

# Discover the Tropical North



# Location

Tropical North Queensland is a remarkable region where Australia's celebrated Daintree Rainforest meets the World Heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef. At an estimated 180 million years old, the Daintree is regarded as the world's oldest living rainforest with a fascinating ecosystem revealing ancient plants as well as hundreds of species of birds and wildlife. It's also home to the Indigenous Eastern Kuku Yalanji people who have a deep connection with the land.

Silky Oaks Lodge provides a hub for the many wonderful adventures and discoveries on offer in the tropical north. Within easy reach are Mossman Gorge, the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef - Port Douglas, and the magnificent wilderness of Cape Tribulation. To the west lies the Atherton Tablelands, the last frontier that divides the coast from the vast Queensland outback.

# Seasons of Tropical North Queensland

Part of the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area, the Daintree climate is characterised by two distinct seasons: the dry season from April to November offers warm days with low humidity and cooler nights with temperatures ranging from 19-30°C; December to March is considered the green season as the days and nights are hotter with more frequent restorative showers and temperatures between 22-32°C

Season	Average daytime temp	Average overnight temp
Dry (April-November)	27.8°C (82°F)	19.1°C (66°F)
Green (December-March)	31.1°C (88°F)	23.5°C (74°F)

# **Experiences**

The Wet Tropics World Heritage Area has so much to offer; **explore** the ancient river-seamed Daintree Rainforest, fly high above the emerald green to discover remote places only accessible by **helicopter** and immerse in the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef from the **water** or the **air**. For a change of pace, spend time with the First Nations Kuku Yalanji people and learn about their ancient **culture** with a history dating some 50,000 years.

Of course, the riverside setting at Silky Oaks Lodge invites leisurely pursuits on-site, including yoga, self-guided walks and river explorations, while the option to indulge in a spa treatment, wander through the kitchen garden or enjoy a drink at the bar are equally appealing.

Silky Oaks Lodge recommends a selection of local operators who together offer a range of premium experiences to enhance your stay. Days and times of operation vary depending on availability and the seasons and additional charges apply. **Enquire** with the lodge team for bookings and further information.

#### Getting there

Silky Oaks Lodge is 20 minutes' drive from Port Douglas (22km) and around 80 minutes' drive north of Cairns Airport (78km). Cape Tribulation is 68km north of the lodge. Private vehicle transfers between Silky Oaks Lodge and Cairns Airport or nearby Port Douglas may be arranged with a preferred operator. Self-drive is a popular option travelling along the spectacularly scenic Great Barrier Reef Drive. Helicopter transfers between Cairns Airport and Silky Oaks Lodge.

#### What to bring

Reflecting the tranquil surrounds, dress is relaxed at Silky Oaks Lodge. Easy to wear, resort style clothing for daytime and smart casual attire for evening is recommended. Comfortable solid footwear is essential for rainforest walks as is a hat and sunscreen. Swimwear is essential for relaxing poolside or for a refreshing swim in the Mossman River.

#### Lodge & Local

- » Yoga
- » Self Guided Walks
- » River Explorations
- » Kitchen Garden
- » Exploring by eBike
- » Port Douglas Transfers

#### Healing Waters Spa

#### River & Rainforest

- » Full Day Tours
- » Half Day & Short Tours
- » Private Tours

#### Cultural Experiences

#### Reef Expeditions

- » Full Day Tours
- » Half Day & Short Tours
- » Private Tours

Helicopter Flights



# Lodge & Local



These experiences are included in the tariff - some are self-guided, whilst others are shared with fellow guests. Private experiences can be arranged at an additional cost, subject to availability.



### Yoga

Guided yoga classes each morning take a gentle pace and suit all fitness and experience levels. Held in the open-air Marrdja Pavilion, cares slip away with the soothing sound of the Mossman River. Stretch sessions are shared with fellow guests at a scheduled time.

