

Across the top

Farm Study Tour 2021

GROUP 2

Date	Activity	Overnight
DAY 1 Mon, Jul 19 D	Arrive in Cairns, the gateway to northern Australia. Transfer to the hotel before a get together with drinks and nibbles as the sun goes down. Of course, some people will have arrived early and spent some time at Port Douglas, on the reef or in the Daintree. There are plenty of options.	Cairns
DAY 2 Tues, Jul 20 B,L,D	We leave Cairns and climb up to the Atherton Tableland with a brief stop at the incredibly beautiful Lake Barrine, one of a chain of crater lakes in the region. Then it's time for a cuppa as we visit the Nerada tea plantation, the biggest in Australia. Later in the afternoon, we'll continue through to the Undara Volcanic Park which has some of the most impressive larva tubes in the world. https://www.neradatea.com.au/visit-us	Undara Experience https://www.undara.com.au
DAY 3 Wed, Jul 21 B,L,D	Guided tour of the larva tubes in the morning before travelling to Innot Hot Springs and Mount Garnet to visit some pioneering cotton farms in the area. In the afternoon, we will continue with visits to different areas of the Tablelands.	Atherton
DAY 4 Thurs, Jul 22 B,L,D	The range of crops grown on the Atherton Tablelands is truly amazing. There are 39 large agricultural industries on the Tablelands including sugarcane, bananas, avocados, dairy and beef cattle, mangos, potatoes, citrus and papaya, with cotton emerging as a potential new crop. After farm visits in the morning, we will have lunch at Kuranda before taking the world famous Kuranda Skyrail, over the tropical rainforest with spectacular views of the Barron River and a different perspective of the lush jungle, as we wend our way back to Cairns.	Cairns
DAY 5 Fri, Jul 23 B,D	A leisurely start before we head to the airport for a flight across the peninsula and the Gulf of Carpentaria to Gove (Nhulunbuy) in north east Arnhem Land. Nhulunbuy is the home of a large bauxite mine but is also the traditional homeland of the Yolgnu people who are especially renowned for their art and music. It is often acknowledged as the birthplace of the didgeridoo and the group Yothu Yindi. When we land at Gove, we will split into two groups. The first will go into town and take a boat offshore (15 minutes) to the remote Banubanu wilderness retreat. The other group will travel to the world famous Yirrkala Art Centre before some touring around this amazing part of the world and then dinner overlooking the Arafura Sea. <i>Airnorth TL161 12.25-13.45</i>	Gove Banubanu Beach Retreat https://www.banubanu.com
DAY 6 Sat, Jul 24 B,L,D	Time to swap around today. The first group will have to leave the island but can enjoy the peace and tranquility for most of the day. Both groups will also have the option of a half day fishing charter from the island in these beautiful fish-rich waters (cost about \$250).	Gove Walkabout Lodge https://walkaboutlodge.com.au
DAY 7 Sun, Jul 25 B,L,D	Group 1 will have a morning exploring Gove while Group 2 can relax on the island for a little longer, before we join up again for the flight to Darwin. Time to settle in at our hotel on the revamped Darwin Waterfront before we head to Mindil Beach for the famous markets and a sunset drink and dinner at the Darwin Sailing Club or the Trailer Boat Club. Either one provides a spectacular tropical sunset over the water. <i>Airnorth TL161 14.15-15.25</i>	Darwin Vibe Hotel https://vibehotels.com/book-accommodation/darwin/hotel-darwin-waterfront/

Date	Activity	Overnight
DAY 8 Mon, Jul 26 B	A free day today with lots of different options. If you haven't been to Kakadu, now is your chance and there are lots of different options. Or, you can take a crocodile jumping tour on the Adelaide River or head down to beautiful Litchfield National Park. We will provide you with plenty of choices. Free evening, and our hotel is located right next to a swag of good waterfront restaurants.	Darwin Vibe Hotel
DAY 9 Tues, Jul 27 B,L,D	Time to look at some more farms. We will visit famous Tipperary Station and look at their agricultural operations including their recent foray into cotton production. We will also visit and talk to other pioneering cotton growers in the region and get an update on the plans for a new gin in the area	Katherine
DAY 10 Wed, Jul 28 B,L,D	Morning cruise on the Katherine Gorge then head west and watch the country change into a Kimberley landscape before we enjoy some real country hospitality at Timber Creek.	Timber Creek Timber Creek Hotel
DAY 11 Thurs, Jul 29 B,L,D	We will visit the massive Auvergne and Newry cattle stations near the Western Australian border. We will then continue to the massive Lake Argyle before an afternoon cruise down the Ord River to Kununurra.	Kununurra Kimberley Grande Resort https://www.kimberleygrande.com.au
Day 12 Fri, Jul 30 B	OPTIONS DAY The East Kimberley is not only home to Lake Argyle and the Ord Irrigation Area, it is a base to explore arguably the best scenic areas of the Kimberley. Included in the tour will be the option of a number of different tours today. Such as scenic flights to the Bungle Bungles, day trips to El Questro and helifishing the Kimberley gorges and coast. Take your pick. (Note: some of the extended tours may have a surcharge) Then back to the hotel to swap notes and compare stories.	Kununurra Kimberley Grande Resort
Day 13 Sat, Jul 31 B,L,D	Full day of farm visits in the Ord, including the latest Stage 2 area. We will discuss cropping opportunities with a range of local farmers and other experts.	Kununurra Kimberley Grande Resort
Day 14 Sun, Aug 1 B,L,D	We fly to Broome this morning. After a quick lunch at an iconic Broome eating spot, we head to the heart of Chinatown for a fascinating 2 hour Pearl Luggers tour which gives an insight to Broome's unique heritage of a hazardous industry which drew people from all over the world to risk their lives in the pursuit of the riches beneath the azure waters of Broome. Later we will freshen up at our hotel before a short tour of Broome including the wharf, the Japanese cemetery, Gantheaume Point and sunset drinks on the sand of Cable Beach. <i>Airnorth TL332 10.50-12.15</i>	Broome Oaks Broome https://www.oakshotels.com/en/oaks-broome
Day 15 Mon, Aug 2 B,L,D	This morning, we head north of town to the Willie Creek Pearl Farm nestled on a tropical inlet of the Indian Ocean. You will learn about the collection and spawning of oysters in the purpose-built hatchery, appreciate the delicate operations of seeding and harvesting oysters and understand the value of pearls and the creation of stunning jewellery. A highlight of the tour will be cruising Willie Creek's calm azure waters and view live oysters suspended in their natural environment. Some free time in the afternoon before our farewell dinner as we watch the sun set over Cable Beach.	Broome Oaks Broome
Day 16 Tues, Aug 3 B	Time to explore historic downtown Broome featuring Chinatown, and, of course, time for an investment in a Kimberley pearl. Better still, stay an extra day or two or extend your adventure to the Horizontal waterfalls and the 1000 island archipelago.	

