

Stuartholme Immersion 2019 | Jajikal, Bana and the Great Barrier Reef

Dates: Saturday 22 June – Monday 1 July 2019

Region: Cape York Peninsula and Great Barrier Reef

Homelands/Communities: Jajikal Homeland, Bana Homeland

Length: 9 nights, 10 days

Introduction

For the fourth time, Stuartholme is giving the opportunity to its students to travel to the remote homelands of the Cape York Peninsula. Students will work on a needed project alongside the Traditional Owners of the Jajikal and Bana homelands. The group will have the chance to be welcomed to country in Bana, go fishing on the beaches of Cape York, spend time with local children of the Jajikal homeland and visit a remote sacred women's site at a waterfall deep in the Buru homeland. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the girls to be welcomed by traditional clans and families on private lands that are not accessible outside of this setting. The group will cap it all off with an afternoon snorkelling a stunning and isolated part of the outer Great Barrier Reef.



Itinerary



Please note that this itinerary may change due to the customary obligations of our Indigenous partners.

Day 1 – Travel up – Wujal Wujal

Students depart Brisbane early morning • Crocodile spotting tour on Daintree River • Welcome to Country ceremony in Wujal Wujal • Dinner and games with local children

Days 2 - 5 – Bana Yaralji Homeland

Project work at Bana • Time with local children of homeland • Time with elders Visit sacred Women's site • Bush medicine and dreamtime stories • Visit sacred women's site at waterfall

Days 6 - 8 – Jajikal Homeland

Travel to Jajikal Homeland • Fishing • Basket Weaving • Foraging for local food • Light project work • Day trip to Buru homeland to visit women's sacred waterfall site

Day 9 – Snorkelling on Great Barrier Reef

Travel to Cape Tribulation • Snorkelling on Great Barrier Reef at two remote sites

Day 10 – Return home

Return to Cairns for afternoon flight home

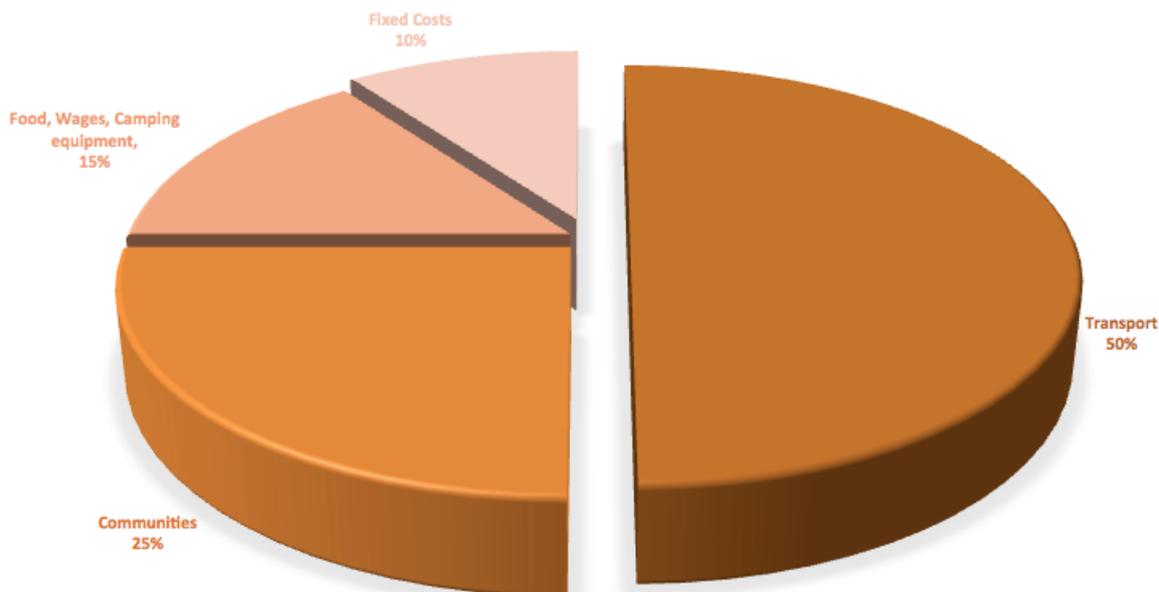
Safety

Safety is our number one priority and, as a result, we have devoted an entire section of our website to it, which you can access at <http://www.reo.net.au/safety/>. In short:

We stay in safe, fenced-off areas away from the centres of towns. There will be two Red Earth team members and teachers with the students at all times who have been briefed on the dangers of the region. All Immersion Leaders are professionally trained and certified in Remote First-Aid and 4WD off-road driving. A remote first-aid kit, satellite phones and Remote Location Beacons are kept with the group at all times. We also keep a 4WD vehicle near the group at all times. Most importantly, the Traditional Owners and Elders will be guiding the project and cultural activities. Every morning, a safety briefing will be held to remind people of the dangers of working on the project. Other safety equipment will be used as appropriate depending on the project. Most communities have medical centres with healthcare professionals on call 24/7 in case of emergencies. For life-threatening emergencies, operations are passed on to the Royal Flying Doctor Services, which operates in the region.

Cost

The fee for the immersion is \$3,500 per student and is allocated in the following way:



Transport

This section comprises flights, buses, support vehicles and fuel. Transport costs drive most of the costs of traveling to remote Indigenous Australia. For instance, we use bus companies that will charge up to \$2,500 per day of travel. And because we travel mostly during school holidays, we often pay peak prices on airline fares.

Communities

The community component includes training and sustainability investments, use of land, wages and the planning and building material for the service project.

We are an organisation dedicated to providing Traditional Owners with the means to welcome young Australians to their country, culture and way of life. In doing so, we are committed to forming long-lasting partnerships with Indigenous Australians throughout the country.

Indeed, one key aspect of our mission is to provide training and economic opportunity to those who live in remote communities and homelands so that these regions may become sustainable and self-sufficient.

Most importantly, we believe that everyone who is involved in a Red Earth program should receive a fair wage for a fair day's work.