



# Couran Cove Island Resort

## ON FOOT BY DAY

### BIRD WALK

**Activity Description:** South Stradbroke Island is home to over 200 bird species; during the bird walk, the environment guide introduces guests to this enjoyable field of study, providing binoculars and a guidebook to help find those birds! Typically a morning activity (due to that being the busiest time for birds), the month dictates the starting time, ranging from 7:30 – 9am.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Start and finish at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Per Person Charge: \$8.80  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 15 pax

### FOODS OF THE FOREST WALK

**Activity Description:** The local aboriginal tribes that inhabited South Stradbroke Island and adjacent coastal areas lived a rich life from the land. They utilised many of the plants and animals of the island, which provided a valuable source of food, medicine and the raw materials required for making tools, fire and shelter. The aim of this walk is to introduce people to some of the flora, fauna that played an important role in the survival and rich lifestyle of the local aboriginal tribes. The ways in which the early Europeans utilised a number of the local bush foods also makes for some interesting stories. Tasting of available bush foods is incorporated into the tour but varies seasonally.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Start and finish at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Per Person Charge: \$8.80  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 20 pax

### RAINFOREST WALK

**Activity Description:** Couran Cove has the largest remaining patch of cabbage palm rainforest left on the Gold Coast. This area and the adjacent melaleuca wetland were subjected to farming pressures that occurred on South Stradbroke Island during the mid 1900's. However, since construction of the resort began in 1996, these areas have undergone extensive weeding and revegetation work. The elevated hardwood boardwalk is built from recycled timber sourced from the dismantling of an old woolshed in western QLD. The rainforest walk itself focuses on the plants and animals of this special area, with the environment guide possessing knowledge to tailor the activity to all age and interest groups.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Start and finish at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide.  
**Pricing:** Free for in-house  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 20 pax





# Couran Cove Island Resort

## GUIDED ALCHERINGA TRAIL

**Activity Description:** Alcheringa is one of many different Aboriginal words for “The Dream Time”. The Dream Time was a legendary time referred to in many of the stories told by Aboriginal people. The stories were used as part of a life long learning process encompassing the tribal laws, methods of finding food, navigations skill for traversing long distances on foot and other skills necessary to survive in the harsh environments of Australia. The site now occupied by Couran Cove Island Resort was once a meeting place for the Kombumerri people. During this time the indigenous people left the marks of their occupation on the landscape, your guide will retell stories of the Dream Time and show you evidence of the periodic Aboriginal occupation of South Stradbroke Island, as well as the tools and methods they developed for their survival.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Meet at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Free for in-house  
**Numbers:** Minimum 2 pax maximum 20 pax

## PRACTICAL NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

**Activity Description:** Have you ever wanted to capture amazing images of the wildlife around you? Well you don't need the latest camera; many digital cameras will surprise you with what they can do. Join our local nature photographer and naturalist Todd Burrows who will help you find interesting subjects and assist you to get the most out of your camera.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Meet at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Free for in house guests  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 10 pax

## ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES TOUR

**Activity Description:** Couran Cove Island Resort has won numerous awards for the environmental engineering and minimal impact design features that help to save the planet and to save money. This tour visits several key sites and the guide explains the function and the benefits associated with this technology. Areas visited include the fresh water treatment plant, gas-fired power station, sewerage treatment plant, waste management area and the worm farm. During the tour a brief presentation will be made reflecting on the historical activities of the island that influenced the development of the resort.

**Duration:** 1.5 – 2 hours  
**Location:** Start and finish at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide, this is mainly offered to groups  
**Pricing:** Per Person Charge: \$15.00  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 20 pax





## Couran Cove Island Resort

### ECO DISCOVERY

**Activity Description:** The Eco Discovery Walk starts at the environment centre where the environment guide will briefly explain how Couran Cove Island Resort has established itself as a leader in sustainable development and eco tourism. You will discover how the site was developed to achieve these goals and how we have set new standards in many areas including waste management, water purification, and the generation of electricity. As you set off on foot your guide will show you areas of Aboriginal cultural significants which include one of the bora rings and a 6000 year old midden, these areas give a clear indication of how long the local aboriginal people have been extracting food sources from the surrounding area, using a minimal impact approach. You will then proceed into the Cabbage Tree Palm Rainforest identifying numerous species of interest, and sampling the various bush tucker in season.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Meet at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** \$8.80 per person  
**Numbers:** Minimum 2 pax maximum 20 pax

