

## Summary of Trip Proposal A

<b>Trip:</b>	Custom Trip – Proposal A
<b>School:</b>	Beaumaris Secondary College
<b>Dates:</b>	19 – 29 June 2021
<b>Proposal Date:</b>	27 March 2020
<b>Area of Study/ Educational Goals:</b>	Well-rounded tour with a variety of educational and fun activities
<b>Min/Max Numbers:</b>	
<b>Age of students during the trip:</b>	
<b>Anticipated teachers:</b>	
<b>Per Person Price:</b>	
<b>Itinerary in Brief:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day 1 – Arrival and Orientation</li> <li>• Day 2 – Biodiversity Presentation, Environmental Debate and Future of the Reef Presentation</li> <li>• Day 3 – Fitzroy Island Camping, Great Barrier Reef &amp; Data Collection</li> <li>• Day 4 – Fitzroy Island, Snorkelling and Turtle Rehabilitation Centre</li> <li>• Day 5 – River Kayaking, Aboriginal Dot Painting and Aboriginal Guided Rainforest Walk</li> <li>• Day 6 – Rainforest Swimming Hole and Tree Planting</li> <li>• Day 7 – James Cook University Visit and Marine Workshop</li> <li>• Day 8 – Outer Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling and Eye on The Reef Data Collection with Marine Biologist</li> <li>• Day 9 – Rainforest Waterfalls &amp; Outback Cattle Station</li> <li>• Day 10 – Outback Cattle Station Activities, Skyrail Rainforest Cableway</li> <li>• Day 11 – Free Time and Depart</li> </ul>
<b>To book:</b>	Student payments, booking forms and waivers are due at 60 days prior to trip start.
<b>Note:</b>	Accommodation and activities in this proposal are subject to availability. Please tell us when you are ready to book and we will first confirm all availability.





## Arrival in Cairns, Orientation and Transfer to Accommodation



**Flight to Cairns:** Welcome to the Tropics! You are met at the airport by a Small World Journeys Staff member who gives you an orientation & safety briefing. You are then transferred to your accommodation.

**Accommodation:** You stay at a 3-star hotel in the centre of Cairns' restaurant and shopping district, and only two blocks from the waterfront. The hotel features an outdoor pool, 24 hour reception, BBQ facilities, guest laundry and free Wi-Fi. Student rooms are 4-share with ensuites while teachers stay in separate ensuite rooms.



**Meals Included:** Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ibis Hotel





## Biodiversity Presentation, Environmental Debate and Geography Presentation

**Intro to The UNESCO World Heritage Wet Tropics:** Before you encounter the rainforest, you first learn from an expert at the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WETMA) just what makes this region so special. Researchers, scientists and tourists alike come from all over the world to discover the supreme biodiversity in this World Heritage area, a region that came to be against all odds. You learn why this corner of Australia—with its jade mountains and lush emerald rainforests—is a geographical anomaly. By luck of shifting tectonic plates, the Wet

Tropics earned the longest continually growing rainforest in the world. Plants that ruled alongside dinosaurs still stand today. More than 100 animals are rare or threatened here and dozens of species live nowhere else in the world. Your expert discusses climate change protected area management and how different methods are used in the Wet Tropics. You leave with insight about and appreciation of this globally significant area you are about to visit.



**Environmental Debate:** Students are then invited to participate in a debate which centers around issues of management and planning of Australia’s urban future. Students are given background information about a major development proposed for Cairns and then given different roles to play of community members. They then argue for or against the development to convince “council” (teachers). This requires evaluating current and proposed future land use as well as human alteration of biomes, taking into consideration biotic and abiotic factors. This is a fun way to get involved with all sides of an environmental debate with a real-life example that has gained significant national media attention.





**Future of The Reef Talk:** In the evening back in Cairns you attend a unique presentation on the future of the Great Barrier Reef. Your marine naturalist teaches you the facts about the state of the reef, dispelling myths about bleaching and climate change, and relays the good, the bad and the ugly about reef tourism. During this talk, you learn the four key

threats to the reef and how scientists are trying “assisted evolution” by breeding corals that are resistant to bleaching under higher temperatures. Perhaps most importantly, you gain ten tips on how you yourselves can help save the reef and continue campaigning when you return home. You are also introduced to the *CoralWatch* program using a “virtual reef” banner and how to measure coral bleaching tomorrow on your reef trip.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ibis Hotel



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## Fitzroy Island/Great Barrier Reef & Data Collection



**Ferry Ride:** This morning you are ferried to the pristine Fitzroy Island. A fringing coral reef surrounds the island, part of the inner Great Barrier Reef, providing a sheltered home for a kaleidoscope of marine life: colourful corals, parrot and lionfish, turtles, cuttle fish, rays and giant clams.

**Guided Snorkelling:** With full use of snorkel gear for the day, you can walk right into the water to explore the magnificent reef system that surrounds the island. Your marine naturalist leads you to underwater examples of biodiversity, parasitism, and commensalism as well as examples of the reef's most interesting features.

**Activity Addressing Contemporary & Traditional Protected Area Management:** A lunchtime mapping activity also helps students with their geography skills and to understand management strategies for the reef, both present and past. Students are led into a discussion about how the area has been traditionally managed by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people for over 60,000 years, addressing topics such as sustainable fishing, use of totems and Traditional Owner stewardship. Students are encouraged to consider and discuss what challenges there might be in using only traditional management practices today, considering the present day uses of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Contemporary management of the area is also looked at in detail, as well as the zoning plan released in 2003 by the Australian Government.

