



# Secrets of the Scenic Rim

24–29 March 2019 (5 nights)



interNATIONAL  
PARKtours

## Highlights

- Immerse yourself in the food, wine, walks, art & nature of this unique region south of Brisbane
- Discover the rainforests, rivers & escarpments of the World Heritage listed Gondwana Forests of Australia
- Enjoy easy walks in Moogerah Peaks, Main Range, Mt Barney, Tamborine & Lamington NP
- Delight in the local flavours of this growing foodie region in the Gold Coast Hinterland
- Stay in family owned lodges & comfortable motels
- Meet local people including wine makers, farmers, historians & artists

Treat yourself with a short break in the Scenic Rim and learn its secrets from the locals. Stretching south west of Brisbane, this arc of sweeping ranges, river valleys, lush rainforests and quaint country towns is the perfect city antidote. Walk amongst spectacular landforms, sample fresh produce and meet artists and local characters along the way. Travelling from Brisbane via the country towns of Kalbar and Harrisville, we begin with easy walks in Moogerah Peaks National Park. In and around the lively town of Boonah, enjoy the combination of good food, wine, local art, along with gentle walks in Main Range National Park. A lunchtime cooking class, contrasts with creek walks and mountain lookouts in the Mt Barney area. Travelling via Rathdowney and Tamrookum, we then explore the eastern side of the Scenic Rim. Based for two nights at Tamborine Mountain, short walks lead to palm forests, waterfalls and quiet lookouts. We enjoy the mountain's culinary delights and meet local characters. Our final day includes a short walk in Lamington National Park, time at a Beechmont art studio and lunch with views back over the mountains before returning to Brisbane.



## DETAILS

**Price:** Twinshare / person (ex Brisbane)

**Advanced Early Bird:** A\$2,250 until 31/08/2018

**Early Bird:** A\$2,450 until 23/11/2018

**Regular:** A\$2,750

**Single Supplement:** A\$450

**Note:** For single people who prefer to share, we will try to find a suitable roommate, but if this is not possible the sole-use surcharge will apply.

**Minimum Group size:** 6 guests

**Special Interest:** Botanical, Art, Wildlife, Gourmet



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## WALK RATING

**Easy to Moderate:** 2-12km per walking day. Age is not necessarily as important as your fitness and recent walking experience, and anyone of reasonable fitness should be able to join this tour. We reserve the right to be flexible with the itinerary to allow for unforeseen circumstances including weather conditions and group fitness.

## INCLUSIONS

- 5 nights twin share accommodation – Motel, homestead and B&B style accommodation with private facilities (3 nights) and some shared facilities (2 nights)
- Meals include - 5 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, and 4 Dinners
- All transfers as listed in itinerary
- National park and museum entry fees
- Professional tour leader assisted when required by local tour guides
- Basic group tips where required
- Pre-departure material including background & personalised A-Z tour information and destination tour companion

## EXCLUSIONS

- Airfares & taxes to start / from end of tour
- Passport & visa expenses
- Heavy or excess baggage
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses e.g. drinks (water, alcohol, tea & coffee), laundry, telephone, or optional tours / excursions

## TOUR LEADER



Lisa Groom is the daughter of interNATIONAL PARKtours founders Tony & Connie Groom and grand-daughter of Binna Burra Mountain Lodge founder Arthur Groom. You could say the great outdoors is in Lisa's blood. Growing up with the business she commenced working as a tour leader and co-ordinator with interNATIONAL PARKtours in 1991, and took over the helm of the company from

her parents in 2001. Leading walking holidays in Australia and Europe, her passion is for regional ecotourism, discovering local characters and showcasing nature from a different perspective.



