



Australian Government
Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE



PACIFIC CORAL REEF COLLECTIVE

ITINERARY CAIRNS
SUNDAY 30 JULY – SATURDAY 5 AUGUST 2023



Welcome

Day 1: Sunday 30 July 2023

Arrive in Cairns and check-in to the Hilton Cairns, 34 Esplanade located right on the waterfront in the heart of the Cairns CBD.

The week will start with the official opening event and dinner.

The event will include a Welcome to Country by Yirrganydji Traditional Owners, and will enable delegates to get to know each other and representatives of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and our partners.

Shared challenges of MPA management

Day 2: Monday 31 July 2023

(breakfast, lunch and dinner included)

Learn how the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority works with government, industry, stakeholders and community to protect this great natural wonder.

Hear how we balance environmental, economic and social benefits when managing activities in the Marine Park and how this management is based on the best available science. Delegates will have the opportunity to provide participants with an update on the key issues facing their coral reefs.

To bring a deeper understanding of these threats and to come up with better ways of jointly addressing them the afternoon will include a collective thinking workshop titled 'The future of our Coral Reefs'.

Assisted recovery and habitat protection

Day 3: Tuesday 1 August 2023

(breakfast, lunch and dinner included)

On a site visit to Green Island, delegates will hear about how the Reef Authority works with partners in the Reef Joint Field Management Program to conserve habitats and biodiversity, and encourage Marine Park compliance.

Witness how collaboration with stakeholders including industry, tourism operators, Indigenous Rangers and education organisations on site-specific stewardship actions can support assisted recovery and habitat protection.

View the Green Island Reef Rehabilitation Project and see how reef stars and Coralclip devices are being used to improve coral cover.

Delegates will also hear about the Crown-of-Thorns Starfish Control Program and how the targetable, cost-effective tool helps protect coral habitat resilience.

Future generations and community engagement

Day 4: Wednesday 2 August 2023

(breakfast, lunch and dinner included)

The Reef Authority's Reef Guardian program demonstrates how a hands-on, community-based approach can make a real difference to the health and resilience of the Reef. The program involves working closely with those who use and rely on the Reef.

The connection from the land to the Reef is recognised by Reef Guardian participants who are taking on voluntary actions beyond what is required by law and sharing information. Activities range from such diverse actions like wetland restoration and installation of fish ladders, to climate change mitigation actions and coastal protection.

Site inspections showcasing recent actions by participants in the Reef Guardian Schools and Reef Guardian Councils programs will be followed by a collective thinking workshop exploring how to facilitate greater knowledge exchange amongst our communities and how to increase education and awareness.

Reef monitoring and technologies to assist management

Day 5: Thursday 3 August 2023

(breakfast, lunch and dinner included)

As we head to the outer Great Barrier Reef hear the latest on the Eye on the Reef Monitoring and Assessment Program and Smartphone Application which enables anyone who visits the Reef to contribute to its long-term protection by collecting valuable information about reef health, marine animals and incidents.

Following lunch, the Australian Institute of Marine Science will brief delegates on ReefCloud, a digital tool that uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) - similar to facial recognition technology - to integrate monitoring efforts, rapidly analyse photos of coral reefs and assess their condition. Developed in partnership with Fiji, Palau and other collaborators, ReefCloud has the potential to transform coral reef monitoring and management by allowing the world's coral reef monitoring community to work together in real-time.

This will be followed by a question and answer session as we return by vessel to the mainland.

Protecting Sea Country

Day 6: Friday 4 August 2023

(breakfast, lunch and dinner included)

Traditional Owners have strong spiritual connections to their Sea Country and work tirelessly through their communities to maintain the heritage values of the Reef, managing Sea Country, recording oral tradition and expressing living culture. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are managing their country through active engagement in on-country management and policy and planning programs.

Hear from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Traditional Owners how community-based Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements (TUMRAs) are used to manage traditional resources and foster traditional knowledge. TUMRAs describe how Traditional Owner groups work in partnership with government and are accredited in legislation.

Visit with the Yirrganydji Traditional Owners - the saltwater people of the Yirrgay dialect. See and hear firsthand how their TUMRA is used to manage their Sea Country between Cairns and Port Douglas and an area that extends far offshore to include outer reefs and islands "to where the sun rises on the horizon".

After lunch, join a collective thinking workshop to discuss the next steps in implementing the *Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan 2021-2030*.

The Mandingalbay Yidinji people who are the Traditional Owners of both land and Sea Country and have been living on the edge of the Great Barrier Reef amongst the Wet Tropics World Heritage rainforest for thousands of years will host our final dinner at East Trinity Inlet.

Talanoa – Our collective future

Day 7: Saturday 5 August 2023

(breakfast and morning tea included)

This morning we will gather for Part 2 of the collective thinking workshop on the next steps in implementing the *Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan*.

All accommodation, meals and transport, including site visits, are included unless otherwise stated. Travel directly from your country of origin to Cairns is also included.

Transport to and from the hotel on the day of arrival and departure are not included.