



Explore this World Heritage site on the...

# FRASER ISLAND TOUR





# WELCOME TO THE FRASER ISLAND TOUR

**Welcome to the Fraser Island Tour. This trip over the island promises an adventure filled 4WD experience with plenty of iconic island locations along the way.**

Over the next few days we will be visiting some of Fraser Islands stunning sites on our journey from Orchid Beach landing strip up to the Northern most point of Sandy Cape, then south along the East Coast Beaches. From there we head across the island, via the magnificent inland forests and pristine lakes, ending our journey at the beautiful Kingfisher Bay on the West Coast.



## KEY CONTACTS

Martin Josselyn – Tour Organiser

0409 279 898



Fraser Island, the traditional home of the Butchulla people, leans out from the southern coast of Queensland and sweeps north towards the Great Barrier Reef. It is also Queensland's largest island and is considered to be the largest sand island in the world. It was inscribed as a World Heritage site in 1992.

The island has rainforests, eucalyptus woodland, mangrove forests, swamps, sand dunes and coastal heaths. It is home to a small number of mammals, a diverse range of birds, reptiles and amphibians.

## MODERN HISTORY

The name Fraser Island comes from Eliza Fraser and her story of survival from a shipwreck on the island. Captain James Fraser and his wife, Eliza Fraser, were shipwrecked on the island in 1836. Their ship, the *Stirling Castle*, set sail from Sydney to Singapore with 18 crew and passengers. The ship was holed on coral while travelling through the Great Barrier Reef north of the island.

Transferring to two lifeboats, the crew set a course south, attempting to reach the settlement at Moreton (now Brisbane). During this trip, Captain Fraser's pregnant wife gave birth in the leaking lifeboat. The infant died soon after birth. The Captain's lifeboat was becoming more and more unseaworthy and was soon left behind by the other lifeboat which continued on. The sinking boat and its crew was beached on what was then known as the Great Sandy Island. Whether the survivors died due to disease, hunger, exhaustion or battles with the native population will never be known for sure; most likely a little of all of the above. Captain Fraser died leaving Eliza living among the local peoples.



Eliza Fraser

She was rescued 6 weeks after being shipwrecked by a convict, John Graham, who had lived in the bush as an escapee, and who spoke the Aboriginal language. He was sent from the settlement at Moreton by the authorities there who had heard about Eliza's plight, and negotiated her return. Within 6 months, Eliza had married another sea captain. She moved to England and became a sideshow attraction in Hyde Park telling ever more lurid tales about her experiences with white slavery, cannibalism, torture and murder. As she is known to have told several versions of the story, it is unknown which version is the most accurate. She was killed in a carriage accident in Melbourne in 1858 during a visit.

## Day 1

### BRISBANE – ORCHID BEACH, FRASER ISLAND (departing from Redcliffe Airport with Air Fraser)

Our tour commences at Redcliffe Airport where tour participants will board our Air Fraser charter flight for the short flight over to Fraser Island

### ORCHID BEACH – MARLOO CAMP (via Sandy Cape Lighthouse)

We meet up with the vehicles upon arrival at Orchid Beach. Now our tour really begins as we head up to the tip of Fraser Island for a hike out to the Sandy Point Lighthouse. We head back down the coast to Marloo Campsite which is pitstop for the evening.



