

10 - 17  
OCTOBER  
2027



# OUTBACK RAILS & SAVANNAH TRAILS

## Day 1 – Sun 10<sup>th</sup> October- Cairns & Palm Cove

Today we fly from Sydney to tropical North Queensland, where our Outback Rails & Savannah Trails journey begins. On arrival in Cairns, we travel north along the coast to beautiful Palm Cove, a relaxed seaside village fringed by coconut palms and overlooking the Coral Sea. Here we enjoy lunch together before some free time to wander along the picturesque esplanade, browse the local shops or simply enjoy the tropical surroundings.

This afternoon, we return to Cairns and enjoy a sightseeing tour introducing us to this vibrant tropical city and its scenic waterfront. We then settle into our accommodation at the ideally located Shangri-La The Marina, overlooking the bustling Cairns Marlin Marina.

Tonight, we gather for dinner and look forward to the wonderful journey ahead.

**Overnight:** Shangri-La The Marina, Cairns

**Meals Included:** Lunch & Dinner

## Day 2 – Mon 11<sup>th</sup> October- Atherton Tablelands & Undara Lava Tubes

After breakfast, we farewell Cairns and climb into the beautiful Atherton Tablelands, a region of rolling farmland, rainforest and volcanic landscapes. Our morning tea stop is at picturesque Lake Eacham, a striking volcanic crater lake surrounded by lush World Heritage rainforest.

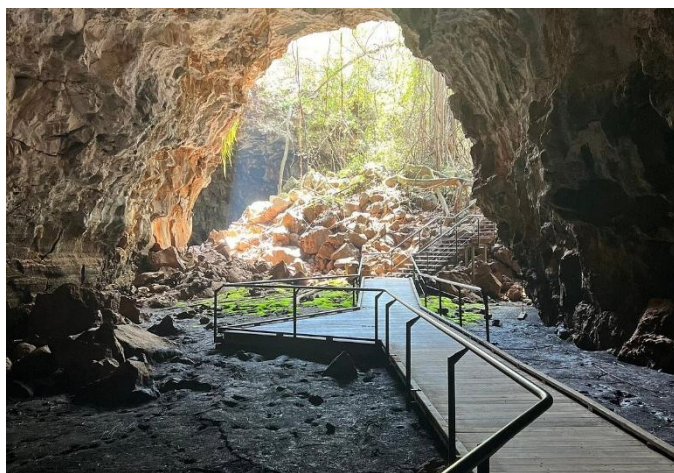
Continuing through the Tablelands, we travel via the country town of Malanda and enjoy lunch along the way before journeying west towards Undara.

This afternoon, we discover one of Queensland's most remarkable geological wonders on the Archway Explorer Tour at Undara Volcanic National Park. Accompanied by a knowledgeable guide, we explore three sections of the fascinating lava tube system, formed by enormous volcanic eruptions around 190,000 years ago. The vast underground tunnels provide an extraordinary glimpse into the volcanic forces that once shaped this ancient landscape.

After our tour, we check into our accommodation at Undara and enjoy dinner together.

**Overnight:** Discovery Resorts – Undara

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



### Day 3 – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October- Croydon & Karumba

We begin our day with a memorable bush breakfast at Undara before setting out across the vast Gulf Savannah. Travelling west through the historic mining country of Far North Queensland, we pass through Georgetown before continuing to Croydon, a small outback town with a fascinating gold-mining past.

We enjoy lunch in Croydon before continuing north towards the Gulf of Carpentaria and the remote fishing town of Karumba.



On arrival, we visit the Barramundi Discovery Centre, where our Catch a Barra experience introduces us to one of northern Australia's most iconic fish. We learn about barramundi, their lifecycle and the important role they play in the Gulf region.

Later, we settle into our accommodation before heading to the waterfront for sunset drinks and dinner. With the sun sinking across the Gulf of Carpentaria, it is a wonderful way to finish our first day in Queensland's Gulf Country.

**Overnight:** End of the Road Motel & Ash's Apartments Karumba

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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#### Day 4 – Wed 13<sup>th</sup> October- The Gulflander

An early start takes us to Normanton, where we board one of Queensland's legendary outback trains – **The Gulflander**. Affectionately known as the *Tin Hare*, this historic rail journey has been travelling between Normanton and Croydon for more than a century.

As we make our way through the remote Gulf Savannah, we experience a railway quite unlike any other. The line traverses vast grasslands, wetlands and rugged outback country, with the journey itself offering a fascinating insight into the history, characters and landscapes of this isolated region. Morning tea is included along the way.

We arrive in Croydon early this afternoon and enjoy a late lunch before rejoining our coach and travelling to Georgetown.

