



201110 Cairns and Great Barrier Reef

Cairns, the train up to Kuranda and back by Skyrail, and then our wonderful pair of Great Barrier Reef cruises on the Coral Princess II. A) Cairns to Cooktown and Lizard Island, returning via Ribbon Reefs 9 and 3 back to Cairns, B) Cairns to Nathan Reef, Dunk Island and Pelorus Island before a stormy trip to Townsville.





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Island and Pelorus Island before a stormy trip to Townsville.



Day 1 – Cairns

Arriving in Cairns we explored the waterfront and harbour.

8 images



Day 2 – Kuranda Train and Skyrail, cruise starts

The Kuranda Train and Skyrail Tour starts at Freshwater
Station (North Cairns). The train wends its way up a steep
climb with spectacular views of bridges and...

28 images



Day 3 – Cooktown and first Barrier Reef island

Awoke to Cooktown where we enjoyed a town tour seeing the
sites and views from the lookout.
Then off to our first Barrier Reef island where the wind was just
a...

20 images



Day 4 – Lizard Island and Ribbon Reef 9

Lizard Island is the most northern part of our cruise and we
spent a delightful few hours swimming, snorkelling and even a
dive lesson. Turning south, our next...

38 images



Day 5 – Ribbon Reef 3

We continue south to Ribbon Reef 3 - another great spot for
glass-bottom boat viewing and snorkelling.

11 images



Day 6 – Cairns again

We end the first cruise back in Cairns again - good views of the
city and surrounds. A bit more exploration of the sites while the
boat prepares for our second...

6 images



Day 7 – Nathan Reef and Dunk Island

The cruise takes us to Nathan Reef (not far from Cairns)
another good spot for snorkelling and feeding the brightly
coloured fish. Next we head south to...

23 images



Day 8 – Pelorus Island

As the weather starts to deteriorate we head to Pelorus Island -
a private island used exclusively by the cruise company. A nice
lunch on the beach while we...

4 images

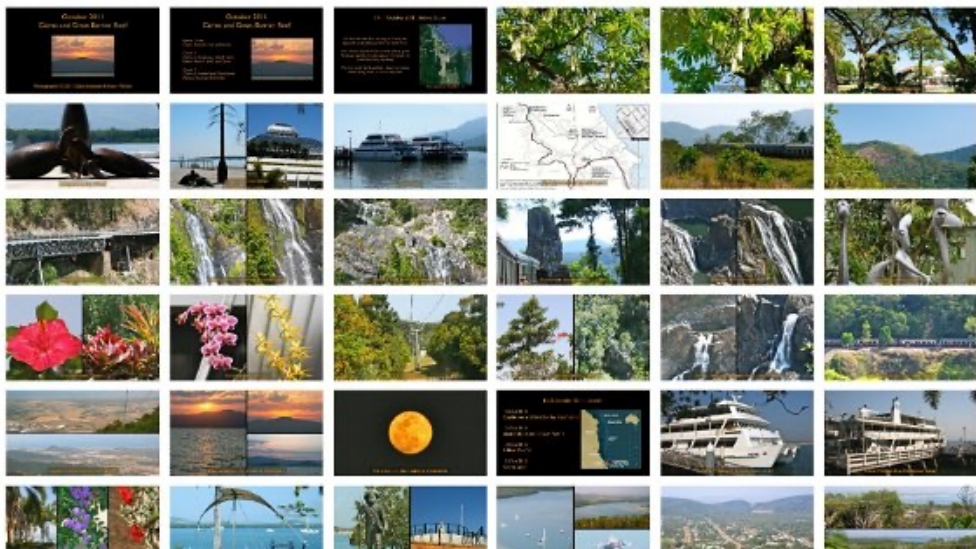


Day 9 – Townsville

After a very rough night we head into Townsville where we
berthed very close to some naval vessels. Sadly our time
aboard the Coral Princess II has come to an...

2 images

201110 Cairns and Great Barrier Reef Contact Sheet



201110 Cairns and Great Barrier Reef Contact Sheets

Thumbnail images of all slides in Fotomagico presentation.

3 images

Day 1 – Cairns

Arriving in Cairns we explored the waterfront and harbour.