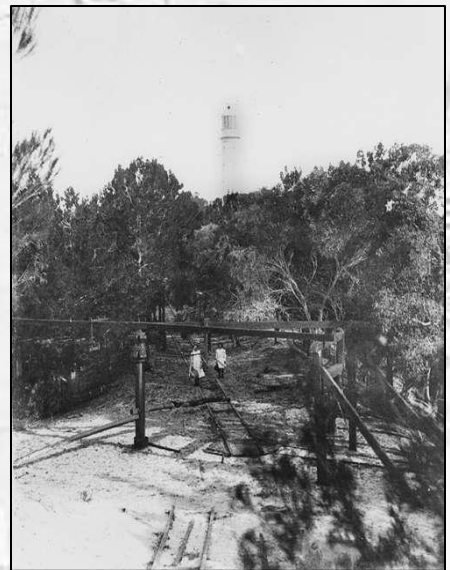
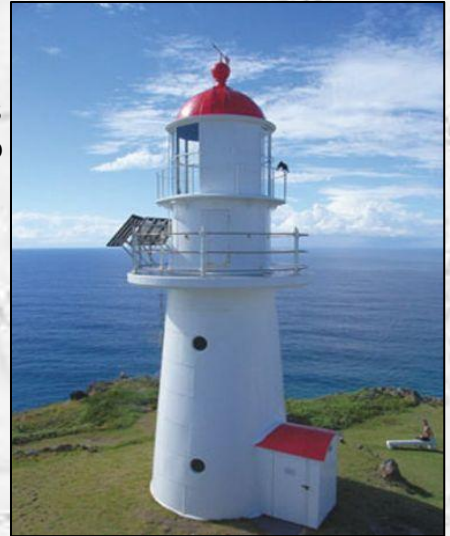
## Sandy Cape Lighthouse

This active heritage-listed lighthouse is the tallest in Qld. Built in 1870, it is the second major lighthouse to be built in Qld after its formation in 1859. It is one of the first lighthouses in Australia to be constructed using bolted prefabricated segments of cast iron, and one of only two such lighthouses in Qld, the other being Bustard Head Lighthouse, near Seventeen Seventy, Qld .



Group outside a bathing shed on the beach near where the boats used to land at Sandy Cape. Photo taken ca. 1910

Timber structure used to transfer stores from the beach up to the lighthouse. Rail lines and a small wagon brought the goods to the whim. Photo taken ca. 1903

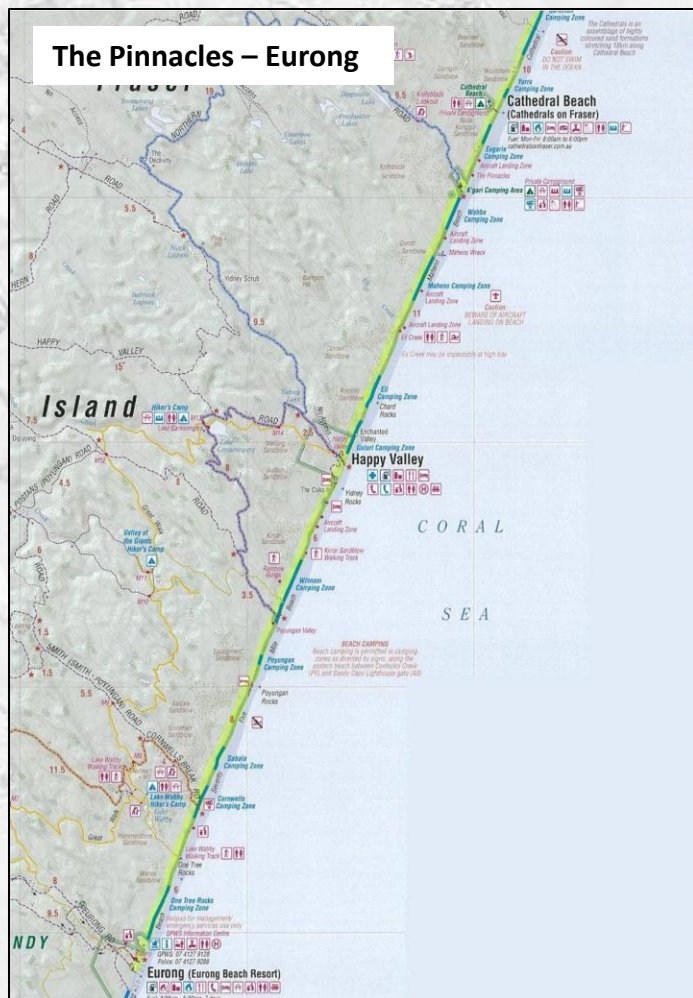
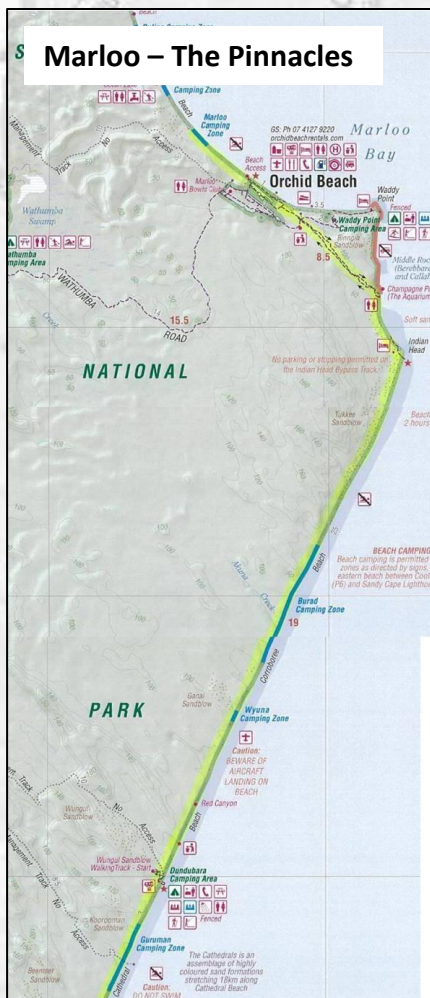


