

## NOT QUITE A HOLIDAY

GOT A FEW DAYS to spare while holidaying somewhere nice? How about trying one of these trips?

### FRASER ISLAND

FRASER ISLAND, off the Queensland coast, is a giant sand bar sticking out into the Pacific. And there are no roads – four-wheel drive is the only way of getting on and off the island. So you'll need a Land Rover if you want to see it properly, which is where Colonial comes in. Get a bunch of friends together, hire one of their Defenders and the island's yours for a few days. Their three-day/two-night mini safari includes ferry transfers, vehicle hire and all camping gear. Or if you can't stand canvas, they do various packages involving log cabins. From approx £50 per person.

**Contact:** Colonial, Corner of Boat Harbour Drive & Pulgul Street, Urangan, Hervey Bay, Queensland, Australia, 4655. Tel: (00 61)1800 818 280. [www.users.bigpond.com/herveybay/home.htm](http://www.users.bigpond.com/herveybay/home.htm) (no spaces)

### MYANMAR

NOT AN OBVIOUS holiday destination. Burma (now called Myanmar) has been run by a brutal military junta since 1989 with an appalling human rights record – but it is a very beautiful, friendly country. This short, three-day tour, by Land Rover, starts in Chiang Mai in Thailand and crosses the border into Burma at Mae Sai. You pass traditional Burmese villages as the tour winds its way through the mountains, stopping at ex-British Hill Stations and Buddhist temples en-route.

**Contact:** Ricco Holiday Company, 142/11 Rama 5 Road, Suanchitlada, Dusit, Bangkok 10300, Thailand. Tel: (00 66) 2 668 2176. [http://riccoholiday.com/chiangmai\\_kentung.htm](http://riccoholiday.com/chiangmai_kentung.htm) (no spaces)

### VERMONT

THIS IS EXPENSIVE, but it is good. The Equinox, an upmarket New England hotel, has been pampering the Great and the Good for 200 years. Now it's added Land Rovers to its list of attractions – namely, the official Land Rover Driving School, the American version of the Land Rover Experience. The Equinox does various packages (including a chauffeured day tour around Vermont in a Range Rover for £380), and none is exactly a bargain. The Winch and Unwind package sounds good: three days of trail driving, massage and off-road tuition. It costs £500 per person, but quality don't come cheap.

**Contact:** The Equinox, 3567 Main Street, Manchester Village, VT 05254 USA. Tel: (00 1) 800 362 4747. [www.equinox.rockresorts.com](http://www.equinox.rockresorts.com)



# Up to £1000



## BELIZE

● **Where is it?** The Central American country of Belize is a peaceful, stable country with a beautiful Caribbean coastline, rainforest and the second-largest coral reef in the world (after Australia's Great Barrier Reef). And it's a British Protectorate, too – so English is the first language.

● **Who runs it?** Graham Herbert, a Welshman who lived in Central America for six years, and who now sells Land Rovers in the USA. He also runs a website selling Camel Trophy and Land Rover memorabilia.

● **What's the holiday?** Actually more of a mini-Camel Trophy than a holiday, you'll be exploring the rainforest and rural Belize by Land Rover, visiting Mayan ruins, fording rivers and sleeping in log cabins or tents. Plenty of opportunity for off-road driving (you might even get to use the winch that's supplied with each Defender), and some of the trek follows the route of the 1995 Camel Trophy. This is not a luxury touring holiday – it's much more of a "hands-on" adventure.

● **Where do I sleep?** Log cabins, tents, the hotel, and hammocks.

● **What are the Land Rovers?** Ex-military litre normally aspirated diesel 110 Defenders prepared to expedition spec, and they are prepared – each vehicle has a snorkel, roof twin gel-type batteries, work lamps, a Warn XD9000i winch and everything else you might conceivably need.

● **Do I get to drive?** Oh, yes – this is an accompanied self-drive, with two people per Land Rover, and each vehicle gets to lead tour. It's a genuine off-road holiday.

● **How much, and what's included?** £971 per person, and that's for everything except fuel. They even throw in hammocks and mosquito netting.

● **Anything else to do?** What, the wonders of the Central American rainforest aren't enough for you? Seriously though, this is not a sightseeing trip in the conventional sense – need to commit yourself to a week in the jungle to enjoy yourself.

● **Who do I call?** Adventuretrex, 256 West College 5, Covina, CA 91723 USA. Tel: (00) 548 4548 [www.adventuretrex.com](http://www.adventuretrex.com)