



KOALA CUDDLING EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW!



There is lots of mis-information about Cuddling Koalas. Wildlife is our business and our passion. There is no practise that we indulge in that is in any way detrimental to our wildlife. Allowing visitors to 'Cuddle a Koala' enables us to:

- 1) Display the largest Koala Colony in Tropical North Queensland
- 2) Raise awareness and educate visitors about the vulnerability of our favourite Australian and its diminishing habitat.
- 3) Provide a wonderful experience and a lasting memory for your clients.
- 4) Contribute both financially, and with our own research, to the ongoing research of the Australian Koala Foundation.



Following please find some **FACTS** about Koalas and why your clients can enjoy the experience of 'Cuddling a Koala' at Cairns Tropical Zoo or Kuranda Koala Gardens (2 of only 8 places worldwide where you can 'Cuddle a Koala')

KOALA HANDLING CODE OF PRACTICE

Cairns Tropical Zoo is a member of ARAZPAQ – the official Zoo association of Australia. Our Zoo, in conjunction with other wildlife establishments and the association did many hours of research into the effects of handling on Koalas. The results showed that the majority of captive bred Koalas are quite comfortable being 'cuddled' – with no detrimental affect on health or behaviour.

This research resulted in the establishment of the 'Koala Handling Code of Practice' – this Code has been ratified by the Queensland Government.

Both Cairns Tropical Zoo and Kuranda Koala Gardens adhere **STRICTLY** to this Code to ensure the health and welfare of our animals. This is our number one priority and your clients will observe that our koalas are very healthy.

The Code states that a koala may be 'Cuddled' for a maximum of 30 minutes per day. At both of our establishments we have more than enough koalas to ensure that none of our Koalas EVER work overtime!

OUR COMMITMENT TO KOALAS

Cairns Tropical Zoo was the first koalas back to TNQ in 1990. programs, effective koala health staff we boast the largest colony in



The cost of housing, feeding and To ensure sufficient, clean, fresh we have purchased and maintain Atherton Tablelands and, in conjunction with a local agricultural college maintain another 10,000 tree plantation at Smithfield, just north of Cairns. . Full time staff are employed as 'leaf cutters' and travel more than 600 klm weekly to ensure that our koalas are fed only the very best fresh leaf tips.

The purchase of a souvenir photo assists us in the ongoing care of these very special Australians, as well as assisting our wildlife rehabilitation program.

wildlife establishment to bring Through successful breeding management and dedicated TNQ

caring for koalas is enormous. eucalyptus tips for our colony a 10,000 tree plantation on the