



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Vote for your favourite Whitsundays café!

Is the Whitsundays home to the Café of the Year? It could be if everyone in the Whitsundays gets voting!

The inaugural Countrywide Café of the Year competition has been launched and cafes all over Australia – and the Whitsundays – are in the running for a top prize of \$25,000.

Submit your vote for the Countrywide Café of the Year by the deadline of May 31 for your chance to win FREE coffee for a year, with 10 winners receiving this amazing prize valued at \$1,300.

It only takes a few seconds to [vote](#), so why not make one of our wonderful Whitsundays cafes a winner! There are also five regional prizes of \$5,000 each for the cafes.

There are 20 Whitsunday cafes in the running from all over the region - including Airlie Beach, Cannonvale, Proserpine, Bowen and Collinsville - and they are listed on the Countrywide [website](#) or simply look out for the competition posters and counter cards when you are next in your favourite eatery.

Tourism Whitsundays General Manager Tash Wheeler urged coffee-lovers to get behind the competition and ensure a Whitsundays café took out the crown of Countrywide Café of the Year.

“The Whitsundays’ quality of service and food is stronger than ever thanks to so many great establishments,” she said.

“Make your vote count and vote for one of Tourism Whitsundays’ fabulous members. Imagine what they could do with \$25,000 and imagine what you could do with free coffee for a year!”

Tourism Whitsundays members in the running include the Airlie Beach Treehouse, Cruise Cafe & Bar, Denmans Beer Café, Fat Frog Beach Café, The Deck Airlie Beach, Le Sorelle Coffee House, La Marina and Wildlife Hamilton Island.

Greg Lange, owner of The Deck, said the goal for the restaurant was to keep growing, so winning the title would “definitely help”.

“We are always getting lovely comments about our coffee and food from our customers so we thought, why not enter!” he said.

Paul and Debra Burfitt, owners of the Airlie Beach Treehouse, said “win or lose” it was great to be recognised.

“It’s so good to see that our little Treehouse and our awesome team are in the running for such a prestigious national award,” Mr Burfitt said.

“It just goes to show, a small town and a small team can do great things. Win or lose, we are so proud of what we have created in the Treehouse over the past couple of years.”

Café owners can drive their own success in the competition and use social media to spread the word and canvas votes using the hashtag #cwcafeoftheyear.

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