

# rainforest walk



The Byron at Byron Resort and Spa

1300 554 362

P (02) 6639 2000

F (02) 6639 2199

77-97 Broken Head Road Byron Bay  
PO Box 1835 Byron Bay NSW 2481 Australia

info@thebyronatbyron.com.au  
www.thebyronatbyron.com.au

**The Byron at Byron Resort and Spa** is set within 45 acres of lush rainforest and has been designed and built with care and concern for this unique environment. A dedicated, experienced regeneration team has been in place for four years to restore the native plant communities and many species of birds and native plants, several species of reptiles and amphibians and one macropod species (swamp wallaby) have been identified within the resort grounds.

There are three main plant communities on the site: the Bangalow Palm rainforest (lowland subtropical rainforest on floodplain), Paperbark forest (swamp sclerophyll forest on coastal floodplain), and Coastal Cypress Pine forest.

This brochure contains an alphabetical list of many of the native plants located within the rainforest and has been designed to help you take a self-guided walking tour along the boardwalk. The listed plants have been identified with signs placed close to the boardwalk. Just follow the boardwalk in any direction and refer to the list when you see a sign that takes your interest.

Don't forget to look up into the trees as you walk about – the view is quite amazing. And also take the time to simply stand, be still and absorb the sights and sounds of these unique forests.

If you would like to find out more about the native rainforests of Australia, please ask the resort staff at reception for further reading material. A list of bird and plant species found within the resort can also be obtained from reception.

**Plants** (listed in alphabetical order)

- Bangalow Palm** *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*  
This tall palm thrives in the very wet conditions that can be found in this type of rainforest, although it requires periodic dryer periods.
- Batswing Fern** *Histiopteris incisa*  
The lower sections of the fronds are said to resemble a bats wing, hence its name. This fast growing fern can grow up to 2.5 metres high.
- Beach Acronychia** *Acronychia imperforata*  
Beach Acronychia is a common tree in lowland rainforest

- Bird's Nest Fern** *Asplenium australasicum*  
The leaves of this beautiful fern channel organic matter and moisture into its centre and so it is superbly adapted to life in the rainforest.
- Blue Lilly Pilly** *Syzygium oleosum*  
This lovely tree has very aromatic leaves, white, fluffy flowers and colourful blue fruits.
- Blueberry Ash** *Elaeocarpus reticulatus*  
This tree has dainty flowers which resemble ballerina skirts. Flowers are followed by brilliant blue fruits.
- Bolwarras** *Eupomatia laurina*  
This bushy rainforest shrub bears aromatic cream or white flowers followed by small, urn-shaped fruits.
- Broad-leaved Paperbark** *Melaleuca quinquenervia*  
Sweet-smelling flowers attract flying foxes, possums and birds. Adapted to alternating periods of dry and wet conditions as found in this rainforest.
- Brown Bolly Gum** *Litsea australis*  
This tree bears clusters of greenish flowers followed by black fruits which are very attractive to birds.
- Cheese Tree** *Glochidion ferdinandi*  
Rainforest tree so-called because its fruits resemble little round cheeses.
- Climbing Maidenhair Fern** *Lygodium microphyllum*  
This climbing fern is relatively uncommon. Each frond can grow up to 2-3 meters in length.
- Coastal Cypress Pine** *Callitris columellaris*  
This uncommon, large pine tree grows on coastal sands and is adapted to salt-laden winds.
- Common Reed** *Phragmites australis*  
This large reed provides valuable habitat for waterbirds. It is also very useful in preventing erosion of the creek banks.
- Coolamon** *Syzygium moorei*  
This beautiful tree grows in subtropical rainforest and

