

**Itinerary for Auburn University  
Tropical Veterinary Science and the Great Barrier Reef  
7 July (depart US on 5 July) - 23 July, 2019**



*\*\*Please note that the itinerary is subject to change, availability, and confirmation of all components. Flights are not included in the program fee but AUIP can assist with arranging a group flight through STA Travel if desired.*

<b>Sunday, 7 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 1: Townsville - Arrival Day</b>
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| 1:00 PM           | <b>Qantas group flight arrives at Townsville Airport</b>   |
| 1:20 PM           | <b>Depart by coach from Townsville International Airport</b>   |
| 1:40 PM           | <b>Check in to accommodation</b>   |
| 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM | <b>Welcome and orientation</b><br>Health and safety orientation held at Reef HQ and led virtually by AUIP staff member   |
| 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM | <b>Hands on Wildlife Presentation with Jackie and Dan</b><br>Australia's wildlife has a deadly reputation; with animals like the inland taipan, the most toxic snake on the planet, calling Australian home it is easy to see why. From snakes to crocodiles and even small spiders, it seems like all of the animals are dangerous. During Hands on Wildlife's Dangerous Wildlife Orientation Program, students will discover which dangerous animals they may encounter in Tropical North Queensland, and more importantly they will learn what they should do if they do encounter these animals. Students will get up close and personal with some of these creatures in a safe and secure environment, and will be able to touch and hold some of our less dangerous animals as well. |
| 6:00 PM           | <b>Grill'd Group Dinner</b><br>3 Palmer Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4976 9990<br>Please order your meal choice from the menu. Drinks not included.   |

**Accommodation**

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048  
Swimming pool, Wi-fi - complimentary, Gymnasium

<b>Monday, 8 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 2: Townsville - Introduction to Reef HQ</b>
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| 7:30 AM  | <b>City Oasis continental breakfast</b>   |
| 8:30 AM  | <b>Walk to Reef HQ Aquarium (20 minutes)</b>  |
| 9:00 AM  | <b>Welcome to Reef HQ Aquarium</b><br>Reef HQ Aquarium is the world's largest living coral reef aquarium and the Australian Government's National Education Centre for the Great Barrier Reef. During this session participants will receive an orientation tour of the facility, get an overview of how it was built and learn about the some of the marine life that is on display.   |
| 10:00 AM | <b>Morning tea</b>  |
| 10:30 AM | <b>Creature Feature Workshop</b><br>The Discovery Lagoon is home to an amazing array of reef creatures. Students will discover the baby leopard shark, ray, sea cucumbers and sea stars that inhabit Discovery Lagoon and call the Great Barrier Reef home. Students will have the opportunity to have a hands on interaction with some of these creatures. Using state-of-the-art technology students will also be able to look at the mouth of a sea star, the tube feet of sea urchins and examine a variety of other reef creatures up close. |
| 11:00 AM | <b>Behind the scenes tour of Reef HQ Aquarium, animal husbandry and biosecurity focus</b><br>The world's largest living coral reef aquarium! Go behind the scenes and explore what it takes to maintain a biological system of this size. During the behind the scenes tour, you will learn how Reef HQ Aquarium staff keep Reef HQ Aquarium's living exhibits healthy and how they monitor the conditions that are required to maintain a "Living Coral Reef on Land".   |
| 12:15 PM | <b>Lunch at Reef HQ Café</b><br>Today's lunch will be provided by the Reef HQ Café and a dedicated seating area will be made available for your use.  |
| 1:15 PM  | <b>Reef HQ Aquarium Turtle Hospital operations presentation</b>   |

Reef HQ Aquarium's Turtle Hospital provides a dedicated facility, where sick and injured marine turtles can be cared for and rehabilitated. The hospital operates under and promotes the C.A.R.E (Conserve. Act. Rehabilitate. Educate) philosophy playing a key role in raising community awareness in relation to threatened species and encouraging behavioural change that will benefit the environment. During this truly inspirational experience students will learn more about marine turtles "the ancient mariners of the sea" and visit the Turtle Hospital where sick and injured marine turtles are being cared for.