Map of Cairns and surrounding area

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



City Gardens



City Gardens



City Gardens



Sculpture at the Wharf



Sculpture at the Wharf



Casino



Reef Boats



Day 2 - Kuranda Train and Skyrail, cruise starts >

Day 2 – Kuranda Train and Skyrail, cruise starts

The Kuranda Train and Skyrail Tour starts at Freshwater Station (North Cairns). The train wends its way up a steep climb with spectacular views of bridges and waterfalls. The train line now ends at Kuranda which is full of tourists but is still a lovely spot. The return trip down the Skyrail gives a quite different appreciation of the scenery - well worth stopping at the Barron Falls lookout. Back to Cairns to join the cruise ship (Coral Princess II) at Cairns Wharf and depart for an overnight cruise to Cooktown and the first of our spectacular sunsets.



Map of Kuranda Train and Skyrail



Kuranda train



Kuranda train line



Kuranda train bridge



Kuranda train waterfall



Kuranda train waterfall



Kuranda train waterfall



Monument to railway line builders



Barron Falls



Barron Falls



Kuranda town sculptures



Kuranda town flower



Kuranda town plant



Kuranda town orchid



Kuranda town orchid



Skyrail going down



Flowering tree from Skyrail



Barron Falls with jumpers



Train stop at Barron Falls lookout



Barron Falls from Skyrail stop



Barron Falls from Skyrail stop



Coastal view of Cairns from Skyrail



Coastal view of Cairns from Skyrail



Flowering trees from Skyrail



First sunset on the cruise to Cooktown



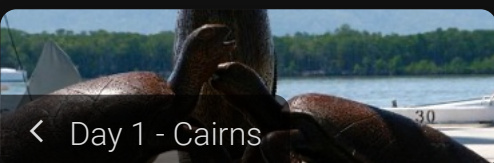
First sunset on the cruise to Cooktown



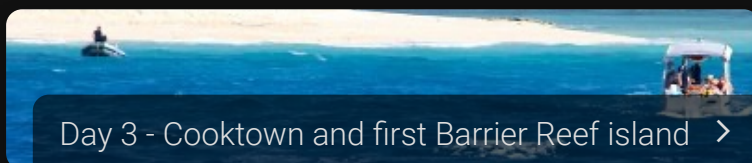
First sunset on the cruise to Cooktown



Full moon on the cruise to Cooktown



< Day 1 - Cairns



Day 3 - Cooktown and first Barrier Reef Island >

Day 3 – Cooktown and first Barrier Reef island

Awoke to Cooktown where we enjoyed a town tour seeing the sites and views from the lookout. Then off to our first Barrier Reef island where the wind was just a bit too strong to get any snorkel practice. North again to Lizard Island.