## FAQ'S

### How & when to book?

Our biggest message to you is BOOK EARLY!! Many tours book out very quickly so the moral of the story is the early bird catches the worm! To qualify for any of the early bird prices, you simply need to send a completed booking form and deposit of A\$400 per person per tour, by the early bird dates listed at the front of the tour itinerary. We offer A\$500 discount per person if you book by the Advanced Early Bird date and A\$300 discount per person if you book by the Early Bird date. If your deposit arrives after any of the early bird dates, the tour balance will be at the regular price. To place your booking, simply visit [www.parktours.com.au](http://www.parktours.com.au) to pay your deposit and book online, or complete a Tour Booking Form, and post / fax / email it to us with your deposit. Once you have booked on a tour, we will stay in contact with regular mailings (see below).

### What information and contact can I expect?

When you send your initial deposit, we will contact you to confirm your booking. Once the tour has been confirmed to depart, a comprehensive information pack will be sent to you, including a Tour A-Z, suggested packing list, medical questionnaire, balance of payment invoice, and pre / post accommodation options. We can assist you with flight arrangements but please don't book flights until our office contacts you to confirm that your tour has been confirmed to depart. The final mailing is sent out approximately three weeks before departure and includes final tour documents, address list for family and friends, meeting points, and any final travel information.

### What is the group size?

We specialise in small group travel with an average group size of around 10-20 guests. Please see the front page for details on the minimum group size for this particular tour. All tours need a minimum number of passengers to operate at the price listed in the itinerary. If the minimum number is not reached, a tour may still operate with a surcharge.

### How fit do I have to be?

When you are assessing your ability and agility to participate, age is not necessarily as important as your fitness and recent walking experience. Please read the tour walk rating and the day by day walking descriptions in the itinerary to determine if the tour is suitable for your fitness. If you have any queries, we are happy to put you in touch with either the tour coordinator or tour leader to discuss your fitness in more detail.

### What gear and equipment do I need to take?

Because we focus on half and full day walks, returning to our accommodation in the afternoon, you don't need to carry any more than a daypack with rain wear, sunscreen, drinking water, camera and lunch. A few tours include an overnight hike where you will need to carry personal gear for the journey. We recommend hiking boots on most of our tours as they offer good ankle support and grip. A detailed packing list is included with your tour's information pack.

# Secrets of the Scenic Rim

## TOUR ITINERARY

24–29 March 2019 (5 nights)

### Day 1 – Sun 24 Mar | Brisbane / Harrisville / Mt French / Boonah

Your tour starts in Brisbane at 9.15am when your tour leader meets you at the Mercure Hotel at North Quay, Brisbane. We drive towards Ipswich then south west via the old rural towns of Peak Crossing, Harrisville and Kalbar. Farming and viewpoints are the focus of today as we visit Summer Land Camels in Harrisville, before stopping for lunch at a local cafe. We visit one section of Moogerah Peaks National Park, driving up to Mt French for short walks near the famous Frog Buttress climbing area. After checking in to our overnight Boonah accommodation, we enjoy sunset drinks and dinner in a local restaurant.

**Meals:** L, D

**Walks:** 1-2km / 30min return / short town walks & Mt French lookouts



### Day 2 – Mon 25 Mar | Main Range NP / Lake Moogerah / Mt Barney

This morning we take a 45 minute drive up to Main Range National Park. Forming the western part of the Scenic Rim, this impressive escarpment is the timeworn remains of the Main Range shield volcano which erupted some 24 million years ago. We enjoy some short walks in the Spicers Gap area including sections of the Heritage Trail & Mt Mathieson track. Returning to the valley floor, we enjoy picnic lunch with a view over Lake Moogerah and tasting at a local vineyard. We then follow the country roads south to Mt Barney Lodge, our base for the next two nights.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Walks:** 1-3hr on well graded tracks

