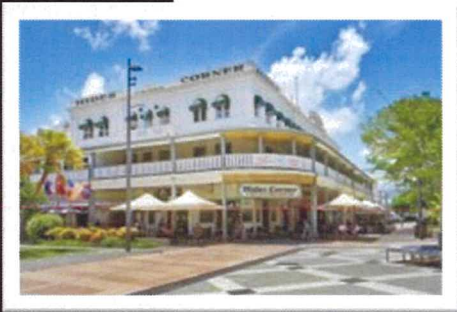
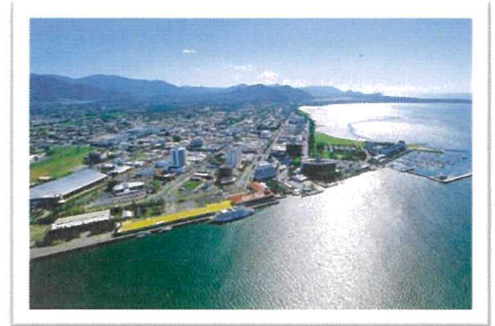




Arrival in Cairns, Orientation and Transfer to Accommodation

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: Your accommodation is a historic hotel in the absolute center of Cairns restaurant and shopping district, and only a few blocks from the waterfront. The hotel features an outdoor pool, guest laundry, and student rooms offer air conditioning, tv, tea and coffee making facilities, and ensuite bathroom.



Future of The Reef Talk: In the evening 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.



Meals Included: Dinner

Accommodation: Hides Hotel



Outer Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling and Data Collection with Marine Biologist & Indigenous Culture

Boat Ride to Reef: This morning 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, parrot fish and giant Maori Wrasse.

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

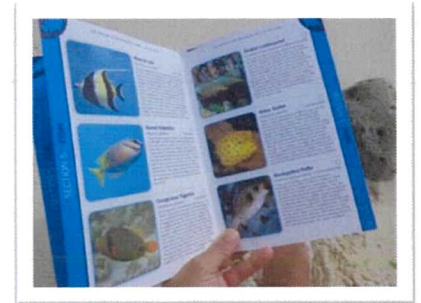
findings. Your guide and waterproof slates help you identify a host of marine life and calculate benthic zone coverage. Most importantly, you look for signs of coral bleaching and coral predators which greatly affect the health of the reef. Your data is then collected and contributes to the central reporting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





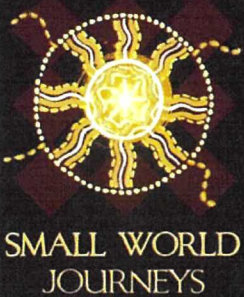
Indigenous Culture: Part of your day is interacting with Traditional Owners, listening to a didgeridoo performance, sampling “bush tucker” and watching staff perform traditional dances. You also board a glass-bottom boat and a Traditional Owner discusses his sea country along with Traditional Uses of Marine Resources Agreements (TUMRAs).

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.



Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Hides Hotel



Wednesday 26 June 2024

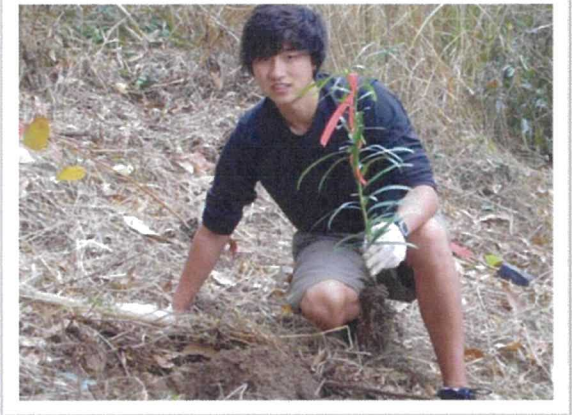
Day 3



Kuranda and Daintree Rainforest

Tree Planting and Daintree Rainforest & Rainforest Swimming

Native Tree Planting Service Work: Today 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.



Daintree Rainforest & Beach Eco-Lodge: Later you enter the magical Daintree Rainforest – the oldest continuously growing rainforest on earth. Your Daintree lodge boasts an attractive swimming pool, guest laundry, BBQ area, and a superb location in the rainforest but directly on the beach. As a recipient of a 2016 QLD Excellence in Tourism Award, and Trip Advisor's *Certificate of Excellence* 2015, the lodge also uses grey water for irrigation, locally-sourced food for its restaurant, and recycles 80% of its waste. Students sleep in dorm-style cabins with ensuite, and the sounds of the jungle surround you.



