



photo: Tourism Queensland

a sense of place...



a sense of place...



cover background photo: Kerry Trapnell

photo: EHP

Supporting your Wet Tropics...

The Wet Tropics Management Authority protects, conserves and promotes sustainable use of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area through strong partnerships with community, industry and Rainforest Aboriginal people for the enrichment of all.

To discover more about your Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and how you can help care for this irreplaceable ancient wonder, simply contact:



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Artwork: Yunbah - Water Python, 2010 by Jirrbal artist Tonya Grant courtesy of Cairngun Aboriginal Area Centre, Cardwell.



Exploring the ancient wonder and breathtaking landscapes of our Wet Tropics World Heritage Area



discover a world of...

photo: Kerry Trapnell

landscapes

A special place...

The Wet Tropics World Heritage Area is a landscape as old as time itself – where Queensland’s highest peaks thrust majestically skyward from mist-shrouded ancient forests; and thundering waterfalls plunge down through a primordial canopy of giant ferns and cycads, watched on by an animal kingdom largely unchanged for millennia.

With the oldest continuously surviving tropical rainforests in the world and Australia’s greatest biodiversity of plants and animals, the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area is a living window into a distant past.

Over a third of Australia's 315 mammal species can be found here with 13 of these species found nowhere else in the world - making the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area a living record of their evolutionary journey since the break up of Gondwana some 40 million years ago.

...ancient

An ancient world to be treasured...

Granted World Heritage listing and protection by UNESCO in 1988 for its internationally recognised Outstanding Universal Value, the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area attracts scientists, conservationists, tourists and a host of other visitors from across the globe – all drawn to its ancient habitats and the diverse and amazing life held within.

Beneath its rainforest canopy you’ll find green possums, ringtail possums, bats, tree-kangaroos, rat-kangaroos and a multitude of spectacular insects, exotic plants, flowering ferns and reptiles.

timeless

photo: Kerry Trapnell

A rich cultural heritage...

The Wet Tropics World Heritage Area is home to Rainforest Aboriginal people who have lived amongst its ancient forests for thousands of years and continue their rich cultural and spiritual connection to the land, its plants, animals and complex ecosystems.

Ecosystems of the wet tropics region have evolved over eons through active Aboriginal interaction with the land and management of its resources.

Conservation of natural World Heritage values is inextricably linked with Rainforest Aboriginal cultural and spiritual values and today Rainforest Aboriginal people work alongside scientists and conservationists as they share their traditional knowledge and understanding of its rich biodiversity.

photo: Kerry Trapnell



photo: Mike Trenerry