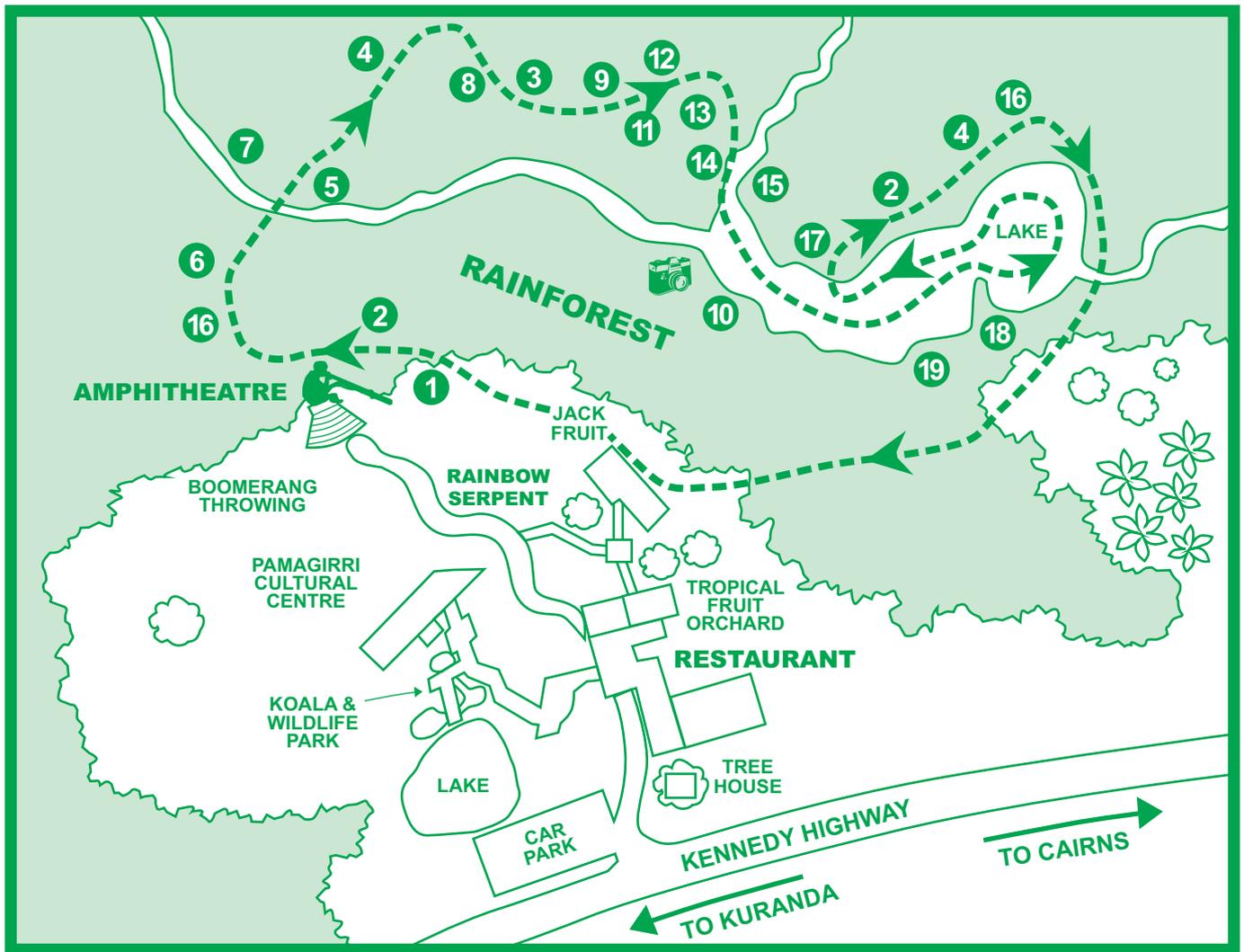


**FOR YOUR SAFETY
 KEEP ARMS AND HEAD
 INSIDE VEHICLE.
 NO SMOKING PLEASE**

Powered by
ELGAS

In the interest of the environment and with growing concerns over the effects of Greenhouse gases, we have converted our Dukw fleet to run on LPG. This cleaner alternative to petrol means that these vehicles now emit 20% less greenhouse gases and up to 62% less Carbon Monoxide than the original petrol engines.



1. **Euodia Elleryana** - (*Corkwood Tree*) Host plant of Ulysses Butterfly
2. **Wait-a-while Palm** - Stem of Rattan Cane
3. **Elkhorn Fern** - Slowgrowing Epiphyte not parasitic
4. **Pandanus** - (*Monticola*) Treated & eaten by Aborigines
5. **Pencil Cedar** - Fast growing pioneer species
6. **Black Wattle** - Rainforest hardwood tree used by Aborigines for boomerangs & clubs
7. **Tree Ferns** - "Giant" species and "Black" species. Ancient plants dated at over 150 Million years old.
8. **Staghorn Fern** - Epiphyte cousin of Elkhorn
9. **Birdsnest Fern** - May encircle tree trunk
10. **Scrub Turkey Nest** - Rotting vegetation & mulch incubates eggs of Scrub Turkey
11. **Basket Fern** - Often used by animals & insects as shelter
12. **Ribbon & Tassel Ferns** - Families more than 400 million years old
13. **Strangler Fig Seedling** - Kills host tree & replaces it.
14. **NQ Fan Palm** (*Licuala Ramsayii*) - This tree more than 200 years old
15. **Walking Stick Palm** (*Linospadix*) - Used by Aborigines as fishing rods
16. **Termites Nest** - Unusual type of termite eats core of living trees and makes the didgeridoo
17. **King Orchid** (*Eria Kingii*) - Flowers October
18. **Melaleuca** (*Paper Bark Tree*) - Used by Aborigines to make carry baskets & water containers
19. **Stinging Tree** - Very painful sting, can have effect up to 6 months



