



Educational Tours

Reef Discoveries

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Reef Discoveries: A 5-Day Journey into Science, Culture, and Adventure for Grade 6 or Grade 9 students.

Explore the Southern Great Barrier Reef

Just a 5½ hour drive from Brisbane, your students will be transported to a stunning beachside town rich in natural beauty and historical significance — the first Queensland landing site of Captain James Cook in 1770.

This small coastal town is a nature lover's playground, offering the perfect base for an unforgettable outdoor learning adventure.

Real-Life Science in Action

Students won't just learn about the reef — they'll become active scientists on it. As part of the **"Be a Marine Biologist for a Day"** program, students will:

- Collect real reef data for citizen science projects
- Explore biodiversity and reef health
- Contribute to marine research alongside expert guides

All activities are aligned with Australian Curriculum outcomes, blending STEM, geography, and environmental education seamlessly.

SDI Snorkelling Certification

Every student receives formal SDI snorkelling training, gaining real-world aquatic skills and the confidence to explore the reef.

Underwater exploration is guided by experienced and knowledgeable Master Reef Guides, who help students understand the reef's ecosystems, from coral gardens to mangrove forests.

Outdoor Adventures & Cultural Learning

Beyond the reef, students dive into a rich mix of land-based activities:

- Rock pool exploration & coastal bushwalks
- Kayaking & nature-based challenges
- Cultural and historical storytelling
- Indigenous heritage experiences

All designed to nurture environmental stewardship, respect for cultural history, and a spirit of adventure.

Safe & Flexible Programming

Weather not cooperating? No worries.

We provide a weather-safe alternative itinerary to ensure continued learning and fun — no matter the forecast.

Every Student Leaves With:

- SDI Snorkelling Certificate
- Citizen Science Participation Certificate
- Deep understanding of reef conservation
- Stronger connection to science, nature & community

Inspire the Next Generation of Reef Protectors

Give your students the experience of a lifetime — where adventure meets education, and passion meets purpose.

5 Day Great Barrier Reef Itinerary for Primary School Students

Day 1 - Prep Day

- Reef surveying land-based drills and classroom introduction to reef monitoring
- "Eye on the Reef" species ID introduction
- SDI Snorkeller Course

Day 2 - Historical and land based

- Visit to 1770 Museum – cultural and historical significance of the region
- Guided walk at Captain Cook's landing monument and interpretation exercise
- Educational Beach walk focusing on coastal environments and dune systems
- Beach-based rapid monitoring and citizen science activity
- Optional beach swim

Day 3 - LARC Adventure, Mangroves, and Sandboarding

- Guided trip on the LARC amphibious vessel through Eurimbula National Park with wildlife watching
- Mangrove walk with stingray and shallow water species spotting
- Sandboarding at Jenny Lind Creek dunes

Day 4 - Lady Musgrave Reef Excursion

- Snorkelling sessions in Lady Musgrave's coral lagoon
- In-water rapid monitoring and data collection
- On-board reef interpretation and interactive games
- Island walk exploring coral cay of Lady Musgrave lagoon
- Contributes real citizen science data through the Eye on the Reef system

Day 5 - Presentation and departure

- Reflection session on reef learnings and stewardship
- Certificate presentation for SDI Snorkeller and Citizen Science participation

Alternate (bad weather) Day Itinerary

- 2-hour surf lesson at Main Beach
- Introductory Scuba pool session (Discovery Dive – optional)
- "Be a Marine Biologist for a Day" land-based monitoring exercises
- Rapid monitoring classroom session

5 Day Great Barrier Reef Itinerary for High School Students

Day 1 - Citizen Science Tools and Salt Marshes

- Introduction to saltmarsh ecosystems and their role in coastal protection
- iNaturalist workshop: training in species identification and data contribution
- 30-minute hike to a local saltmarsh
- 2-hour guided field study in saltmarsh and littoral forest, including:
 - Plant and animal ID
 - Observing nutrient cycling and ecosystem function
 - Hands-on use of iNaturalist for photo-recording

Day 2 - Historical and land based

- LARC amphibious vehicle tour through mangrove systems
- Presentations on mangrove biodiversity, coastal protection, and nurseries
- Hands-on mangrove walk
- Animal-friendly crab catchers to investigate species distribution
- Leaf fishing activity demonstrating carbon sequestration
- Sandboarding and swimming at nearby dunes
- Biodiversity recording via iNaturalist
- Beach combing and erosion education on return journey

Day 3 - Local History, Reef Prep & Rapid Monitoring Simulation

- Agnes Water Museum tour to explore regional Indigenous and colonial history
- Captain Cook Monument beach walk to the headland and Butterfly Walk return
- Master Reef Guide presentations:
 - Reef biodiversity and indicator species
 - Current threats to reef health (bleaching, plastic, overfishing, etc.)
 - Conservation actions and science communication
- Dry run of reef rapid monitoring and mock data comparison and analysis

Day 4 - Llewellyn Reef - Reef monitoring day

- Reef-safe snorkelling and briefing at Llewellyn Reef
- Snorkel sessions to experience the reef
- In-water rapid monitoring survey (10-minute swim & 360-degree benthos survey)
- On-board lunch & reef data debrief
- Optional fun snorkel or citizen science sightings capture

Day 5 - Citizen Science Analysis & Reflections

- Enter reef data into Eye on the Reef platform
- Species identification and discussion of vulnerable or endangered animals found
- Group discussion on threats, conservation actions, and personal responsibility
- Certificate presentations

Bad Weather Contingency Day (Alternate)

- Tidal rockpool study at Springs Beach
 - Species ID and marine debris recording (Tangaroa Blue)
 - Turtle nesting habitat awareness
 - Animal print tracking
- Introductory Scuba pool session (Discovery Dive – optional)
- Afternoon surf lesson
- Round Hill Estuary Cruise focused on birdwatching and estuarine ecology

Ready to plan a trip for your school? Contact a member of our friendly Educational Tours Team.

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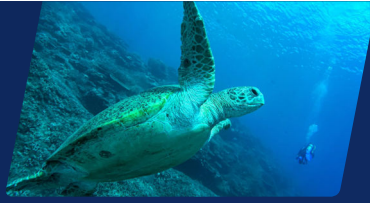


Note: Pricing is subject to travel dates, group sizes and accommodation options.

• **Subsidies of up to \$150 are available** to students to take part in the Great Barrier Reef Education Experience Program (Available to Queensland Schools) **scan QR code for more information.**

• Groups may be required to operate on a rotating itinerary depending on final student numbers.

- ✓ Airport Transfers
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