**Turtle Hospital visit and assistance with turtle health checks**

Hands-on experience in performing health checks on sick and injured marine turtles.

2:15 PM

**Meet an Aquarist**

See what is on the menu for the sharks and fish today!

2:30 PM

**Watch animal feeding**

3:00 PM

**Coral propagation program**

Based on the same techniques frequently used in domestic gardens to start new plants from cuttings off mature plants, coral fragments "cuttings" are taken from donor colonies to start new colonies. This ensures Reef HQ's displays are maintained and developed in the most sustainable way. Sharing our secrets is also helping other facilities to reduce their ecological footprint.

3:00 PM

**Coral propagation program**

3:30 PM

**Free time / time for faculty discussion session**

7:00 PM

**City Oasis dinner**

**Accommodation**

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

**Tuesday, 9 July 2019**

**Day 3: Townsville - Marine Park Management and Assessment at Reef HQ**

7:30 AM

**City Oasis continental breakfast**

8:30 AM

**Walk to Reef HQ Aquarium (20 minutes)**

9:00 AM

**Introduction to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and its management**

An ecosystem based approach is used, and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is widely recognised as one of the best managed marine protected areas in the world.

The Marine Park is a multiple-use area that supports a range of communities and industries that depend on the Reef for recreation or their livelihoods. Tourism, fishing, boating and shipping are all legitimate uses of the Marine Park. The entire Marine Park is covered by a Zoning Plan that identifies where particular activities are permitted and where some are not permitted.

10:15 AM

**Morning tea**

10:45 AM

**Leopard shark captive breeding program**

Our leopard shark captive breeding program is internationally recognised. Reef HQ Aquarium is one of only a few aquariums worldwide that have eggs laid and new pups hatched successfully. Reef HQ donates offspring to other zoos and aquariums around Australia and the world which reduces the number of sharks collected from the wild. Growth rate research also helps environmental management agencies to better understand how to protect them.

11:15 AM

**Reef Health Assessment Training (Theory)**

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's "Rapid Monitoring Program" is the latest citizen science (community monitoring tool) that enables community members to participate in monitoring the health of the Great Barrier Reef. The strength of the program is that it can be used either at the same site repeatedly for monitoring changes over time or it can be deployed anywhere on coral reefs to get a snapshot of reef health. You will receive in-water training within Reef HQ Aquarium's Coral Reef Exhibition, instructed in the simplified steps and use of diagrams on underwater slates. The Rapid Monitoring Program can easily be adopted by people who may not have a scientific background, however the data collected provides enough detail to be of scientific value for reef managers.

12:30 PM

**Lunch at Reef HQ Café**

Today's lunch will be provided by the Reef HQ Café and a dedicated seating area will be made available for your use.

1:15 PM

**Briefing prior to snorkeling activities**

1:30 PM

**Rotational activities**

For this part of the program, the group will be split into two smaller groups for activities on a rotational basis.

Group 1: Snorkel within the Coral Reef Exhibit - Reef Health Assessment Training (Practical)  
Put theory lessons into practice snorkeling in the Coral Reef Exhibition at Reef HQ Aquarium.  
Conduct a Reef Health Assessment on the world's largest living coral reef aquarium in preparation for your day trip to the Great Barrier Reef.

Group 2: Discover the Top 10 Families of Reef Fish  
In this session students will be introduced to the top ten families of Reef Fish found on the Great Barrier Reef and learn about the general characteristics of how to identify them.

**Rotational activities continue**

2:45 PM

Rotational activities continue.

