

MICK PASS

Sydney - Cairns

Duration: Minimum 13 Days, Maximum 12 months

Recommended Duration: 3 weeks +

Departs: Tues / Fri / Sun year-round

Tues / Wed / Fri / Sun January – March

Blackout Periods: Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Departure Location: Sydney

Finish Location: Cairns

Group Size: Min 4 / Max 40

Transportation: Stray bus, comfortable train, Magnetic Island Ferry & local transfers

Age Requirement: 18+, 16-17 with parental consent

Sydney to Barrington Tops (Strademark Stop)

Meet: Wake Up hostel at 8am or outside Nomads (if confirmed) at 8.10am

We depart the big city and head to the Hunter Valley wine area for a tasting at one of Australia's most famous vineyards. We then travel through the backcountry to our stunning stop on the edge of Barrington Tops National Park (a World Heritage Listed Area). We stay in our own private lodge overlooking the Barrington River. You have the option to ride an inner tube down a scenic part of the river (additional cost), then in the evening have a few drinks and relax in the giant hot tub.

Accommodation: Lodge at Barrington Tops, set price for dinner, bed and breakfast.

Barrington Tops to Spot X Surf Camp

Meet: At the lodge

Wake up in the morning and enjoy breakfast with an amazing view. We then head north, with a break to visit a Koala hospital to learn about their efforts in preserving koalas, and at a nature reserve to spot wild kangaroos hopping along the incredible coastline. We arrive at our waterfront accommodation at Spot X in the early evening.

Accommodation: Spot X accommodation, set price for dinner, bed and breakfast.

Spot X Surf Camp to River Retreat (Strademark Stop)

Meet: Stray Bus

We have the morning at leisure at Spot X. You can relax on the beach or we recommend taking part in a group surf lesson (additional cost) or hopping off to do a Surf & Stay. In the afternoon we travel to our River Retreat and go for a guided canoeing trip (or bush walk), spotting wildlife along the way. In the evening have an Aussie BBQ, learn how to

cook some damper and toast marshmallows around the campfire. We sleep in wilderness cabins or in swags under the stars.

Accommodation: Cabins or camping in swags

River Retreat to Byron Bay

Meet: at camp

We leave our camp early, hop in our bus and head up towards Byron Bay, Australia's famous surf and arts town. We stop in the picturesque town of Yamba along the way for lunch where you can have a walk around or a swim in the Angourie Blue Pool. We have an orientation drive on the way to Byron Bay to help you get your bearings.

Accommodation: Your choice of accommodation, bookable via Stray Mate app.

Byron Bay

Explore, learn to surf, party, do a dolphin kayak trip, visit the alternative town of Nimbin (additional costs), or just relax and take in the laidback, hippy vibe. We recommend taking a walk to the lighthouse to view the Australian mainland's most easterly point.

Accommodation: Your choice of accommodation, bookable via Stray Mate app.

Byron Bay to Noosa or Rainbow Beach

Meet: Dingos/Frasers at Rainbow Beach, or outside Nomads at Noosa

We have the morning to relax or do your choice of activities, before heading to Gympie to start our first train journey. We travel to Rockhampton then get met by a private bus, which takes us to Emu's Beach Resort. We are welcomed onto the resort and find out more about our options for the next day or so. While at Emu Park we have an amazing Stray Treasure Island option with a big day out on stunning Great Keppel Island and your accommodation at Emu Park included (extra cost); or you can choose to just pay for accommodation only and do your own thing.

Note: Depending on the day you arrive you may have an additional night at Emu Park to relax by the pool, check out the local town or play Aussie lawn bowls (extra cost).

Accommodation: Emu's Beach Resort bookable via the Stray Mate App

Emu Park to Airlie Beach (Overnight Train)

Meet: Emu's Beach Resort

For those that have the Treasure Island package we depart early to head to the tropical paradise Great Keppel Island at the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef. Relax or have a go at snorkeling or kayaking (extra cost) before exploring the island, there's incredible untouched coral full of marine life right off the beach. We head back to the mainland late afternoon with a quick stop to go on a walk to Bluff Point. Have dinner at Emu's Beach Resort before we catch the train in the evening and travel overnight to Airlie Beach – the gateway to the beautiful Whitsunday Islands. We grab some breakfast when we arrive and your guide will give you a brief walking orientation tour of Airlie.

