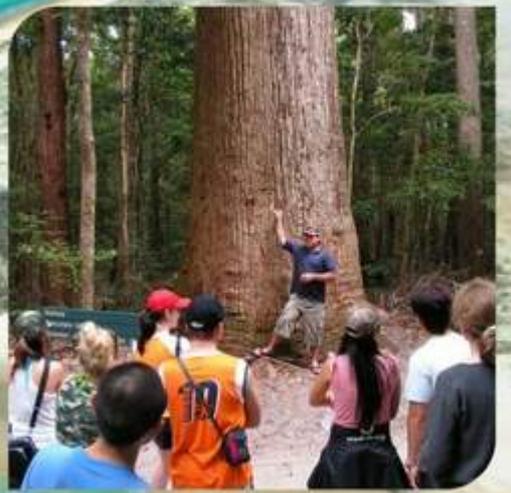




FRASER ISLAND

A GUIDE TO SCHOOL CAMP OPTIONS AND STUDY TOURS



BIOLOGY | SUSTAINABILITY | TOURISM | SCIENCE | GEOGRAPHY



EXPERIENCE LEARNING ON FRASER ISLAND

Fraser Island offers the most unique eco-learning opportunities in South-East Queensland. What better destination could there be than the world's largest sand island and a World Heritage Listed site situated so close to Brisbane!

Imagine immense dune systems shaped by millions of years of wind, water and waves. Large, clear freshwater lakes formed through varying degrees of natural action and huge rainforests growing only in sand – there are so many opportunities for immersive learning on Fraser Island school camps:

Biology Studies | Marine Studies | Geography Studies | Geology & Landform Studies | Sustainability Studies | Tourism Studies | Physical Education | Enquiry into First Inhabitants

Why Trailblazer Tours?

- ★ Free door to door service for schools up to 100km from Brisbane
- ★ Door to door service for schools up to 700km from Brisbane!
- ★ The ability to cater for large schools
- ★ Custom built itineraries to suit your learning outcomes
- ★ Professional & friendly guides
- ★ Large, comfortable, air-conditioned buses – no shuttling
- ★ Safe activities provided by trained staff with risk assessments included
- ★ High level of experience with catering for education groups with special needs



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AREAS OF STUDY

Fraser Island, also known by its Aboriginal name of K'gari, covers 181, 851 hectares and is the largest sand island in the world. It was added to the World Heritage List in 1992 due to being an outstanding example of ongoing biological, hydrological and geomorphological processes. The rainforest vegetation on coastal dune systems on the scale it is found is considered unique, and the island boasts the world's largest unconfined aquifer on a sand island.

Biology & Environment

Fraser Island presents a unique opportunity for biology studies in a closed environment. With Vegetation on the island displaying an unusual level of complexity and major changes in vegetation communities occurring over relatively short distances, it is an easy place for educators to bring up discussions about plant and animal communities & environment. Fraser also contains half of the worlds perched lakes, a rainforest growing only on sand and a multitude of unique flora and fauna existing almost untouched by human interference. And of course, we can't forget the dingoes which present a challenge for the wildlife and island authorities.



Fraser Island dingoes

The dingoes on Fraser Island are recognised as the purest strain of dingo on the eastern Australian seaboard and perhaps Australia -wide and are protected by law. Their survival relies on education, engineering and enforcement, and this case study presents an interesting discussion point for students.



Geography

Fraser Island presents a unique opportunity to investigate the impacts of nature based recreation and effects of human impact. Having a reasonably long history of human occupation ranging from Aboriginal land owners, European settlement, logging operations, WW1 use and the application for a sand mining establishment, students are able to investigate and inquire to formulate discussion regarding the continued protection of the island.



