



# Australian Eclipse 2012

With Fred Watson

9 - 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2012

## TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN

*An awesome experience!*

### GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Angsana Resort in Palm Cove is superbly located on the foreshore of the Coral Sea about 30 minutes drive north of Cairns and is a luxurious base for our tour programme visiting the highlights of the **Far North Queensland** region of Australia. These include the **Great Barrier Reef**, **Cooktown**, the **Daintree Rainforest** and the **Atherton Tablelands**.

**You can choose to:**

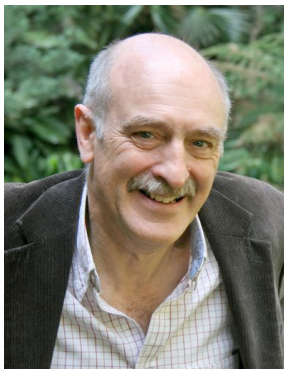
- 1. See the eclipse in luxury at the Angsana Beach Spa and Resort**, The resort is directly under the path of the Australian Eclipse and provides an excellent opportunity to view the Australian Eclipse, 2012 in luxury.

**Or**

- 2. Venture Outback** and view the eclipse from a private site at Maitland Downs Cattle Station. Travel outback to a billion star basic bush-camp at Maitland Downs. Prepare for the eclipse, explore your natural surroundings, and OVERNIGHT IN THE BUSH before witnessing the eclipse the next morning.

That night, after the eclipse, you will resume luxury at the Angsana for a gala celebration dinner. The tour is designed with enough time to learn about the Australian Outback and experience the eclipse, relax and enjoy the ambiance of Palm Cove.

**Join us for an experience of a lifetime with the Outback Australian Eclipse, 2012.**



You are thrilled to have Fred Watson accompany this exciting programme to North Queensland to view the solar eclipse. He led us to Peru to view an ancient Incan observatory and to Europe to trace the history of the telescope (as narrated in his book "STARGAZER, the LIFE and TIMES of the TELESCOPE"). Recently He was Astronomer/Scientist on MV ORION trip that took us from DARWIN to BROOME.

Fred Watson is **Astronomer-in-Charge of the Anglo-Australian Observatory**, operating Australia's largest optical telescope (the 3.9m Anglo-Australian Telescope), and is Project Manager for the International RAVE Radial Velocity Survey of a Million Stars at Siding Springs near Coonabarabran in NSW, Australia.

He has several sessions on ABC radio each week, is a regular contributor to Australian Geographic and has a busy speaking schedule.

Fred is a well-known author on subjects astronomical and his enthusiasm and love of his subject will enhance your eclipse experience.

For more information visit [www.fredwatson.com.au](http://www.fredwatson.com.au)

## Exclusive Outback Site

Outback Queensland is the perfect venue for the Australian Eclipse. The region is steeped with history. In the 1870s tens of thousands of miners flocked to this area searching for gold leading to the establishment of the ports of **Cairns, Cooktown and Port Douglas**.

Palmer River, about 270 kilometres north-west of Palm Cove, has remnants of one of north Queensland's most famous **gold mining towns**. An estimated *20,000 Eclipsers* will be heading to the solitary Palmer River Roadhouse, just north of our site and will be perched on the hill or along the Peninsular Development Road. Our site is private and entry is by special permission of the owner of Maitland Downs. (*pictured right*) This area has been noted as one of the best viewing sites for the eclipse with the path uninterrupted from east to west.



**Maitland Downs Cattle Station** has the charm of the Australian outback, commanding views over one of **Australia's most remote vistas** and is **included in the tour package prices**. However, if you prefer, you may choose to experience the Australian Eclipse from the comfort of the Angsana Resort and Spa.

The choice is yours, but either way, you'll have the best vantage points for the **Australian Eclipse 2012**.

## 7 day Itinerary

### Day 1

- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2012

- *Palm Cove*

Arrive at Cairns Airport for a brief but important visit to the **Royal Flying Doctors** supporting the excellent work this service offers. You will then be transferred to the **Angsana Reef Resort and Spa in Palm Cove**.

Make yourself comfortable in your suite, stroll along the beautiful beachfront, or enjoy a treatment in the day spa.

