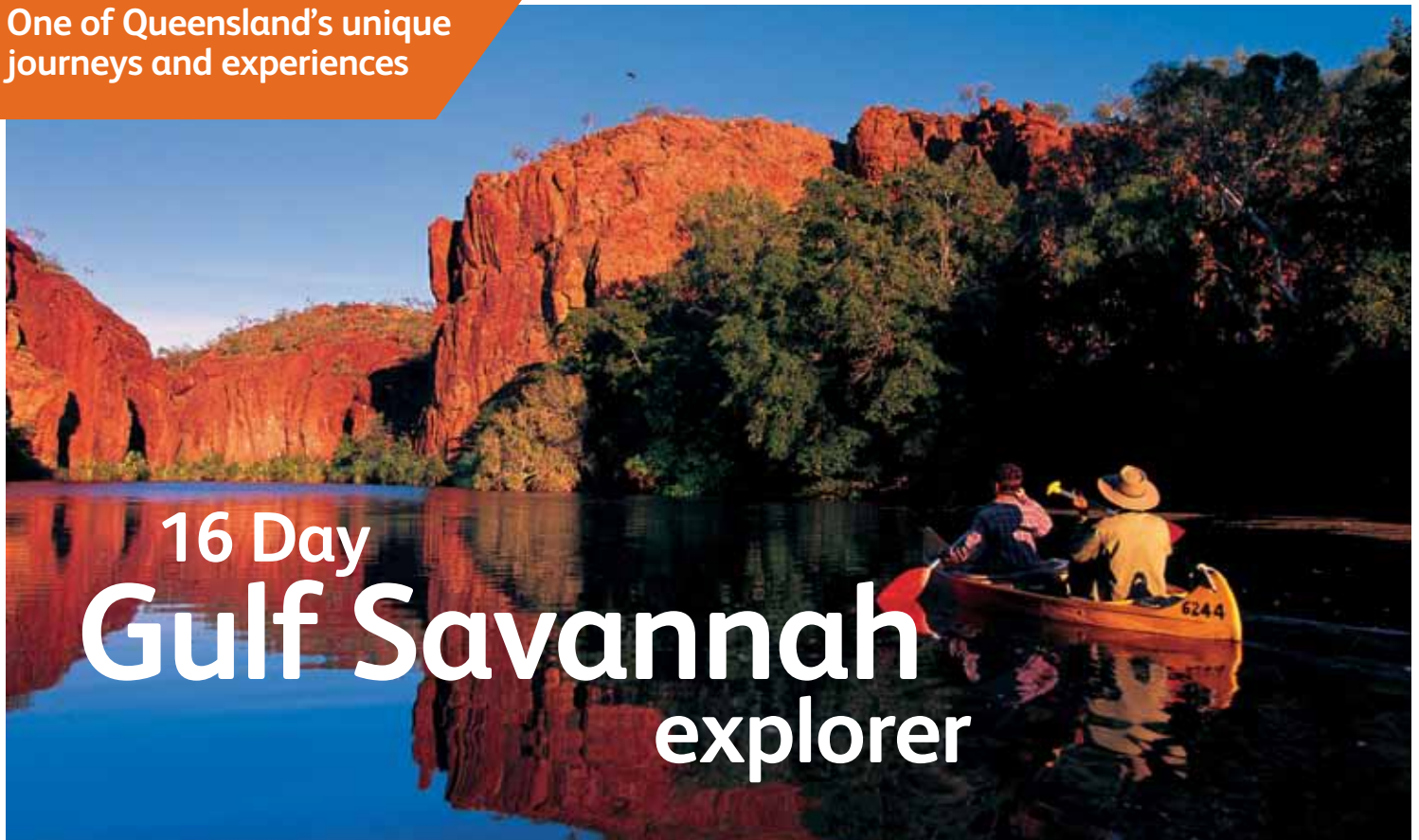


One of Queensland's unique journeys and experiences



16 Day Gulf Savannah explorer



Delight your senses with an epic five train journey to some of the remotest regions of Queensland. Sit back and enjoy the constantly changing Outback scenery between Brisbane and Mount Isa, discover the stunning Gulf and Savannah regions of the north, then experience the breathtaking tropical colours of Cairns and the Queensland coast.