Group 1: Discover the Top 10 Families of Reef Fish

Group 2: Snorkel within the Coral Reef Exhibit

4:00 PM

**Break**

4:15 PM

**Discussion of results**

4:30 PM

**Overview of Reef snorkel trip**

4:45 PM

**Free time / time for faculty discussion session**

6:30 PM

**City Oasis group dinner**

**Accommodation**

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

**Wednesday, 10 July 2019**

**Day 4: Townsville - Great Barrier Reef Day Trip**

7:00 AM

**City Oasis continental breakfast**

7:30 AM

**Depart accommodation on foot for the marina**

Exit City Oasis Inn and turn left walking until you reach Denham Street. Turn right onto Denham Street and walk for approximately 300m, then turn left onto Melton Terrace. Walk for approximately 550m until you reach The Strand. Turn left onto The Strand and walk alongside Anzac Park. At the end of the park turn right onto Mariners Drive and onto the Breakwater Marina. You will find the Adrenalin Snorkel and Dive vessel on the fuel wharf at the end of Mariners Drive (Past 'G' wharf).

Please wear your swimsuit under your clothes and bring a towel, sunhat, sunscreen, sunglasses and camera.

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

**Adrenalin Snorkel: Great Barrier Reef Excursion**

Adrenalin Snorkel and Dive, Townsville's most experienced marine tourism operator, will escort you to some of the best sites on the Great Barrier Reef.

During the day you will complete a Reef Health Assessment under supervision of experienced dive crew and marine experts. Learn about both natural and human-induced impacts on the reef. Find out about some of the practices local operations have adopted to minimise their impact on the environment and help rehabilitate the reef. Discuss business operations and concerns with management of SeaLink Travel Group, one of Australia's largest tourism and transport providers.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, as well as tea, coffee, water and cordial will be provided, as well as a full-length wetsuit, mask, snorkel and fins.

Please note diving is not permitted while on programme activities, unless AUIP receives university approval prior to the program and divers bring evidence of valid certification. If you are not confident in your swimming ability please let the crew know so they may assist you. We recommend any passengers who may experience motion sickness take appropriate medication 1 hour prior to the trip; always read and follow the medication guidelines. Please drink extra water on board to combat the effects of dehydration.

Note that this activity is subject to weather conditions and that members of the general public may be along on the boat in the event of a smaller program enrollment.

6:00 PM

**Dinner on your own**

**Accommodation**

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

**Thursday, 11 July 2019**

**Day 5: Townsville - Billabong Sanctuary Wildlife Park**

7:30 AM	<b>City Oasis continental breakfast</b>
8:30 AM	<b>Depart by coach for Billabong Sanctuary (20-minute drive)</b> Billabong Sanctuary is a leader in conservation; their excellent corporate management behaviour ensures the long-term sustainability of the business and its lasting contribution to environmental causes. They strongly believe that their holistic and passionate approach to conservation is the secret behind their success.
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Guided Sanctuary Tour with Staff Rangers</b> Note that as requested, this tour will be provided in 2019 by staff rangers instead of veterinary students.
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Time to explore the sanctuary and join Billabong's regular public educational sessions</b>
12:00 PM	<b>Group BBQ lunch</b>
12:45 PM	<b>A presentation on Australian dingoes and crocodiles</b> This experience with qualified rangers will showcase the positive role model Billabong Sanctuary provides through education to the wider community focusing on the life and history of dingoes and crocodiles.
1:30 PM	<b>Billabong Sanctuary service learning project (TBC)</b>
3:30 PM	<b>Coach transfer from Billabong Sanctuary to City Oasis Inn (20-minute drive)</b>
4:00 PM	<b>Free time / time for faculty discussion session</b>
6:30 PM	<b>City Oasis dinner</b>

#### Accommodation

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

<b>Friday, 12 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 6: Townsville - Free day</b>
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8:00 AM	<b>City Oasis continental breakfast</b>
Full day	<b>Free day</b> Lunch and dinner on your own

