



## Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763  
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

# AUSTRALIA **Aussie Coast & Outback Adventure**

**12 nights:** Sydney (2 nights) – Airlie Beach / Whitsundays (3 nights) – Tully / Mission Beach (1 night) – Cairns (2 nights) – Port Douglas (2 nights) – Brisbane (2 nights)

## G´day! Welcome to Australia...

One of the world’s most captivating places, Australia remains a sought-after destination due to its sheer isolation from the English speaking world and the fact that it harbors a tremendous amount of landscapes, wild species, diverse flora and a captivating Aboriginal culture – all rolled into a thriving nation that is so recognizable worldwide. Imagine Australia without Crocodile Dundee, the diggeridoo and the Sydney Opera House – or the beloved kangaroos, koalas and scores of tropical fish on the reef! Australia is a land of legends both past and present.



Adventurebug’s **Australian East Coast** journey is aimed to whet your appetite to Australia’s finest natural, cultural and historical elements and keep you active at the same time. We cover a wide spectrum of this great nation – ensuring that we introduce you to the very best of Australia’s incredible diversity.

From the endless coastlines stretching north; the pristine jungles of Cairns and the Daintree; the spectacle of the Great Barrier Reef and the famed ‘outback’ lifestyle – Australia is simply gifted with treasures and worth the lengthy journey to reach her shores. Styled as a hiking / discovery tour, we experience Australia in an active way! Expect daily hikes of 3–4 hours minimum without great changes in elevation. Enjoy ‘tramping’ over jungle laden hillsides, forest of eucalyptus, swimming in natural water holes and canyons and meeting the indigenous people who remain the custodians of Australia’s natural spaces. Add a scenic train journey and snorkeling experiences around the Whitsunday Islands to complete the experience. We welcome you to discover Australia with us!



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## ITINERARY

### Day 1 – Arrival / Sydney Meals: D

Arrive to Sydney and meet the group at our city center hotel. Sydney is a fascinating place sprawling over the New South Wales coastline and backed by the Blue Mountains to the west. There are sweeping sea views, wonderful beaches, historic colonial architecture and fine eating, dining and a café culture that rivals Europe. If you arrive a day early (recommended) be sure to visit the famous Harbor Bridge and of course the Sydney Opera House. HOTEL 4 Star – Great Southern Hotel or similar. Welcome dinner included tonight.



### Day 2 – Sydney / Blue Mountains National Park (Hike) Meals: B & L



Same Hotel as last night. Today we transfer 1.5 hours to enjoy a full day in breathtaking nature in the heart of the World UNESCO Site, The Blue Mountains National Park. Immerse yourself in lush subtropical forests and eucalyptus where Koalas and many more species take habitat. We'll hike the scenic waterfalls circuit – capitalizing on the best of the Blue Mountains, allowing time to enjoy a café break and souvenir hunt in the small community of the mountains. Same Hotel. Breakfast and Picnic Lunch included. HIKING DISTANCE: 4–6 miles / ELEVATION GAIN: 400–600 feet.

### Day 3 – Airlie Beach (Transfer, sightseeing & walking) Meals: B & D

This morning we transfer by air between Sydney and the lush green surroundings of Queensland State's Airlie Beach – famously recognized for the Whitsunday Island group. Upon arrival – mid afternoon, we'll explore on foot the surrounding beach, board walk and tropical forests of the community – keeping an eye out for iguanas and diverse birdlife. Light walking today. HOTEL 4 star with pool / gardens – Breakfast and Dinner included and lunch you can obtain on route.

### Day 4 – Airlie Beach / Whitsunday Islands Boat Tour (Snorkel and Hike) Meals: B & L

A trip to Airlie beach is not complete without a full day at sea exploring the nature of the Whitsunday Islands. Our boat tour brings us to Hamilton and Whitsunday Islands – offering stop offs for hiking a National Park trail to a hill top observatory and of course snorkeling in the warm waters of the Great Barrier Reef's satellite coral regions. A great lunch is included today. Be sure to pack your swim suit, sun protection and camera for this highly scenic today in one of planet's most beautiful ecosystems. SAME HOTEL. Breakfast and Lunch included today. HIKING DISTANCE: 3 miles / ELEVATION GAIN: 200 feet





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## Day 5 – Airlie Beach / Hike & Explore Day (Hike)

