

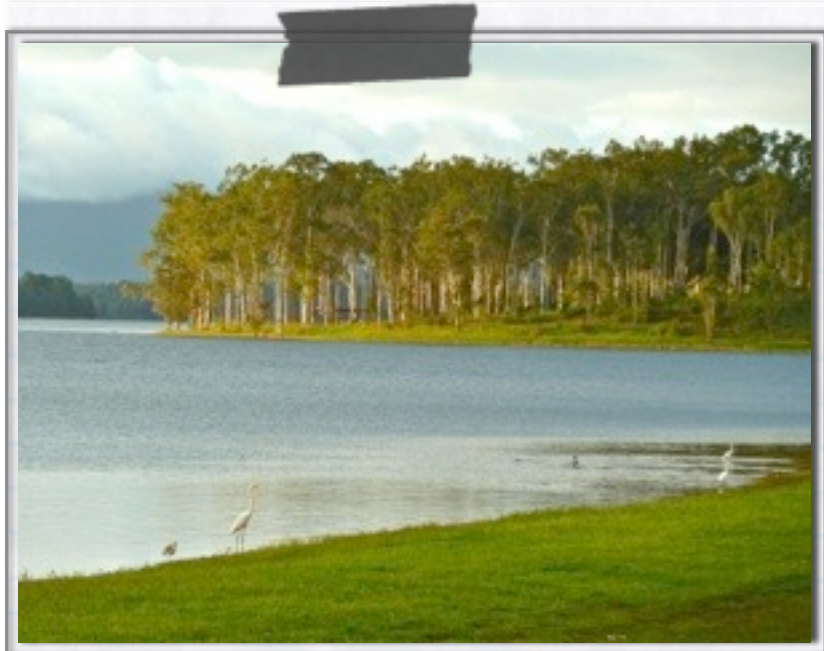
# NORTHERN ADVENTURE

NOWAK TRAVELOGUE | APRIL, MAY | 2012

## Misty Mountains



We are currently on the Atherton Tablelands just outside Cairns. It is so different from whence we have come. For one thing it's wet. For another, the country consists of beautiful green rolling hills covered in mist. As we drove towards the coast, leaving the "outback" behind, the change in countryside was very rapid. As soon as we ascended the tablelands the trees became straighter and taller. The grass became dense and greener. We have been camped for three nights next to a lake in Yungaburra. The wet weather is limiting what we can do. Lake Tinaroo is a perfect place to launch our kayak but we do not relish getting soaked - even though there is a creek nearby that is well known for its platypii. Instead we have opted to visit two local volcanic crater lakes, take a bike ride, shop and sit around and relax. Heather even found a hairdresser in Atherton and now feels/looks like a million dollars.



## Cairns Hinterland

We have visited Cairns twice in the past. Both times we loved the local attractions like the Kuranda railway, cable car, butterfly farm and Great Barrier Reef. We did not get into the



hinterland. We should have. It's really beautiful and there is a lot to do and enjoy in this area. If it was not raining, that is. It is a place we could both live. The setting is picturesque. The towns have a style and grace about them that we like. The area is primarily volcanic in origin. There are seven volcanoes in the area. Two of these old cones have lakes in their old craters. Yungaburra is like Tamborine Mountain. Atherton is the main business centre with good facilities.



**HAVE BIKE WILL TRAVEL** Our bikes have been fantastic. We will tackle any track unless it is mountainous, rocky or boggy. Everything is beautiful until one of us gets a puncture. then its "bugg, bugga, bugga" and a long walk back.



**PLATYPUS?** There was a platypus lookout in Yungaburra. It looked across dirty water - no doubt from road works nearby. People were waiting expecting to see a platypus do some tricks. If I was a platypus I would go somewhere else to feed.



**CRATER LAKES** The two crater lakes near Yungaburra are worth visiting even when its raining. We rode our bikes around one of the lakes and didn't get wet due to a thick canopy of trees. A magic 30mins.



