



Port Douglas & the Daintree

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Best Places to Eat

- » Mojo's (p365)
- » Julymba Restaurant (p369)
- » Beach Shack (p362)

Best Places to Stay

- » Mungumby Lodge (p380)
- » Cape Trib Exotic Fruit Farm Cabins (p375)
- » Daintree Eco Lodge & Spa (p368)

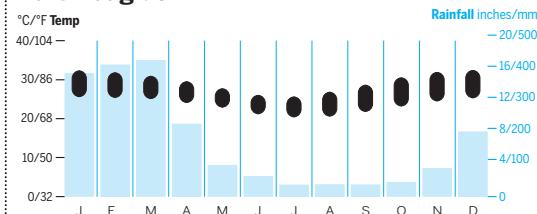
Why Go?

Dominated by a World Heritage-listed rainforest and reef, this extraordinary corner of Queensland teems with diverse natural environments. The dramatic coastal drive winding from Cairns to the ritzy resort town of Port Douglas – with reef cruise and dive boats departing daily from its marina – is the start of the Far North experience. But it's once you're past Mossman and the Daintree River that the adventure really begins.

The magnificent Daintree National Park stretches up the coast, its rainforest tumbling right onto the white-sand beaches in places. Indigenous culture remains strong here, with tracts of land shared between the traditional custodians and non-Indigenous settlers. The road is peppered with small village communities, from where you can take rainforest walks, croc-spotting river tours, sea-kayaking trips or just beachcomb. Further north, the Bloomfield Track from Cape Tribulation to Cooktown is one of the country's greatest 4WD journeys.

When to Go

Port Douglas



June A re-enactment of Captain Cook's landing is the centrepiece of the Cooktown Discovery Festival.

September Reggae, funk, roots and blues artists display in the rainforest for the Wallaby Creek Festival.

October Port Douglas' Go Troppo festival displays the creativity of artists living in the tropics.



Port Douglas & the Daintree Highlights

- ① Taking an Aboriginal guided walk and swimming in the crystal-clear waters of **Mossman Gorge** (p364)
- ② Heading out for a free afternoon sail with members of the local yacht club in **Port Douglas** (p357)
- ③ Scanning the riverbanks for saltwater crocs on a cruise

- along the **Daintree River** (p369)
- ④ Kayaking along the shoreline in search of turtles off **Myall Beach** (p373)
- ⑤ Toasting the completion of the 4WD Bloomfield Track from Cape Trib at the iconic **Lion's Den Hotel** (p380)
- ⑥ Joining the locals fishing

from the wharf at **Cooktown** (p380)

- ⑦ Catching an outdoor concert or theatre performance at the lakeside Karnak Playhouse in the lush **Whyanbeel Valley** (p366)
- ⑧ Cantering along the water's edge at **Wonga Beach** (p366)