



# ECLIPSE NEWS

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## WILD OUTBACK AUSTRALIA AND A TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

This tour is an Australian full participation back packer safari. It is targeted to the younger more adventurous among us.

Call or write with questions and we will get them answered.

Entrance into the crocodile farm Return Ferry to Magnetic island and local transfers Hostel accommodation on Magnetic Island on dorm share with continental breakfast. 3 days / 2 nights sailing trip (Includes meals, and snorkelling gear) Hostel accommodation at Airlie Beach based on dorm share with continental breakfast Tents, equipment hire, national park fees at Carnarvon National Park 2 Nights hostel accommodation at Rainbow Beach based on

dorm share with continental breakfast 2 Days Fraser Island (incl: accommodation, meals, ferry return, national park fees and touring) All meals as indicated / National Park Fees 4 Nights hostel accommodation in Cairns with continental breakfast. Optional 4 star hotel in Cairns. CALL



## BOOKING MADE EASY

Tropical Sails has a form on their website for clients to complete their booking information. [www.tropicalsails.com/eclipse/page10.html](http://www.tropicalsails.com/eclipse/page10.html)

Full Tour Bonus: Look for additional features as we approach selling out !  
Optional 4 star hotel in Cairns. CALL

## NORTHBOUND TOUR ALPHA



**Note flight from LAX arrives approximately 7:00 am**

### 01 Nov - Brisbane to Rainbow Beach

Our journey commences bright and early when we depart Brisbane. This morning we take a short break at the spectacular lookout at Wild Horse Mountain. Enjoy panoramic views of the Sunshine Coast overlooking Noosa and Mooloolaba, before arriving at Rainbow Beach; a vibrant young coastal town, with glistening coloured sands and a relaxed atmosphere.

In the afternoon we participate in a sea kayak trip to paddle amongst wild dolphins at Double Island Point. If you are lucky you may also see turtles and thousands of soldier crabs. This evening relax in our accommodation, located just 100 metres from the beach.

**Meals:** Dinner

### 02-03 Nov: Two Day Fraser Island 4wd Tour

Spend the next two days exploring Fraser Island on a ranger guided 4WD safari with Fraser Explorer, staying at Eurong Resort. You will drive along Seventy-Five Mile Beach, visit Lakes' Wabby and Mackenzie, Eli Creek, the Maheno Wreck and climb Indian Head. Return to Rainbow Beach for an overnight stay.

**Meals:** Day 2: Lunch, Dinner | Day 3: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### 04 Nov - Rainbow Beach to Kroombit Cattle Station

This morning take part in a cultural demonstration from your guide, learning about the didgeridoo, boomerang and spear throwing, and the Rainbow Serpent. After a few hours at Rainbow Beach we head inland through cattle country to Kroombit Cattle Station. Here we experience genuine outback living with the chance to ride a mechanical bull and take a walk of the property. Tonight you will taste a traditional camp oven dinner, cooked in the open fire.

**Meals:** Dinner

### 05 Nov - Kroombit Cattle Station

Today is jam-packed with wonderful activities also included in the price of your tour. Learn first-hand about Queensland farming life as you participate in a "muster" on horseback, try your skill at trap-shooting and witness a mini-rodeo as animals are herded into the ring. This evening enjoy another hearty camp-oven dinner and re-live your days experiences around the campfire with a beer from the bush bar.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### 06 Nov - Kroombit to Carnarvon Gorge

This morning, start the day with a hearty bush breakfast, before heading further inland through Central Queensland's remote outback to the little known jewel of Carnarvon National Park. Carnarvon Gorge, central to this park is a remarkable natural attraction with 30kms of walking trails, 200 species of birds, ancient plants and Aboriginal rock-art dating back 3,500 years. This afternoon we will get a taste of the gorge with a short walk amongst the numerous kangaroos and wallabies that inhabit the area. Camp overnight adjacent to Carnarvon National Park.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## 07 NOV - Carnarvon Gorge