## NATIONAL TRUST VILLAGE

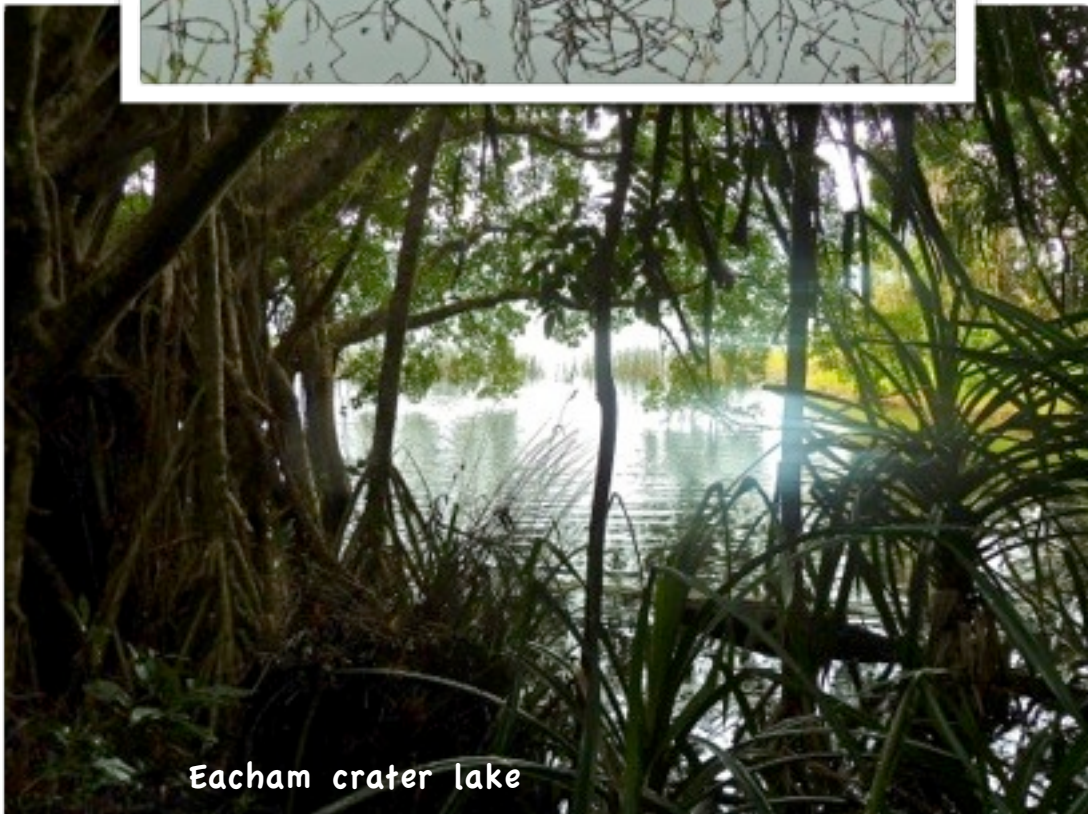
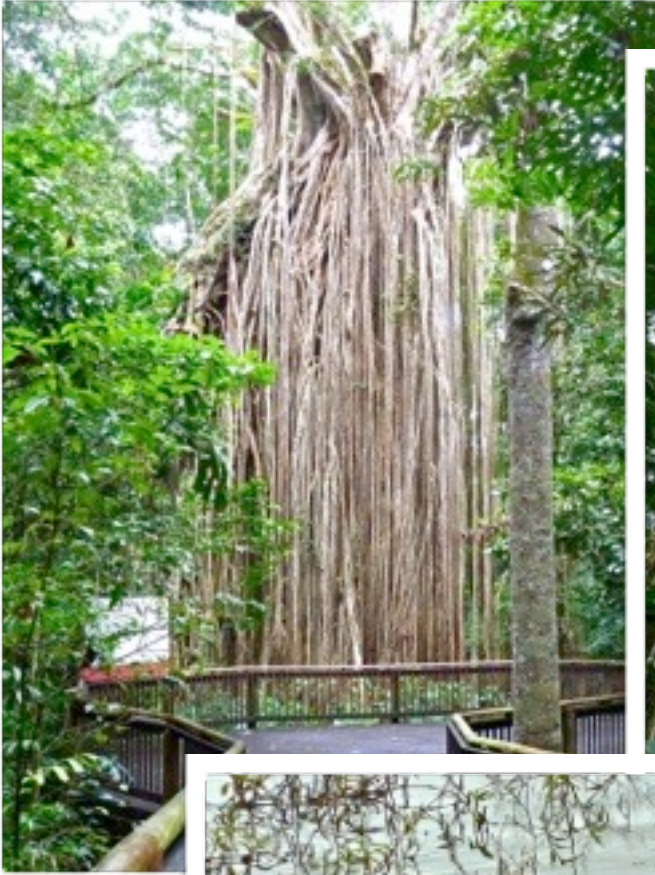


Largely untouched since 1910 with 18 listed buildings Yungaburra is the largest National Trust village in Australia. It was a major stopover point for the inland mining rush to such places as Croydon.





Curtain Tree near Yungaburra



Eacham crater lake