### Meals: B

Today we hike the lush rainforest hillsides in a nature reserve of Airlie Beach community. The hike introduces us to a vast array of Queensland's flora – offering us stunning views of the tropical coast – especially from the high point! After a half day on the trail, you have the rest of the afternoon free to explore Airlie's wonderful beaches – or take in another attraction such as kayaking, paddle boarding, more snorkeling or relax in the pool and gardens of our hotel. SAME HOTEL. Breakfast included today. HIKING DISTANCE: 4 miles / ELEVATION GAIN: 500 feet

## Day 6 – Train to Tully / Aboriginal Nature Program (Hike) Meals: B & D

An early start to board the 06:00 Spirit of Queensland train to our destination of Tully – 6 hours north. This relaxing train offers glimpses of Australia's diverse tropical and agro-based topography as we pass sugar cane plantations, farm towns and lush forested hillsides. Upon arrival we have an afternoon with the INGAN Aboriginal group who guide us through Indigenous forests and teach us about connectivity, ecology and conservation through age-old wisdom. INGAN is 100% owned and operated by an aboriginal family who are the custodians of these rainforests of the Tully National Park:

<https://www.ingan.com.au/about-ingan>. A short transfer brings us to Mission Beach where we stay for the night. Hotel 3 Stars – Mission Beach Resort or similar. Breakfast and Dinner included. You can purchase items for lunch on the train. HIKING DISTANCE: 3–5 miles / ELEVATION GAIN: 400 feet



## Day 7 – Mission Beach Hike & Cairns Visit (Hike) Meals: B & D

Today we transfer 1.5 hours north to Cairns – the emblematic colonial base of north Queensland. Before leaving, we'll hike from Mission Beach over some coastal rainforest paths, climbing a few hundred feet where giant fruit bats rest and butterflies and tropical birds rule the skies! Mid-afternoon arrival to Cairns where we explore the historic town center and make plans for your free day to follow. HOTEL 4 Stars – Colonial Club Resort or similar. Breakfast and Dinner included. HIKING DISTANCE: 3 miles plus 2 miles town walking / ELEVATION GAIN: 200 feet



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## Day 8 – Cairns Free Day **Meals: B**

Cairns is an adventure playground set in a tropical paradise flanked by the Great Barrier Reef and the Kuranda National Park. There is a plethora of options to choose from. Consider a boat trip to the outer reef and snorkel with sharks and giant rays or take a historic train into the jungle. See crocodiles, koalas and platypus on a nature safari or relax around Cairns wonderful town atmosphere – perhaps strolling through the botanical gardens and catching up on souvenir shopping. Same Hotel. Breakfast only today – leaving you free to find creative lunch and dinner options as there are many available in Cairns.

## Day 9 – Kuranda National Park & Port Douglas

(Hike & Wildlife) **Meals: B, L & D**

This morning we push further north, visiting Kuranda National Park where we'll hike the highlands and swim in cool canyon waters and cascades on route. We'll also devote time to exploring Kuranda village and the artsy / hippy culture with tea houses and markets set in the tablelands above Cairns. Our journey along the Captain Cook Highway is one of Australia's most scenic and we'll arrive late afternoon to Port Douglas where we base ourselves for 2 nights. Hotel 4 Stars TBA. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included. **HIKING DISTANCE:** 4 miles / **ELEVATION GAIN:** 250 feet



## Day 10 – Daintree Rainforest & Cape Tribulation (Hike & Wildlife) **Meals: B**



The tropical rainforest of the Daintree National Park, a UNESCO protected biosphere is of vast importance to our planet. Daintree is the largest continual living forest of this kind and under protection. Our explorations bring us into the heart of this living natural museum via hiking and explorations by vehicle. We also visit Australia's best entomological collection and time permitting, venture as far as Cape Tribulation – Where in 1770, Captain Cook ran a ground and his troubles began! Same

Hotel. Breakfast only included today. Lunch can be taken in a local café or purchased items. **HIKING DISTANCE:** 3–4 miles / **ELEVATION GAIN:** 200 feet



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## Day 11 – Brisbane & Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary

(Transfer & Wildlife) **Meals: B**

Today we say goodbye to Queensland's tropics and fly south to the state capital, Brisbane. This afternoon we spend some time in *Lone Pine Kola Sanctuary*. Founded in 1927, it's the largest and oldest Koala conservation center in existence. Kangaroos, platypus, wombats, Tasmanian devils and more are also housed here and our contributions go towards rehabilitation and conservation efforts. HOTEL 4 Stars – Great Southern Hotel Central (or similar). Breakfast included today. Lunch you can source out on the journey pending flight / transfers.