Chances are that your sleep will be broken this morning by the many birds that live amongst trees surrounding the camp. After breakfast you will spend the full day hiking through the many walking trails scattered throughout this magnificent gorge. Walks are mostly of easy grade and therefore suitable for all ages and fitness levels, however the options are varied. You will see 500 year old cycads, grass trees and eucalypts, native wildlife and learn about the indigenous ancestors that inhabited this region for more than 3500 years. See the best examples of rock-art in Queensland, made from the ochre taken from the region. After a days exercise, you will return to your camp for a good nights sleep within this wilderness region.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## 08 Nov - Carnarvon Gorge to Airlie Beach

We start early today for our big drive from Carnarvon Gorge to the Mackay region. This is the first time we've hit the coast in four days and we now follow the coast to arrive at the Whitsunday gateway of Airlie Beach where we stay overnight.

**Meals:** Breakfast

## 09-11 Nov - Whitsunday Sailing, live-aboard

You will have the opportunity to sun-bathe, snorkel and swim whilst exploring the idyllic Whitsunday Islands on a yacht worth millions of dollars. Visit the many beaches, coves and islands on this two night sailing trip, with the opportunity to hoist the sails and even take the wheel. Note that you will sleep on the boat, moored in quiet coves. Cabins are share only; no twin and doubles for these two nights.

Back on land, we leave Airlie Beach and head to Townsville. From here we take the ferry to Magnetic Island, so named by Captain Cook because his compass went crazy when he sailed past in 1771. This evening, relax with a cold beer and watch the sunset from the beach bar of the only backpackers in Australia located right on the beach.

**Meals:** Day 9: Lunch, Dinner | Day 10: Breakfast, Lunch | Day 11: Breakfast

*Whitsunday Sailing does not include Environmental Management Charge (Reef Tax) and which are payable direct. Stinger suit hire AUD \$10-\$15*

## 12 Nov - Magnetic Island to Cairns

You will get up early for a morning hike before taking the ferry back to the mainland. Today includes a visit to the Johnstone River Crocodile Farm to learn more about the most feared animal in Northern Australia: the estuarine or saltwater crocodile. Learn how this prehistoric animal has survived and flourished in Australia's harsh north and see large crocodiles up close

and personal. From here, we stop at Babinda Boulders for a refreshing rainforest walk. As we arrive into Cairns, you will be able to cherish the many great experiences of Australia's East Coast. Overnight Cairns.

## 13 Nov - Cairns

Free day for optional touring.

Check out the following web site (nearer to the date) for what's happening in Cairns over these dates. Information about cairns eclipse festival

## 14 Nov - Cairns - Total Eclipse of the Sun

This will be the first opportunity to see a total eclipse from Australia since the South Australian eclipse of 2002. In 2012 the eclipse will be visible from North Queensland. The eclipse track will begin in the Gulf of Carpentaria, cut through Cape York and after moving out into the Coral Sea continue across the Pacific Ocean towards North America. Cairns is on the path of the eclipse and may be the best viewing spot. Totality will occur at 6.40am Eastern Standard Time with the Sun 14 degrees above the horizon. Totality will last just over two minutes.

## 16 Nov - Cairns

Day of Departure from Cairns.

## Tour Price

Price per Person: AUD\$3,295

**Twin Upgrade:** \$440 per person - 11 nights

*Note: Twin / double accommodation is not available whilst Whitsunday Sailing.*

*Tour subject to a \$25 Fraser Island fee & \$35 Whitsunday environmental fee.*

*A\$200 deposit, balance due 90 days prior to the trip.*



# SOUTHBOUND TOUR BETA

## 11 Nov 2012

Arrive Cairns, transfer at your own expense to your selected accommodation. Free day to explore Cairns at your leisure.

