



3 Day Lava Magic 4WD Self-Drive Adventure

This journey takes you through the lush Atherton Tablelands and waterfalls into the dry Savannah Woodlands of Undara. After exploring the amazing Lava Tubes, you make your way to Chillagoe, with its remnants of its busy copper mining days. The Limestone caves are spectacular to visit before making your way back to Cairns after a wonderful 3 days.

Suggested Itinerary

Day 1 Cairns to Undara Lava Tubes

Depart Cairns and travel south down the Captain Cook Highway and turn-off right at Gordonvale. Ascend the windy road up onto the Atherton Tablelands and Yungaburra. Detour to Lake Eacham and Lake Barrine for a morning stop, where you can take a cruise and walk to the towering Kauri pines. While in the area, the Curtain Fig Tree and Millaa Millaa Falls can also be visited. This afternoon you travel through Ravenshoe and a stop at Millstream Falls. Continue on past Innot Hot Springs and to Undara, your first

Overnight camp at the Undara Resort. (Full facilities - shower, toilet & washing machines) (297km 5 hours driving, 2 hours 4km walking)

Day 2 Undara to Chillagoe

A morning walk to nearby lookouts will reward the active as you receive panoramic vistas of the surrounding countryside and remnant volcanoes. Take a tour of the Lava Tubes. Retrace your route to the Gulf Development Road and turn left. Turn north and cross the Lynd River and Tate River before joining the Burke Development at Almadon, where you can stop to view the historic railway station and its lush gardens. Travel on to Chillagoe, an historic old mineral field, for your

Overnight camping, Caravan Park Chillagoe. (Full facilities) (230km 3&1/2 hours driving)

Day 3 Chillagoe to Cairns

This morning tour Royal Arch cave with a Ranger and explore the surrounding mining area ruins and museum and Aboriginal art. Retrace your steps to Almadon and on through to Dimbulah and Mareeba for a stop and look around. Continue through to Kuranda and spend some time exploring this village. A stop at the base of the range at the Tjapukai Aboriginal cultural centre will be rewarding and you can also take the Skyrail back up the range to view the rainforest and Barron Falls. Continue on to Cairns at the end of an enchanting 3-day experience. (208km 4 hours driving, 2 hours walking.)

Recommended References

The above itineraries are not intended as the sole guide to the details of your route.

Road Conditions

It is important to seek up to date advice on road conditions as things can change rapidly.

Map

HEMA Maps – Cape York.

Guide Book

Cape York- An Adventurers Guide by Ron and Viv Moon

Background Reading

The Explorers by Tim Flannery

Cape York- By the Australian Geographic Society.

3 Day Lava Magic

Web Sites

Four Wheel Drive Hire Service www.4wdhire.com.au

Moon Guidebooks www.guidebooks.com.au

HEMA Maps for an idea of the range of maps and information on suppliers
www.hemamaps.com.au

Outback tracks information www.mynrma.com.au/travel/go/outback_tracks/index.shtml

QLD National Parks www.epa.qld.gov.au/environment/park/discover