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Cairns, Australia

One of the top reasons people visit Cairns, Queensland Australia is to experience The Great Barrier Reef. The amazing array of marine wildlife, and exotic coral reef colors that make up Australia's Great Barrier Reef, cannot be found elsewhere in the world. The Great Barrier Reef is not one continuous reef but made up of over 2900 reefs and 900 islands. The Barrier Reef is one of the planet's most extraordinary natural wonders, it's the largest coral reef system and the only living organism that be be spotted from space.



## Cairns

City in Australia

Cairns, considered the gateway to Australia's Great Barrier Reef, is a city in tropical Far North Queensland. Its Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park tells the stories of indigenous Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with music and dance. Cairns Esplanade, lined with bars and restaurants, has a swimming lagoon. Northwest of the city, Daintree National Park spans mountainous rainforest, gorges and beaches. — Google

Cairns is a city in Queensland, Australia, on the tropical north east coast of Far North Queensland. Cairns is located on the east coast of Cape York Peninsula on a coastal strip between the Coral Sea and the Great Dividing Range. The northern part of the city is located on Trinity Bay and the city center is located on Trinity Inlet. To the south of the Trinity Inlet lies the Aboriginal community of Yarrabah. Some of the City's suburbs are located on flood plains.

The last time I was in Cairns, Australia I did go scuba diving at the Great Barrier Reef and went diving with the sharks, this was over 25 years ago and I now no longer scuba dive.

Tonights Theatre Show: Eclipse

A galactic journey through outer space with MSC Magnifica International singers, dancers and artists.





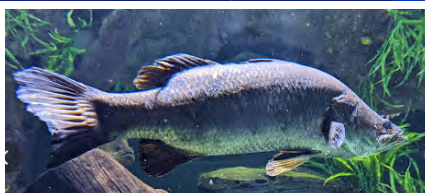
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### CAIRNS

The city was founded in 1876 and named after Sir William Wellington Cairns, following the discovery of gold in the Hodgkinson river. During World War II, the city became a staging ground for the Allied Forces in the Battle of the Coral Sea. By the late 20th century the city had become a centre of international tourism, and in the early 21st century has developed into a major metropolitan city. Cairns Esplanade, lined with bars and restaurants, has a swimming lagoon. Northwest of the city, Daintree National Park spans mountainous rainforest, gorges and beaches.



I took a taxi around the city to get a feel for the city. Cairns is not very big, we drove through the major parts of the city and drove through the Botanical Gardens and after about 2 hours I had the drive drop me off at the visitors bureau and I booked a helicopter ride for the afternoon. They have a Woolworths here so I picked up a few things and even found a Tommy Bahama's and 2 pair of white shorts ( now my search is over ) and then I went to the Aquarium, first having lunch at the inside restaurant and then touring the Aquarium. After the Aquarium I walked over to the Helicopter pad and check in for my tour. The helicopter ride was for 1 hour and we went as far out as the great Barrier Reef then back to the mainland and the rainforest, then a flight over the city. It was a great day, but exhausting. After dinner and the theatre show I went straight to bed. No computer work before bed.

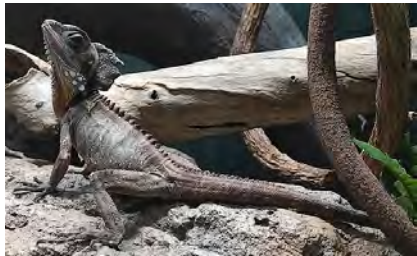




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### NAKUTILUS AVIATION ( Helicopter )

60 Minute reef & rainforest. Only from the air can you truly appreciate the beauty, variety and sheer scale of the stunning natural landscapes that comprise the Cairns & Great Barrier Reef region. This is the only place on earth where two UNESCO World Heritage Listed sides exist side by side, being Australia's Great Barrier Reef and Wet Tropics Rainforest. It was a vast panorama of sprawling coral reefs, tropical islands and sand cay merging seamlessly into lush rainforest covered mountains housing vast river systems and spectacular seasonal waterfalls with breathtaking views as far as the eye can see.



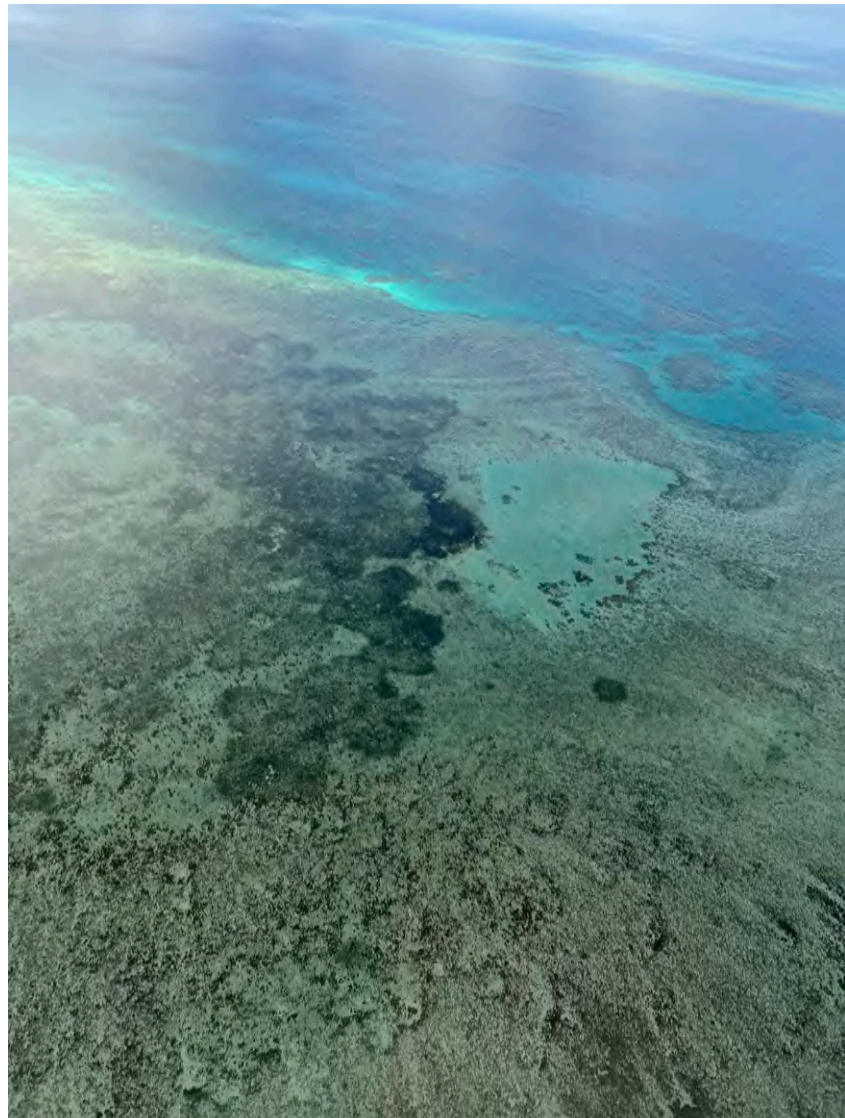


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