

Queensland: Sand & Sailing - OAQE

12 days: Brisbane to Cairns

What's Included

- Your G for Good Moment: Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration, Whitsunday Islands
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends
- Your Discover Moment: Cairns
- Your Big Night Out Moment: Cairns
- Fraser Island 4x4 excursion
- Noosa Everglades overnight experience
- Noosa Everglades canoeing excursion
- Entrance fees to Cooloolo Recreation Area and Fraser Island in Great Sandy NP
- Whitsunday Islands sailing excursion (3 days)
- Whitehaven Beach visit
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing November 3rd, 2018 and onwards

Itinerary Notes

Please note that most 18-to-Thirtysomethings accommodation in Australia is multi-share. For more info, see our Trip Details.

Itinerary

NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1 Brisbane

Arrive at any time.

Welcome to the "Land Down Under"! Tonight, gear up and get ready for a night out in Brisbane with the group. Enjoy an evening filled with friendly vibes, epic times, and dope views of the city as you sip some local bevies on the rooftop bar of the YHA Brisbane Hostel with your new travel tribe by your side.

Arrive in Brisbane at any time. There are no planned activities during the day, so check into the hotel and explore the city.

If you arrive early enough, you'll have time to head into the city. Opt to visit the Botanical Gardens, admire views of the city from Mt Coot-tha, or relax at Streets Beach on the South Bank.

Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends

Connect with new friends on your first night out in a new destination. Only available on 18-to-Thirtysomethings tours.

Day 2 Brisbane/Noosa Everglades

Escape the city as you journey north up the coast to the Noosa Everglades. Get ready for an evening surrounded by stunning wilderness in one of the most pristine wetlands in the world. Relax as you cruise along this "river of mirrors" and chow down with a delicious Aussie BBQ lunch before further exploring your surroundings. Grab a kayak to get up and personal with the dark, tranquil waters as you paddle through ancient landscapes and sub-tropical rainforest. Then relax around the lake or hike one of the trails to further appreciate the serenity that seeps from this unique landscape.

Please note that due to operational reasons, this night and the following night may be reversed. All activities and inclusions will remain the same.

Private Vehicle

Brisbane – Noosa 2h-3h 150km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Eco Cruise

Noosa Everglades

Relax on a cruise along the pristine Noosa River and into the dark, tranquil, mirrored waterways of the Noosa Everglades. Enjoy a delicious Aussie BBQ lunch at historic Harry's Hut – a relic of the early timber cutting days. Explore, take a swim in the pristine waters, photograph the abundant wildlife, or simply relax in this unique natural environment.

Canoeing

Noosa Everglades

Get up close and personal with the Noosa Everglades. Enjoy approx 1.5 hours paddling through the mirrored waterways of the everglades, taking in the ancient landscapes, sub-tropical rainforest, and serenity of the area. Journey back to the base and enjoy an included lunch.

Noosa Everglades Overnight Excursion

Noosa Everglades

Stay at the edge of the stunning Noosa Everglades, one of only two everglade systems in the world. Take it easy and relax around the lake, or hike one of the nearby trails.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 3 Noosa Everglades to K'gari (Fraser Island)

On your mark...get set.... go! Travel by private vehicle and ferry with your group to reach K'gari (Fraser Island); for a true Aussie experience. K'gari (Fraser Island) is the largest sand island in the world and the only known place where rainforest grows on sand. Think pure paradise; with striking blue lakes, crystal clear creeks, giant dunes, and dense rainforests in a place truly unlike any other. Once on the island the group will go for a 4x4 tour, driving along over 100km of beach to get a sense of your surroundings. Then take a swim in Lake McKenzie, or be on the lookout for wild Dingoes (this is one of the few places in Australia where you are able to see them).

Once on the island, enjoy a 4x4 tour of K'gari (Fraser Island), driving along over 100km of beach. Go for a swim in Lake McKenzie, and enjoy a rainforest walk along the way.

While on K'gari (Fraser Island), main luggage will be stored in a secure storage facility. Each person will need to pack an overnight bag with max weight of 5kg, as access to main luggage will not be available again until the next day. This is due to luggage capacity restrictions in 4x4 vehicles.

Private Vehicle

Noosa – Rainbow Beach 1h15m 95km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Ferry

Rainbow Beach – Fraser Island

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

4x4 Excursion

Fraser Island

Embark on a private excursion taking in the highlights of this amazing island including Lake McKenzie and Pile Valley.