History and Culture

Areas of Study

Fraser Island is rich in nature and history. From the first inhabitants who called the island K’gari over 30 000 years ago to the devastation and deportation of the European settlement phase. Students will learn about how Fraser Island was named through the bizarre story of Eliza Fraser, why the Aboriginals called her K’gari, who were the Z-force commandos of World War 2 and why were they on Fraser Island and more! The main historical points of Fraser Island include:

- Aboriginal history
- European Settlement & logging
- Eliza Fraser and the naming of Fraser Island
- World War 2, the Z-Force Commandos and the Maheno Wreck
- Sand mining
- Recent history including the challenges of tourism & residential developments



Sustainability & Tourism

Fraser Island presents a unique opportunity to study the eco-tourism operations on the island and how they may be impacting the long-term sustainability of Fraser Island. Our professional guides will provide eco-commentary throughout your Fraser Island trip and can answer all the investigative questions your students may need to ask to formulate ideas and opinions. Where possible we will arrange an Eco talk by a Fraser Island ranger who will talk the students through the impacts of humans and vehicles on the island, and the plans that are in place to ensure the longevity of the island and eco systems.

 A FREE Ranger Eco-Talk is possible dependant on availability



Physical Education

Where better than to study physical education than the world’s largest sand island? There are a multitude of physical activities available and we can support your requirements for extra hiking / physical activity.

- Hiking to Lake Wabby across the Hammerstone Sandblow
- Walk up to Indian Head
- Pile Valley walk in Central Station
- Optional extra hikes may be available depending on your needs



EXPERIENCES ON FRASER ISLAND

Fraser Island presents an amazing array of eco-adventure experiences which will have your students buzzing from sun up to sun down. With a multitude of amazing natural environments, students are easy to keep entertained and teachers are able to tick off the "curriculum" list. The locations and experiences listed below are included in your package for 3+ day school camps. If there is something you would like to add to your itinerary, please talk to us and we will endeavour to tailor your package to your learning outcomes.

Rainforest Experience

Biology studies | Science studies | Tourism studies | Sustainability studies | Geography studies | Physical education | History

The development of rainforest vegetation on coastal dune systems at the scale found on Fraser Island is considered unique. Central Station is the location of the historical logging operation and the cause for the extensive settlement of Europeans. Your students will be given an insight into the flora and fauna and history of the area and will visit Pile Valley, Woongoolba Creek and Central Station. For groups studying human impact, we are able to visit the on-site camping facilities and discuss the impacts in this area.

Pile Valley

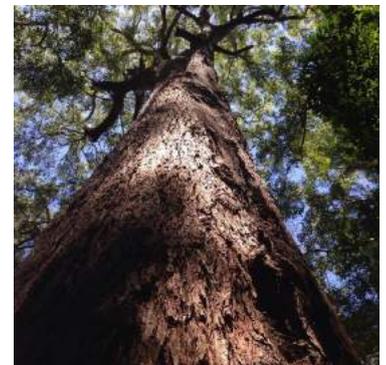
Until the mid 1920's, the island's unique satinay trees escaped logging because the timber tended to warp when cut. But their high turpentine content was shown to make them resistant to marine borers which made them ideal for refurbishing the Suez Canal and as pilings for jetties – hence the name. It is from here that we take the Pile Valley walk into Woongoolba Creek and Central Station.

Wangoolba Creek

A crystal clear fresh water stream that makes no sound. The water is so clear and quiet it is known as the "Invisible Creek." We walk down along this creek seeing giant satinay trees and tall rainforest vines.

Central Station

An area steeped in European history and the source of a lot of the devastation of the local Butchulla people. European settlement and the history of the logging operation will be discussed in this area, and students will be asked what life may have been like at the time for families arriving to this foreign land.



Lakes, Creeks & Ocean Experiences

Biology studies | Science studies | Tourism studies | Sustainability studies | Geography studies | Physical education | History

Fraser Island has over half of the world's natural perched lakes, and is the site of the world's largest unconfined aquifer on a sand island. The dynamic interrelationship between the coastal dune sand mass, aquifer hydrology and the freshwater dune lakes presents a unique learning opportunity for your students.



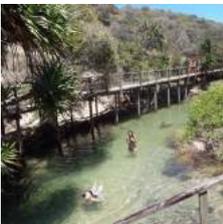
Lake Birrabeen

Lake Birrabeen is a large, crystal clear lake with white sandy beaches. A great example of a perched lake where an impermeable layer has formed from vegetation layers hardening in a depression carved out by the wind.