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Cape Tribulation and Swimming

Hole: Nearby is a crystal-clear rainforest swimming hole used by locals and a perfect place to cool off.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Cape Trib Beach House



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Thursday 27 June 2024

Day 4



Daintree Rainforest & Cairns

Daintree Rainforest Guided Walk & Return to Cairns



Rainforest Walk with Indigenous Guide: Today you discover the Daintree Rainforest at Mossman Gorge, an area important 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

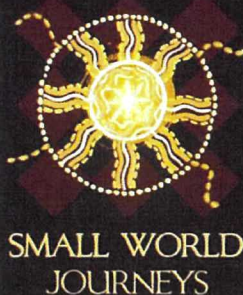
tasty to eat and those that served as weapons and medicine. As your guide shares his stories, you learn how the seasons dictated life, what falls under men's and women's "business", how to make fire in the rainforest and how to make fish very easy to catch. You then sample billy tea and wattle seed damper (bread) made on the fire topped with jam from rainforest berries.



This afternoon you return to Cairns. Dinner tonight is of your own choice, you may wish to visit Cairns Night Markets for shopping and visit the food court, alternatively there are many easily accessible restaurant or takeaway options within a short walking distance of your accommodation.

Meals Included: Breakfast and Lunch

Accommodation: Hides Hotel





James Cook University Marine Labs and Speaker, Free time afternoon



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.



Free Time: Lunch is of your own choice today, after your JCU visit you have the afternoon free to explore Cairns City.

Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Hides Hotel



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Saturday 29 June 2024

Day 6



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.

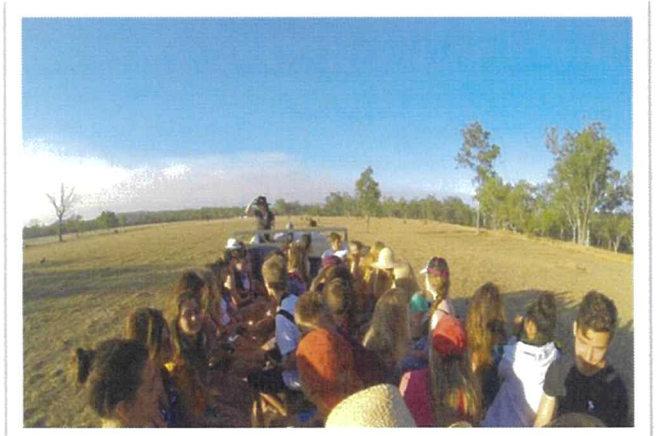
Josephine Falls: One of the most picturesque places in the entire Wet Tropics! You take an easy walk through the jungle, listening for the call of the king parrot and the bowerbird and

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.



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 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.



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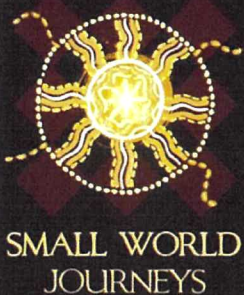
Boomerang Throwing: Yes, they actually come back to you! Your guide teaches you the significance of the boomerang and how they were cleverly used for hunting. You learn proper throwing technique and what makes them return.

Aussie BBQ and Stargazing: After a classic BBQ, you have a fire under starry outback skies. From this remote outback station, views of the stars are phenomenal. Students sleep in single-gender dorm-style bunk houses, while teachers sleep in separate cabins tonight.



Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Outback Cattle Station



Sunday 30 June 2024

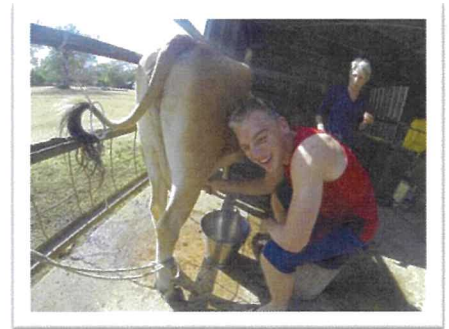
Day 7



Outback & Fitzroy Island

Outback Cattle Station and Island Camping

Cow Milking, Animals and Whip Cracking: This morning you get a sample of true outback life on a cattle station, 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.