## Day 12 – Mt. Glorious & D'Aguiar National

Park (Hike) **Meals: B, L & D**

Our final day brings us back to nature as we visit the D'Aguiar National Park (1 hr from Brisbane), and from the hillside community of Mt. Glorious, we'll hike the rainforest trail and enjoy the woodlands of rural south Queensland. Time permitting, we can visit a winery for a tasting and to discover what makes Australian wines so popular (optional). Same Hotel. Breakfast and Farewell Dinner at hotel included. **HIKING DISTANCE: 3–4 miles / ELEVATION GAIN: 300 feet**



## Day 13 – Departure from Brisbane

Breakfast only included today. Taxi transfer to Brisbane airport can be booked from hotel reception. Extended stay options are available. If you want to explore more of Australia. We recommend Victoria state (Melbourne region), West Australia (Perth) and of course the outback and Northern Territories!

## INCLUDED ON THE TOUR

- *12 nights accommodation in selected 4 star hotels (one 3 star). Rooming is based on Twin (two bed) or Double (1 large bed) options. Single rooms are available in all destinations pending early request. Single supplement cost for this trip is available.*
- *Internal flights (2 total) and all local transfers by private air conditioned coaches. Please note – baggage on internal flights is restricted to 1 x piece (23 kg / 50 pd) and 1 x carry on of normal, international standards.*
- *Boat and train transfers as per itinerary*
- *Meals as indicated on itinerary (please note – beverages are not included)*
- *All local tour guide services and entrance fees / attractions as per itinerary / park permits, etc.*
- *Tipping included (restaurants (for provided meals), drivers, local guides)*



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## NON INCLUSIONS

- *International Flights (please note - **the tour BEGINS at Sydney (Sydney Airport SYE) and ENDS at Brisbane International Airport (BNE)**. Please ensure your international ticket is purchased according to these destinations. If booking online, you may select the 'MULTI DESTINATION' (or Multi Stop, etc) option rather than purchase 2 one way flights. The first option may be better priced than single tickets, but this is not guaranteed.*
- *Tourist Visas for Australia (\*see note below - only an ETA entrance is necessary)*
- *Hotel airport transfers*
- *Hotel room personal expenses, telephone bills, room service, etc.*
- *Drinks and beverages at meals*
- *Tips for housekeeping*
- *Private travel insurance (health, accident, evacuation, trip cancellation, etc.)*

## TRAVEL IN AUSTRALIA

### Visas & Documents

At time of publishing this Trip Dossier, U.S. citizens don't need visas to enter Australia. However, they do have to obtain what is called an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA), which basically works like an online visa. The ETA costs AU\$20 and may be applied for at <http://www.eta.immi.gov.au/>.For

### Money (subject to change)

1 Dollar (USA) = 1.30 AUS \$

1 Dollar (AUS) = .78 USA \$

### Internal Flights & Official Passport Names

We will be making 2 internal group flights with one of the above carriers. Please note, each passenger, per flight, may check 1 piece @ 23 Kg (50 pounds) and take on 1 carry on piece according to international standards.

Please pack according to this policy as any additional weight charges must be carried by you personally. We will also request your EXACT SPELLING Passport name for issuing the tickets. At that time, you must indicate the EXACT name(s) and all letters (if abbreviated) on your passport. Failure to indicate the correct & complete spelling will result in a penalty fee for change of name.

### Australia Time Zones

Sydney is 15 hours ahead of Boston / New York. Brisbane and the rest of the North Eastern Australian coast is 14 hours ahead of the Eastern USA.



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## Security

Australia is like any western developed country – precautions should be taken against pick pockets. Be subtle with your possessions in public and always use hotel safes. Night time strolls are generally fine – especially in rural areas. Extra caution in Sydney at night (very late), should be exercised – like anywhere worldwide.