Lake Wabby and Hammerstone Sandblow

A rare example of a barrage lake, which can only be reached by hiking across the impressive Hammerstone Sandblow. This incredible lake is slowly disappearing as the sandblow creeps forward gradually swallowing the lake.



Eli Creek

Eli Creek is the largest water outlet flowing out into the Pacific Ocean on the Eastern side of Fraser Island. Only waist deep at its deepest point, Eli creek is a favourite for schools as we float down along the creek and out onto the beach in crystal clear fresh water.



Champagne Rockpools

Just past Indian Head (the main point of creation of the island) is one of Fraser Island's best marine experiences. Bathe in the bubbling water as the ocean tumbles over the rocks and fills the pools below with cool refreshing Pacific Ocean water. See colourful fish in the pools and enjoy nature at its best.

Our customers say...

"I use Trailblazers for school groups and have always found their services to be the best. Programs run to schedule, the guides are very informative and all staff friendly and helpful. The students gain a memorable experience whilst learning so much. Cannot recommend them highly enough."

Delma, CTIA

Beach-side Experiences

Biology studies | Science studies | Tourism studies | Sustainability studies | Geography studies | Physical education | History

4 wheel driving up windswept coastal beaches is one of the main attractions of a trip to Fraser Island and gives a rare opportunity for students to spot coastal wildlife and see examples of the geological processes that formed the island. Below are the main stops along a tour up the Eastern Beach driving along the famous 75 mile beach.

The Maheno Shipwreck

The Maheno was the poster ship of New Zealand's First World War effort. Until 1915 it was a steamer carrying passengers, but as casualties mounted at Gallipoli the government converted it into a state of the art floating hospital.

After a drama filled service carrying thousands of wounded soldiers from Anzac Cove to the nearby Greek islands of Lemnos and Imbros, the Maheno was sold for scrap in 1935. While being towed from Sydney to Japan an unusually severe wind system blew up mountainous seas and the ship broke loose and lodged itself on Fraser Island. For three months they tried to salvage the wreck but eventually gave up. The ship was used for some interesting purposes in WW2 and someone even got married on it! Now it remains as a tribute to past times.



Coloured Sands & Gorges

Over 40km of strikingly coloured sand cliffs exist along the stretch of Fraser Island beaches. An amazing array of different coloured sands can be seen all splattered together in a dune formation on the edge of the beach.

Rainbow Gorge is a particular example of this where we will stop and let the students walk in and discover how wind erosion has uncovered the magnificent mineral deposits.



Indian Head

Indian head is an important geological area of significance to the island as it was the main area where the island started being created. Students will have an opportunity to climb this rock and look out for dolphins, whales and wildlife from the top. Also of historical significance, the headland was named by Captain Cook after he saw numerous Aborigines on top as he sailed past in 1770.



Yidney Dripping Rocks

An interesting area where students can view and touch "coffee rock". Yidney Dripping Rocks is a group of coffee rocks protruding out onto the beach where water continuously pours and drips as the sand slowly releases the water out over the less porous rock.



OUR ACCOMMODATION



We stay at the famous Eurong Beach Resort, right on the eastern beach of Fraser Island. The resort is only accessible by four-wheel-drive and is situated in the perfect location to form our base camp.

Students are accommodated in 4-6 share rooms and teachers will be housed in comfortable units with ensuites. The resort boasts great facilities such as:

- Two swimming pools
- Beach access
- McKenzie's Restaurant
- Fully equipped Guest laundry
- Tennis courts
- EFTPOS facilities
- Coffee Shop
- Bakery with the best bread for 75-Miles
- General Store
- Friendly staff and a relaxed, casual beach holiday atmosphere



OUR TRANSPORT

We pride ourselves on providing the best transport options available for our school camps, and can move groups of up to 180 all at once in our custom-built 4WD coaches. All vehicles are air conditioned and suitable for on-road and off-road travel.

Unlike other companies, we offer a door to door service which means there is no additional work for you in booking bus companies and sorting out extra invoices. The door to door pick up service is FREE of charge for schools within 100km of Brisbane and we can pick up from anywhere within a 700km radius of Brisbane for a small extra charge (much less than chartering a bus company).



