



SMOOTH SAILING

Nestled in the heart of the spectacular Great Barrier Reef Marine Park on the Queensland coast is the Whitsunday Group of Islands. The Whitsundays are typified by great stretches of azure blue water dotted with 74 tropical islands, sandy beaches, coral flower beds and a mainland coastline full of life. With the largest array of skippered and chartered sailing adventures in the Southern Hemisphere, there are so many ways to experience all of this and more.

The Whitsundays offers the best choice for a sailing or cruising holiday for two simple reasons - the islands provide protection from the elements and each of the islands offers an array of unique beauty to experience the true serenity that only a sailing holiday can bring.

With the destination a firm favourite in any novice or expert sailor's book, all you have to do is choose if you want to go on your adventure of discovery, or have a professional skipper lead your voyage.

Bareboating (skipper yourself) holidays provide a chance to experience the magic of the Whitsundays at your own pace. While some sailing experience is required to charter a yacht, there are no formal qualifications needed to become a skipper on a sailing holiday in paradise. And if you want to hire your own private yacht or catamaran, but don't have the confidence to skipper it yourself, you can hire a professional skipper and hostess and simply tell them where you want to go and when you want to eat. And if you're keen, learn a little sailing for next time! If you want to cover a greater area of the Whitsundays and the sails seem a little cumbersome, a motor cruiser will be more your scene. If there are two or 10 of you, there will be a motor launch to suit. All the charter companies have a comprehensive provisioning service that caters for all dietary types and promises unbelievable value for money. Or you can plan your own gourmet menu to your own taste and cook up a feast each day.

If time is of the essence or you want to meet new people from around the world, a fully crewed, organised sailing trip for 2 or 3 nights is perfect. The choice of vessels is astounding: experience a maxi racing yacht, or step back in time and sail as Lt James Cook did when he discovered this magnificent region on a traditional tall ship. You get to sail to the top destinations for beach combing, snorkelling, diving and that perfect sunset. Each organised cruise has experienced skippers with a story or two to tell, deck hands to assist and an important ingredient, the chef!

Whatever your choice, when you first step aboard your vessel you will feel invigorated with the anticipation of your sailing adventure. You are guaranteed fun, excitement, relaxation, exploration and an experience that you will treasure forever and a sunset you will never forget.

Many bays conceal small coves, which can only be explored by dinghy or kayak. As you enter into a secret sanctuary of remarkable jade water teeming with colourful fish, you get the feeling you are the only person to ever discover this spot – and who knows, you could be right!

The sheltered warm waters of the Whitsundays make boating of all kinds enjoyable, and firmly entrenches the Whitsundays as a 'Sailor's Paradise'.

- ENDS -

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES, CONTACT:

Deborah Friend – PR & Communications Specialist

PH: (07) 4948 5917 M: 0417 765 736 E: pr@tourismwhitsundays.com.au