



---

# North Coast Insights

Thursday 26th August to Wednesday 1st September 2021

---



Journey through country that has inspired poets, walk in ancient forests, be welcomed onto sacred land, encounter histories to enlighten. Our curated itinerary will introduce you to the contrasts of the NSW North Coast: the lakes and rivers of the coastal plain; the Gondwana rainforests of the Great Dividing Range; sleepy villages, lush farmland and growing regional cities. With exclusive travel by heritage railcar and accompanying private coach and limited guest numbers, you'll enjoy an intimate, all-inclusive experience.

## Day 1

### Thursday 26th August – Wollongong to Gloucester

Tour departs Wollongong at 7am by coach, with stops for guests to join at several locations in northern Wollongong and Sydney – contact us for more details. We head north to Lake Macquarie and join a lake cruise at Booragul near Toronto, with lunch served on board as we meander around the northern and eastern parts of the lake. Returning to the road, we cross the Hunter River at Hexham and leave the busy highway behind for the historic Bucketts Way to Stroud for a guided tour of the town, which was founded in the 1820s by the Australian Agricultural Company (and still in operation today). Arrive late afternoon at Gloucester.

Dinner and accommodation overnight at the Bucketts Way Motel, Gloucester.

## Day 2

### Friday 27th August – Gloucester to Dorrigo

Today we board our chartered heritage train at Gloucester for a relaxing morning journey. Sit back and enjoy the view as we travel through picturesque countryside, with lunch served on board. Alight at Urunga to rejoin our coach for the trip up the scenic Waterfall Way to Dorrigo National Park. Take in the sweeping views from the Skywalk and wander amongst the glorious Gondwana rainforest on one of the short walks in the park. Arrive late afternoon at the Lookout Mountain Retreat on the edge of the Dorrigo Plateau.

Dinner and accommodation overnight at Lookout Mountain Retreat, Dorrigo Mountain.



## Day 3

### Saturday 28th August – Dorrigo to Grafton

Return via the Waterfall Way to Urunga where we rejoin our train. Our journey wends along the coast to the lower reaches of the Clarence River. Alighting at Grafton, our coach transfers us to the pretty town of Yamba at the river mouth, where we board a timber ferry and sail up the Clarence to the historic river-port-town of Maclean, learning some of river's history and enjoying lunch on board. We return by coach along the banks of the Clarence to Grafton for a city tour with a local guide. Dinner at our motel.

Two nights accommodation at España Motel, Grafton.

## Day 4

### Sunday 29th August – Kyogle

A day trip from Grafton to the ranges near the Queensland border. Our train takes us up to Kyogle in the lush Richmond Valley, where we visit a working dairy farm – but not what you might think. Wilson’s Robotic Dairy is the first of its kind in the region, where the cows are *udderly* in control! After our visit we tour cross-country through the beautiful valleys and forested ranges of the Border Ranges National Park, before rejoining the train at Glenapp in Queensland for the return journey to Grafton. A lunch hamper of local goodies from the Farmers Plate restaurant at Kyogle will be served on board.

NB: If border closures apply, we will take an alternate NSW-based route from Kyogle and rejoin the train at Casino.

Dinner at our motel.

## Day 5

### Monday 30th August – Grafton to Port Macquarie

Today our journey leads us south again. Departing Grafton by train, we make a morning stop at Coffs Harbour, with a guided tour of the National Cartoon Gallery. Housed in a recently restored WWII bunker, the gallery is dedicated to the satirical art form and is home to an extensive collection, including rare works and local and international artworks. Rejoining the train, we enjoy lunch en route to South West Rocks. At Arakoon National Park, we are welcomed onto country by Dunghutti elders who will share their culture – and a damper afternoon tea – with us. We also have a guided tour of the nearby Trial Bay Gaol ruins before rejoining the train at Kempsey for a relaxing afternoon journey to Wauchope and transfer to Port Macquarie.

Dinner and accommodation overnight at Rydges Port Macquarie.