OUR TEAM



Our guides love their jobs and they love showing you around their amazing workplace! All our guides are:

- DA certified with medicals & police checks
- Snorkel instructors
- Trained in-house to the highest standards
- Subject to your feedback after every trip



OUR CATERING

All catering is included and we provide fresh & plentiful meals regardless of what accommodation style you have chosen. Eurong Beach Resort provides all our dinners and breakfasts, and we have included a sample of what is on offer below.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Breakfast		Continental breakfast (upgrade to hot)	Continental breakfast (upgrade to hot)
m/t		Slice + fruit	Fruit + oat bar
Lunch	Students to BYO lunch for this day	Fresh bread rolls, salad & chicken	Fresh wraps with salad, ham & accompaniments.
a/t	Fruit	Muesli bar + fruit	Fruit
Dinner	Mexican Buffet + mixed selection of desserts	Mediterranean Buffet or Aussie Roast Night	

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SAMPLE ITINERARIES

1 day | 2 day | 3 day | 4 day | 5 day itineraries available.

- All itineraries can be custom built to meet your learning outcomes
- All itineraries can be combined with our other destinations and/or Brisbane stays in our “Discovery Tour” programs. We offer combination tours such as:



Fraser Island + Brisbane + Gold Coast Hinterland

Fraser Island + Moreton Island

Fraser Island + Southern Great Barrier Reef & more

Combining a Fraser Island trip with a night in Brisbane is perfect for interstate schools who may have a bit more distance to travel on the first and last days of their trip.

Sample itinerary options are available on the following pages

 **Read on for sample itineraries!** 

GET A QUOTE

Want a quote?

Drop us a line at info@trailblazertours.com.au and we will send you out our quote request form to fill and return – or fill in your details via our website at www.trailblazertours.com.au for a quick quote.

Want a free site visit?

Would you like to visit Fraser Island as our guest to visit the school accommodation and have a personal tour around this magnificent location? We offer a free site visit to eligible staff prior to booking – you can't get a better guarantee of quality than that! Contact us now to register for our next site visit.

 1300 553 606

 info@trailblazertours.com.au

 www.trailblazertours.com.au

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Fraser Island 3 Day Itinerary

Resort 4 & 5 share accommodation

3 day | 4 day | 5 day options

DAY 1

6am pick up from school (depending on school location)

- ★ 4WD through beautiful Cooloola National Park visiting Red Canyon, Teewah Beach and Double Island Point.
- ★ Students buy own lunch at Rainbow Beach before boarding the vehicle ferry and arriving on World Heritage listed Fraser Island!
- ★ 4WD up 75 Mile beach with guide commentary along the way
- ★ Walk into amazing Lake Wabby via Hammerstone Sandblow – a barrage lake, and take a dip in the refreshing water.
- ★ Check in to Eurong Beach Resort and enjoy buffet dinner before a night beach walk.



Fraser Island from above



Pile Valley

DAY 2

Continental Resort Breakfast (upgrade to hot breakfast available)

- ★ Pile Valley walk – discover the amazing Satinay Trees!
- ★ Central Station – learn about the history of milling on Fraser Island.
- ★ The rainforest growing in sand & Wangoolba Creek also known as “the invisible creek”.



Lake Wabby

Continue to next page...

DAY 2 Continued

- ★ Great Lakes drive (where possible)
- ★ Picnic lunch at Lake Birrabeen and time for a swim in the fresh perched lake
- ★ Return to resort for buffet dinner before an optional Ranger Eco Talk (where available)



Lake Birrabeen

DAY 3

- ★ Visit amazing Yidney Dripping Rocks and learn about their formation
- ★ Learn about the picturesque and historic Maheno Shipwreck
- ★ Visit Eli Creek and enjoy the refreshing icy cool waters. Learn about how the creek was created and continues to ebb and flow based on the islands ecology.
- ★ Marvel at the coloured sands at The Pinnacles
- ★ Spot whales, dolphins, sharks & turtles from Indian Head and take a dip in the Champagne Pools
- ★ Depart Fraser Island via the vehicle ferry
- ★ Arrive back at your school



Central Station & Pile Valley



Coloured mineral sands

Combine the Fraser Island tour with Moreton Island, the Great Barrier Reef, Brisbane or the Gold Coast in our Discovery Tours!