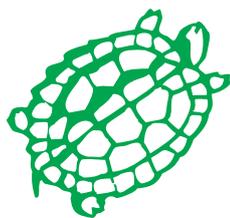
- Smile for the Camera! - see your photo at 'Tropical Treats' after your tour.

Wildlife of the Rainforest

The rainforest has great diversity of life, with more species of moths and beetles alone than all the species of life forms on the Great Barrier Reef. It has more than 200 species of birds, and more than 60% of Australia's species of butterflies. The rainforest is home of the Giant Amethystine Pythons, which grow to more than 7.5 metres (25 feet), Giant Tree Frogs up to 15cms (6 inches) long, and large Hercules moths with wingspans of 25cms (10 inches). Look out for:

- Ulysses Butterfly** Brilliant blue, up to 13cm wingspan.
- Cairns Birdwing Butterfly** Australia's largest butterfly. Female black & yellow, up to 20cm (8 inch wingspan). Male gold & green, up to 14cm (6 inch) wingspan.
- Forest Kingfisher** Blue and white with black head. Feeds on insects and frogs.
- Little Kingfisher** Blue and white with blue head. Smallest of the Kingfishers.
- Azure Kingfisher** Blue and orange, feeds on fish and crustaceans. Digs a 3 metre tunnel into creek bank for its nest.
- Kookaburra** Biggest Kingfisher in the world. Raucous laughing call. Eats snakes, lizards and small animals.
- Cat Bird** Bright green back. Its mating call sounds like a cat. Belongs to the Bower Bird family.

- Victoria's Rifle Bird** A Bird of Paradise, black with bright blue & green display feathers. Loud "shhkk" sound. Eats fruit.
- Whip Bird** Call is like a whip crack.
- Rainbow Bee-eater** Blue and green body, gold and orange wings. Whilst flying, feeds on insects. Nests in holes in ground.
- Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** White with yellow plume. Feeds on seeds & flowers. Loud squawking call.
- Eastern Water Dragon** Semi-aquatic. Cousin of Frill Neck Lizard. Up to 1 metre long. Eats insects and small vertebrates.
- Eastern Saw-back Snapping Turtle** Up to 30cm long. Feeds on insects and crustaceans.



Eastern Saw Back Snapping Turtle



Eastern Water Dragon



Ulysses Butterfly



Cairns Birdwing Butterfly

FACTS ABOUT TROPICAL RAINFOREST

Tropical rainforest is very ancient and complex, with primitive plants such as Tree Ferns dating back more than 150 million years. It is typified by a closed canopy of trees, which cuts out the sunlight, and one or more stratas (layers) of plants below. One hectare (2 acres) has approximately 400 tons of plant life (biomass) above the ground, and 200 tons of roots and other material in its top metre of soil. In one year, up to 14 tons of leaves fall and are broken down by fungus, bacteria and insects. Over the year 1.25 metres (60 inches) of water are transpired through the leaves to replace this - at least 60 inches of rainfall are needed.

FACTS ABOUT THE ARMY DUCKS (really spelt DUKW)

D = First year of operation, 1942.

U = Can operate in water.

K = Front wheel drive

W = Two rear axles.

- * World War II vintage
- * Six wheel drive for all off road and amphibious operations
- * Four wheel drive on highway
- * Ten forward gears and two reverse
- * GMC straight 6 cylinder gasoline engines
- * Gasoline consumption 4-6 mpg (1 kpl) on highway, 1 mpg (0.3 kpl) off road

- * Maximum speeds 85 kph on land, 16 kph in water
 - * Driver can inflate or deflate tyres while moving, using engine-driven compressor
 - * Propeller, rudder, bilge pumps and winch on board
-
-

FACTS ABOUT RAINFORESTATION

Area 40 hectares (100 acres) approximately 30 hectares of tropical rainforest. Orchard of more than 40 varieties of exotic tropical fruits. Average rainfall of 2.5 metres (100 inches) a year.

History: 1888: Kuranda township settled. 1891: Railway arrives at Kuranda.

1896 - 1920: Alfred Street settles property, calls it Fernhill Plantation, and successfully grows coffee.

1920 - 1950: Wagon-masters used property as cow paddock to rest their bullocks.

1950 - 1973: Alston and Harris plant oranges and citrus and name the property Mountain Groves.

1973: Present owners Woodwards buy property. 1976: Restaurant opened to the public and rainforest tours by Army Duck commence.

1993: Pamagirri Aboriginal Dance troupe formed. 1996: Koala & Wildlife Park and Pamagirri Cultural Centre opened.