Tariff Included Duration

1 hour



#### Self Guided Walks

For those wishing to explore further outside the lodge grounds, adjoining the property in the Daintree National Park is a series of marked trails which are perfect for the adventurous to undertake at their own pace including exclusive access to the Fig Tree Rapids trail. Tariff Included

Duration

Self-paced, from 20 minutes to 2 hours return



# **River Explorations**

Exploring the Mossman River is as easy as wading in from the shallows and sinking into the crystal-clear waters of the billabong. Alternatively, float along in a kayak or take a snorkel for a closer look down below. Snorkel equipment, kayaks, safety vests and helmets are provided for guest use.

Tariff Included

**Duration** Self-paced



### Kitchen Garden

On the site of a former tennis court, the kitchen team cultivates local and Indigenous ingredients for use in the lodge's restaurant. A walk through the Kitchen Garden is a wonderful way to learn about the diverse range of tropical produce and witness its short journey from plant to plate.

Tariff Included

Duration 30 minutes





# Exploring by eBike

From Silky Oaks Lodge, it's an easy cycle to the nearby towns of Mossman and Cooya Beach to the east and the Mossman Gorge Cultural Centre to the south. A fleet of electronic bikes and helmets are provided for guest use and the team can suggest a cycle route.

Tariff Included

**Duration** Self-paced



# Port Douglas Transfers

Silky Oaks Lodge offers guests a daily scheduled courtesy shuttle service to and from Port Douglas, shared with fellow guests. The transfer departs the lodge at 11.30am making lunch in town an appealing option; the return trip to the lodge departs at 3.30pm. Guests can also opt to join the transfer for easy access to and from Mossman.

Tariff Included

Duration 20 mins

# Healing Waters Spa

Set among lush rainforest gardens, the Healing Waters Spa is a tranquil sanctuary offering a balm to the bustle of every-day life. Luxurious and restorative treatments for body, mind and soul invite guests to bathe in the wild beauty of the surrounds, to connect with the breath and spend mindful time in nature. Leave the spa feeling refreshed and lighter of mind, ready to soak in the pristine beauty of the rainforest.



# Spa experiences

Inspired by ancient wisdoms that water in the Mossman River is a renewing and life-giving force, the Healing Waters Spa offers six cool salons with rainforest views, including couples' rooms and a Vichy shower. Among the tranquil sounds of the rainforest, guests enjoy a signature menu of treatments featuring natural earth clays, flower and plant essences and the Australian-made Sodashi skincare range.

#### How to book

Reservations are recommended in advance. Browse the range of Healing Waters Spa treatments and submit your booking online, view a printable menu or contact the lodge on +61 7 4098 1666 or info@silkyoaks.com.au

#### Tariff

See spa menu for full treatment and price details.



# River & Rainforest



#### Rates valid 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023

All rates quoted in Australian Dollars and inclusive of 10% GST

Located adjacent to the Daintree Rainforest, Silky Oaks Lodge is an ideal base from which to explore the ancient forest via specialty guided tours on foot, by boat or four-wheel drive safari. Silky Oaks Lodge works with premium local operators to offer these special adventures. Rates and inclusions are subject to change at operator discretion. Advance bookings are essential, tours are subject to availability and weather conditions.

# Full Day Tours

Full day tours of the Daintree and surrounds offer an in-depth or special interest experience of the region's landscape, its wildlife and its people.



## Daintree Safari Tour

Join Daintree Safaris' Nicholas Fox on a ramble through the rainforest travelling in luxury 4WD style. Venture to Cape Tribulation for a day of guided walks, river cruising, wildlife watching, waterhole swims, tea-house dining and ice cream eating – this fun and immersive trip has it all.

Maximum 6 people. Includes lunch and refreshments.



Park including Mossman Gorge and the remote outpost of Cape Tribulation. Keep an eye out for crocodiles onboard a Daintree River cruise and back on land, the endangered Cassowary. Kick back with a barbeque beside a private waterhole - the perfect spot for a cooling swim.

Maximum 7 people. Private charter available, please enquire. Includes barbeque lunch.

