

Rainforest Discovery, Wujal Wujal, Cooktown & Quinkan Rock Art Regional Experience

Self-Drive - Mungumby Lodge, Rainforest Discovery, Wujal Wujal, Helenvale Cooktown & Quinkan Aboriginal Guided Rock Art - 3 days

Day 1 (Cairns | Mungumby Lodge | 305km)

Driving north from Cairns via Mareeba takes you past Kuranda out into the dry country with expansive views of the Tablelands. Driving via the coast past Trinity, Palm Cove, Ellis Beach and Port Douglas & Mossman offers stunning views of the coast and Coral Sea. Both of these routes eventually travel up hill (West) into the hinterland either at Smithfield or Mossman, then the Mulligan Highway. Mt Carbine, a small mining village where they mine a steel hardener called Wolfram. From here the country opens out to the true Aussie outback. The roads are straight and offer expansive views of the surrounding region.

The road is undulating across the Mitchel watershed until the Byerstown Range where it drops down to the Lakeland volcanic basin. Driving into Lakeland there are public toilets, a road house, a general store and the pub. Lakeland has benefited from the sealing of the roads as it now boasts one of the country's biggest Banana production regions. It has become the Renewable energyhub of Cape York and has 60,000 solar panel farm. At the general store located behind the pub on the left (traveling north), they offer excellent meals & locally grown Laura coffee, which is roasted on site.

From Lakeland along the Mulligan Highway, it is only 35 minutes until you reach the cool of the rainforest. It is recommended if travelling late afternoon that you watch as there are many of Wallabies (morning and evening) and prolific bird life. This is due to the large tracts of water that travel through this part of the country in the wet season resulting in massive wetland areas on nearby stations, so at certain times of the year the birds are everywhere. To see these however you will need to slow down open the windows and keep your eyes peeled.

At the Little Annan River causeway crossing, you will see a sign for Mungumby Lodge. The next turn right is Shiptons Flat Road, where there will be directional signs to Mungumby Lodge & Rossville, Bloomfield, Lion's Den Hotel. Turn right into Shiptons Flat Road (sealed) drive until Sandy Creek and onward. At Sandy Creek you will be able to see ahead, a large sign with flags and the Mungumby Road turn off. Turn left into Mungumby Road. Mungumby road is 4kms of unsealed road and the lodge is at the very end of the road. Try and arrive at the lodge in time for a walk to the waterfalls for a cool dip in the jungle pools or stroll one of the lodge nature trails along the magnificent Mungumby Creek.

Drive time from- Cairns 3.5 hours | Mossman 2.5 hours | Mareeba 3 hours

o/n MUNGUMBY LODGE

Australian Pacific Lodges Pty Ltd
388 Mungumby Rd, Helenvale via Cooktown, Cape York, QLD, Australia, 4895.
T: +61 7 4060 3158 - relax@mungumby.com - www.mungumby.com
ABN 25 095 040 613 Directors: - Hamish & Isabella Haslop



Day 2 (Mungumby | Cooktown | Mungumby | 64 kms)
(Breakfast & 2hr Rainforest discovery walk)

Woken by the birds, breakfast at Mungumby Lodge is a tranquil affair to yummy fresh tropical fruits, soft boiled eggs a selection of breads, cereals and juices. Today you can take it easy and enjoy this unique region. Your day begins with a rainforest discovery walk at 09.00 where your guide introduces you to the wonders of the ancient rainforest, the plant and insect symbiotic relationships and other unique features of this old world rainforest. With 4 distinct Aboriginal groups, this region plays host to an enormous range of stories and life living off the land.

Heading out from Mungumby Lodge towards Cooktown, a stop at Black Mountain National Park will reveal the mystic legends and Aboriginal folk lore of the 260 million year old Black Mountains. Further on towards Cooktown a visit to Keating's lagoon offers bird watchers a full selection of migrating birds that frequent this wetland area and bird hide. On to Cooktown and Grassy Hill light house with its expansive 360 degree views over the northern section of Australia's Great Barrier Reef Coast and to the West reaching far into the Quinkan country. The foreshore of Cooktown with its monuments pays tribute to early explorers' courage and the Cooktown cemetery with history written on the stones and Chinese shrines, or the Miribilli wall telling traditional stories of Aboriginal ancestors.

