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Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "East Coast Australia in Style" (OAES), [but here are some similar trips](#).



East Coast Australia in Style

10 days, Sydney to Cairns

Trip code OAES

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Hands-On Moment: Surf Lesson with Yoga Warm-Up, Byron Bay

- Sydney harbour yacht ride
- Sydney orientation walk
- Included surfing lessons with a local (Byron Bay)
- Yoga lesson
- Full-day Whitsunday Islands sailing trip
- Scenic train journey to Cairns
- Aboriginal dreamtime walk through the Daintree Rainforest at Mossman Gorge
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing July 1st, 2014 and onwards

Itinerary



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

Sydney

Arrive at any time.

Please make your own way to the joining hotel.

If you arrive early, head into the city to visit the Botanical Gardens or the famous Opera House. There are no planned activities during the day, so check into the hotel and explore the city.



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2

Sydney

Explore Sydney with a walk along the harbour to the iconic Sydney Opera House and the Rocks area. Have an early lunch before boarding a sleek former Americas Cup racing yacht for a thrilling 2.5hr sail on one of the world's finest harbours.

After spending the day exploring Sydney, we meet in the early evening for an optional drink or dinner. We may head beachside to Bondi where there are plenty of excellent dining options.

The sailing excursion today is a fast paced and authentic sailing experience on a racing yacht. If you are not interested in sailing, you can opt out and enjoy your afternoon on your own.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Sailing in Sydney Harbour

Set sail in Sydney Harbour on one the America's Cup racing yachts. Wave to other passing ferries, take photos of the iconic Opera House and Sydney Harbour bridge and let the sun and wind invigorate your senses.

Metro

Sydney

Get around underground via public transit.

Day 3

Sydney/Byron Bay

Fly to the famous surf and arts town of Byron.

Meet mid-morning to catch a flight to the north coast of New South Wales. Arrive early evening into beautiful Byron Bay. On the way to the hotel, stop for a walk to the Cape Byron lighthouse located at the most easterly point of the Australian continent. The night is yours to discover.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Taxi

Sydney

30m-1h

Jump in the back and tell the driver to step on it, just like they do in the movies.

Plane

Sydney - Byron Bay

1h30m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Cape Byron Lighthouse Visit

Cape Byron

30m-2h

Cape Byron Lighthouse is 3km (1.9 mi) northeast of Byron Bay. The popular white structure emits the most powerful light of all working lighthouses in the country, and it's also located at the most easterly point of the Australian continent. Head up to the top of the tower to scan the ocean for whales (the Southern Cross University's Whale Research Centre is located here).

Free Time

Byron Bay

Talk to your CEO today about some optional activity options for tomorrow so they can make arrangements for you.

Day 4

Byron Bay

On Day 4, stretch out with an introductory yoga warm-up before meeting a local surf legend, learn about the culture of surfing in the area, and try it yourself. Enjoy free time for optional sea kayaking, whale-watching, or just relax at the beach.

Start the day early to enjoy a yoga class to calm the mind and limber the body before meeting a local surfer for a surf lesson. Eat lunch at a local vegetarian restaurant to ensure we fully immerse ourselves in the vibe of Byron Bay.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Hit the beach and get ready to hang ten with a surf lesson from trained surf instructors. Start with a bit of a yoga warm-up before spending some time in the water getting friendly with the waves. Practice paddling and then pop up to balance on the wider, softer beginner boards. Too easy.

Free Time

Byron Bay

The rest of the day is yours to explore - you may like to walk along the long stunning beach, play in the surf, or simply hang out at the beach hotel and people watch. Optional activities in the area include whale watching (seasonal), kayaking, or a day tripping to the beaches.



Optional Activities - Day 4

Kayaking

Grab your life jacket and tour local waters by kayak. Get up close to marine life and see many sights you may miss on shore.

