

# MICK FREESTYLE TOUR

## Sydney - Cairns

**Minimum Duration:** 20 Days // 19 Nights

**Departs:** At least 3 times per week, year-round

**Blackout Periods:** Christmas Day and New Year's Day

**Departure Location:** Sydney

**Finish Location:** Cairns

**Group Size:** Min 4 / Max 40

**Transportation:** Stray bus, comfortable train, Magnetic Island ferry & local transfers

**Age Requirement:** 18+, 16-17 with parental consent

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### Day 1: Sydney (Arrival Day)

Check into your central located hostel and get ready for your epic East Coast adventure.

**Accommodation included:** Central Sydney accommodation

**Meals included:** n/a

**Activities included:** n/a

**Optional activities:** Bondi to Coogee beach walk, explore King Street Wharf, Royal Botanic Gardens, Taronga Zoo

### Day 2: Blue Mountains Day Trip

**Meet:** 7.30am Wake Up! Hostel, Sydney Central (please be ready waiting 15 minutes prior to departure).

Prepare for an epic day of adventure to see some of the most spectacular scenery in Australia. Our first stop out of Sydney is at Euroka to spot wild kangaroos and other wildlife in a natural clearing. Next, we stop off in the local town Glenbrook for a coffee/snack break. We then have a 1.5-hour hike to the stunning Wentworth Falls and viewpoints of the beautiful Jamison Valley. Enjoy a light picnic lunch and then trek to a remote waterfall and lookout. We head up to view the famous 3 Sisters lookout to take a couple of selfies, before driving back to central Sydney for a well-earned drink (beer/wine or soft drink).

**Accommodation included:** Central Sydney accommodation

**Meals included:** L

**Activities included:** Blue Mountains day trip- guided walk, wildlife spotting

**Optional activities:** n/a

### Day 3: Sydney to Barrington Tops (Strademark Stop)

**Meet:** Wake Up! Hostel at 8am (please be ready waiting 15 minutes prior to departure).

We depart the big city and head to the Hunter Valley wine area for a tasting at one of Australia's most famous vineyards. We then travel through the backcountry to our stunning stop on the edge of Barrington Tops National Park (a World Heritage Listed Area). We stay in our own private lodge overlooking the Barrington River. You'll spend the afternoon tubing down the river and then in the evening have a few drinks and relax in the hot tub.

**Accommodation included:** Lodge at Barrington Tops

**Meals included:** D

**Activities included:** River tubing, wine tasting

**Optional activities:** n/a

#### **Day 4: Barrington Tops to Spot X Surf Camp**

**Meet:** At the lodge

Wake up in the morning and enjoy breakfast with an amazing view. We then head north, with a break to visit a koala hospital to learn about their efforts in preserving koalas, and then stop at a nature reserve to spot wild kangaroos hopping along the incredible coastline. We arrive at our waterfront accommodation at Spot X in the early evening where you'll have dinner at camp.

**Accommodation included:** Spot X accommodation

**Meals included:** B, D

**Activities included:** Koala hospital visit, wildlife spotting

**Optional activities:** n/a

#### **Day 5: Spot X Surf Camp to River Retreat (Strademark Stop)**

**Meet:** At the Stray bus

This morning take part in a fun group lesson, learning the basics of surfing. If you love the beach or are keen to hone in your surf skills, we recommend staying longer to do a Surf & Stay. In the afternoon we travel to our River Retreat and go for a guided canoeing trip, spotting wildlife along the way. In the evening have an Aussie BBQ, learn how to cook some damper and toast marshmallows around the campfire. We sleep in wilderness cabins or in swags under the stars.

**Accommodation included:** Cabins or camping

**Meals included:** B

**Activities included:** Surf lesson, canoeing (or guided walk if bad weather)

**Optional activities:** Hop-off to extend your stay for a Surf & Stay

#### **Day 6: River Retreat to Byron Bay**

**Meet:** At camp

We leave our camp early, hop on our bus and head up towards Byron Bay, Australia's famous surf and arts town. We stop in the picturesque town of Yamba along the way for lunch where you can have a walk around or a swim in the Angourie Blue Pool. We have an orientation drive on the way to Byron Bay to help you get your bearings.

**Accommodation included:** Byron Bay accommodation

**Meals included:** n/a

**Activities included:** Angourie Blue Pool swimming, Byron Bay orientation drive

**Optional activities:** n/a

#### **Day 7: Full Day Byron Bay**

Today you'll have the day to yourself to explore. You can perfect your surfing skills, party, do a dolphin kayak trip, visit the alternative town of Nimbin (additional costs), or just relax and take in the laidback, hippy vibe. We recommend taking a walk to the lighthouse to view the Australian mainland's most easterly point.

