

# Townsville North Queensland Adventure Travel Guide



  
**Townsville**  
**North Queensland**  
*Alive with curiosity*

City | Island | Reef | Outback | Rainforest | Wetlands

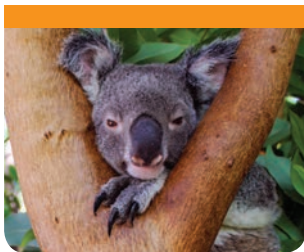
[www.townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au](http://www.townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au)



# Welcome to Townsville North Queensland

Go diving on the Great Barrier Reef and get dusty in the Queensland Outback. Trek through lush rainforest and browse the markets in a bustling city.

Make friends with some cute Australian animals and have a beer with some not so cute locals at an iconic Aussie pub. The Townsville North Queensland region is a must see destination while discovering Australia.



## Contents

Discover Townsville	1
Townsville's Iconic Experiences	2
Townsville CBD Map	4
Magnetic Island Map	10
Discover Magnetic Island	11
Magnetic Island 'Must Dos'	12
Discover the Great Barrier Reef	16
Discover Rainforest & Waterfalls	19
Discover the Outback	22
Agricultural Adventures	24
Plan Your Trip	25

## Your Townsville North Queensland Bucket List

- Check out the views from the top of Castle Hill
- Explore Magnetic Island
- Say 'cheese' with a koala
- Take a stroll along The Strand
- Pan for gold in Charters Towers
- Hike through World Heritage listed rainforest
- Swim in crystal clear creeks
- Party on Flinders Street
- Walk the iconic Burdekin Bridge
- Be inspired by Wallaman Falls – Australia's tallest sheer drop waterfall
- Get wild at a Full Moon Down Under Party
- Dive the Great Barrier Reef





## Discover Townsville

Warm sunny days, relaxed vibes and friendly locals make Townsville in North Queensland a great place to chill out during your east coast adventure. The perfect stop between Airlie Beach and Cairns, Townsville is a busy metropolitan centre and the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, tropical islands, the Australian Outback, wetlands and heritage listed rainforest.

While you're in Townsville the choices are endless. Enjoy a gelato on The Strand beachfront, explore parks and gardens, shop and eat in the CBD, catch the latest movie or dance the night away on Flinders Street East. With 300 days of sunshine a year, world class tours and attractions and a huge calendar of events and entertainment, Townsville is a must stop city on your tour Down Under!





## Townsville's Iconic Experiences

### The Strand

Townsville's famous foreshore, The Strand, is the perfect place to hang out during your visit. Stretching 2.5km and offering views to Magnetic Island, The Strand is a favourite for locals and visitors. BBQ facilities, swimming enclosures, freshwater showers, a waterpark and waterfront dining make this an obvious place to visit.



### Castle Hill

Become the king or queen of the castle when you stand at the top of Townsville's iconic pink granite monolith, Castle Hill. The lookout points serve as the perfect place to orientate yourself with the city. Take the easy drive to the top for stunning panoramic views of Magnetic Island and Townsville, or challenge yourself and join the 2,500 locals that run and walk up the Hill every day – if you're up for it.

### Queens Gardens

A short walk from the CBD and The Strand, Queens Gardens are the oldest Botanic Gardens in Townsville. Covering four hectares, the Gardens are a lush green oasis set against Castle Hill, offering a quiet, cool retreat from the nearby city centre. Other 'must see' gardens in Townsville include Anderson Gardens and the Palmetum.

### Riverway

Two huge swimming lagoons, parklands, a performance and arts centre and a sports stadium, all situated on the banks of the Ross River. The Riverway precinct is the perfect place to cool off and enjoy the great outdoor lifestyle that North Queensland is famous for.

### Jezzine Barracks

Jezzine Barracks was home to Australian Military Units for over 120 years and has now been redeveloped into a beautiful public space that includes public art, gardens, lookouts and a boardwalk that connects the popular Strand to Pallarenda beach front.

### Townsville CBD

The Townsville CBD is growing its reputation as a centre for fashion, food and entertainment. You can enjoy boutique shopping, alfresco dining and regular local markets, held every Sunday morning on Flinders Street. Make the most of the free Wi-Fi in Flinders Square, and pop in to see the Volunteers at the Visitor Information Centre – your best source of local information.