Optional Activities - Day 3

K'gari (Fraser Island) Flight

Fraser Island

75AUD per person

The world's largest sand island is home to some of the most stunning landscapes. Keep your eyes peeled for Lake McKenzie, Eli Creek, and maybe even a breaching whale (in season) as you soar above the island. On top of it all, take off and landing is directly on 75 Mile Beach – epic!

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4 K'gari (Fraser Island) to Airlie Beach

Your second day on K'gari (Fraser Island) comes with more free time to enjoy this paradise. In the morning continue exploring by 4x4 along wide stretches of pearly white beach and then duck into the shade of the forest to really appreciate the peaceful solitude that surrounds you. In the afternoon board an overnight train (get ready to post some 'grams) north to Airlie Beach, where more sand, sun, and fun await you.

4x4 Excursion

Fraser Island

Embark on a private excursion taking in the highlights of this amazing island including Lake McKenzie and Pile Valley.

Free Time

Fraser Island

Enjoy the natural beauty of K'gari (Fraser Island).

Ferry

Fraser Island – Rainbow Beach

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Private Vehicle

Rainbow Beach – Cooroy 1h30m 115km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Overnight Train (seats)

Cooroy – Airlie Beach 12h-14h

Curl up and catch a snooze en route to the next stop.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 5 Airlie Beach/Whitsunday Islands

Awake as the train pulls to a stop in your next destination. Hop out, stretch those legs, and head out for brunch with the group in Airlie Beach; home to the Whitsunday Islands and located on the Great Barrier Reef. Then head to the marina and embark on a maxi yacht which will be your home for the next two nights. Set sail to a secluded cove (we're so excited for you) in the Whitsunday islands where you will drop anchor for the night. Our only advice; try not to pinch yourself too many times because no, this is not a dream, it is reality and we want you to experience it as best you can!

After arriving in Airlie Beach and some time for brunch, head to the marina and embark on a maxi yacht which will be our home for the next two nights. Set sail to a secluded cove in the Whitsunday Islands where you will drop anchor for the night.

Maxi Yacht

Airlie Beach – Whitsunday Islands

Climb aboard a speedy racing yacht (and hang on to your hat).

Whitsunday Islands Sailing Trip

Whitsunday Islands Afternoon

Board a maxi-yacht formerly used to circumnavigate the globe, and get used to being on the water. Lend a hand hoisting the sails or just sit back and enjoy the breeze.

Meals included: Dinner

Day 6 Whitsunday Islands

Remember those stranded-on-a-deserted island fantasies that we all had growing up? (no, just us?) Either way get ready to relive that castaway dream as you hike to an island lookout over Whitehaven Beach (one of the most famous beaches in the world) and enjoy the views of powdery sand and the Coral Sea's azure waters. You probably won't ever want to leave. And you haven't even gone below the surface yet!

After some free time on the beach basking in the sun you'll spend time as a group learning about the community efforts to protect and restore coral in the Great Barrier Reef before heading out to snorkel; over a Planeterra-supported coral garden. Then it's off to another secluded tropical island spot where the group will anchor for the night.

The sailing route today allows us to follow part of Captain Cook's route up through the Whitsunday Islands.

Planeterra has partnered with Reef Ecologic, a nonprofit specialized in creating innovative solutions to challenges facing coral reefs. In the Whitsundays they are working to engage the community and travellers to restore the reef following the 2017 cyclone. Reef Ecologic's new coral gardens in the Whitsundays foster natural coral fragments to be replanted into the reef for a healthy marine environment.

Please note that snorkelling over the Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration project may occur on the first or last day of your Whitsunday Islands excursion, if weather conditions or tides are not ideal on this day.

Maxi Yacht

Whitsunday Islands

Climb aboard a speedy racing yacht (and hang on to your hat).

Whitsunday Islands Sailing Trip

Whitsunday Islands

Set off towards Whitehaven Beach, and hike to a lookout over the beautiful white-sand beach and shallow turquoise waters off its coast. Take advantage of the included snorkel gear, throw on a mask and see what lives in the Great Barrier Reef. Along the way experience parts of the Whitsunday Ngaro Sea Trail.

Your G for Good Moment: Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration

Learn about community efforts to protect and restore coral in the Great Barrier Reef before heading out to snorkel over a Planeterra-supported coral garden.

Planeterra has partnered with Reef Ecologic, a nonprofit specialized in creating innovative solutions to challenges facing coral reefs. In the Whitsundays they are working to engage the community and travellers to restore the reef following the 2017 cyclone. Reef Ecologic's new coral gardens in the Whitsundays foster natural coral fragments to be replanted into the reef for a healthy marine environment.

