

**Day 5 Sunday 30 June**

**Ingham & the Wet Tropics**

Enjoy a full day excursion today to the sugar cane town of Ingham in the wet tropics north of Townsville. Visit the beautiful TYTO wetlands with its designated walkways, viewing platforms and an 11 metre high observation tower. The traditional custodians, the Nywaigi, Warrgamay and Bandjin people shared an abundance of wildlife, birdlife and waterlife in this rich region. Indeed the wetlands have a diversity of birdlife that rivals Kakadu National Park. At Sugar Tracks you discover cane farming and local sugar mill machinery on display as it evolved and changed over time. The Hinchinbrook Visitor Centre includes displays on the Hinchinbrook region and there is time for a leisurely lunch in the town centre and a visit to the Regional Art Museum. After the gallery you drive past heritage listed Ruth Fairfax House. On the return drive to Townsville you stop at the Frosty Mango ice creamery and tropical fruit plantation. There are 28 different fruits grown in the public access orchards here, 10 of which are grown during the cooler months. These include sapodilla, papaw, soursop, jackfruit, pomello, cashew apple, star fruit and black sapote. Chutneys and jams are available for sale and there is a nice café for locally made tropical ice creams. Arrive back in Townsville in the late afternoon and tonight a farewell dinner has been arranged for you at your hotel.

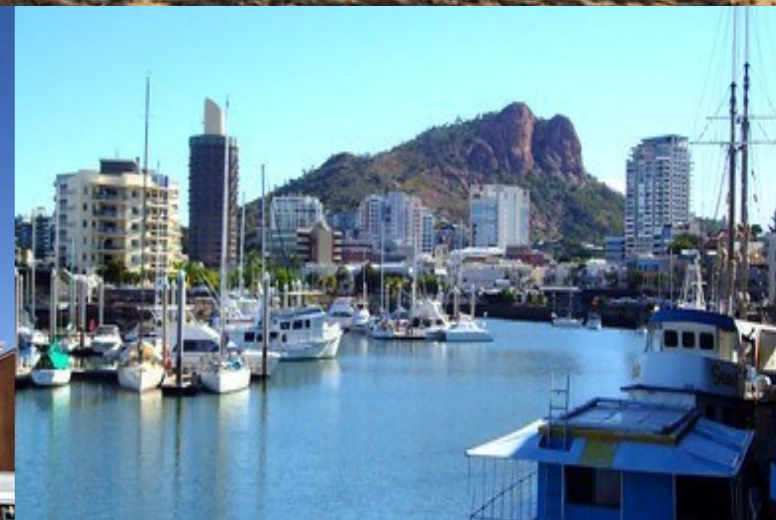
**Overnight Townsville  
Breakfast • Dinner**



**Day 6 Monday 01 July**

This morning you visit the Museum of Tropical Queensland. Among its exhibits is HMS Pandora the ship sent to rescue Captain Bligh after he was set adrift by the mutineers on the Bounty in 1789. The museum also has permanent displays such as At Home in Tropics. You walk to the museum, which is a short distance from your hotel, with your tour leader. You can stay as long as you wish and have time for browsing and lunch in the city before departing for Townsville Airport mid afternoon. Your direct flight is scheduled to arrive in Adelaide early evening.

**Breakfast**



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**Castle Hill • Queens Gardens • The Palmetum • Anderson Gardens  
James Cook University Eddie Mabo Library Art Collection • Historic Charters  
Towers • Magnetic Island by Sealink Ferry • Ingham Sugar Cane Town  
TYTO Wetlands • Hinchinbrook Visitors Centre • Wet & Dry Tropics  
Townsville Museum of Tropical Queensland**

Escape from the winter cold to the sunshine of Far North Queensland and vibrant Townsville. Flying nonstop from Adelaide to Townsville return with Qantas, join your historian tour leader Denis Binnion on this exploration of regional history and heritage architecture, galleries, gardens and quintessential landscapes. Visit the Museum of Tropical Queensland and James Cook University's art collection at the Eddie Mabo Library. Enjoy guided day tours to the sugar mill town of Ingham, the wet tropics, Hinchinbrook Island Visitors Centre, scenic TYTO wetlands and to the heritage icon of Charters Towers. Ride a ferry to picture perfect Magnetic Island for a full day of wonder and discovery and watch the sun set from Castle Hill. Staying in one quality, central hotel with full buffet breakfasts daily plus welcome and farewell dinners there's no need to pack and unpack just settle in relax and relish something different.