## Day 6

### Tuesday 31st August – Port Macquarie to Maitland

A beautiful start to the day with a leisurely breakfast cruise, exploring the tranquil waters of the Hastings River – keep an eye out for dolphins as we sail. Back on shore, we visit the bushland oasis of the Macquarie Nature Reserve where the famous Koala Hospital is located. See first hand their crucial work in koala recovery and rehabilitation and meet

their loveable charges, then transfer by coach to the upriver township of Kendall. Before we board our train, indulge in a little retail therapy at the Kendall Craft Co-op housed in the station building, where everything is proudly local and handmade. Relax and enjoy the journey as we head to Paterson and the headquarters of the Rail Motor Society and the opportunity to inspect 1920's era operational rollingstock and the one-of-a-kind HPC 402 railmotor. Arrive Maitland early evening.

Dinner and accommodation overnight at Mecure Maitland Monte Pio.

## Day 7

### Wednesday 1 September – Maitland to Wollongong

Our final day sees us journey by train to the Hawkesbury River where we farewell the railmotor and crew. We board a chartered Hawkesbury Cruises vessel for a luncheon cruise exploring the dramatic sandstone cliffs and secluded settlements of the Hawkesbury. Then it's time to hit the road again and head for home. Arrive approximately 3.30 pm at Heathcote and 4.30 pm at Wollongong, with intermediate set-downs in the northern suburbs.

Tour ends.

## General Information & Booking Conditions

### Cost

The cost of this tour is AUD 3495. The cost includes:

- accommodation on a twin-share basis in ensuite rooms.
- all meals
- private, chartered railmotor travel and accompanying chartered coach as per the itinerary
- services of Insights Tours' Tour escort throughout the tour
- all road transport as per the itinerary
- all sightseeing excursions, guided touring and entrance fees to all places as specified in the itinerary
- all taxes, charges and entry fees
- a personal complimentary reusable metal water bottle

### Additional costs

The additional costs are: drinks, travel insurance and items of a personal nature and anything not specified above.

### Single supplement

Single occupancy of a room is available for an additional cost of AUD 345.

### 'Dine and Discover' vouchers

Insights Tours has been approved to accept the \$25 touring voucher as part of the NSW Government's 'Dine and Discover' voucher program. If you wish to redeem your voucher for North Coast Insights, simply email or post us your voucher and we will reduce your tariff by \$25 per voucher. Please contact us if you have any questions about the program.

### To make a booking

Please complete the enclosed booking form and return it to Insights Tours with your deposit. Places on the tour require a AUD 500 deposit.

The balance will be due by Friday 23rd July 2021.

### Cancellation policy

For cancellations on or before Friday 23rd July 2021 the cancellation fee will be the amount of the deposit.

For cancellations after Friday 23 July 2021 the cancellation fee will be the total tariff.

### Insurance

We strongly recommend considering travel insurance to cover cancellation fees as well as medical emergencies, lost luggage and unforeseen delays during the tour. Insights Tours can provide information about obtaining insurance. We are an accredited agent of Covermore insurance.

### Viability of tour

In the event that the economic minimum number of guests is not reached, the tour will be cancelled by Insights Tours no later than Monday 26th July 2021 and we will refund in full any money paid

### Luggage

Please limit your luggage to 1 suitcase and 1 piece of hand luggage per person.

### Accommodation

Accommodation will be in good quality motel accommodation.

### Transport

Insights Tours has chartered the 620 class railcar from the Railmotor Society. The railcar has seating for approximately

96 passengers however Insights Tours has limited the number of guests to a total of 38 to ensure a comfortable and spacious travelling experience. The train is equipped with two toilets and opening windows. It is not air-conditioned.



A private chartered coach with seating capacity of 54 will support our touring and transfers.

### Guides

Insights Tours has engaged proficient guides wherever we have advertised a guided tour in the itinerary.

### Water

We provide a complimentary refillable water bottle for each guest.

### Meals

All meals are included and are a set menu. We take care to ensure that the menu is varied throughout the tour. Please ensure that you carefully note any dietary or any other requests on your booking form so that we can oblige your requirements.

### COVID-Safe

Insights Tours is a registered, experienced COVID-Safe operator. All tours will operate pursuant to Department of Health guidelines in operation at the time of travel. Prior to departure detailed advice will be

provided to you about precautions that may be necessary during the tour.