**Accommodation included:** Byron Bay accommodation

**Meals included:** n/a

**Activities included:** n/a

**Optional activities:** Surf lessons, kayaking, snorkeling, diving, Nimbin day trip, etc.

### **Day 8: Byron Bay to Noosa or Rainbow Beach**

**Meet:** Main bus stop on Jonson St, Wake Up! Hostel or Arts Factory hostel (please confirm in advance)

We cruise up to the New South Wales/Queensland border and hop out at Danger Point to stretch our legs and check out the view of one of Australia's best surf spots, Snapper Rocks. We then drive into Surfers Paradise, you may want to get off here to experience the sun, sand, tans and high-rises of Australia's most developed beach area. We drive through Brisbane (to pick up and drop off travellers in the city centre) then onto the upmarket beach resort town of Noosa. Hop-off here or continue onto Rainbow Beach to start your Fraser Island adventure (make sure you've booked in the dates in advance with Stray). Once you've checked-in, you'll have a safety briefing for your 4WD trip that starts the following morning.

**Accommodation:** Noosa or Rainbow Beach accommodation

**Meals included:** N/A

**Activities included:** Danger Point border crossing

**Optional activities:** Hop-off on the Gold Coast, Brisbane or Noosa.

### **Day 9 - 10: Fraser Island**

Wake up early and head out for your 3 days and 2 nights on Fraser Island. Whilst on Fraser you'll experience the largest sand island in the world, go on a 4WD expedition, explore the island and check out incredible sites to snap epic pictures, swim in lakes, natural pools and the ocean all in paradise.

**Accommodation:** Fraser Island accommodation

**Meals included:** 2 D, 1 B, 1 L

**Activities included:** 4WD tour, guided island tour

**Optional activities:** Walks, swimming

### **Day 11: Fraser Island to Rainbow Beach/Noosa**

Today you'll spend the morning walking through magical sand dunes and soaking up the sun. You'll return back to Rainbow Beach (or Noosa) in the early afternoon.

**Accommodation:** Noosa or Rainbow Beach accommodation

**Meals included:** 1 B, 1 L

**Activities included:** Beach walk

**Optional activities:** n/a

### **Day 12: Rainbow Beach to Emu Park (Strademark Stop)**

We have the morning to relax or do your choice of activities (extra cost), before heading to the train station to start our first train journey. We travel to Rockhampton then are met by a private bus, which takes us to Emu's Beach Resort. We are welcomed onto the resort and find out more about tomorrow's Treasure Island Adventure on Great Keppel Island.

**Accommodation:** Emu's Beach Resort

**Meals included:** N/A

**Activities included:** N/A

**Optional activities:** Wild dolphin centre or sandboarding

### **Day 13: Emu Park to Airlie Beach (Overnight Train)**

**Meet:** Emu's Beach Resort

This morning we head to a tropical paradise like nowhere else on our Treasure Island Adventure. Our destination Great Keppel Island is located on the southern of the Great Barrier Reef with untouched coral, turtles, reef fish and manta rays all straight off the beach. Relax or have a go at snorkelling or kayaking (additional cost) before exploring the island. We have dinner at Emu's Beach Resort before we catch the train in the evening and travel overnight to Airlie Beach – the gateway to the beautiful Whitsunday Islands. Note: Depending on which day you arrive into Emu Park, you may have an extra night / day (additional cost)

**Accommodation:** Overnight train

**Meals included:** n/a

**Activities included:** Treasure Island Adventure

**Optional activities:** Snorkeling or kayaking

### **Day 14: Full Day Airlie Beach**

We arrive off the overnight train early in the morning. We grab some breakfast and your guide will give you a brief walking orientation tour of Airlie. Then you have the rest of your day free in Airlie Beach to relax. Explore the town, go shopping or hang by the local lagoon.

**Accommodation:** Airlie Beach accommodation

**Meals included:** n/a

**Activities included:** Orientation walk

**Optional activities:** Skydiving, swimming in the lagoon

### **Day 15 - 16: Airlie Beach to Whitsunday Island**

**Meet:** 8.30am Abell Point Marina

Wake up early and head down to the marina in time for a 2-day, 1-night adventure through the breathtaking Whitsunday Islands. These picturesque islands are set in the Great Barrier Reef and are home to some of the world's most pristine beaches. You'll go on an epic sailing adventure, spending the night at sea. You'll visit Whitehaven beach and sail around the reef with various stops to get out and swim/snorkel, seeing plenty of marine life along the way. You'll return back to Airlie Beach at the end of the second day to spend the night.

**Accommodation:** Overnight boat & central Airlie Beach accommodation

**Meals included:** 2L, 1D, 1B

**Activities included:** Sailing, snorkeling

**Optional activities:** n/a

### **Day 17: Airlie Beach to Magnetic Island**

**Meet:** Outside Base Backpackers

We start early with a local bus to the train, a ferry out to beautiful 'Maggie Island', and a local transfer to the accommodation. There is much to explore on the island, as nearly 50% of it is National Park with amazing beaches and abundant wildlife. Your guide will

join you on a walk around the Island; otherwise you can do more exploring or just relax by the pool.