**CoralWatch Data Collection:** In the afternoon you engage in an activity that addresses concerns over climate change and coral bleaching. During this exercise you find out more about how and why coral bleaches. You learn how to identify different kinds of coral, match its colours to a



waterproof chart, and then record what you observe in teams of two. The data then goes back to the University of Queensland's Coral Watch scientists, where they analyse the results over time and look for any long term trends. Your results also go into a database to track bleaching around the world, and your group receives a graph of your results.



**Reef Restoration Project Overview:** Reef Restoration Foundation is a not for profit social enterprise that is establishing offshore nurseries at Fitzroy Island. The project aim is to accelerate the recovery of damaged reefs, and strengthen resilience to future bleaching events. The process mimics nature and allows damaged reefs to re-open faster. Today you are given an overview of how the project has been established at the island and the success story so far. Small World Journeys has sponsored one of the 'coral trees' that is a part of the coral nursery, and is proud to be involved with this first of breakthrough solution within Australia.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Fitzroy Island Camping



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## Fitzroy Island Activities & Turtle Rehabilitation Centre



**Lighthouse Hike:** This morning if you rise early and are up for a challenge you can choose to walk a gorgeous but steep rainforest track that gives way to dry open forest and scenic vistas. At trail's end stands a historic lighthouse where views of the sparkling Coral Sea stretch to the horizon. For an extra challenge, push on to the summit of the island for 360-degree views.



**Turtle Rehabilitation Centre:** During your visit you also visit the island's Turtle Rehabilitation Centre where a collection of volunteers help save sick and injured sea turtles by looking after them until they are ready to be released back into the ocean.

Turtle Rehabilitation Centre where a collection of

volunteers help save sick and injured sea turtles by



**Human Impacts & Water Quality Testing:** Students are introduced to an activity that has them evaluating the island's human impacts throughout the next two days, and are asked to fill in a "report card". Students also learn to measure water quality using chemical tests. Small World Journeys collects these tallies from each group that visits Fitzroy Island so we can log this data, analyse the results over time, and look for any long term trends.

**Field Guide:** *101 Animals of The Great Barrier Reef*, written by Dr. Martin Cohen, helps you to better understand the underwater world and is yours to keep.

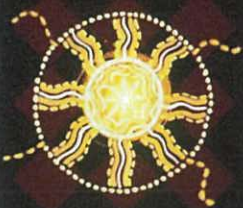




**Swimming and Marine Trampoline:** At the end of the day, you may love to go for a swim, bounce on the giant marine trampoline, or try out a paddle board in the shallow Welcome Bay.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ibis Hotel



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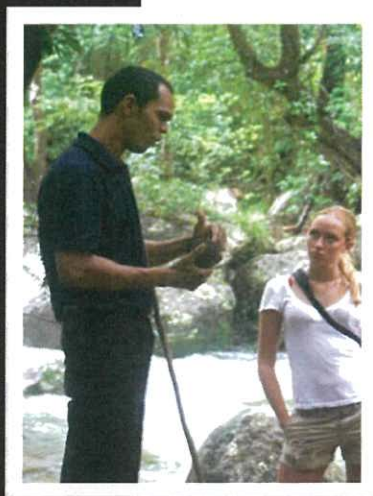




## River Kayaking, Aboriginal Dot Painting and Aboriginal Guided Rainforest Walk

Today your group will be split into three for the following activities:

**River Kayaking:** Today the river's pristine wilderness and gentle grade treat both first timers and experienced paddlers alike. First you are fitted with safety equipment and after a safety briefing you are given instruction on paddling skills. Holding the paddle and maneuvering through the water is basically the same both in a kayak or on top of a board. You then wind your way down the river, its banks cloaked in lush green rainforest, and you learn about this special place from your guide.



**Aboriginal Guided Rainforest Walk:** At the same time, one of the group visits Daintree National Park where emerald jungle drapes Mossman Gorge, an area sacred to the *Kuku Yalanji*. Beginning with a traditional smoking ceremony, you wander rainforest paths, discovering with your guide how these Aboriginal people found their way through dense rainforest, made shelter and learned which native plants were tasty to eat and those that served as weapons and medicine. As your guide shares his stories, you learn how the seasons



dictated life, what falls under men's and women's "business", how to make fire in the rainforest and how to make fish very easy to catch. You then sample billy tea and wattle seed damper (bread) made on the fire topped with jam from rainforest berries.



**Aboriginal Dot Painting:** At an art gallery artist-in-residence Binna teaches you how to re-create the dot paintings that are a typical aboriginal style and symbolic of Australian art. He explains the meaning behind his paintings and what this art means to his people. You will be able to take your canvas painting home with you - a perfect

souvenir for your time in Cairns! Binna has an extra special story to tell students, Binna has lived since early childhood being profoundly deaf, he has at many stages of life, and in business; relied more on lip reading than hearing aids.

At midday, you enjoy lunch and then swap activities.

**Daintree Rainforest Eco-Lodge:** Your Daintree lodge boasts two attractive swimming pools, games lounge, guest laundry, BBQ area, and a superb location in the rainforest. Students sleep four to a cabin, and the sounds of the jungle surround you.



**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Daintree Forest



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Thursday 24 June 2021

Day 6



*Daintree Rainforest*

## Rainforest Swimming and Tree Planting

**Cape Tribulation and Swimming Hole:** After a night of immersion in the rainforest, you wake to birdcalls and the chatter of the jungle. Nearby is a crystal-clear



rainforest swimming hole used by locals and a perfect place to cool off.

**Native Tree Planting Service Work:** Later with your guide you discuss loss of biodiversity and habitats for a range of species due to agriculture or development. Then with shovels and gloves, you plant native trees to moderate temperature and humidity and to create niches for other plants and animals. This area is a 'hotspot' for biodiversity so your service work here is helping to protect a buffer zone to a World Heritage area. By

working with seedlings, digging, planting, and watering today, you get to meet some local volunteers, help the environment and contribute to the community.

