



Cape York & The Gulf

14 DAYS

CAPE YORK | GULF COUNTRY & ISLANDS | DAINTREE RAINFOREST
CARNARVON GORGE | TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS | MT MULLIGAN STN

Board the seriously comfortable (and quick), Outback Jet for a thorough exploration of this hard to reach region.

See the true Queensland outback, exploring iconic towns, remote islands and cattle stations. A truly spectacular flight along the isolated coastline of Cape York gets you to the exotic and remote isles of the Torres Strait before returning southwards to relax at a boutique eco-retreat in the Daintree Rainforest.

Your final two days are spent discovering the beauty of the sand-stone chasms at Carnarvon Gorge.

Conquer the Cape, explore the rainforest and meet some incredible locals.

AirAdventure

Spend less time on the road and more time exploring remote Australia and Africa

Cape York & The Gulf

Here's just a few of the highlights...

- ✓ Fly into **Mt Mulligan Cattle Station** and explore this brand new location
- ✓ Stand on the very '**tip**' of **Mainland Australia**
- ✓ Stay at beautifully remote **Daintree Eco Lodge** where the Daintree Rainforest meets the Great Barrier Reef
- ✓ Gently paddle your canoe up tranquil **Lawn Hill Gorge**
- ✓ Discover the lost art of **Quinkan Country** voted as one of the Top 10 Rock Art sites in the world
- ✓ Enjoy the outback hospitality at the iconic **Birdsville Hotel**
- ✓ Discover the magic of Thursday, Friday and Horn Island's in the **Torres Strait** and meet the locals
- ✓ Explore the pristine wilderness of **Carnarvon Gorge**

Spectacular scenic flights: Gulf Country, Cape York Peninsula, Channel Country, Torres Strait and many more...



Daily Itinerary

Day 1: Melbourne, Essendon – Birdsville

Leaving Melbourne behind this morning, fly north to Broken Hill for morning tea, then continue north to Birdsville. Explore the town, hallowed ground of the Birdsville racetrack before venturing off road to the largest sand dune in the Simpson Desert 'Big Red'. Enjoy a cold beer from your 'perch' in the iconic Birdsville Pub and absorb the outback culture. Dinner tonight is in the pub's dining room where you will meet travellers that have tackled the 'Birdsville Track'. You're sure to hear some interesting stories from them.

Time to rest; accommodation tonight is at the **Birdsville Lodge**.

Flight time 3hrs 40mins total (2 flights).

Day 2: Birdsville – Mt Isa – Adels Grove, Lawn Hill National Park

One of the great things about Birdsville is that the Hotel is just across the road from the airport, literally! Fly north to Mt Isa where, prior to landing you are given a great view of the gigantic Mount Isa Mine. Farewell civilisation as your pilot flies you over cattle station country before touching down in the oasis that is Adel's Grove. On arrival you are taken on a guided adventure into Lawn Hill National Park, with an opportunity to stroll to the Cascades prior to your over-water journey, paddling through the peaceful gorge. Tonight your ensuite cabins at **Adel's Grove**, are idyllically positioned beside a pristine stream.

Flight time 2hrs 10mins total (2 flights).

Day 3: Adel's Grove – Mornington Island – Karumba

This morning you will get to experience parts of the Gulf that very few ever get to. Take off from the dusty runway at Adels Grove bound for Mornington Island, out in the Gulf of Carpentaria. A restricted indigenous area, the community has a vibrant and well known art centre. It was here that Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori set the art world alight with her unique and distinctive style. Enjoy a private tour hosted by some local artists. Just prior to lunch, take off and hop across to nearby Karumba. Board a cruise boat for a trip up the Norman River, spotting wildlife and checking mud-crab pots - continue out into the Gulf to pull up on a sand cay to dine on the freshest mud crab and banana prawns imaginable.

Accommodation is at **The End of the Road**, Karumba.

Flight time 1hr 10mins total (2 flights).

Day 4: Karumba – Horn Island

Mornings are gentle and warm here, enjoy breakfast overlooking the river-mouth. Your flight this morning will see you tracing the west coast of Cape York. Continue north leaving the mainland of Australia behind you'll see the changing colours of the Torres Strait. This afternoon venture into the 'Forgotten Island'- Horn Island offers an opportunity to sneak back in time to see remnants of bunkers and hidden revetments during a specialised guided tour, led by local historian and author Vanessa See Kee. Learn the fascinating history of the local, seafaring Kaurareg people.