A visit to the James Cook Museum opens a history treasure chest show casing the pioneering of Cape York and its cultural origins (opening times and days vary). The Botanic Gardens and Natures Power House interpretation centre is a good spot for enjoying the bird song and lunch. Browse the book store or the gallery of former local artist Vera Scarth-Johnson. The surrounding Botanic gardens are a top presentation of botanic species collected by Joseph Banks & Solander from the HMB Endeavour some 250 years earlier.

The surrounding region south of Cooktown hosts a diverse range of flora & fauna and show cases some of Queensland's best frontier history. Return back to the lodge in time for a walk to the waterfalls for a cool dip in the jungle or stroll one of the lodge nature trails along the magnificent Mungumby Creek.

Mungumby - Cooktown 35 mins each way.

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Day 3 or day 4 (Mungumby-Laura 118 km | Quinkan Aboriginal guided tour 3 hrs. (May-Nov), return south
(Breakfast & picnic lunch & 3hr Aboriginal guided tour)

Today you travel to a totally different geographical region along the secondary gold route to the Palmer Goldfields. Here the land is frequently parched dry; the Eucalyptus trees become common; intermingled with termite mounds and sandstone escarpments into the Quinkan country. At Laura's Quinkan Cultural Centre you will meet your guide and the centre manager for an insight to the regions history and culture.

The Quinkan Aboriginal guided tour departs from the Quinkan Cultural Centre at Laura. These galleries are acknowledged as being the most highly regarded rock art in the region. The sites are highly significant and sacred to the Aboriginal people of the area. This is a premium tour and has a strict limit on the number of people per year to have the privilege of viewing this magnificent and beautiful site. By far the recommended choice in Queensland and offers multiple caves of stunning visual stories.

A picnic lunch can be taken under the Mango Trees to the sound of Gala's and Black Cockatoos. After lunch you can head to Split Rock to view the Aboriginal rock art galleries within the sand stone escarpments. On the return drive to Lakeland a look out for some of the migrating and endemic bird life. Red Tail Black Cockatoos, Australian Bustards, Australian Hobbies, Grey Goshawk, Red Shouldered parrots, Wedge Tail Eagles, Golden Shouldered Parrots, Raj Ducks and numerous other water birds in the creek beds and surrounds. At Lakeland turn south direction Mareeba.

Drive time from- Mungumby Laura 1.15 hr. | Laura-Lakeland 45 mins.

2 night 3 day regional experience end

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Day 3 optional insert if booked as a 3 night stay. (Day 3 above then becomes day 4)
(Mungumby |Wujal Wujal |Helenvale | Mungumby | 64km)
(Breakfast)

This day is another opportunity to explore the regions diverse landscape and Aboriginal experiences. At your leisure drive south towards Rossville & Bloomfield, a pleasant drive on sealed roads descending down through some magnificent ancient rainforest all the way to the coast. Ayton has the Black Cockatoo Art Gallery, an IGA Express store and takeaway, Escape Cafe. Bloomfield has an Aboriginal school, a wharf both set on the banks of the mighty Bloomfield River.

At the Aboriginal village of Wujal Wujal, we encourage you to stop at the general store and buy a piece of fruit or a drink to meet the locals as the store is in the centre of the township. Driving along the banks for the Bloomfield River there is the Bana Yirriji Art and Cultural Centre a professional gallery space which offers visitors a taste of what Wujal Wujal Aboriginal artists have to offer. A beehive of pottery, printmaking, jewelry and other arts workshop areas showcase the artists at work – a fantastic opportunity to get to know each individual as they put their creativity in motion. As a facility that promotes and supports artists and cultural development in the region, you won't be disappointed with this neat package of arts and cultural learning. Open Mon-Fri excluding public holidays. Whilst down this way there don't miss Weary Bay! Weary Bay named by Cook is an open 9km long bay, at the mouth of the Bloomfield River where you'll often find the locals wetting a line. The beautiful Weary Bay Beach is an ideal spot for a blissful stroll along the loamy sand or even a picnic. Access is via Weary Bay Road next to Bloomfield Escape.