You return to Cairns at the end of the day.



**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ibis Hotel



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## James Cook University Marine Labs and Speaker

**James Cook University Visit:** JCU is Australia's highest-ranked university in environmental science and offers marine biology studies not found anywhere else.



**Marine Labs & Aquarium:** Popular with film crews, the marine labs here boast one of the world's best sites for capturing marine creatures on camera. Sophisticated equipment in the tanks allows for observing and filming animal behaviour up close. JCU's unique circular tank allows for a simulated current and the careful study of jellyfish. You meet staff who are on the cutting edge of marine science research, learn how they "milk" fish for venom, and about the latest findings in anti-venoms.

**Venomous Creatures & Mangrove Biome:** Here you meet unusual and deadly creatures such as sea horses, baby crocodiles, cone shells, the lethal *chironex* jellyfish, and the extremely rare lung fish, found in captivity only at JCU. The cast members of *Finding Nemo* live here too. You also investigate a working model of a mangrove biome, an important tool for studying effects on water quality and salinity as well as climate change mitigation.

**Expert Speaker:** Speakers may include famous venomologist Dr. Jamie Seymour, whose recent discovery that vinegar is not the best treatment for jellyfish stings has turned science on its head or Richard Fitzpatrick – "the shark wrangler" – a marine biologist and Emmy Award-winning cinematographer with more than 50 films for the BBC, National Geographic and Discovery Channel.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner  
**Accommodation:** Ibis Hotel



Saturday 26 June 2021

Day 8



The Outer Great Barrier Reef

## Snorkelling The Outer Great Barrier Reef with Marine Biologist and Data Collection



**Boat Ride to Reef:** Your day begins with an air-conditioned catamaran ride to the outer Great Barrier Reef, a UNESCO World-Heritage site and one of the most biodiverse spots on the planet. Your marine biologist presents what you are likely to see at the reef and introduces the *Eye on the Reef* program, which involves instruction on how to complete the Rapid Monitoring Survey.

**Snorkeling and Data Collection:** Upon arrival, you dock at a floating pontoon, and an underwater universe greets you. During a guided snorkel tour with your marine biologist, you can expect to see a rainbow of hard and soft corals, turtles, and a variety of fish species including butterfly fish, giant Maori Wrasse, parrot fish, and the ever-popular clown fish, also known as “Nemo”.



**Data Collection & Service:** Next you receive in-water training on how to conduct the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority’s Rapid Monitoring Survey. Your marine guide will point out key features of the reef ecosystem, answer any questions, and conduct a practice survey with group. Then during a timed snorkel session, you record your underwater findings. Your guide and waterproof slates



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help you identify a host of marine life and calculate benthic zone coverage. Most importantly, you look for signs of coral bleaching and coral predators which greatly affect the health of the reef. Your data is then collected and contributes to the central reporting system used by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) to manage the long term sustainability of this UNESCO World Heritage area.



**Other Activities:** Semi-submarine and glass bottom boat tours, underwater observatory, and marine life touch tank are all available for you to enjoy. The double-storey pontoon also has something that no one else does..... a long and fun slide that finishes in the waters of the reef. Lunch today is a tropical buffet served on the boat.

Each student receives a certificate of participation at the end of the day.

**Sightings App:** Before the trip, we'll also give you information about downloading an app with which you can log in sightings of reef fauna and flora and your data is then sent to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)



**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ibis Hotel



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Sunday 27 June 2021

Day 9



Wooroonooran NP & Outback

## Waterfalls, National Park and Outback Cattle Station

Today you enter Wooroonooran National Park—a diverse part of the UNESCO Wet Tropics World Heritage Area which hosts some of the oldest continually surviving rainforest in the world.

**Josephine Falls:** One of the most picturesque places in the entire Wet Tropics! You take an easy walk through the jungle, listening for the call of the king parrot and the bowerbird and emerge at



Josephine Falls, where Josephine Creek plunges down a gorgeous set of cascades. Below the falls, boulders surround a fun swimming hole and a natural water slide down a smooth sloping rock face.



**Millaa Millaa Falls:** Millaa Millaa (meaning “plenty of water” in the local Aboriginal language) is the icon of tropical north Queensland and one of the most photographed natural sites in the region. The waterfall flows over pure basalt rock thousands of years old in a dramatic burst. There is a fantastic swimming hole at the base of the falls, where it is possible to swim under and behind the falls.

**Outback Cattle Station and Wildlife:** As you cross the Great Dividing Range, you enter outback country, where the dirt turns red and gum trees prevail. Here you are welcome guests at a traditional working cattle station and homestead, opened to your group. On arrival, you hop in the hay truck to trace a route through the



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station--much of which has been set aside for as a sanctuary for wildlife—and look for the kangaroos and crocodiles that roam the property.

**Aussie BBQ and Stargazing:** After a classic Aussie “barbie”, you have a fire under starry outback skies. From this remote outback station, views of the southern hemisphere stars are phenomenal. You'll learn how to find southern

constellations—including the Southern Cross—most of which cannot be seen at all from the northern hemisphere. Students sleep in single-gender dorm-style bunk houses, while teachers sleep in single cabins tonight.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Outback Cattle Station



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## Outback Cattle Station and Skyrail Rainforest Cableway



**Cattle Station Life:** This morning you get a sample of true outback life on a cattle station. You visit the cattle yards to learn about the cattle musters and branding, and efforts made for humane animal treatment. You also learn what this robust rural family does to survive flooding, drought and economic hardships.