Whale Watching

Byron Bay

89AUD

2h30m-3h

Enjoy a thrilling excursion on the water in search of the magnificent Humpback whales. Between June and November, they migrate north from their feeding grounds in Antarctica to breed and birth in the tropics. See the distinctive flukes (tails), and also look for dolphins, turtles and a variety of sea birds.

Day 5

Byron Bay/Airlie Beach

Travel to Brisbane and catch a flight, transferring to our beach resort for two nights. Enjoy free time to relax in a tropical paradise.

This morning we leave Byron early to head to the Brisbane airport to catch a morning flight to Proserpine. Transfer to Airlie Beach, our home for the next two nights.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Byron Bay – Brisbane Airport

3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Plane

Brisbane Airport – Proserpine Airport

1h30m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Local Bus

Proserpine Airport – Airlie Beach

30m-1h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Free Time

Airlie Beach

Enjoy free time to relax in a tropical paradise.

Day 6

Airlie Beach

Full-day yacht excursion, sailing around the Whitsunday's.

On Day 6, embark on a full-day yacht excursion, sailing around the Whitsunday's with included lunch, snacks, snorkel and visit to Whitehaven beach.



Meals included

Lunch



Today's Activities

Whitsunday Islands Boating Excursion

Whitsunday Island

8h

Enjoy a day out on the water amidst some of the 74 tropical islands that make up the Whitsunday archipelago. Visit Whitehaven Beach, jump overboard for a quick refreshing dip, and make friends with the tropical fish that thrive within Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

Day 7

Airlie Beach/Cairns

An early start to the train station for a relaxing and scenic journey by rail to Cairns.

Embark on a scenic train journey through sugar cane country and rainforest as we head north to Cairns. Arrive early evening and check-in to a centrally-based hotel before exploring the town and opting for a group dinner and drinks.



Today's Activities

Train

Airlie Beach - Cairns

10h

600km

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Taxi

Cairns

30m

Jump in the back and tell the driver to step on it, just like they do in the movies.

Day 8

Cairns/Port Douglas

Travel up the stunning coastal road, stop to meet local Aboriginals and go on an interpretive walk through the Daintree Rainforest at Mossman Gorge.

Travel up the stunning coastal road, stop to meet local Aboriginals and go on an interpretive walk through the Daintree Rainforest at Mossman Gorge. Arrive mid-afternoon in the colourful resort town of Port Douglas.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Cairns - Port Douglas

1h

70km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Indigenous Peoples Interpretive Walk

Mossman Gorge

2h

Take an interpretive walk through the Daintree Rainforest. Follow an Indigenous guide and learn about bush food, medicinal plants and the lasting relationship of the Kuku Yalanji people with their natural environment. Find out how to make bush soap, watch an ochre painting demonstration and sample some bush tea.

Free Time

Port Douglas

Take time to stroll the main streets, window-shopping on your way.

Day 9

Port Douglas

Opt to take a Great Barrier Reef snorkelling trip.

Today is a free day, but we recommend going on an optional snorkelling trip of the Great Barrier Reef - the largest coral reef system in the world.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Free Time

Port Douglas

Enjoy the day at leisure or take an excursion to the reef.



Optional Activities - Day 9

Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling from Port Douglas

Great Barrier Reef

You haven't truly visited Australia until you've experienced the Great Barrier Reef. Climb aboard a catamaran and take the journey out to the largest coral reef system in the world, spending time snorkelling in search of colourful fish, majestic coral, and nemo (of course). With the option to upgrade to go diving locally, get up close and personal with this natural wonder of the world.

Day 10

Port Douglas/Cairns

Travel back to Cairns. Trip ends on arrival in the afternoon.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Port Douglas - Cairns

1h

70km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Learn to surf in Byron Bay with a local expert, sail the Sydney harbour in a racing yacht, relax on a full-day Whitsunday Islands cruise, learn firsthand about Aboriginal culture and history in the Daintree Rainforest

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Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What is the group leader like?

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as a Chief Experience Officer (CEO). The CEO will be the group manager, leader and driver - this person is experienced in the routes travelled and will organize and lead the meal preparations and has experience in cooking a variety of local and international dishes for large groups.