Cruise map - Cairns, Lizard Island and return



Coral Princess II at Cooktown wharf



Flowers at Cooktown wharf



Coral Princess II at Cooktown wharf



Cooktown wharf



Flowers at Cooktown wharf



Gold prospector statue



Musical ship sculpture



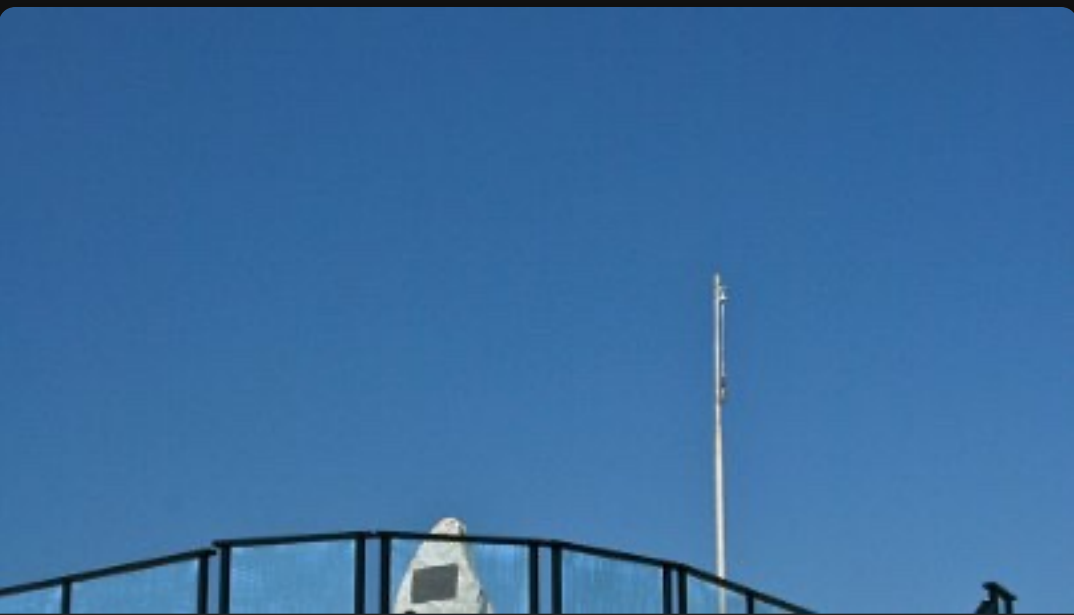
View from lookout



Prawning boat from lookout



View from lookout



Cooktown lookout



Townview from lookout



Townview from museum



Townview from museum



Our first barrier reef island



Our first barrier reef island



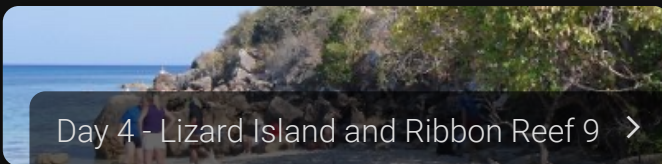
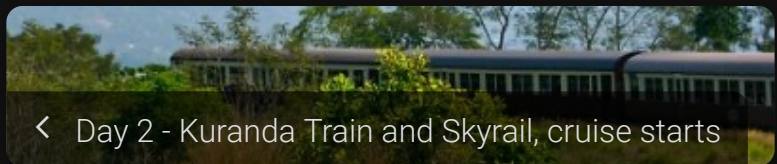
Our first barrier reef island

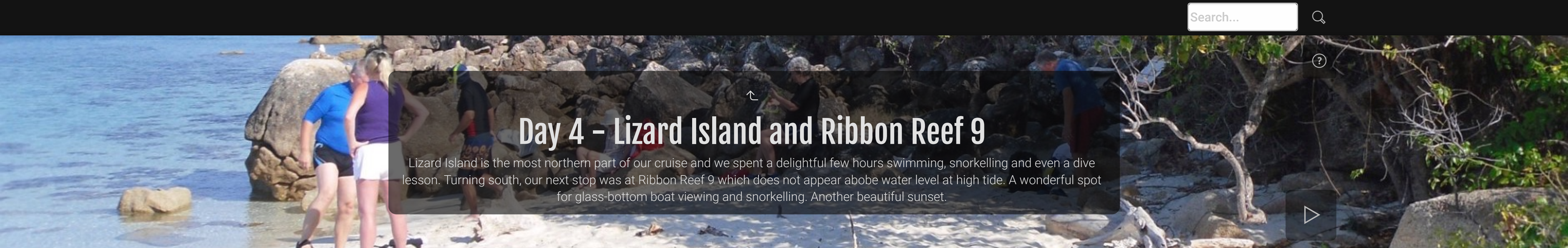


Our first barrier reef island



Second sunset on cruise





Day 4 - Lizard Island and Ribbon Reef 9

Lizard Island is the most northern part of our cruise and we spent a delightful few hours swimming, snorkelling and even a dive lesson. Turning south, our next stop was at Ribbon Reef 9 which does not appear above water level at high tide. A wonderful spot for glass-bottom boat viewing and snorkelling. Another beautiful sunset.