Later this morning you return to Cairns, and then to Fitzroy Island for overnight camping.

Ferry Ride: This afternoon 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 variety of fish and coral species.



Camping at Water's Edge: Your campground is beautifully situated only steps from the water where you set up your tents. There is a BBQ and covered pergola area for eating an ablutions block with toilets and cold showers. There is also a small store and Foxy's Café.



Accommodation: Fitzroy Island Campground
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

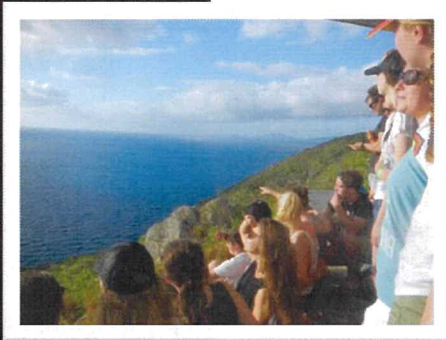
Monday 1 July 2024

Day 8



Inner Great Barrier Reef

Fitzroy Island Great Barrier Reef & Turtle Rehabilitation Centre

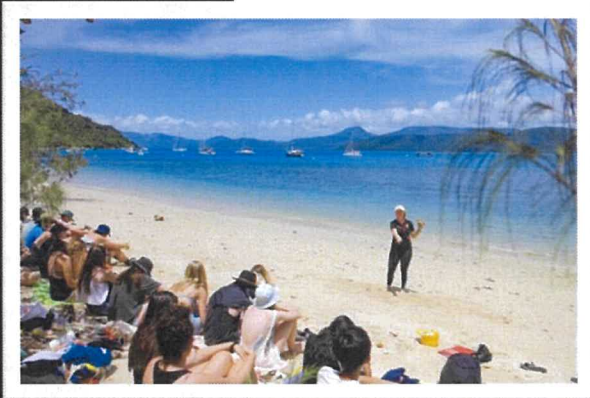


Lighthouse Hike: This morning if you rise early and are up for a challenge you can choose to walk a gorgeous but steep rainforest track that gives way to dry open forest and scenic vistas. At trail's end stands a historic lighthouse where views of the sparkling Coral Sea stretch to the horizon. For an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



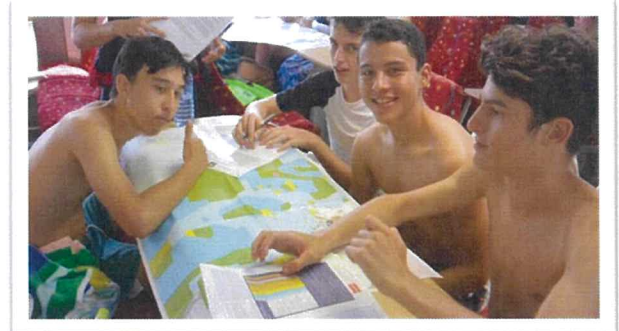
Guided Snorkelling: With full use of snorkel gear for the day, you can walk right into the water to explore the magnificent reef system that surrounds the island. Your

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



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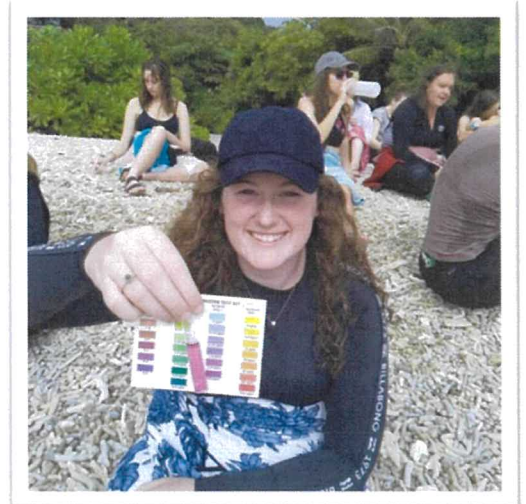
using only traditional management practices today, considering the present day uses of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Contemporary management of the area is also looked at in detail, as well as the zoning plan released in 2003 by the Australian Government.



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.

Human Impacts & Water Quality Testing: Students are introduced to an activity that has them evaluating the island's human impacts throughout the day, and are asked to fill in a "report card". Finally, you 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.

You are ferried back to Cairns this afternoon.



Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Hides Hotel

Tuesday 2 July 2024

Day 9



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 July, 2024.