Discovery Tour Options

The Discovery Tour is perfect for interstate schools, or schools who want more than one destination for their camp! The sky is the limit – you could do Moreton & Fraser Island, Fraser Island & The Great Barrier Reef or Moreton Island, Brisbane and the Gold Coast Hinterland! Any tours can be mixed and matched to make the ultimate tour – just ask us how!

Brisbane City Optional Activities

Science Centre & Museum

Students can wander through the Queensland Museum which is the state's centre for natural history, cultural heritage, science & human achievement.

Younger students will benefit immensely from a visit to the Science Centre where science comes alive with action stations and hands on exhibits.

Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA)

QAGOMA presents an evolving program of Australian and international exhibitions, with a focus on the contemporary art of Australia, Asia and the Pacific.

South Bank City Beach

A beach right in the middle of the city, what could get better than that? Unwind and swim in this man-made lagoon right on the banks of the Brisbane River and surrounded by 17 hectares of lush parklands, world class eateries and boutique shopping.

Kangaroo Point Cliffs

Look out over the Brisbane River and enjoy the beautiful views. Often, we combine this with an outdoor pizza dinner!

Night Cruise & City Walk

Take a guided walk through the city to see the sites then jump on the iconic Brisbane River Cat for a ferry hopper tour – see the lights of Brisbane from the river.



Science Centre



Southbank City Beach



Ferry Hopper & City Walk

Gold Coast Theme Parks

Dreamworld

With a huge range of school based activities available, Dreamworld is Australia's largest interactive classroom and the only place where the physics is fast, the biology breathes and the maths adds up to the time of your life. Visit tiger island, watch a croc show or take in one of the new "Corroboree" attractions showcasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage, culture, wildlife & stories includ-

Corroboree Virtual Reality

Immerse yourself in a world of Indigenous storytelling, song and dance as Dreamworld's new virtual reality Corroboree experience brings the world's oldest culture to life right before your eyes.



Cultural Face Painting / traditional music / make fire presentation

Learn about the world's oldest culture through their art, listen to traditional music or learn how to make a fire!



Cultural Weapons Presentation

Learn about the tools that helped the Aboriginal Australian's survive in the harshest continent for over 50, 000 years.



Creation Story of the Gold Coast

The birds, the animals and creatures of the sea went to war with each other...learn the creation story of the Gold Coast in this amazing story.



Sea World

Utilise one of Sea World's exciting new education programs aligned with the Australian Curriculum or just visit on your own terms and enjoy the living, breathing classroom!

Movie World

Take a glimpse into the world of entertainment at Warner Bros. Movie World and uncover what this iconic Gold Coast Theme Park is all about.

Gold Coast Hinterland Tour

The Gold Coast Hinterland region has significant natural heritage and much of the national park area is UNESCO World Heritage Listed as well

- See World Heritage listed Lamington Park
- Walk the Rainforest Tree Top walk
- Get close and personal with friendly wildlife including Rainbow Lorikeets, King Parrots, Regent Bowerbirds and Paddymelons.
- Learn about the Gondwana Rainforest and see ancient rainforest trees
- 4WD through mountain rainforest and open eucalypt forest
- Explore the majestic Numimbah Valley with picture perfect scenery
- Visit Natural Arch in Springbrook National Park and learn how water has carved a hole through rock over time.
- Visit glow worm caves and learn about these amazing creatures.



'Meet the locals



Our 4WD tough bus

Planet Commando Leadership Activities

Perfect for team building, peer support & leadership, Planet Commando is a new indoor adventure centre promising a unique group experience. This military style high and low ropes adventure course is sure to have your hearts thumping!



Planet Commando



Gorgeous Numimbah Vally

Read on for some examples of how these activities can be combined in our Discovery Tours!