Heading back north on the same route you have earlier driven, be sure to stop and take in the ancient rainforest clad mountains that surround this stunning drive. After Rossville at Helenvale you will find the infamous Lion's Den Hotel. Cold beers and tall yarns are in order as this is one of Queensland's oldest pubs first opened in 1875.

Drive time from - Mungumby Lodge | Wujal Wujal | 45 mins each way

o/n MUNGUMBY LODGE (when 3 nights booked)

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DAYS OF OPERATION: 1st May – 30th Nov only | 7 Days (M-S) Excluding All Public Holidays
Price does not include vehicle hire

ARRIVALS: Cairns Airport.

RETAIL
Twin/double/ share **AUD\$546.00 pp** extra night **AUD\$139.50.00 pp**
Child with 2 parents **AUD \$388.00 pc** extra night **AUD \$103.00 pc**
Triple Share **AUD \$473.00 pp** extra night **AUD \$139.50 pp**
Child twin share **AUD \$461.00 pc** extra night **AUD \$103.00 pc**
Single Supplement **AUD \$ POA**

Meals included – 2 x tropical breakfasts (also included in the extra night rate), 1 x picnic lunch
Tours included – 1 x Aboriginal guided Quinkan Rock Galleries Tour taken at Laura (3hrs) 09.30
1 x Rainforest Discovery walk (2hrs) 09.00–11.00 at Mungumby Lodge

PACLAGE CODE: RQRARE | not suitable for child under 6 y.o

PRICE EXCLUDES: Items of a personal nature, meals not listed. Beverages, James Cook Museum entry fee

EXPERIENCE WRAP DEPARTURES 2019/2021: Tours included operate minimum 2 pax – 1st May – Nov 30th except public holidays. Cooktown & Mungumby Lodge are accessible 12 months of the year. In the possible event of adverse weather or sorry business closures, Australian Pacific Lodges reserve the right to change the itinerary and Aboriginal component to an equivalent component. In such an event, clients will be contracted locally by lodge staff prior to their departure so their email or accommodation house prior to arrival will need to be provided Wholesaler & ITO will be advised also. Itineraries are subject to last minute change due to weather conditions and Aboriginal Land sorry business closures. Guest contact details or place of earlier stay are required so in the unlikely event of this happening they can be contacted prior.

TERMS OF TRADE: – All bookings are subject to availability, itinerary is to remain as stated within. Bookings once confirmed can be changed, but a \$15 fee per change is added to the final invoice. Cancellations up until **48 hours prior to travel** are 100% refundable. Cancellations **within 48 hours are subject to 100% cancellation fee**. Full payment is due no later than **14 days post arrival** to date of confirmed travel for bookings made directly. Late payments attract an admin fee. **NB:** In the event of the Aboriginal Rock Art out being cancelled not being able to be replaced, this component will be refunded from the final invoice.

NB:- On Sundays most things are closed in our region as we are remote. The Mungumby Restaurant serves breakfast 7 days, dinner is available 6 nights, but not available on Sunday nights. On Sunday dinner can be taken at the Lion's Den Hotel 5 km away.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT:

The following items of clothing and equipment are recommended for this trip:

Comfortable walking boots/shoes (with a good tread/non-slip sole), Light-weight shirt (long sleeved for sun protection), Sports or running shoes, Shorts, T-shirts, Swimwear, Cotton or synthetic athletic socks, Light-weight sweater or sweat shirt, Sunglasses, Sunscreen and sun-blocking lip balm, Light hat wide brim or peaked cap, Camera, and batteries, binoculars (optional) Personal water bottle which can easily be refilled (optional), Waterproof jacket, light-weight Warm pullover or jacket (May-Sep)

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