

15 Day Cape York Camping Drive Safari

Travel the beautiful Cape York Peninsular on a Cape York tour with North West Outback Safaris whose Australian Guides who have over 20 years' experience and knowledge of touring Cape York.

Cape York Highlights

- Quinkan Rock Art
- Roko Island – Pearl Farm Tour
- Private Cattle Station Stay
- Daintree Croc Cruise
- Iron Range
- The historic Lion's Den Hotel
- Black Mountain
- Cooktown
- WWII sites
- Morton Telegraph Station
- Fruit Bat Falls
- Old Telegraph Track
- Weipa
- World Heritage Daintree National Park
- Batavia Gold Fields
- Portland Roads – Chilli Beach
- Chuulangun Homelands
- Lakefield National Park
- Jardine River – Torres Strait
- Seisia / Thursday Island / Horn island
- Private guided walk through the oldest rainforest in the World
- Pajinka (local Aboriginal name for the Tip of Australia)
- 1 Night Unique Bush Style Accommodation (not tents)
- 2 Nights Historical Queenslander Accommodation (not tents)
- 1 Night Safari Style Accommodation (not tents)

Includes: Airfare from Cairns to Bamaga (price inclusive of a remote area airfare), all camping equipment, stretcher bed, sleeping bag, 1 fresh towel, most meals, camping fees and National Parks fees, Horn Island & Thursday Island Tours. 2 nights accommodated in Daintree in Safari open style timber homes, 1 Night Unique Bush Style Accommodation –Cooks Hut& 1-night Historical Queenslander Guesthouse accommodation in Cooktown –(built 1880's)

Not Included: Museums Tours in Cooktown, Daintree Croc Cruise, and some meals as per the itinerary (BLD).

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Day 1. CAIRNS – QUINKAN ROCK ART – PRIVATE CATTLE STATION

We start our journey travelling inland over the coastal range onto the James Mulligan Highway before stopping at the Palmer River Roadhouse to stretch our legs and have lunch. Learn history of the Palmer River Gold Fields that started in 1872. After lunch we journey to the Quinkan Rock Art site at Laura. The Quinkan Rock Art sites are now listed by UNESCO as being amongst the top 10 Rock Art sites in the world. Experience a unique wildlife experience at our private overnight Cattle Station.

OVERNIGHT AT PRIVATE CATTLE STATION (D)

LUNCH WILL BE AT YOUR OWN COST AT PALMER RIVER

Day 2. PRIVATE CATTLE STATION – MORETON TELEGRAPH STATION

Today we follow parts of the original Old Telegraph Track – one of the highlights of Cape York and is a great track for 4WD enthusiasts. We pass the memorial to “Toots”, a famous lady trucking character, have morning tea at Musgrave and stop at the beautiful Archer River for a sumptuous lunch before our river crossing. We traverse open woodland country passing huge termite mounds before arrival at the historical Moreton Telegraph Station.

CAMPGROUND – MORETON STATION (BLD)

Day 3. MORETON STATION – FRUITBAT FALLS – SEISIA

Another exciting day of 4WD driving and creek crossings until we reach the beautiful Fruit Bat Falls. Here we enjoy a swim in the (crocodile free) crystal clear waters of the Elliot River before enjoying a fresh lunch. From here we continue to the Jardine River, named after pioneering explorers to the area Frank and Alexander Jardine. “The Jardine” is the largest river on the Cape York Peninsula and renowned for crocodiles. Crossing the Jardine River Ferry will see us to our destination in Seisia.

CAMPGROUND – SEISIA (BLD)

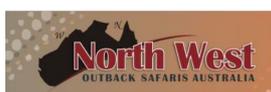
Day 4. SEISIA – ROKO PRIVATE ISLAND – PEARL FARM TOUR

Today we visit a very special family who live on a stunning and beautiful private island located in the Torres Strait. The owner has been taking over this legacy by maintaining this status of “pearl producer from the birth place of the cultured pearl”. You will be taken on a tour of the Island’s Pearl Farm. Lunch today under Palm Trees – such a wonderful day!