Optional Activities - Day 6

Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling

Whitsunday Islands 30m-1h

Free

Take advantage of the included snorkel gear, throw on a mask and see what lives in the Great Barrier Reef. (Note that fins are not provided in order to adhere with local coral conservation efforts.)

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 7 Whitsunday Islands/Airlie Beach

Expected forecast today is; peace, serenity, paradise, and lots of gorgeous views. You may want to pull out your phone or camera every chance you get, but try to refrain and simply enjoy the moment as you and the group continue sailing through the picturesque backdrop of the Whitsunday Islands. Swim, snorkel, or lounge on the boat deck before sailing to the resort town of Airlie Beach for a night on the town with your best adventure buds! Live it up because let's face it, how often are you really in this kind of paradise?

After three days at sea, we sail back to Airlie Beach for a night on land in a local beach hostel. Feel free to relax by the pool at the end of the day.

Maxi Yacht

Whitsunday Islands

Climb aboard a speedy racing yacht (and hang on to your hat).

Whitsunday Islands Sailing Trip

Whitsunday Islands

It's the final half-day at sea! Enjoy sailing through the gorgeous Whitsunday Islands in the morning, passing by secluded coves and tiny islands. After some free time, sail in style back into Airlie Beach.

Optional Activities - Day 7

Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling

Whitsunday Islands 30m-1h

Free

Take advantage of the included snorkel gear, throw on a mask and see what lives in the Great Barrier Reef. (Note that fins are not provided in order to adhere with local coral conservation efforts.)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8 Airlie Beach/Cairns

With an early morning departure, admire the scenery on the train ride north to Cairns.

Get ready for an early morning wake-up today for the journey to Cairns. Make sure to stock up on snacks and bring personal entertainment – it may be one of the longer travel days on this trip, but it's worth it to reach The Gateway to the Great Barrier Reef!

Local Bus

Airlie Beach – Proserpine 45m-1h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Train

Proserpine – Cairns 10h-11h

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Day 9 Cairns

Cairns is quite the place to visit if you love warm weather (it would be headline news for the city's temperature to drop much below 20°C (68°F)) and want to visit the Great Barrier Reef. Take advantage of a free day to book one of the many optional activities that will get you out in nature's playground. Snorkel or dive in the Great Barrier Reef, get that adrenaline pumping by whitewater rafting, skydiving, or bungee jumping and cap it all off on a Big Night Out in Cairns with your fellow travellers. Drinks all around are well deserved after spending the day escaping your comfort zones.

Opt to pre-book the "Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling" activity on the checkout page ahead of time, to include this optional on your tour.

Please be aware that if you decide to book the optional scuba diving activity in the Great Barrier Reef and are taking any prescription medications, you will need a doctor's release giving you permission to dive.

Your Big Night Out Moment:

Release your inner break dancer and go wild tonight in Cairns with your G travel family. Get ready to bust a move and have the time of your life. Whether it's a pub crawl, drink specials or a bonfire on the beach, celebrate late into the night with your new best friends.

Your Discover Moment

Cairns Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Cairns, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like snorkelling the Great Barrier Reef, whitewater rafting, and skydiving. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

Optional Activities - Day 9

Skydiving

Cairns 2h-6h

310-400AUD per person

Enjoy the awe-inspiring beauty of Cairns from an eagle's perspective. Suit up, get briefed and board the prop plane to soar high above the land and sea. Strap onto your instructor, take a breath and leap into a once-in-a-lifetime free fall. This is what a natural high truly feels like!

Great Barrier Reef Diving from Cairns

Great Barrier Reef 8h-9h

245-289AUD per person

Experience the largest coral reef in the world from beneath the ocean's surface on a scuba diving day trip. Packages vary and include 1, 2, or 3 dives in a day. The Great Barrier Reef teems with 1500 species of tropical fish, as well as whales, dolphins and porpoises. Bring an underwater camera and go crazy!

Please be aware that if you decide to book the optional scuba diving activity in the Great Barrier Reef and are taking any prescription medications, you will need a doctor's release giving you permission to dive.

Skyrail & Kuranda Scenic Railway

Cairns

116-171AUD per person

Settle into a comfortable 6 seat gondola for a ride with a spectacular view along the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. Pass over the canopy one of Australia's tropical rainforests, so close to the tree tops it's as if you could reach out and touch the leaves. After, ride the Kuranda Scenic Railway through a lush tropical paradise framed by rugged mountains, waterfalls and ravines back to Cairns. Travel on authentic timber carriages via hand-hewn tunnels and across towering bridges, through the awe-inspiring Barron Gorge. Experience the exotic beauty of North Queensland's tropical rainforests, marvelling at the incredible array of plants and animals encountered all along the way.

