

28  
October  
2010  
6 Days

# Jacaranda Festival

\$1199ppts\*  
\$456s/s



## Day 1: Home—Yamba (LD)

We will pick up from Strathfield to Thornton, where we will have morning tea. We will have lunch at Kew and an afternoon stop at Urunga. Late afternoon we will arrive at the coastal town of Yamba to stay at the luxurious 4.5 star **Multi-award winning Eco-Tourism Angourie Rainforest Resort** with tennis courts, swimming pools and day spa. We will enjoy a hot breakfast each morning.

Angourie Rainforest Resort 02 6646 8600 (4 nights)



## 86 Day 2: Iluka—Maclean—Yamba (BD)

After a hot breakfast we will visit Iluka. This pretty fishing village has a lookout and whale watching platform. We will have a short walk in **World Heritage listed Iluka Nature Reserve**, with coastal rainforest, spectacular views and a bird lover's paradise, before visiting the **Wombah Coffee Plantation** for morning tea and a guided tour. We will then head towards the **Scottish Town of Maclean**, and see the prawn trawlers which harvest the tidal reaches of the Clarence River. You can sample the local seafood or coffee shops (lunch own expense), visit the Scottish shops and check out the power poles, each decorated with their own clan tartan. This afternoon we enjoy free time in Yamba, home of one of the largest commercial fishing fleets in NSW. First visited by Matthew Flinders in 1799, a maritime station was established here in 1845.

Back at our resort, we will have time to enjoy the rainforest walk at the resort, or relax in the pool.



## Days 3 & 4: Grafton Jacaranda Festival (BD) + Lunch provided on one of the two days

Over the next two days we will enjoy the sights and sounds of **Grafton's Jacaranda Festival**, Australia's longest running floral festival.

Beginning in 1935, this is Australia's first folk festival, based on the magnificent spectacle of hundreds of purple blossomed jacaranda trees and even white jacarandas which grow in Grafton's broad avenues. In the words of the first organiser: "So was born a tradition of yearly festivity, when the trees shall bloom again, when song, dance and gaiety shall reveal the Australian capacity of real comradeship in Jacaranda time in Grafton."

Over the weekend we will visit several of the festival sites, depending on the final festival program, including the **Old School House Markets at Alumy Creek Reserve**, and a number of galleries. We will visit **several prize winning local gardens** which include categories ranging from large gardens to cottage gardens and the backyard vegetable garden.

We will enjoy the fun and excitement of the **Dragon Boat Racing** and Family Fun Day held in Memorial Park Canal on the Clarence River. Many of these activities and displays are free, others have a small entrance fee. We will hear the **Organ Recital at Christchurch Cathedral**. On Sunday afternoon we visit **Ulmarra**, one of the finest examples of a 19th century riverport in Australia, classified by the National Trust. We then stop at Tucabia for an evening of fun and frivolity as we step back in time at the **Squatters Rest Museum**, enjoying a traditional meal of stew, damper and dessert, being entertained by a local with poetry, yarns and music.



## Day 5: Yamba—Urunga Cruise—South West Rocks (BLD)

Today we will leave Yamba travelling down the western side of the river to Grafton. Following our first stop at Woolgoolga we will join **Nambucca Houseboats** for a cruise along the Nambucca River. Our luxurious hotel for tonight is located at South West Rocks, the home of Trial Bay Gaol.

Rockpool Motor Inn 02 6566 7755

## Day 6: South West Rocks—Home (BL)

We will leave the beautiful northern coastal region and head south calling in at Port Macquarie to note the growth of this bustling holiday and retirement centre. We will lunch near Karuah before we drop off at the Hunter, Tuggerah, Hornsby and Strathfield. *We have confirmed dates of the Festival and the Dragon Boat Races for 2010 with Festival Organisers, however final itinerary is subject change. We include all attractions, or substitute alternative activities.*