At 6.30pm in the Lobby Lounge be part of the **Welcome Dinner and information evening with Fred Watson**. Meet your fellow eclipsers and hear about the activities planned during your stay in Palm Cove and about the amazing phenomena of an eclipse.



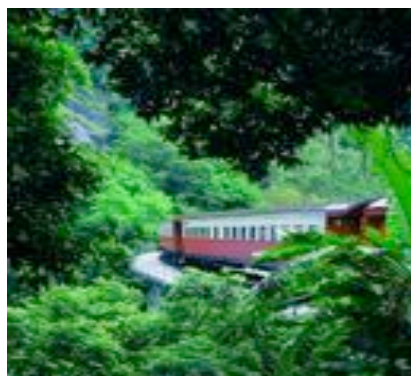
#### **Dinner:**

*Join Fred Watson for a very special dinner and lecture about the upcoming eclipse. Fred's passion and enthusiasm for all things astronomical will enhance this spectacular eclipse experience.*

### Day 2

- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2012

- *Kuranda*



**Kuranda Rail** is a breathtaking journey on one of the world's most scenic train routes. You will be taken through hand-hewn tunnels and across bridges with amazing views. Stop at Barron Gorge to view the Falls before arriving at beautiful Kuranda station.

Explore the "Village in the Rainforest". Visit the **Heritage Markets**, which operate daily. After enjoying some lunch in the colourful cafés of Kuranda meet the group and travel out to **Mareeba Wetlands** for a spot of bird watching – an ornithologists delight! You'll be returned to the hotel late afternoon.

**Breakfast: Buffet**

**Lunch: Own arrangements**

**Dinner: Own arrangements**

### Day 3

- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2012

- *(OPTIONAL)*

Choose your own adventure! Today is all about you and how you would like to spend this glorious Sunday in Palm Cove. The couple of options listed below are included in your tour package, but you may prefer to make your own plans (at your own expense.)

#### **Cooktown** \*\* Numbers strictly limited

*Cooktown has over two centuries of rich history. Captain James Cook landed there in 1770. There was a massive gold rush in the 1870's. Explore Cooktown's history and culture, walk through town, and visit the museums and monuments after a couple of hours drive along one of Australia's most scenic coastal drives, through the World Heritage listed Daintree National Park. After lunch (included) at the Lions Den, continue to the unique geological oddity, Black Mountain, which is surrounded in mystery and spoken of in ancient Aboriginal legend.*

#### **9 Holes Golf**

*Enjoy the lush rainforest environment of Palm Cove whilst playing 9 holes at the Novotel Rockford Resort. Your excursion includes return transfers to the course nearby and a 2 Course lunch.*

#### **Angsana Spa Services:**

*It would be sinful not to take advantage of the decadence of an Angsana Spa treat. Angsana Spa places special emphasis on the use of aromatherapy and the sense of touch to pamper the body, mind and soul. \*A list of available services will be provided on depositing your tour place.*

**Breakfast: Buffet**

**Lunch: as per optional**

**Dinner: Own arrangements**

Day 4

- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012 – *Great Barrier Reef*



You will depart early this morning to make the most of the **Great Barrier Reef**. Don't forget your towel, swimmers, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses and binoculars.

Special guest expedition leader, **Adam Cropp, Marine Biologist**, takes you to some special locations on the Great Barrier Reef and discover beautiful coral reefs and wonderful fish in their thousands. You may even like to give scuba-diving a go for the first time or make the most of your diving licence. Bird life too is diverse and bountiful.

After a full day on the water, **snorkelling**, and a **Gourmet Seafood Buffet Lunch**, cruise back to Cairns with time for more questions for Fred Watson about the eclipse. Our coach will return us to the Angsana.

**Breakfast: Buffet**

**Lunch: Seafood buffet**

**Dinner: Own Arrangements**

Day 5

- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012

- *Maitland Downs*

## Outback Adventure with Red Desert Tours



**Red Desert Tours** will have the campsite ready for our arrival at Maitland Downs. You will depart early from the Angsana Hotel armed with telescopes and personal supplies for a trip through the Atherton Tablelands.

When there, the time is yours to enjoy the tranquillity of the bush setting, participate in some activity or prepare for the following early morning. Your **exclusive** bushcamp site permits perfect viewing of the eclipse as well as the

approaching shadow. (*\*subject to weather conditions*) There are commanding views of the cattle station and the Daintree Mountain scape featuring plentiful birdlife. Maitland Downs may not have electricity, but what it lacks in facilities, is made up for in outback splendour.