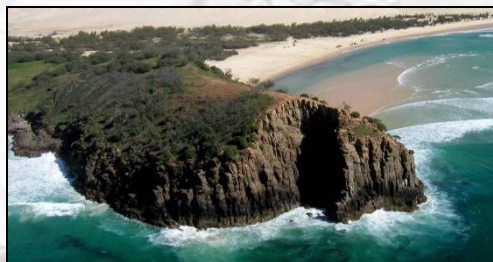
## Day 2

### MARLOO CAMP – EURONG

(Via Champagne Pools, Indian Head, The Pinnacles, Maheno Wreck & Eli Creek)

Leaving our camp this morning we head South along the coast to the Champagne Pools and we'll take a walk up Indian Head to capture the fantastic morning vista. Then it's on to the stunning Pinnacles on our way to Maheno Wreck. Continuing down the coast we'll stop and stretch our legs and explore the boardwalk of Eli Creek and take a walk or relaxing swim down the creek and surrounds. We'll have a BBQ lunch at Eli Creek then continue south to our final stop for the day at Eurong Beach Resort. Here we'll enjoy a fabulous meal, hot shower and maybe a spot of fishing.





## Indian Head

This distinctive outcropping of rocky cliffs makes one of Fraser's most notable landmarks. It's well known as a spectacular lookout point, offering views right up and down the coast.

## The Pinnacles – Cathedral Beach

Stunning multicoloured cliffs of red, yellow, brown and orange sands, The Pinnacles are the result of thousands of years of staining to the sand by Hematite in clay.



## Maheno Wreck

A major landmark on the Island is the wreck of the *S.S. Maheno*. Built in Scotland in 1905 as a luxury passenger ship for the trans-Tasman crossing. During WWI she served as a hospital ship in the English Channel, and was then returned to her owners. By 1935 the ship had been taken out of service and sold to a ship-breaker in Japan. On 25 June 1935, while being towed to Osaka to be broken up, she was caught in a strong cyclone 80kms off the coast of Qld. The towline parted, and on 9 July 1935 the *Maheno* became beached on the east coast of Fraser Island. During WWII the wreck served as target bombing practice for the RAAF and was used as an explosives demolition target by special forces from the Fraser Commando School.