In the event of a government-imposed restriction preventing the operation of the tour, all moneys paid by you will be refunded.

In the event you cannot travel due to Covid related reasons such as being required to isolate or contracting the virus, the normal cancellations conditions apply – ie there is no refund after Friday 23rd July 2021. Insights Tours highly recommends that you consider obtaining insurance coverage.

### Changes to the itinerary

There is always the chance that our itinerary could be delayed or curtailed in some way beyond our control. Except for prolonged or unexpected events, the tour will be conducted as closely as possible to the itinerary stated above. Every reasonable endeavour will be made to conduct the advertised itinerary however we reserve the right to alter the itinerary in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

### Force Majeure

Insights Tours will not be liable for any failure or delay in performing an obligation under this Agreement that is due to any of the following causes, to the extent beyond its reasonable control: acts of God, accident, riots, war, terrorist act, epidemic, pandemic, quarantine, outbreaks of infectious disease or any other public health crisis, civil commotion, breakdown of communication facilities, natural catastrophes, governmental acts or omissions, changes in laws or regulations,

national strikes, fire, explosion, generalised lack of availability of raw materials or energy.

### Limitation of liability

Subject to Australian Consumer Law, Insights Tours does not accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused by suppliers or third party providers over whom Insights Tours has no direct control.

Insights Tours arranges and coordinates services provided by suppliers and Insights Tours cannot guarantee the performance of suppliers.

### Privacy and your data

Insights Tours provides data about you to third parties only to the absolute minimum necessary to provide you with our advertised services. For example; we provide your name to accommodation providers for the purposes of registration as a guest where this is required by regulation.

### Images

Cover: Dorrigo National Park; Koala Hospital, Port Macquarie; Border Ranges National Park - Destination NSW

P1: Skywalk Lookout, Dorrigo - Destination NSW; Clarence River, Maclean - My Clarence Valley

P2: Trial Bay Gaol - Destination NSW; Paterson Rail Motor Society

## About Insights Tours



Insights Tours is a tour company operated by Paul, Brigitte and John Tuckerman. Our philosophy is to provide a tour with a spectrum of interesting visits, inspections and conveyances. We utilise chartered trains, coaches and aeroplanes and provide our guests with spacious and comfortable accommodation. Each tour is uniquely arranged to encompass the most interesting sights of the regions visited. Insights Tours engages our own guides to ensure that our passengers have the best insight into the location being visited.

Guest numbers are limited to ensure a commodious travelling experience and to ensure that visits and guided tours are of maximum benefit. Each of our tours is personally escorted ensuring you can relax in the confidence that all of the pesky administrative details and arrangements are taken care of.

If you would like details or assistance with any booking, please contact John:

Telephone: (+61) 02 4268 6581

Email: [john@insightstours.com.au](mailto:john@insightstours.com.au)

Postal: PO Box 180, Thirroul NSW 2515

In person: 14 Allenby Parade, Bulli (by appointment)

# Booking Form

## North Coast Insights

Thursday 26th August to Wednesday 1st September 2021

	Guest 1	Guest 2
<b>Name</b>		
<b>Address</b>		
<b>Telephone</b>		
<b>Email</b>		
<b>Emergency contact person &amp; telephone</b>		
<b>Any special requirements or requests (especially dietary)</b>		
<b>Room type (please circle)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Twin (2 beds) <input type="checkbox"/> Double (1 large bed) <input type="checkbox"/> Single supplement (Single occupancy of double room. Additional AUD 345)	
Deposit <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque enclosed - Please make cheques payable to "Insights Tours" - or - <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic transfer/direct deposit Account Name: Insights Tours Client Travel Account BSB: 062607 Account Number: 10131313 - or - <input type="checkbox"/> credit card payments can be made via our secure <i>Payments</i> page on our website		

I/we acknowledge the terms and conditions of booking.

Signature/s

---

Guest 1

---

Guest 2

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by email or post to:

john@insightstours.com.au  
 or Insights Tours  
 PO Box 180  
 THIRROUL NSW 2515