Landing at Lizard Island



Bay at Lizard Island



First steps on Lizard Island



Getting organised at Lizard Island



On Lizard Island



On Lizard Island



On Lizard Island



On Lizard Island



On Lizard Island



Leaving Lizard Island



Leaving Lizard Island



Leaving Lizard Island



Leaving Lizard Island



Ribbon Reef 9



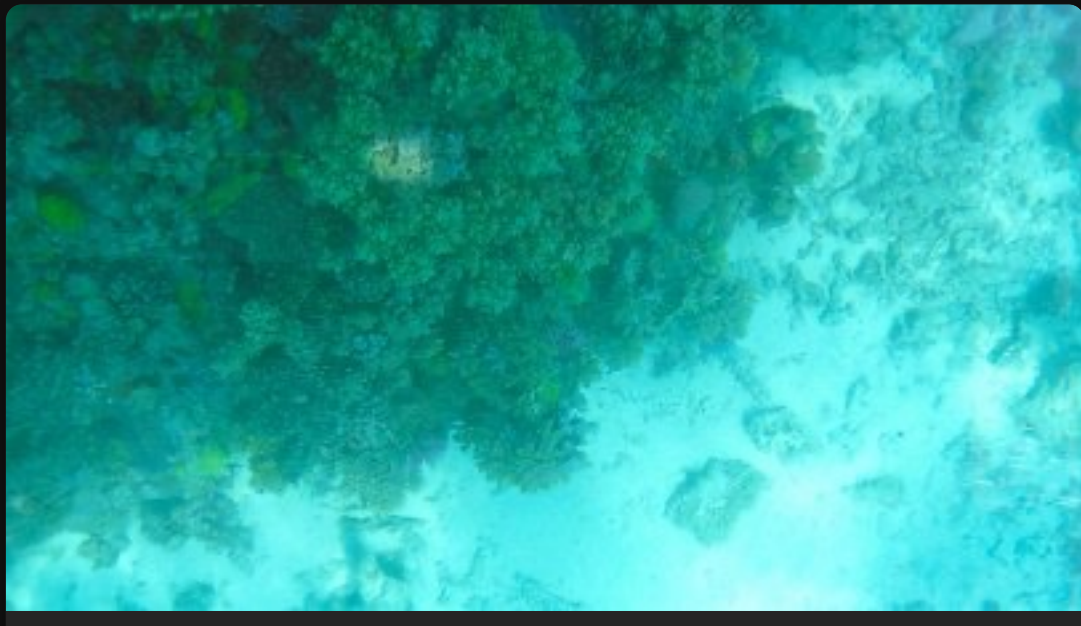
Ribbon Reef 9



Ribbon Reef 9



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef fish from glassbottom boat



Reef fish from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



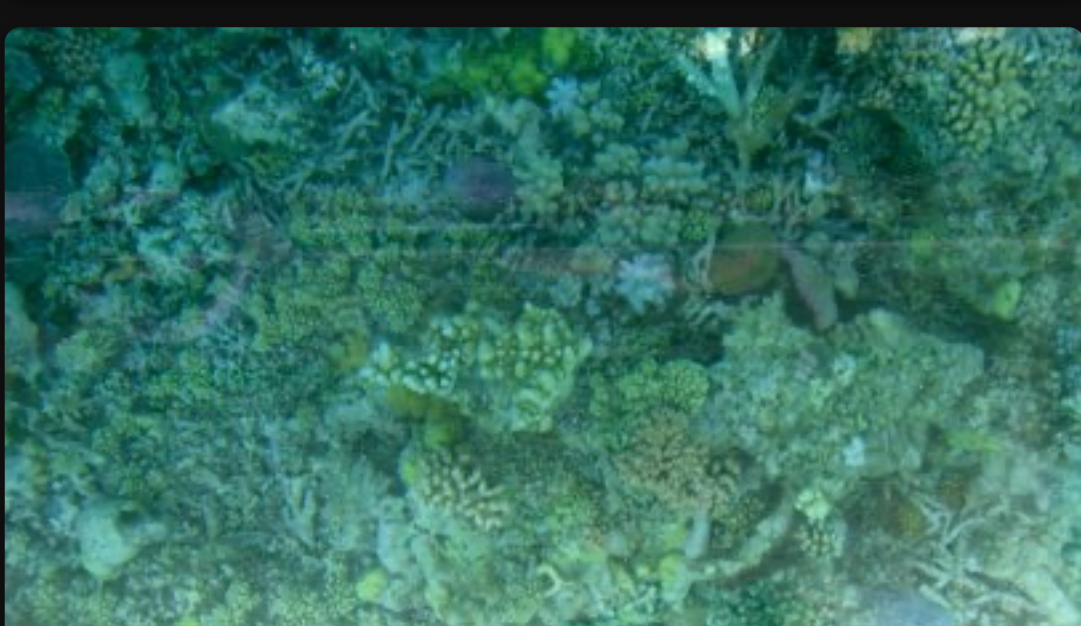
Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Reef from glassbottom boat



