

SUNSHINE COAST & GOLD COAST TOUR



Day 1 (DL): NOWRA TO PORT MACQUARIE: Saturday 25 July 2020

Welcome to our 11-day tour of the **Sunshine Coast & Gold Coast**. We have an early start this morning, departing the depot at 7am. We'll follow the Pacific Highway through the Central Coast and Newcastle then onto **Port Macquarie** for our overnight stay. On arrival we check into our motel and freshen up for dinner. *(Lunch en route, dinner in the hotel)*

Water's Edge Port Macquarie, PH: 02 6583 2955

Day 2 (BLD): PORT MACQUARIE TO THE GOLD COAST: Sunday 26 July 2020

We travel to **Kempsey** and stop at the **Slim Dusty Centre**. Opened in November 2015, the Slim Dusty Museum exhibition features objects and images from the Kirkpatrick family's own extensive archive, as well as contributions from fans and friends from all over the world. We can spend time looking through the museum and enjoy morning tea here before departing for **Coffs Harbour**. Our lunch stop today is at the **Coffs Harbour Butterfly House**. The Butterfly House is a fully enclosed glasshouse, home to 350-400 live Australian butterflies. From Coffs Harbour we follow the highway north, bypassing Grafton we follow the Clarence River and skirt by Ballina to then arrive into Queensland and the Gold Coast where we check into the Mantra at Sharks in Southport. Our accommodation is a very new and modern hotel that is connected to the Southport Sharks club where we can enjoy all our meals. *(Breakfast and dinner in the hotel, lunch at Coffs Harbour Butterfly House)*

Mantra at Sharks, Gold Coast, PH: 07 5603 3200

Day 3 (BLD): SEAWORLD AND THE GOLD COAST WATERWAYS: Monday 27 July 2020

We start the day with a brief sightseeing drive around Surfers Paradise, and then we will be visiting **Sea World**, the first of many world class theme parks located on "the Coast." There is so much to see and do. The program for the day will be provided on arrival so be sure to take note of the things you want to see – Shark Bay, Polar Bear Shores, Shark Attack, the Dolphin Nursery Pool and much more. Access to all parts of the Park is easy via the Sea World Monorail. Lunch is included whilst in Sea World and then at 4.15pm we depart on board the **Sea World Ferry** to **Surfers Paradise**. Experience stunning views of the city skyline and see the homes of the rich and famous as we head to Surfers Paradise to meet our coach and then head back to the Hotel for some free time before dinner. *(Breakfast and dinner in the hotel, lunch at Sea World)*

Day 4 (BLD): THE AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK SPECTACULAR: Tuesday 28 July 2020

Our breakfast this morning is a little unusual, as we head out early to the **Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary**. The sanctuary is home to over 1400 birds, mammals and reptiles. We then have the morning to experience the program on offer, like feeding the wild lorikeets or perhaps boarding the miniature steam train for "Kangaroo Crossing" and coming face to face with kangaroos,

wallabies and some not-quite-so-friendly crocodiles. We have some free time back at the hotel, and tonight we are in for a real treat! There is no place on earth like the Australian Outback... and no show on earth like the new **Australian Outback Spectacular** show called **Heartland**. Enjoy the all new story with true Australian characters, Reg and Marge, who are battling a severe five-year drought on their farm. This heart touching story will resonate with many as it delves into real world struggles that many Aussie farmers are dealing with today. With the help from some unlikely characters, and friendships that will last a lifetime, the pair overcomes the harsh realities of life in the Australian Outback. Prepare to embark on a vivid, spectacular and emotional ride into the heart of the Australian bush under the iconic red roof with a delicious three course dinner. Australia's favourite dinner and show is a fabulous night!