### Party on Flinders!

Dust off your dancing shoes and get the party started! Revellers looking for a big night out should look no further than Flinders Street East. The strip boasts an eclectic mix of restaurants, nightclubs, pubs and wine bars. The strip is the nightlife precinct of the city and a hot spot for travellers and locals to meet for an evening out. Friday and Saturday nights are the busiest!



## Your Townsville Itinerary

### Day 1

Become a king or queen. Walk or drive to the top of Castle Hill, taking in the panoramic views of Magnetic Island and Townsville – everything the light touches is yours! Cool off with a swim and gelato on The Strand – be sure to check out Jezzine Barracks too.

### Day 2

Discover the Great Barrier Reef in the heart of the CBD at Reef HQ Aquarium, before taking your own trip to the reef. Dive into the history of the SS Pandora at the Museum of Tropical Queensland or cuddle

a koala and hold a python at Billabong Sanctuary. Sssssweet!

### Day 3

Explore Townsville in style! Take a ride with Crikey Trikey Joy Rides and see the city from a new perspective. Learn of Townsville's military history with Townsville Military Tours or enjoy the markets in Flinders Street – local produce, arts and craft and home made goodies every Sunday!

*Plan your own itinerary online:*  
[townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au](http://townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au)





## BILLABONG SANCTUARY



Billabong Sanctuary is Australia's best interactive wildlife experience. Get up close and personal with Aussie wildlife – hold a koala, hug a wombat, wrap yourself in a python, hold a crocodile and watch feeding of giant saltwater crocodiles. Explore habitats of rainforest, eucalypt forest and wetlands. Free-ranging kangaroos will hop up to you, eager to be hand fed. At the wildlife talks, you will learn about the unusual characteristics of Australian animals.

**07 4778 8344**

**[www.billabongsanctuary.com.au](http://www.billabongsanctuary.com.au)**

17km south of Townsville on Highway One

# Townsville CBD Map



## CRIQUEY TRIKEY JOY RIDES



A Crikey Trikey Joy Ride is the best way to enjoy the sights of Townsville. Take in the 360° views of the city while enjoying the freedom of a trike. Don't miss this unforgettable experience while you're in Townsville - it's awesome! Free pick up from your city accommodation. 1) Cruise the CBD along The Strand and up to Castle Hill Lookout 938ft. Mention this ad for the special price of \$90 (1 or 2 passengers). 2) Mount Stuart Lookout 1916ft \$120. 3) Combined package \$190.

0432 902 039  
[www.crikeytrikeyjoyrides.com.au](http://www.crikeytrikeyjoyrides.com.au)  
Townsville, QLD 4810

## MUSEUM OF TROPICAL QUEENSLAND



Situated in the city centre, the Museum of Tropical Queensland showcases life in the tropics from dinosaurs to modern day. The new Colour: Secret Language of the Reef exhibition explores how corals and marine creatures use colour and light to communicate. Learn how to fire a ship's cannon and relive one of the greatest tales of maritime adventure with the tragic sinking of the HMS Pandora. Free activities and tours every day.

**07 4726 0600**

**[www.mtq.qm.qld.gov.au](http://www.mtq.qm.qld.gov.au)**

70-102 Flinders Street, Townsville, QLD 4810

## REEF HQ AQUARIUM



Discover the beauty and wonder of the Great Barrier Reef at Reef HQ Aquarium, home to the world's largest living coral reef aquarium. Reef HQ Aquarium will open your eyes to an amazing world filled with thousands of charismatic marine creatures. Immerse yourself in the underwater viewing tunnel offering magical views of a living coral reef and the predators that prowl the watery depths or experience a creature feature workshop offering a 'hands on' encounter.

**07 4750 0800**

**[www.reefHQ.com.au](http://www.reefHQ.com.au)**

2-68 Flinders Street, Townsville, QLD 4810



## PIE FACE

pie face  
BAKERY CAFÉ



We make pies with funny little faces on them. They're damn tasty and we're serious when it comes to premium ingredients, like lean Aussie beef and artisan-inspired puff pastry. With hand-piped faces and baked fresh in-store, no two pies are the same! We're really serious about coffee too, with trained baristas using award winning coffee beans, we have four different strengths to suit every taste. Open 24/7!

**07 4724 3926**

**[www.pieface.com.au](http://www.pieface.com.au)**

221 Flinders St, Townsville, QLD 4810

## TOWNSVILLE MILITARY TOURS



Are you curious enough to discover Townsville's Military History? Townsville Military Tours Australia offers a personalised, unique and interactive tour that connects with the rich history and culture that surrounds the Australian Military. With the help of knowledgeable guides, discover the inspiring true stories that forged our heritage. More than a tour - it is a journey of discovery. Our Tours operate five days a week, direct online bookings are available.

