

## BRISBANE

### **Mirrabooka cultural experience**

Meet the local Brisbane Aboriginal Tribe Riverlife Mirrabooka and share an Aboriginal cultural experience like no other. Participate in traditional Aboriginal song and dance with descendants of the local Yuggera Tribe as they perform indigenous stories and dance skills passed on for thousands of years. Witness traditional fire starting techniques and share in Indigenous educational talks that offer an insight into Aboriginal life and history of this ancient land. Take part as Aboriginal musicians demonstrate and encourage visitors to try traditional indigenous instruments such as the didgeridoo and clap sticks. <http://www.riverlife.com.au/activities/mirrabooka.html>

### **Learn more at Queensland Museum South Bank**

Dandiiri Maiwar, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures Centre at Queensland Museum South Bank, is a unique place where visitors can learn about the experiences and perspectives of Queensland's two distinct indigenous cultures: the Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders.

Dandiiri Maiwar (dun deeree may war), combining two words commonly used by local Aboriginal groups – dandiiri meaning "to meet" and maiwar the traditional word used to refer to the waterway now known as the Brisbane River – roughly translate as "meet at the river", giving us a sense of purpose and place as well as expressing the significance of water and waterways to all peoples, past, present and future. <http://www.southbank.qm.qld.gov.au/exhibitions/dandiiri/index.asp>

### **Indigenous Australian Art – Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane**

Australia's Indigenous artists work across a range of media including fibre and textiles, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, painting, as well as film, photography, and new media. Queensland's Indigenous artists include some of the most respected in Australia. Their vibrant cultural practices are comprehensively represented in the Gallery's Collection. [http://www.qag.qld.gov.au/collection/indigenous\\_australian\\_art](http://www.qag.qld.gov.au/collection/indigenous_australian_art)

### **Tribal Gallery & Basement Indigenous Workshop, Brisbane**

The Tribal Gallery is exclusively Australian Indigenous Art and Artefacts, representing a diverse group of established and emerging Aboriginal Artists from many different communities. It is also an online retail outlet where you can purchase any piece in the convenience of your own home and country. The Basement Indigenous Workshop is our unique Aboriginal workshop you will learn about Australian Indigenous Culture whilst you make your very own indigenous Artefact guided and inspired by Aboriginal Craftsmen. The workshops are run by traditional Aboriginal Artists who explain the creative process behind their Artefacts and then assist you in creating your very own didgeridoo, Boomerang, Emu caller or canvas painting using traditional Indigenous techniques and materials <http://www.tribaltravel.com.au/Default.aspx?tabid=36&List=1>

## GOLD COAST

### **Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary Wildnight Adventure**

Traditional culture and Australian animals at their very best. After dark, Currumbin comes alive with activity. Their amazing nocturnal animals come out to feed, hunt and play, and Australia's indigenous people perform amazing traditional dance and music. You'll see one of the biggest Saltwater Crocs in Australia. Hand-feed our big mob of friendly kangaroos. See the Tasmanian devil at his most active. Cuddle the koalas. Watch spellbound, a traditional performance by members of the Nyulejam Dance Troupe – the only Aboriginal dance show on the Gold Coast. The haunting sound of the didgeridoo echoing through the sanctuary's native bushland is a truly memorable experience. [www.currumbin-sanctuary.org.au/content/standard.asp?name=WildnightAdventure](http://www.currumbin-sanctuary.org.au/content/standard.asp?name=WildnightAdventure)

## **Aboriginal Experience – Aries Tours**

Behind the Gold Coast in the World Heritage-listed rainforests of Springbrook National Park lives the largest colony of glow-worms in Australia. Join an expert environmental guide from Aries Tours to discover these beautiful creatures on an evening bush walk through sub-tropical rainforest. Learn about plants and animals unique to the area, as your local indigenous guide tells you about the history, culture, and lifestyle of their past, and their interaction with this special place. The highlight of the tour is the Natural Bridge cave where sparkling glow-worms light up the roof above a stunning cascading waterfall. The evening ends with supper in the forest and stargazing, before guests are dropped back to their accommodation. A four course 'Aussie' dinner is also available as part of the tour for an additional cost. [www.ariestours.com](http://www.ariestours.com)