#### How to book

The Silky Oaks Lodge team is available to assist with itinerary plans and bookings. Please call +61 7 4098 1666 during business operation hours 9am-5pm (AEST) daily or email info@silkyoaks.com.au

#### Tariff

\$220 per adult \$199 per child (10-14yrs)

#### Duration

Full day

## Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Daintree Safaris

#### Tariff

\$210 per adult \$190 per child (10-14yrs)

#### Duration

Full day

#### Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Port Douglas Tropical Trips





# Half Day & Short Tours

Half day and shorter tours offer a wonderful chance to explore special interests in the Daintree region, and may be seamlessly worked into a complementary itinerary of signature experiences.



# Daintree River and Mossman Gorge - Morning or Afternoon

Explore the Daintree River by cruise excursion, searching for wildlife including the mighty estuarine crocodiles. At Mossman Gorge wander along rainforest trails on a guided walk and later, take a refreshing dip in a crystal-clear swimming hole, considered a Daintree must-do.

Maximum 10 people. Includes afternoon tea.



\$119 per adult \$109 per child (10-14yrs)

#### Duration

Half day

#### Departs from

Mossman (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

Daintree Discovery Tours



# Solar Whisper Wildlife Cruise

Skipper David White has worked on the Daintree River for 20 years and is well-accustomed to the nuances of the waterway. His knowledge and ability to spot wildlife in their native habitats is impressive, aided by his vessel the 'Solar Whisper', the only zero emission boat on the river.

Located at Shop 2, Cape Tribulation Rd, Lower Daintree. Maximum 10 people.

#### Tariff

\$30 per person

#### Duration

1 hour (multiple tour times available)

#### Location

Lower Daintree (self-drive)

#### Operator

Solar Whisper



# River Drift Snorkelling

Drift-snorkelling along the Mossman River downstream from the lodge is at times fast and exciting, other times slow and relaxing, all under the guidance of an experienced instructor. Wetsuits and snorkelling gear are provided.

Maximum 12 people. Available as private experience on request.

#### Tariff

\$120 per adult \$100 per child (10-14yrs)

#### Duration

60 minutes

#### Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Back Country Bliss



# Beauty Valley Falls Hike

Walk, swim and cruise on this guided Daintree journey, beginning with a robust hike through rainforest glades to a beautiful waterfall. Soak in the natural pool at the base and enjoy a picnic lunch in the wild. Later, cruise the scenic Daintree River and spot the wildlife that call the waterway home.

Maximum 4 people. Includes lunch.

#### Tariff

\$245 per person

#### Duration

8.30am-4pm

#### Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Daintree Experience





# **Bird Watching**

The Wet Tropics is home to over 430 species of birds, 12 of which are endemic to the region making it prime territory for twitchers. Join a bird watching and/or photography tour with renowned naturalist Doug Herrington visiting coastal heath, rainforest and dry woodland habitats.

Maximum 4 people. Includes morning tea and bird list. \*Minimum 2 people.

#### Tariff

Half Day \$185 per person\* Full Day \$245 per person\* Single \$350 per person

Duration

Full or half day

Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

Operator

Birdwatching Tropical Australia

# **Private Tours**

Adventure awaits in nature's reef and leaf playground, known as Tropical North Queensland. Explore it like a local in the company of an expert, personal guide and get off the beaten track.



### **Daintree Exclusive Tour**

Head off on a guided safari exploring the magnificent Wet Tropics. Meet the 'locals' onboard a Daintree River wildlife spotting cruise and get even closer to nature with a guided walk at Mossman Gorge. Return wiser and happier with sand between your toes and the Daintree in your soul

Maximum 4 people. Includes lunch at Daintree Tea House.

#### Tariff

\$1,560 for 1-4 people

Duration

Full day

Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

Operator

FNQ Nature Tours



#### Daintree Boatman

Join passionate naturalist guide Murray Hunt and get to know the 'locals', from highly soughtafter birds and snakes to hard-to-see crocodiles, during a private cruise down the scenic Daintree River. Get close to the action onboard a hybridvessel and have the camera ready!

