



A U S T R A L I A N
AIR SAFARIS
BY  KIRKHOPE

Tip of Australia

Cape York Air Safari

13 Days | 12 Nights | All Inclusive | Private Aircraft

Cape York. One of Australia's last frontiers. A place every Australian should visit at least once in their lives.

The stunning 13-day Cape York Air Safari takes you to the very tip of mainland Australia, as well as outback Queensland, the Gulf of Carpentaria, Torres Strait Islands and the Great Barrier Reef.

It's an incredible way to see so many iconic locations: magnificent vistas from the air and ground level, interesting characters, unique birds and wildlife. Join us for the adventure of a lifetime!



Thursday Island



Tip of Australia

Destinations



Highlights

- Outback Dig Tree and Birdsville
- Picturesque Adels Grove
- Spectacular flightseeing over outback and reef
- Bucket list Tip of Australia
- Luxurious Lizard Island
- Photogenic Carnarvon Gorge

✈ Departures

Departing Melbourne

- 📅 29 April, 05 May, 18 July, 04 August, 07 August 2023
- 👥 **\$18,890** pp twin share
- 👤 **\$20,850** single
- ✅ ALL INCLUSIVE PRICE

Departing Sydney

- 📅 22 May 2023, 24 June 2023
- 👥 **\$18,890** pp twin share
- 👤 **\$20,850** single
- ✅ ALL INCLUSIVE PRICE

Departing Gold Coast

- 📅 12 June 2023, 14 August 2023
- 👥 **\$18,890** pp twin share
- 👤 **\$20,850** single
- ✅ ALL INCLUSIVE PRICE



For full details visit australianairsafaris.com.au, call **1300 206 130** or see your local travel agent
info@australianairsafaris.com.au • Hangar 7, 2 Second Street, Moorabbin Airport, Victoria 3194

Day 1: Depart for The Dig Tree and Birdsville (L,D)

First stop on the Cape York Air Safari is near the borders of NSW, SA and QLD, at the Dig Tree, where the explorers Burke and Wills famously set up camp. Learn more about this pioneering pair and their ill-fated expedition. Continue on to Birdsville, where sunset drinks are at Big Red, the first of 1,140 parallel sand dunes marking the edge of the Simpson Desert. Look out over the vast expanse of not very much and you'll truly know you've made it to the outback! To end the day, stay and dine in one of Australia's most iconic pubs — the Birdsville Hotel.

Overnight: Birdsville Hotel or Lodge

Day 2: Birdsville to Lawn Hill (B,L,D)

Flying north towards the Gulf of Carpentaria, your aircraft will land near your cabin at Adels Grove, in Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park, overlooking the stunning Lawn Hill Creek.

Lawn Hill Gorge is one of the most spectacular gorges in the Gulf Country, with lush tropical vegetation, sheer red cliffs and enchanting green water. Hop in a canoe or boat and float about the gorge, taking in the visual splendour and quiet, enjoy a cooling dip in the gorge. Accommodation for the night is in basic safari cabins at Adels Grove, an oasis in the desert set on a beautiful creek.

Overnight: Adels Grove, cabin

Day 3: Lawn Hill to Karumba (B,L,D)

The next stop is Karumba, home to prawn, mud crab, barramundi and fishing fleets working in the Gulf of Carpentaria. It's also known for fabulous sunsets. End the day with a camera in one hand and a glass in the other on a sunset cruise.

Overnight: Ash's Holiday Units

Day 4: Karumba to Horn Island and Thursday Island (B,L,D)

Continue north up the west side of Cape York to Horn Island in the Torres Strait. Local history experts and tour guides Liberty and Vanessa will meet you on arrival. They'll take you to the Torres Strait Heritage Museum to view exhibits from the pearling industry, myths and legends of Torres Strait, artwork, artefacts and World War II history of the area. On the In Their Steps WWII tour, walk in the steps of the indigenous and non-indigenous soldiers who served in the area, with insightful commentary. Transfer by ferry across to Thursday Island (TI) and your accommodation.

2 nights: Island Villas (2 bedroom, 2 bathroom)

Day 5: Thursday Island and the Tip of Australia (B,L,D)

Today it's time for a bucket list adventure - a visit to the Tip of Australia. Fly by chopper over the region's 247 virtually untouched islands, spreading like stepping stones through the strikingly turquoise waters of the Arafura Sea. Land at Loyalty Beach, then bus to Frangipani Beach for a 500 metre walk over uneven ground to the tip of mainland Australia. Grab a photo at the tip with your group. Lunch is a picnic on the beach, then heli back to TI.

On return to Thursday Island, a tour of the island reveals how its history helped to create today's dynamic, multicultural community and the tropical lifestyle it offers.

Day 6: Thursday Island to Lizard Island (B,L,D)

Ferry back to Horn Island to rejoin your aircraft for the flight south to Lizard Island on the Great Barrier Reef. Take in the breathtaking coastline en-route and fly over some of the world's most spectacular scenery on the reef.

Your window
to extraordinary
scenery



Lizard Island

As the most northern resort on the Great Barrier Reef, Lizard Island is truly secluded from the rest of the world. Exceptional service, facilities, touring and food are the perfect complement to swimming off the beach into the wonders of the largest coral reef in the world – very hard to beat.

2 nights: Lizard Island Resort

Day 7: Lizard Island (B,L,D)

Enjoy a leisurely day relaxing on the island paradise that is Lizard Island, with activities at your discretion. Take advantage of the complimentary snorkelling equipment and lessons, stand up paddle boards and sea kayaks. It will be hard to stay out of the water. The local reef life will leave you spellbound.