### **Cow Milking, Animals and Whip Cracking:**

Breaking into small groups, you can visit

the goats and chickens, learn how to milk the cows and crack a whip properly in true cowboy style. You also take a walk back through time on the homestead to the age of the early Australian pioneers, and you can touch the old furniture, trinkets and memorabilia all well-preserved by the family.



**Boomerang Throwing:** Yes, they actually come back to you! Your guide teaches you the significance of the boomerang and how they were cleverly used for hunting. You learn proper throwing technique and what makes them return.

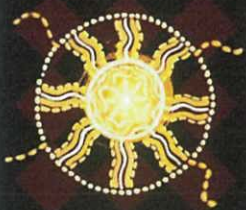
**Skyrail Rainforest Cableway:** Before returning to Cairns you experience Cairns premier eco-attraction and winner of numerous ecotourism awards – the Skyrail. You are transferred to this unique rainforest cableway for a fantastic journey over Australia's World Heritage listed tropical rainforest canopy and deep into the forest. Spanning 7.5 kilometres over Barron Gorge National Park, the Skyrail experience includes a scenic cableway ride and stops at two rainforest mid-stations. You can descend from the cableway



onto rainforest boardwalks, where interpretive information is provided through guided boardwalk tours, signage and an interpretive centre.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ibis Hotel



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Tuesday 29 June 2021

Day 11



Cairns

### Free Time and Departure

This morning after breakfast you have some time to do some last-minute shopping. Then eventually all good things must come to an end and you are transferred back to the Cairns Airport for your flight home.



**Meals Included:** Breakfast



*Small World Journeys reserves the right to change the order of activities for logistical reasons. Prices are valid for travel until 31 March, 2022.*



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## Beaumaris Secondary College 2021 – Custom Trip Proposal A

**Trip Length:** 11 days / 10 nights

**Begins/Ends:** Cairns, Queensland

### Trip Fees Include:

- All activities as described in the itinerary
- Cairns airport transfers
- Transportation to activities
- Small World Journeys guide Days 5-7 and 9-10
- Small World Journeys marine biologist Days 3-4,8
- Additional specialty guides and educators
- 7 nights at Cairns central hotel (3 or 4 share rooms with private bathroom)
- 1 night outback cattle station (basic single gender dorm-style rooms with shared bathrooms)\*
- 1 night Daintree Rainforest cabins (4 or 5-share dorm-style rooms with private bathrooms)\*
- 1 night island camping
- Tents, sleeping pads and sleeping bags
- All continental breakfasts
- All lunches and dinners and snacks
- Mask, fins, and snorkel hire for Great Barrier Reef trips
- *101 Animals of the Great Barrier Reef* field guide for each student
- BPA-free reusable water bottle and cloth shopping bag
- National Park and Marine Park taxes and levies
- Supplies for community service project
- 5 metres square Daintree rainforest plot adopted in your group's name through Rainforest Rescue
- Coral adoption through Reef Restoration Foundation & updates on coral



### Trip Fees Exclude:

- Return airfare
- Personal expenses (phone, laundry, internet, etc.)



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## Feeling Good About Your Small World Trip

- **AWARD WINNER:** We won the 2018 and 2019 Queensland Tourism Industry Council's GOLD award in Specialised Tourism Services.
- **SAFETY:** We have emergency plans for every location we visit. Our guides have **Working With Children approval** (QLD "Blue Card") and Senior First Aid/CPR certifications
- **GIVING BACK:** We donate **5% of our annual nett profits** to local not-for-profit organisations like the Turtle Rehab Centre and *Rosie's Friends on the Street*. Our staff are also compensated when they volunteer for the community.
- **HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT:** Our office runs on **100% renewable energy**, and we pay to offset the carbon emissions from your trip
- **PRICE GUARANTEE:** Once you have paid your deposit, the price of your trip will not increase for any reason
- Small World Journeys was rated by *The Ecologist* as one of "**The Top Ten Environmentally Friendly Travel Companies**" alongside National Geographic Expeditions.



*"All our students enjoyed the activities and not only was there a variety of them but they learnt so many new things without even realising. It is a credit to you all there that you were able to put together such a camp that had to cater for such a variance in ages. All the students were able to participate fully and they could do it together, despite the age differences. A special thank you must be given to Rick [Small World Journeys guide] who, again, is so warm and genuine that the students immediately take to him. His knowledge and the way he imparts it is amazing. You, and your whole company, are so professional, helpful and wonderful that I do not think we can look at any other operators and so will have to keep coming to Cairns! Your help behind the scenes and in planning is fundamental to the success and I thank you again"*

—Debbie Douglass, teacher, Newman High School, Newman WA (May '18)



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## FAQs

### What is your safety record?

We have had hundreds of students travel with us, and our safety record is excellent. Ask us for teacher references specifically regarding safety.

Safety is absolutely our number one concern at all times. We carry a first aid kit in our vehicles, as well as on the guide's person when in remote areas. We do everything in our power to make sure each trip is as safe as it can possibly be.

### Do you do risk assessments?

Yes. We evaluate and re-evaluate the safety of each of our destinations and activities, and we always reserve the right to modify or cancel an itinerary if the guide feels that conditions are unsafe. We will gladly provide a risk management assessment specific to your trip on request. Small World Journeys' staff also adhere to a comprehensive Risk Management Strategy.

### What kind of food will we have?

We understand how important food is to young people – and heaps of it!

A typical breakfast will be a continental breakfast including juices, cereals, toast & jams (and optional vegemite!) and a typical packed lunch will be a meat and salad sandwich, drink, chips, biscuits and a piece of fresh fruit. Café lunches and dinners will vary, but we place a big emphasis on variety and healthful options.