Ribbon Reef 9



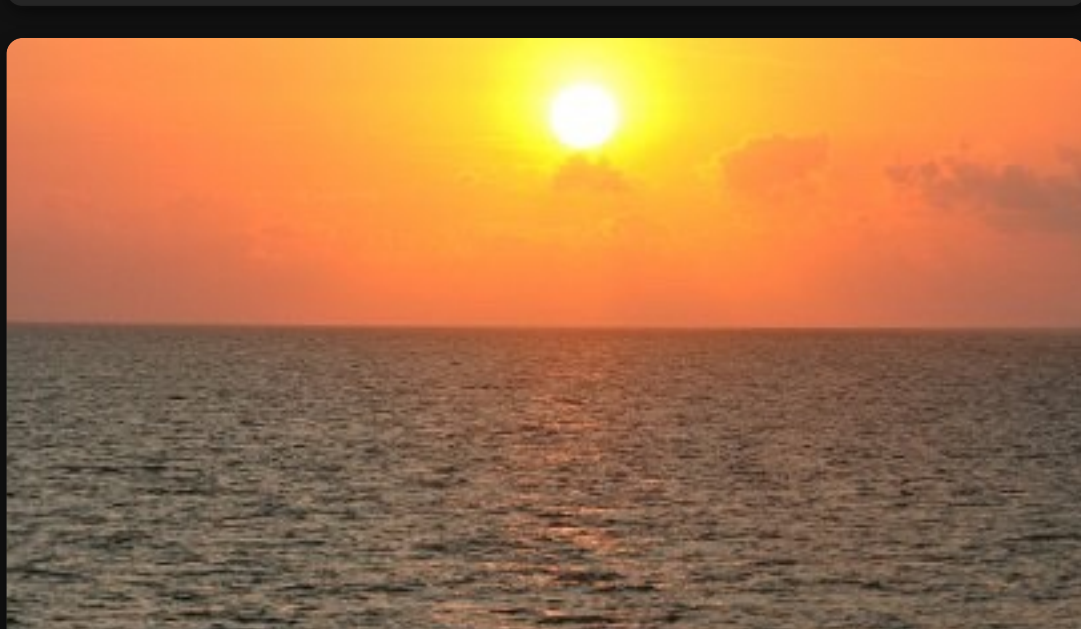
Ribbon Reef 9



Ribbon Reef 9



Sunset 3 from the reef



Sunset 3 from the reef



Sunset 3 from the reef



Day 5 – Ribbon Reef 3

We continue south to Ribbon Reef 3 - another great spot for glass-bottom boat viewing and snorkelling.



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



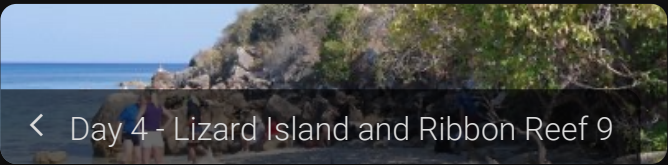
Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3



Ribbon Reef 3 native



< Day 4 - Lizard Island and Ribbon Reef 9



Day 6 - Cairns again >



Day 6 – Cairns again

We end the first cruise back in Cairns again - good views of the city and surrounds. A bit more exploration of the sites while the boat prepares for our second cruise.



