

Topdeck



14 DAY | Island Suntanner

AAISSC-7

This tour visits: Australia

Craving sunshine? Then come travel Australia with us and you'll get more of the warm stuff than you know what to do with! Begin amid the tropical charms of Cairns and make your way south to the vibrant streets of Sydney, swapping island sailing and beaches with cattle stations and the Outback along the way!



The Bucket List

- Full-day 4WD experience on Fraser Island
- Overnight sailing in the Whitsunday Islands
- Visit to stunning Whitehaven Beach
- Unique wine tasting experience in the stunning Hunter Valley
- Surf lesson at Topdeck's Surf Lodge
- Aboriginal Experience at Emu Park
- 1 Night on tropical Magnetic Island

More Inclusions

- 13 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 6 dinners
- 12 nights in hotels, lodges & cabins, 1 night live-aboard sailing
- Modern air-conditioned coach with Wi-Fi
- Awesome Trip leader + Driver

Trip Itinerary

Day 1 - Sydney to Crescent Head

Set the tone for this fair dinkum (i.e. authentic) Aussie adventure by crossing Sydney's iconic Harbour Bridge as we venture toward the surfing haven of Crescent Head. Before testing the waters, dip your toes into an oak barrel (literally) in the Hunter Valley.

Included today:

- Wine tasting and grape stomping in the Hunter Valley

Meals:

- Dinner

Day 2 - Crescent Head to Byron Bay

Try a barrel of a different kind with an early morning private surf lesson on one of the best beaches in the world. Here's your chance to become a bona fide surf master. Our road trip continues with a traditional BBQ lunch and a cruise past the Big Banana icon before pulling into Byron Bay - where you can burn incense, sip chai and become a yoga teacher all in one day.

Included today:

- Surf lesson at Topdeck's surf retreat

Meals:

- Breakfast

- Lunch

Day 3 - Byron Bay

Anti-McDonald's and anti-anything mass produced (but pro juice bars, beer gardens and beards), Byron is glitzy on the outside but small town-hearted underneath. Hit the shops, test out those newly acquired surfing skills, paddle a sea kayak, or watch whales breach from the Lighthouse in winter. This is the town where peace and tranquillity go to relax. You should too. Or jump out of a plane. Byron doesn't care as long as you're happy.

Included today:

- Byron Bay highlights walking trip

Meals:

- Breakfast

Optional activities:

- Dolphin kayaking

- Skydiving

- Scuba diving

- Surf lessons

Day 4 - Byron Bay to Gold Coast

Leave the blissful buzz of Byron behind you as we head to Springbrook National Park and its major landmark, Natural Bridge. Next, swap the

national park for the golden sand beaches and bustling nightlife of Surfers Paradise.

Included today:

-Rainforest walk in Springbrook National Park

Meals:

- Breakfast

Day 5 - Gold Coast to Fraser Island

We ask that you have packed a small overnight bag to take to Fraser Island with you as luggage space is limited. Pack items like swimmers, beach towel, chargers, hat, sunscreen, camera, jacket, toiletries, sandals/flip flops and casual clothes for 2 days.

Next stop: BrisVegas (aka Brisbane). Don't let its namesake fool you - there are no late-night wedding chapels in the sunshine state capital. Get your bearings on a walking tour of the city centre, before catching a ferry bound for UNESCO World Heritage listed, and the world's largest sand island Fraser Island.

Included today:

-Brisbane city walking tour

Meals:

- Breakfast

- Dinner

Day 6 - Fraser Island

Fraser is literally one huge pile of sand - as if someone dropped the Sahara Desert into the Pacific Ocean and scattered it with dingoes and rainforests. Included four-wheel-drive along the beach highway to mingle with the Pinnacles Coloured Sands (considered a place of good luck for the Indigenous Butchulla women), Eli Creek and the Maheno Shipwreck before testing out your stand up paddling skills on the crystal clear waters of Lake McKenzie.

