

# Beat the Winter Blues on the Sunshine Coast

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## 8 Days/7 Nights with Brian and Mary Tour Departs Sunday 17 - Sunday 24 July 2022

#### **Tour Inclusions:**

- •Pick up from your home, transport to the Sunshine Coast and return to your doorstep
- •(Sydney Metropolitan area only)
- •Luxury Coach Travel, Seatbelts and Restroom
- •All fully cooked breakfasts
- •Lunch Days 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.
- Dinner at the motel
- •Seven nights quality accommodation, twin share
- •All entry fees and guides as per itinerary
- •Escorted tour

#### Tour Highlights:

Guided tour, New Italy, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, Miniature Steam Train, Australia Zoo, Wildlife Warriors Show, Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology, Glasshouse Mountains, Eumundi Markets, Ginger Factory, Ginger Train, Macadamia Factory, Pumicestone Passage, Views of Bribie Island, Queensland Air Museum, Blackall Range, Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve, Montville, Poets Cafe, Sunshine Castle, Fairy Tale Diorama, Byron Bay Solar Train, Sun Bistro, and more.

Tour Fee including GST: Members \$2,848.00 per person twin share

Non Members \$2,898.00 per person twin share

Single Supplement \$ 559.00

Book now Pay by Thursday 19 May 2022

For information and bookings phone: 02 4774 9700 Website: holidaycoachtours.com.au – Email: book@holidaycoachtours.com.au

### The Itinerary

#### **Day 1 Sunday 17 July 2022**

Dinner

This morning we pick you up from home and travel north along the M1 to **Coffs Harbour**, stopping along the way for lunch at own cost. We arrive late in the afternoon where we check into our accommodation and freshen up before enjoying dinner in the motel's restaurant. Country to Coast Motor Inn, Coffs Harbour 02 6652 8222

Day 2 Monday 18 July 2022 Coffs Harbour to Caloundra

Departing Coffs Harbour after breakfast, today's journey takes us along the Clarence River to New Italy for our morning tea break. From here we head to the Gold Coast and arrive at the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary in time for lunch. The sanctuary is home to over 1400 birds, mammals and reptiles. We can spend some time looking through the Sanctuary, like feeding the wild lorikeets or perhaps boarding the miniature steam train for, "Kangaroo Crossing"; and coming face to face with kangaroos, wallabies and some not-quite-so-friendly crocodiles. Back on the coach we bypass Brisbane and arrive on the Sunshine Coast where we check into our Motel for the next five nights.

Oaks Oasis Resort Caloundra. 07 5491 0333

#### Day 3 Tuesday 19 July 2022 The Pumicestone Passage

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

We have a very relaxing day today, starting with a leisurely breakfast, then we depart on our 2- and-a-half-hour cruise of the **Pumicestone Passage**. Located on Caloundra's doorstep, this scenic waterway separates **Bribie Island National Park** from the mainland. This internationally significant Marine Park with its numerous islands and creeks is home to over 300 bird species and is an important sanctuary in their migration. Morning tea is served whilst we are at anchor and we hear all about the fascinating history, geography and ecology of this pristine region. A club lunch is served on arrival back on dry land, then this afternoon we will be visiting the **Queensland Air Museum** for a guided tour. Established in 1974 and operated entirely by volunteers, the museum boasts a display of more than 80 restored aircraft from many decades and many other aviation-related displays relative to Queensland and the Sunshine Coast.

#### Day 4 Wednesday 20 July 2022 Eumundi Markets

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we set off on our days touring and cross the Maroochy River and follow the coastal road to Noosa and arrive late morning in **Eumundi**. The twice weekly street markets held in the small village of Eumundi are as popular with the locals as they are with visitors to the Sunshine Coast. The town itself is very attractive – the main street is tree lined and features many fine examples of buildings that were constructed between 1890 and 1930. The market operates on Wednesday and Saturday mornings – "rail, hail or shine"! We spend some time looking at the markets and purchase some morning tea, then re-board our coach and make our way to Yandina to visit the **Ginger Factory**. After lunch, we view the audio visual display tracing the life of ginger from planting to final use, see ginger growing in the patch and then look at the factory from the observation deck to see production. We also take a ride on the **Ginger train**. Afterwards, we can visit the Ginger town shops or stroll through the landscaped gardens. Just across the road is the **Macadamia Factory**, just in case you'd like to stock up! We return to the resort for dinner.

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#### Day 5 Tuesday 21 July 2022 Australia Zoo

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

No holiday to this area would be complete without a visit to **Australia Zoo** – home to the late Steve Irwin, the "Crocodile Hunter". Australia Zoo has a reputation for conservation work, due mainly to the popularity of the documentary series "The Crocodile Hunter". Many millions of dollars have been invested in the park so that it is an ever changing and growing attraction. When we arrive, we have some free time to look through the zoo before we find our seats in the "**Crocoseum**" for the mid-day **Wildlife Warriors Show**. Get ready for some serious wildlife action! Every day in the Crocoseum the Australia Zoo keepers are taking on the world's conservation issues and protecting the animal kingdom, and they want us to join the army of Wildlife Warriors. Enjoy a journey of discovery from our private viewing and dinning room. Learn all about the incredible world of giant snakes, colourful soaring birds and those prehistoric legends, the big Saltwater Crocodiles. Here at the zoo we can enjoy lunch, and then we are off to visit the **Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology**. It has one of the finest collections of European and Classical artefacts open to the public in Queensland and we have afternoon tea and a tour through the collection, then head back to our hotel.

#### Day 6 Friday 22 July 2022 Sunshine Coast Hinterland

Breakfast, lunch & Dinner

After breakfast today we travel up to the **Blackall Range**. Our first stop is for morning tea at the **Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve**, overlooking the unique formations of the Glasshouse Mountains. From here we make our way north along the range to **Montville**, taking in the beautiful vistas along the way. Montville is probably the most well-known village along the range and was first established in 1887. Today it is a place to step back in time and enjoy the tranquillity of village life in a streetscape unique to any other tourist centre in Australia. We will have free time here to browse the many arts and crafts shops. Lunch today is at **Poets Café**, with outstanding views to the hinterland below. This afternoon we drive to nearby **Bli Bli** and visit **Sunshine Castle**. This Norman style Castle was built in the early 1970's and at the time was very unique to Australia. It features medieval additions complete with moat, turrets, towers and a drawbridge. We will see dancing dolls, a miniature city and a toy & doll museum along with a fairy tale diorama and a model train railway. At the end of a wonderful day's sightseeing we return to the resort for some free time to relax before dinner.

#### Day 7 Saturday 23 July 2022 Caloundra to Coffs Harbour Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

We farewell our hosts this morning and commence our journey south, stopping north of Byron Bay to board the **Byron Bay Solar Train**, a restored heritage train that operates on energy from the sun. Solar panels on the train and storage shed generate enough energy to not only run the train daily but also have enough power for 13 homes for a year. Following our return train journey we have lunch at the **Sun Bistro** and this afternoon we re-trace our steps back to Coffs Harbour, where we spend our final night together.

Country to Coast Motor Inn, Coffs Harbour 02 6652 8222

#### Day 8 Sunday 25 July 2021 Coffs Harbour to Home

Breakfast

Today sees us head home and we will stop for morning tea and lunch at our own expense before our arrival back into Sydney in the afternoon. We say goodbye at your door after a wonderful week with Brian & Mary from Ezi Drive Coaches and Holiday Coach Tours.com.au.

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