**0408 555 887**

**[www.militarytours.com.au](http://www.militarytours.com.au)**

Townsville, QLD 4810

## HOLIDAY INN TOWNSVILLE



Holiday Inn Townsville is centrally located in the heart of the Townsville CBD. The hotel is within walking distance to popular walking tracks and the picturesque Strand Waterfront. Be adventurous and book a scenic flight over the city, explore beautiful Magnetic Island or go scuba diving on the Yongala Wreck, these are just a few options available in Townsville. With great accommodation and a Visitor Information Centre on the door step, Holiday Inn Townsville is the hotel for you.

**07 4729 2000**

**[www.holidayinn.com.au/townsville](http://www.holidayinn.com.au/townsville)**

334 Flinders St, Townsville, QLD 4810

## ORCHID GUEST HOUSE



Looking for a cosy place to stay in Townsville? Check out Orchid Guest House for a home-like atmosphere with clean and comfortable facilities. Relax in the tropical gardens or walk 600m to the main street or night life. There are a variety of airconditioned rooms, including a 3 or 4 bed dorm, twin/double rooms and two ensuites. A self-contained flattete is ideal for families or groups. Free WiFi, washing machine and parking. Pick up by arrangement from bus, train or ferry.

**07 4771 6683**

**[www.orchidguesthouse.com.au](http://www.orchidguesthouse.com.au)**

34 Hale Street, Townsville, QLD 4810

## REEF LODGE BACKPACKERS



Townsville's most centrally located backpackers' hostel. Rated as pick of the bunch on Lonely Planet. Only a 500m walk to the ferry terminal, beach and city centre. ReefHQ, Cultural Centre and Museum of Tropical Queensland are just down the road. We offer dormitory as well as private rooms at reasonable prices. We also offer a large communal kitchen, games/gym room, internet, laundry, BBQ and two TV areas. Present this ad and save 10% - direct bookings.

**07 4721 1112**

**[www.reeflodge.com.au](http://www.reeflodge.com.au)**

4 Wickham St, Townsville, QLD 4810

## ROWES BAY CARAVAN PARK



Premier beachfront outlook with picturesque views of Magnetic Island. A short distance from the popular Strand, City Centre and golf course with public bus route on our doorstep. Camp sites with a fully equipped camp kitchen and BBQ as well as budget accommodation available. Unwind around the resort pool or maybe a game of tennis. Visit our website for ALL our facilities and activities to do whilst in Townsville.

**07 4771 3576**

**[www.rowsbaycp.com.au](http://www.rowsbaycp.com.au)**

Heatley's Parade, Rows Bay, Townsville, QLD 4810

# Magnetic Island Map



## BUNGALOW BAY KOALA VILLAGE



Bungalow Bay is a large, friendly, clean and stylish YHA backpacker's hostel, set in the heart of the National Park on Magnetic Island. This multi-award winning hostel is easily accessible from Townsville and just a short walk from some of the most beautiful beaches on Magnetic Island. Complete with its own boutique Koala Sanctuary on site you will be treated to personalised wildlife tours and breakfast with the animals.

**07 4778 5577**

**[www.bungalowbay.com.au](http://www.bungalowbay.com.au)**

40 Horseshoe Bay Road, Magnetic Island



## Discover Magnetic Island

Just a short ferry ride from Townsville, Magnetic Island is a tropical paradise that slows down time. If you're looking for a place to put your feet up and chill, bask in the sun and enjoy the great outdoors then Magnetic Island is ideal. Do not despair though, the Island still provides the opportunity for a big night out if you're up for it!

Magnetic Island is two-thirds protected national park and is home to some amazing adventures that are guaranteed to make you wish you could stay longer. The Island has 25km of walking tracks, guiding visitors from bay to bay through bushlands of dry wattles and eucalyptus to pockets of rainforest or via the many coastal walks around the Island. The Island's National Park is also home to Northern Australia's largest colony of wild koalas and many rock wallabies. Bush walks allow native animals to be viewed up close in their natural habitats – you can even hand feed the wild rock wallabies.



### Getting There and Around

Magnetic Island is only 20 minutes on the SeaLink Queensland ferry from Townsville, with 18 return services a day and secure car parking available right next to the terminal. If you want to bring your own vehicle the Fantasea Cruising Magnetic Barge offers eight return services every day. Once on the Island, the public bus service makes tripping around a breeze. Alternatively, you can hire a scooter, colourful topless car or baby four wheel drive.



