

# Mission Beach Paronella Park Admission

• 3 hours (approx.) •

Instant Confirm

## • KEY FACTS •



Entry to Paronella Park. Attraction opens 9am-7:30pm, last entry at 4pm, closed on Christmas Day 25 December.

Entry ticket also includes:

1. Souvenir Guide Book/Map
2. Self-guided Botanical Walk
3. 'The Dream Continues Tour' day experience (30min guided walk)
4. 'The Darkness Falls Tour' night experience (6:15pm each night except for Christmas Eve 24 December)
5. 2-year return card
6. One (1) night camping in the adjacent van park (Reservations required, subject to availability, excluding tent and other tools)
7. Receive a 10% meal discount at Paronella Café or Mena Creek Hotel (food & beverages not included in the ticket)



1. Camping tent and other tools
2. Transport from/to hotels
3. Food & beverages not listed as Inclusions
4. Souvenirs
5. Travel Insurance

## How to get there

### • By Car

Located approximately 120km south of Cairns Airport, takes about 1 hour 30 minutes; approximately 280km north of Townsville, takes about 3 hours 30 minutes.

- From Cairns: When driving from Cairns, be sure to head to Mena Creek; take the "OLD" Bruce Highway after Innisfail rather than turning right and heading for Townsville along the Bruce Highway.

- From Townsville: When driving from Townsville, turn off the Bruce Highway at Silkwood and follow the Canecutter Way.

- [Free] Onsite parking available

### • By Public Transport

Unfortunately there is no direct public transport available.

## Operating hours

All Year	09:00 - 19:30
Christmas Day (25 December)	Closed

## What to bring/wear

- Appropriate clothing for all weather conditions, eg. jacket for cooler months.
- Comfortable enclosed walking shoes
- Protective clothing, hat, sunscreen lotion, and sunglasses
- Water bottle, Snacks
- Umbrella / raincoat if rains
- Insect repellent
- Camera
- Money / credit card for optional purchases

## Other info

• Ticket(s) must be used on the booked date; any change of date need to be advised as soon as possible. No refund will be given if customer failed to use whole or part of the ticket on the booked date.

• Operating hours may change due to maintenance, improvements or safety reasons. Please always check the official website for updated information regarding scheduled maintenance and closures before purchasing, and when closer to travel date to plan your visit.

### • Mobility Restrictions

For those guests with mobility restrictions:

- Paronella Park is set on 13 acres, on 2 different levels.
- The 2 levels are joined by a staircase with 47 steps. The Park offer a courtesy vehicle (down a service road), for guests to be able to utilise, if they cannot use the staircase.
- Guests would need to be able to get in and out of a 4WD vehicle to make use of the courtesy vehicle.

- Bringing prams, strollers and carriers to Paronella Park

The pathways at Paronella Park are predominantly concrete and gravel. We suggest that people visiting with babies or small children, bring a carrier.

If you don't have a carrier, and wish to bring a stroller or pram:

- Some strollers/prams are suitable on the pathways.
- Large wheeled prams/strollers are easier to push around.

Prams/strollers with small wheels often get stuck in the gravel on some of the pathways.

There had a few guests who have brought small wheeled strollers throughout the park, and they've been able to navigate through, however there are some areas that are quite tough.

Alongside the pathways, are small sets of steps throughout the park, so you may need to carry the stroller/pram up and down the smaller steps (vehicle lift available to avoid the Grand Staircase).

If you have any questions regarding bringing a pram/stroller/carrier to Paronella Park, you can phone (07) 4065 0000.

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**[Important Post-Covid Service Information]**

For the latest updates please always refer to the official website at <https://www.paronellapark.com.au/>

**• OVERVIEW •**

**Mission Beach Paronella Park Admission**

Visitors to Paronella Park are immediately struck by the immense natural beauty of the Park. The five hectares of land features two cascading waterfalls, exotic rainforest plants and majestic trees of the forest. Guests can explore the enchanting grounds through a series of winding paths and bridges that snake through the forest and Castle ruins. Paronella Park has a distinct architectural design and layout, and the undulating paths and bridges are organized in a 'five ways' design. The paths that wind through Paronella Park have been designed in such a way to provide unusual and somewhat secretive vistas of Mena Creek Falls. At regular intervals guests can gaze through the dense tropical foliage and glimpse the glittering cascading waters of the falls.