As the group coordinator and manager, the aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. While not being guides in the traditional sense, you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. They will also offer suggestions for things to do and to see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends.

We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

How large will the group be?

Max 16, Avg 12.

What meals are included in this trip?

7 breakfasts, 3 lunches

What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. On truck trips in Africa, aboard the M/S Expedition or our Galapagos yachts, while trekking in remote regions etc. food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private bus/van, plane, local bus, ferry, yacht, train, walking.

What transportation will we take on this trip?

A variety of transport modes are used on this coastal tour.

Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

Local flights are included in this itinerary.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Comfort hotels (5 nts), beach resort/hotels (4 nts).

What is the joining hotel?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

What are the joining instructions?

An arrival transfer is not included on this trip - please make your own way to the joining hotel. A group meeting will be held by your CEO this evening, please check the notice board in the hotel lobby for the time and details.

It is very easy to make your way from the airport to the hotel, options are as follows:

By Taxi: \$40-50, approximately 15km and shouldn't take more than 30 minutes.

By Shuttle Bus: \$16 pp. Buy tickets at the 'Sydney Airporter' bus desk between exit gates B & C. Alternatively, there is the 'Airport Connect' service in the same location. Book tickets online at www.airportconnect.com.au/

What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact G Adventures during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our local office in Melbourne. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so we may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office and after office hours emergency number

From outside Australia: +61 432 705 621

From within Australia: 0432 705 621

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local operations manager, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What instructions should I follow at the finishing point?

Please note this trip ends at the G Adventures hotel in Cairns at 1pm on Day 10. Please do not book any forward flights until 4pm or later. If you would like to book any post night hotels in Cairns, please ask at time of booking.

What should I take on my trip?

The max luggage allowance on domestic flights within Australia is 20 kgs, 1 checked bag and 1 carry on per person

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible. We recommend the use of a well-labeled duffel bag, soft bag or backpack (whichever you find easiest to carry). Suitcases or heavy luggage are not recommended for the health of the CEO! A good size day-pack (20-35L) is also essential as you will have the chance to walk and hike in different national parks during these trips. This daypack will be used to carry your personal gear for the day, your lunch and a water bottle.

For days in the outdoors, we recommend the use of lightweight, breathable, moisture-wicking fabrics made of wool or synthetic fibers. Cotton is not recommended for days spent hiking as it does not allow for heat or moisture to enter or escape, and it will not dry easily once wet.

What should be on my packing list?

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

When can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry can be done at least once a week while on tour - most cities have laundromats where you can buy soap and wash your laundry in coin-operated machines. Your CEO will advise you along the trip where you will be able to do your laundry.

What the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

How much spending money do I need for my trip?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

The Australian currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in Australia and can be used to purchase small and large items. When purchasing products or services with a foreign credit card you may be charged additional fees by your credit card company for foreign purchases.

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Both Visa and Master Cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work check with your bank before you travel. A visit to an ATM can be arranged on Day 1 and other days of the trip.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of local currency (preferably smaller bills, 5's, 10's and 20's) and credit cards is best. Currency exchange is best obtained prior to travel or at the airport, currency exchange is easy to find in Australia in the gateway cities and most banks do accommodate.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Should I be tipping on my trip?

It is not customary in New Zealand or Australia to tip service providers, but if you do experience outstanding service it is good to do so. Such service would only usually be in places like quality restaurants and it would be very rare that you would tip more than 10%. Unless specifically asked to do so at the time (by your CEO) - do not tip your local guides. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures Chief Experience Officer did an outstanding job, you may consider a small tip - but it certainly isn't expected.

What activities are optional on this trip?

Byron Bay

- Kayaking
- Whale Watching (89AUD per person)

Great Barrier Reef

- Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling from Port Douglas

What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. Read more about travel safety for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What are the trip specific safety considerations?

Heed the caution signs at all times in National Parks and other remote areas in New Zealand and Australia.

What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEO has the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customersolutions@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

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