Bungee Jumping

Cairns

179AUD per person

Leave your fears at home and prepare to have your breath taken away as you jump from 164ft. Now's the time to release your inner daredevil – what are you waiting for?

Whitewater Rafting

Cairns 12h-12h30m

138-210AUD per person

Put on a helmet, grab a paddle and raft the Class 3 & 4 rapids of the mighty Tully River, considered the best rafting river in all Australia & New Zealand.

Minjin Swing

Cairns

129AUD per person

Soar through the rainforest on the fastest jungle swing in the world. Suit up and be pulled to 150ft above the ground before flying over the canopy at a heart-racing, adrenaline-pumping 120km/hr. We can already hear your screams!

Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling from Cairns

Great Barrier Reef 8h-9h

Don a mask and snorkel the largest coral reef in the world, the Great Barrier Reef. Say g'day to Nemo, the clown fish, and some of the 1,500 other species of tropical fish that thrive in the warm waters off Australia's east coast.

Depending on availability of Dive Instructors, an upgrade to SCUBA diving may be possible but is by no means guaranteed. Please speak to your CEO to see if this is available.

Day 10 Cape Tribulation

Today, let the scenery guide you to some new adventures. Wave “see ya later” to Cairns before heading north to Cape Tribulation. Along the way; hop out, stretch those legs, and explore Mossman Gorge — home to the oldest continuously surviving rainforest on earth. Then follow an Indigenous guide through the Daintree Rainforest on an interpretive walk to better understand the lasting relationship of the Kuku Yalanju people with their natural environment.

Head north to Cape Tribulation. Stop en route to explore Mossman Gorge and take an interpretive walk through the Daintree Rainforest.

Private Vehicle

Cairns – Cape Tribulation 3h30m 140km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Indigenous Peoples Interpretive Walk

Mossman Gorge 2h

Take an interpretive walk through the Daintree Rainforest. Follow an Indigenous guide and learn about bush food, medicinal plants and the lasting relationship of the Kuku Yalanji people with their natural environment. Find out how to make bush soap, watch an ochre painting demonstration and sample some bush tea.

Optional Activities - Day 10

Daintree Rainforest Night Walk

Cape Tribulation

45AUD per person

Once the sun goes down, grab a torch and head out into the jungle for a guided night walk. With your guide you'll spot various critters who call this region home. Keep your eyes peeled for sleeping bats, birds, lizards and spiders as you listen to the sounds of the rainforest at night.

Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos

You may be a seasoned pro at group travel by now, but there will likely be some new travellers joining the group. Sit in on the welcome meeting to meet the newest members of your group and learn about the next leg of your tour.

Day 11 Cape Tribulation/Yungaburra

There's more to discover in Cape Tribulation today! Explore more of the rainforest or chill out poolside and catch some rays in the place where the Daintree Rainforest meets the Great Barrier Reef. Canter along the beach on horseback, trek to Mason's secret (croc-free) swimming hole, or reward that sweet tooth craving with some exotic fruit ice cream from Daintree Ice Cream Company. Then it's time to move on to Yungaburra in the Atherton Tablelands for the night. Think boho-boutiques, farm-to-table cafes, and eerie volcanic lakes as set off on foot to get to know this historical place.

Free Time

Cape Tribulation Morning
Kick back and relax in the rainforest.

Private Vehicle

Cape Tribulation – Yungaburra 3h30m 185km
Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Optional Activities - Day 11**Cape Tribulation Horseback Riding**

Cape Tribulation 2h-2h30m
110AUD per person

Hop in the saddle and explore the rainforest on your trusty steed. Ride through lush canopy floors and crystal clear streams, ending up on the stunning Myall beach. Cap off this adventure by galloping through the ocean spray!

Daintree River Croc Cruise

Yungaburra
27AUD per person

Cruise through the waterways of the Daintree Rainforest in search of crocodiles. Keep an eye out for exotic birds, tree-snakes and pythons while travelling through the mangroves – the wildlife here is abundant!

Night Wildlife Canoeing Tour

Yungaburra
40AUD per person

Paddle under the stars in search of nocturnal wildlife, like the tree kangaroo. Experience the calm of the rainforest at night, listen to the sounds of the jungle, and keep a keen eye for the elusive tree kangaroo. Approximately 80% of Australia's wildlife is active at night, making this the perfect opportunity to spot all kinds of critters in their natural habitat.

