

Travelrite International and *The Senior* Newspaper
invites you to join us on the 2026

QUEENSLAND & NSW BORDERLANDS

RAIL ADVENTURE

FOR TOOWOOMBA'S CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS

17 – 29 September 2026

Brisbane, Ipswich, Toowoomba,
Dalby, Kingaroy, Gympie,
Maryborough, Fraser Island,
Warwick, Tenterfield, Byron Bay,
The Gold Coast



TRAVELRITE
INTERNATIONAL

THE
Senior

INCLUDES

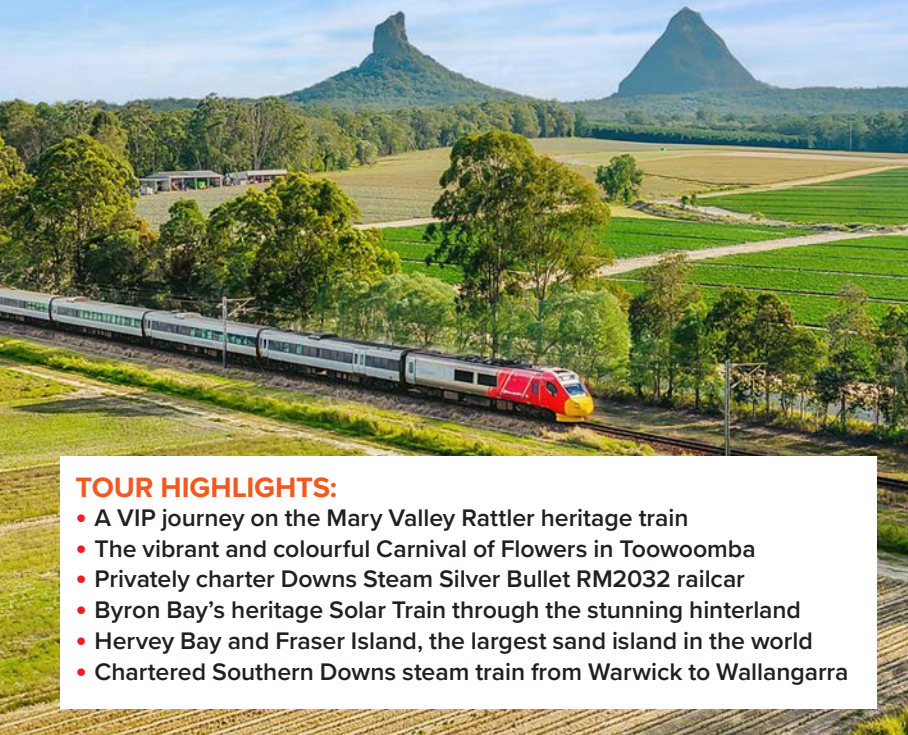


Accommodation, entry fees and
sightseeing, coach transport, 8 heritage
trains, Travelrite tour leader, most meals

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- A VIP journey on the Mary Valley Rattler heritage train
- The vibrant and colourful Carnival of Flowers in Toowoomba
- Privately charter Downs Steam Silver Bullet RM2032 railcar
- Byron Bay's heritage Solar Train through the stunning hinterland
- Hervey Bay and Fraser Island, the largest sand island in the world
- Chartered Southern Downs steam train from Warwick to Wallangarra

Experience historic railways, the vibrant Carnival of Flowers in Toowoomba and interesting country towns on this borderlands tour of southern Queensland and Northern NSW. Start in Brisbane and visit the Queensland Museum Rail Workshops in Ipswich, before seeing gardens bursting with blooms in the 'Garden City' of Toowoomba where you'll ride on the Spring Bluff Shuttle train in heritage-style wooden carriages. Enjoy a privately chartered Downs Steam Silver Bullet RM2032 train ride to the Downs Steam Railway Museum in Drayton, where you'll enjoy a guided tour before travelling to Dalby. See ancient bunya pine trees in the Bunya National Park and enjoy a tour of the Gympie gold mining and woodwork museums before enjoying a VIP first class journey on the Mary Valley Rattler steam train, explore the town of Maryborough and ride on the privately chartered Mary Ann Steam Train. Visit Hervey Bay and catch a ferry to see the rainforests and sand dunes of Fraser Island and ride on Australia's fastest train, the high-speed Tilt Train for the 4-hour run down to Brisbane. Board the privately chartered Southern Downs steam train from Warwick to Wallangarra and enjoy afternoon tea at the Tenterfield railway museum and train platform. Visit the Henry Parkes School of Arts, explore trendy Byron Bay where you'll ride the heritage Solar Train and enjoy some time to unwind. Finish by visiting Mullumbimby, Brunswick Heads, Tweed Heads and the Gold Coast during your drive back to Brisbane.

