



GALAH TOUR

8 Day Brisbane to Sydney

Stray Select Tour - Australia East Coast

TWIN SHARE PER PERSON: AUD\$2,995

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$800

STARTS: Brisbane **FINISHES:** Sydney

DURATION: 8 Days / 7 Nights

START DAY: Friday **FINISH DAY:** Friday

2024 DEPARTURES: 18 Oct, 15 Nov, 29 Nov, 13 Dec

2025 DEPARTURES: 7 Feb, 21 Feb, 7 Mar, 21 Mar, 4 Apr, 9 May, 12 Sep, 24 Oct, 7 Nov, 21 Nov, 5 Dec

MINIMUM/MAXIMUM NUMBERS: 8/20 passengers



Overview

The bold and friendly Galah will take you on an 8-day tour of the East Coast starting off the weekend in chilled out Byron Bay (pick-up is available from Brisbane) and travelling down to vibrant Sydney! The Galah is the most common of the Australian native Cockatoo family and is a familiar sight (and sound) in the wild so we can almost promise you will see them on this tour, along with lush rainforests, gorgeous beaches, other wildlife and a few secret highlights that only us locals know about. You'll stay in quality 3-4 star twin/double accommodation and travel with a driver/ guide (and get their insider knowledge) and a bunch of like-minded travellers (your new lifelong friends) and explore all the amazing places Aussie has to offer!

You can also upgrade to your own private room for an additional \$800.

Day 1 - Friday: Brisbane to Byron Bay

Today you'll board the Stray bus in central Brisbane at 12pm, meet your new guide and travel buddies and head off towards Byron Bay, stopping along the way to check out the Gold Coast. We'll stretch our legs in Surfers Paradise where you can explore the golden beaches and cafes before arriving ready for the weekend in the iconic Byron Bay!

Accommodation included: Byron Beachcomber Resort in studio rooms or similar

Free activities: Visit Surfers Paradise, explore Byron Bay, swimming

Meal options: Local cafes, bakery, restaurants

Day 2 - Saturday: Free Day Byron Bay

Today you have a full day in Byron Bay to really embrace the Byron Bay motto: "cheer up, slow down, and chill out". Start your day off with a morning swim in the ocean then spend your day exploring the laidback hippy town.

Walk up to Cape Byron Lighthouse, mainland Australia's most easterly point, or check out the many eclectic boutiques and cafes around town. If you're looking for adventure, join a sea kayaking trip and search for dolphins and other marine life, or even go for an iconic Australian activity - learning to surf.

Accommodation included: Byron Beachcomber Resort in studio rooms or similar

Free activities: Explore Byron Bay, relax on the beach, Cape Byron lighthouse walk, swimming

Optional paid activities: Surf lesson, Dolphin Kayak tour, Skydive, Rail Trail

Meal options: Local cafes, bakery, restaurants

Day 3 - Sunday: Byron Bay to Darlington Beach

We have a relaxed start this morning before we make our way further south to the super scenic Coffs Coast. On the way there, we'll stop in the picturesque seaside town of Yamba for lunch. We'll also visit the Angourie Blue Pool, an old quarry that was accidentally filled by an underground spring, meaning you can now cool off in a freshwater pool right on the beach.

For the next two nights we're staying in villas at a beachfront holiday resort set amongst 110-acres of beachside rainforest, so it's the best of both worlds. Jump in the pool, take a heated spa, grab a cocktail at the bar or head to the beach. Feeling active? Go for a bike ride, a spot of archery or nine holes of golf if you fancy it.

Accommodation included: Darlington Beach Resort in Villas or similar

Free activities: Explore Byron Bay, relax on the beach, swimming

Optional activities: Push bike hire, golf

Meal options: Self-cater, onsite restaurant, local cafes, bakery or restaurants

Day 4 - Monday: Free Day Darlington Beach & Coffs Harbour

Today we'll have a relaxed morning followed by a stop in Coffs Harbour for lunch and then a special Aboriginal experience learning about the First Nations people of Australia.

Your Cultural Experience takes place at an important cultural site of the Gumbaynggirr people, the stunning location of "Niigi Niigi" (Sealy Lookout) within the Orara East State Forest. You'll go for a 2-hour tour and see 360-degree views, as well as getting the opportunity to immerse yourself in culture through stories, songs, language and the uses of native plants. This will be an unforgettable cultural experience with an emphasis on authentic connection and contributing to helping a community regain their culture and identity.

***Do More:** By taking part in the experience, you're making a direct contribution to the revitalisation of Gumbaynggirr language and culture with a percentage of the tour price going towards the local bilingual school to help foster cultural identity and education success.*

Accommodation included: Darlington Beach Resort in Villas or similar

Included activities: Aboriginal Cultural Experience

Included meals: Breakfast

Meal options: Self cater, onsite restaurant, local cafes, bakery or restaurants

Day 5 - Tuesday: Darlington Beach to Port Stephens

We'll depart Darlington Beach this morning and make a stop at the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital to see the amazing work being done to protect koalas from loss of habitat and injury. On the way into Port Stephens we'll stop at Murray's Brewery, one of Australia's leading craft beer brewers, where we'll enjoy a guided beer tasting. Not into beer? Not to worry, there is a spritz, ginger beer and a gin drink to try out instead.

