

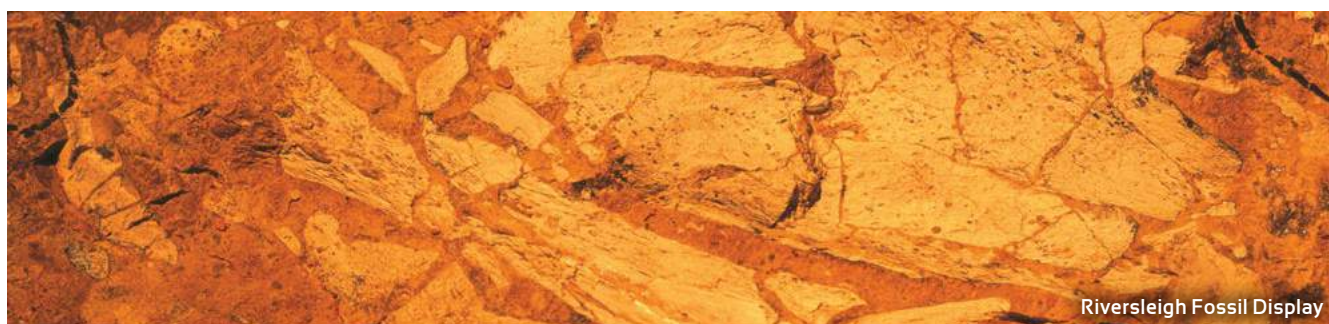
# Ancient Fossils & Eco Discovery Tour

— camping & accommodated



8 Days/7 Nights – price on application

Uncover ancient fossil deposits at the **Riversleigh Fossil Fields**, the richest known fossil mammal deposit in Australia, and explore **Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park**, one of Queensland's most significant geological parks. Excavate your very own 100-million-year-old marine fossil at **Richmond** and explore the geology, wildlife and plant life of **Porcupine Gorge National Park**. Spend a memorable night at Townsville's Reef HQ and learn about the Barrier Reef's diverse and complex eco-system.



## Day 1 – Homeport to Mount Isa

<b>Journey:</b>	Homeport to Mount Isa.....(Qantas, Virgin Australia)
<b>Highlights:</b>	Outback at Isa Riversleigh Fossil Centre
<b>Morning:</b>	Arrive in Mount Isa with time to settle into our accommodation and enjoy a short welcome tour of Mount Isa.
<b>Lunch:</b>	Outback Park, Outback at Isa facility.
<b>Afternoon:</b>	At the Riversleigh Fossil Centre, we'll meet the resident guide for an interpretive tour presenting fossils extracted from the nearby Riversleigh Fossil Fields. We will be introduced to the background story behind the Riversleigh Fossil Fields in preparation for our site visit tomorrow.
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Isa Youth Camp, Lake Moondarra, Mount Isa. Ph: (07) 4743 9881

## Day 2 – Mount Isa to Boodjamulla National Park

<b>Journey:</b>	Mount Isa to Riversleigh Fossil Fields.....310km/3hrs 30mins Riversleigh Fossil Fields to Adels Grove .....53km/1 hr
<b>Highlights:</b>	Riversleigh Fossil Fields
<b>Morning:</b>	We travel northwest to the World Heritage-listed Riversleigh Fossil Fields, home to the richest and most extensive fossil deposits in the world, some dating back 15 to 25 million years! Experience the record of life following the separation of Australia from the early continent, Gondwana. See limb bones and gizzard stones of towering flightless birds and the remains of the largest known freshwater crocodile.
<b>Lunch:</b>	Picnic lunch on the Gregory River (10 minutes before Riversleigh Fossil Fields) – Swimming opportunity.
<b>Afternoon:</b>	A real visual treat awaits us at Boodjamulla National Park, one of Queensland's most significant geological national parks. This afternoon we'll check into our accommodation at nearby Adels 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. We'll have time for a refreshing swim in Lawn Hill Creek, a perennial and spring-fed waterway. Tonight enjoy nocturnal walks after dinner by the Adels Grove Savannah Guides followed by a campfire and supper.

**Accommodation:** Adels Grove, Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park.  
Ph: (07) 4748 5502

## Day 3 – Boodjamulla National Park

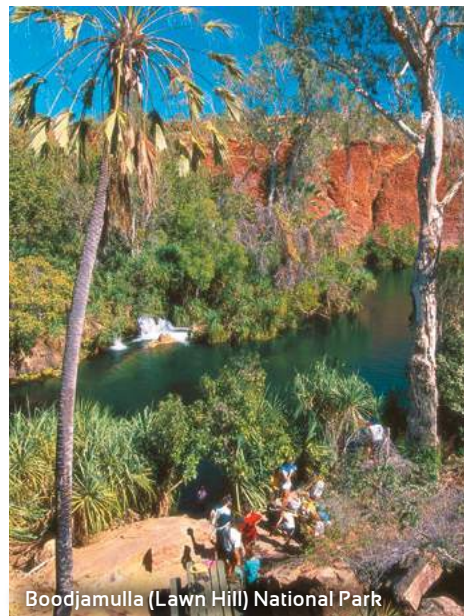
**Highlights:** Guided walks around Lawn Hill Gorge  
Swimming  
Canoeing (school to provide canoeing instructor)  
Ranger Talks

**Morning:** This morning we'll enjoy guided walking tours to Island Stack, Wild Dog Dreaming site (of significance to the Waanyi people) and the Cascades where we can view fascinating tufa formations.