This experience is one that will stay with you for long after the event itself.

**Red Desert** was formed in 2001 by **Anthony (Macca) and Karen McDonald**. The business represents a life long dream for these two adventurers who escaped corporate life to spend as much of their time as possible "getting dirty" in the bush.

As a team Macca and Karen have a unique blend of skills that ensure that eclipsers will be able to fully concentrate on your unique expedition while all of the details required for a successful journey are taken care of seamlessly in the background. For this reason they have been chosen by Australian Geographic to support many of their outback journeys to remote corners of Australia.

**Red Desert** works hard to ensure that all bases are covered

Whilst the Outback Adventure is included in the tour package, you are at liberty to stay at the Angsana Resort to view the eclipse. You will have plenty of time to plan a location for your telescope, relax around the pool and read the paper.

More details about this option will be provided during the tour or on request.

**\*\*\* Please note there will be no staff or astronomers at the Angsana. These days will be at your leisure to do as you choose until the group return and the Gala Dinner\*\*\***

Day 6

- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012

- Palm Cove

### ECLIPSE DAY - THE DAY WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!

Awake early to **view the eclipse** with a warm drink and refreshments. Weather being on our side, you will see an eclipse to recall for a long time. Afterwards, share your Eclipse experience over a big brekkie prepared by Red Desert Tours. Coaches will return you to the luxury of Palm Cove where you have the afternoon to catch up on your sleep and download your images.



**Breakfast : Included**

**Lunch: Own arrangements**

**Dinner:**

*The Australian Eclipse has passed, but that is not the end of our tour. A Gala Celebration Dinner will be served in the Far Horizons Restaurant at the Angsana Resort commencing at 7.00pm giving you opportunity to share your Australian Eclipse images and tales from the day's event.*

Day 7

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - Home

After breakfast today say good-bye to your fellow eclipsers and make your way home. An airport transfer will be organised to suit the majority of travellers return flights.

**Breakfast: Buffet**

## Accommodation



### Angsana Resort & Spa, Great Barrier Reef

Nestled in the gorgeous Palm Cove village just 20 minutes north of Cairns, Australia, **Angsana Great Barrier Reef** is paradise for nature lovers.

Located at the doorstep of the world's longest coral reef and oldest rainforest the resort is the only one in Palm Cove to enjoy absolute beach frontage to the spectacular **Coral Sea** that leads to the Great Barrier Reef.

There are few times in the world when natural and man-made ingredients are mixed together with a gentle hand to create a special location that is the mirror of paradise. Palm Cove, in Tropical North Queensland Australia, is one of these locations — a glorious beachside community bursting with fun activities and luxury accommodation for holidaymakers, yet still retaining a relaxed seaside atmosphere with sensitive levels of development.

The Angsana is only meters away from a lazy village where you can buy goods and meals at reasonable prices.

## Suites:

Exquisitely designed your roomy suite comes complete with full kitchen amenities to offer the familiar feeling of home after all the excitement of the day. The decadent ambiance consists of an inspiring pool, beachfront views and spacious patios. Each suite also has a washing machine for your convenience.

One bedroom and two bedroom suites are available at the Angsana with a limited number available with ocean views. Two bedrooms suites are large and will allow two singles or a group/family of up to 5 people to share comfortably. The two separate bedrooms each have a private en suite.

If you are travelling on your own but would like a roommate, you will be matched up by gender in a 2 bedroom apartment. The hotel does not have lifts but very attentive porters will be on hand to assist at all times. Please let us know if you have any mobility issues.

Oceanview apartments and extra bedding are available on request, plus a very limited number of suites available pre and post tour which are subject to availability.



**\*\* BOOK AND DEPOSIT ON THE AUSTRALIAN ECLIPSE 2012 TOUR  
+ RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY UPGRADE BEACHFRONT SUITES**  
six 2 bedroom, and four 1 bedroom Beachfront Suites apply

*valued over \$700pp*  
( \*SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY )

## Restaurants in Palm Cove

Palm Cove is abounding with some of the finest restaurants in all of Tropical North Queensland. Take a stroll along the beachfront at Palm Cove any night and you'll smell the aromas wafting from fine dining restaurants. The choice is dazzling. Thai, French, Italian and contemporary Australian food: Palm Cove is a diner's delight.