#### Accommodation

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

<b>Saturday, 13 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 7: Townsville to Hidden Valley Cabins - Medicinal Rainforest Plants</b>
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8:00 AM	<b>City Oasis continental breakfast</b>
8:45 AM	<b>Check out of accommodation</b>
9:00 AM	<b>Depart by coach</b>
<b>Guide</b>	<b>Ross McLennan</b> Ross runs a small, family-run tourism business called Hidden Valley Cabins located 103 kilometres northwest of Townsville. The McLennan family have owned and operated the business since 1986. Because of its remote location, Hidden Valley Cabins has no town amenities and is totally self-sufficient. In December 2007, the retreat switched off its diesel generators and since then the entire resort's electrical needs have been supplied by the sun, saving the resort up to 26000L of diesel and 78 tonnes of CO2 per year. Ross is very passionate about sustainability, the natural environment that he calls home, and finding ways to implement best practice into his business.  Please note: the schedule set out for your time at Hidden Valley Cabins is subject to change. Ross will keep you updated with any changes.
	<b>The medicinal value of tropical rainforest plants from Paluma, North Queensland</b> Starting in Townsville you will be joined by Ross and if available, local plant expert Greg Calvert. Travelling from Townsville to to Hidden Valley via the World Heritage Listed Wet Tropic Rainforests, they will showcase the flora and fauna of the Paluma Range and Dry Open Woodlands of Hidden Valley.
	<b>Picnic lunch provided by Hidden Valley Cabins</b>
	<b>Continued rainforest exploration</b>
7:00 PM	<b>Hidden Valley Cabins group dinner</b>

## Accommodation

Hidden Valley Cabins, 1 McLennan Road, Hidden Valley, Phone: 07 4770 8088  
Swimming pool, Complimentary transfers, Wi-fi - complimentary

<b>Sunday, 14 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 8: Hidden Valley Cabins - Australia Wildlife Conservancy Service Learning</b>
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7:30 AM	<b>Hidden Valley Cabins group breakfast</b>
8:00 AM	<b>Travel by coach to Australian Wildlife Conservancy site (travel time approximately 20 minutes)</b> AWC's reserves cover more than 3 million hectares (7.4 million acres), which represents the largest private conservation estate in Australia. Hidden Valley Cabins, AUIP and AWC have developed a partnership to do critical work on two of AWC's reserves, Mt Zero and Taravale. The day will be spent working on a range of activities which may focus on physical activities and/or business assessment and monitoring.  Please wear a long-sleeved shirt, closed toe shoes and long pants. Hidden Valley will supply gloves, tools, etc. A picnic lunch will be provided.
12:30 PM	<b>Hidden Valley Cabins lunch</b>
2:00 PM	<b>Platypus spotting</b> Australian Geographic recognises the area as one of the top five places to see platypus in the wild.
4:00 PM	<b>Free time</b>
7:00 PM	<b>Hidden Valley Cabins group dinner</b>

## Accommodation

Hidden Valley Cabins, 1 McLennan Road, Hidden Valley, Phone: 07 4770 8088

<b>Monday, 15 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 9: Hidden Valley - Charter Towers Day Trip</b>
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6:15 AM	<b>Hidden Valley Cabins group breakfast</b>
7:00 AM	<b>Travel by coach to Charters Towers (3 hours 30 minutes)</b>
9:30 AM	<b>Texas Longhorn Farm - Leahton Park</b> Introduction to visit and property with owner Michael Bethel. Experience country farm life on an Outback station, learning about the rural lifestyle, connections to the land and creative alternatives to urban provisions.
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Morning tea: Smoko, Damper and Billy Tea served at the Chuck Wagon</b>
10:30 AM - 12:15 PM	<b>Horse-drawn wagon ride or safari</b> View the Texas Longhorns, Bison, Scottish Highlanders, African Watsui, Buffalo and pasture inspection.
12:15 PM	<b>Presentation at Cattle Yards on Artificial Insemination</b> Leahton Park uses artificial insemination exclusively and below is a selection of the bulls used in the breeding program at Leahton Park, both past and present. We use the best genetics available in Australia and work with other leading Texas Longhorn breeders in this country to import semen from some of the best AI sires in the USA.
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>BBQ lunch</b>
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Travel to Hidden Valley Cabins</b>
7:00 PM	<b>Hidden Valley Cabins group dinner</b>
8:30 PM	<b>Southern Skies star gazing</b> The Southern Hemisphere's night sky has unique sights on display only visible in this region of the world, including, but not limited to, the Southern Cross, Coal Sack and Jewel Box. The Milky Way and its neighboring galaxies, the Magellanic Clouds, are also easily visible.