**Lunch:** Adels Grove Campsite.

**Afternoon:** This afternoon, we can walk, swim or canoe to the Indarri Falls. At the falls, enjoy a refreshing swim in the cool water and observe local birdlife in the creek-side vegetation. Tonight enjoy nocturnal walks after dinner by the Adels Grove Savannah Guides followed by a campfire and supper.

**Accommodation:** Adels Grove, Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park.  
Ph: (07) 4748 5502



## Day 4 – Boodjamulla National Park to Julia Creek

**Journey:** Adels Grove to Gregory Downs.....84km/1hr 20 mins  
Gregory Downs to Cloncurry .....341 km/3hrs 30mins  
Cloncurry to Julia Creek .....137km/1hr 30mins

**Highlights:** Cloncurry Unearthed  
John Flynn Place Museum & Art Gallery  
Julia Creek Dunnart viewing  
Star Gazing activities

**Morning:** We depart Adels Grove after breakfast and travel via Wills Developmental Road to Gregory Downs for a morning tea stop. Continuing on we will arrive in Cloncurry, home of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, in time for lunch.

**Lunch:** Picnic lunch en route.

**Afternoon:** We travel on to Julia Creek, home to the endangered Julia Creek Dunnart, an extremely shy nocturnal hunter found on the Mitchell grass downs surrounding Julia Creek.  
  
Enjoy some free time at the campsite to relax. Tonight enjoy a barbeque dinner followed by star gazing activities.

**Accommodation:** Julia Creek Caravan Park. Ph: (07) 4746 7108





## Day 5 – Julia Creek to Porcupine Gorge National Park

**Journey:** Julia Creek to Richmond.....149km/1hr 36mins  
Richmond to Hughenden .....112km/1hr 10mins  
Hughenden to Porcupine Gorge ..... 74km/1 hour

**Highlights:** Fossicking at Richmond fossil site  
Kronosaurus Korner  
Flinders Discovery Centre

**Morning:** This morning we travel the short distance to Richmond. We'll meet a local Paleontologist who will show us how to find, identify and excavate our very own 100-million-year-old fossil! With fossil in hand we'll make our way to Kronosaurus Korner.

Here, we'll discover the most complete marine reptile fossils in the world on a guided museum walk. The museum has been designed to display local fossils from the Cretaceous Inland Sea that covered a large section of Queensland 100 million years ago.

**Lunch:** Kronosaurus Korner.

**Afternoon:** We continue our Overlander's Way journey to Hughenden, home of 'Hughie' the life-size replica of a Muttaborrasaurus. Along with 'Hughie' we'll discover an amazing collection of fossils and gems at the Flinders Discovery Centre.

Travel about an hour north of Hughenden to Porcupine Gorge National Park, known as Australia's 'Little Grand Canyon'. Set up camp and relax.