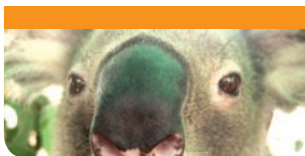


## Magnetic Island 'Must-Dos'

### In and On the Water

Explore Magnetic Island from the water. Various boats offer day trips and snorkelling as well as sunset sails, reef trips, diving charters, sea kayaking, sailing and fishing charters and other water activities.

23 beaches and bays leave swimmers spoilt for choice on Magnetic Island. The most popular beaches for taking a dip are Horseshoe, Alma and Picnic Bays. Be mindful of stingers in the summer months from November to May – stinger suits are available for hire across the Island. Safe swimming enclosures are located at Horseshoe and Picnic Bays.



### Hand Feed Rock Wallabies

Get up close and personal with the Island's resident population of rock wallabies. Purchase wallaby food at the Arcadia Newsagency and take the short walk to the old car ferry terminal at Geoffrey Bay. The best time of day to see the wallabies is late afternoon. Please do not feed them human food. Careful, they are really cute.

### Snorkel Fringing Reef

Florence, Radical and Arthur Bays allow snorkelers an opportunity to walk off the beach and discover the fringing reefs. Visitors can also explore the snorkel trails at Nelly and Geoffrey Bays – look out for the WWII aeroplane propeller in Geoffrey Bay and the giant clams along the way.

### The Famous Forts Walk

The Forts Walk is the best place on Magnetic Island to see a koala in the wild. Go early in the morning or late in the afternoon to increase your chances of spotting these cuddly creatures. Make sure you take your camera, the 360 degree views at the top and the WWII fortifications along the way make for some great photographs.

### Koala Tip!

Koalas sleep during the day, so you're going to need a keen eye to spot one of these cuddly creatures! Some tell-tale signs include koala droppings, trees stripped of leaves and a grey furry thing asleep in the fork of the tree. If you do see one, draw an arrow on the track so other walkers don't miss out on seeing it as well.

### Toad Races

If you would rather spectate than participate, head to the toad races held every Wednesday night at Hotel Arcadia. Lay your bets as Magnetic Island's finest toads try to make it across the line first.

### Horse Riding on the Beach

Have yourself a horseback adventure in Horseshoe Bay. Take your horse for a swim in the cool, clear waters of the Bay and enjoy the scenic beauty and wildlife along the way.



### Party 'til Sun Up

Those looking to party should head to the monthly Full Moon Down Under Party held at Base Magnetic Island. Join locals and internationals, in crowds of up to 2,500, dancing on the beach until dawn to the sounds of internationally renowned DJs. If you miss the full Moon Party, both Base and Bungalow Bay have bars open til late.

### Go Topless!

A visit to Magnetic Island isn't complete without hiring a topless car. These iconic vehicles are a great way to see the Island, and a whole lot of fun to drive.

Speaking of topless, the Island is also home to a couple of nudist beaches – you can find those for yourself.

## Your Magnetic Island Itinerary

### Day 1

Explore the Island's most popular spots with a hire car or scooter, by bus or on foot! Visit the popular Nelly, Picnic, Alma and Horseshoe Bays. Buy some wallaby food from the Arcadia Newsagency and feed the friendly rock wallabies at the old car ferry terminal at Geoffrey Bay. No, you cannot take one home!

### Day 2

Get friendly with the locals! Head up the popular Forts Walk for your chance to spot a koala – early morning or late afternoon is best. Purchase a swim card from a local retailer and get wet on the Snorkel Trails at Geoffrey and Nelly Bays.

You will have the chance to discover giant clams, live coral and even a WWII plane propeller.

### Day 3

Uncover hidden beaches, bays and even shipwrecks when you jump aboard a charter. Exploring Magnetic Island by water is a great way to see the Island's beauty. Head to Hotel Arcadia at 8:00pm every Wednesday night for Magnetic Island's famous toad races, or Bungalow Bay Koala Village for Coconut Bowling on a Thursday night.

*Plan your own itinerary online:* [townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au](http://townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au)



## BASE BACKPACKERS



Every day of the month, on the shores of Magnetic Island in Townsville North Queensland, Base Backpackers is full of peace, love and party from sunrise to dark. Dancing, entertainment, games, island tours or chilling out with a cocktail on the deck there's something here for everyone. Campgrounds, dorms, our industry setting female only sanctuary dorms or our private ensuited cabins - we've got all tastes and budgets covered.