Best of all, we carry our snack box when we travel to ensure that no one is ever hungry. Self-catering options are available for those who would like to prepare group meals. Most student groups request all meals be included in their trip.

### Where will we sleep?

We choose accommodation for our educational groups that is safe and clean. Options range from sleeping in tents at well-appointed campgrounds to budget hotels and youth hostels – selected according



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to your budget and itinerary. At some accommodation it is possible to cook group meals yourselves.

Whenever possible, we use locally-owned accommodation options to keep income in the community.

We have a 24-hour mobile number that parents may ring at any time during their child's trip if there is an emergency, and we will also provide the group coordinator with contact details of where the group is staying each night.

### **What about sharks or jellyfish?**

The ocean is home to sharks, but the ones you may encounter at the Great Barrier Reef are small and pose little threat to swimmers. In fact, divers and snorkelers often consider themselves lucky to spot one of these shy, magnificent creatures. Australia's famed Great White sharks prefer cold water, and therefore are not found at the Great Barrier Reef.

Stingers, also known as box jellyfish, breed in estuaries and are rare at The Great Barrier Reef. Therefore, they do not pose a big threat to snorkelers or divers. Stingers are only a consideration on the beaches between November and April, and most of the local beaches have stinger nets so that people may still swim.

### **How do we travel?**

You travel in comfortable well-maintained air-conditioned vehicles with a seat belt for every passenger. We have a 13-seat mini bus for small groups and a Toyota Coaster bus for groups larger than 13 participants. If the group is larger than 24, we hire additional vehicles. Our guides all have a state-issued Driver's Authority (DA) and must have a special bus license to drive our vehicles.



### **What do we need to pack?**

A Suggested Packing List will be sent to every group organiser so students will be able to adequately prepare for their trip.



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### **When is the best time to visit Cairns - What is the weather like?**

**Cairns** is a tropical place, and outdoor activities can be enjoyed year-round. In our summer (December-February), the weather is at its warmest and wettest. You can expect hot days with occasional tropical storms, producing lush green hillsides and plenty of waterfalls. Average temperatures are 23-31 degrees Celsius/73-87 Fahrenheit.



In our winter (June-August), the climate is at its most mild, with warm days, cool nights, and little rainfall. Average temperatures are 18-26 degrees Celsius/64-78 degrees Fahrenheit.

### **What qualifications do your guides have?**

Our Cairns guides have a government-issued "Blue Card" that is only given after an extensive background check, and allows them the ability to work with children. Each guide also has a Senior First Aid and CPR certification and government-issued Driver's Authority.

Many of our educational adventures guides have higher degrees in environmental science, marine biology or experiential education, and there is one thing which unites them: a love for teaching young people about the outdoors.



We choose guides with extensive experience having worked with young people. We will take into consideration your educational objectives and assign one of our guides who will be the best match for your group.

### **What kind of insurance do you have in place?**

Small World Journeys has public liability insurance up to \$20,000,000 and is required for us to maintain our commercial permits for the national parks.

### **What happens if a student cancels?**

If an individual student cancels from a trip within 30 days of the trip departure, no refunds are given. For this reason, we strongly encourage all parents to purchase trip cancellation insurance in order to protect against unforeseen circumstances which are the main cause for student cancellations.



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For details on cancellations of the entire group, please see our [Terms & Conditions](#) below.

### **How does Small World Journeys incorporate our educational objectives?**

We work directly with the teacher organiser or group leader to understand the goals of the trip. Then we suggest activities and learning opportunities to match these objectives.

For example, a group may be interested in learning more about marine biology. In this case we will facilitate some fun classroom time dedicated to marine science in Cairns, then a couple of days at the Great Barrier Reef with our marine biologist guide. We can include such things as reef field guides for each student, and mini-lectures after snorkel time. A SCUBA certification course may also be appropriate.

Alternatively, we might suggest a few days at an island research station, during which students have classroom and snorkel time, as well as a service project monitoring coral bleaching on the reef.



Whether it is marine science, aboriginal culture, rainforest ecology or another topic, we will work with each group to ensure an educational yet fun experience for all.

### **What makes us "eco-friendly"?**

An eco tour, in our opinion, is a trip in which everyone benefits: the community, the environment, you and us. Simply by joining one of our trips, you will be supporting carbon offsetting, Rainforest Rescue's Adopt-A-Square initiative, aboriginal cultural ventures and locally-owned businesses who are working towards a more sustainable future in tourism. As our guest, you are supporting us as well. Thank you!

### **Why should we purchase travel insurance?**

**We strongly recommend the purchase of travel insurance for your protection.**

Should a participant need to cancel their trip for any reason, our cancellation policy applies. However, travel insurance protects any loss they may experience should s/he or an immediate family member become ill or sustain an injury that prevents them from going on the trip.



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## SMALL WORLD JOURNEYS TERMS & CONDITIONS

**PLEASE ENSURE PARENTS READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS.**

### BOOKING

#### IF YOU ARE A TEACHER BOOKING A GROUP TRIP (or an individual on that trip)

The booking of any trip requires a **\$200 AUD flat non-refundable deposit from the school or organisation**. This amount comes off the total balance due. Until this deposit is received, no trip is confirmed. We advise you not to make any travel plans or book flights until you have received our confirmation.

We **also** need a PER PERSON deposit under the following circumstances:

- Some hotels require a non-refundable per person deposit, the amount determined by how many nights you are staying.
- All YHAs (Youth Hostel Association) require a non refundable 25% deposit of total accommodation booking cost or \$250 minimum (whichever is greater). If the booking is cancelled or altered, any charges imposed by the YHA will be incurred by the group.
- For the Australia Language and Culture trip, a **non-refundable deposit of \$125 AUD PER PERSON** is required by the Cairns language school.