### "AS NATURE WOULD HAVE IT"

**Activity Description:** This walk is the signature walk of the environment department; it's a combination of the eco discovery walk and the environmental initiatives walk. "As nature would have it" is an in depth look at the history of the island (going back to aboriginal occupation) the development of the resort, including the issues associated with it, and how Couran Cove Island Resort established itself as a leader in sustainable development and eco tourism. During this walk you will pass through our sewerage treatment plant, power station, waste treatment plant, cabbage tree palm rainforest, paperbark wetlands, as well as significant aboriginal cultural sites. While passing through the cabbage tree palm rainforest, and paperbark wetlands the environment guide will explain how Couran Cove Island Resort obtains and purifies it water for use at the resort, as well as showing you significant plant species and if available you may get to sample some bush tucker.

**Duration:** 1.5 to 2 hours  
**Location:** Meet at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Adult Charge: \$15.00  
Child Charge: \$10.00 (ages 4 – 12)  
Family Charge: \$50  
**Numbers:** Minimum 2 pax maximum 20 pax





## Couran Cove Island Resort

### TRIP TO THE TOP

**Activity Description:** Stradbroke Island split into two separate islands in 1898. The location of this break is the Jumpinpin Bar and it is one of the most scenic places on the island. This extended hike takes approximately 3.5 hours of walking through the middle of the island following the tracks to the very top. It incorporates a morning or afternoon break that consists of fresh fruit, muesli bars, water and tea or coffee. Upon reaching the top of the island, a speedboat will be booked and waiting for the ride home. This trip is only recommended for fit walkers, as the soft-sand roads and tracks can be tiring, especially in summer. The tour information content is typically a mix of history along with the existing flora and fauna, but there is no reason that groups cannot specify a certain theme if required.

**Duration:** 4 hours

**Location:** Start at the Environment Centre, with the boat drop off back at the resort marina and main arrival area (unless otherwise required).

*Note:* therefore it is best not to bring bikes to the Environment Centre.

**Availability:** See weekly guide

**Pricing:** \$70 per person

**Numbers:** Minimum 2 pax maximum 20 pax

### LIFE AMONGST THE BROADWATER

**Activity Description:** The Broadwater was once home to the largest oyster production area in Australia. This vast protected waterway has unique and interesting flora and fauna, and a strong history of aboriginal occupation. The aim of this walk is to introduce the participants to the mangrove and seagrass environment and the amazing occupants who call this place home. The sand and mudflats are home to resident aquatic birds, and in the summer at low tide, rare international migratory bird species may be seen. The local aboriginal tribes used some of the plants and animals for food and medicine, and ancient shell-middens dating back hundreds of years record this lifestyle.

As guests discover the marvels of this island ecosystem, they may be fortunate enough to view some of the most elusive, even endangered wildlife species - turtles, dolphins or dugong - found throughout the Morten Bay region.

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Location:** Meet at the Watersports Hut

**Availability:** See weekly guide

**Pricing:** Adult Charge: \$15.00

Child Charge: \$10.00 (ages 4 – 12)

Family Charge: \$50

**Numbers:** Minimum 2 pax maximum 20 pax





## ON FOOT BY NIGHT

### NOCTURNAL WALK

**Activity Description:** At Couran Cove guests will have the opportunity to see various nocturnal animals in their natural habitat. Species that may be seen include the elusive Golden Swamp Wallaby, Agile Wallabies, Echidnas, Bandicoots, Squirrel Gliders, Flying Foxes, Micro bats, Frogs and many more.

The group's guide will attempt to locate these nocturnal creatures on the property by using a spotlight and their experience, whilst passing on their knowledge and stories about these amazing animals.

<b>Duration:</b>	1 hour
<b>Location:</b>	Start and finish at the Environment Centre
<b>Availability:</b>	See weekly guide
<b>Pricing:</b>	Adult Charge: \$11.00 Child Charge: \$5.50 (ages 4 – 12) Family Charge: \$33.00
<b>Numbers:</b>	Minimum 1 pax maximum 20 pax

## CANE TOAD BUSTING

**Activity Description:** South Stradbroke Island has been separated from mainland Australia for thousands of years. While this geographical isolation has helped to preserve a wide diversity of native fauna and limited the impacts from many feral species, some of the more resilient of introduced pests have in one way or another arrived on this island. The infamous Cane Toad is one such pest.