PEARL FARM INCLUDED

CAMPGROUND – SEISA (BLD)

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Day 5. SEISIA – TIP

Today we visit the famous Croc Tent and walk to the TIP. We will travel through the drier savannah woodlands area which will change into dense rainforest before opening up at the deserted beaches at Australia's most northern point. After taking in the spectacular views of the Torres Straits and the surrounding beaches we will have afternoon tea at Somerset Beach. This was the home and now resting place of Frank Jardine, visit these historic graves on the beach.

CAMPGROUND – SEISIA (BLD)

Day 6. SEISIA – ISLANDS TOUR – THURSDAY and HORN ISLAND

We begin today by travelling to Thursday Island and Horn Island. Both Island tours have information and history of the past and the important part the Islands played in the war and keeping Australia safe. History of the early Pearling Luggers and the part they played while admiring the spectacular and breathtaking views of the Torres Straits and its turquoise waters. This afternoon we head back to the Cape York mainland. Dinner tonight will be at Loyalty Beach where you get to relax and take in the far north oceanside beauty.

CAMPGROUND – SEISIA (BL)

DINNER TONIGHT AT OWN EXPENSE

Day 7. SEISIA – FRUIT BAT FALLS – BRAMWELL STATION

This morning we head to Fruit Bat Falls for a refreshing swim in the crystal-clear waters, which amazingly originates from Papua New Guinea. Today we enjoy some 4WD action, (road conditions and weather permitting), arriving at Bramwell Station – Australia's most northern cattle station. Be treated to an informative talk about the cattle properties beginnings before enjoying a home cooked dinner. There is also live entertainment after dinner.

CAMPGROUND – BRAMWELL STATION (BL)

DINNER TONIGHT AT OWN EXPENSE

Day 8. BRAMWELL STATION - WEIPA

We depart early, travelling through Savannah lands and past huge termite mounds eventually onto better roads. Arrive in Weipa in time for lunch and opportunity to experience the Weipa Mine Tour.

CAMPGROUND – WEIPA (BLD)

MINE TOUR IS AT OWN EXPENSE

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Day 9. WEIPA – COOKS HUT (IRON RANGE) – UNIQUE BUSH STYLE ACCOMMODATION

This morning we move East through cattle country. We travel through the largest area of tropical lowland rainforest remaining in Australia, crossing rivers before entering Iron Range National Park via Tozers Gap. This place is truly spectacular with rare fauna and flora like the famous Palm Cockatoos, Eclectus Parrots, Green Pythons and the elusive Cuscus.

ACCOMMODATION COOKS HUT – UNIQUE BUSH STYLE CABINS (BLD)

Day 10. COOKS HUT – CHILLI BEACH – PORTLAND ROADS – BATAVIA GOLDFIELDS – CHUULANGUN

Today your guide will take you on a day of adventures where you will travel to Chilli Beach, which is truly stunning with its wonderful ocean vista's and landscapes. We also visit significant historical sites in the area from the gold rush times of the 1930's and the Airfield at Iron Range. On about 18th April 1942 Walter Maierersperger, the Commanding Officer of 33 Bomb Squadron of the 22nd Bomb Group USAAC carried out an aerial reconnaissance flight over the Iron Range area. Lunch today will be at the famous Portland Roads Locals Cafe overlooking the sea with wonderful home cooked food including fresh fish, on the menu. After lunch we move back towards the Batavia Goldfields and the Chuulangun homelands. This is home to the Traditional Custodians, the clan group of the Kuki Yu northern Karrju, who belong to the highlands. "Our homelands are centre of the Wenlock and Pascoe River and encompass some 840,000 hectares". Chuulangun homeland operate a serviced campground for visitors to their land and area.

CAMPGROUND – CHUULANGUN (BD)

LUNCH TODAY AT YOUR OWN COST

Day 11. CHUULANGUN – COEN – KALPOWER

Today we travel to Coen where you can visit the Coen Historical Museum and will be treated to lunch on the banks of the Coen River. After lunch we travel through Lakefield National Park on the same tracks as the mounted mail men did. This National Park is filled with billabongs and river systems alive with wildlife. Stay tonight at Kalpowar crossing located in the Lakefield National Park.