For student groups, we must then receive the following:

- 1) **BOOKING FORM** (accessed on our website through the special link we send you) **NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO THE TRIP**
- 2) **SIGNED RELEASE, DISCHARGE AND INDEMNITY FORM** (also accessed on our website) **Parents must read and e-signed before any money is collected from parents. NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO THE TRIP**

We urge you to check the details we send you carefully and to contact us immediately if there is any incorrect information.

Please note that before we can accept your booking it is a mandatory requirement that you accept these terms and conditions.

If you are the parent/guardian of a minor student, you will need to e-sign the **Release, Discharge and Indemnity Form BEFORE remitting any payment to Small World Journeys**. You are agreeing to the terms and conditions of this agreement and that it is a legally binding agreement between Small World Journeys and you.



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If you are an adult participant, you understand that you are entering into this agreement electronically and that by clicking "Submit Form", you are agreeing to the terms and conditions of this agreement and that it is a legally binding agreement between Small World Journeys and you. You must agree to these terms and conditions **BEFORE remitting any payment to Small World Journeys.**

### **PAYMENT**

At time of reservation.....\$200 AUD flat admin fee due, non-refundable  
+ any required accommodation deposit, both non-refundable

60 days prior to departure..... Balance is due

If you sign up for a trip within 60 days of trip departure, full payment is due at the time of booking. If your payment is not received when due, Small World Journeys reserves the right to consider the reservation cancelled and you will be forfeiting your deposit.

We accept direct deposits, Australian bank cheques, and international cheques in Australian dollars or international wire transfers in Australian dollars. Our bank details are listed on your invoice. We also take payments on line with **MasterCard and Visa** but please note group payments by these credit cards will attract a **1.5% surcharge.**

### **CANCELLATIONS**

#### **IF YOU CANCEL**

Accidents happen; emergencies occur. For this reason we strongly recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance will protect you should an emergency happen that prevents you from participating on your Small World Journeys trip.

If it is necessary for you to cancel your trip, you must notify us in writing by email or letter immediately. If we are unable to find a suitable alternative trip or trip date, we will refund you the cost of your trip less the following, per person charges:

**61 days or more prior to departure**.....\$200 administration fee (plus any non-refundable deposit fees charged by accommodation)

**60-31 days prior to departure**.....50% of total price

**30 days or less prior to departure**.....No Refund



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Your refund will be calculated on the day we receive your written cancellation.

**COVID-19 special policy:**

If a **group** must cancel its trip due to a state border closing (thus preventing the group from travelling without quarantine) up to 24 hours prior to arriving in Cairns, Small World Journeys will grant a full refund less the \$200 deposit and any non-refundable fees paid for certain accommodation.

If an **individual** on a group trip must cancel his or her trip up to the date of departure due to a positive COVID-19 diagnosis (or having been required to quarantine because of exposure to someone who has tested positive to COVID-19), then Small World Journeys shall refund the trip cost to that individual. A letter from a doctor or clinic will be requested, and refund will be issued once the letter has been emailed to Small World Journeys. If an individual discovers s/he has COVID-19 during the course of the Small World Journeys trip, then we will attempt to refund any unused portion, keeping in mind most payments are made to suppliers in advance so we therefore cannot *guarantee* any refund once the trip has begun.

**TRANSFERS**

- If you postpone your trip more than 60 days prior to trip departure date we will be happy to transfer 100% of your monies paid to another Small World Journeys trip or different departure date within 12 months of the original trip start date. If canceling, the administration fee is \$200 and the balance of your deposit is refunded, less any non-refundable deposit fees you paid for accommodation.
- From 31 to 60 days prior to departure—50% of the cost of Small World Journeys scheduled trip is non-transferable and non-refundable.
- Less than 30 days prior to departure – all amounts paid to Small World Journeys scheduled trip are non-transferable and non-refundable.

**COVID-19 special policy:**

If you postpone your trip more than **24 hours prior to trip departure date** because Queensland and or/your home state impose state border or regional border restrictions that make it not feasible to travel, we will be happy to transfer 100% of your monies paid to another Small World Journeys trip or different departure date within 12 months of the original trip start date. If cancelling completely, the cancellation fees above will apply (unless it is due to border closures; see COVID special cancellation policy above)



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**IF YOU ARE AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRAVELLING INDIVIDUALLY ON ONE OF OUR HOLIDAY PROGRAMS**

Please read all of the terms and conditions on this page to decide if you want to participate. Please note that before we can accept your booking it is a mandatory requirement that you accept these terms and conditions.

Then we will need from you & your HOME COUNTRY PARENTS no later than **35 days** before the trip start:

- 1) **BOOKING FORM** (accessed on our website)
- 2) **SIGNED RELEASE, DISCHARGE AND INDEMNITY FORMS** (also accessed on our website) **HOME COUNTRY** parents must read and e-sign before any money is paid.
- 3) **PAYMENT OF \$200 DEPOSIT.** This amount comes off the total balance due. Until this deposit is received, your place on the trip is not confirmed. We advise you not to make any travel plans or book flights until you have received our confirmation.
- 4) Once the trip is confirmed at 30 days prior to the trip, you then **PAY THE BALANCE DUE.**

If you are the home country parent/guardian of a minor student, you will need to e-sign the **Release, Discharge and Indemnity Form BEFORE remitting any payment to Small World Journeys.** You are agreeing to the terms and conditions of this agreement and that it is a legally binding agreement between Small World Journeys and you.