## Accommodation

Hidden Valley Cabins, 1 McLennan Road, Hidden Valley, Phone: 07 4770 8088

<b>Tuesday, 16 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 10: Hidden Valley - Wallaman Falls Day Trip</b>
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8:15:00 AM - 6:00 PM	<b>Hidden Valley Cabins group breakfast</b> Please use this time to prepare for the Wallaman Falls hike. You will need sturdy hiking shoes, sun protection, and plenty of water.
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**Travel by coach to Wallaman Falls (travel time approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes)**

**Wallaman Falls hike and master plan development**

Travel to the largest sheer drop waterfall in the southern hemisphere. Wallaman Falls plummets an amazing 305 metres into the Stony Creek Gorge. This guided hike takes you to the base of the waterfall where you will enjoy a picnic lunch provided by Hidden Valley Cabins before returning to the summit.

**Travel by coach to Hidden Valley Cabins (travel time approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes)**

7:00 PM

**Hidden Valley Cabins group dinner**

8:30 PM

**Night walk and nocturnal wildlife spotting**

**Accommodation**

Hidden Valley Cabins, 1 McLennan Road, Hidden Valley, Phone: 07 4770 8088

**Wednesday, 17 July 2019**

**Day 11: Hidden Valley to Townsville - Mungalla Station**

7:30 AM

**Hidden Valley Cabins group breakfast**

8:15 AM

**Travel to Mungalla Station (2 hours 15 minutes)**

10:30 AM

**Mungalla Aboriginal Tours cultural experience**

Your tour will start with a cultural session introducing you to the Nywaigi Aboriginal culture. During the session you will be able to try your hand at traditional activities such as throwing boomerangs and spears. This is followed by a 'Captive Lives' session during which you will hear the story of the ancestors of the Aboriginal people from Mungalla Station and surrounding areas and how they were exhibited as cannibals and savages in the nineteenth century circuses and sideshows of Europe and America. You will also travel by coach to the old homestead site, where you will learn about James Cassady and his family, who were the first European settlers on Mungalla.

Note that the program will not cover veterinary-specific topics such as artificial insemination, based on 2018 feedback and as this topic is covered while in Charters Towers.

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

**Group BBQ lunch at Mungalla Station**

2:30 PM

The story continues through to today where the Nywaigi people are running Mungalla Station and working with various organisations to restore damaged wetlands and waterways to their once pristine state.

3:30 PM

**Depart Mungalla Station by coach for Townsville (2 hours)**

5:30 PM

**Check in to accommodation**

6:30 PM

**City Oasis group dinner**

**Accommodation**

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

**Thursday, 18 July 2019**

**Day 12: Townsville - JCU School of Biomedical and Veterinary Science Visit**

7:30 AM

**City Oasis continental breakfast**

8:30 AM

**Coach transfer to James Cook University (20 minutes)**

9:00 AM

**James Cook University School of Biomedical Veterinary Science site visit (TBC)**

James Cook University's Veterinary School is accredited by the Australasian Veterinary Board's Council and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. James Cook University is the only university north of Brisbane to offer veterinary science training. The School of Veterinary and Biomedical Science has extensive research expertise in tropical animal and veterinary science.