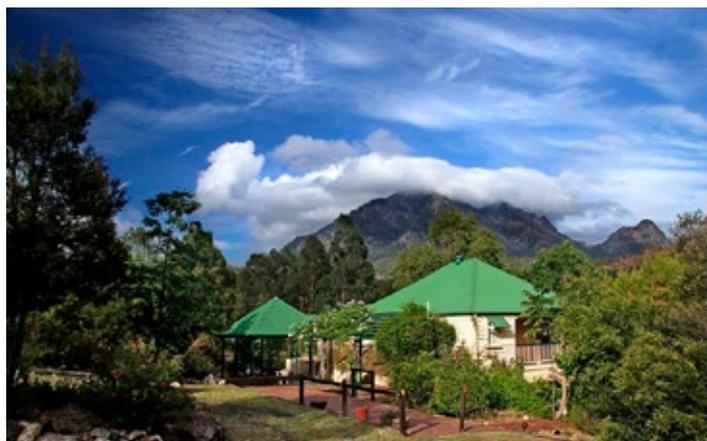


### Day 3 – Tue 26 Mar | Mt Barney walks / Cooking Class

We spend a few hours enjoying short walks around the property, bird watching, photography or quiet contemplation. If you are in the mood for a leg-stretch, there will be the option to hike up to Yellow Pinch lookout for a great view over the Mt Barney massif. We then drive a short distance to visit Desley & Pietro Agnoletto on their beautiful property. They are both passionate cooks and we enjoy a special Italian cooking class that we guarantee will enhance your culinary skills. We return to the lodge for a light supper after our big lunch.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Walks:** 2-3km / 1hr / Mt Barney property walk on creek and bush tracks. Optional walk 5km / 2hr Yellow Pinch lookout (some steep sections & rougher track).



# Secrets of the Scenic Rim

**TOUR ITINERARY CONTINUED...**

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## **Day 4 – Wed 27 Mar | Rathdowney / Beaudesert / Tamborine Mountain**

Leaving Mt Barney Lodge, the local museum steps us back in time to the dairying and timber-getting history at Rathdowney. Further north at Tamrookum, we enjoy morning tea and a tour at the Scenic Rim 4 Real Milk robotic dairy. After lunch in Beaudesert, we continue to tabletop-shaped Tamborine Mountain. While many years ago it was a dairy farming centre, it has become a popular destination for rainforest walks, art galleries and local food & wine. We enjoy a short walk on the mountain before sunset, viewed from a beautiful vantage point. The evening is yours to enjoy dinner at one of the many restaurants on the mountain.

**Meals:** B, L

**Walks:** 3km / 1hr on well graded track

## **Day 5 – Thu 28 Mar | Tamborine Mountain walks**

Beginning with a morning walk through the rainforest, we then take the time to connect with artists, food producers and local projects in the area. On Tamborine's shopping streets, you can explore art / craft and other shops before enjoying lunch at your leisure. The afternoon includes the option to visit some of the local wineries, distilleries and cheese makers before returning to our accommodation. After a short siesta we meet for dinner at a local restaurant.

**Meals:** B, D

**Walks:** 3-5km / 1-2hr on well graded track

## **Day 6 – Fri 29 Mar | Canungra / Beechmont / Brisbane**

After breakfast we drive via the historic town of Canungra towards Beechmont. This small community sits between the Lamington Plateau and Tambourine Mountain. Here we take in a short walk in the Lamington National Park to a section of the ancient Gondwana forest. Time permitting, we will visit landscape artist, Dave Groom's studio, before lunch at a Beechmont café. We then travel back via the Gold Coast to Brisbane to arrive by mid-afternoon.

**Meals:** B, L

**Walks:** 3-5km / 1-2hr on well graded track



# REDISCOVER EXPERIENCE CONNECT



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## WHY TRAVEL WITH US?

InterNATIONAL PARKtours have been leading small group walking holidays since 1975. Our like-minded guests bond easily and often create reunions, celebrations and friendships, many of them life-long. Our tours are active with regular half and full day walks. Aside from walking, we also spend time meeting local people, tasting regional food and immersing ourselves in the culture and history of a destination. Our flexibility enables us to adapt to the likes, dislikes and agility of our travellers, and changing situations such as weather and unforeseen circumstances. In most locations, we stay 2-3 nights and sometimes longer. This allows us to slow down, unpack our bags and enjoy the local atmosphere at different times of the day. Accommodation is comfortable, unique plus locally owned and operated where possible.