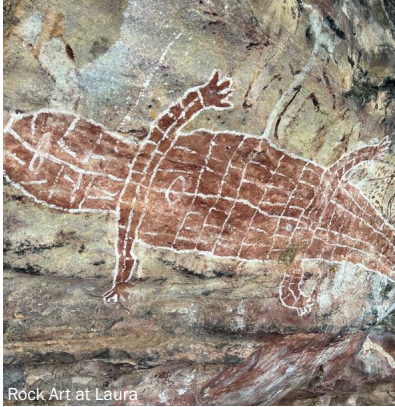
If you're feeling energetic, a walk to Cook's Lookout, the highest point of the island with a 360° view, is well worth the effort. Optional tours (at your own expense) include a boat trip and diving on the outer reef.



Dig Tree TEO Reichlyn Aguilar



Karumba



Rock Art at Laura



Qantas Founders Museum



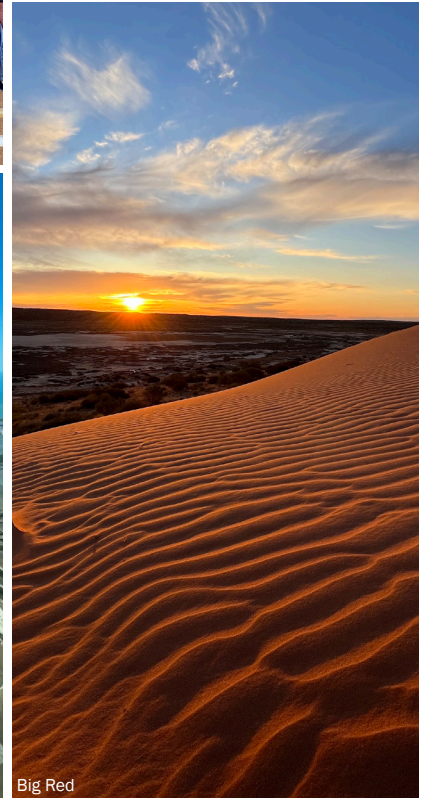
Canoeing in Lawn Hill National Park



Lawn Hill Gorge



Gulf Coast



Big Red



Landing on Loyalty Beach



Longreach



For full details visit australianairsafaris.com.au, call **1300 206 130** or see your local travel agent
info@australianairsafaris.com.au • Hangar 7, 2 Second Street, Moorabbin Airport, Victoria 3194

Day 8: Lizard Island to Cooktown (B,L,D)

Cooktown is your next destination, where Captain Cook sought refuge when his ship, The Endeavour, sustained severe damage during his 1770 expedition. Tour the many historical sites and learn how Cooktown prospered in a gold rush, dwindled, and then rose again to become an important base in World War II.

A sunset cruise makes for a wonderfully peaceful way to end the day. Nibble on a gourmet cheese platter, sip on a drink and listen to stories about Cooktown.

Overnight: Sovereign Resort Hotel

Day 9: Cooktown to Laura to Longreach (B,L,D)

Fly to Laura for a private tour of spectacular rock art. Quinkan Country contains a large and dramatic body of rock paintings. These galleries, between 15,000 and 40,000 years old, are listed by UNESCO as being among the top 10 rock art sites in the world.

After lunch in Laura, fly over the vast Queensland countryside, arriving at Longreach in the late afternoon. Explore the historic homestead at Camden Park Station, enjoy a drink as the sun goes down and gain an insight into the history of grazing in the outback, then be treated to a wonderful meal in a circa 1920 shearing shed.

2 nights: Mitchell Grass Retreat or Saltbush Retreat

Day 10: Longreach (B,L,D)

Your day in Longreach begins with a glide down the coolabah-lined Thomson River with its abundant birdlife. Then onto the fascinating Stockman's Hall of Fame, where the Australian Stockman's Experience will take you on an adventure that depicts the rugged, harsh and sometimes humorous antics of life in the bush. Spend some time at the Qantas

Founders Museum, with its impressive collection of aircraft, sunset drinks and the luminescent light show. Dinner is a delicious BBQ at your retreat.

Day 11: Longreach to Carnarvon Gorge (B,L,D)

Fly on to Carnarvon Gorge, an oasis in the semi-arid heart of Central Queensland. Carnarvon Creek has carved a winding course through sandstone over millions of years to form a spectacular steep gorge with narrow, vibrantly coloured and lush gorges. Take a guided walk to Mickey's Creek, Warrumbah Gorge and a side gorge so narrow that you can touch both walls at the same time.

At the front gate of the National Park, Carnarvon Gorge Wilderness Lodge is set on 100ha, looped by Carnarvon Creek. Stylishly appointed cabins in the bush provide a wonderful base for touring into the gorge. In the evening, cast your eyes upwards for a tour of the stars. The Carnarvon night sky is incredibly clear, allowing for some pretty spectacular viewing.

2 nights: Carnarvon Gorge Wilderness Lodge

Day 12: Carnarvon Gorge (B,L,D)

The second day takes you a long, guided walk. The Moss Garden, one of the best-known sites at Carnarvon Gorge, is a great example of how the spring systems work and is nestled amongst one of the best patches of remnant rainforest in the National Park. If you choose not to do the full day tour, you can spend more time this afternoon around the grounds, or go on shorter walks around the resort. Perhaps sit on the private verandah of your cabin, drink in hand, and do a spot of wildlife watching.

Day 13: Carnarvon Gorge to home city (B,L)

Sadly, it's the last day of your Cape York Air Safari. Your final stop is Charlotte

Plains, a 27,000ha sheep station. Take a tour, meet the owners, lunch in the historic homestead and listen to the stories of existence on this remote station. For the enthusiastic, there may be time for a hot bath in the open air, heated by thermal artesian water.

Back in the air, head for home where you'll arrive in the early evening.