Palm Cove is located in a region renowned for its wonderful seafood, plucked from the ocean mere miles away. The high-calibre restaurants serve the freshest and highest quality catch cooked to perfection.

If you feel like a more relaxed dining experience without needing to get dressed up in your fine garb, Palm Cove also features a number of fish and chips shops where you can grab traditional Aussie beach food wrapped in paper. Lie on the sand and tuck into the quintessential tropical dinner: fish and chips. Sometimes the best dining is experienced under the stars while listening to the ocean gently lap at the beach.

## Getting there

Regular flights are available to Cairns Domestic Airport from all Australian Capital cities with Qantas, Jetstar and Virgin Blue. Several airlines fly directly into Cairns International via Singapore and Japan. A designated coach has been organized to transfer you to and from Palm Cove to meet your flights. (*subject to airline timetables.*)

## Site Conditions

Our exclusive site is on the property of Maitland Downs Cattle Station and has been written about several times as one of the best vantages for the eclipse.

See: <http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~jander/tot2012/tse12intro.htm>

Whilst all efforts will be made to ensure a good viewing of the eclipse, Mother Nature will be the biggest factor in determining the outcome. For more information the following websites may be useful and describe weather conditions in detail.

Real-time satellite images of Australia from Weather Zone: [www.weatherzone.com.au/satellite.jsp](http://www.weatherzone.com.au/satellite.jsp)  
Archive satellite images from Dundee University (registration required): [www.sat.dundee.ac.uk/](http://www.sat.dundee.ac.uk/)  
Queensland forecasts from the Bureau of Meteorology in Australia: [www.bom.gov.au/weather/qld](http://www.bom.gov.au/weather/qld)

14 November 2009

If the climatic conditions in 2009 were anything to go by, Australian Eclipse 2012 will be superb. Look at these photos taken at exactly 6.38am 14<sup>th</sup> at Palm Cove and 15<sup>th</sup> at Maitland Downs, November 2009.



## Cost

Suite Type	Status	Per Adult	Per under 12	Notes
<b>One Bedroom</b>	<b>Single</b>	<b>\$6,190</b> <i>includes single supplement</i>		1 King Bed
	<b>Twin Share</b>	<b>\$4,990</b>	<b>\$4,290</b>	
<b>Two Bedroom</b>	<b>Twin Share</b> <i>2 x singles share status</i>	<b>\$5,190</b>	<b>\$4,490</b>	1 King + 2 single beds Each with private en suite
<i>(Suitable for Families or small groups)</i>	<b>Triple Share</b>	<b>\$4,790</b>	<b>\$3,990</b>	
	<b>Quad Share</b>	<b>\$4,490</b>	<b>\$3,790</b>	

## Securing your place:

Local planning authorities expect over **100,000 people** to attend the eclipse in Cairns. For this reason hotel **accommodation is scarce and at a premium.**

**MUST be registered prior 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011.**

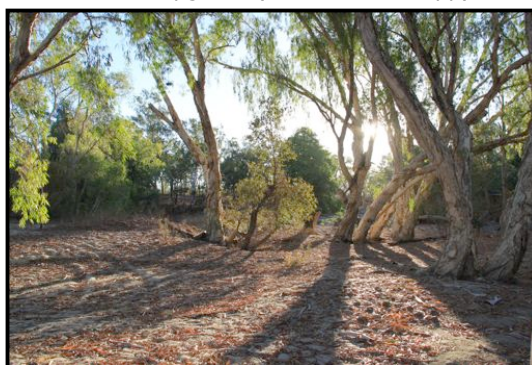
After this date all hotel suites will be handed back for sale to the Angsana Resort.  
No registrations after 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011 will be possible.

### Don't miss out!

Take advantage of the Early Bird Deposit of \$200pp. This secures your place, confirms the tour price and may even secure you one of six 2 bedroom, or four 1 bedroom Beachfront Suite Upgrade (valued at \$700 pp) in the process.