**Tour Leader:** Dr Denis Binnion AM is an experienced historical tour leader for WEA Travel's cultural and heritage tours to all corners of Australia. With a keen interest in geography, local heritage and history, he is a dedicated and friendly leader.

**Tour Includes:** All flights with Qantas; Full escort; High end hotel accommodation; Full buffet breakfasts daily; All luxury coach transportation; All fees, tours & sightseeing as per itinerary; Welcome & Farewell Dinners; Extensive travel notes.



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**Day 1 Wednesday 26 June**

**Adelaide to Townsville**  
Fly from Adelaide nonstop to Townsville with Qantas late morning. On arrival in Townsville you are met and transferred to your comfortable city centre hotel. After checking in, your tour leader takes you on an exploratory walk around Flinders Street's historical buildings and the town centre. A welcome buffet dinner has been arranged for you at your hotel this evening.  
**Overnight Townsville  
Dinner**

**Day 2 Thursday 27 June**

**Discovering Tropical Townsville.**  
After a good breakfast you depart your hotel for a coach tour around Townsville. There is so much of interest to see and discover. Begin with a walk through the beautiful Queens Gardens, then visit the Cape Pallarenda World War Two lookout bunker, before arriving at the Palmetum, one of Townsville's three botanical gardens. The garden features, as it's name implies, palms of all kinds. There are approximately sixty species of palms native to Australia and most are represented here. There are also huge shady mango trees, a rainforest walk, water features and numerous birds. Morning tea can be taken at the garden's Tumbetan Lodge café. Continue to Anderson Gardens and James Cook University to see the art collection at the Eddie Mabo library. After a lunch stop you visit the Town Commons Wetlands for lovely views from the Pandanus and Melaleuca lookouts. The last stop of the day is atop imposing Castle Hill to gaze out over beautiful Magnetic Island as the sun lowers behind you.  
**Overnight Townsville  
Breakfast**



**Day 3 Friday 28 June**

**Charters Towers**  
Enjoy a full day coach tour to historic Charters Towers today, a nationally recognized heritage icon, founded in 1870 after the discovery of gold on Tower Hill. Boom years followed with Charters Towers hosting its own stock exchange, the Great Northern Railway between Charters Towers and the port of Townsville being completed by 1882 and with the population swelling to about 30,000, making it Queensland's largest city outside Brisbane. Stop firstly at the Macrossan Bridge flood marker beside the Burdekin River just outside town. After a morning tea break in the main street precinct you drive to Tower Hill lookout and the impressive World Theatre in a former bank building for a visit. There is a lunch break and free time to visit the Zara Clark Museum if you choose. Your tour leader also takes you on a heritage walk around the centre of town exploring the historic buildings and the threads of time. Stop at the Lissner Park and rotunda before returning to Townsville for some relaxation and dinner at leisure.  
**Overnight Townsville  
Breakfast**



**Day 4 Saturday 29 June**

**Magnetic Island.**  
After breakfast you take the local bus (cost approximately \$1-50 conc passengers to pay) with your tour leader to the wharf to board your Sealink ferry to beautiful World Heritage listed Magnetic Island. Watch out for sea turtles before stepping on shore which feels like a tropical paradise the way it is imagined. Over half the island is National Park and is a perfect tourist destination but also home to many Townsville locals. Local buses can be taken to explore the island (cost approximately \$3-60 per day conc passengers to pay). Popular spots and attractions include Picnic Bay with its wooden jetty, and scenic bays such as Florence or Geoffrey fringed by the Great Barrier Reef. You may even choose to have a swim or snorkel. Magnetic Island is also home to the largest wild koala population in North Queensland. There are also abundant Rock Wallabies, Wombats, kookaburras, cockatoos, kites and fascinating curlews. Your tour leader will be on hand to provide advice and assistance.  
**Overnight Townsville  
Breakfast**

