



MEDIA RELEASE

*For immediate release
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First new flight with Tigerair Australia lands in the Whitsundays

The first of the new Tigerair Australia flights into Whitsunday Coast Airport will commence this Thursday (March 23).

The airline is increasing return services from Sydney, to six weekly return services, and is introducing four new return services from Brisbane, resulting in an additional 55,000 visitor seats into Whitsunday Coast Airport each year.

The move has been welcomed by the region's tourism operators and Tourism Whitsundays.

Tourism Whitsundays CEO Craig Turner said the new flights would help the region fulfil its "massive potential".

"While the Whitsundays has always been highly aspirational, one of the barriers to converting this into visitation has been the challenges around ways to get here and the convenience of flights," he said.

"With the additional six flights into region with Tigerair, starting on March 23, this will go some way to breaking down that conversion barrier.

"The Whitsundays is in a very strong position and the addition of these flights will allow us to continue to fulfil the massive potential that the Whitsundays has."

Whitsunday Regional Council Mayor Andrew Willcox said the additional flights and increased visitor seats would provide a significant boost for accommodation houses, tour and transport operators, restaurants and retail businesses in the region.

"It is certainly happy days in the Whitsundays so far in 2017 and the new direct morning return service from Brisbane is a massive vote of confidence in our region by Tigerair.

"As owners of Whitsunday Coast Airport this council has worked closely with Tigerair to secure the new flights, which will also provide better connectivity for overseas visitors.

"Basically more choice and availability of flights makes it easier for international tourists to visit our region," Mayor Willcox said.

The new flights mean it has never been easier or more affordable to visit the Whitsundays.

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