

Skyrail Projecttype: Commercial

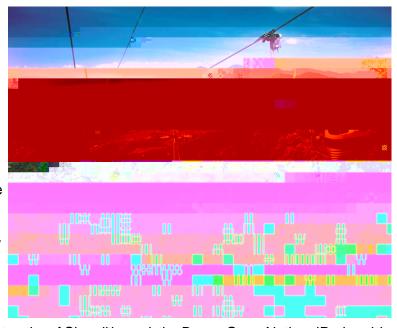
Location:Caravonicao Kuranda,QLD,Australia Yearcompleted:1995

- One of Australia's most successful at ture based to urist attractions, and the world's most environmentally sensitive cable way project
- Extensiveplanningapprovals,feasibility studies& world's best practiseconstructiontechniquesin World Heritagerainforest

OVERVIEW

The family owned Skyrail was conceived in 1987. It was proposed that a 7.5 km long cablewaythe longestin the world at the time, be constructed in the rainforest from Caravonica to Kuranda. The developers were committed to delivering an environmentally sustainable tourist attraction that allows a unique interaction with the rainforest in an environmentally friendly way.

The process was arduous with sevenyearsof extensive planning.



Communityresponses to the construction of Skyrailthrough the Barron Gorge National Parkand the newly listed Wet Tropics World Heritage Areaquickly became polarised as being either for or against the project. The controversy and political attention was reported widely at the time.

After numerous studies and approval processesensuring the rainforest habitat would not be threatened by the project, construction commenced in June 1994. The Skyrail project and constructionrequired 'world first' constructiontechniqueswhich have helped place it as the most environmentallysensitivecablewayproject in the world.

Thecablewaywasoriginallyinstalledwith 47 gondolas givingit a carryingcapacity of 300 peopleper hour. A \$2.5 million upgradecompleted in May 1997 increased the total number of gondolasto 114 and increased the carryingcapacity to 700 peopleper hour.

The successfu European Greening of Business Tourism Award in the 'Most Environmentally Conscious' / isitor Attraction'.

became the first tourism attraction in the world to achieve the Platinum EarthCheck on placing it amongst the world's leading ecofriendly and environmentally sustainable

In Australiain 2008and 2009 Skyrailreceived the Qantas Award for Excellence Sustainable Tourism. In 2010 Skyrailwasaccepted into the Queensland Qantas Award for Excellence Sustainable Tourism, Hallof Fame.

PLANNINGANDMANTAGEHIAHEN3 TcTT3 3Tj 4

SITE

Skyrailpassesthrough the BarronGorgeNationalParkand the Wet TropicsWorld HeritageArea, the latter beinglisted due to its outstandinguniversal/globalvalue. The Wet TropicsWorld HeritageArea has worldwide recognition for its spectacular scenery, rugged topography with fast flowing rivers etched with deep gorges and cascading vaterfalls and panoramas of undisturbed rainforest as far as the eye can see. Stretching from Cooktown to Townsvillein tropical north Queensland this area is a living museum of ancient plant and an imal specie sound nowhere else in the world. Wet Tropics World Heritage Area forests are home to many rare and endangere danimal species somethat have changed very little since

DESIGN

There are 32 towers in total. The highest tower is 40.5 metres (133 feet) high.

An

MATERIALS

Themain structures are primarily built of steel, reinforced concrete and composite steel and concrete floors. Helicopter stransported 900 tonnes of steel, cement and building materials into the RedPeak Station site alone.

The Red Peak station was originally to

WATERand WASTE

Skyrailis committed to using minimal water in its operation and to protecting the World Heritage values of the rainforest by eliminating the possibility of harmful liquid was teen tering the rainforest. Initiative sto reduce freshwater use and was tewater generation include:

- x Monitoring water quality from stormwater and testing for hydrocarbon and dieselas a part of this process
- x InstiTj /TT38 /TT3 1 Tf 3.438/a 9/e731.3612 0 TD 0 Tc <0003>Tj /TT4 1 Tf -36.2387 4