Included today:

-Fraser Island 4WD tour

-Lake MacKenzie

-Central Station

-Coloured Sands

-Maheno Shipwreck

-Eli Creek

Meals:

- Breakfast

- Lunch

Optional activities:

-Scenic flights from the beach

Day 7 - Fraser Island to Myella Farm

Live like a local family with a home-cooked meal and cattle station visit. Think dusty plains and wide open spaces - this is the Oz that people

dream of. Go walkabout on a real Aussie farm to find that right spot for the perfect outback sunset and enjoy a hearty home cooked farm-style dinner.

Included today:

-Farm sunset

Meals:

- Breakfast

- Dinner

Day 8 - Myella Farm to Emu Park

Embrace your inner jackaroo and prepare for horse riding, motorbiking, whip cracking and lassoing. Then leave the campfire to follow in the footsteps of Captain Cook as we head back to the coast for Emu Park. Take a selfie as you pass into the Tropic of Capricorn. Enjoy the Aboriginal experience where you get to learn about totems and artefacts, see some traditional dancing, try your hand at boomerang throwing and make some artwork to take home.

Included today:

-Aboriginal experience and artefact souvenir

Meals:

- Breakfast

- Lunch

- Dinner

Optional activities:

-Horse riding

-Motorbike lesson

Day 9 - Emu Park to Airlie Beach

We ask that you have packed a small overnight bag to take onboard with you as space on the overnight sailing is limited. Pack items like swimmers, beach towel, chargers, hat, sunscreen, camera, jacket, toiletries, sandals/flip flops and casual clothes for 3 days.

Feeling like you need more air in your hair? Leave the bus and board your own private yacht for our overnight (2 day, one night) sailing trip in the beautiful Whitsunday Islands. Normally a toy for the rich and famous, today it's all yours to learn the ropes while sailing in paradise. More of a land-lover? Take the diva option and let the crew do the work whilst you feast, swim and snorkel.

Included today:

-Overnight sailing

Please note that the twin / double / or single upgrade is not applicable to the Overnight Sailing in the Whitsunday Islands. This has not been included in when upgrade rates were calculated.

Meals:

-Breakfast

-Dinner

Day 10 - Airlie Beach

Keep those sunglasses on as the blinding white sands of Whitehaven stretch before you like a 7km sea of diamonds and swim with the resident Maori Wrasse at Blue Pearl Bay. Back on board, keep adrift of your seafaring skills by helping to set the sails or steer at the helm as we set course for land. Later this afternoon set course for our return to land where we'll spend the night in Airlie Beach, pool - shower - dinner - dancing all in that order!

Day 11 - Magnetic Island

Leaving the Whitsundays for Magnetic Island and you have the afternoon to trip around this amazing piece of paradise. Discover secluded beaches, National Park walking trails or just laze by the pool with a cocktail.

Day 12 - Magnetic Island to Cairns

A private tour of the local wildlife park where you can kiss a baby Crocodile, smooch a Blue Tongue Lizard, and even cuddle a Koala*, is included into our morning before we leave the island. We'll pass palm tree lined streets this afternoon as we make our way into Cairns, nestled between the Coral Sea and the Great Dividing Range.

Day 13 - Cairns

The only place in the world nestled between two World Heritage areas. And you've got two days to take it all in. Why not start with an optional Great Barrier Reef trip? It's like a kid's gone crazy with their paint set down there! Snorkel or scuba to get that elusive selfie with a photobombing fish.

*Pre-book your Great Barrier Reef day-trip at the time of booking to secure your spot

Meals:

- Breakfast

Optional activities:

-Great Barrier Reef Day Trip

Day 14 - Cairns

Ramp up the adventure metre today's optionals. You could be paddling the rapids of the Tully River, zip lining over a crocodile or getting an aerial view of the tropics by plummeting towards it. There's hot air ballooning, horse riding and bungee jumping...or just kick back with a coconut.