Facilities on the Townsville campus for veterinary science students include teaching laboratories, a range of livestock in paddocks and yards and small animal pens. Students gain the skills to diagnose, treat and prevent diseases in pets, livestock, aquatic species and native fauna. In their final year, students undergo clinical placements in a range of settings across northern Queensland at James Cook University facilities in Townsville, the Atherton Tableland and Mackay, as well as local veterinary hospitals and practices and in government agencies.

The campus visit will also include a tour of the turtle health research facility, cattle yards, and equine centre (TBC).

12:30 PM

**Coach transfer to central Townsville**

1:00 PM

**Lunch on your own in town**

2:30 PM **Veterinary practitioner visit in Townsville, including koala rehabilitation (TBC)**

6:00 PM **Free evening**  
Dinner on your own

#### Accommodation

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

<b>Friday, 19 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 13: Townsville to Magnetic Island - Australian Institute of Marine Science Visit</b>
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7:30 AM	<b>City Oasis continental breakfast</b>
8:15 AM	<b>Check out of accommodation and store luggage on the bus</b>
8:30 AM	<b>Coach transfer to Australian Institute of Marine Science (45 minutes)</b>
9:30 AM - 11:45 AM	<b>Tour of AIMS Cape Ferguson facility</b> Tours include presentations on AIMS' current research and a guided walk around the facilities, including a tour of the 'world's smartest aquarium', the National Sea Simulator.  Sturdy, closed footwear and a hat to protect against the sun are required. Bring a full water bottle with you as well.
12:00 PM	<b>Fish and chips lunch at the AIMS cafe</b>
1:00 PM	<b>Coach departs for Magnetic Island Ferry Terminal (45 minutes)</b>
2:15 PM - 2:40 PM	<b>SeaLink Ferry: Townsville to Magnetic Island (approximately 25 minutes)</b>
2:45 PM	<b>Depart by SunBus coach from Magnetic Island Terminal to Bungalow Bay Koala Village</b>  There will be a quick grocery stop on the way to Bungalow Bay.
3:00 PM	<b>Check in to accommodation and free or faculty-led time</b>
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	<b>Bungalow Bay wildlife introduction &amp; welcome dinner</b> Group dinner and a hands-on introduction to Australian wildlife with a Bungalow Bay Koala Village ranger providing discussion on the diversity of Australian terrestrial ecosystems and the species therein.

#### Accommodation

Bungalow Bay Koala Village, 40 Horseshoe Bay Rd, Magnetic Island, Phone: 07 4778 5577  
Laundry facility, Restaurant, Swimming pool, Wi-fi - complimentary, Air conditioning, Kitchen, ATM, Luggage storage

<b>Saturday, 20 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 14: Magnetic Island - Koala Population Survey</b>
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8:00 AM	<b>Bungalow Bay cooked breakfast</b> Please use this time to ensure you are prepared for the koala population survey project. You are required to wear long pants, long sleeves, closed-toe shoes, and ankle length socks.
9:00 AM	<b>Koala population survey project</b> You will be given the opportunity to take part in a field-based study surveying koala populations on Magnetic Island. This work is modelled on a study conducted by James Cook University (JCU) researchers in 2011 which collected data on koalas for both publishing and management purposes. The day will include a seminar on koala biology and ecology, a briefing on the survey methodology and a discussion of the JCU study and their use of data. You will be immersed in the natural environment of the island while undertaking the survey, in addition to having the opportunity to see koalas both in their natural habitat and up close in captivity.  You will be riding a bicycle for a total of 5 kilometres at a steady pace. As the landscapes are based in eucalypt woodland, you are required to wear long pants, long sleeves, closed-toe shoes and ankle length socks for the morning activity. Please bring a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and 1 litre of water.  A picnic lunch will be provided at Bungalow Bay. You will also have the opportunity to purchase a koala souvenir photo.
6:00 PM	<b>Bungalow Bay group dinner</b>