**07 4778 5777**

**[www.stayatbase.com](http://www.stayatbase.com)**

Nelly Bay Road, Magnetic Island, QLD 4819

## FANTASEA CRUISING MAGNETIC



Take in the stunning views while cruising on Magnetic Island's only car & passenger ferry service! With eight return trips daily, we welcome you aboard Fantasea as we make our way to Magnetic Island where you can enjoy magnificent weather, azure waters, brilliant beaches, fascinating flora and fauna, fine food and wines, and activities almost too numerous to mention.

**07 4796 9300**

**[www.fantaseacruisingmagnetic.com.au](http://www.fantaseacruisingmagnetic.com.au)**

Ross St, South Townsville, QLD 4810



## SEALINK QUEENSLAND – FERRY



Only 8km off the coast of Townsville, Magnetic Island is an island paradise only a 20 minute ferry ride from the mainland. SeaLink is your quickest link to Maggie with up to 18 services daily, seven days a week, from 5:30am until 11:30pm. Book tickets online and save or buy tickets at SeaLink's Breakwater Terminal from \$32.00 return (full adult). Call 1300 MAGGIE or see [sealinkqld.com.au](http://sealinkqld.com.au) for more information.

**07 4726 0800**

**[www.sealinkqld.com.au](http://www.sealinkqld.com.au)**

Breakwater Terminal, Sir Leslie Thies Drive, Townsville, QLD 4810

## SEALINK QUEENSLAND – TRAVEL



SeaLink Travel offers daily deals on accommodation, car hire, activities and tours. Go Topless with Magnetic Island's very own open-top car to explore the island at your own pace. Accommodation options range from the Beachfront Bungalows, Safari Tents or sleep in nature at the island's very own Koala Sanctuary. While on your stay enjoy the range of activities available that Magnetic Island and Townsville has to offer - speak to us today!

**07 4726 0800**

**[www.sealinkqld.com.au](http://www.sealinkqld.com.au)**

Breakwater Terminal, Sir Leslie Thies Drive, Townsville, QLD 4810



## Discover the Great Barrier Reef

Accessible from Townsville, the central section of the Great Barrier Reef offers some of the best diving sites on the east coast, from shallow lagoons, pinnacles rising from 30m to 5m from the surface, walls, swim throughs and famous wrecks.

### Day Trips

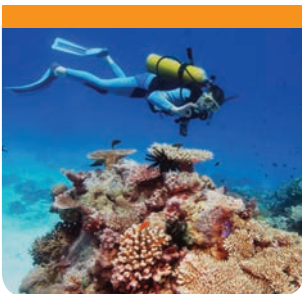
Departing from Townsville, day trips are offered by a variety of operators and often visit Lodestone Reef, home to a variety of habitats and a great diversity of fish life, including small damselfish and butterflyfish to larger animals like the giant trevally and occasional reef shark. Don't worry, they don't bite.

### Multi Day Trips

Multi day trips visit locations like Wheeler Reef, with its white sandy cay and many pelagic species, Davies Reef with pinnacles rising from 30 metres and shallower bommies riddled with swim throughs and caves, and Barra Bommie at Little Broadhurst Reef, where you can spot an octopus. Most of the travelling is done at night to maximise your time in the water.

### SS Yongala Wreck Dive

Experienced divers should visit the SS Yongala, a 28m deep shipwreck that sank off the coast of Ayr (just south of Townsville in the Burdekin) during a tropical cyclone in 1911. Rated one of the world's top 10 dive wrecks, the SS Yongala is home to a captivating array of hard and soft coral and spectacular marine life including sea turtles, sea anemone and thousands of inquisitive reef fish you can take selfies with. Dive trips to the SS Yongala depart from Townsville, Magnetic Island and Alva Beach in the Burdekin. This historic wreck will leave you with memories that last a lifetime.



