



## ULTIMATE EAST COAST EXPLORER | 3 WEEK

### 21-DAY / 20-NIGHT EAST COAST HIGHLIGHTS GROUP TOUR

Discover all the iconic highlights of the Australian East Coast with our Ultimate East Coast Highlights tour. From Sydney to the Great Barrier Reef, This fast-paced adventure will lead you to bohemian beach towns, world heritage sites, iconic surf beaches, pristine landscapes and the Great Barrier Reef! If you're looking to make new mates and discover the best of the Aussie East Coast, then this Ultimate East Coast Highlights is for you.

#### INCLUSIONS:



- 18 nights accommodation + 2 nights overnight bus
- ULTIMATE Group Leader
- Sydney City Tour
- Byron Bay Lighthouse Walk
- Behind the Bay Day Trip
- Surfers Paradise Beach & City Tour
- Explore Brisbane Southbank
- Visit the Irwin Family 'Australia Zoo'
- Venture across the whole of magical K'gari (Fraser Island)
- Visit the beautiful Lake McKenzie, Eli Creek and Champagne Pools
- 2 day / 2 night Whitsunday Island Sailing
- Visit Whitehaven Beach and Hill Inlet
- Visit Cairns Lagoon
- 1 day Great Barrier Reef Snorkel Trip (\$20 reef conservation levy payable locally)
- 4 x Lunch, 4 x Dinner
- Optional Activities available

#### Local fees: \$80AUD Total Paid direct.

\$30 EMC Levy, \$20 port fuel and reef levy - Great Barrier Reef, \$30 insurance - Fraser Island

We recommend a travel budget of approx \$60-\$80/ day for meals when not included in the itinerary.



## EAST COAST HIGHLIGHTS | 3 WEEK

### Day 1 | Welcome to Australia

Today our East Coast Explorer tour kicks off in Sydney with a City Orientation tour. We will visit all of the city's famous landmarks and finish at the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House! Tonight, we depart the city on our journey up the coast. First stop, the vibrant Byron Bay.

**Tour Start Time:** 1pm

**Includes:** Sydney City Walk

**Optional Add-on** - Want to see more of Sydney? Book the Ultimate Sydney add-on for 3 nights accommodation pre tour and a Sydney Harbour cruise.

**Accommodation:** Overnight Bus

### Day 2-3 | Byron Bay

After settling into our beachfront Byron Bay accommodation, we will explore town to get familiar with the laid back bohemian vibes this spot is known for.

The Byron Bay lighthouse is situated on Cape Byron, an area so naturally beautiful it's begging you to explore on foot. The coastal walking track is the best way to take it all in! We will also explore the surrounding area visiting Killen Falls, Lenox Head and Lake Ainsworth.

**Includes:** Waterfall Day Tour. Group Dinner, Cape Byron Lighthouse Walk

**Accommodation:** WakeUp Hostel (or similar)

### Day 4 - 5 | Surfers Paradise

This morning we bid farewell to Byron and arrived at the famous Surfers Paradise where we'll spend the night! On arrival, we will go explore the golden sands of Surfers Paradise Beach and have the option to see the views from the tallest building in Australia! This evening we will head out and discover the endless entertainment on offer in this lively town.

**Includes:** Surfers Paradise Tour

**Accommodation:** BUNK Hostel (or similar)

### Day 6 - 7 | Brisbane

Today our journey continues and we travel a short distance to Brisbane, the capital of

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the Queensland state. Our day is spent exploring the man-made city lagoons of Brisbane's Southbank entertainment precinct.

**Includes:** Southbank Brisbane Tour

**Accommodation:** BUNK Hostel (or similar)

## Day 7 | Australia Zoo

We rise early in the morning so that we can make our way to the home of the crocodile hunter, Australia Zoo! This zoo, made famous by Steve Irwin, has endless wildlife action every day and there are always plenty of exciting wildlife shows to see. The entire day is spent interacting with Australian wildlife and learning about the famous Irwin family story.

**Includes:** Australia Zoo Tour

**Accommodation:** BUNK Hostel (or similar)

## Day 8 | Rainbow Beach

Our second week on the East Coast includes three days on the world's largest sand island, Fraser Island. We will swim in the crystal waters of secret lakes, discover the famous Maheno shipwreck and explore various island lookouts for incredible island vibes and views. We spend our first night in Rainbow Beach so that we can get a safety briefing and to meet the specialised local guide who will be spending the next three days with us.

**Not included:** \$30 insurance payable on arrival (Paid by all customers. To drive, customers must be over 21 and have a manual drivers license. Driving is at the discretion of the partner operator and not guaranteed prior to travel).