Our guides are dedicated, informative people who share their passion and knowledge on local history, culture, wildlife & topography. Our journeys are designed to safeguard the ecosystems; benefit the communities we visit and contribute to the sustainability of destinations. Travel is a chance to change your perspective. Nature always provides a new view if we take the time to look.

**“IPT offers great value for money with their programmes. There is minimum spending money needed once on tour and there are no hidden extras along the way.”**

Judy & Peter Hughes

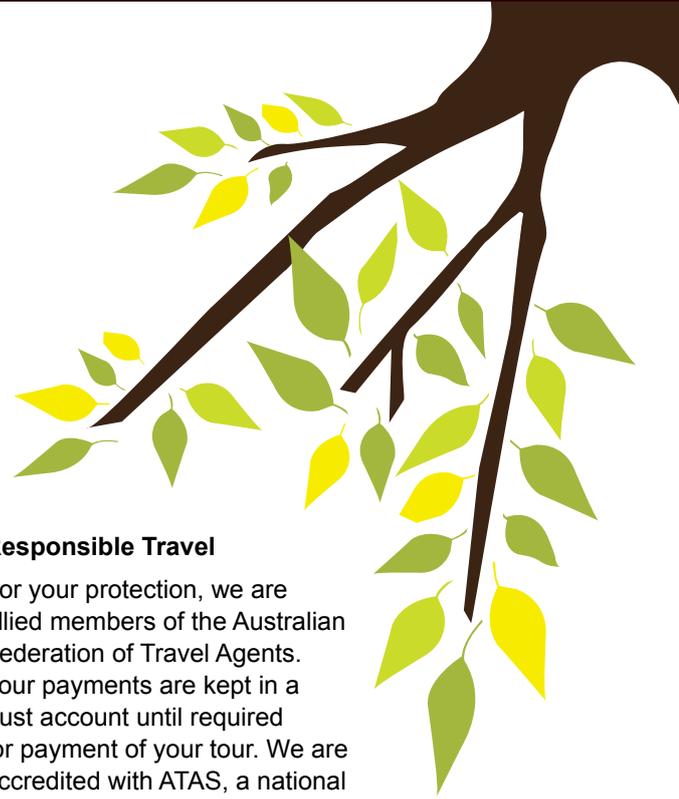
**“I know that you get the blue ribbon extras with IPT and I was in the mood to be spoilt.”**

Judy Potkonen

### Disclaimer of Liability

Although interNATIONAL PARKtours has prepared the Information contained in this itinerary with all due care and updates the Information regularly, interNATIONAL PARKtours does not warrant or represent that the Information is free from errors or omission. Whilst the Information is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication, changes in circumstances after the time of publication may impact on the accuracy of the Information. The Information may change without notice and interNATIONAL PARKtours is not in any way liable for the accuracy of any information printed and stored or in any way interpreted and used by a user.

Itinerary Updated: August 9, 2018 1:25 PM



### Responsible Travel

For your protection, we are allied members of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents. Your payments are kept in a trust account until required for payment of your tour. We are accredited with ATAS, a national accreditation scheme, endorsing travel agents who have met strict financial and customer service criteria. We also have advanced accreditation with Ecotourism Australia and are members of the Global Sustainable Tourism Council

### Serendipity of travel

Our guides will work 24/7 on your behalf to make sure that we are doing all we can to ensure your enjoyment. We have planned an intimate adventure, but adventure cannot be guaranteed. If indeed it could then it would lose its appeal.

Though we do the best we can to plan a smooth journey, sometimes things change at short notice. Some things may take longer than anticipated, transport and accommodation arrangements may alter, and you may experience occasional shortcomings and be frustrated by the 'manana' attitude; at other times you will be amazed by local efficiency. Tour itineraries may need to be modified but this is done so with your needs in mind and to provide the best tour experience.

So, be flexible, surprised and delighted with the serendipity that comes from being open to the unexpected. Your enjoyment of this journey is ultimately up to you.

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