

Sunshine Spectacular

\$1726ppts
\$419s/s
Includes Flights!

21st
July
2010
7 days

Big Pineapple, Eumundi Glass Blowing, Nougat, Australian Native Nursery, Buderim Ginger Factory, Underwater World, Noosa Everglades Cruise with BBQ lunch, Australia Zoo, Buderim, Australian Outback Spectacular II, Heroes of the Light Horse, Q Deck

Day 1:

Home—Sunshine Coast (Inflight Meal, D)

Following our pickups from Newcastle, the Central Coast to Hornsby, we fly out of Sydney Airport on our Qantas Flight, arriving in Brisbane around midday. We head along to **Maleny**, once heavily wooded in cedar, now with spectacular views through to the Glass House Mountain Range. The tranquility of the town is a major reason that many of Australia's top artists use the town as a base for their studios and retreats. And what better way to reacquaint ourselves with the Sunshine Coast, than a visit to the **Big Pineapple**, always worth a visit, particularly for a "big pineapple ice cream sundae!" We make our way to our motel, set on acreage with gardens to explore, all ground floor accommodation and onsite restaurant for dinner to ensure a comfortable and relaxing stay.

The Anchorage 07 5491 1499 (4 nights)

Day 2: Eumundi: Glass Blowing, Nougat, Fairhall Australian Native Nursery, Buderim Ginger, Macadamia Nut Works (BLD)

We start our day with a visit to **Eumundi Glass Blowing Factory** with delicate handmade art glass, ranging from glasses and vases to decorations and coloured objects. Next a visit to **Nougat World** for a quick taste and chance to purchase! We enjoy lunch and a tour of **Fairhall Natives & Australian Native Nursery**, which supplies many retail nurseries with their stock. After lunch we explore **Buderim Gingerworld**, just across from the **Macadamia Nutworks Factory for a free tasting**. You have time to purchase some ginger bargains and your ticket includes the **Ginger Express**, a quaint train ride around the plant.



Day 3: Underwater World—The Hinterland (BD)

This morning we tour **Underwater World** at **Mooloolaba Wharf**, the largest Oceanarium in the Southern Hemisphere. The highlight of the day is the inspiring **Seal Show**. Later you can wander through the complex at your own pace. For lunch you have the choice of venues, either stay inside Underwaterworld or make your way out onto the wharf precinct for fresh fish and chips. In the afternoon we head into the hinterlands to **Montville**. This country



town now is a major drawcard for those looking for second hand gifts and crafts, as well the chocolate shop.

Day 4: Noosa—Everglades Boat Cruise (BLD)

This morning we enjoy a quick visit to **Eumundi's World Famous Markets**, with stalls ranging from home made crafts to cheap imported nick nacks. Then we head into the **Noosa Everglades for an 85km Cruise**, from the Noosa River and Cootharaba to the unspoilt everglades to learn more about the habitat and eco system of the Queensland mangroves and the important part they play in the Australian fishing industry. Photographers will enjoy our slow cruise on the "River of Mirrors" with tranquil, unspoilt dark water, with unsurpassed reflections. Enjoy **Bird feeding and crab spotting** before a **Gourmet BBQ lunch with complimentary glass of wine at Harry's Hut**, returning to port by around 3pm.

Day 5: Buderim—Australia Zoo, Australian Outback Spectacular Show II: Light Horse—Gold Coast (BD)

We visit **Australia Zoo** which was established by the late Steve Irwin and his family, set on 20 acres, housing over 550 animals. We will enjoy a variety of keeper talks, both informative and interactive, such as koala cuddling, snake show, birds of prey and of course, the main event being the hungry **Crocodile Show** in the purpose built Crocoseum. Money raised from the zoo goes towards wildlife research and conservation parks. There are plenty of outlets for lunch with reasonably priced choices. After lunch we make our way to the Gold Coast to check into our hotel, within walking distance of Cavill Avenue. Tonight we will make our way to see **Australian Outback Spectacular 2 - The Great New "Heroes of the Light Horse Display of Australian Courage and Mateship**. This amazing extravaganza has been revamped, so if you haven't been before, you must, and if you saw the first show, you can't miss this one! Set in a giant 1,000 seat arena, the show will have a cast of larger than life characters, amazing animals and spectacular scenes featuring a tribute to the Australian Light Horsemen and their mighty steeds. After the show, including dinner, we return to our motel.

Vibe Hotel Gold Coast 07 5539 0444

Day 6: Gold Coast—Coffs Harbour (BLD)

Following a hot breakfast we spend some time in **Cavill Avenue**, the heart of the Gold Coast, with its extensive tourism facilities and shopping malls. The newest attraction being **Q Deck** - your ticket will take you 230m high to Levels 77 and 78 making this building the highest residential building in the Southern Hemisphere, from the observation area be treated to unsurpassed 360 degree views from the surf to the Hinterlands. We reboard the coach for Woodburn and lunch, eventually making our way to Coffs Harbour for our last night.

Comfort Inn Big Windmill 02 6652 2933

Day 7: Coffs Harbour—Home (BL)

Today we will make our way home after a relaxing and enjoyable winter break, arriving in Sydney via the Hunter mid afternoon.