

Gold 'n' Savannah

Uncovering The Hidden Treasures of Northern Queensland

Departing: 18 May, 2022 - Returning : 30 May, 2022



HIGHLIGHTS

- Atherton Tablelands Sights
- Paronella Park
- Mamu Tropical Skywalk
- Undarra Lava Tubes Tour
- Talaroo Hot Springs
- Ted Elliott Mineral Collection
- Cobbold Gorge Cruise & Tour
- Copperfield Gorge
- Chillagoe Caves Tour
- Palmerville Station Stay
- Gold Fossicking Experience
- Elim Beach Coloured Sands
- Cooktown Sightseeing
- Lions Den Hotel
- Wujal Wujal Falls
- Daintree Rainforest Walk
- Daintree Wildlife Cruise and more



with
expedition10
Luxury tours for ten



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18 May, 2022 - 30 May, 2022

13 Days **\$7899**pp
twin/double share

Starts and ends in Cairns

Includes:

Spacious 10 seat 4X4 Touring Coach

Fully Equipped 4X4 Support Vehicle

Accommodation

- 10 nights Motel/Hotel/Cabins
- 2 nights in eXpedition10 tents with beds and linen

Meals

- 12 Breakfasts
- 9 Lunches
- 12 Dinners

All Attractions listed in itinerary (other than those stated optional)

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE - 10

Lava Tube - Undara

Queensland Savannah covers a huge portion in the north of the state. It is a former frontier tackled by cattle farmers and prospectors. A region jam-packed with natural wonders.

On this 13 Day tour with eXpedition10, travel through the Atherton Tablelands, award winning Paronella Park, visit Undara Lava Tubes, Cobbold Gorge and Chillagoe Caves. Fossick for gold in the Palmer River goldfields, relax on a secluded tropical beach, eXplore a pristine tropical rainforest and much more.

All of this with a maximum of 10 guests, perfect! Of course it is! This is eXpedition 10.

Day 1 Wednesday, 18 May 2022

Cairns to Paronella Park

Meals D

Climb the range from Cairns this morning through the rainforest belt and up high onto the Atherton tablelands. This is beautiful country and boast some incredible sights. Visit Lake Barrine, the Curtain Fig, Milla Milla Falls and more. Continue your journey to Mena Creek better known for one of Queensland's popular award-winning tourist sites, Paronella Park where we have arranged a special night experience tour this evening.

Accommodation Paronella Park - Mena Creek



Paronella Park at night

Day 2

Thursday, 19 May 2022

Paronella Park to Undara Lava Tubes

Meals BLD

Perched on the edge of the rainforest is the mamu Skyway which reward those who visit spectacular views into the valley below. Following this visit, travel to Ravenshoe, known as being the highest town in Queensland. It is also the location of a wind farm with windmills towering 45 metres above the lush green mountain pastures. A little further inland your journey will reach Undara Lava Tubes where a sunset wildlife tour awaits.

Accommodation Undara Experience Rail Carriages



Waterfall at Paronella Park

Day 3 Friday, 20 May 2022**Undara Lava Tubes to Forsayth****Meals BLD**

To say the lava tubes are stunning is really an understatement as you will discover during your tour this morning. The Undara lava tube system, created 190,000 years ago is one of the longest in the world with one tube stretching more than 160km to the west. Following smoko, depart Undara for Mount Surprise, one of the Stations used by the Savannahlander on its journey. Take some time to discover Mount Surprise then travel just out the road to Talaroo Hot Springs. Hope you remembered to pack your swimmers as, following a guided discovery tour, you can take a dip in the soothing warm waters produced by these springs. In Georgtown, call in to the very impressive mineral display at the Visitor Centre prior to arriving in Forsayth for the night.

Accommodation Finnagans Rest and Goldfields Hotel Forsayth**Day 4****Forsayth to Cobbold Gorge****Saturday, 21 May 2022****Meals BD**

Forsayth is another Savannah Railway stop. In fact it is the 'end of the line' for its journey from Cairns across the Savannah. Enjoy a walkaround this pretty little town, formerly known as Finnigan's Camp, Forsayth became a thriving township after gold was discovered nearby. From Forsayth, sit back and enjoy the scenery along the track to your destination for the next two nights – Cobbold Gorge.

Accommodation Cobbold Gorge**Day 5 Sunday, 22 May 2022****Cobbold Gorge****Meals BLD**

This part of Outback Queensland is home to a breathtaking natural wonder. Welcome to Cobbold Gorge, in the heart of the Gulf Savannah region. This visit will be spent exploring, cruising through the narrow gorge, walking atop its walls on a guided tour and exploring ancient geological landforms. The resort also houses a licensed bistro and bar, laundry facilities and an infinity swimming pool. There is also the opportunity to view the gorge and surrounds on a scenic helicopter flight (own cost).

Accommodation Cobbold Gorge**Cobbold Gorge boat cruise****Day 6 Monday, 23 May 2022****Cobbold To Chillagoe****Meals BLD**

Follow the outback roads across the Savannah today crossing many creeks, some dry, many with water across the track. Keep an eye open for fresh-water crocodiles basking on the sand banks. Sometime these remote roads can become quite rugged so we have allowed plenty of time to reach tonight's destination – Chillagoe, once a thriving mining town.