Meals included: Breakfast**Day 12 Yungaburra/Cairns**

Today is full of possibilities! Stop at Lake Eacham, a volcanic crater lake (make sure you have those swimmers packed to take a dip), before continuing the adventure as you visit some of the best waterfalls in the Atherton Tablelands; Josephine Falls and Millaa Millaa Falls. Later on, go for a swim with your pals in the waters of Babinda Boulders. Grab a photo with the group, have a few laughs, plot your move to this gorgeous oasis, and then get ready to travel back to Cairns.

Tour ends upon arrival.

Ask your GCO about booking post night accommodation in Cairns, as this trip arrives back late in the evening.

Lake Eacham Visit

Atherton
Lake Eacham is a volcanic crater lake, formed over 12,000 years ago. The lake is protected, with no motorized boats allowed, making the clear, tranquil waters perfect for a dip.

Babinda Boulders Visit

Babinda
The oddly shaped Babinda Boulders line a cool mountain stream, causing a beautiful cascade of clear water. An important site to the Bunna Binda Indigenous tribe, take a swim and learn about the myth behind this sacred spot.

Millaa Millaa Falls Visit

Millaa Millaa
Stop for photos and a dip in the Millaa Millaa Falls. This stunning cascade has been the backdrop for a number of music videos and tv commercials - try your own hair flip and catch that perfect shot!

Private Vehicle

Yungaburra – Cairns 2h70km
Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with any onward travel arrangements you require.

Meals included: Breakfast

What's Included

Your G for Good Moment: Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration, Whitsunday Islands

Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group

Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends

Your Discover Moment: Cairns

Your Big Night Out Moment: Cairns. Fraser Island 4x4 excursion. Noosa Everglades overnight experience.

Noosa Everglades canoeing excursion. Entrance fees to Cooloola Recreation Area and Fraser Island in

Great Sandy NP. Whitsunday Islands sailing excursion (3 days). Whitehaven Beach visit. All transport

between destinations and to/from included activities.

Highlights

Zip over dunes in a 4x4 on a remote sand island, sail from island to island through the Whitsundays on a maxi yacht, cool off in picture-perfect waterfalls

Dossier Disclaimer

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

Itinerary Notes

Please note that most 18-to-Thirtysomethings accommodation in Australia is multi-share. For more info, see our Trip Details.

Important Notes

1) COMBO TRIP

Please note that this trip is a combination of multiple G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and/or particular vehicles operating your tour may change between tour segments. You may also expect some group members to join or leave the tour, between tour segments.

2) Note that only 1 piece of luggage and 1 carry on are allowed on the Queensland train. If you exceed this allowance, AUD15 may be charged upon boarding the train.

3) Please be aware that wifi and internet access is not as readily available in Australia as in other parts of the world. There are often additional charges to connect to the internet, and speeds may be slower than what you are used to.

4). Over public holidays in Australia and New Zealand (such as Christmas, New Years Day, Easter, and Anzac Day) there may be some limitations of services and disruptions to schedules. In general our tours still operate effectively over public holidays, but there may be closures of optional activities and restaurants, and slight itinerary adjustments in order to provide all tour inclusions.

5) Scuba Diving Optional Activity

Please be aware that if you decide to book the optional scuba diving activity in the Great Barrier Reef and are taking any prescription medications, you will need a doctor's release giving you permission to dive.

Group Leader Description

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as a Chief Experience Officer (CEO). The CEO will be the group manager, leader and driver - this person is experienced in the routes travelled and will organize and lead the meal preparations and has experience in cooking a variety of local and international dishes for large groups.

As the group coordinator and manager, the aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. While not being guides in the traditional sense, you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. They will also offer suggestions for things to do and to see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends.

We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

Group Size Notes

Max 20, avg 16

Meals Included

7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners

Meals

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

Please note that most included breakfasts will consist of cereal, milk, bread and spreads, juice, tea and instant coffee. Having a simple breakfast together most days allows us the flexibility to get on the road early and get from point A to B all that much faster.

Transport

Private vehicle, maxi yacht, boat, train, 4x4 vehicle, ferry, walking.

About our Transportation

Our vans are Mini Coaches (24 seat vans which have been accommodated to occupy 18 people so you have more space while travelling). Occasionally with smaller group sizes we will use smaller, equally comfortable 13 seater vehicles. All Mini Coaches tow a trailer for luggage and camping equipment (when needed). All groups have one CEO/Driver.