If you are a participant 18 years old or over, you understand that you are entering into this agreement electronically and that by clicking "Submit Form", you are agreeing to the terms and conditions of this agreement and that it is a legally binding agreement between Small World Journeys and you. You must agree to these terms and conditions **BEFORE remitting any payment to Small World Journeys.**

**PAYMENT**

At time of reservation.....\$200 AUD deposit due (If you cancel before 35 days before the trip, this deposit is refunded. Within 35 days of the trip, the deposit is non-refundable)



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30 days prior to departure.....Balance is due

If your balance payment is not received when due, Small World Journeys reserves the right to consider the reservation cancelled and you will be forfeiting your deposit.

For payment, we accept direct deposits, **MasterCard and Visa.**

**CANCELLATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

**IF YOU CANCEL**

Accidents happen; emergencies occur. For this reason we strongly recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance will protect you should an emergency happen that prevents you from participating on your Small World Journeys trip.

If it is necessary for you to cancel your trip, you must notify us in writing by email or letter immediately. If we are unable to find a suitable alternative trip or trip date, we will refund you the cost of your trip less the following, per person charges:

**35 days or more prior to departure.....full refund of \$200 deposit**

**34-30 days prior to departure.....\$200 deposit retained**

**30 days or less prior to departure.....No Refund**

Your refund will be calculated on the day we receive your written cancellation.



**FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS:**

**IF WE CANCEL YOUR TRIP**

Small World Journeys may cancel a trip due to logistical or operational issues, insufficient sign-ups or any other cause that makes the trip unfeasible for us to



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operate. If we do not find an alternative for you that is acceptable, you are entitled to a full refund and that will constitute full settlement.

We may also cancel departures if forced to do so by circumstances such as war, civil or political unrest or what is commonly referred to as **FORCE MAJEURE**.

#### **Force Majeure**

In the case of Force Majeure (meaning a circumstance beyond Small World Journeys' reasonable control including, but not limited to, war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, terrorist activity, industrial dispute, disease, industrial or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, fire and strikes), Small World Journeys will not be liable for any delay, change or cancellation of trips.

Small World Journeys normally makes significant payments to its suppliers (hotels, outfitters, etc.) far in advance of the scheduled departure date. If a trip is cancelled due to force majeure, Small World Journeys will promptly refund the portion of the trip cost not already advanced to suppliers. Small World Journeys may, in its discretion, recover from its suppliers a refund of money paid in respect of any trip cancelled due to Force Majeure. Where this occurs, a refund will be given. Otherwise, Small World Journeys will not be liable to refund money paid in respect of a cancelled trip.

Please note Small World Journeys is also not responsible for expenses incurred while preparing for a cancelled trip (e.g., nonrefundable advance purchase air tickets, special equipment, visa fees, loss of enjoyment, etc.) or for any additional arrangements made before or after the cancelled trip.

#### **REFUNDS**

Prices are quoted as a package, and in many cases are based on group participation. Therefore, Small World Journeys does not give refunds for unused services, activities or meals. Additionally, no refund will be given if you voluntarily leave a trip for any reason after the trip has begun. Refunds will be at the discretion of Small World Journeys should you be forced to leave a trip for any reason. No refunds will be given to a participant in a group who cancels less than 30 days prior to the trip (please consider travel insurance for this reason)

#### **CHANGES TO ITINERARY**

Once you have accepted our formal itinerary proposal, we will require a \$200 AUD admin fee to secure your trip booking. **If you want to make further changes after the itinerary has been finalised**, we will at this point require a non-refundable **\$50 AUD Change Fee** for every itinerary change you ask from us. We reserve the right



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to refuse repeated itinerary changes once the final itinerary has been agreed upon and the admin fee has been paid.

### **PRICING**

We reserve the right to change our prices without prior notice, due to factors beyond our control. Price increases are not passed on to participants who have already paid a deposit, unless the trip is postponed to a new tourism year (which starts 1 April).

Pricing is based on the age of the students when they will be travelling with Small World Journeys.

### **ITINERARIES & CHANGES**

We will take every measure to ensure the accuracy of the website, promotional literature, itineraries and prices, but conditions can change and errors can occur. Circumstances beyond our control may also necessitate changes to our itineraries. In this case, guests should refer to the tour itinerary included in the Pre-Departure packet with the updates. Changing conditions in the field may also necessitate itinerary modifications after the trip has departed.

### **PRE-TRIP MATERIALS**

Once you have signed up for a trip, Small World Journeys will send you a link to a special website with additional information to help you prepare for your trip.

You will have access to a special website with the following information:

- General Information document which includes visa, travel agent and travel insurance information, reading list, information on climate, cultural etiquette, and other helpful information
- Suggested Packing List
- Videos and other educational resources

### **COMPLAINTS**

Small World Journeys takes guest satisfaction and feedback quite seriously. This is why we give every guest who travels with us an Evaluation Form so that he or she may give us honest feedback, and if applicable, lodge a formal complaint with Small World Journeys.



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Before you enter the state of Queensland, and as a condition of booking, we ask you to read our Complaints Policy, found in our Terms & Conditions document. We will provide a copy of this Policy in your first language if requested.

Should you have any complaints about any aspect of Small World Journeys' operations or our suppliers, please inform us in writing. We will address your complaint in a prompt and professional manner within 5 working days of having received the complaint, and if appropriate, take remedial action.

You may contact us by email: [info@smallworldjourneys.com.au](mailto:info@smallworldjourneys.com.au) or by post: PO Box 6267, Cairns, QLD 4870. If you are dissatisfied with the conduct of Small World Journeys, you may contact the Commissioner of the Office of Fair Trading on 131 304 or via email at [www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au/complaint-general.htm](http://www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au/complaint-general.htm).