(Breakfast Currumbin and dinner at Australian Outback Spectacular)

Day 5 (BLD): THE SCENIC RIM: Wednesday 29 July 2020

Today we head about an hour west of the Gold Coast that is also known as the **Scenic Rim**. It is here that we enjoy a true farming experience at **Towri Sheep Cheeses**. Our morning will consist of a milking demonstration, cheese tasting, and we will have access to the cheese room to learn about the basics of cheese making. By the time we have finished we will know the differences between sheep, cow and goat cheese! The Scenic Rim is also home to many fruit and vegetable crops and we will see fields full of colourful produce. For lunch we stop in the quaint township of **Boonah** at the **Dugandan Hotel** and then we will be calling into one of the region's most interesting places – **Summer Land Camel Farm**. Here we will learn about the history of camels in Australia and the powerful immune proteins that are contained in camel milk. Our tour takes in the interesting farming operations and we get to meet the camels and have afternoon tea before returning to the Gold Coast. *(Breakfast and dinner in the hotel, lunch at Dugandan Hotel)*

Day 6 (BLD): GOLD COAST TO CALOUNDRA & THE SUNSHINE COAST: Thursday 30 July 2020

We farewell the Gold Coast and make our way north into Brisbane where we arrive at **Newstead House** which is located in a commanding position within **Newstead Park**, with sweeping views of the Hamilton and Bulimba reaches of the Brisbane River. We have a guided tour of the house that is one of Brisbane's oldest surviving homes dating back to 1846. For lunch we have a short transfer across the creek to one of Brisbane's oldest and most famous pubs – **The Breakfast Creek Hotel**. Continuing north takes us to our base, at the **Oaks Oasis Resort Caloundra**, from where we will stay on the Sunshine Coast. Relax and unpack, then we meet again in the middle of the resort for a lovely dinner. *(Breakfast and dinner at the Hotel/Resort, lunch at Breakfast Creek Hotel)*

Oaks Oasis Resort, Caloundra PH: 07 5491 0333

DAY 7 (BD): BLACKALL RANGE: Friday 31 July 2020

We have a day of spectacular scenery as we head up into the **Blackall Range**. First stop we visit the **Landsborough Historical Museum**. The original Landsborough Shire Council Chambers were designed in 1924 by renowned architect Walter Carey Voller and built from local timbers supplied by A.E. Round. In 1988, the old building was revamped and a new building of mud brick construction was added. Next, we head up onto the range and arrive into **Montville**. Montville is probably the most well-known village along the range and was first established in 1887. Today it is a place to step back in time and enjoy the tranquillity of village life in a streetscape unique to any other tourist centre in Australia. We will have free time here to browse the many arts and crafts shops and purchase some lunch. After our time in Montville we drop by the **Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve** on the southern edge of the range, overlooking the unique formations of the **Glasshouse Mountains**. We have a ranger guided tour into the Reserve and can take in the marvellous views before returning to Caloundra. *(Breakfast & dinner at the Resort, lunch own cost)*

Day 8 (BD): NOOSA, EUMUNDI & YANDINA: Saturday 01 August 2020

Today we will be spending the day touring the **Sunshine Coast**. From Caloundra we head north and cross the **Maroochy River**, then we take the coastal road through towns of **Coolum** and **Peregian Beach**. Mid-morning, we arrive in **Noosa** and have some free time to take a walk along Hastings Street or Noosa Beach. Noosa is famous for its beautiful north facing beaches, its shopping and café precinct and the stunning National Park that borders the town. Next, we make our way to the **Eumundi Markets**. The twice weekly street market is held in the small village of Eumundi. The town itself is very attractive – the main street is tree lined and features many fine examples of buildings that were constructed between 1890 and 1930. Here we can purchase our lunch, as there are numerous food stalls in the market, or if you wish to visit the cafes or pubs in the main street, they are only a short walk away. Our final visit for the day is in Yandina to the world's largest **Ginger Factory**. We view the audio-visual display tracing the life of ginger from planting to final use, see ginger growing in the patch and then look at the factory from the observation deck to see production. We also take a ride on the **Ginger train**. Afterwards, we can visit the Ginger town shops or stroll through the landscaped gardens. We conclude our day and return to the resort. *(Breakfast and dinner at the Resort, lunch at own expense)*