Inclusions:

- Overnight first class travel on Spirit of the Outback from Brisbane to Longreach
- Overnight Queenslander Class travel on The Sunlander from Cairns to Brisbane
- Travel on the Gulflander from Normanton to Croydon
- Travel on the Savannahlander from Forsyth to Kuranda
- Choice between Kuranda Scenic Railway or Skyrail Experience
- 13 nights accommodation
- Day tours, transfers and entrance fees as indicated
- Meals as indicated.



Spirit
OF THE
OUTBACK

THE
SUNLANDER



 QueenslandRail
Travel

16 Day Gulf Savannah Explorer

Day 1 Tuesday Board Spirit of the Outback in Brisbane and relax as you travel along Queensland's coast before heading westwards to Queensland's Outback. Overnight onboard Spirit of the Outback. (B, MT, L, AT, D)

Day 2 Wednesday Arrive in Longreach and transfer to your accommodation prior to dinner. Overnight Longreach. (D)

Day 3 Thursday Today we follow the waterholes of the Matilda Highway calling in at the Blue Heeler Hotel at Kynuna (famous for its links to Banjo Patterson and "Waltzing Matilda") and the Walkabout Creek Hotel at McKinlay (featured in the original Crocodile Dundee movie). Arriving in Cloncurry, we take in the John Flynn Memorial Place which is dedicated to the birth of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. We then travel on to Mount Isa, situated among the ochre-red Selwyn Ranges famed for their copper, lead and zinc reserves. Overnight Mount Isa. (B, L, D)

Day 4 Friday This morning we begin discovering the Mount Isa mining story with a Surface Mine Tour followed by a visit to the Outback at Isa complex. Here we experience the Hard Times Mine Tour with the Dining Under Isa experience, where you will enjoy lunch in the crib room just as the miners do. Explore the unique Riversleigh Fossil Interpretive Centre. Overnight Mount Isa. (B, L, D)

Day 5 Saturday Today we depart Mount Isa and head north-west along the Barkly Highway en route to Lawn Hill 'Boodjamulla' National Park. We follow the back roads crossing the O'Shannessy River before arriving at Gregory River, with its crystal clear waters where we relax on the riverbank for a picnic—a real Outback oasis! After lunch we visit the World Heritage-listed Riversleigh Fossil Fields—among the richest and most extensive in the world, with some fossils dating back 15 to 25 million years. Mid-afternoon we arrive at Adel's Grove, an eco-sensitive property set among a plantation of exotic trees initially grown by the French Botanist Albert de Lestang over 80 years ago. Overnight Adel's Grove*. (B, L, D)

Day 6 Sunday Today we enjoy the richness of Lawn Hill 'Boodjamulla' National Park. Amble along some of the excellent short walks or join a canoe tour to view this spectacular gorge system carved out over time by the prehistoric forces of Lawn Hill Creek (assistance available). Enjoy some delicious picnic refreshments amongst the towering red pillars steeped in the Aboriginal legend of 'Boodjamulla'. Soak up the picturesque views overlooking Indarri Falls and Gorge System or take a refreshing swim in nature's incredible Tufa rock spa bath. We return to Adel's Grove for a late lunch after which you have the option of relaxing in the idyllic oasis surrounds or exploring more of the wonderful walks. Tonight we celebrate sunset at Harry's Lookout. Overnight Adel's Grove*. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Monday Departing Adel's Grove we travel south-east to the Burke & Will's Roadhouse, before continuing north via Flinder's River, the longest river in Queensland. On arrival at Normanton get up close to the Big Crocodile, a life size model of the largest crocodile ever captured in the world, before quenching your thirst at the famous Purple Pub. Explore the historical Gulflander train station, a beautiful Victorian building with a tea room and a souvenir shop. We journey to Karumba on the mouth of the Norman River, where the tropical savannahs and wetlands meet, and centre of the Gulf's prawning industry. Enjoy a Sunset Tavern Dinner overlooking the mouth of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Overnight Karumba. (B, L, D)

