

## TRIP TO QUEENSLAND STAYING AT THE KOALA RESORT

*(Commentary courtesy Rita Hall with photos from John Matthews, Jackie Olarenshaw, and John hall. )*

We left the cold weather in Melbourne and headed North to Queensland, arriving on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016. The staff from the Koala Resort met us at the airport and every effort was made to make us all as comfortable as possible.

We all started our weeks stay with a visit to the local club for dinner, which was a nice meal and we left feeling very satisfied.

The next day we started the tour with a quick look around Brisbane in a get to know the city trip. Then later back to the Resort for a welcome dinner.....3 courses went down well.

The Resort is owned and run by Lyn and Roger with their son Scott the bus driver and Cheryl (Scott's Mother In-Law) the Tour Director, hang on that is truly a family affair!

Next morning after a full hot breakfast, we set off to the Gold Coast with a visit to The Broadwater on one side, and the Pacific Ocean on the other. After lunch it was off to Surfers Paradise for some free time and shopping.

On Wednesday we set off to the Glasshouse Mountains along Steve Irwin Way and had a short break for morning tea at Mooloolaba. After lunch at Maroochydore on the Maroochy River, we headed for the Ginger factory at Yandina and indulged our taste buds with chocolate and ginger.

Next morning it was off to the Tamborine Mountains and a look at the many craft shops and morning tea. We stopped later for a BBQ lunch which was cooked by the bus driver and his trusty assistant Cheryl.....Yum!!!!!!

Friday our last day was all aboard the Big Cat on the Brisbane River, a bit overcast and some rain arrived, but we managed to get the day in before it arrived in earnest.

Finally we were dropped off at the airport to head for home and the staff waved goodbye to us. All in all this was a journey worth taking, the owner operators gave us a very personal trip with some entertaining commentary and lots of fun.



The Group



Jackie and Jim take a stroll



John Matthews checking out the birds



Jenny, Janet and Fairlie checking the view



Rain arrives and the poncho gets a nod



John tries to fly too, Barb looks on



Barbara and Rita get friendly with the Moose



Fairlie and Iris check out Bigfoot



Jenny gets in on the action with Bigfoot



Left Alan and Pat Taylor, Janet Jackson Margaret Rich.  
Right Jenny Major, Jean Holder, Ellen Stokes, Syd Rich



Left John Matthews, Jim Olarenshaw, Rita and John Hall  
Right Barbara Matthews, Jackie Olarenshaw, Iris Wynter, and Fairlie Jennings



Guess who came to dinner?

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