In : 11 NOV Out: 15 NOV 2012

Multi Shared Accommodation

## 12-13 Nov - Cairns

Free days in Cairns for optional touring

Check out the following web sites (nearer to the date) for what's happening in Cairns over these dates. Information about Cairns eclipse festival

## 14 Nov - Cairns - Total Eclipse of the Sun

This will be the first opportunity to see a total eclipse from Australia since the South Australian eclipse of 2002. In 2012 the eclipse will be visible from North Queensland. The eclipse track will begin in the Gulf of Carpentaria, cut through Cape York and after moving out into the Coral Sea continue across the Pacific Ocean towards North America. Cairns is on the path of the eclipse and may be the best viewing spot. Totality will occur at 6.40 am Eastern Standard Time with the Sun 14 degrees above the horizon. Totality will last just over two minutes.

## 15 Nov - Cairns to Magnetic Island

Leaving Cairns, we visit the Johnstone River Crocodile Farm to learn more about the most feared animal in Northern Australia; the estuarine or saltwater crocodile. Spend a couple of hours learning how this prehistoric animal has survived and flourished in Australia's harsh north and see large crocodiles up close and personal.

We then drive to Townsville where we take the ferry to Magnetic Island, so named by Captain Cook because his compass went crazy when he sailed past in 1770. This afternoon we take you back in time on the historical forts walk, keeping an eye out for the Koalas in their natural habitat and taking in the stunning panoramic views of the Coral Sea. This evening, relax with a cold beer and watch the sunset from the beach bar of the only backpackers in Australia located right on the beach.

## 16-18 Nov - Whitsunday Sailing

We jump aboard the ferry first thing this morning to

head back to the mainland. We soon reach Airlie Beach where the next adventure awaits – Whitsunday sailing. You will have the opportunity to sun-bathe, snorkel and swim whilst exploring the idyllic Whitsunday Islands on a million dollar yacht. Visit the many beaches, coves and islands on this two night sailing trip, with the opportunity to hoist the sails and even take the wheel. Note that you will sleep on the boat, moored in quiet coves. Cabins are share only; no twin and doubles

For these two nights. We disembark in the afternoon of Day 4 and stay overnight in Airlie Beach.

**Meals:** 16th: Breakfast, Dinner ; 17th: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner; 18th: Breakfast

*Whitsunday Sailing does not include Environmental Management Charge (Reef Tax) and which are payable direct. Stinger suit hire AUD \$10-\$15*

## 19 Nov - Airlie Beach to Carnarvon National Park

We start early today for our big drive to Carnarvon National Park. Carnarvon National Park is a little known jewel located in the remote Queensland outback and home to Carnarvon Gorge. This remarkable natural attraction features 30km of walking trails, 200 species of birds, ancient plants and Aboriginal rock-art dating back 3500 years.

Camp Overnight adjacent to Carnarvon National Park. (Tented Accommodation)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## 20 Nov - Carnarvon Gorge

Chances are that your sleep will be broken this morning by the many birds that live amongst the trees surrounding the camp. After breakfast you will spend the full day hiking through the many walking trails scattered throughout this magnificent gorge. Walks are mostly of easy grade and therefore suitable for all ages and fitness levels, however the options are varied. You will see 500 year old cycads, grass trees and eucalypts, native wildlife and learn about the indigenous ancestors that inhabited this region for more than 3500 years. See the best examples of rock-art in Queensland, made from the ochre taken from the region. After a days exercise, you will return to your camp for a good nights sleep within this wilderness region.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## 21 Nov - Carnarvon National Park to Kroombit Cattle Station

Today we travel through cattle country to Kroombit Cattle Station. Here we experience genuine outback living with the chance to ride a mechanical bull and take a walk of the property. Tonight you will taste a traditional camp oven dinner, cooked in the open fire.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## 22 Nov - Kroombit Cattle Station

Today is jam-packed with wonderful activities included in the price of your tour. Learn first-hand about Queensland farming life as you participate in a “goat muster” on horseback, try your skill at trap-shooting and be part of a mini-rodeo as animals are herded into the ring. This evening enjoy another hearty camp-oven dinner and re-live your day’s experiences around the campfire with a beer from the bush bar. Hostel accommodation based on multishare with facilities .