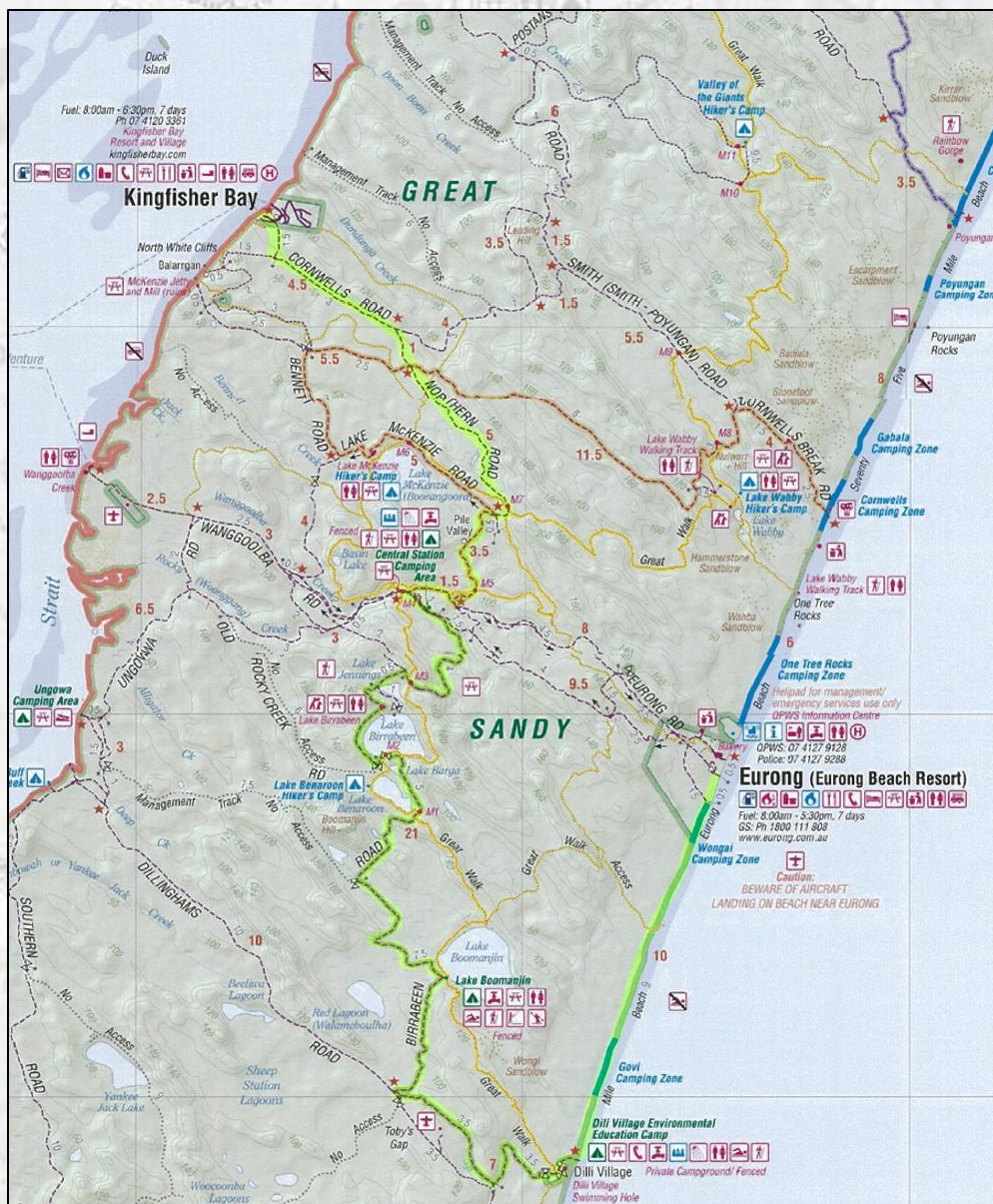
## Eli Creek

The largest freshwater stream on the eastern coast of Fraser, Eli Creek is considered to be one of Fraser Island's most popular natural wonders.

## Day 3

### EURONG – KINGFISHER BAY (via Lake Birrabeen, Central Station & Postans Timber Mill)

We leave the resort, heading south down the coast to Dilli Village, we'll then head inland through the beautiful lakes district to our first stop at the beautiful Lake Birrabeen. From here it's on to our lunch stop at Central Station. We stop off at the historic Postans Timber Mill on our way down to the West Coast and our final stop for the day at Kingfisher Bay Resort.