CAMPGROUND – KALPOWAR BUSH CAMP (BLD)

Day 12. KALPOWER - COOKTOWN

Leaving Kalpowar, we visit old Laura Homestead then travel down the infamous Battle Camp road. Here you will marvel at this wilderness and the views of the Laura escarpments, sighting signs of the old railway line that travelled from Cooktown to the Palmer River Goldfields. Take the opportunity for a swim and lunch at the beautiful Isabella falls before we travel into the area of Hope Vale then on to Cooktown for dinner at the locally famous Jackey Jackey Thai restaurant.

HISTORICAL QUEENSLANDER GUESTHOUSE ACCOMMODATION – COOKTOWN (BL)

DINNER TONIGHT AT OWN EXPENSE – JACKEY JACKEY RESTAURANT

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Day 13. COOKTOWN AND SURROUNDS

After enjoying a fresh breakfast at your accommodation, you will have a fantastic opportunity to explore Cooktown. Captain James Cook spent substantial time here by accident in 1770 after the HMS Endeavour ran into a reef and the ship sailed into the Endeavour River for repair, where he met the local Guugu Yimidhurr people. Cooktown was founded in 1873 as a port for the Palmer River Goldfields and has a colourful history of settlement and Aboriginal culture. Enjoy wonderful stories of history and aboriginal culture of this region as your guide takes a step back in time and helps you to understand the regions colourful past. A visit to the James Cook Museum is a must to learn about the rich and diverse history of Cooktown. After lunch your guide will then drive you to a secluded waterfall for a refreshing swim. On your way back to Cooktown we will walk around Keatings Lagoon, a wetland rich with birdlife. Before dinner we will take in the sunset over the Endeavour River at the Grassy Hill Lookout. Enjoy free time this evening as dinner will be at your own leisure, your guide will recommend a variety of restaurants for you to choose from.

HISTORICAL QUEENSLANDER GUESTHOUSE ACCOMMODATION – COOKTOWN (B)

LUNCH AND DINNER AT OWN EXPENSE – YOUR CHOICE OF RESTAURANT

Day 14. COOKTOWN – BLOOMFIELD TRACK – DAINTREE NATIONAL PARK

Today we travel via Black Mountain and the famous Bloomfield track (weather and roads permitting). We visit the old historical Lion's Den Hotel for a photo opportunity, a must do before seeing the spectacular Bloomfield Falls in Wujal Wujal. We continue our journey through untouched rainforest onto the Bloomfield Track as we start the climb through the Daintree Ranges. Lunch today will be a picnic alongside Woobadda Creek on the Bloomfield Track. North West Australian Safaris has access to a unique beachfront location on Aboriginal Lands. Tonight, our magnificent rainforest location is in the heart of the rainforest in Cape Tribulation, part of the World Heritage listed Daintree National Park. You will be treated to a special delicious meal and a break from the on-road cooking. This evenings accommodation is in stunning rustic open plan safari style homes and accommodation deep in the pristine jungle of the Daintree rainforest. Enjoy a fresh home cooked dinner on the property overlooking a crystal-clear rainforest creek.

PRIVATE SAFARI STYLE HOMES – DAINTREE (BLD)

Day 15. DAINTREE NATIONAL PARK – DAINTREE CROCODILE CRUISE – CAIRNS

Up early today for an interpretative rainforest and mangrove walk with your guide. A delicious cooked breakfast this morning before our Crocodile-spotting cruise looking for Estuarine Crocodiles and the rare Cassowary. After your wilderness croc cruise enjoy the stunning views of the mountains in the background as we make our way to the famous Daintree Ice Creamery (ice cream at own cost). Here they blend ice cream with exotic tropical fruits grown on the farm. We continue on down the Alexander Range, across the Daintree River via the Cable Ferry heading south along the Great Barrier Reef Drive to Cairns which brings us to the end of your North West Australian Safaris Cape York tour.

CROC CRUISE AND ICE CREAM AT YOUR OWN COST (B)

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