DAY 1 Thursday 17 September 2026 Brisbane

Arrive in Brisbane and enjoy a welcome dinner with your tour leader and group. The Sunshine State's buzzing capital, 'BrisVegas' seems to have it all: an idyllic subtropical climate all year round, set on the banks of the Brisbane River, a laid-back atmosphere and right on the ocean. *Overnight: Mercure King George Square, Brisbane (D)*

DAY 2 Friday 18 September 2026 Ipswich – Toowoomba

Visit the heritage-listed Queensland Museum Rail Workshops in Ipswich for an eye-opening journey through the state's history as seen from the birthplace of rail in Queensland. See the historic Timekeepers' Building which merges the romance of yesteryear with the exciting technological breakthroughs of the present. Arrive in the 'Garden City' of Toowoomba and take part in the Laurel Bank Park Twilight Tour to see their dazzling themed displays and intricate floral designs. Toowoomba is known for its beef industry, and tonight you'll enjoy dinner at one of its best steakhouses. *Overnight: Oaks Hotel, Toowoomba (B,D)*

DAY 3 Saturday 19 September 2026 Carnival of Flowers in Toowoomba

Spend this morning in the reserved seating area of the iconic Grand Central Floral Parade – Australia's longest running flower festival. Watch street performers, carnival characters, and elaborately decorated floral floats on their journey through the city. Later, tour the Cobb and Co Museum and enjoy free time at lunch. Enjoy a scenic train journey in heritage-style wooden carriages on the diesel-hauled train to the Spring Bluff railway station. See gardens ablaze with bright colours before returning on the train to see one of Australia's largest Japanese Gardens at the University of Southern Queensland. *Overnight: Oaks Hotel, Toowoomba (B)*

DAY 4 Sunday 20 September 2026 Charter train to Drayton – Dalby

After breakfast, you'll travel to Picnic Point Lookout and Parkland to enjoy sweeping panoramic views of the Great Dividing Range and the Lockyer Valley. Travel aboard the recently refurbished Downs Steam Silver Bullet railway from Toowoomba to the Downs



Steam Railway Museum in Drayton for a guided tour and to see their wonderful collection of restored steam and diesel locos, and vintage carriages. Enjoy lunch at a typical outback pub and travel to Dalby, the administrative centre for the Western Downs Region. *Overnight: Drovers Motor Inn, Dalby (B,L)*

DAY 5 Monday 21 September 2026 Kingaroy – Gympie

This morning, you'll visit the subtropical rainforest-clad peaks at the Bunya Mountains National Park to see the world's largest stand of ancient bunya pine trees. Moving on, you'll drop in to the "Peanut Capital of Australia" at Kingaroy for some free time. The former home of Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen is known for its agricultural industry, especially the crops of peanuts, navy beans, and maize. Enjoy a typical country lunch beneath the gigantic peanut silos and reach Wondai to tour the Timber Industry Museum. Arrive in the former historic gold mining town of Gympie in the late afternoon. *Overnight: Gympie Muster Inn, Gympie (B,L)*



DAY 6 Tuesday 22 September 2026**Gympie**

Today, you'll explore the heritage-listed buildings along the picturesque Mary Street and tour the Gold Mining Museum to see mining equipment and steam engines, while learning about when gold was discovered here in 1867. Enjoy lunch at the Rusty Rails Café, located on the platform of the colonial Gympie Railway Station, and tour the Woodworks Museum which displays memorabilia and equipment, including the huge steam-driven sawmill from the region's old logging days. Free afternoon. *Overnight: Gympie Muster Inn, Gympie (B,L)*