## Eurong (Eurong Beach Resort)

Situated right on the beach, Eurong Beach Resort is set amid hectares of lawns and gardens. With a modern restaurant, free-form swimming pool and casual beach bar the resort is the perfect place to unwind after a long day exploring the island.

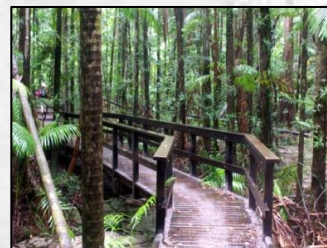


## Lake Birrabeen

Lake Birrabeen is a picturesque example of a perched lake, sitting 80m above sea level. The sand that rings the lake is pure white and, as the lake gradually deepens, the water appears to turn an incredible shade of blue.

## Central Station

The historic heart of Fraser Island, Central Station is located on Wanggoolba Creek. This creek was a Butchulla woman's area and birthing place where men were excluded. The large clearing was later the headquarters of Fraser Island's forestry operations from 1920 until the late 1950s. An old logging village was also located here from days when tree felling was permitted on Fraser. Central Station was once home to around 30 houses, a school was also built for the children of the loggers. Today the picnic area reflects the island's forestry past. The mature Kauri Pines, Bunya Pines, Satinays and Flooded Gums were planted 95 years ago to create a display botanical garden.

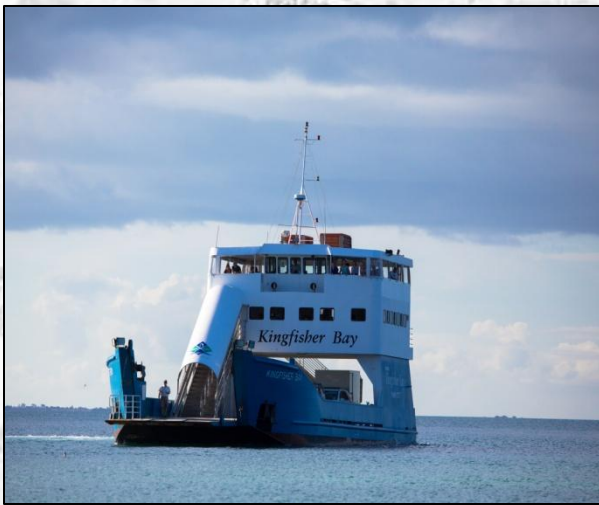


Timber getting on Fraser Island lasted for more than a century from the late 1860s. Considerable effort was put into establishing pine plantations on the island for regeneration but without much success. Postan's logging camp, which operated from 1935 to the close of logging in 1991, was the base for logging contractors.

## Day 4

### KINGFISHER BAY – BRISBANE (via Hervey Bay)

We leave the beautiful Kingfisher Resort this morning and make our way to the ferry which will take us across to Hervey Bay. From here we'll make our way leisurely down the coast to Brisbane which will take us about 3hrs or so.



### Kingfisher Bay Resort – Hervey Bay





**Kingfisher Bay Resort & Village**  
Kingfisher is the only resort on the western side of the island, and is nestled amongst the tree-covered dunes on the edge of the Great Sandy Strait. It's the perfect spot for swimming, canoeing, sailing, fishing and boating. Whale watch tours are also available from August to October.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

### What to bring?

Each tour requires all the basics you would typically bring on any trip e.g. toiletries, towels, camera and extra money for optional snacks and activities.

Due to the nature of our tours we recommend bringing:

- A small day pack – with hat, sunscreen, water bottle, torch & insect repellent
- Comfortable & sturdy walking shoes
- Swimming gear
- Fly net to cover your head if you are bothered by flies (outback tours particularly); and
- Motion sickness tablets or any other medication (if required).

Clothing requirements will vary depending on the location and season.

We would also like you to bring your own pillow, because everyone likes their own pillow, and a sleeping bag to suit the climate of the environment you are travelling to, in particular for our night at the Marloo Campsite.



## Notes



Kingfisher Bay

# Fraser Island