Group on arrival in Cairns



Cairns from the ship



Cairns from the ship



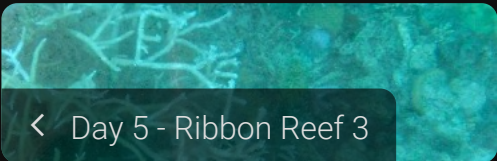
Cairns from the ship



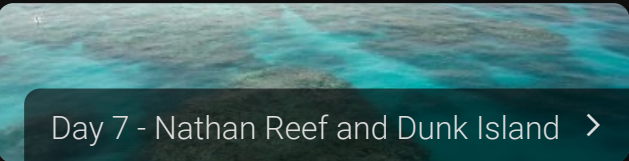
Cairns from the ship



Yachts and power boats in Cairns harbour



< Day 5 - Ribbon Reef 3



Day 7 - Nathan Reef and Dunk Island >

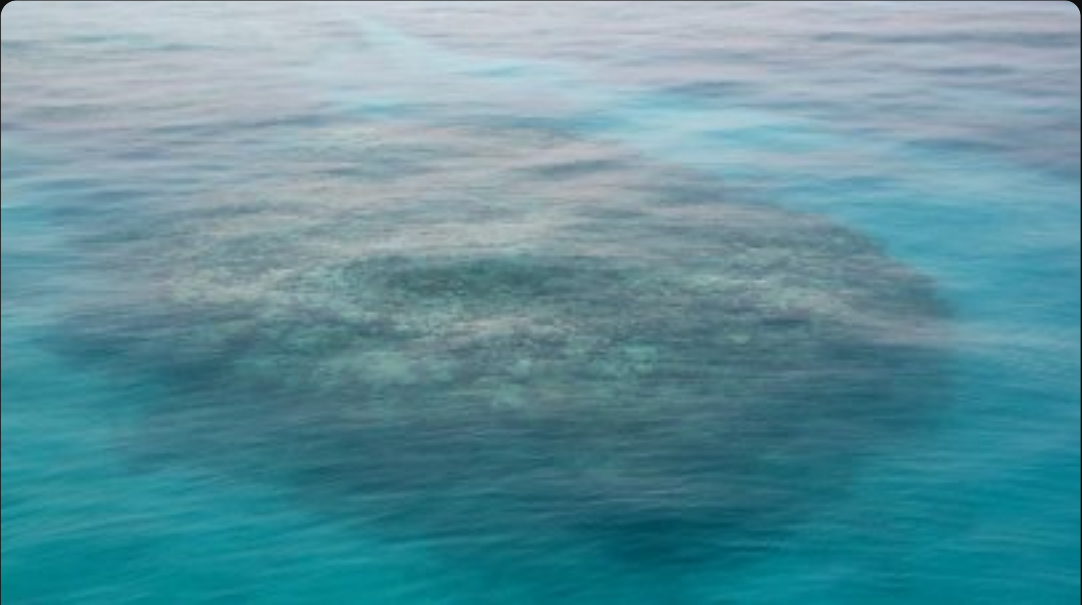


Day 7 – Nathan Reef and Dunk Island

The cruise takes us to Nathan Reef (not far from Cairns) another good spot for snorkelling and feeding the brightly coloured fish. Next we head south to cyclone-devastated Dunk Island - sad to see all the damage to the buildings and vegetation - it will be a while before that resort is up and running again.



Cruise map - Cairns, Nathan Reef, Pelorus Island, Townsville



Nathan Reef



Nathan Reef



Nathan Reef



Fish at Nathan Reef



Fish at Nathan Reef



Fish at Nathan Reef



Nathan Reef



Nathan Reef



Nathan Reef



Dunk Island from the ship



Dunk Island from the ship



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Exploring the storm damage at Dunk Island



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Our ship waiting off Dunk Island



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Storm damage at Dunk Island



Dunk Island bird



< Day 6 - Cairns again



Day 8 - Pelorus Island >



Day 8 – Pelorus Island

As the weather starts to deteriorate we head to Pelorus Island - a private island used exclusively by the cruise company. A nice lunch on the beach while we watch the storm clouds brewing.



Pelorus Island



Pelorus Island (note gathering storm)



Pelorus Island



Pelorus Island

< Day 7 - Nathan Reef and Dunk Island

Day 9 - Townsville >



Day 9 – Townsville

After a very rough night we head into Townsville where we berthed very close to some naval vessels. Sadly our time aboard the Coral Princess II has come to an end - many thanks to the wonderful crew for a great holiday.



Arrival Townsville in storm



Group on arrival in Townsville



< Day 8 - Pelorus Island



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