Note: Depending on which day you depart you may have a free day on Magnetic Island

**Accommodation:** Magnetic Island accommodation

**Meals included:** n/a

**Activities included:** Fort's Walk

**Optional activities:** Diving, 4WDing in Barbie Cars

### **Day 18: Magnetic Island to Rainforest Experience (Strademark Stop)**

**Meet:** YHA Bungalow Bay reception or at the ferry terminal (please confirm)

We travel back to the mainland on the ferry, travel by train to Tully – getting in at around lunchtime. After we get off at Tully, we go on to embark on Stray's signature Rainforest Experience. We travel by bus into the amazing rainforest of Tully Gorge National Park. Cool off with a swim in a beautiful swimming hole before a BBQ dinner and stories around the campfire.

**Accommodation:** Camping in tents

**Meals included:** D

**Activities included:** Swimming, campfire

**Optional activities:** N/A

### **Day 19: Tully to Cairns**

**Meet:** Tully train station

We wake early at our rainforest camp for breakfast and then have an interpretative walk through the forest, learning about the traditional indigenous usage of the land. We then head back to Tully and jump on the train to our final destination, Cairns. We arrive late afternoon, then get ready to party tonight to celebrate the final night of your epic East Coast adventure.

**Accommodation:** Central Cairns accommodation

**Meals included:** B

**Activities included:** Interpretative walk through the rainforest

**Optional activities:** Tully Rafting

### **Day 20: Cairns**

Today is the last day of your Stray adventure. Be sure to ask your guide for any recommendations on activities and things to do from Cairns.

**Accommodation:** n/a

**Meals included:** n/a

**Activities included:** n/a

**Optional activities:** Bungy jumping, Great Barrier Reef dive/snorkel trip, skydive, Atherton Tablelands tour, Cape Tribulations tour

### What's Included:

- All transport including the Stray bus between Sydney and Rainbow Beach/Gympie, fast trains between Gympie and Cairns, local transfers and return Magnetic Island ferry
- 20 meals, 19 nights' accommodation including 1 overnight train
- Guidance from local guide
- Access to Stray Mate app
- Blue Mountains Day Trip
- Wine tasting Hunter Valley
- River tubing, Barrington Tops National Park
- Surf lesson, Spot X Surf Camp
- Koala hospital visit, Port Macquarie
- Kangaroo spotting, Emerald Beach
- Canoeing experience, River Retreat
- Angourie Blue Pools, Yamba
- Byron Bay orientation drive
- Danger Point Border Crossing walk
- Carlo Sand Blow Walk, Rainbow Beach
- 3 Day / 2 Night Fraser Island
- Treasure Island Adventure at Emu Park
- Airlie Orientation Walk
- 2 Day / 1 Night Sailing Adventure
- Forts Walk at Magnetic Island
- Tully Gorge National Park Rainforest

### What's Not Included:

- Most meals
- Additional accommodation in places where you hop-off to extend your stay

### What to Bring:

- Clothes (mainly light with some warm layers)
- Walking shoes (sneakers/trainers)
- Camera
- Swimsuit & towel
- Toiletries
- Hat & sunscreen
- Bug repellent
- Day-pack\*\*
- Water bottle
- Waterproof jacket (shell)
- Do **NOT** bring: Sleeping bag, sheets, blankets or pillow

\*\* our trips are pretty active; you'll need a day-pack to carry the essentials during activities and walks but you won't have to carry your pack/suitcase that far

## Notes:

- **Luggage restrictions:** A backpack or small/medium suitcase (up to 15kg) and a small daypack for day excursions.
- **Reconfirmation instructions:** All the activities/accommodation listed are open-dated, please contact Stray's reservations team at least 48 hours prior to arrival to confirm your bookings. For Fraser Island and Whitsunday trip bookings, we recommend booking at least 7 days in advance to guarantee your spot. In peak periods (e.g. Christmas/New Years Eve, Easter, School Holidays/Events) some accommodation may be subject to an additional surcharge or minimum number of nights.
- Freestyle Tours include the first night's accommodation at each destination, a selection of top-rated activities and some meals. Due to how Stray's timetable works, travellers may have an additional night in certain places which will need to be booked and paid for in addition to the nights included in their tour. If travellers choose to hop-off and extend their stay in any location, all additional accommodation, meals and activities are at their own expense. Additional accommodation and activities can be booked via the Stray Mate app.

This itinerary is a guide. Given the spontaneous nature of our trips and lack of control over Australia's weather(!), what we do each day might vary occasionally.

**Teilnehmer:** min 4 bis max. 40 Personen (Mindestalter 18 Jahre, 16-17 Jahre in Begleitung der Eltern)

**Transport:** Bus, Zug, Fähre

**Übernachtung:** Hostel

**Includierte Mahlzeiten:** Frühstück, Mittagessen, Abendessen

**Gepäck Limit:** 15 kg, please bring a soft sided bag only

**Rollstuhlgeeignet:** nein

**Geeignet für Menschen eingeschränkter Mobilität:** ja

(genauere Informationen auf Anfrage)

**Die Sprache während der Tour ist englisch**