The vehicles are factory built, with comfortable seats and air-conditioning. They are fitted with seat belts and it is mandatory to wear them.

On the 4x4 based trips we use purpose-built 16 or 13 seat truck vehicles. They have an air-conditioned customer compartment which is fitted with comfortable coach seats. All seats are forward facing.

On the rail based sections of our trips we use a standard seat, not the sleeping compartment. The trains have have a dinning carriage available.

Solo Travellers

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Accommodation

Hostels (7 nts, multi-share with 4-6 people), cabin (1 nt, multi-share with 4-5 people), overnight train (1 nt), maxi yacht (2 nts, open cabin multi-share). All nights are multi-share on this trip.

About Accommodation

Multi-share accommodation, on a single-sex basis (typically 4-6 people per room), is very common in Australia and is the way you will be spending most of your nights. We have specifically chosen unique accommodations to give local flavour to your trip.

COUPLES: Please note that due to the types of accommodation used in Australia, couples will likely be split into separate rooms where we use multi-share hostels. Pending availability, couples may be able to pay extra while on tour to have their own room in some destinations.

PRE/POST ACCOMMODATION: If booking additional nights before or after your tour, accommodation will be multi-share on a mixed gender basis.

Joining Hotel

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

Joining Instructions

By Taxi: Approximately \$40, 16km

By Air Train: \$15 per person. By far the best option; trains leave the airport every 15-20 minutes. Leave the train at Roma Street Station. Base Brisbane Uptown is opposite Roma St station.

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned for that day other than your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time.

Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

Arrival Complications

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact G Adventures during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our local office in Melbourne. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so we may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office and after office hours emergency number

From outside Australia: +61 432 705 621

From within Australia: 0432 705 621

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local operations manager, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What to Take

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible.

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. Heavy luggage is not recommended for the health of the CEO, who will take a lead in loading the storage trailer. Due to space in the trailer, we will not be able to accommodate more than one piece of main luggage per person. A good size day-pack (20-35L) is also essential to carry your personal gear for the day, as access to luggage between destinations will be limited. This daypack will be used to carry your personal gear for the day, your lunch and a water bottle.

You will need a smaller bag for the Whitsunday Islands overnight excursion, as we will leave big bags on the mainland due to space constraints.

Packing List

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Fraser Island and Noosa Everglades Overnight Excursion:

- Overnight bag (For the Fraser Island and Noosa Everglades excursion)

Health & Safety:

- Hand sanitizer (required)
- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)
- Quick Covid Test/Antigen Test

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

Visas and Entry Requirements

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

Spending Money

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

Money Exchange

The Australian currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in Australia and can be used to purchase small and large items. When purchasing products or services with a foreign credit card you may be charged additional fees by your credit card company for foreign purchases.

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Both Visa and Master Cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work check with your bank before you travel. A visit to an ATM can be arranged on Day 1 and other days of the trip.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of local currency (preferably smaller bills, 5's, 10's and 20's), traveller's cheques and credit cards is best. Currency exchange is best obtained prior to travel or at the airport, currency exchange is easy to find in Australia in the gateway cities and most banks do accommodate.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

Emergency Fund

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Tipping

It is not customary in New Zealand or Australia to tip service providers, but if you do experience outstanding service it is good to do so. Such service would only usually be in places like quality restaurants and it would be very rare that you would tip more than 10%. Unless specifically asked to do so at the time (by your CEO) - do not tip your local guides. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures Chief Experience Officer did an outstanding job, you may consider a small tip - but it certainly isn't expected.

Optional Activities

Fraser Island
- K'gari (Fraser Island) Flight (75AUD per person)

Whitsunday Islands
- Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling (Free)

Cairns
- Skydiving (310-400AUD per person)
- Skyrail & Kuranda Scenic Railway (116-171AUD per person)
- Bungee Jumping (179AUD per person)

- Whitewater Rafting (138-210AUD per person)
- Minjin Swing (129AUD per person)
- Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos

Great Barrier Reef

- Great Barrier Reef Diving from Cairns (245-289AUD per person)
- Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling from Cairns

Cape Tribulation

- Daintree Rainforest Night Walk (45AUD per person)
- Cape Tribulation Horseback Riding (110AUD per person)

Yungaburra

- Daintree River Croc Cruise (27AUD per person)
- Night Wildlife Canoeing Tour (40AUD per person)

Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. G Adventures can provide you with the appropriate coverage. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customersolutions@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

Minimum Age

Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

International Flights

Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.