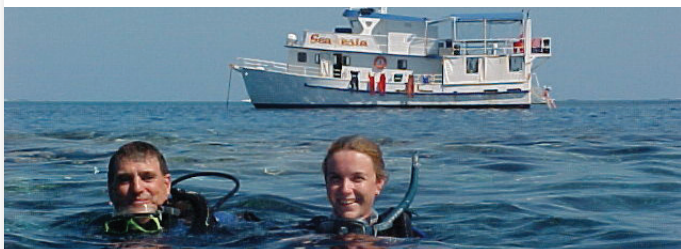
## YONGALA DIVE



Yongala Dive offers PADI Dive Courses and day trips to the S.S. Yongala Wreck. The adventure trip commences with a 4WD to a remote beach, launch by tractor and a fast 30 minute ride to the dive of your dreams... experience giant Queensland groupers, huge marble rays and trevally, schooling barracuda, mangrove jacks, turtles and more. With only 12 passengers we ensure a personalised service and with an on-site Dive Lodge life doesn't get any easier.

**07 4783 1519**  
**[www.yongaladive.com.au](http://www.yongaladive.com.au)**  
56 Narrah St, Alva, QLD 4807

## ADRENALIN DIVE - LIVEBOARD



Adrenalin Snorkel & Dive operate 3 Day 3 Night Liveboard Trips from Townsville visiting both the Great Barrier Reef and the SS Yongala Wreck. 3 star accommodation with 5 star diving! Wake up on the reef, dive all day and into the night exploring untouched reefs. Be awed by the Yongala Wreck's huge groupers, rays, turtles, sharks and schools of fish. Check our website for availability.

**07 4724 0600**  
**[www.adrenalindive.com.au](http://www.adrenalindive.com.au)**  
252 Walker St, Townsville, QLD 4810

## ADRENALIN DIVE - REEF DAY TRIP



Award winning, Adrenalin Snorkel & Dive operate Day Trips to the spectacular Great Barrier Reef from both Townsville and Magnetic Island on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. Explore pristine reef, home to an abundance of colourful fish, turtles & reef sharks, just to name a few. Join our friendly and professional crew for Snorkelling, Introductory Diving or Certified Diving whilst on board. Call us now to book!

**07 4724 0600**

**[www.adrenalindive.com.au](http://www.adrenalindive.com.au)**

252 Walker St, Townsville, QLD 4810

## ADRENALIN DIVE - YONGALA DAY TRIP



Ever wanted to dive on Australia's BEST Wreck? Award winning Adrenalin Snorkel & Dive can take you there! The SS Yongala Wreck is simply spectacular and is a must for all certified divers. Big Fish, Big Wreck, Big Adrenalin! Operating Day Trips on Wednesdays and Saturdays from Townsville and Magnetic Island, be overwhelmed by the abundance and variety of marine life whilst diving the Wreck. Book your spot today!

**07 4724 0600**

**[www.adrenalindive.com.au](http://www.adrenalindive.com.au)**

252 Walker St, Townsville, QLD 4810



## Head North - Discover Rainforest & Waterfalls

Queensland is home to spectacular World Heritage listed Wet Tropics Rainforest and National Parks. Just an hour north of Townsville is the Hinchinbrook Shire, a wonderland of nature based attractions just waiting for you to come and explore.

### Crystal Creek

For a pleasant change of climate and scenery, travel 45 minutes north of Townsville and turn left to Crystal Creek and Paluma.

Big Crystal Creek, at the base of the Paluma Range, features a large swimming hole, natural rock slides and a picnicking area.

Little Crystal Creek, located 11km up the winding road to Paluma Village, is well known for its historic stone arch bridge, built in the 1930s. Cascading waterfalls feed into one of the best freshwater swimming holes in the north.

### Paluma

Continue up to Paluma Village nestled amongst the misty clouds. Located within the Mount Spec National Park, it is the southernmost point in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. At 1,000m above sea level, Paluma is a cool mountain retreat that offers cosy accommodation, camping, cafés, arts and craft, bird watching and a large network of rainforest walks.

### TYTO

Be inspired at the award winning, multi-dimensional TYTO. TYTO is a unique 120 hectare natural wetland area that is home to over 230 species of birds, tropical plants and native wildlife. Extensive walking

tracks allow visitors to explore the park at their own pace. Enjoy the lagoons as you walk along the boardwalk linking the TYTO Information and Wetlands Centre and TYTO Regional Gallery. The precinct offers waterfront dining, a historical cane display and a birds-eye view of the area by climbing the 11m observation tower.

### Wallaman Falls

Those looking for a day's adventure should visit Australia's tallest sheer drop waterfall, Wallaman Falls. Girringun National Park is the gateway to the Wet Tropics Great Walks and home to the shy platypus and endangered southern cassowary. A little further north is Broadwater State Forest, which offers tropical rainforest and open eucalypt forest.