After checking into our accommodation, there is time to settle in before we come together for dinner.

**Overnight:** Latara Motel, Georgetown

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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#### Day 5 – Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> October- Georgetown & Cobbold Gorge

This morning we discover more of Georgetown with a visit to the Terrestrial Centre, home to the impressive Ted Elliott Mineral Collection. Here we can view an extraordinary

array of minerals, gemstones and fossils while learning more about the geology and mining heritage of the Etheridge region.

Following morning tea, we travel to Forsayth, where we transfer to Cobbold Gorge Village. After lunch, we set out to discover one of the Gulf Savannah's great natural treasures.

Our Cobbold Gorge Tour takes us into a spectacular landscape millions of years in the making. A highlight is a peaceful cruise through the narrow gorge, gliding between towering sandstone walls as our guide shares stories of the area's geology, flora and wildlife. We also have the opportunity to cross the impressive glass bridge spanning the gorge, offering a wonderful bird's-eye view into the ancient sandstone chasm below. Together, these experiences provide two very different perspectives of this remarkable natural attraction.

Tonight, we stay at Cobbold Gorge Village and enjoy dinner surrounded by the tranquillity of the outback.

**Overnight:** Cobbold Gorge Village

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## Day 6 – Fri 15<sup>th</sup> October- The Savannahlander

Today brings another highlight of our tour as we travel to Forsayth to board the famous Savannahlander. Known affectionately as the *Silver Bullet*, this classic railmotor takes us through some of the most remote and fascinating country in Far North Queensland.

Our journey from Forsayth to Mount Surprise follows the historic railway through the rugged Etheridge region, including Einasleigh and the spectacular Copperfield Gorge. Along the way, we enjoy morning tea and receive a souvenir mug to take home as a memento of our journey.

We pause at Einasleigh, where lunch is enjoyed at the local pub, before climbing back aboard and continuing through the changing landscapes of the Gulf Savannah to Mount Surprise.

Our coach meets us on arrival and we return to Georgetown, where we settle back into our accommodation before dinner.

**Overnight:** Latara Motel, Georgetown

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## Day 7 – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> October- Ravenshoe, Herberton & Millaa Millaa Falls

After breakfast, we farewell Georgetown and begin our journey back towards the lush Atherton Tablelands. The scenery gradually changes as the dry savannah gives way to greener highlands and rich agricultural country.

We pause briefly in Ravenshoe for morning tea before continuing to Herberton, where another nostalgic rail experience awaits. We board a historic steam train for a leisurely journey through the picturesque Tablelands countryside, enjoying the sights and sounds of traditional steam travel. Afterwards, we enjoy lunch at the station.

This afternoon, we visit beautiful Millaa Millaa Falls, one of the Tablelands' most recognisable waterfalls. Surrounded by lush tropical rainforest, its cascading waters create a particularly picturesque setting.



We then descend from the Tablelands via the Palmerston Highway, travelling through Innisfail before returning to Cairns. After checking into our hotel, we enjoy our final dinner together.

**Overnight:** Shangri-La The Marina, Cairns

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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### Day 8 – Sun 17<sup>th</sup> October- Kuranda Scenic Railway & Home

Our final day features one last memorable rail journey. After breakfast, we travel to Freshwater Station and board the historic Kuranda Scenic Railway for the spectacular climb into the mountains.

The railway winds through the magnificent Barron Gorge National Park, passing dense World Heritage rainforest, dramatic ravines and waterfalls as it makes its way towards the mountain village of Kuranda. This historic railway is an attraction in its own right, with its hand-carved tunnels, bridges and sweeping views providing a fitting finale to our rail journey through Far North Queensland.

On arrival in Kuranda, we have free time to explore at our own pace. Browse the markets and village shops, perhaps visit one of the local attractions, or simply find somewhere pleasant to enjoy lunch.

Early this afternoon, we farewell Kuranda and transfer to Cairns Airport for our return flight to Sydney, taking home wonderful memories of tropical rainforests, ancient landscapes, remote Gulf communities and some of Queensland's most iconic rail journeys.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast

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### Pricing

Cost per person based on 30 passengers: \$5,295.00

Single supplement: +\$ 670.00

This includes a home pick-up, flights, all experiences, meals, accommodation, and luxury coach travel as listed in the day-by-day itinerary.

**Fitness Rating 3: Active Moderate** - Offers a balance of activity and relaxation.

Guests must be able to join walking tours over varied surfaces (including uneven ground or sand), manage stairs or steeper inclines, stand for up to 30 minutes, and board and exit the coach unaided.