- Creek Sandpaper Fig** *Ficus coronata*  
This tree has rough leaves (feel them) and edible, hairy fruits which are favoured by birds.
- Crinum Lily** *Crinum pedunculatum*  
This large lily commonly occurs in a variety of habitats, from rainforests to coastal creeks and swamps. It produces large, white, perfumed flowers.
- Cunjevoi** *Alocasia brisbanensis*  
This large herb grows mainly in the understory of rainforests. It produces sweet smelling flowers and bright red berries. All parts of this plant are poisonous.
- Denhamia** *Denhamia cestroides*  
This rainforest tree can grow up to 18 metres in height. It bears small, creamy white flowers followed by small, hard, yellowish fruits.
- Giant Sedge** *Lepronia articulata*  
This beautiful sedge grows on the margins of lakes and swamps and provides important habitat for waterbirds.
- Hard Corkwood** *Endiandra sieberi*  
This large tree produces prominent deeply ridged, corky bark. Its glossy black fruits provide important food for fruit-eating pigeons.
- King Fern** *Todea barbara*  
This impressive large fern can grow up to 1.5 metres high.
- Mangrove Fern** *Acrostichum speciosum*  
This large, coarse fern grows into large clumps and grows commonly in estuaries. It tolerates frequent salt-water inundation.
- Native Ginger** *Alpinia caerulea*  
This plant usually grows in the understory of rainforests. It bears sweet smelling flowers and bright blue fruits.
- Pink Doughwood** *Melicope elleryana*  
This tree bears clusters of pink flowers which are very attractive to butterflies.

- Restio** *Balaskion tetraphyllum*  
This attractive, feathery plant thrives in damp, swampy sands in coastal districts.
- Ribbonwood** *Euroschinus falcata*  
This lovely rainforest tree produces clusters of pink flowers followed by small, black, egg-shaped fruits which are an important source of food for many species of rainforest birds. When crushed, its leaves smell like mangoes.
- Riberry** *Syzygium leuhmannii*  
This is an extremely beautiful plant with dense, weeping foliage with bright-pale pink new growth. Small, white flowers are followed by masses of pinkish-red berries.
- Saffron-heart** *Halfordia kendak*  
This attractive rainforest tree produces masses of small, greenish flowers followed by dark, purplish fruits which are relished by rainforest birds. Its leaves are aromatic when crushed.
- Sawsedge** *Gahnia clarki*  
This plant thrives in the wet conditions found in this rainforest. It gets its name from the saw-like edges of its leaves!
- Scrambling Lily** *Geltonopileum gymnosum*  
This slender climber with glossy, green leaves produces attractive white, pendant flowers followed by black, shiny fruits.
- Strangler Fig** *Ficus wakiniana*  
This lovely tree can grow up to 45 metres in height. When damaged, it produces copious milky sap. Its large, succulent fig fruits are a very important source of food for several species of rainforest pigeons and other birds.
- Tooth-leaved Cordyline** *Cordyline congesta*  
This attractive plant is relatively uncommon. It bears clusters of bright orange-red fruits.
- Willow Bottlebrush** *Callistemon salignus*  
This tree thrives in low-lying, damp areas. Its creamy-white, fluffy flowers attract honey-eaters, parrots and sugar gliders.

## 1 Viewing platform overlooking Tallow Creek

This viewing platform overlooks an ICOLL which is an "intermittent opening and closing lake and lagoon". This is an important and dynamic system whereby the sandbar opens and allows the lagoon's water to drain into the ocean giving the mangroves and trees a rest from flood waters and a chance to regenerate. This usually occurs two to three times a year. Different birds can be viewed in the area, depending on the water level, with birds such as pelicans and swans seen during times of high water and waders and sand birds visible when the water has drained. For a certain period of time each year only mud flats will be observed from the lookout and the near by ponds will dry up completely.

## 2 Paperbark Forest *Melaleuca quinquenervia*

A swamp sclerophyll forest on coastal floodplain, classified as an "Endangered Ecological Community" under the TSC Act\* 1995. Exotic grasses have been controlled to allow regeneration of native species such as grasses, sedges, rushes, reeds and seedlings of native tree species. Also provides habitat for birds such as Black Bittern, Bush Hen and the tiny mammal, the Common Planigale, all Threatened Species under the TSC Act\* 1995.

## 3 Coastal Cypress Pine Forest *Callitris columnellaris*

This uncommon forest type is undergoing regeneration to encourage the germination and growth of the Coastal Cypress Pine and other native species. Eight species of ground orchids have been identified in this forest.

## 4 Bangalow Palm Rainforest *Archontophoenix cunninghamii*

A lowland subtropical rainforest on floodplain, classified as an "Endangered Ecological Community" under the TSC Act\* 1995. It provides a habitat for approximately 50 species of native plants including the rare threatened species - ground orchid (*Geodorum neocalendonicum*).

\*Threatened Species Conservation Act