At no point will this dispute resolution process affect you from exercising your rights to other legal remedies.

### **INSURANCE**

We strongly recommend you purchase insurance coverage to protect you in the event of trip cancellation, protection to baggage, possessions and valuables and to cover against personal accident. Travel insurance should cover you if you become sick or injured before your trip, thus preventing you from travel.

For more information on travel insurance, please contact our travel agent [Sandy Siriani at MTA Travel](#) or by email: [ssirianni@mtatravel.com.au](mailto:ssirianni@mtatravel.com.au)

We will not be responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of your baggage, possessions or valuables under any circumstances.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CLIENT**

You are responsible for:

1. Choosing a trip appropriate to your physical abilities and interests. Guests are responsible for being in sufficiently good health to participate on their trip and may be required to obtain a medical practitioner's clearance. Once a trip has been confirmed medical circumstances will not be considered as exceptions to our cancellation policy. Small World Journeys takes no responsibility regarding medical advice, medications or vaccinations that you or your doctor feel is necessary for your safe participation. All journeys are undertaken at your own risk and we reserve the right to refuse your participation in a particular activity or a complete journey if we believe it is for your own safety and the safety of other passengers.



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2. Having a valid passport for international travel. Your passport should be valid for at least six months beyond the date which you expect to return home. You are responsible for arranging visas or travel permits, if applicable. We regret we cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry to Australia.
3. Providing Small World Journeys with correct information regarding your personal details. This includes name, address, email, medical conditions and flight details. We will not be responsible for losses incurred due to incorrect, incomplete or inaccurate information.
4. Providing Small World Journeys with a signed **Release, Discharge and Indemnity Waiver** prior to trip departure (You will not be permitted to join a trip without this information on file)
5. Studying the pre-departure information sent to you, and arriving at the trip start with the recommended clothing and gear as specified on the Packing List.
6. Respecting the laws and customs of Australia.
7. Following the leader's directions in accordance with environmental guidelines and regulations. This includes abiding by Leave No Trace Environmental Ethics as instructed by the trip leader.
8. Appreciating that in Australia, level of service, local customs, etiquette, food, living standards and accommodation may differ from those in your home country. In Cairns especially, the pace of life and service can differ significantly from other Westernized nations.
9. Respecting the rights and privacy of other trip members. Any cause of danger, distress or annoyance to the group will be acted upon. You may be asked to leave a trip if the guide feels that your continuing participation may prove detrimental to yourself or to the safety or well-being of other guests. Any expenses incurred from removal from a tour will be your responsibility.
10. **Informing Small World Journeys if--either whilst ON the trip or any time in the two weeks prior to the trip--you are feeling unwell; if you have any flu-like symptoms; if you have been exposed to anyone known to be infected with COVID-19, if you have been advised to self-isolate; or if you suspect you may have COVID-19. You will then be recommended not to attend the trip until QLD Health advises it is safe to do so.**
11. **You also need to inform Small World Journeys if you are considered vulnerable or "at-risk" to COVID-19. Vulnerable customers (those who identify as 'at-risk') are recommended not to attend the trip until QLD Health advises it is safe to do so. Vulnerable (those who are considered "at risk") customers who are comfortable participating on the trip are advised to take your own additional safety precautions, understanding that Small World Journeys cannot *guarantee* your safety.**



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## RESPONSIBILITY OF SMALL WORLD JOURNEYS

### LIMIT OF LIABILITY

Small World Journeys will take all reasonable steps expected of a tour operator to ensure your safety and well being.

Some days or activities and certain trips listed in this catalog are operated by local tour operators contracted with Small World Journeys. We assume no liability or responsibility in connection with any injury, death, loss, accident, damage, cancellation, delay or inconvenience to person or property which may result through the acts of any company or person engaged in carrying out arrangements of the trip or resulting directly from the following: acts of God, detention, annoyance, terrorism, thefts, pilferage, force majeure, civil disturbances, government restrictions or regulations, strikes, delays and expenses arising from quarantine, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, discrepancies or change in transit or hotel services beyond the control of Small World Journeys.

Extreme care is taken in the contracting of all services, however we cannot be responsible for the errors or omissions of the suppliers or services. In the unlikely event that a supplier fails to honour their contract with us, we reserve the right to alter, change or cancel such services which are outlined in our website and promotional material. If and when such a change occurs, we will attempt to substitute a comparable service. However, we will not be liable for any difference in the quality or enjoyment.

Small World Journeys reserves the right and trip participants agree to allow Small World Journeys to take photographic or film records of any of our trips and trip participants, and may use any such records for promotional and/or commercial purposes. You acknowledge that during the trip which you are choosing to participate in you are subjecting yourself to certain risks including, but not limited to: forces of nature, travel in remote areas and wilderness terrain, and transportation by coach. You recognise that such risks may be present at any time during the trip.

Small World Journeys reserves the right and trip participants agree to allow Small World Journeys to take photographic or film records of any of our trips and trip participants, and may use any such records for promotional and/or commercial purposes.

### COVID-19 Safety Clause

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to



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spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies recommend social distancing.

Small World Journeys has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, Small World Journeys cannot guarantee that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, participating in a Small World Journeys tour COULD increase your risk and your family's risk of contracting COVID-19. Vulnerable (those who are considered "at risk") customers who are comfortable participating on the trip are advised to take your own additional safety precautions, understanding that Small World Journeys cannot *guarantee* your safety.

By agreeing to these terms & conditions, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that my child(ren) and I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by participating in a Small World Journeys tour and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 on a Small World Journeys tour may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, Small World Journeys' employees, volunteers, and program participants and their families.

Payment of your deposit represents your acceptance of the above terms and conditions.



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