Accommodation for the next two nights is at the **Wongai Beach Resort**.

Flight time 2hrs 20mins (2 flights).

Day 5: Thursday & Friday Islands

Discover the beauty, history and friendly smiles of the locals on a private tour of Thursday Island. Your guide will teach you about the history and paint the picture of life on this far northern island. Pearling has, and still to this day plays an important role in the Torres Strait economy. Venture across to the spectacular, Friday Island to visit the Kazu Pearl Farm to get a personalised tour of their operation with the opportunity to purchase pearls direct, if you wish.

No flight today.

Day 6: Horn Island – Tip of Cape York – Cooktown

Depart the Torres Strait Islands this morning as your aerial armchair takes you over the northern-most point of mainland Australia. Land at Jacky-Jacky airfield for a 4WD over-land adventure that will have you standing on this significant geographical point – congratulations, you have conquered the cape! Continue the scenic flying southwards over the Far North Great Barrier Reef and into the picturesque town of Cooktown.

Accommodation for the next two nights is at **Cooktown Sovereign Resort**.

Flight time 1hr 40mins total (2 flights).

Day 7: Cooktown

After a pleasant tropical breakfast it's time to experience the foreshore and visit memorial sites of where Capt. James Cook careened the Endeavour for repairs. This afternoon you are taken on a tour of Cooktown with Justin Coventry as he unravels the stories of the past. Lunch is at the gallery in the fascinating botanical gardens. The day finishes with a tour of the Captain James Cook Museum which houses an anchor from the Endeavour, amongst other pieces of historical significance.

No flight today.

Day 8: Cooktown - Laura - Mt Mulligan

From Cooktown it is a brief flight to the tiny settlement of Laura. This is where we will access the forgotten rock art galleries of the Quinkan spirits. A drive through some lovely Cape York savannah country to the galleries, a very rewarding experience, with a picnic lunch out in the woodlands. Another brief flight to Mt Mulligan Stations private runway where you will be warmly welcomed and taken to this remote, picturesque and extremely comfortable outback retreat.

Accommodation for the next two nights is at the exclusive **Mt Mulligan Lodge** in an Outback Room - a Luxury Lodge of Australia.

Flight time 45mins total (2 flights).



Day 9: Mt Mulligan

Located on an entirely private 28,000-hectare heritage site, Mt Mulligan Lodge offers boutique accommodation in the shadow of majestic Mount Mulligan. Guests staying at Mt Mulligan Lodge will be able to experience the spirit of the North Queensland back-country through a captivating landscape with indigenous significance dating back 37,000 years. The expansive property bears the marks of the historic gold and coal rush and in its current operation, as a working cattle station, the pastoral history of Australia.

No flight today.

Day 10: Mt Mulligan - Daintree Eco Lodge, Daintree Rainforest

This morning you will wake up to the sounds of the outback and by this afternoon you will be breathing in the refreshing scent of the rainforest. Depart Mt Mulligan after breakfast with a quick flight across to Cairns, from there, a private transfer by road up into the heart of the Daintree Rainforest. Check into your very own tree house amidst the canopy of the rainforest. Give yourself a pinch to make sure you aren't dreaming!

Accommodation for the next two nights is at the **Daintree Eco Lodge** in a Canopy Bayan.

Flight time 20mins.

Day 11: Daintree Eco Lodge, Daintree Rainforest

Enjoy the privacy of this tree house oasis as you explore the region with a gentle boat cruise along the Daintree River. In the afternoon walk amongst the towering tree trunks through a particularly pretty stretch of rainforest with your local guide. During your stay at Daintree Eco Lodge, we welcome you to take part in your complimentary Air Adventure massage treatment to assist in winding down to the rhythm of the rainforest.

No flight today.

Day 12: Daintree Rainforest – Carnarvon Gorge

A relaxed start to the day before rejoining your aircraft for the flight down to Rolleston where you will be welcomed at the airstrip and then transferred to privately owned Wallaroo Station. In a tranquil setting surrounded by lawns manicured by kangaroos and shaded by the ancient macrozamia and eucalypts. Enjoy a short sunset excursion to explore some of this working cattle station and meet the owners.

Accommodation for the next two nights is at **Wallaroo Stations plush safari tents**. Modern, private bathrooms are in very close proximity and we promise you won't need to put in any tent pegs :)

Flight time 2hrs 20mins.

