

# Daintree Discovery Centre



## On-site Access and Assistance

*Some visitors using a mobility device may need assistance due to slight gradients at some sections of the aerial walkway. Due to the nature of the terrain, the lower level boardwalks and ground level walks will not be accessible to all visitors using a mobility device.*

*It is recommended that Guide Dogs be fitted with appropriate “shoes” due to the metal grate surface of the elevated walkway. Lower level boardwalks have a timber deck-style surface.*

*Audio guides are available which are suitable for use with hearing aids fitted with a T switch.*

## Location and Getting There

The Daintree Discovery Centre is an easy 2 hour drive north of Cairns along one of the most beautiful coastal roads in the world. The scenery is unparalleled with fringing coral reefs contrasting dramatically with the tropical rainforest.



Access across the Daintree River is by way of vehicular ferry (fees apply). You do not need a 4WD vehicle to drive to the Daintree Discovery Centre, as the road is fully sealed all the way to Cape Tribulation, 35 kms north of the Discovery Centre.

The turn-off to the Discovery Centre is approx. 10 kms north of the ferry crossing,



## Parking

On arrival at the Discovery Centre, you will find an accessible car park located at the closest point of approach to the principal public entry ramp. Access from the car park is well-signed and easy to follow. There is a graded ramped that leads visitors from the car park to the visitor information centre, via an information node.

If arriving by accessible bus or coach, there is a drop-off point at the entry to the ramped pathway.



Accessible car park



Pathway from carpark to entry ramp

## Entrance and Ticket Office

The ticket desk is located inside the Discovery Centre reception area, which has good level access throughout. The ticket counter may be a bit high for some visitors but the friendly staff are very helpful and will assist with any needs. Take a few minutes to read the information provided on the rainforest walk and learn about the traditional owners of the land it is situated on.



Ticket desk

## Accessible Toilet Facilities

The accessible toilet is located adjacent to the ticket office. *Note there is no accessible toilet located at the Interpretive Centre.*



Access through shop area to toilet facilities

## Entry to the Elevated Walkway and Canopy Tower

Entry onto the walkway is through a light swing gate located adjacent to the ticket desk (see red arrow in photo below).



## Elevated walkway

The canopy walk is constructed using steel grate-style panels with grate widths of **of ??**. Visitors using wheelchairs with 1” tyres and smaller diameter front casters may find the wheels drop into the grates when turning sideways on the walkway. Larger diameter tyres/casters should be fine. The walkway is suitable for visitors with vision-impairment with the lower section of the handrails and balustrades forming a continuous “shoreline” along the length of the walkway. It is gently elevated along its length with an information node located approx. half-way along, interspersed with numbered signs indicating reference points for both the hand-held audio guides and interpretive handbooks.

## Guided Group Tours

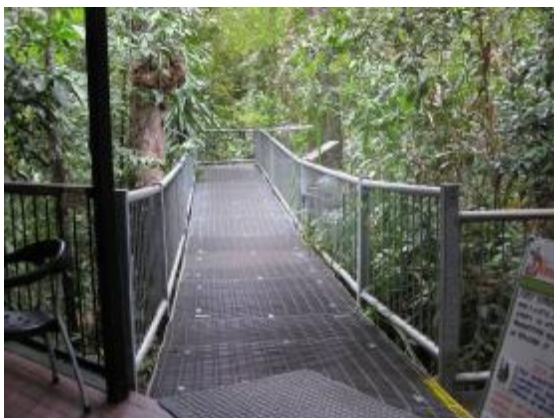
Qualified staff are available to conduct pre-booked group tours (for a minimum 10 people) both through the Discovery Centre and the local environs. The Centre’s facilities are also available for study groups, seminars, workshops, meetings and nocturnal studies.

## Self-Guided Audio Tours

Audio units are available for hire with information in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Japanese.

## Interpretive Guide Book

A 48 page Interpretive Guide Book is included with the adult entry fee and provides the visitor with comprehensive information on the rainforest and its inhabitants



Entry onto the Elevated Walkway



Looking towards interpretive node



Negotiating gentle gradients



Ornate rainforest plants



Using audio guide to learn about the rainforest



Golden Orb Weaver Spider



Fan Palms (*Licuala ramsayi*)



Meandering creeks below the walkway, you may see a cassowary wander through

### Observation tower

Access to the 23m/76ft observation tower is located at the far end of the walkway adjacent to the Interpretive Centre. *Note there is no wheelchair access onto the tower.* The tower has 5 large viewing platforms which offer spectacular views of the rainforest at differing canopy heights.



Tower and Interpretive Centre



Viewing platforms of the tower above the walkway

### Interpretive Display Centre

The Interpretive Centre is a large, open plan complex with displays located on the verandah and inside the centre itself. Interactive information kiosks with touch screens allow easy access to information suitable for all ages. Large colourful displays include a historical perspective starting with the big bang theory of evolution. An animated film explores the formation of Gondwana Land and the 'age of the dinosaurs'.

The flora and fauna of the rainforest is presented in detail including information about cassowaries, crocodiles and many other creatures that are only found in the Daintree area.

The Centre's verandahs provide all-weather protection from the elements and are an ideal place for taking photos, birdwatching or just relaxing and appreciating the ambience of the rainforest.



Accessible entry into Interpretive Centre



Information boards located under tower platforms



Rainforest displays



Rest area at the Interpretive Centre



Stairway leading down to lower boardwalks  
(no access for wheelchairs)



Interpretive Centre cinema



Views of the rainforest canopy from tower viewing platforms



Views of rainforest canopy from tower viewing platforms

### **Coffee Shop**

The coffee shop located adjacent to the ticket office offers a variety of light refreshments and is a quiet retreat where you can sit and observe the rainforest while enjoying a pot of the local Daintree tea or coffee.

### **Souvenir Shop**

The souvenir shop stocks a range of products including locally made jewellery, hand crafted pottery, eco-style clothing, rainforest reference books, children's story books and rainforest souvenirs.



Café and dining areas overlooking the rainforest

**Contact Daintree Discovery Centre:**

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