**DAY 7 Wednesday 23 September 2026****Mary Valley Rattler steam train – Maryborough**

This morning, you'll enjoy a private breakfast at the Kingston House Impressions Restaurant, which is housed in a beautiful old Queenslander building built in 1901. Later, you'll ride in first-class VIP comfort on the Mary Valley Rattler steam train through the picturesque rolling hills of the hinterland from Gympie to Amamoor and back to Gympie. Enjoy food and drinks in your private carriage that has access to the bar, and the verandah for views of the valley. Arrive in Maryborough to see their many 19th-century buildings and tour the Railway Station Museum. Later, enjoy a ride on the privately chartered Mary Ann Steam Train for the journey along the Mary River, past historic monuments and scenic gardens. *Overnight: McNevins Motel, Maryborough (B,L)*

DAY 8 Thursday 24 September 2026**Maryborough – Fraser Island**

This morning, you'll drive to Hervey Bay and travel by ferry to Fraser Island. With its wild untamed beaches, undulating sand dunes, towering forests, crystal-clear freshwater lakes, and bountiful wildlife including Fraser Island's dingoes, this UNESCO-listed island offers one of Australia's best wilderness adventures. Travelling by 4WD, you'll drive along 75 Mile Beach Road – one of the best coastal drives in the country and see the turquoise waters of the iconic Lake McKenzie. Enjoy lunch and walk through tropical dense rainforest and return to Hervey Bay and Maryborough. *Overnight: McNevins Motel, Maryborough (B,L)*

**DAY 9 Friday 25 September 2026****Tilt Train – Brisbane – Warwick**

At 11am this morning, you will travel on Australia's fastest train – the Tilt Train from Maryborough to Brisbane. Using traction equipment based on Japan Railways Shikoku 8000 series trains, the Tilt Train set an Australian train speed record of 210 km/h in 1999, a record that still stands. This also makes it the fastest narrow-gauge train in the world. Arrive in Brisbane at 3pm, and drive the 2 hours along the Granite Belt over the Great Dividing Range to the town of Warwick on Queensland's border with NSW. *Overnight: The Coachman's Inn, Warwick (B)*

**DAY 10 Saturday 26 September 2026****Southern Downs steam train to Wallangarra – Tenterfield – Byron Bay**

This morning, it's all aboard the privately chartered Southern Downs Steam Railway on the route known as the "Winelander" from Warwick to Wallangarra in NSW, to retrace the path of the Sydney Mail run. This unique heritage steam train travels through picturesque countryside with stops at Stanthorpe for morning tea and at Wallangarra Station, where you'll enjoy a two-course lunch on the train platform. Travel to Tenterfield to tour the excellent Railway Museum and the Henry Parkes School of Arts and drive to Byron Bay – one of Australia's most iconic destinations. *Overnight: Bay Beach Motel, Byron Bay (B,L)*

**DAY 11 Sunday 27 September 2026****Byron Bay**

This morning, you'll visit the pretty Wategos Beach and the Cape Byron Lighthouse for fine sea views. Later, you'll ride on the world's first solar train – the Byron Solar Train. Travel in immaculately restored 1949 era first-class heritage carriages via rainforests and coastal wetlands and over the stunning tea tree Belongil Creek. Travel to The Farm – a green oasis of micro-businesses on a working farm focusing on growing, feeding and educating through community farming. Enjoy a guided tour and free time with various lunch choices. Free afternoon to explore Byron Bay. *Overnight: Bay Beach Motel, Byron Bay (B)*

