

## 12 Day Cape York Overland/Air Camping Safari (TOUR CODE: OZ-C120A)

*What an exciting but practical tour programme. Perfect for the holiday maker who wishes to combine the speed and scope of air travel with a comprehensive overland visit to the prime destinations of Cape York Peninsula. Commence with a 4WD expedition from Daintree rainforests and Cooktown in the South to Iron Range National Park on the East Coast then to the Gulf of Carpentaria on the West Coast then the Torres Strait in the North, followed by a spectacular aerial reconnaissance of our least disturbed wilderness, its deserted coastline, adjoining reefs and islands.*

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Cape Tribulation
- Bloomfield Track
- Historic Cooktown
- Lakefield National Park
- Iron Range National Park
- Chilli Beach
- Portland Roads
- Batavia Gold Fields
- Weipa
- Old Telegraph Track
- Twin Falls
- Bamaga
- Free Day for Options
- Cape York "The Tip"
- Historic Somerset
- Flight Bamaga to Cairns

### ITINERARY

#### DAY 1 THURSDAY (LD) CAIRNS, CAPE TRIBULATION, COOKTOWN AREA.

Early morning pick up from your Cairns accommodation. Through the pristine Daintree Rainforests and over the soaring verdant heights of the Bloomfield Track to Cooktown. A step back in time as we explore this historic port.

#### DAY 2 FRIDAY (BD) LAKEFIELD NATIONAL PARK.

A morning of sightseeing and viewing significant landmarks and sites so important to all Australians. Via the rugged Battlecamp Range, pioneer cattle stations and the old coach road to arrive at the massive wildlife haven, Lakefield National Park.

#### DAY 3 SATURDAY (BLD) MUSGRAVE, COEN, ARCHER RIVER.

Historic interludes as we visit the last Telegraph Station, Musgrave, and the once vibrant gold rush town of Coen, before reaching our overnight stop at the Archer River.

#### DAY 4 SUNDAY (BLD) IRON RANGE NATIONAL PARK.

Cross the Wenlock and Pascoe Rivers before entering Iron Range National Park via Tozers Gap. This park features the largest area of tropical lowland rainforest remaining in Australia. Rare fauna and flora include cuscus, palm cockatoos, ecleetus parrots, green pythons, palms and orchids. There is also impressive coastal and mountain range scenery. Overnight camp in Iron Range next 2 nights.

#### DAY 5 MONDAY (BLD) PORTLAND ROADS, CHILLI BEACH, WW2 SITES.

An exiting day visiting significant historical sites and breathtaking coastal scenery. Portland Roads, once a vital sea port for miners and the wartime airfields, now affords the locals a relaxed lifestyle in an idyllic tropical setting. War time gun emplacements are silent sentinels around the headland, some are homes to the locals at the 'Roads. Chilli Beach is wide and long and fringed with palms. A truly magical spot overlooking Restoration Island, Bligh's first landing site in 1792. We explore and learn about the gold workings of the 1930's and the area around the airfield at Iron Range where there were major military installations. Anti-aircraft batteries, air raid shelters, the bakery complex and hospital site are a few to visit.

#### DAY 6 TUESDAY (BLD) BATAVIA GOLDFIELDS, WEIPA.

Travel West to visit the old Batavia (Wenlock) Gold Fields, an abandoned mining town. Then travel North by West across Piccaninny Plains and boundless savannah to Weipa, on the Gulf of Carpentaria. A veritable "Oasis in the wilderness" and providing further contrast to your experience of this last frontier.

#### DAY 7 WEDNESDAY (BD) WENLOCK RIVER, MORETON STATION.

In the cool of the early morning, an optional Weipa Mine Tour (own cost, as is lunch). With the Gulf of Carpentaria behind us, we pass through huge cattle runs to arrive at the fast flowing Wenlock River. Overnight camp at Moreton Telegraph Station.

#### DAY 8 THURSDAY (BLD) TELEGRAPH TRACK, TWIN FALLS.

A really challenging route today as we ford fast flowing streams and traverse rugged 4WD tracks to overnight at the ideallic Twin Falls. Basic facilities.

#### DAY 9 FRIDAY (BLD) JARDINE RIVER, PUNSAND BAY.

Across the free flowing Jardine by cable ferry, a brief refuelling stop at Bamaga and we drive via Lockerbie to our base camp at Punsand Bay Private Reserve.

**DAY 10      SATURDAY      (BD)**  
**THURSDAY ISLAND.** Today's highlight is a cruise through the island dotted Straights to explore legendary Thursday Island. A conducted bus tour is available (own cost, as is lunch) and is most enjoyable and informative. Afternoon return to Punsand Bay.

**DAY 11      SUNDAY      (BLD)**  
**CAPE YORK, SOMERSET.** An unforgettable day of achievement and interest. Stand at the very 'Tip' of our continent, where oceans meet and where very few travellers visit. Somerset, the ruins of the grandiose failed 'Singapore of the Pacific' (road conditions permitting). Pristine beaches, rocky headlands, cool shaded forest walks, and twilight strolls to watch a spectacular Torres Strait sunset.

**DAY 12      MONDAY      (BL)**  
**PUNSAND BAY, BAMAGA, CAIRNS.** Bamaga, a short absorbing tour of this Aboriginal and Islander Community, before transfer to airport to board flight to return to Cairns. Hotel transfers on arrival in Cairns completes your holiday.

**2009 DEPARTURE DATES**

**Tour Code: C12OA**

**May 21   Jun 4,18   Jul 2,16,30   Aug 13,27**  
**Sept 10,24   Oct 8,22**

**2009 FARES**

**May, Sept, Oct**  
**\$2550.00 per person**

**June, July, August**  
**\$2750.00 per person**

**Single Tent Supplement - \$77.00**