



MEDIA RELEASE

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Once-in-a-lifetime experience offered as part of the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival

A once-in-a-lifetime experience is on offer this weekend on one of the world's most stunning beaches.

The Fish D'Vine White on Whitehaven Long Lunch (Saturday, January 20) promises to be a spectacular event with gourmet food and wine enjoyed on the soft silica sands of Whitehaven Beach – regularly voted one of the best beaches in the world.

The lunch is a unique event and forms part of the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival, a two-week celebration in honour of the arrival of the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race fleet.

The carnival promotes the whole Whitsunday region, bringing significant economic benefits and showcasing to the world that the Whitsundays is home to sailing.

The Fish D'Vine White on Whitehaven Long Lunch has been created to showcase one of the region's most stunning natural assets, while providing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to both visitors and locals to enjoy one of the most unique events the region has ever seen.

The significance of the event is recognised by Tourism Whitsundays' broadcast partners, with Channel 7's Queensland Weekender program, featuring Chris Parsons, coming to the region that weekend to film the lunch, as well as some other Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival events.

Tourism Whitsundays CEO Craig Turner said the consortia partners had thought long and hard about how to create unique events for visitors and locals when developing the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival.

"The Fish D'Vine White on Whitehaven Long Lunch is the type of event that's really unique," he said.

"It's not like you can do it day in and day out. This could truly be considered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"If you want to be a part of this, you need to book your tickets now because they are fast running out."

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During the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival there will be a raft of free events on offer for sailing enthusiasts including tours of the ocean racing yachts, public talks by the skippers and opportunities to meet the crews. There are also a few tickets remaining for the opportunity to race around the Whitsunday Islands on one of the Clipper yachts in the Clipper Race Day.

There are events planned right around the region as part of the carnival including the Bendigo Bank Clipper Welcome Party (free for everyone), the Whitsunday Foodservice Progressive Cruise Lunch and a Rodeo by the Reef, in Bowen.

The Whitsundays is the last stop of the All-Australian Leg of the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race and it will be the longest stopover of the 40,000 nautical mile journey around the world.

The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race is the only race of its kind and matches experienced skippers with novice sailors, who can take part in just one leg or every leg of the race, which starts and ends in Liverpool in the UK and takes in Uruguay, South Africa, Australia, China, the USA and Northern Ireland.

For more information and to book tickets please visit www.whitsundayclipperrace.com.au.

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