Maximum 4 people.

#### Tariff

\$220 for 1-4 people

#### Duration

1-1.5 hours

#### Departs from

Lower Daintree (self-drive)

#### Operator

Daintree Boatman



# Cultural Experiences



#### Rates valid 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023

All rates quoted in Australian Dollars and inclusive of 10% GST

The ancient culture of the First Nations Kuku Yalanji people is built around a deep respect for nature and an intimate knowledge of its cycles. Experience firsthand the invaluable knowledge passed down through the generations. Silky Oaks Lodge partners with local operators to offer these experiences. Rates and inclusions are subject to change at operator discretion. Advance bookings are essential, tours are subject to availability and weather conditions.



# Tour of Kuku Yalanji Country

The Ngana Julaymba Dungay: We All Going Daintree tour offers guests the chance to discover the Kuku Yalanji people's deep connection with Country at Mossman Gorge, learn about bush foods and medicines and try traditional Aboriginal hunting techniques including mud-crabbing in the mangroves at Cooya Beach.

Minimum 2 people, maximum 11 people. Private charter available, please enquire.



# Ngadiku Dreamtime Walk

Mossman's cultural hub offers a raft of experiences for visitors to Mossman Gorge. The popular Ngadiku (Nar-di-gul) walk led by an Indigenous guide welcomes guests with a traditional 'smoking' ceremony, before embarking on a rainforest walk and a journey steeped in heritage, ancient culture and traditions.

Available as private experience on request.



# Aboriginal Art Workshop

Owned and operated by acclaimed Aboriginal artist Binna Swindley, Janbal Gallery is more than just an art gallery for browsing, it's a space for education too. Learn about Indigenous art and culture through hands-on painting workshops and storytelling experiences and create an artwork under Binna's guidance to take home.

Located at Janbal Gallery, 5 Johnston Road, Mossman. Maximum 12 people. Available as private experience on request.

#### How to book

The Silky Oaks Lodge team is available to assist with itinerary plans and bookings. Please call +61 7 4098 1666 during business operation hours 9am-5pm (AEST) daily or email info@silkyoaks.com.au

#### Tariff

Half Day \$180 per person Full Day \$230 per person

#### Duration

Half day (5 hours, AM or PM) Full day (8 hours)

#### Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Walkabout Cultural Adventures

#### Tariff

\$86.50 per adult \$43.25 per child (10-15yrs)

#### Duration

90 minutes

#### Departs from

Mossman Gorge Cultural Centre (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

Mossman Gorge Cultural Centre

#### Tariff

\$55 per adult \$27.50 per child

#### Duration

90 minutes

#### Location

Mossman (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

Janbal Gallery



# Reef Expeditions



#### Rates valid 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023

All rates quoted in Australian Dollars and inclusive of 10% GST

Accessed via the pretty coastal resort town of Port Douglas, the Great Barrier Reef offers a boatload of aquatic adventures to discover the kaleidoscope of corals and marine life in the complex and magnificent reef system. Silky Oaks Lodge works with premium local operators to offer these special adventures. Rates and inclusions are subject to change at operator discretion. Advance bookings are essential, tours are subject to availability and weather conditions.

#### How to book

The Silky Oaks Lodge team is available to assist with itinerary plans and bookings. Please call +61 7 4098 1666 during business operation hours 9am-5pm (AEST) daily or email info@silkyoaks.com.au

# **Full Day Tours**

Dedicate a full day to really explore the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef; discover vibrant corals and marine life and enjoy gourmet lunch and refreshments along the way.



## Outer Reef Snorkel Tour – Catamaran

Join a sailing and snorkel eco adventure to the coral cays of the Outer Reef or the beautiful Low Isles onboard a luxury catamaran. Both day trips offer snorkelling tours with marine biologist guides, educational reef presentations, glass bottom boat trips and fun in the sun.