## **CENTRAL QUEENSLAND:**

### **Dreamtime Centre for Culture, Rockhampton**

Operated by Aborigines and built on ancient meeting grounds, Dreamtime is Australia's largest Aboriginal cultural centre. Watch the Djarn Djarn dancers (mens dance group) perform, or take a guided tour through exhibitions including a Torres Strait Islander village, boomerang and didgeridoo playing displays. Learn how Aborigines and islanders used plants for many uses. [www.dreamtimecentre.com.au](http://www.dreamtimecentre.com.au)

### **Carnarvon Gorge National Park**

To the Bidjara and Karingbal people, Central Queensland's Carnarvon Gorge is one of their most sacred places and figures strongly in Aboriginal folklore and Dreamtime stories. Explore the gorge's spectacular Aboriginal stencil rock art, some dating back 18,000 years and accessed via 21km of walking tracks. In some caves there are stencil frescoes up to 137 metres long, plus at another site, a gigantic painting of the sacred Rainbow Serpent. [www.epa.qld.gov.au/projects/park/index.cgi?parkid=49](http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/projects/park/index.cgi?parkid=49)  
<http://www.carnarvon-gorge.com/walks.htm>

## **TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND:**

### **Tjapukai's rainforest people**

Situated just north of Cairns, the award winning Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park offers a showcase of indigenous culture and customs. Tjapukai endeavours to entertain allowing guests to immerse themselves in theatrical performances.

**Tjapukai by Day** provides a highly eventful experience featuring a combination of holographic images and live actors to tell the wondrous legends of the Storywaters; brilliant dance and music performances; and spectacular didgeridoo playing displays. Visitors can also immerse themselves by learning how to throw a boomerang or play a didgeridoo and learn about bush foods and medicine.

**Tjapukai by Night** is a powerful and personal experience that will leave you with a deep and lasting memory, and open your heart to the beauty and power of Australia's ancient indigenous culture! Thunder and lightening herald the Gadja, a Dreamtime spirit. The audience are invited to become part of an ancient corroboree ritual which climaxes in the ceremonial making of a fire. Guests dine as the Tjapukai claim the stage, presenting their culture with their inimitable blend of theatre and humour. [www.tjapukai.com.au](http://www.tjapukai.com.au)

### **Pamagirri dancers and rainforest corroboree**

Witness a half hour show of traditional dance performance in a rainforest amphitheatre, depicting animals, food gathering, and hunting. The rainforest setting at Rainforestation Nature Park, just outside Kuranda, serves as the theatre walls whilst sounds of wildlife provide accompaniment to the haunting sounds of the didgeridoo and clap sticks. Listen carefully for sounds imitating Kangaroos or the Kookaburra. Enter the Dreamtime Walk through the mouth of the Rainbow Serpent which leads to a viewing area for activities such as boomerang throwing and demonstrations of hunting skills. One of our Guides, Jauwa, is listed in the Guinness Book of Records with a distance of 147.75 metres – that's one and a half football fields! [www.rainforest.com.au](http://www.rainforest.com.au)

## **Kuku-Yalanji's Dreamtime walks**

The indigenous inhabitants of land which stretches from around Cooktown in north Queensland and Port Douglas in the south, the Kuku-Yalanji people take walking tours into the heart of the beautiful Mossman Gorge. Visitors on the guided rainforest walks are treated to a 1½ hour walk along private, easy graded tracks, visiting special places and culturally significant sites, past traditional bark shelters and over cool rainforest streams. The experienced interpretive guides demonstrate traditional plant use, identify bush tucker sources, share their dreamtime legends, explain the history of cave paintings and provide an enchanting narrative of the rainforest and their special relationships within this unique tropical environment. The Dreamtime Walks are conducted four times a day after which guests enjoy a Didgeridoo performance, Tea and Damper at the end of each tour. [www.yalanji.com.au](http://www.yalanji.com.au)