### Hinchinbrook Island

Hinchinbrook Island is North Queensland's largest National Park Island with the neighbouring channel home to an impressive collection of marine life including dugong and green sea turtles. The world famous Thorsborne Trail is 32km of mountainous tropical terrain stretching along the eastern side of the Island, perfect for the traveller with a thirst for adventure.





## Rainforest & Waterfalls

### Your Rainforest & Waterfalls Itinerary

#### Day 1

Refresh yourself in the cool, clear waters of Little or Big Crystal Creeks. Travel up Mt Spec Road and enjoy a picnic lunch in Paluma Village at McClelland's Lookout. Don't forget to try North Queensland's best ice cream at Frosty Mango.

#### Day 2

Visit Australia's highest sheer drop waterfall – Wallaman Falls. Hike to the base of the Falls and take in this spectacular sight from a whole new perspective. Make sure to take a hat

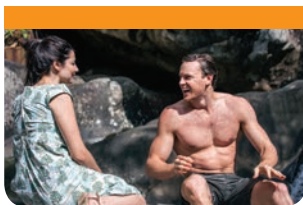
and sunscreen and wear walking shoes – it's quite a tough walk!

#### Day 3

Visit the TYTO Information and Wetlands Centre to learn more about Hinchinbrook. Work up a thirst exploring the wetlands and then visit Ingham for its authentic Italian delis and the original Pub with no Beer – made famous by Slim Dusty. Don't worry, there's beer available.

*Plan your own itinerary online:*  
[townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au](http://townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au)





## FROSTY MANGO



Enjoy 35 flavours of homemade ice-cream and sorbets at Frosty Mango on the Bruce Highway, just north of Townsville. You'll find it hard to choose with our huge range of flavours, from Vanilla Bean and Chocolate, to Mango and Lychee and all the tropical fruits in between. Our sandwiches, wraps and meals are made to order with care from the best ingredients. Recharge with a hot coffee or cup of tea, or try one of our delicious fruit smoothies - always a hit with the kids.

**07 4770 8184**

**[www.frostymango.com.au](http://www.frostymango.com.au)**

45653 Bruce Highway, Mutarnee, QLD 4816



## Go West - Discover the Outback

If time travel is on your bucket list then leave the city behind, grab your hat, a pair of boots and a stock whip and take a trip west to the iconic Queensland Outback.

### Ravenswood

You'll feel like you've stepped back in time when you spend a day exploring Ravenswood, west of Townsville. Formerly a gold mining town, today the main street looks like a movie set with its beautiful old buildings, mullock heaps and chimney stacks. You probably won't see Brad and Angelina here, but you will see the Court House Museum, the restored School House, Thorp's Building and Butler's Cottage - just some of the treasures of this tiny town.

Take a self-guided walk to visit them all or climb to the top of the local lookout to view the amazing open-cut mine. The photo will be sure to get some likes on Facebook.

### Charters Towers

Your journey into the past continues as you drive through the streets of Charters Towers - a living montage of Australian history and heritage. Gold was first discovered in Charters Towers in 1871 by Aboriginal horse boy, Jupiter Mosman - who knows, maybe you'll get lucky too.

Once gold was discovered thousands from across the globe flocked in a mad rush to the town, once the second largest in Queensland. The town was believed to have everything a civilised person could want and soon became known as "The World".

The magnificent heritage buildings are testament to the prosperity of the era. The heritage listed Stock Exchange Arcade, the World Theatre, City Hall and the Post Office Tower will have you reaching for your camera. Don't forget to visit the iconic drive-in cinema for flicks under the stars, the Towers Hill lookout and the largest surviving Battery relic in Australia, the Venus Gold Battery. Worked up a thirst? You definitely won't get dehydrated in this town, there's a pub on nearly every corner.







## Your Charters Towers & Ravenswood Itinerary

### Day 1

Explore historic Charters Towers. Pick up the self-drive audio tour CD and map from the Visitor Information Centre and find yourself in the past. Uncover heritage listed buildings like the Stock Exchange Arcade, the World Theatre and the Post Office Tower. Once you've worked up a thirst, grab a cool refreshment at one of the local pubs.

### Day 2

Stay the night in a haunted hotel room in Ravenswood – if you dare. Explore the mullock heaps and abandoned mining equipment and visit the lookout at the open-cut gold mine.

*Plan your own itinerary online:*  
[townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au](http://townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au)





## Agricultural Adventures

Just one hour's drive south of Townsville is the Burdekin Shire – the sugar capital of Australia, fishing mecca and bird watching paradise.