**Accommodation:** Freedom Hostel (or similar)

## Day 9 | K'gari (Fraser Island)

Once we have arrived on the world's biggest sand island, we then drive for 1 hour to the Eurong resort along 75 Mile beach... Fraser Island's own highway with speed limits! There you can grab a coffee and chocolate croissant (own cost) for morning tea. From here, the big adventure begins as we drive to the famous Lake McKenzie... arguably the most popular and picturesque highlight of Fraser! Here we stop for some lunch, and for some quality time to have a play in the amazing clear waters with your new found friends! Around 3pm we drive up the beach to our campsite, for an early dinner and some well deserved drinks and fun!

**Meal(s):** Lunch, Dinner

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**Accommodation:** K'gari Camping

## Day 10 | K'gari (Fraser Island)

This morning we head off to see Eli creek, a beautifully clear creek perfect for a relaxing swim. Travelling north we then stop at Maheno shipwreck for some photos and a short history lesson about this famous Fraser Island icon. Shortly after we travel up to Indian head, Fraser Island's highest point. From here you may be lucky enough to see whales and sharks in the ocean, before we travel to the Champagne pools for a dip! We have lunch at either Maheno shipwreck or Champagne pools on Day 2 depending on time constraints, safety, and beauty! In the afternoon we travel back to camp for dinner and drinks.

**Meal(s):** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** K'gari Camping

## Day 11 - 12 | Rainbow Beach

Start with breakfast on Fraser Island, before our cleaning and take down of our camp site. We then drive to the beginning of the Lake Wabby walk, where we walk through the sand dunes to this tropical paradise! Lunch follows our trip to Lake Wabby, before we begin our drive down the beach heading back to the barge. Once back on the mainland we head back to the 4WD shed where you unpack and quickly clean the cars. We return to Freedom Rainbow Beach between 3pm and 4pm

**Meal(s):** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Freedom Hostel (or similar) and Overnight Bus

## Day 13 | Airlie Beach

Our next destination is the coastal town of Airlie Beach. This location is the gateway to the Whitsundays Islands. We spend this first day at the local lagoon and exploring the coastline.

**Accommodation:** Nomads Hostel (or similar)

## Day 14 | Whitsunday Sailing

At approx 2pm, we will depart from Coral Sea Marina and set sail towards the spectacular Whitsunday Islands! Did you know, the Whitsunday Islands are part of the World Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef Marine Park? We arrive at our first snorkel location and take some time to experience the magical underwater world of these fringing reefs. We then head back on board and sail to our overnight anchorage location. Enjoy sunset snacks, drinks then dinner (with dessert). Spend the night

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hanging out on deck with your new mates.

**Meal(s):** Dinner

\*Please note that our itinerary can change due to weather, conditions, winds, tides etc

**Accommodation:** Sailing Boat Open Cabins

## Day 15 | Whitsunday Sailing

Wake up for an early breakfast while heading to Tongue Bay. Once arrived, we head out on a bush walk up to Hill Inlet Lookout where you will be blown away by the views of the famous Whitehaven Beach.

Once you have perfected your new Instagram shot, head down to spend time on the beach (about 3 hours). We head back to the boat for lunch and then sail to our second snorkelling location. Once you are snorkelled out (if there is such a thing), we head to Langford Island, where we hang out on the beach for sunset snacks. This afternoon we head to our anchorage location for the night, enjoy dinner (with another dessert), a couple of drinks and your second night of fun, chilling, socialising and star gazing.

**Meal(s):** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Sailing Boat Open Cabins

## Day 16 | Whitsunday Sailing - Back to Mainland

Enjoy breakfast and the amazing scenery around you before heading to our fourth and final snorkelling/swimming location, then setting sail back to Airlie Beach. Arrive back approximately 11am with time to jump on an optional activity like a scenic flight over The Great Barrier Reef or jetskiing around the Whitsundays - but the fun is not over yet! After check in, freshen up and meet the sailing crew out for a few drinks at the after boat party!

**Meal(s):** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Nomads Hostel (or similar)

## Day 17 | Travel to Cairns

Grab some brekkie and check out of our hostel in Airlie Beach early - today we board our final bus and travel to the adventure capital - Cairns! Stay at the most popular hostel in town and if you're up to it, see what the nightlife is all about.

**Accommodation:** Gilligans Hostel

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## Day 18 | Cairns

The final stop on our adventure is at the home of Australia's Great Barrier Reef, Cairns! This morning we settle into the palm tree paradise! After getting acquainted with the city and local lagoon, you will have the option to join the group on the outskirts of the city for an afternoon of local music and sunshine. The rest of today is free to explore. Tonight the group will come together for a Cairns dinner.