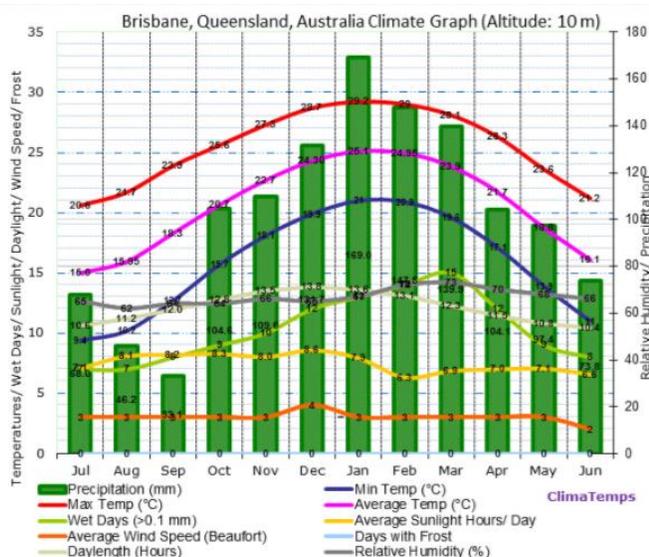
## Health

Australia is an advanced western country in terms of health care services. At the private level, there are many top notch services available, but without an insurance policy – be expected to pay heavily. Tap water is good for drinking and there are no immunizations necessary. In the northern region of Queensland, there can be mosquitos, flies and tropical insects – but none are life threatening. Heat rash and sun damage to the skin are concerns. Rehydration in the tropic areas is very important!

## Medical checklist

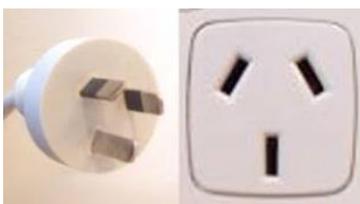
Bring medications in their original containers, clearly labeled. A signed, dated letter from your doctor describing your medical conditions and medications (including their generic names) is a good idea. If carrying syringes or needles, take a physician’s letter documenting their medical necessity.

## Weather



Our itinerary, with the exception of Sydney, takes place in the warmer sub-tropical and tropical parts of the country. From Brisbane north, expect warm, dry weather for November. Temperatures range from 80–90f in the day. Sydney will also be mild (spring time) and 70–80f is expected. This is a pleasant time of the year to visit Australia but do bring a rain poncho for surprise, tropical showers in the far north (and Sydney at times too).

## Electricity and Plug Outlets



Australia uses a 240V three prong system. An adapter is necessary.



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## Experience and Risks

To fully enjoy this trip, you should be in good physical condition and able to hike a minimum of 4-5 hours per day. You should have recent hiking experience. Trails in Australia can be exposed and rocky; footing may be irregular. You also need to be able to carry your luggage to and from the buses/hotels and possibly up the stairs of our hotels. Other than raingear, hiking boots, daypack and water bottles, no special equipment is needed.

## Group Size and Communication

We have a group size limit of 20 persons (not counting your full time trip leader). When registration is complete, we will send all participants the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all those going on the trip. We are good communicators and will try very hard to keep everyone well informed. We will be using email as our primary source of communication.

## Your Leadership Team

Above all, safety is our main concern when it comes to managing your adventure experience. We play a role in all aspects of your journey. From pre-planning logistics to risk aversion and choosing the balance between adventures, routing, terrain, extra activities and even down to selecting hotels, restaurants and modes of transport – we guarantee a comprehensive experience that is tailor-made to suit your group!



### **MATT BUTLER: TOUR OPERATOR / ADVENTUREBUG WORLDWIDE LTD.**

Matt Butler will be the specialist guide and logistics coordinator. He was born and raised in Canada and was a former competitive cross country skier, competing at the National and International level and as a non-competitive forerunner for the Canadian Olympic Team in Calgary 1988. During his University years and beyond, he worked 9 seasons with Canada's Provincial & National Park service. He also worked in Public Safety Operations for Parks Canada and contributed to Educational programs and Park conservation efforts in relation to glaciology. He later lived in Australia and worked as a teacher in Malawi, China, Great Britain and Spain before retiring from the profession and returning to his roots - guiding and outdoor pursuits leadership training. Matt is the co-founder of Adventurebug Worldwide – an

active holiday and training company as well as co-founder for Rifcom ([www.rifcom.org](http://www.rifcom.org)), a non-profit charity that works with disadvantaged youths in rural Morocco. Matt resides in Andalucia, Spain with his wife Julie and there 3 children (plus a host of adopted stray cats and dogs!).

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## **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

*In the event of a genuine crisis or emergency, your local operator, Adventurebug Worldwide can be reached as follows:* OFFICE (Adventurebug) + 34 952 894 308 / [info@adventurebug.com](mailto:info@adventurebug.com)

Matt Butler (Trip Leader) + 34 635 817 819