Accommodation Chillagoe Cockatoo Hotel**Day 7 Tuesday, 24 May 2022****Chillagoe Sightseeing****Meals BLD**

Looking around town it's not difficult to notice that Chillagoe was once a thriving mining town and is noted as producing many tonnes of copper, lead, silver and gold. Today, one of Chillagoe's main attractions is to take tourists underground, the magnificent limestone caves. There are more than 500 caves in this region and you will visit one adorned with beautiful limestone features. There will also be time to take walks – above ground to aboriginal art galleries and a balancing rock and to visit some of Chillagoe's other 'secret' attractions. The old smelters lookout will provide a wonderful backdrop for your sunset nibbles and drinks tonight.

Accommodation Chillagoe Cockatoo Hotel**Donna Cave - Chillagoe****Day 8****Wednesday, 25 May 2022****Chillagoe to Palmerville Station****Meals BLD**

From Chillagoe, travel north along the Burke Developmental Road through some vast open cattle stations, some covering many thousands of acres, to the Palmerville turnoff. Two major river systems in this region, the Mitchell and Palmer Rivers, take rainwaters from the eastern side of The Cape spilling into the Gulf of Carpentaria. You will cross both these rivers today while heading into the Palmer Goldfields Region. Call in to stay with our mates at Palmerville Station tonight and listen to some of their stories of life in the remote region.

Accommodation Palmerville Station eXpedition10 Roomy Tents



One of many lakes on Palmerville Station



Queen of the North Mine Ruins near Mayfield



Phil enjoying prospecting lesson with Johnny

Day 9 Thursday, 26 May 2022 Palmerville Gold Prospecting Meals BLD

There is a modern day gold-rush happening right now in Palmerville. Hundreds of visitors come here armed with metal detectors and gold pans hopeful of unearthing a fortune in gold – and many do! Today is your turn to 'hit the jackpot', or at least have the best possible chance of doing so. We have arranged for a professional prospector to take you into the goldfields and show you how to use gold detectors and point you in the best direction to find gold. Good Luck!

Accommodation Palmerville Goldfields Prospectors Cabins

Day 10 Friday, 27 May 2022 Palmerville to Elim Beach (Eddies Place) Meals BLD

With all of your gold securely packed away, wave goodbye to our new found gold-mining buddies and depart, bound for Lakeland where local property owner Peter, has given eXpedition10 exclusive access to his place. Peter has recently completed a massive dam project which will provide irrigation for some of the banana and fruit growers in the Lakeland region. From Peter's, head north to Old Laura and travel along the fringe of Lakefield National Park, through Battlecamp and into Elim Beach where we will set up camp right beside the beach. You may like to go for a wander along the beach and view the coloured sands.

Accommodation Eddies Place, Elim Beach - eXpedition10 Roomy Tents



Looking toward the Coloured Sands from Eddies Place

Day 11 Saturday, 28 May 2022

Eddies Place to Cooktown

Meals B

There's no real rush to get away this morning so enjoy a relaxed start to the day. We will drive you along the beach to the coloured sands this morning (tides permitting) before heading into Cooktown. Captain James Cook visited Cooktown in 1770 when he beached his ship, the Endeavour for repairs. The local river bears the name of his ship. Hear today the story of how Captain Cook's visit led to his first recorded meaningful contact and reconciliation with Aboriginal people. During this visit call in to Reconciliation Rocks, the James Cook Museum then admire Cooktown's surrounding views from Grassy Hill Lookout.

Accommodation River of Gold Motel Cooktown



Lions Den Hotel

Day 12 Sunday, 29 May 2022

Cooktown To Daintree

Meals BLD

The drive to Wujal Wujal on the Bloomfield River and beyond is an unforgettable experience, full of spectacular views, creek crossings and this will be your route to Daintree today. First stop from Cooktown will be at the lookout at Black Mountain, an imposing mountain range of massive granite boulders. Pause once again at the Lions Den Hotel, a refreshment stop for travellers since 1875. At Wujal Wujal, a local guide will lead you into the majestic falls before we set off through the often steep and windy track to Cape Tribulation. Just prior to arriving at your accommodation, enjoy a relaxing wander along the Kulki Boardwalk, keeping an eye out for Cassowary which are often spotted in this region.

Accommodation Heritage Lodge Daintree Rainforest

Day 13 Monday, 30 May 2022

Daintree to Cairns

Meals B

Your accommodation is right in the heart of pristine rainforest and it would be disappointing not to spend time exploring here. Well, we have arranged a special guide this morning to take you on a walking tour through the forest. Following the tour, visit Thornton Beach for a bite to eat and some beach time, then board a rainforest wildlife cruise. Sit back and relax now on the drive to Cairns along a road with wonderful coastal views. A very relaxing way to finish your incredible eXpedition.



A Cassowary near Cape Tribulation



eXpedition10's support truck crossing a rocky creek



eXpedition10's 10 seat bus on the Bloomfield Track

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For Bookings or Enquiries

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