinda Boulders/Paronella Park

B-L

This morning we visit the **Babinda Boulders**. Surrounded by lush rainforest, clear blue pools and unusual rock formations, we'll be hard pressed not to be awed by this place. Afterwards, we head to magical **Paronella Park** where history and romance seamlessly fuse together. Be immediately struck by the immense natural beauty of this park and explore the enchanting grounds through a series of winding paths that snake through the forest and castle ruins.

After departing the park we stop off for lunch at a local restaurant before making our way back to Cairns for an evening at leisure.

Day 3 – Monday 13 May 2024
Port Douglas/Northern Beaches

B-D

After breakfast today we travel to **Port Douglas**. Our first stop along the way is **Four Mile Beach**, one of the most popular and well-known beaches in Tropical North Queensland, with four miles of golden sands and swaying palms. Heading into the town centre, we have time to explore **Macrossan Street** and see the many lovely shops, cafes and restaurants. Our coach will collect us at a designated time to transfer us back to Cairns via the **Northern Beaches** where we enjoy some scenic stops. Dinner tonight will be in our hotel restaurant.

Day 4 – Tuesday 14 May 2024
Cairns - Atherton Tablelands

B-L-D

Our destination today is an area known as the **Atherton Tablelands**. We are welcomed at the **Lake Barrine Teahouse Café** for a light lunch before we visit the remarkable **Curtain Fig Tree**, with its curtain of aerial roots that drop 15 metres to the ground. Large basalt boulders cover the forest floor which is probably why the forest here wasn't cleared for farming – and why the tree remains standing. We arrive at our accommodation with time to freshen up before dinner.

Accommodation: Jackaroo Motel Mareeba or similar (2 nights)



Day 5 – Wednesday 15 May 2024
Atherton Tablelands

B-L-D

Travelling to the small township of **Herberton** we step back in time at the delightful **Herberton Historic Village**. Showcasing Australia's diverse history, this outdoor pioneer museum is a testament to an era that is long gone. We have time to wander the village which features many priceless antiques as well as buildings that have come from the town's ancestors. Continuing to **Gallo Dairyland**, we hear about the cheese making process and sample some of the yummy products before a lovely lunch overlooking the dairy farm. Our final stop is to **Malanda Falls** on the North Johnstone River. The Malanda Falls are part of the waterfall and volcanic craters circuit on the Atherton Tablelands. Surrounded by lush, green rainforest and conveniently located, the falls are easily accessible. Early evening we enjoy dinner together locally.

Day 6 – Thursday 16 May 2024
Mareeba – Daintree - Cairns

B-L-D

We farewell our wonderful hosts in Mareeba as we make our way to the **Daintree River** where we embark on a cruise on one of the most densely populated mangrove estuaries in the world. There is nothing quite like watching wildlife while cruising along the beautiful Daintree River. We stop for lunch the **Daintree Tea House**. Finishing at **Mossman Gorge**, we learn the fascinating secrets of one of the world's oldest tropical rainforests. Feel the serenity while watching the river as it tumbles its way over and around huge granite boulders. After an interesting day we return to **Cairns** and check into our hotel before coming together for dinner.

Accommodation: Novotel Cairns Oasis Resort or similar (4 nights)

Day 7– Friday 17 May 2024
Cairns – Day at Leisure

B-D

Today we have a full day at **leisure** in Cairns.

You may like to book a tour, visit an attraction or just simply relax by the pool – the choice is yours. We'll join together again at our hotel for dinner to discuss our days activities.

Day 8 – Saturday 18 May 2024
Outer Barrier Reef

B-L

We have a fabulous day planned today as we discover the unforgettable **Outer Barrier Reef**. For an experience of a lifetime, we board Quicksilver's wave piercer catamaran which will take us to a reef at the very edge of **Australia's Continental Shelf**, to an underwater world that is a dazzling kaleidoscope of colour and brilliance. At **Agincourt Reef**, a magnificent ribbon reef, we experience firsthand the magic that is the **Great Barrier Reef**. We can choose to snorkel or stay dry and explore the reef from the comfort of the semi-submarine, just one metre underwater. Watch the fish feeding from the unique underwater viewing platform and underwater observatory, or fly in a helicopter over the reef (*diving and helicopter flights are optional and at own expense*). We'll be given a talk by a **Marine Biologist**, to answer all our questions and enjoy morning and afternoon tea and smorgasbord lunch. When we return to the hotel late this afternoon dinner will be at leisure.



Day 9 – Sunday 19 May 2024
Kuranda

B-D

This morning we board the historic **Kuranda Scenic Railway**. Track through picturesque valleys and century old tunnels of the magnificent Barron Falls National Park. Perched above Cairns, we find the mountain village of Kuranda. We experience the tropical rainforest from a totally unique perspective aboard an amphibious **World War II DUKW**, colloquially known as Duck. During this 45 minute rainforest tour, your knowledgeable Duck Captain will identify and explain fascinating plants and wildlife as you pass by before splashing into the lake for a cruise with more wildlife to be seen. Then local Indigenous Pamagirri Guides welcome us to join them on a journey to discover the Dreamtime and learn about the fascinating customs and ancient traditions that are kept alive in the rainforest of Kuranda. **The Pamagirri Aboriginal Experience** takes approximately 1 hour which includes both the **Pamagirri Aboriginal Dance Performance** held in the Rainforest Amphitheatre and the **Dreamtime Walk** conducted either before or after the show. The quaint village of **Kuranda** awaits, full of vibrant arts and crafts shops which we have time to wander and purchase lunch. Returning to Cairns we enjoy our farewell dinner at a **special restaurant overlooking the water**.

Day 10 – Monday 20 May 2024
Depart Cairns

B

With our bags packed we farewell our new friends and make our way home, taking with us memories of our tropical North Queensland escape.

Please check with reservations for Airport Transfer times, before booking your flight.