## **Daintree Eco Lodge**

The international award-winning Daintree Eco Lodge in the midst of the World Heritage Daintree Rainforest offers a unique range of indigenous experiences, including Aboriginal guided rainforest walks and the chance to create your own masterpiece in an Aboriginal art and cultural workshop. The lodge's spa is one of the best in the world, and specializes in Aboriginal massage techniques and spa experiences at waterfall which is a powerful healing site for Aboriginal women. [www.daintree-ecolodge.com.au](http://www.daintree-ecolodge.com.au)

## **Tour the BAMA Way**

The word `Bama' (pronounced bumma) means person, and the BAMA Way is an Aboriginal journey of discovery through the South East Cape York. Explore the BAMA Way on a self drive, flying or guided tour. It links **three Aboriginal-owned tours (Kuku Yalanji Cultural Habitat Tours, Walker Sister Tours & Guurbi Tours)** operated by the traditional custodians of the local area. Each share their knowledge of country with visitors, and through education encourage respect for the environment. Their diverse landscapes included coastal mangroves, World Heritage listed rainforest and hilltop Savannah, and income from the tours helps to protect their lands. [www.bamaway.com.au](http://www.bamaway.com.au)

## **Kuku Yalanji Cultural Habitat Tours**

If you feel it's time to get native, join the Kubirri Warra brothers, on one of their beach, mudflat and mangrove walks! Linc and Brandon Walker follow the traditions of their ancestors who, for thousands of years, educated visitors about their Kuku Yalanji culture. Today the brothers teach their guests how to throw a spear, hunt whilst stalking and observing wildlife and country, and how to track coastal resources. And they share some of their extensive knowledge of this special area and how they care for their country. <http://www.bamaway.com.au/KukuYalanji.html>

## **Walking with the Walker Sisters**

At Wujul Wujal, a coastal indigenous community four hours' drive north of Cairns, everyone knows the women of the Walker family. Walker sisters, mothers, cousins and even nieces work together as close-knit group of warm and friendly women sharing their local Yalanji culture with visitors. People from all walks of life come to Wujul Wujal to join a Walker Family Tour and hear the values and stories of women from a different culture. The tours take visitors to one of the most beautiful and pristine locations in the tropics, the Bloomfield Falls, a 40 metre waterfall surrounded by the World Heritage-listed Daintree Rainforest. The Walker women are committed to educating their guests who walk with them along the track to the Bloomfield Falls. As they travel over their ancestral land, they explain in a truly delightful way the lifestyle of the Yalanji people of Wujal Wujal. Visit [www.walkerfamilytours.com](http://www.walkerfamilytours.com)

## **Tour Nugal rock art with Guurbi Tours**

Guurbi Tours offers a rare and magical opportunity with to see the previously inaccessible Nugal rock art sites in the hills outside Cooktown, through the eyes of a traditional owner, Willie Gordon. Willie shares his ancient Aboriginal culture and why their conservation is so important to the Nugal-Warra people. [www.guurrbitours.com](http://www.guurrbitours.com)

## **Jowalbinna Bush Camp, Laura**

Some of Australia's finest accessible Aboriginal rock art can be easily reached from Jowalbinna Bush Camp at Laura. Located 317km north of Cairns, the surrounding country contains Aboriginal paintings going back 30,000 years and depict Quinkan spirits, totem animals and, local Aboriginal devil spirits - rated by UNESCO as one of the top ten rock art bodies in the world. The bush camp has tented accommodation, camping facilities and regular guided walks to Aboriginal rock art sites, escarpments and flora and fauna interpretation. Join a 3 Day Rock Art, Rainforest And Cooktown 4WD Safari with Wilderness Challenge to discover Jowalbinna's secrets or visit in your own four wheel drive. <http://www.wilderness-challenge.com.au/jb03.html>