Maximum 45 people. Includes snorkel equipment, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

#### Tariff

\$292 per adult \$202 per child (10-12yrs)

### Duration

Full day

#### Departs from

Port Douglas (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

Sailaway



## Outer Reef Snorkel Tour – Motorised Vessel

Journey to the Outer Reef with this local ecotourism pioneer to explore three exclusive reef sites guided by passionate marine biologists. Back onboard, enjoy lunch interspersed with interpretive talks and insights into the crew's conservation efforts including coral planting and a renowned reef monitoring program.

Maximum 45 people. Includes guided snorkelling, snorkel equipment, morning tea, deli style lunch and afternoon tea.

#### Tariff

\$250 per adult \$190 per child (10-12yrs)

#### Duration

Full day

#### Departs from

Port Douglas (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

. Wavelength





# Agincourt and Opal Reef Dive and Snorkel Experience

Agincourt and Opal Reefs are considered among the best locations to snorkel and dive on the Great Barrier Reef. Exploring three great sites on a full day tour, this experience offers an intimate adventure with PADI Dive Masters, informative marine talks and guided snorkelling tours.

Maximum 45 people. Includes snorkel equipment, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Intro and Certified Dives incur additional fees.

#### Tariff

\$275 per adult \$195 per child (10-14yrs)

#### Duration

Full day

#### Departs from

Port Douglas (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

Calypso Reef Cruises

# Half Day & Short Tours

Half day sailing and snorkelling tours of the reef with swooning sunsets over the Coral Sea are a tempting and rewarding inclusion on a Silky Oaks Lodge itinerary.



# Low Isles Inner Reef and Sunset Tour – Sailing Vessel

Journey to the Low Isles onboard a luxury catamaran. Learn about the region's heritage during a guided island walk, spot turtles during a glass bottom boat tour and take a guided snorkelling tour with a marine biologist. At sunset, soak up the pure thrill of sailing the Coral Sea, with a spectacular backdrop of the Daintree Rainforest.

Maximum 33 people. Includes island access, snorkel equipment, light lunch, afternoon tea, sunset canapés and selected beverages. \*Adults only (minimum child age 13 years).



\$292 per person\*

#### Duration

Half day (PM)

#### Departs from

Port Douglas (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

Sailaway



# Coral Sea Sunset Sailing

Sail into the sunset onboard a first-class catamaran and watch as the sun bathes the sea in gold and the mountains transform to striking silhouettes. Laze on the foredecks and enjoy the splash of the waves, take in the view from the bridge or toast the sunset from the open-air lounge.

Maximum 33 people. Includes sunset canapés and a welcome drink. Licenced bar on board to purchase additional beverages. \*Adults only (minimum child age 13 years).

#### Tariff

\$75 per person\*

#### Duration

2 hours (PM)

#### Departs from

Port Douglas (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

#### Operator

Sailaway



# **Private Tours**

Ideal for a special occasion or private adventure exclusively for friends and family, these experiences deliver an unforgettable day out with the ones who matter most.



#### **Exclusive Reef Charter**

MV Monsoon is a luxuriously appointed motor vessel, ideal for families, couples and friends seeking the ultimate Great Barrier Reef cruising experience. Let the crew tailor a personalised itinerary - including snorkelling, scuba diving, interpretative reef talks, exploring your own sand cay and even sport fishing - to create a day of sea, salt and sand adventures!

Maximum 10 people. Includes snorkel, scuba and fishing equipment, morning tea, gourmet lunch and afternoon tea.

#### Tariff

\$4,300 for 1-10 people

Duration

Full day

Departs from

Port Douglas (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

Operator

Monsoon Reef Charters



# **Exclusive Sailing Charter**

Spend the day onboard your own 52ft luxury catamaran the Eureka V, sailing the tropics in the treasured company of family and friends. Savour premium food and beverages, a tailored itinerary of swimming and snorkelling adventures and an expert crew to take you there.

Maximum 33 people. \*Rates are dependent on itinerary, availability and inclusions required.

