

# Tropical Reef & Rainforest

**Dates:**

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> July, to Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2007**

**(13 days)**

**Cost: \$2600**

**Style: Accommodated**

**Start & Finish: Cairns**

Discover the oldest, and arguably the most complex, rainforests in the world — Queensland's Wet Tropics. Experience the world's greatest living structure, the Great Barrier Reef. Both these World Heritage areas abut in one of the world's greatest natural regions. Swim, walk, drive and snorkel to fully appreciate this biologically rich and diverse region with lush and grand scenery and savannah woodlands — mountains, waterfalls, Undara Lava Tubes, caves, reefs and seascapes.

**Guide:** John Sinclair will lead you through this region. He will have assistance from other expert guides along the way. John has been visiting and exploring this region through conservation activities for 40 years. He helped develop the National Rainforest Conservation Strategy. He is a Director of the Cape Tribulation based AUSTROP (the Australian Tropical Research Foundation).

**Style:** A maximum of 20 safarists will travel in an air-conditioned Coaster bus and stay in a variety of shared accommodation.

**Price:** includes all access, meals, accommodation and transport including boat trips to Hinchinbrook Island and the Great Barrier Reef (for snorkelling).

**Queensland's Wet Tropics:** The Wet Tropics is a region of spectacular scenery and rugged topography with fast-flowing rivers, deep gorges and numerous waterfalls. Australia's highest concentrations of plant and animal species are located within the Wet Tropics region. Approximately 18% of bird species, 23% of reptile species, 30% of marsupial and frog species, 62% of butterfly species, 60% of bat species and an amazing 92% of the known types of ferns of the continent have been recorded in this one area. 70 species of vertebrate animals are unique to this region. At least 25 species of vertebrate animals are regarded as very rare.

## Draft Itinerary

**Day 1; Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> July:** Pick ups at Cairns between 8.00 & 8.40 am. To rock pools and rapids of Babinda Boulders, vast lowland wetland ecosystem at Eubenangee Swamp and Josephine Falls. Then move on to Innisfail, Lacey Creek and Mission Beach. Accom: Wongalinga.

**Day 2; Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July:** Walk the coastal track of Edmund Kennedy Reserve overlooking the Coral Sea and Dunk Island. Explore luxuriant Licuala Forest Parks. Accom: Wongalinga.

**Day 3; Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July:** To Australia's wettest town, Tully, and Murray Falls. Discover some of the special values of the rainforest. Edmund Kennedy National Park, including mangroves and melaleucas.. Accom: Cardwell.

**Day 4; Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July:** Travel via Ingham to Australia's highest single drop waterfalls, spectacular Wallaman Falls via Ingham. Accom: Cardwell.

**Day 5; Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July:** Explore rugged Hinchinbrook, one of the World's great tropical wilderness islands and surrounding marine areas. There will be good walking opportunities. Accom: Cardwell.

**Day 6; Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> July:** Drive over the scenic and botanically diverse Kirrama Range to observe many of the rare and special rainforest plants. Observe Blencoe Falls and then via savannah woodlands. Accom: Undara.

**Day 7; Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> July:** Tour Undara lava tubes left by the many volcanic eruptions in this geological province. Explore Kalkani volcanic crater and then Forty Mile Scrub & Millstream Falls National Parks. Accom: Ravenshoe.

## TROPICAL RAINFOREST AND REEF

### Far North Queensland

### CAIRNS

### MISSION BEACH

### INNISFAIL

### RAVENSHOE

### ATHERTON TABLELAND

### MILLAA MILLAA

### MILLSTREAM FALLS

### TULLY MURRAY FALLS

### BLENCOE FALLS

### KENNEDY CARDWELL

### WALLAMAN FALLS

### UNDARRA NATIONAL PARK

### MAREEBA

### ATHERTON

### CAIRNS

### MACKAY CAY

### CAPE TRIBULATION

### MOSSMAN

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