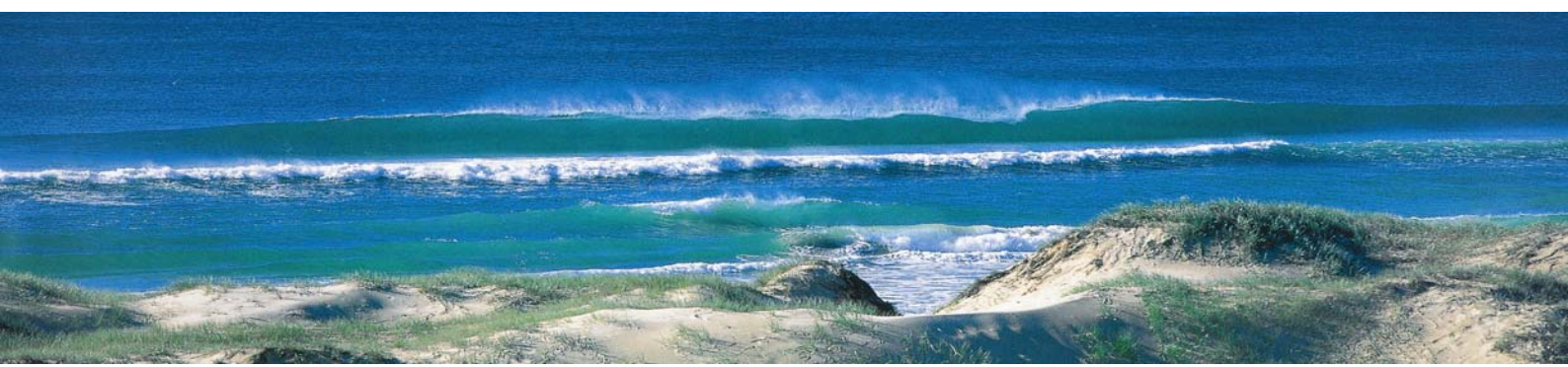
This activity introduces guests to the troubles and toils of exotic pest species in Australia, the massive impacts such creatures can place upon our native species, and the conservation values associated with the control of pest species.

Armed with torches, photographs for Cane Toad identification, gloves for handling and bags for collection, guests embark on a Cane Toad Hunting adventure throughout the Couran Cove Island Resort property.

This activity promotes teamwork in a fun and educational environment, while providing guests with an opportunity to 'do their bit' for the environment.

<b>Duration:</b>	1 hour
<b>Location:</b>	Meet at the Environment Centre
<b>Availability:</b>	See weekly guide
<b>Pricing:</b>	\$5.50 per person
<b>Numbers:</b>	Minimum 2 pax maximum 20 pax





## ASTRONOMY TOUR

**Activity Description:** Depending on the season of viewing, many fantastic sights can be viewed during the Astronomy Tour. The tour starts at the Environment Centre with a half-hour Power Point presentation to introduce the field of Astronomy. Telescopes are then set up at a suitable location, and guests have the opportunity to view the stunning features of the night sky.

The Gas Giants, Jupiter and Saturn can be seen for a number of months, with the telescopes picking up extraordinary detail such as their moons and rings. There is always something of interest for viewing including the Southern Cross and various celestial objects within the Milky Way such as clusters and nebulas. An important point to note is that this activity is completely reliant on clear nights. The tour will be cancelled on cloudy nights.

<b>Duration:</b>	1.5 hours
<b>Location:</b>	Start and finish at the Environment Centre
<b>Availability:</b>	See weekly guide
<b>Pricing:</b>	Adult Charge: \$15.00 Child Charge: \$10.00 (ages 4 – 12) Family Charge: \$50
<b>Numbers:</b>	Minimum 1 pax maximum 15 pax

## KAYAK ADVENTURES

### BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS KAYAK

**Activity Description:** A fantastic alternative to walking in the morning, this early kayak tour is based around bird watching on the Broadwater. Although high tides are preferential for access to certain areas, there are more wading birds and international migratory birds to be seen when the mud flats are exposed. The guide will point out various flora and fauna species of interest that are seen along the way. Included in the price is a breakfast on a secluded sandy beach, consisting of fruit juice, water, tea or coffee, muesli bars and fruit.