Day 13: Carnarvon Gorge

Enjoy informative commentary on the trek through Carnarvon Gorge with friendly, specialised guides. Massive sandstone walls towering over from above protect a mysterious and timeless land. Some of the narrow side gorges can be spanned by outstretched arms, while others are so narrow-twisted and deep, that sunlight never reaches the bottom. Photographers have entered their own special paradise within Carnarvon Gorge. The tour continues to the Moss Gardens and into an amazing natural amphitheatre; combined, these experiences are splendid features of the country's wilderness and beauty.

No flight today.

Day 14: Carnarvon Gorge – Callubri Station – Essendon, Melbourne

Today, pilots fly homeward via Callubri Station which lends itself to a very special station visit where you will be welcomed as friends and enjoy a personal farm tour followed by a traditional homestead feast. Time to depart; arriving at Essendon Airport, Melbourne in the early evening.

Flight time 4hrs 20mins total (3 flights).

Note: there are no fixed departure times for flights conducted on any day of this tour. Departure times will be determined on a day by day basis by discussion between the pilot, tour guide and participants.





About Us

Air Adventure Australia was founded by Rod Dyer (1925-2008). Rod, a pastoralist and bush pilot of over 10,000 hours pioneered 'Ellenbrae' cattle station in the Kimberley back in the 1960s. It was the combination of Rod's knowledge and love of the outback and flying that led him to launch Air Adventure. Since 1977, thousands of travellers have chosen Air Adventure to fly them to the Australia less-travelled. The company is guided by Rod's son, John Dyer who is also a pilot and very passionate about creating high quality travel experiences spanning the entirety of the Australian continent. His team at Air Adventure share his enthusiasm and dedication to create unforgettable travel for their guests.

What our past guests are saying about us:

"Air Adventure is obviously held in very high regard by all the places we visited & everyone, everywhere made sure we had the best time possible. We didn't want to come home and can't wait to travel again."

S. Sutton ACT - Flyaway Faraway

"This is one of the best things that we have done in our lives."

I. & J. Askew, Port Fairy - African Air Safari



Daily Itinerary

Your aircraft:

Travel is in the privately chartered Air Adventure Outback Jet, Pilatus PC-12. This prop-jet aircraft is a fast, reliable outback machine capable of landing on gravel and remote airfields where others in larger aircraft can't. The Outback Jet is operated by Armada Aviation, which holds an Air Operators Certificate issued by CASA. All pilots are highly experienced and carry a Commercial Pilots License. It's equipped with state-of-the-art avionics and is all weather rated with impressive safety features. The interior is spacious with custom leather seating, climate control and clear windows (every seat is the window seat) making in flight viewing a joy.

Tour departs:

Essendon Airport, Melbourne on 19 July & 25 July 2021

Cost:

AUD 16,390 per person, twin share, truly all inclusive

If single accommodation is required please add AUD 2,246 (single accommodation is limited).

Price all inclusive of:

- All private charter flights crewed by a highly experienced Commercial Captain
- All accommodation
- All meals (except breakfast day one & dinner on final day. Morning tea on most occasions)
- All drinks (bottled water through to alcohol with dinner)
- All entries, permits, admissions, gratuities/tipping
- All trips, tours, transfers and excursions as outlined in itinerary
- Air safari escorted by experienced Air Adventure tour leader
- Qualified local and indigenous guides along the way

Not included:

- Items of a personal nature eg. pre-dinner drinks, phone calls, internet, travel insurance

20% deposit is required to confirm your reservation. Balance is due 60 days prior to departure date.

Places are limited.

Enquiries:

For all enquiries and bookings, please contact the friendly team at Air Adventure Australia. We can also assist with your travel arrangements pre and post tour.

Free phone **1800 033 160** or International +61 3 55 721 371

info@airadventure.com.au

PO Box 848, Ocean Grove, Victoria 3226

For all New Zealand enquiries: Susie Williams at Hogan and Associates

Phone 09/ 489 7844

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Unit 24, 6 Airborne Rd, Rosedale, Auckland

Or contact your local travel professional.

For further information on this tour and Air Adventure Australia: airadventure.com.au

On behalf of all pilots, tour leaders and local guides - we warmly invite you to join us.



EXPERIENCE WHY
THERE'S NOTHING
LIKE AUSTRALIA