**DAY 12 Monday 28 September 2026****Mullumbimby – Brunswick Heads – Tweed Heads – Gold Coast – Brisbane**

This morning, you'll wander the uber trendy village of Mullumbimby and the idyllic and charming beach town of Brunswick Heads. Arrive in Tweed Heads, on the Queensland border, adjacent to its twin town Coolangatta. Enjoy free time at lunch and travel to Australia's most iconic holiday destination – the Gold Coast which was built for pleasure and is famous for its long stretch of beaches and surf spots. Explore the Broadbeach area of 'Goldie' and carry on to Brisbane for a farewell dinner. *Overnight: Mercure King George Square, Brisbane (B,D)*

DAY 13 Tuesday 29 September 2026**Brisbane – Depart**

Our tour comes to an end this morning after breakfast and hotel check-out. (B)

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Tour Price

Per person twin-share \$ 6,960

Single supplement \$ 1,390

Included in the tour price:

- 12 nights' accommodation in well-located first-class hotels with private facilities, on a twin-share basis. Hotel taxes and service charges included.
- 12 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 3 dinners
- Eight heritage train journeys and experiences
- Privately chartered Southern Downs steam train
- Privately chartered Downs Steam Silver Bullet railcar
- Privately chartered Mary Ann Steam Train
- Private coach transportation
- Entry to all sightseeing attractions mentioned in the itinerary, except for those marked 'optional' plus locally guided tours
- Tour management by Travelrite
- Local guides

Not included in the price:

- Return flights
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Insurance. Travel insurance is strongly recommended
- All items of personal nature, such as drinks, room service, laundry and phone calls
- Meals and drinks, unless specified in itinerary. Breakfasts, lunches, and dinners that are included are marked B, L, D in the itinerary.



General information and booking conditions

Touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the need of assistance from others.

TOUR OPERATOR: Travelrite International Pty Ltd. A.C.N. 005 817 0781 (Travelrite International) is the tour operator.

TOUR COSTS: The tour costs are based on transport, accommodation costs and entrance costs at 10 October 2025. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to costings will be made within 60 days of departure.

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS: A non-refundable deposit of \$900 per passenger is required at the time of booking. Full payment will be required 60 days before departure. A 1.5% administration charge will be added to payment by Visa, Mastercard and American Express.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations within 60 days prior to departure will result in the loss of all monies paid. Cancellations outside of 60 days prior to departure will result in the loss of the deposit paid per person. Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

CHANGES TO THE TOUR ITINERARY: Travelrite International reserves the right to make changes to the tour itinerary to fit in with operational requirements. Any changes to the itinerary will be replaced with similar arrangements with an equal or greater value.

MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS: The tour has been costed on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked 60 days prior to departure. Travelrite reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of all monies paid or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified cost if the minimum number is not achieved.

REFUNDS: The tour is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

BAGGAGE: All passengers qualify for 1 piece free baggage allowance.

RESPONSIBILITY: Travelrite International Pty Ltd. is the tour organiser. Travelrite International acts only as agents in making of arrangements with carriers, hoteliers and others for the tour. As a result, we cannot accept liability for any act or omission whatsoever, whether negligent or otherwise of those carriers, hoteliers or other persons providing services in connection with the tour over whom we have no direct or exclusive control. We do not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule or any other events which are beyond our direct control, such as, but not limited to, war, flood, fire, civil disturbance, acts of God, acts of government, or any other authorities, terrorism, accidents to or failure of machinery or equipment, or industrial action. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours and the passengers. Baggage is at own risk throughout the tour. The contract shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria and any legal action must be undertaken in the State of Victoria.

DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS: You engage Travelrite International to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite International acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite International may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite International reasonably believes is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite International your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay

Travelrite International any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite International in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite International advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

HOW TO BOOK: Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a non-refundable deposit of \$900 per person to:

Travelrite International Pty Ltd
423 Whitehorse Road,
Balwyn, Victoria 3103

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

Toll Free: 1800 630 343

Phone: (03) 9836 2522

Email: sales@travelrite.com.au

www.travelrite.com.au

ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL: Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is a well-established travel company which has been marketing throughout Australia for over 40 years. It has a fully ATAS accredited (No. A10538) office at Balwyn. As such it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Travel Industry Association – ATIA.