

## Scenic Route

The executive summary of 05 addition to IAS states:

### 7.7.2 Findings

"The proposed upgrade represents the creation of a scenic drive experience, in contrast with the existing drive experience that is largely perceived as simply a route between destinations."

This statement is untrue, highly biased and deliberately distorting. Not only does it ignore the fact that the present road is overwhelmingly seen as a scenic drive but it also ignores the horrible concrete barriers of the proposed road which would be creating an open tunnel experience with very limited views for most users.

A search on google for Kuranda Range Road has found the following assessments of the road as the topmost results:

<http://www.kuranda.org/>:

" Visitors can travel to Kuranda on Kuranda's Historic Scenic Railway or by car or bus, **via the spectacular Kuranda Range Road** or over the rainforest on Skyrail Rainforest Cableway."

[http://www.wetropics.gov.au/vi/vi\\_cent\\_table.html](http://www.wetropics.gov.au/vi/vi_cent_table.html) :

"This is one of the easiest routes to the Tablelands, beginning at Smithfield (10km north of Cairns City) and quickly climbing the foothills of the coastal range to reach Kuranda in about 20 minutes. This is a major transport route and is heavily used by transport trucks and rushing commuters - so make sure you use the pull-out lanes and allow faster vehicles to pass by. Take your time and **enjoy the green tunnel of rainforest enclosing the road**, and take a break at the viewing area near the top of the range and look out over the coast. On a clear day, visitors will be treated to views of Green Island, one of the jewels of the Coral Sea."

[http://www.cairnsinfo.com/region\\_guide/index.asp?RegionInfoID=60](http://www.cairnsinfo.com/region_guide/index.asp?RegionInfoID=60) :

**The Kuranda Highway is a gentle road and a pleasure to drive.** Just north of Cairns City you will need to take the turnoff at the Smithfield Shopping Centre roundabout. This is the very start of the Kuranda Range Highway. As you climb the range you will travel through lush, green rainforest. **The views of the Coral Sea are spectacular.**

<http://www.craterlakes.com.au/location.htm> :

### ***From Cairns up the Kuranda Range (Kennedy Highway) (2 - 2.5 hours)***

Just north of Cairns, the Kuranda Range Road **climbs through the majestic World Heritage listed rainforest** arriving at the cultural village of Kuranda. Drive on to Mareeba, through the drier Eucalypt forests, then through to Atherton, and the historical village of Yungaburra. Just 5 minutes past Yungaburra is the Lake Eacham turnoff. Follow the signs to our accommodation, 500m past the lake.

[http://www.divingcairns.com.au/aboutnq\\_kuranda.html](http://www.divingcairns.com.au/aboutnq_kuranda.html) :

A **scenic 30 minute drive** northwest of [Cairns](#) is Kuranda. .... and the winding Kuranda Range Road **which is a photographer's delight with its scenic views.**

<http://www.onthewallaby.com/location.html> :

The third route is to take the Kuranda Range road from the turn off at Smithfield, north of Cairns. **Panoramic views out to the Coral Sea are a bonus** for travellers, as is the village of Kuranda at journey's end.

<http://www.castaway.com.au/rainforest/rainforest.html> :

A **scenic 30 minute drive** northwest of Cairns is **Kuranda**. Kuranda is the aboriginal for 'village in the rainforest'. There are three spectacular ways to visit Kuranda - the Kuranda Scenic Railway, the multi-award winning Skyrail Rainforest Cableway and Kuranda Range Road **which is a photographer's delight with its scenic views**

<http://www.totaltravel.com.au/travel/qld/tropicalqld/atherton/guide/kuranda> :

A **scenic 30 minute drive** northwest of Cairns is Kuranda,

<http://www.golftel.com.au/> :

A journey along the range road to the west takes you through the mountains and rainforest to arrive at the tourist village of **Kuranda** which is famous for its markets and is also accessible by **Skyrail** (Cable Car) or the **Kuranda Tourist Train**. It is then via this road that leads you to the **Tropical Tablelands** where many activities are available including **Hot Air Ballooning**, pristine waterfalls and swimming holes to explore as well as an amazing diversity of wildlife.

<http://www.mareebaheritagecentre.com.au/mareeba-shire.htm> :

The township of **Mareeba** is an hour's drive up through the **Kuranda** range road north west of **Cairns**.

The cableway and scenic railway offer tourists 2 superb routes between Cairns and Kuranda, another is via the winding and **scenic Kuranda Range Road**.