**Includes:** : Group Dinner

**Accommodation:** Gilligans Hostel

## Day 19 | Cairns

Today is a free day on tour and we can spend it however you like! Hang out at the popular Cairns Lagoon, learn more about Australian Indigenous culture or take on more adventures with a Skydive - Cairns has endless adventures on offer! On our second final night in this North Queensland paradise your group leader will be available to help you plan your ongoing adventures and travels.

**Accommodation:** Gilligans Hostel

## Day 20 | Great Barrier Reef

Today is our last day on tour and we have the opportunity to spend it on the magnificent Great Barrier Reef! The vessel we travel on caters for snorkelers, certified and introductory divers. Our dive locations on the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef (approx 70km offshore) offer outstanding underwater visibility, superb coral formations and abundant, colourful marine life.

**Includes:** Great Barrier Reef Day Trip

**Meals:** Lunch

**Accommodation:** Gilligans Hostel

**Important to Note:** Day 19 and 20 of the itinerary are interchangeable, and the order of activities is subject to change. Your Great Barrier Reef Day Trip may occur on either Day 19 or Day 20 — your Group Leader will confirm this at the start of your tour. This full-day trip includes snorkelling, and you are safe to fly within 24 hours after snorkelling. Introductory scuba dives are also available as an optional upgrade, which can be organised and booked on the day of your trip. Please note that diving introduces a risk of decompression sickness (commonly known as "the bends") due to nitrogen build-up in the body. For this reason, it is strongly recommended that you do not fly for at least 24 hours after diving.

If you choose to upgrade to a dive, you must take this recommendation into account when planning your onward travel. You accept full responsibility for ensuring that your flight schedule aligns with this safety window.

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Ultimate cannot guarantee the exact day your Great Barrier Reef trip will operate, but you should plan for it to most likely take place on Day 20.

## Day 21 | Tour Ends

Today our East Coast Adventure comes to an end and we bid farewell to our new friends and the East Coast.

**Tour Ends** 10am

## East Coast Highlights | Sydney Add On

### Day 1 | Sunday | Welcome to Australia

Welcome to Australia! Arrive any time today (Sunday). When at the airport, get our Airport Shuttle and be transferred to your accommodation at Wake Up! Sydney. Today's all about settling in, recovering from your flight, and getting ready for an epic few weeks ahead.

**Accommodation:** Wake Up! Sydney (Night 1)

**Meals:** Not included

### Day 2 | Monday | Explore Sydney

Meet at WakeUp Reception at 11.30am. You'll be joining our UltimateOz tour for a brief info session, then head to Darling Harbour for lunch and our city walking tour. Bring comfortable shoes, sunscreen, camera and money for lunch. **WELCOME NIGHT OUT** Get to know your new mates even better! Meet at WakeUp Reception in the evening. Bring your ID. (Shared snacks and 1 drink included).

**Tour Start Time:** 11.30am in Hostel Reception Area

**Includes:** Sydney City Walk and Welcome Dinner

**Accommodation:** Wake Up! Sydney Central (Night 2)

### Day 3 | Tuesday | Sydney Harbour Cruise

Sleep This morning, feel free to explore more of the city, come see us in Ultimate HQ, or just chill out! Meet at Ultimate HQ at 13:00pm for your Sydney Harbour Cruise on the UltimateOz catamaran. We'll walk to Darling Harbour together and stop to buy drinks along the way. Bring your swimmers, towel, camera and ID to buy drinks.

**Includes:** Sydney Harbour Boat Cruise. Australian BBQ Lunch

**Accommodation:** Wake Up! Sydney Central (Night 3)

### Day 4 | Wednesday | Your East Coast Highlights Begins

Check-out of WakeUp Hostel by 10:00am. You can store any luggage at the Ultimate HQ or at the hostel. Today you'll be meeting your East Coast group leader and the rest of your travel buddies joining you on the trip. Meet at WakeUp Reception at 1.00pm. You'll be having your East Coast orientation then head out on another city walking tour (this will be very similar to the one on Monday, but with a different group of people). Once you finish the walk you'll have some free time to grab dinner and any snacks you

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need for the overnight bus tonight.

## Add on Inclusions

- 3 Nights in Shared Accommodation at Wakeup Sydney! Central Hostel
- Welcome Dinner
- Airport Arrival Shuttle
- Sydney City Tour
- Sydney Harbour Catamaran Cruise
- Australian BBQ Lunch

**Please Note:** Customers should arrive in Sydney on Sunday for this package. Add on the Sydney Add on during the booking process.