



EDUCATIONAL  
TOURS



EF STEM

## Reef Regeneration and Conservation Down Under

Whether exploring Australia by land or at sea, you'll soon realize life here is interconnected—and it all traces back to the Great Barrier Reef. As the world's largest living organism, the Reef is the foundation of Australia's coastal ecosystems. And Townsville, which will serve as your base of operations for this tour, is the world-renowned epicenter of scientific reef research and conservation. You'll see the Reef up close while also witnessing the abundant Australian biodiversity that relies on it. Conduct a field survey with koalas, snorkel alongside the Reef, visit a working turtle hospital, and meet local Aborigines who have been guardians of these precious natural resources for millennia.

# Explore a world built on STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math shape communities across the globe. Our STEM-focused tours showcase the value of diverse ways of thinking and building, while also highlighting the powerful universality of STEM subjects. At EF, we've spent over 50 years witnessing the power of educational travel, and we know how it can transform STEM learners. Each STEM tour challenges travelers to think critically, and helps students develop innovative solutions to global problems.



## What to expect on a STEM tour

### EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Apply STEM principles by participating in project-based learning that goes well beyond theory.

### INNOVATIVE LOCATIONS

Tour exciting international destinations that host some of the world's most advanced laboratories, universities, and companies, or are simply perfect global "classrooms" to study analytical issues of the day in real life.

### INDUSTRY EXPERTS

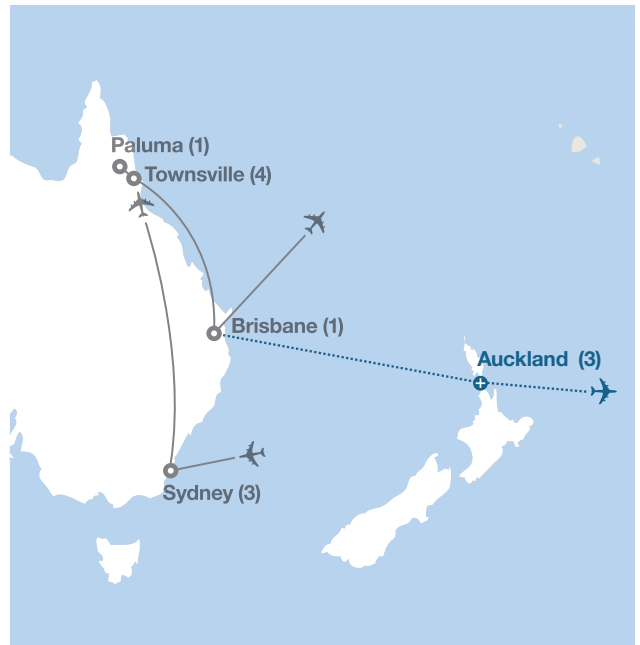
Collaborate and learn with scientists, engineers, researchers, and other STEM practitioners in the field.

### YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES

Full-time Tour Director; sightseeing tours; activities include harbor cruise, Sydney Tower, Australian Museum, Sydney Opera House, Rowes Bay Sustainability Centre workshop, renewable energy tour, Wet Tropics Rainforest expedition, platypus viewing tour, Mungalla Station indigenous experience, koala survey, snorkeling with marine biologist, Reef HQ Aquarium, Rowes Bay Sustainability Centre closing workshop (*with extension: tree planting activity, ziplining*); 9 overnight stays in hotels (*12 with extension*); breakfast and dinner daily, lunch on days 8 and 10 (*and day 13 with extension*)



Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the iconic Sydney Opera House.





Snorkel with a marine biologist at the Great Barrier Reef.



### Days 1–2: Fly to Australia

Cross the International Date Line.

### Day 3: Sydney

Meet your Tour Director at the airport in Sydney. View the city skyline on a boat tour of Sydney Harbour. Then, enjoy a bird's-eye view of the city from the Sydney Tower observation deck. End your day with a walking tour of Sydney to familiarize yourself with the city landscape.

### Day 4: Sydney

Explore the Australian Museum and learn about some of the country's most pressing environmental and social challenges, like the loss of biodiversity, changing climate, and search for cultural identity. Later on, go behind the scenes at the famous Sydney Opera House and see what it takes to get a live production on stage.

### Day 5: Sydney

Today, you'll have a full day to explore Sydney, or [enjoy a surfing lesson at the city's famous Manly Beach](#). *Wet suit and picnic lunch included.*

### Day 6: Sydney | Townsville

Fly to Townsville, a city where all of Australia's most iconic landscapes merge. Start your day with a walking tour of the city. Then, head to the Rowes Bay Sustainability Centre, where you'll build your very own backpack sensor at an interactive workshop. You'll use these sensors for the rest of your time in Townsville to gather real-time environmental data throughout your travels.

< Participate in a field-based study of Magnetic Island's wild koalas.

Magnetic Island is one of three community-based islands in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.



### Day 7: Townsville | Paluma

Travel to the Hidden Valley Cabins resort in Paluma, where you and your group will be spending the night. Learn how the resort operates on 100% renewable energy during an expertly guided tour, before embarking on a hike in the Wet Tropics Rainforest in Paluma Range National Park. Here, you may spot some of the region's rare bird species (and are very likely to see a wild platypus).

### Day 8: Paluma | Townsville

Visit Mungalla Station on your way back to Townsville to learn about the culture and history of the Nywaigi Aboriginal people. You'll hear about their complicated history with European settlers, interact with locals (including other students), and experience a day in their lives. You might even get the opportunity to help with a land management project, such as planting trees at revegetation sites.

### Day 9: Townsville | Magnetic Island

Take a ferry to Magnetic Island, one of three community-based islands within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. After attending a seminar on koala biology and survey methodology, you'll embark on a bicycle to participate in a field-based survey of the island's wild koalas. Conducted by James Cook University, you will help contribute your own data to support ongoing monitoring of this native population.

### Day 10: Townsville | Great Barrier Reef

Take in the dazzling blue of the ocean as you cruise from Townsville on a speedy catamaran to the Central Section of the Great Barrier Reef, home to some of the reef's most iconic sites. Stretching 1,240 miles along the Queensland coast, the reef is nature's largest living organism. Here, you'll learn firsthand about marine animal and plant life during a snorkeling adventure with a marine biologist.

### Day 11: Townsville | Brisbane

Visit the Reef HQ Aquarium, the Australian Government's National Education Centre for the Great Barrier Reef. Learn about reef management, view the Aquarium's living exhibits, and visit the Aquarium's turtle hospital to see how sick and injured marine turtles are cared for. Conclude your time in Townsville with a workshop at the Rowes Bay Sustainability Centre, where you'll analyze the data acquired from your backpack sensor.

### Days 12–15: Return home or add extension

Depart for home on Day 12 or extend your trip to Auckland. Participate in wetlands restoration on Waiheke Islands before a ziplining experience. End your time with a full day to explore Auckland or [go blackwater rafting in the Waitomo Glowworm Caves](#).

# The world leader in international education

For over 50 years, EF has been working toward one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence.

## **AFFORDABILITY**

We always offer the guaranteed lowest prices so more students have the opportunity to travel and experience the world.

## **INSIGHT**

We believe in experiential learning at the most important sites. Your Tour Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.

## **SAFETY**

We're committed to your safety. With 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, EF staff can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.

## **THE EASIEST WAYS TO ENROLL TODAY**

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