



Bloomfield Falls & Lions Den Hotel

70 kms each way Sealed

Head South out of Cooktown and take a left after Black Mountain on to Shiptons Flat Road.

Continue past the Lions Den Hotel, through Rossville and Cedar Bay National Park.



Shortly before the Bloomfield River break for a coffee and some great artwork at the Black Cockatoo Gallery.

Continue on the road through Bloomfield as it follows the Bloomfield River and takes you through Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Community.

Leave the bridge on your left and continue to the parking area at the end. These beautiful falls are about 100mtrs along a bush track.



Going back take a detour as you head away from the river - turn right down Weary Bay Rd for beautiful views. Hikers can walk along the beach to the mouth of Bloomfield River

Don't miss a stop at the historic Lions Den Hotel for a well-earned refreshment. Dating back to 1875 and named after the Lions Den tin mine opposite.



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Produced by Cooktown Chamber of Commerce & Tourism



History, Adventure, Culture Day trips from Cooktown





Quinkan Split Rock Art Gallery, Laura

125kms each way
- sealed road

This famous Aboriginal Rock Art site has the unique Quinkans, indigenous spirit figures, and is listed by UNESCO as one of the world's top 10 rock art sites.

Head south out of Cooktown towards Lakeland. Stop off at the Black Mountain Lookout (23kms) to view these mysterious formations - source of many stories of disappearances and strange happenings.



At Lakeland turn off to Laura – Split Rock is about 50km – just south of Laura on the left. The 'galleries' are accessible on a 30-minute self-guided walk (\$30pp donation).

It's probably time for some refreshment. Head on into Laura (30kms) to support the Peninsula Hotel.



On your home trip go right in Lakeland to check out the Gateway to the Cape information precinct and garden.



The garden is a 'Cape map' of with great information about Cape destinations - with a range of marvellous sculptures created by indigenous and community artists.



Elim Beach & Coloured Sands

70 kms each way
mostly sealed road - OK for 2WD

Head west out of Cooktown on Endeavour Valley Road. Continue across the Endeavour River and past the Airport.

Stop off at Endeavour Falls Tourist Park to view the Falls and pick up a refreshment (ask at the shop to view the Falls).



Continue along the road for 4km and then keep right towards Hope Vale Aboriginal Community. In Hope Vale take a right on to Muni St and then a left on to Keller Road which becomes Elim Rd. Follow this for 25kms to the coast. The last few kilometres is good dirt road.

Head right to the Elim Beach Campground run by Ivan & Frank to get a pass (\$10) and directions.



You can drive (4WD) along the beach at low tide but don't venture too far (the Campground will advise). Or enjoy a beautiful beach walk. The energetic can climb up the sand cliff for great views and a sand ski down.

On the way back you can take a right turn as you hit the Endeavour Valley Rd to Isabella Falls (5kms) - a pretty spot for a cooling splash.



Rinyirru (Lakefield) National Park

110 kms each way -
4WD on unsealed road - July to Nov



Head west out of Cooktown on Endeavour Valley Road. Continue across the Endeavour River and past the Airport.

After 35km turn left on to Battlecamp Road and your introduction to the remote Far North. Cross Isabella Falls (5km) and the Normanby River (27km).



Another 23km gets you to Lakefield National Park. Call in to Lake Emma on your right - a crater lake formed by a meteorite - one of the few places you might spot a freshwater croc as well as good birdlife.

A little further on take a right to the picturesque Horseshoe Lagoon (pictured above) - park up in the day area to enjoy the beauty of this remote spot and its birdlife.



Follow Battlecamp Road west for 20kms across the Laura River to check out the historic Old Laura Homestead founded in 1902.

It's probably time for some refreshment so head on into Laura to support the Peninsula Hotel.



Instead of returning the same way you can head back via Lakeland and stop off at the Split Rock Quinkan Art Gallery 12kms south of Laura - see panel on left