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## 23 Nov - Kroombit to Rainbow Beach

After a hearty breakfast we head eastwards to Rainbow Beach where we hit the coast for the first time in four days! Rainbow Beach is a vibrant young coastal town, with glistening coloured sands and a relaxed atmosphere. In the afternoon we can take a walk to view the coloured sands that give Rainbow its name, and learn about the Rainbow Serpent. We may also visit the spectacular Carlo Sand Blow. This evening relax in our accommodation, located just 100 meters from the beach.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## 24-25 Nov - 2 Day Fraser Island Tour (fee is payable upon arrival (\$22.00)).

Spend the next two days exploring Fraser Island on a ranger guided 4WD safari with Fraser Explorer, staying at Eurong Resort. You will drive along Seventy-Five Mile Beach, visit Lakes’ Wabby and Mackenzie, Eli Creek, the Maheno Wreck and climb Indian Head. Return to Rainbow Beach for an overnight stay.

**Meals:** 24th: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Day 11: Lunch, Dinner

## 26 Nov - Rainbow Beach to Brisbane

This morning we participate in a sea kayak trip to paddle amongst wild dolphins at Double Island Point. If

you are lucky you may also see turtles and thousands of soldier crabs. We then travel south and take a short break at the spectacular lookout at Wild Horse Mountain to enjoy panoramic views of the Sunshine Coast overlooking Noosa and Mooloolaba before continuing on to Brisbane.

End of touring.

Note: Brisbane to LAX flight leaves about noon. So you will have to stay over in Brisbane or perhaps travel on your own to Sydney.

## Tour Price

Price per Person: \$3,295

**Twin Upgrade:** \$440 per person - 11 nights

*Note: Twin / double accommodation is not available whilst Whitsunday Sailing.*

*Tour subject to a \$25 Fraser Island fee & \$35 Whitsunday environmental fee.*

*A\$200 deposit, balance due 90 days prior to the trip.*



## **NOT INCLUDED**

Pre and post accommodation and flights. Any optional activities, entrance fees, Reef Taxes.

### **Insurance**

Travel insurance is NOT included; we strongly recommend that passengers have their own travel insurance against illness, injury, loss/damage to personal belongings

### **Luggage**

Due to limited space on all our Vehicles, a strict limit of 15 kgs per passenger is applied. If our guides feel the luggage is too heavy, (Guides Health & Safety) groups may have to make their own arrangements to transport the luggage to their final destination. Surplus luggage can be towed in our carryall trailer. It may not be accessible every day.

### **Group participation Tours**

This is a group participation tour (preparing food, cooking, collecting fire wood, washing dishes etc.)

### **Children on Tour**

All Children under the age of 18 years of age are not permitted to travel unless they are accompanied by an adult, group leader, teacher or youth worker.

### **Meals on tour**

Emphasis is on fresh food wherever possible and our meals are nutritious and varied. If you are vegetarian or gluten intolerant we can cater for you, but if you have very specific dietary this will need to be advised. Example menu: Breakfast - cereals, toast, tea and coffee. Lunch - sandwich and cold salads; Dinners – Cooked meals. We always carry water in the vehicle and plenty of drinks, ice-creams etc stops (own expense) along the way.

### **Can I smoke and drink in the vehicle?**

Australian Government regulations prohibit smoking and the drinking of alcohol inside tourist vehicles in Australia.

### **On tour**

To show respect for your tour guide and fellow passengers please turn your mobile phone and/or Ipad off during the day and do not talk during your guides commentary they are there to show you this amazing country and they enjoy sharing their knowledge and love of the area.

### **Deposits and Final Payments**

A deposit of A\$200 per person, is required upon booking. Balance payable 90 days prior to departure.

### **Cancellation Policy**

A Cancellation must be in writing

- Cancellation within 90 days of departure – 10% cancellation fee
- Cancellation within 60 days of departure – 20% cancellation fee
- Cancellation within 42 days of departure – 40% cancellation fee
- Cancellation of within 28 days of departure – 60% cancellation fee
- Cancellation of within 14 days of departure – 100% cancellation fee