Accommodation: Overnight train (price included), then your choice of Airlie Beach accommodation, bookable via Stray Mate app

Airlie Beach to Magnetic Island

Meet: Base Backpackers

We start early with a local bus to the train, a ferry out to beautiful 'Maggie Island', and a local transfer to the accommodation. There is much to explore on the island, as nearly 50% of it is National Park with amazing beaches and abundant wildlife. Your guide will join you on a walk around the Island; otherwise you can do more exploring or just relax by the pool.

Note: Depending on which day you depart; you may have a free day to spend on Magnetic Island.

Accommodation: Your choice of Magnetic Island accommodation, bookable via Stray Mate app

Magnetic Island to Tully (Strademark Stop)

Meet: YHA Bungalow Bay reception or at the ferry terminal (please confirm)

We travel back to the mainland on the ferry, travel by train to Tully – getting in at around lunchtime. Today you have the option of taking part in Stray's exclusive Rainforest Experience. We travel by bus into the amazing rainforest of Tully Gorge National Park. Cool off with a swim in a beautiful swimming hole, before a BBQ dinner and stories around the campfire.

Note: If you are not keen on camping you can express straight through to Cairns on this day.

Accommodation: Camping in rainforest camp area

Tully to Cairns

Meet: Tully train station

We wake early at our rainforest camp for breakfast and then have an interpretative walk through the forest, learning about the traditional indigenous usage of the land. We then head back to Tully and jump on the train to our final destination, Cairns. We arrive late afternoon, then get ready to party tonight to celebrate and farewell the end of your East Coast adventure.

Note: Depending on which day you depart, you may have a free day/night to spend in Tully before heading to Cairns, we recommend doing one of the famous Tully rafting trips or going skydiving at Mission Beach on this day.

Accommodation: Your choice of Cairns accommodation, bookable via Stray Mate app

What's Included:

- All transport including the Stray bus between Sydney and Rainbow Beach/Gympie, fast trains between Gympie and Cairns, local transfers and return Magnetic Island ferry

- Guidance from local guide
- Access to Stray Mate App
- Wine tasting Hunter Valley
- Barrington Tops National Park
- Koala hospital visit, Port Macquarie
- Kangaroo spotting, Emerald Beach
- Canoeing experience (or bush walk), River Retreat
- Angourie Blue Pools, Yamba
- Byron Bay orientation drive
- Danger Point Border Crossing walk
- Carlo Sand Blow Walk, Rainbow Beach
- Bluff Point walk at Emu Park
- Airlie Orientation Walk
- Forts Walk at Magnetic Island
- Tully Gorge National Park Rainforest

What's Not Included:

- Food
- Accommodation

What to Bring:

- Walking shoes (sneakers/trainers)
- Camera
- Swimsuit & towel
- Toiletries
- Hat & sunscreen

Notes:

- **Luggage restrictions:** A backpack or small/medium suitcase (up to 15kg) and a small daypack for day excursions.
- **Reconfirmation instructions:** Please contact Stray and reconfirm your initial pick up time and place, at least 48 hours prior to departure.
- You can break your journey at any of the stops through any of the travel days and just connect with a later Stray bus or rail departure (guided or unguided). You can pre-book your own accommodation via our Stray Mate App or your guide will help book it for you.

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.

Teilnehmer: min 4 bis max. 40 Personen (Mindestalter 18 Jahre, 16-17 Jahre in Begleitung der Eltern)

Transport: Bus

Includierte Mahlzeiten: Frühstück, Mittagessen, Abendessen

Gepäck Limit: 15 kg, please bring a soft sided bag only

Die Sprache während der Tour ist englisch