## INCLUSIONS

Admission to Paronella Park is valid for 24 months and covers 2 tours - The Dream Continues Tour and The Darkness Falls Tour. The Dream Continues Tour is a 30 minute guided walk that explains the extraordinary story and takes you through the highlights of the park, as well as the stunning Darkness Falls Tour where the castles and waterfall are flood-lit to allow for amazing photo opportunities.

Admission also includes a souvenir guide book, 2-year return card as well as 1-night free camping (reservations required, subject to availability).

## ABOUT THE PARK

Everyone has a dream. José Paronella's dream became a reality. José Paronella arrived in Australia from Catalonia in Spain, in 1913. For the next 11 years he worked, cutting sugar cane initially, then purchasing, improving, and reselling cane farms. In 1924 he returned to Spain and married Margarita in 1925. The trip back to Australia was their honeymoon.

José first saw this 13 acres of virgin scrub along Mena Creek in 1914. He eventually purchased it in 1929 for £120 and started to build his pleasure gardens and reception centre for the enjoyment of the public.

In 1948, José died of cancer, leaving Margarita, daughter Teresa, and son Joe, to carry on. In time, Teresa married and eventually moved to Brisbane with her husband. Joe married Val in 1952, and they had two sons, Joe (José) and Kerry. The Park was sold out of the family in 1977 and sadly, in 1979, a fire swept through the Castle. For a time, the Park was closed to the public. Cyclone Winifred in 1986, a flood in January 1994, Cyclone Larry in March 2006, and Cyclone Yasi in January 2011 were all further setbacks and challenges for Paronella Park.

Mark and Judy Evans, the current owner/operators, purchased the Park in 1993 and formulated a plan to put the Park back on the map. They see the Park as a work of art, and work on maintaining and preserving, rather than rebuilding. Small restoration projects have been undertaken, pathways uncovered and improved, and the Museum, an ongoing project, is continuously being enhanced. In November 2009, the ambitious project to restore Paronella Park's original (1930s era) hydro electric system was completed

## Flora and Fauna of Paronella Park

Today, Paronella Park have an incredible combination of the 7,500 plants, trees and ferns José and his wife Margarita planted plus the growth that has occurred over the past 70 years. The park has become an amazing habitat for hundreds of varieties of birds, butterflies, fish and many other animals.

## EXPERIENCE THE WONDER OF PARONELLA PARK

Paronella Park has something for everyone. Fantastic photo opportunities, remarkable architecture, an incredible story, 5ha of tropical gardens, a fully restored and operational 1930's hydro electric generator, wildlife and fish feeding, a boutique caravan and camping grounds, a café with fresh local produce and much more.

The below experiences are included in the admission price and add to the heritage and culture, eco education and amenity of this multi-award winning attraction.

Allow a minimum of 3 hours for the experience!

- **"The Dream Continues" Day Experience (approx. 30 minutes)**

*From 09:30 to 16:30; operates every half an hour*

*Conducting in English, Chinese and Japanese*

Paronella Park tour guide will explain the extraordinary story and takes you through the highlights. Step back in time and be amazed by the ingenuity and determination shown by one man with a dream. Paronella Park today is a celebration of the Paronella family's achievements, particularly those of its founder, José Paronella.

- **"The Darkness Falls Tour" Night Experience (approx. 45 minutes)**

*Starts at 18:15 every night*

The Paronella Park experience continues into the evening with The Darkness Falls Tour.

The night tour features flood lighting of many of the Park's highlights (courtesy of the restored hydro electric generator!). This allows for some incredible photo opportunities.

More of the Park's secrets are revealed allowing guests further insight into the Paronella Park story.

- **Self-guided Botanical Walk**

A 16 page booklet containing details of 88 of the Park's flora. The trees are identified throughout the Park. (Ask of reception)

## • POLICY •

## Cancellation Policy

All sales are final and incur 100% cancellation penalties.



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