Fill out the form below and return it along with your deposit (see payment schedule) to [marnie@fredwatson.com.au](mailto:marnie@fredwatson.com.au) or post it to:

Marnie Ogg  
PO Box 973  
Newport NSW, 2106  
Australia



## Inclusions

- ✓ **Private Eclipse Viewing at Maitland Downs**, basic accommodation lunch, dinner and breakfast.
- ✓ **Eclipse Information and Beach BBQ with Fred Watson**
- ✓ **7 days luxury** accommodation at the **Angsana Reef Resort and Spa**
- ✓ **Kuranda Train, Royal Flying Doctors and Cairns excursion.**
- ✓ Full day **Great Barrier Reef Cruise with Gourmet Seafood Buffet Lunch**
- ✓ **Mareeba Wetlands Fauna and Flora education**
- ✓ **Gala Eclipse Dinner and Farewell**
- ✓ **Breakfast daily**
- ✓ **Eclipse souvenir pack**
- ✓ Private air conditioned motor coach transport throughout the tour
- ✓ All hotel taxes and service charges
- ✓ Airport transfers (subject to days of arrival and departure)
- ✓ **Tips and gratuities**

NB: Thrive Australia has included tips in the overall tour package price. Gratuities to Tour director, Coach Drivers and local guides are estimated at AUD\$4.00 pp per day for a Tour Director, AUD\$2.50 pp per day for a Driver & AUD\$2.00 pp for a local guide. If you wish to tip leaders and guides over and above these amounts already set-aside it is at your discretion but not required.

## Tour Price Does Not Include:

- International / Domestic airfares
- Additional charge(s) relating to documentation for telescopes
- Travel insurance (required)
- Costs of passport or visas
- Beverages and meals during meals except where indicated
- Optional excursions
- Personal expenses and anything else not included in the 'tour includes' features

### **BOOK AND DEPOSIT BEFORE 1<sup>st</sup> MAY, 2011**

*First 6 bookings will receive a complimentary upgrade to a Beachfront Suite.*

*\*upgrade suites are strictly limited to 6.*

AMOUNT PER PERSON	DUE DATE	TERMS AND CONDITIONS
<b>Deposit:</b> <b>**Early Bird ***</b> <b>Deposit Special</b> - \$150  - \$1000 (or additional \$850) - booking form	31st December 2010   1 <sup>st</sup> May 2011	\$200 pp non-refundable <u>until</u> 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2010  \$500 pp non refundable <u>after</u> 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2010  \$1000 pp non-refundable <u>after</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2011
<b>Second Payment:</b> - \$2500 total - + Insurance copy - + Flight details	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2012	\$2500 (total) nonrefundable <u>after</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2012
<b>Final Payment:</b> - Final payment	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2012	100% non refundable of payment <u>after</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2012

# AN AUSTRALIAN ECLIPSE 2012

## PASSENGER DETAILS:

*PLEASE FILL OUT ONE FORM PER COUPLE OR FAMILY. TWO COUPLES SHARING SHOULD FILL OUT SEPARATE FORMS*

<b>Travellers Name:</b>	1.	2.		
<i>(for self organised groups of 3 or 4 people)</i>	3.	4.		
<b>Contact details:</b>	<b>Mobile:</b>	=	<b>Home:</b>	
	<b>Email:</b>			
<b>Postal:</b>				
	<b>State:</b>		<b>Postcode:</b>	
	<b>Country:</b>			

Please tick your room preference and let us know with whom you will be sharing. If you would like us to match you for a twin share arrangement with a member of the same sex please indicate below.

Room type	tick	Accommodating	Travel Companion names
One Bedroom Suite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Twin Share	Travellers 1 + 2 sharing
Two Bedroom Suite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Twin Share	I would like to be paired up with one other person.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Triple Share	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quad Share	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed Twin Share	

<b>IF YOU WILL BE TRAVELLING WITH A TELESCOPE PLEASE TELL US ITS DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT WHEN PACKED</b>		<b>SPECIAL MEAL REQUIRED</b>	
		<b>MOBILITY ISSUES</b>	

### DEPOSIT DETAILS

<b>CREDIT CARD DETAILS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD	<input type="checkbox"/> VISA	<input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT DEPOSIT	<input type="checkbox"/> CHEQUE
<b>NAME ON CARD</b>	_____ EXP ____ / ____ CVV# ____			

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_