<b>Duration:</b>	2 hours
<b>Location:</b>	Start and finish at the Water Sports Beach on the western foreshore
<b>Availability:</b>	See weekly guide In high wind conditions, the guide will cancel the tour at no charge to the participants or group.
<b>Pricing:</b>	Adult Charge: \$27.50 Child Charge: \$22.00
<b>Numbers:</b>	Minimum 2 pax maximum 8 pax
<b>Important points:</b>	All participants must be able to swim Guests will get wet during activity so wear appropriate clothing Tour is not open to children under 8 years old and those under 14 years must be accompanied with an adult. Due to health and safety supervision ratios, there is a maximum group size of 8 per guide





## MANGROVE KAYAK ADVENTURE

**Activity Description:** The paddle to Crocodile Creek is a fantastic option for groups to escape the run of the resort and enjoy some water-sports while learning. Crocodile Creek is an inlet into the mangroves on the western side of the island, about 1km south of the resort marina entrance. This tour is both fun and educational, with the guide explaining marine ecosystems of the Broadwater and the flora and fauna of the protected mangrove areas. A basic morning or afternoon tea, which consists of fruit juice and muesli bars is included in the price.

**Duration:** 1.5 hours  
**Location:** Start and finish at the Water Sports beach on the western foreshore  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Per Person Charge: \$22.00  
**Numbers:** Minimum 2 pax maximum 8 pax  
**Important points:** All participants must be able to swim  
Guests will get wet during activity so wear appropriate clothing  
Tour is not open to children under 8 years old and those under 14 years must be accompanied with an adult.  
Please note that the time of the activity will be dictated by high tide on that particular day, as this is the only way to access the creek across the sand banks. In high wind conditions, the guide will cancel the tour at no charge to the participants or group.

## PRESENTATIONS

### MEET THE REPTILES

**Activity Description:** The Environment Department staff will introduce guests to various animals from our own collection of native Australian reptiles. Meet Angelina, the beautiful Water Python, or take the rare opportunity of hands on experience with a Blue Tongue lizard or Eastern Long-necked Turtle. There may be opportunities for guests to have a photograph taken holding or touching one of these beautiful reptiles.

**Duration:** Approximately 1 hour  
**Location:** Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** FOC  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 40 pax





## WILDLIFE OF SOUTH STRADBROKE ISLAND PRESENTATION

**Activity Description:** Using the photography of Todd Burrows, local nature photographer and naturalist, this Power Point presentation highlights the animals found on South Stradbroke Island. The environment guide will give you some interesting information on each creature, while you sit in comfort.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Meet at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Free for in house guests  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 40 pax

## HISTORY OF SOUTH STRADBROKE AND COURAN COVE ISLAND RESORT PRESENTATION

**Activity Description:** This PowerPoint presentation is the indoor version of the "As nature would have it" walk. While sitting in the comfort of the environment guide will present the history of South Stradbroke Island, focusing on the past 130 years. Since the days of aboriginal occupation this site has been the focus of several different commercial activities such as cattle farming, agriculture, oystering and sand mining. They will also focus on the development of Couran Cove Island Resort. Given the proposed scale of the Couran Cove development, and location of the site many issues had to be addressed prior to the commencement of works, these include cultural history, flora and fauna, acid sulphate soils. Finally the environment guide will explain how Couran Cove Island Resort established itself as a leader in sustainable development and eco tourism.

**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Location:** Meet at the Environment Centre  
**Availability:** See weekly guide  
**Pricing:** Free for in house guests  
**Numbers:** Minimum 1 pax maximum 20 pax

Selected Recreational & Environmental activities are scheduled for the week & displayed on our 'Weekly Guide' Bookings are essential and a fee may be required for all activities that display an \* on our 'Weekly Guide' Please note some activities may be unavailable during low season and unsuitable weather conditions Minimum and maximum numbers and minimum age requirements may apply to some activities These activities are seasonal and some activities may only be run over peak periods

