

# CORAL SUN EXPLORER and GRAND TROPICAL RAIL JOURNEY

with The Friendship Force Group

11 Days / 10 Nights



**Tour departs Sunshine Coast**

**Thursday 7th June 2012 - Sunday 17th June 2012**

\*Tour cost is based on minimum 30 passengers

\*Itinerary prepared by Trade Travel and please note itinerary and costing is subject to change until full payment is received



## The Itinerary

**Day 1: Thursday 7th June 2012 - Nambour - The Sunlander**

**MEALS: Purchase on train**

This morning we meet our transfer to the **Nambour Railway Station** and board **The Sunlander** for our overnight journey to Proserpine. The Sunlander has been chosen as one of the World's Top 25 trains by the Society of International Railway Travellers. We relax in our First Class Cabins as we sit back and take in the breathtaking scenery between the cosmopolitan suburbs and the spectacular countryside as we head north up the Queensland coastline.

**The Sunlander departs Nambour 3.35 pm**

**Day 2. Friday 8th June 2012 - Airlie Beach**

**MEALS: Purchase on train**

We arrive into **Proserpine** early this morning and meet our transfer to **Airlie Beach** which is positioned on a picturesque peninsula and is the gateway to the **Whitsunday Islands** and the **Great Barrier Reef**. We check into our accommodation and take the day to wander the shops and enjoy the splendour surrounding us. Tonight we enjoy dinner of our choice.

**The Sunlander arrives into Proserpine 7.35 am**  
**Overnight: Coral Sea Resort - Airlie Beach**

**Day 3. Saturday 9th June 2012: Airlie Beach - Whitsunday Resort Islands**

**MEALS: B, L, D**

Up early for breakfast and today we are off to enjoy a wonderful day of island hopping. We visit **Daydream Island** where we can relax by the pools or visit the golf course for a game (own expense), discover the 'Living Reef Coral Lagoon' filled with colourful coral and fish life or take a rainforest walk and see the wallabies and endless bird life. All aboard as we cruise over to the beautiful palm fringed beaches of **Long Island** and enjoy a buffet lunch then explore the walking tracks through the tropical rainforest, or have a go at the beach activities available. Back to mainland and enjoy dinner this evening at our Resort.

**Overnight: Coral Sea Resort - Airlie Beach**

**Day 4. Sunday 10th June 2012: Airlie Beach**

**MEALS: B**

This morning we relax with breakfast then have a day at leisure to do our own exploring...anything from bushwalking, swimming, a helicopter ride or a day tour out to Cedar Creek Falls and Dingo Beach and Cape Gloucester!! This evening we can choose from one of the many restaurants in the main street of Airlie, known as 'eat street'!

**Overnight: Coral Sea Resort - Airlie Beach**



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#### Day 5. Monday 11th June 2012: Airlie Beach - Whitehaven Beach

MEALS: B, M/T, L, A/T, D

We enjoy breakfast this morning then embark on an ultimate sailing experience cruising the **Whitsunday Islands National Park** onboard one of the **world's fastest sailing catamarans, Camira**. This 'state of the art' catamaran is sleek in style and has spacious deck areas for comfort as we sail through the warm turquoise waters to the spectacular vivid white sands of the magnificent seven km stretch of unique **Whitehaven beach**. We swim, snorkel and listen to the informative crew who will share their local experience on the ecology and marine life of the islands surrounding us today. After a full day of sunshine and swimming we relax with dinner in our Resort Restaurant this evening.

**Overnight: Coral Sea Resort – Airlie Beach**

#### Day 6. Tuesday 12th June 2012: Tilt Train - Cairns

MEALS: B

This morning we have an early breakfast then leave our beach haven on the Queensland coast and take the journey on the innovative **Tilt Train**. We sit back in our Business Class seats and spend the day taking in the changes of scenery as we head north to Cairns arriving this evening to meet our transfer to our accommodation and dinner will be of our own choice this evening.