#### Accommodation

Bungalow Bay Koala Village, 40 Horseshoe Bay Rd, Magnetic Island, Phone: 07 4778 5577

<b>Sunday, 21 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 15: Magnetic Island - Free Day</b>
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8:30 AM **Bungalow Bay cooked breakfast**

Full day **Free day**  
Lunch and dinner on your own

#### Accommodation

Bungalow Bay Koala Village, 40 Horseshoe Bay Rd, Magnetic Island, Phone: 07 4778 5577

<b>Monday, 22 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 16: Magnetic Island to Townsville - Terrestrial Landscapes Day</b>
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7:30 AM **Bungalow Bay cooked breakfast**  
Meet at the Education Deck by 8:25 AM for your lecture.

8:30 AM **Terrestrial landscapes of Queensland**  
- Introduction to the diversity of Australian terrestrial ecosystems; a journey from central Queensland to the coast  
- Similarities and linkages between arid environments, open eucalypt forests, grassland, rainforests, mangroves and reef islands  
- Plant and animal adaptations in the environment  
- Sensitive ecosystems  
- European impact: soil, plants and animals  
- Climate change  
- Magnetic Island ecosystems  
- Question and answer session

10:15 AM **Morning break**  
Please use this time to prepare for the Balding Bay hike. A picnic lunch will be provided.

10:45 AM - 2:00 PM **Balding Bay hike**  
During this 3-hour hike you will progress through Magnetic Island National Park into the low wetlands area of Horseshoe Bay before climbing into the dry sclerophyll forests bordering the granite boulder habitats. Your guide will showcase some diverse habitats that are home to over 75 species of reptiles, mammals and birds found in the dry tropics.  
Enjoy your packed lunch at Balding Bay. Please carry all rubbish back to Bungalow Bay Koala Village and dispose of it in the proper receptacle bins.

4:00 PM **Check out of accommodation**  
Please ensure your room is clean and tidy and that you have left nothing behind. Please load your luggage onto the Sunbus coach for a prompt departure at 4.30pm.

4:30 PM **Depart by coach to the ferry terminal**

5:10 PM **SeaLink Ferry: Magnetic Island to Townsville (approximately 25 minutes)**

5:35 PM **Depart by coach to City Oasis Inn**

5:45 PM **Check in to accommodation**

6:45 PM **Depart on foot to Cowboys**  
Exit City Oasis Inn and turn right walking until you reach Stanley Street. Turn left onto Stanley Street and walk for approx. 400m until you reach Flinders Street. Turn left onto Flinders Street and walk approx. 250m and Cowboys Leagues Club will be on your left.  
Dinner tonight is at a traditional Australian club which is licensed premises. Although you will not be drinking ID may be required, so please bring photo ID such as a drivers license or passport. An acceptable standard of tidy casual dress is also required - no hats, flip flops, swimwear or singlets please.  
Please also bring a pen with you tonight to complete your program evaluation.

7:00 PM **Farewell Dinner at Cowboys League Club Match Restaurant**  
Please order one main with the salad bar from the 12 Club Classic menu options. Vegetarian, Vegan and Dairy Free variations are all available; please check with your server if you have dietary requests.

#### Accommodation

City Oasis Inn, 143 Wills Street, Townsville, Phone: 07 4771 6048

<b>Tuesday, 23 July 2019</b>	<b>Day 17: Magnetic Island - Koala Field Research Day</b>
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4:00 AM **City Oasis breakfast**  
Due to your early departure City Oasis Inn will deliver a breakfast pack to your room during the evening. It will be available for you this morning.

4:20 AM **Depart for airport by coach**

5:55 AM

**Group flight departs Townsville**

QF969 departs for Brisbane, connecting to your international flight.

Safe and happy travels! We hope you enjoyed your study abroad program in Australia!