

Brampton Island Conservation Project



Project Availability: April to November



Brampton Island Conservation Project

Brampton Island is located at the southern end of the Whitsundays Island chain in Queensland, approximately 32km from Mackay. The Brampton Islands National Park and surrounding reefs support a vast diversity of wildlife with frequent sightings ranging from Green Sea Turtles to Koalas in the Gum Trees. During the dry season thousands of Blue Tiger Butterflies can be found congregating in the island's Hoop Pines, and must be seen to be believed.

The Great Barrier Reef has long been regarded as a pristine marine park, but numerous issues are threatening the overall health of the reef and many of the islands found throughout.

Wild Mob and Reef Catchments have been working in partnership with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service to rehabilitate the island's endangered coastal scrub and monitor the reefs. The terrestrial ecosystems are plagued by introduced flora species. Together we aim to remove the invasive species and allow native flora to once again thrive, re-establishing habitat and food sources for native fauna.

Project Work

During the project volunteers are likely to be involved in conservation activities including vegetation management, beach debris clean up, surveys and coral reef health surveys. Staff will provide training for the required conservation work. These activities are suitable to anyone with a moderate level of fitness and working hours will be adjusted to the group's abilities and weather conditions. Wild Mob believes that happy volunteers are productive volunteers – we aim to create an enjoyable and educational working environment each and every day.

Educational Components

Brampton Island offers a variety of learning opportunities due to its diversity of ecosystems. Heading inland from the beach highlights how quickly these ecosystems can change, from the beach scrub riparian zones to Hoop Pine forests and the island's surrounding tidal pools and coral reefs. Experienced Wild Mob

staff have backgrounds in environmental management and education, they love to share their knowledge with volunteers in a practical learning environment.

Additional Activities

There is a lot to see and do on Brampton Island, Wild Mob staff will facilitate additional activities including:

- Guided snorkelling expedition on the reef
- Low tide reef exploration with marine expert
- Sunset walk to highest peak on Brampton Island

Living Conditions and Facilities

While participating in the Brampton Island project, volunteers will camp in designated areas that are located just off the beach on Western Bay. All-weather, three-man tents will be shared between two volunteers. Wild Mob will provide all camping equipment, including sleeping bags, liners and thin sleeping mats. Volunteers will need to bring their own pillow. There will be a composting toilet and bush shower available. We recommend bringing sufficient clothes for six days, as there are no laundry facilities at the camp.

The Brampton Island campsite is a bush camp. There is no access to electricity and Internet. Telstra offers limited mobile phone reception.

Health and Safety

All Wild Mob staff are senior first aid trained and Blue Card holders. Our experienced project leaders ensure a safe working environment for all volunteers by providing safety briefings prior to commencing all activities as well as adequate training and supervision. Wild Mob has carried out extensive risk assessments in order to minimise exposure to any dangerous situations. In the event of an emergency, project leaders carry satellite phones to contact emergency services. The nearest hospital is Mackay Base Hospital, approximately two hours by sea, thirty minutes by air.

Food

Wild Mob believes in a balanced diet, containing a mix of fresh fruit and vegetables, locally sourced meats and a few treats for good measure. Volunteers share responsibility for meal preparation and cleaning. We supply breakfast, lunch, dinner, morning and afternoon teas and all drinks while on site. Wild Mob staff aim to shop in a socially responsible manner, which can include organic and local produce. Wild Mob will cater for special dietary requirements when notified in advance.

Transport

The departure and return location for this project will be the Mackay Marina. Volunteers will congregate at the gate located near the Marina office. From here volunteers will board the 50ft catamaran Wild Cat to be transferred to the island. The trip takes two to three hours. Wild Mob volunteers are responsible for their own transportation to and from the pick-up location. On the Island volunteers will travel around either on foot or by boat.

Regional Sights and Attractions

Located about an hour west of Mackay through the Pioneer Valley is the Eungella National Park. The park is a lush rainforest environment and is home to pristine Platypus habitat. The best time to spot the shy Monotremes is early morning and dusk at Broken River. The park also hosts 25kms of walking trails and picturesque lookouts. To find out more about the Eungella National Park or other sights and attractions in the Mackay Region visit: www.mackayregion.com.

Traditional Acknowledgement

Wild Mob would respectfully like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners, their Elders past and present, as well as the important role Indigenous people continue to play on the Land where we carry out our conservation projects.

Project Partners

Wild Mob is proud to partner with Reef Catchments and Queensland National Parks as part of the Brampton Island conservation project.



www.reefcatchments.com.au



www.derm.qld.gov.au/parks

Project Specifics

- Accommodation: Three-man tents, shared between two
- Facilities: Bush camp and basic facilities. There is a composting toilet and a bush shower. No laundry facilities.
- Equipment: All necessary operational materials are provided, including tents, sleeping bag, mat and project related gear.
- Services: No electricity or Internet. Limited mobile phone reception. Telstra offers the best coverage. No nearby shops.
- Food: All meals, snacks and drinks supplied by Wild Mob. Volunteers share cooking and cleaning responsibilities, under supervision of project leaders
- Skills required: Moderate level of fitness.
- Duration: 6 days and 5 nights.
- Group size: maximum 11, minimum 6 volunteers per camp
- Age limits: 14 years and over. Minors not travelling with a School group must be accompanied by an Adult.
- Meeting Point: Mackay, QLD
- Contribution: \$650 AUD per volunteer

Additional Notes

- Wild Mob provides all necessary operational materials during the stay
- Snorkelling equipment is supplied by Wild Mob, including full-body UV protective stinger suits
- Volunteers will require closed-in, water-resistant footwear to participate in the guided reef walk; reef shoes or cheap joggers are a good option
- It is recommended that volunteers prone to seasickness take appropriate medication prior to sailing to and from the island

Contact Info

Wild Mob
2 / 249 Coronation Drive
PO Box 1724
Milton QLD 4064
Australia

Phone: +61 (0)7 3369 9665
Fax: +61 (0)7 3337 9835
E-mail: info@wildmob.org
www.wildmob.org
ABN: 41973239045

 facebook.com/wildmob
 twitter.com/wildmob_org
 flickr.com/wildmob