

Lakeside hideaway

Lou Robson

ENTER Eumarella Shores and the real world falls away.

Lake Weyba flashes silver through tall trees and leaves fall on the unsealed driveway.

Wood smoke fills the air, horses graze and private cottages line an inland sea.

It's like Italy's Lake Como meets North Stradbroke Island.

The well-kept Sunshine Coast secret, 115km north of Brisbane, lies on the lake's western bank just 10km from the ocean.

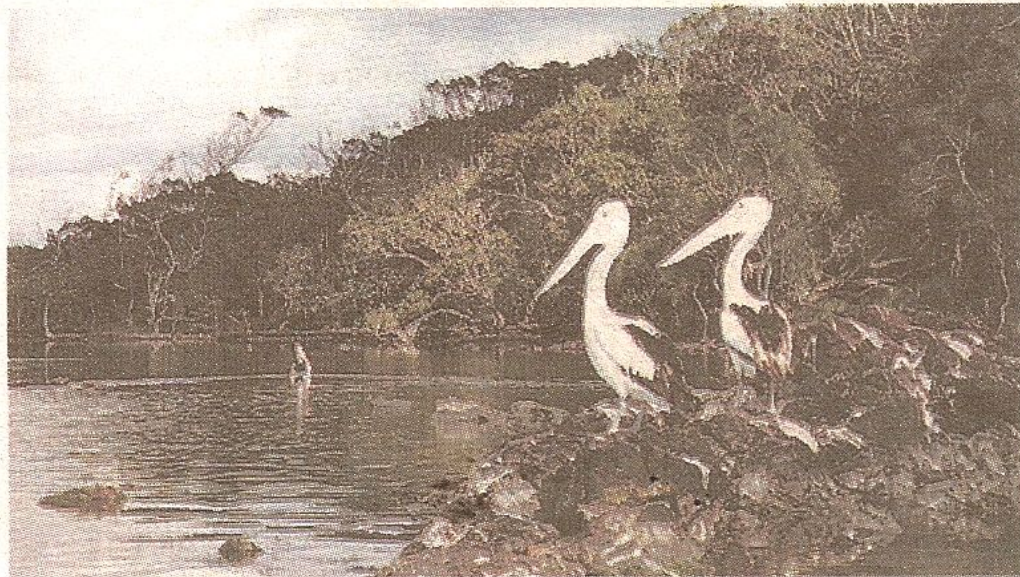
It's beautiful. Eco-friendly buildings, 1950s beach shacks with a twist, come complete with a fireplace, spa bath, beautifully outfitted kitchen, barbecue, veranda overlooking the water and private beach.

Visitors are encouraged to canoe, explore and walk trails through the 20ha private flora and fauna reserve.

Kite surfing packages are also available through Active Kitesurfing Australia.

Heritage-listed sub-tropical forest meets the water, kangaroos graze in the fading afternoon light and tawny frogmouth owls watch silently from branches above.

It's a shady, quiet and unique place to visit.



Serene: Eumarella Shores is on the edge of Lake Weyba

The coastal hideaway is different — a small and private lakeside community just minutes from the ocean.

Owner-managers Bill and Christine Tainsh have lived on site for 30 years and have worked hard to combine the old with the new.

Not one tree was cut down to accommodate the modern cabins and old buildings remain.

The couple's artist daughter Bianca Tainsh has returned to Eumarella after years on the Amalfi Coast and painter and sculptor Robyn Fox draws inspiration from the surrounds.

"I suppose when you think about it, the thing that sets Eumarella

Shores apart from other establishments is our long association with the property that has created so much history," Mr Tainsh, the son of well-known Australian cartoonist Doug Tainsh said.

"We try to impart to our guests a sense of history, together with an appreciation of the natural environment.

"Food is also important. Gourmet meals can be prepared and left in the fridge.

"Eat and unwind to the sound of wind in trees, rain on corrugated iron and the shrieks of rainbow lorikeets."

Details: Call 5449 1738 or visit www.eumarellashores.com.au.