Accommodation included: Oaks Port Stephens Pacific Blue Resort in a hotel room or similar

Included activities: Koala hospital visit, Brewery visit & tasting

Included meals: Breakfast

Meal options: Local cafes, bakery, restaurants or onsite restaurant

Day 6 - Wednesday: Free Day Port Stephens

This morning you have the choice to sleep in, go for some first-class sandboarding down the Stockton Sand Dunes (optional expense), or join your Stray guide for an energising hike to the summit of Tomaree Head, which stands at 161 metres above the Port Stephens entrance. This short 2.2km return track offers breath-taking views of the coastline and panoramic views of Yacaaba Head, Cabbage Tree and Boondelbah islands- you might even be lucky enough to see some dolphins.

In the afternoon spend some time relaxing at the resort pool (one of the largest in Australia) or jump on a Dolphin discovery cruise (optional expense).

Accommodation included: Oaks Port Stephens Pacific Blue Resort in a hotel room or similar

Free activities: Sleep in, swim, relax on the beach, Headland Walk

Optional paid activities: Sandboarding or Dolphin discovery cruise

Meal options: Onsite restaurant, local cafes, bakery, restaurants, self cater

Day 7 - Thursday: Port Stephens to Sydney

Today we head to Sydney, our final destination! Along the way, we'll stop at the popular Hunter Valley wine region for a tasting at an organic winery. Learn about how through years of research and development, they have become one of Australia's largest producers of award-winning organic, vegan-friendly, and no added sulphur wines. Their contemporary organic philosophy aims to produce wines of terroir while limiting environmental pollution and leaving the land in the best condition possible for generations to follow.

On arrival in the beautiful harbour city of Sydney, we'll check in then head to a nearby restaurant for dinner and drinks to celebrate our last night on tour and say some emotional farewells to our group!

Accommodation included: Vibe Sydney in a hotel room or similar

Included activities: Hunter Valley organic winery visit with wine & cheese tasting

Included meals: Farewell Dinner

Meal options: Onsite restaurant, local cafes, bakery, restaurants, self cater

Day 8 - Friday: Sydney

Today is the final day of your Stray adventure. Give a hug or a wave to your new mates and head off for the next leg of your adventure, taking with you the most incredible memories, everything you've learned about Australia's special culture and wildlife, and of course some classic Aussie lingo - G'DAY MATES!

Included meals: Breakfast

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 occasionally vary.

What's Included:

- Experienced tour guide
- Private coach transport
- 7 nights twin/double accommodation including 5 nights 3-4* hotel and resort accommodation, 2 nights in cabins/villas
- 3 Breakfasts and 1 Dinner
- Aboriginal cultural bush walk experience
- Koala hospital visit
- Brewery visit & tastings
- Hunter Valley organic winery tour with wine & cheese tasting
- Walks, wildlife spotting, lookouts and much more

What to Bring:

Camera, Sneakers/trainers, Flip Flops/Sandals, Clothing (mainly light layers but some warm items), Waterproof jacket, Hat & Sunscreen, Swimsuit/towel, Reusable water bottle, Toiletries, Insect repellent.

Please Note:

- Pick up is at Ann Street Bus Stop 9 near King George Square, Brisbane at 12pm on Friday. You can also choose to meet the group at our accommodation in Byron Bay (by request).
- Luggage is limited to one piece per person with a maximum weight of 20kg plus a day pack.
- A basic level of fitness is required for medium length walks.
- All accommodation rooms are twin/double share (unless you purchase a solo upgrade) and include a private ensuite or bathroom with the exception of your accommodation at Darlington Beach Holiday Park (Coffs Harbour) where you stay in villas with bathrooms that are shared between up to 4 people.
- 4 meals are included. We make regular supermarket stops so you can self-cater for other meals, or there are usually quite a few cafe/restaurant options in each location.

Highlights:

Stunning beaches, amazing culture, wine tasting, walks and wildlife spotting! There are so many awesome inclusions with the Stray Galah Brisbane to Sydney tour and we can't wait for you to experience them:

- Check out the Gold Coast with a stop in Surfers Paradise before arriving in laid-back Byron Bay for the weekend.
- Connect and gain an understanding of the incredible Aboriginal Culture through a bush walk and cultural experience.
- Stay in cabins/villas at a beachside holiday resort on the beautiful Coffs Coast, play lawn bowls with a drink in hand while watching the local kangaroos hop on by.
- Get a closer look at Australia's laziest (and cutest) marsupials at the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital.
- Stop for a guided brewery tasting then snap the amazing views and beaches in and around Port Stephens.
- Discover your inner wine connoisseur at Hunter Valley and taste award-winning samples fresh from the organic vineyard along with some local cheeses.
- Finish the tour in the harbour city of Sydney with a farewell dinner and night included in a convenient central city hotel.