

Travelling north to Cairns

It was Monday morning and Andy was going on holiday. He packed his travel bag, walked to the bus stop, and got on the next bus to the city. Twenty minutes later he was at the ticket office of the Brisbane railway station. He paid for his ticket and got on the train to Rockhampton. The train left the station and travelled along the line to the north. He was going to meet his friend Tina in Rockhampton. Andy and Tina were driving to Cairns in her car the next day. By early afternoon the train arrived at Rockhampton. He collected his bag and hired a taxi from the railway station to Tina's house.

Next morning, Tina drove the car north along the main highway. It took all morning to get to Mackay. They stopped at a roadhouse in the town to buy petrol for the car. Andy drove the car all afternoon through to Townsville. They arrived there in the late afternoon. The backpackers hostel had no empty rooms left. They had to stay at a motel which cost them more.

Early next day, they filled up the petrol, and set off on the last part of the journey. The highway now passed through sugar cane fields and the trees were green and tropical. By early afternoon they were nearly at Cairns. Today they were on time, and booked in at the backpackers hostel. Now they had four days to visit places around Cairns, and then Andy was flying back to Brisbane.