The district is made up of the neighbouring towns of Ayr and Home Hill and includes over a dozen other smaller centres. It is as famous for its rich, flat farmlands as it is for its amazing waterways and scenic beauty. The Burdekin maintains a healthy reputation for its friendly residents, great specialty stores and laid back lifestyle.

### North Queensland Icon

The Burdekin River Bridge, which links Ayr and Home Hill, is the district's best known landmark. Known as the Silver Link, the 1,103m crossing is the only bridge in Australia built without a solid footing and is longer than the Sydney Harbour Bridge – take that, Sydney!

### Wet a Line

Fantastic fishing is on offer in the estuaries and waterways of the fertile Burdekin Delta. Fishing tours are available to catch barramundi, mud crabs, prawns, mangrove jack and more!

### Work in the Burdekin

The Burdekin offers an abundance of fruit and vegetable picking work for travellers.

May to November – *capsicum, egg fruit, cherry tomatoes, chillies, zucchini*  
September to December – *melons*  
November to December – *mangoes*

Some harvest work is also available in the Hinchinbrook Shire. For more information on working in the Townsville North Queensland region go to [www.harvesttrail.gov.au](http://www.harvesttrail.gov.au)



## QUEENSLAND RAIL TRAVEL



Get more out of your Queensland adventure with these great value International Backpacker Rail Fares and Passes. For visitors with freedom to travel at their own pace, choose between our Queensland Explorer Pass or the Queensland Coastal Pass with unlimited travel for one or two months. For a quick trip our International Backpacker Rail Fares are the way to travel. For more information call Queensland Rail Travel now on 1300 304 185.

**1300 304 185**  
**[www.queenslandrailtravel.com.au](http://www.queenslandrailtravel.com.au)**

## Plan Your Trip

Whether you are coming from Airlie Beach in the south, Cairns in the north, or flying direct, there are a number of ways to get to Townsville North Queensland.

### Train

Queensland Rail has a number of services to Townsville weekly with its Spirit of Queensland train. Book your ticket at [www.queenslandrailtravel.com.au](http://www.queenslandrailtravel.com.au)

### Plane

There are 25,000 airline seats to and from Townsville every week. The city receives direct flights from Cairns, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and regional centres.

Major airlines include:

Virgin Australia: [www.virginaustralia.com](http://www.virginaustralia.com)

Qantas: [www.qantas.com.au](http://www.qantas.com.au)

Jetstar: [www.jetstar.com](http://www.jetstar.com)

Airnorth: [www.airnorth.com.au](http://www.airnorth.com.au)

Regional Express: [www.rex.com.au](http://www.rex.com.au)

### Bus

Greyhound and Premier Coaches regularly stop in Townsville, with coaches arriving and departing at the Breakwater Ferry Terminal. Ferries to Magnetic Island depart from here.

Greyhound: [www.greyhound.com.au](http://www.greyhound.com.au)

Premier Coaches: [www.premierms.com.au](http://www.premierms.com.au)

### Campervan and Hire Car

Hire cars are available at Townsville Airport. For a list of companies servicing the airport go to:

[www.townsvilleairport.com.au/travelling/car-rental](http://www.townsvilleairport.com.au/travelling/car-rental)

### For travel information and road conditions:

[www.131940.qld.gov.au](http://www.131940.qld.gov.au)

### Want more Townsville North Queensland?

[www.townsvilenorthqueensland.com.au](http://www.townsvilenorthqueensland.com.au)

How can



help you?

## Visitor Information Centres

### TOWNSVILLE

#### **Flinders Square Visitor Information Centre**

*Flinders Square, Flinders Street, Townsville CBD*  
1800 801 902

#### **Southern Highway Visitor Information Centre**

*Billabong Sanctuary, Bruce Highway, Nome, Townsville*  
07 4780 4397

### CHARTERS TOWERS

#### **Charters Towers Visitor Information Centre**

*74 Mosman Street, Charters Towers*  
07 4761 5533

### HINCHINBROOK

#### **TYTO Information and Wetlands Centre**

*Corner of Bruce Hwy and Cooper Street, Ingham*  
07 4776 4792

### BURDEKIN

#### **Burdekin Gateway Information Centre**

*12 Railway Avenue, Home Hill*  
07 4782 8241

#### **Burdekin Visitor Information Centre**

*Plantation Park, Bruce Highway, Ayr*  
07 4783 5988

[www.townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au](http://www.townsvillenorthqueensland.com.au)