Day 9 (BLD): AUSTRALIA ZOO: Sunday 02 August 2020

No holiday to this area would be complete without a visit to **Australia Zoo** – home, of course, to the late Steve Irwin, the “Crocodile Hunter”. Australia Zoo has a reputation for conservation work, due mainly to the popularity of the documentary series “The Crocodile Hunter”. Many millions of dollars have been invested in the park, and ever changing and growing attraction. We'll arrive early enough to take a stroll, maybe to see the cheeky otters and their cute antics at their 10 o'clock feeding, or perhaps learn about the Galapagos Land Tortoises as they munch through their breakfast using serrated jaws. We can hand feed the elephants before taking our seats in the **“Crocoseum”** for all the action in the centre stage. First of all, there's “Snakes Alive”, followed by the free flying bird show - watch as kookaburras, Wedge-tail Eagles, owls, falcons and the beautiful South American Macaws free-fly around the Crocoseum. The keepers will bring the Crocs into the clear water so we can see them as they would hunt in the wild...doing their best to get the “big piece of meat” (the croc team that is!). There are many other scheduled demonstrations during the day and the chance to be photographed with a giant python. A people mover is available to access the various parts of the park. At a pre-arranged time, we'll drive back to the resort for some free time before dinner. *(Breakfast and dinner in the Resort, Light lunch at Australia Zoo)*

Day 10 (BLD): THE SUNSHINE COAST TO PORT MACQUARIE: Monday 03 August 2020

We join the Pacific Highway this morning and commence our journey south, crossing the NSW border at Tweed Heads and stop at the Macadamia Castle for lunch and the opportunity to stock up on Macadamia nuts and other products. Re-boarding our coach, we continue through to **Port Macquarie** and arrive at our hotel for the final night on tour. *(Breakfast & dinner in motel, lunch at Macadamia Castle)*

Water's Edge Port Macquarie, PH: 02 6583 2955

Day 11 (BL): COFFS HARBOUR TO NOWRA: Tuesday 04 August 2020

This morning we board the coach and travel our last leg of the tour. We'll drive through to Sydney, stopping en-route for a lunch break to arrive home completing an 11-day holiday to the **Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast**. *(Breakfast in motel, lunch en-route)*

All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions, e.g. churches, wineries etc. We cannot be held responsible for any changes due to closures, inclement weather etc.

Tour Cost:

\$3,445 Per person twin share

\$4,445 Single Supplement

\$300 per person deposit at time of booking

Balance by 18th May 2020

Minimum No's needed for this to proceed

Booking Terms & Conditions

Accommodation is on share room basis in Motels, Hotels etc. The accommodation named may be altered without notice.

The right is reserved to amend or modify the Itinerary at any time without notice for unpredictable weather or road conditions or for any other reason beyond our control.

Cancellation Fees: In the event of cancellation of a tour the following fees apply:

- 60 days or more prior to departure, loss of deposit.
- Between 7 and 59 days prior to departure, 50% of tour price.
- Less than 7 days prior to departure, 100% of tour price.

Refunds: No refund will be made for any unused portion of the tour after departure.

Responsibilities: Stuarts Travel advises that the service it provides is for the booking and packaging of goods and services provided by other operators such as hotels, motels and transportation companies. Passengers are advised to familiarize themselves with the terms and conditions on which these services are supplied.

Accordingly, Stuarts Travel will not be responsible and will be excluded from any liability for any loss, damage, omission or acts being negligent or otherwise, committed by the operators of airlines, coach lines, rail travel, hotels/motels or attractions used in connection with the tour.

The operator of this tour is **Stuarts Travel Pty Ltd**

Payment to Stuarts Travel acknowledges that you have read, understand and accept these booking conditions.

It is recommended to take out Travel Insurance at the time of booking your tour