#### Tariff

Enquire for rates\*

Duration

Full day

Departs from

Port Douglas (self-drive or enquire for transfer options)

Operator

Reef Sprinter

# Something else in mind?

For more ideas, chat with the Silky Oaks Lodge team to tailor a private experience of the Great Barrier Reef. From a romantic getaway to an adventure with a conservation focus or an action packed itinerary, there's something for everyone. Please call +61 7 4098 1666 from 9am-5pm (AEST) daily or email info@silkyoaks.com.au to contact the team.



# Helicopter Flights



#### Rates valid 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023

All rates quoted in Australian Dollars and inclusive of 10% GST

Experience the wonders of the region from the air on a scenic flight or choose a longer tour to discover incredible and remote parts of the rainforest only accessible by helicopter. Rates and inclusions are subject to change at operator discretion. Advance bookings are essential, tours are subject to availability and weather conditions and passenger weights.



# **Discovery Flights**

Soar over the vast wilderness of the Daintree National Park with its jungle-cloaked peaks and ancient flowing rivers, fly out to hover above the stunning blue and green hues of the outer reaches of the Great Barrier Reef, or combine both World Heritage-listed wonders in an unforgettable round-trip.

Minimum 2 passengers, maximum 6 passengers based on weight and heli aircraft availability.

#### How to book

The Silky Oaks Lodge team is available to assist with itinerary plans and bookings. Please call +61 7 4098 1666 during business operation hours 9am-5pm (AEST) daily or email info@silkyoaks.com.au

#### Tariff

See table

#### Duration

30, 45 or 60 minutes

#### Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Nautilus Aviation

Nautilus Aviation

\$549 per adult 30 Minute Reef or Rainforest Discovery Flight 45 Minute Reef Discovery Flight including Outer Reef \$649 per adult

60 Minute Reef and Rainforest Discovery Flight

\$849 per adult

Tariff



# Rainforest Waterfall Escape

touching down in the heart of the Daintree National Park at Stewarts Creek Falls, accessible only by heli. Jump in for a swim and enjoy a gourmet picnic lunch right on the waterfall to top off a once in a lifetime experience.

and heli aircraft availability.



Minimum 2 passengers, maximum 6 passengers based on weight



# **Undine Sand Cay**

Gaze in awe at Coral Sea views before touching down on Undine Cay, a dreamy island paradise. Sunbathe and snorkel in the crystal-clear waters abundant in marine life - like jumping into an aquarium! An idyllic beach picnic with sparkling wine completes an exclusive Great Barrier Reef encounter.

Minimum 2 passengers, maximum 6 passengers based on weight and heli aircraft availability. Tour only available 1 April - 31 August.

\$1,049 per adult

#### Duration

30 minutes flying and 1 hour at waterfall

#### Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Nautilus Aviation

#### Tariff

\$1,049 per adult

#### Duration

40 minutes flying and 2 hours on Undine Cay

#### Departs from

Silky Oaks Lodge

#### Operator

Nautilus Aviation



# There's more to explore



There are endless possibilities for exploring Tropical North Queensland. The Silky Oaks Lodge team can choreograph a personalised itinerary based on guests' preferences to include the experiences within this guide plus many more. Tee off on a tropical golf course, go sport fishing, see the sunrise from a hot air balloon over the Atherton Tablelands or explore the rainforest on two wheels. There's stand up paddle boarding along the Mossman River, mud crabbing in the mangroves and the Atherton Tablelands food trail to discover. Please call +61 7 4098 1666 from 9am-5pm (AEST) daily or email info@silkyoaks.com.au to contact the team.

# **Terms & Conditions**

Rates are subject to minimum numbers set by external operators and are subject to change. A 48-hour cancellation policy applies. No refund applicable if cancelled within 48 hours of tour departure time. Touring options, inclusions and times are subject to change without notice. Experiences can be customised to individual requirements at the discretion of external operators. Some experiences are subject to weather conditions.