**Accommodation:** Pyramid Campsite, Porcupine Gorge National Park. Ph: 13 QGOV (137468)



Richmond Fossil Site

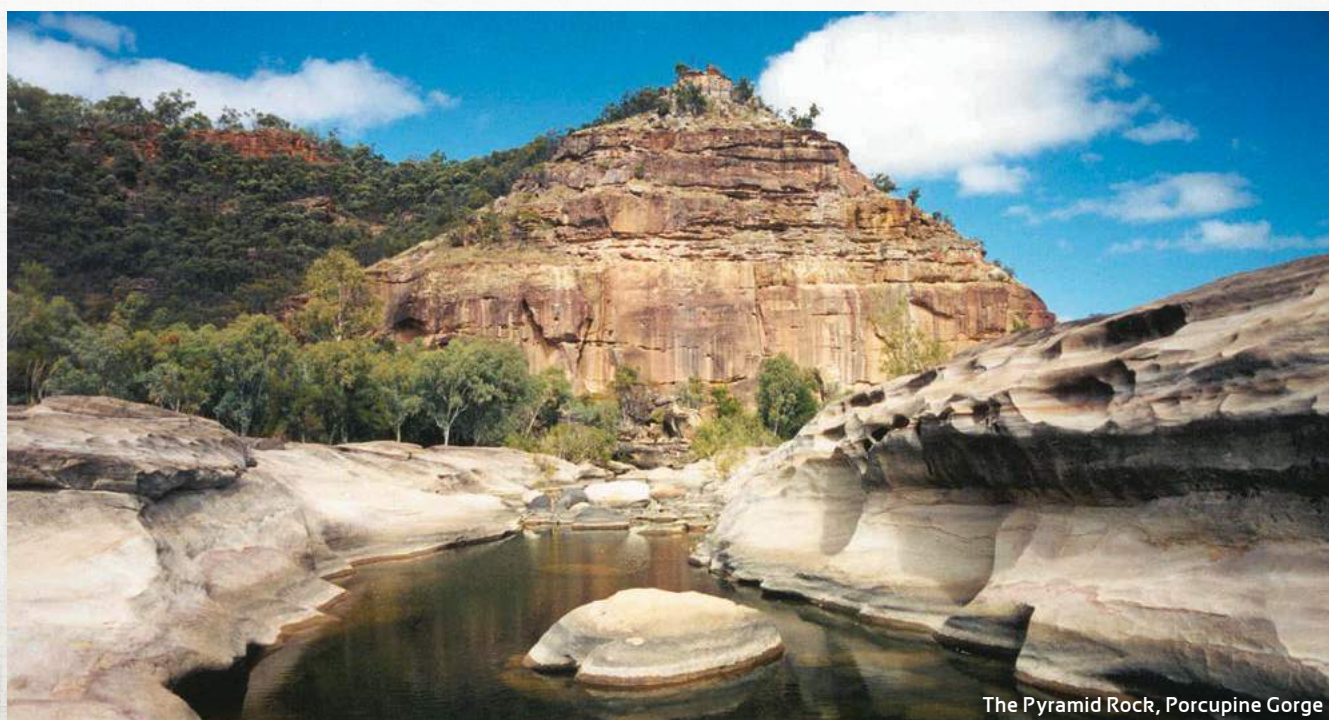


## Day 6 – Porcupine Gorge National Park

- Highlights:** The Pyramid (sandstone monolith)  
Bush walking and plant species identification  
Ranger talk on the Park's geology  
Porcupine Creek  
Swim in pristine rock pools
- Morning:** Follow the Pyramid track, a gradually descending walking track to the bottom of the gorge. Discover permanent deep pools with resident turtles and enjoy the cool, clear, flowing creek. Explore the floor of the gorge in the shadow of the Pyramid, an isolated monolith of multi-coloured sandstone.
- Lunch:** Picnic lunch at Pyramid Campsite.
- Afternoon:** After lunch, we'll meet the Park Ranger for an interesting discussion on the park's geology, wildlife and plant life. Time for a swim and relax before returning to our campsite for dinner.
- Accommodation:** Pyramid Campsite, Porcupine Gorge National Park. Ph: 13 QGOV (137468)

## Day 7 – Porcupine Gorge National Park to Townsville

- Journey:** Porcupine Gorge to Hughenden ..... 74km/1 hour  
Hughenden to Charters Towers..... 243km/3 hours  
Charters Towers to Townsville..... 134km/1 hr 30 mins
- Highlights:** Venus Gold Battery  
Reef HQ tour and sleepover
- Morning:** We pack up our campsite after breakfast and travel the short distance back to Hughenden, then continue along the Overlander's Way to Charters Towers. Following a catered lunch at the Venus Gold Battery (Australia's largest surviving battery relic) we'll join a guided tour of the facility to learn how the mill operated and how the battery's equipment was used to extract the gold from the ore.
- Lunch:** Venus Gold Battery.
- Afternoon:** The last leg of our Overlander's Way journey takes us to Townsville and the amazing Reef HQ. Here we'll get to learn about one of the richest, most complex and diverse ecosystems in the world. Tonight we'll go behind-the-scenes with a sleepover at Reef HQ. Observe the nocturnal habits of our reef creatures, have supper and fall asleep with the amazing reef creatures that call Reef HQ Aquarium home.
- Accommodation:** Reef Sleep at Reef HQ, Townsville. Ph: (07) 4750 0890



The Pyramid Rock, Porcupine Gorge





Reef HQ

## Day 8 – Townsville & Homeward Bound Connections

### Morning:

Wake up to a very special breakfast setting at Reef HQ then prepare for your departure transfer back to your homeport.

### Optional Townsville Extension:

Add another day in Townsville and include the Island Eco Discovery Education package to Magnetic Island. Explore wetlands, dry savannah, eucalypt forests, sand dunes and the interconnection with the community.

More information: Ph: (07) 4726 2739

RELEVANT OUTBACK EDUCATION FACT SHEETS: 05, 09, 11, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 28, 29, 30 – refer [www.teq.queensland.com](http://www.teq.queensland.com)

