

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF DRIVE

1 DAY ITINERARY

UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURE



Take one of the world's great coastal drives, winding between World Heritage areas and stopping to taste adventure, timeless culture and a glorious tropical lifestyle!



REX LOOKOUT

Pull over and take in the 180 degree vista of the Coral Sea with views of Double Island to the south. Watch the hang gliders as they take off from this cliff face and get a birds eye view of the fringing reefs below.



FOUR MILE BEACH

Walk to Flagstaff Hill Lookout and admire the stunning coastline, complete with views to Low Isles, Snapper Island and the dramatic mountain ranges behind Port Douglas. Relax on pristine, palm-fringed sands which stretch as far as the eye can see.



GREAT BARRIER REEF

Port Douglas is the closest departure point to the Great Barrier Reef and from here you can choose from full and half day outer reef and Low Isles tours. Alternatively, find a luxury sailing experience or adventure tour from Cape Tribulation.



MOSSMAN GORGE

Surrounded by dense rainforest and steep mountains, the cool, crystal waters of the gorge invite you to take a dip.



ALEXANDRA LOOKOUT

Walu Wugirriga, pronounced wah-lu oo-gid-ee-gah, means 'look about'. Also known as Mount Alexandra, the lookout boasts breathtaking views of the Daintree coast, including the Daintree River, Snapper Island, Port Douglas and beyond.



CAPE TRIBULATION

The only place in the world where the dual World Heritage areas of the Daintree Rainforest and Great Barrier Reef collide, is nothing short of spectacular and a perfect climax to the completion of the Great Barrier Reef Drive.

WEATHER

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max (°C)	30	30	30	28	27	25	25	25	27	28	30	30
Min (°C)	24	24	23	22	20	18	17	17	19	21	22	23

Photos courtesy of Tourism Events Queensland

CAIRNS TO CAPE TRIBULATION - NORTH BOUND

DISTANCE 140km **DURATION** 2h 40 min

STOPS: Ellis Beach, Wangetti, Mossman Gorge, Alexandra Lookout, Marrdja Boardwalk, Cape Tribulation

Heading north from Cairns along the Captain Cook Highway you embark on the Great Barrier Reef Drive, 140km of the most scenic coastline in Australia. Wind your way from Palm Cove to the palm-fringed sands of picturesque Ellis Beach, a tiny seaside hub.

Take a moment to admire the beauty of the deserted beaches or continue towards Wangetti Beach, where you will discover an unspoilt coastline stretching as far as the eye can see. As you journey further north, Coral Sea views are replaced with lush green cane fields surrounding the quaint township of Mossman.

Stay awhile to uncover Mossman Gorge, rich in Indigenous culture and breathtaking beauty. Learn about the traditional values of the Kuku Yalanji people who call the Daintree Rainforest home as you explore emerald rainforest pools peppered with granite boulders.

The journey continues along vast sugar cane fields before turning right at the Daintree Gateway towards the Daintree Rainforest. Take the cable ferry across the Daintree River and enter the world's oldest living rainforest. Stop at the Walu Wugirriga Lookout (Alexandra Range Lookout), pausing to admire sweeping views of the mouth of the Daintree River and islands beyond as the Aboriginal name of this place, 'look about', suggests.

As you wind your way through the ancient surroundings of the Daintree Rainforest, take time to picnic beside hidden cascades, refresh in a crystal-clear swimming hole or recharge with a stroll along a beautiful rainforest boardwalk.

The Great Barrier Reef Drive culminates at Cape Tribulation, as you take a short boardwalk from the carpark through rainforest and emerge onto the beach. Here you have arrived at your final destination, standing between the dual World Heritage areas of the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest.

CAPE TRIBULATION TO CAIRNS - SOUTH BOUND

DISTANCE 140km **DURATION** 2h 40 min

STOPS: Jindalba Broadwalk, Daintree River, Port Douglas, Pebbly Beach, Rex Lookout, Palm Cove

The 35 kilometres from Cape Tribulation to the Daintree Ferry meanders past vanilla & tea farms, tropical fruit ice creameries, interpretive boardwalks, rainforest attractions and secluded beaches. The Daintree is filled with truly unique and rare wildlife and is home to over 430 bird species, best spotted on a relaxing Daintree River cruise.

50km south of the Daintree River follow the palm-fringed road as it guides you towards the iconic Port Douglas village, alive with restaurants and boutique shopping. Stop for a coffee or lunch at one of 60 restaurants before heading to Rex Smeal Park or Flagstaff Hill lookout for views to Low Isles and Four Mile Beach.

As the sun begins to fade, there is no better time to take a moment to enjoy a golden sunset from Rex Lookout. Delight in spectacular 180-degree views over the Coral Sea and watch the hang-gliders sail high about the mountainside. Don't forget to capture that iconic holiday photograph and breathe in the fresh ocean air.

As the journey draws to an end take one last stop at Palm Cove, a perfect place to relax and enjoy a waterfront sundowner along the Melaleuca lined esplanade. Reflect on the day as you walk the palm-fringed beach and take in the vista to Double Island and beyond.

OUR TIP: You won't regret taking more time to enjoy the unique destinations and activities along the GBR Drive. The small yet chic seaside town of Port Douglas offers a variety of accommodation, tours, shopping, dining and much more. Or if seclusion in nature is your preference, check into a Daintree Rainforest retreat in Mossman and Daintree Village, or stay right on the beach at Cape Tribulation.