**Tilt Train departs Proserpine at 8.20 am / arrives Cairns 6.20 pm**

**Overnight: Rydges Plaza Motel - Cairns**

#### Day 7. Wednesday 13th June 2012: Cairns - Kuranda

MEALS: B

After an early breakfast we make our way up to the Freshwater Station and board the **Kuranda Scenic Rail**, a spectacular 1 ½ hr journey comprising unsurpassed views of dense World Heritage listed tropical rainforest, steep ravines and picturesque waterfalls. We rise 328m above sea level and reach the country village of **Kuranda** where we take the time to explore the local markets, art & craft galleries, unique shops and cafes. We purchase lunch then take a guided tour of the **Australian Butterfly Sanctuary**, home to over 1500 magnificent tropical butterflies! This afternoon we board the famous **Skyrail Rainforest Cableway**, a gondola cabin that glides over the top of the vast tropical rainforest canopy and take in the spectacular panoramic views from the rainforest to the glittering waters of the Coral Sea. We alight at Skyrail's two rainforest mid-stations, Red Peak and Barron Falls and explore this amazing environment from the forest floor on boardwalks, scenic look-outs and the state-of-the-art Rainforest Interpretation Centre. We complete our journey at the Caravonica Station and make our way back to our accommodation. Dinner will be of your own choice or with your Cairns Club Members.

**Overnight: Rydges Plaza Motel - Cairns**

#### Day 8. Thursday, 14th June 2012: Cairns - Great Barrier Reef

MEALS: B, M/T, L, A/T

Today we explore the **Great Barrier Reef!** We meet our transfer to the Cairns Marlin Jetty and board '**Reef Magic Cruises**', our well facilitated catamaran that will take us out to the all weather platform on the outer reef for an amazing day's adventure. We will spend the day snorkelling, take a semi-submersible or glass bottom boat tour and listen to the informative commentaries and gain a wealth of knowledge from the marine biologist presentation. The day will be rich in colour from the coral to the amazingly colourful reef fish plus have the option (own expense) of taking a scuba dive or a Reef Scenic Helicopter flight! We arrive back into Cairns late this afternoon and return to our accommodation and this evening dinner will be of your own choice or with your Cairns Club Members.

**Overnight: Rydges Plaza Motel - Cairns**

#### Day 9. Friday 15th June 2012: Cairns - Cape Tribulation

MEALS: B

We leave Cairns early this morning and our route today follows the magnificent coastline from Cairns to Cape Tribulation where we discover unique diversity and picturesque postcard views of the Coral Sea lapping the long beach's which meet the dense rainforest mountains. We arrive into **Port Douglas** and visit the **Wildlife Habitat Sanctuary** and take a Ranger guided tour through the lush open and interactive environment and learn and touch some of Australia's wonderful animals. We enjoy morning tea then take the ferry across the **Daintree River** and stop and take a guided tour of the **Daintree Forest Discovery Centre** where we gain an abundance of information about the heritage of the rainforest together with elevated and aerial boardwalks that thread their way around the rainforest leading to the Canopy Tower which casts views in five different directions! We stop and purchase lunch then continue to **Cape Tribulation** where the tropical forest meets the sea and take a stroll along one of the pristine beaches and bathe in its' beauty as well as the crystal clear waters! We head south again to the Daintree River where we board our **Wildlife Cruise** along the mangrove lined river system which is home to a huge array of tropical birds, pythons, fish and crocodiles. We arrive back into Cairns around 6.30 pm this evening after our day of adventure, freshen up then head out for dinner of your own choice or with your Cairns Club Members.

**Overnight: Rydges Plaza Motel - Cairns**



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**Day 10. Saturday 16th June 2012: Cairns**

**MEALS: B**

This morning we have a leisurely breakfast then have a free day to discover any other wonders of this amazing area or simply take the opportunity to relax or do some last minute shopping. This evening dinner will be of your own choice or with Cairns Club Members for the last night together in beautiful Far North Queensland.

**Day 11. Sunday 17th June 2012: Cairns - Home**

**MEALS: B**

We enjoy breakfast, gather our bags and depart for our home destination.

**Return Travel Options Not Included in Tour Cost:**

Tilt Train departs Cairns at 9.15 am / arrives Brisbane Roma Street 9.10 am (Monday 18th June)

Flight from Cairns to Home Destination at chosen time

**The Tour Price Includes:**

- Overnight First Class Cabin travel on The Sunlander from Brisbane to Proserpine
- Return transfers to Airlie Beach
- Business Class Seat travel on the Tilt Train from Proserpine to Cairns
- 9 nights Motel accommodation
- Luxury Coach Charter whilst touring
- All tours and attractions as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated on itinerary



**FOR INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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