

# Bloomfield Lodge

BEAUTIFULLY REMOTE

## A Truly Magical Place by John Walker

Your first impression when you begin the trip to Bloomfield Lodge is that you are going on an adventure. Starting at the small Hinterland Aviation hanger, you embark on an amazing scenic flight passing over the Great Barrier Reef with beautiful views of the different reefs down below. Arriving at Mt Louis Airport (it's more of a strip of grass in the middle of the bush!) you are greeted by real life Crocodile Dundee's and take a short drive in their stylish white SUV's to the Bloomfield River, where you board the small boat for another wonderfully scenic ride to the Bloomfield Lodge. Upon making your way around the river to Weary Bay you can just make out the jetty which signals you are finally there! It is possibly the coolest hotel transfer you could ever experience. You can just about make out a building or two behind the trees on arrival and you know you are in for a treat.

When you arrive at Bloomfield you are greeted by the two managers (and husband and wife,) Ben and Courtenay. Ben is on a tractor and helps tow your boat onto dry land while Courtenay is there to greet you with a great big smile on her face. You truly feel special upon arrival and you are, as there is a limited amount of rooms and every guest is truly valued. Ben and Courtenay, ensure that your stay is perfect and accommodate any need that you may have.



Everything about Bloomfield Lodge has wonderful feel about it, from the nice warm wood colouring of the dining/pool/bar area to the individual lodges. The rooms have a fresh exotic scent and a lovely little teddy bear and beautiful flowers waiting for you on the bed. Each retreat is more or less on its own (apart from the lead-in room types), giving a sense of remoteness you will struggle to find elsewhere. With amazingly comfortable beds and wonderful balconies with sea views, it is very easy to leave the modern world behind and finally just relax. I was fortunate enough to stay in the Bloomfield Suite which was especially amazing and although the price is at a premium, it is worth every penny.

The food is amazing and I can guarantee the meals served will be some of the best you have ever had and the waitress and kitchen service is about the best I have ever experienced. The BBQ they do is out of this world, Chef Bianca cooks up fillet steaks, chicken, and sausages just the way you like them. There is also bay bugs, gigantic tasty prawns, crayfish, and the best mussels I have ever had. Basically, if you can't eat anymore, keep eating! I am home right now wishing I would have ate more because I probably will not have anything like that ever again!



Definitely take advantage of the river cruise where crocodiles lurk everywhere and a rainforest walk by some of the most knowledgeable guides I have ever encountered. They are real life Crocodile Dundeeds and know every plant and its medicinal purposes, every spot where crocodiles like to hang out, and always have a funny little story to keep you at ease. When the tide goes out, take a walk where the water used to be, as a whole different ecosystem comes to life. And my favorite is grab a rod, some bait, and a bucket of cold beers and head down to the jetty at night when the tide comes back in. Gary will be out there to help you if you have forgotten how to fish (which I absolutely did!). All the small fish feed by the mangroves and the big fish come in the evening to eat them. Good luck catching anything from baby hammerhead sharks to the mighty Barramundi!



It really is a wonderful thing to embrace the whole experience and just let yourself go, without the outside world and just relax. In this day and age, it is near impossible to truly get away from it all without even a mobile signal, and to do it in luxury and that is where Bloomfield stands head and shoulders above the rest.

All in all Bloomfield Lodge is a place unique unto itself, an unforgettable experience whether it be adventure, great food, relaxation or anything else you are looking for.