## **Tour ancient sites with Savannah Guides**

Northern Australia's tropical savannahs are still home to a rich Aboriginal culture, and Aboriginal land covers substantial parts of the region. The international award winning Savannah Guide network takes tours to Aboriginal sites, including Split Rock near Laura, home to one of the world's largest bodies of primitive arts. <http://www.savannah-guides.com.au/page2.html>

## **Discover the Quinkan spirits - Ang-gnarra people**

One of the world's largest bodies of prehistoric art lies near the town of Cape York. The 700 square kilometre Quinkan Reserve is home to around 1000 art sites of ancient ochre paintings, some at least 13,000 years old. The reserve is named after the Aboriginal spirit figures that are widely found in these ancient art galleries. Aboriginal guides lead tours, while self drive visitors should call into the Ang-Gnarra Aboriginal Corporation. <http://www.quinkancc.com.au/site/rockart/>

The corporation also organizes the spectacular celebration of Cape York and Torres Strait culture held every second year in June, the Laura Dance and Cultural Festival. The festival draws visitors from around the world keen to witness almost 1,000 performers share traditional song, music and dance, displays of arts and crafts, cultural workshops conducted by Elders plus traditional sports. <http://www.laurafestival.tv/>

## **Cape York and Torres Strait**

### **Camp on Aboriginal land**

Right at the northern tip of Australia on the Cape York Peninsula, Aboriginal communities allow camping on their land including Mapoon, Seisia and Punsand Bay. Here you can camp on the beachfront and explore the remote beauty of the cape on guided fishing and boating tours. <http://www.cypda.com.au/towns>

### **Join an Aboriginal wetlands tour**

Aurukun Wetland Charters offers five-day, four-night fishing tours and the chance to catch reef fish (coral trout), blue water fish (mackerel, tuna), river and estuary fish (barramundi, fingermark, salmon) and freshwater/ lagoon fish (barramundi, saratoga). Another option, the three-day eco-tour in the Aurukun Wetlands offers an insight into the ancient culture and traditions of the Wik and Wik Way people. Highlights include a swim in a natural waterhole, fishing for breakfast and harvesting the delicate honey of the native stingless bees. [www.aurukunwetlandcharters.com](http://www.aurukunwetlandcharters.com)

### **Help rescue endangered turtles**

A life-changing week awaits guests to Chivaree Camp in remote Mapoon, where the Cape York Turtle Rescue Project works to protect the green sea turtle and its fragile habitat. Guests, led by indigenous rangers, scientists and researchers, assist with removing fishing nets, collecting data on nesting turtles and generally focus on protecting and rescuing the endangered turtles in the waters of Tidal Janie Creek at the Gulf of Carpentaria. <http://www.capeyorkturtlerescue.com/>

## **Discover islander culture at Gab Titui**

More than 100 idyllic islands between Australia and Papua New Guinea are home to Torres Strait Islanders, Australia's other indigenous culture. Discover the Torres Strait Islanders' rich culture and unique heritage at the Gab Titui Cultural Centre on Thursday Island through exhibitions, artworks and workshops. It's also a place where islanders pass on the traditions and stories from one generation to the next.

<http://www.tsra.gov.au/culturalcentre/visit-gab-titui.aspx>

## **Island time in the Torres Strait**

Staying in the Torres Strait Islands will give you an unforgettable insight into the islander culture and lifestyle. Learn traditional ways of fishing with local fishermen or snorkel the crystal clear waters of the Coral Sea. Most luxurious is Poruma Island Resort, while Darnley and Yorke islands also offer accommodation. [www.poruma.com](http://www.poruma.com)

## **Torres Strait Cultural Festival**

Held every second year on Thursday Island, the Torres Strait Cultural Festival celebrates the region's rich culture. Festival activities include a lively street parade, traditional dancing and music, stalls selling arts and crafts and an island feast. Don't miss a visit to the island's Gab Titui Cultural Centre.

<http://www.tsra.gov.au/the-torres-strait/events/cultural-festival.aspx>

For more information: [www.indigenoustourism.australia.com](http://www.indigenoustourism.australia.com)