Day 8 Tuesday Explore and learn about the fascinating industries of the port of Karumba. We visit the Barramundi Discovery Centre and learn about the live breeding program for restocking the Gulf rivers and water systems. Enjoy the ultimate Karumba experience aboard the Croc and Crab Cruise. Savour the famous Sand Island, Seafood and Sunset Experience of prawns and crab as the sun sets where the Outback meets the sea over the Gulf of Carpentaria. Overnight Karumba. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Wednesday Departing Karumba for Normanton we board The Gulflander, otherwise known as the Tin Hare. Enjoy a nostalgic journey

back in time through the flood plain of the famous Norman River and the bush land of the Gulf Savannah to Critters Camp. We journey on to Croydon, a once booming gold town in the 1800s where heritage listed buildings still stand. We reach Georgetown and discover the Terrestrial Centre which features the Ted Elliott Mineral collection containing over 4500 separate mineral specimens in a myriad of fascinating colours and shapes. We arrive late afternoon at Cobbold Gorge, a Savannah Guide Station located on a working cattle property. The gorge is set amid rugged sandstone formations with spectacular 30 metre cliffs that narrow to just two metres wide. Overnight Cobbold Gorge. (B, L, D)

Day 10 Thursday Relax with the unforgettable experience of a delightful half day tour of Cobbold Gorge. This guided tour will cruise peacefully through the gorge in an electric powered boat. We visit Corbett's Pioneer Grave and gain an insight into the true value of this special part of the Savannah landscape. After a chance to freshen up, enjoy a short station tour to discover the life and challenges of the station owners. Overnight Cobbold Gorge. (B, L, D)

Day 11 Friday We travel into Forsayth to join the Savannahlander, and travel the most scenic section of this rail journey before arriving at the quaint old copper town of Einasleigh. Explore the Copperfield Gorge with deep, cool chasms and quiet beaches before arriving at Mount Surprise mid-afternoon. Mount Surprise sits on the edge of an immense lava flow from an ancient volcano to the south-east and is a centre for gem fossicking. Overnight Mount Surprise. (B, L, D)

Day 12 Saturday Today we meet some of the local characters at Rocky Springs Cattle Station, then explore the Undara Lava Tubes that were formed some 190,000 years ago and are amongst the largest and longest on the planet. Afterwards visit the Undara Lodge with its 23 ex-Queensland Government Rail carriages, the oldest dating back to 1888. We return to our accommodation at Bedrock Village with time to freshen up for dinner and experience a campfire singalong. Overnight Mount Surprise. (B, L, D)

Day 13 Sunday Travel through the McBride volcanic province and onto the famous Atherton Tableland boasting its World Heritage-listed crater lakes—Barrine and Eacham. Be amazed at the absolute contrast of lush farming land with today's produce. We travel on to the vibrant community of Kuranda, surrounded by World Heritage-listed rainforest, where you can have the choice of experiencing either the famous Kuranda Scenic Railway or the amazing Skyrail Rainforest Cableway for your transfer into Cairns. Overnight Cairns. (B, L, D)

Day 14 Monday Today you may enjoy a day of leisure to relax and reflect on our journey or join some optional activities around Cairns (own expense). Tonight we cap off our touring adventure with our Fun Farewell Awards night. Overnight Cairns. (B, D)

Day 15 Tuesday Board The Sunlander and enjoy the premium delights of Queenslander Class as you take your southbound journey back along the coast to Brisbane. Overnight onboard The Sunlander. (B, MT, L, D)

Day 16 Wednesday Arrive in Brisbane this afternoon to bring your epic journey of a lifetime to an end. (B, MT, L)

CB = Continental breakfast B = Breakfast MT = Morning tea L = Lunch D = Dinner

Rail package ex Brisbane—per person twin share

Adult	\$6548
Australian Senior	\$6373
Queensland Pensioner (using 4 rail travel entitlements)	\$6073

Departure dates 10 May, 12 Jul, 13 Sep 2011. *Please note accommodation at the oasis of Adel's Grove is permanently erected tents with full-size beds and share facilities.