Meals:

- Breakfast

Optional activities:

-White water rafting

-Horse riding

-Quad biking

-Skydiving

-Bungy jumping

-Daintree National Park day trip

- Zip lining
- Hot air ballooning

Accommodation

On your trip you will stay at a variety of multi-share accommodation, which may include hostels, motels, cabins, lodges, and camping out in tents and even a traditional Aussie swag! The number of people in a room varies depending on the type of accommodation. To keep costs down accommodation is based on a multi-share, same sex basis.

The **'More Inclusions'** section of this document details what type of accommodation will be used for our overnight stops.

If you are travelling with a friend and require twin or double accommodation, this is available at a small extra charge (not available while in the Northern Territory). Should this be required, you can select this at the time of booking.

Optional Activities

On all trips we have arranged extra activities that we think will enhance your travel experience, but you have a choice as to whether or not you will participate. These are not included in the cost of your trip. They are usually organised on a group participation basis and should be taken into consideration when budgeting your spending money.

None of the Optional Activities on your trip are operated by Topdeck, nor do they form part of your contract with Topdeck for your trip. Topdeck arranges the activity as an agent of the local supplier. Should you participate in any Optional Activities your contract will be with the local supplier and their conditions will apply.

Please note: while we make every effort to keep these prices as accurate and up-to-date as possible, they are subject to change and in rare circumstances the actual price may vary slightly to what is published here.

Australia - Byron Bay

- Tandem Skydive \$299 AUD
- Dolphin Kayaking \$69 AUD
- Surf Lesson \$60 AUD
- Hang Gliding \$165 AUD

Australia - Gold Coast

- Tandem Skydive \$375 AUD

Australia - Fraser Island

- Scenic Flight \$80 AUD
- Australia - Myella Farm
- Motorbike Lesson \$65 AUD
- Horse Riding \$75 AUD

Australia - Cairns

- Tandem Skydive \$309 AUD
- Go Wild Day Tour \$150 AUD
- Go Jungle Surfing \$252 AUD

Tully River Rafting (Full Day) \$209 AUD
Tully River Xtreme (Full Day) \$250 AUD
Baron River Rafting (Half Day) \$138 AUD
Full Day Reef Trip \$154 AUD
Bungy Jump \$179 AUD
Minjin Swing \$129 AUD
Hot Air Ballooning \$260 AUD
Wildlife Dome Entry & Photo \$40 AUD

Meals

Your included meals are detailed in the '**More Inclusions**' section of this document.

Breakfasts are included each day (except on the first morning). A typical breakfast consists of cereals with milk or yoghurt, bread, a range of spreads, and fruit juice, tea or coffee. It is rare to get a hot breakfast, though on some occasions it may be available.

Included evening meals will be combination of those prepared by the Topdeck Road Crew, local restaurants and places in which we stay.

If you have any dietary requirements we will make every effort to cater to your specific needs as long as you advise your travel agent or Topdeck Trip Consultant when you book. But please be aware that although we will do everything in our power to arrange it, we cannot guarantee that every restaurant we use will be able to cater to all dietary needs. We also cannot cater for tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu.

No Tip Necessary

Your Topdeck crew never expect tips themselves and will not ask for any; that's not what friends do! We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead, spoil yourself with the money you will save by travelling with Topdeck (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

Transport

Coach Time

We try to spend as little time on the coach as possible so that you have more time to enjoy the places you visit. But do please remember that Australia in particular is a large continent and it takes time to get around!

When travelling between towns, you will be on the coach during the day, stopping off to visit places of interest where possible. Strict driving rules apply in Australia and New Zealand that limit the maximum number of hours your Driver can drive each day. They also limit the maximum number of days that can be driven before a day off must be taken.

Wi-Fi

Free on-coach Wi-Fi is steadily being rolled out for all passengers in Australia and New Zealand. Speed and connection relies on local 3G / 4G networks, and can be signal can be intermittent in some of the more remote places in which we travel.