



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

March 2, 2018

Run to paradise!

Registrations are now open for one of the biggest mainland attractions in the Whitsundays.

The Cruise Whitsundays Airlie Beach Running Festival is now in its sixth year and attracts around 2,000 people including runners, their families and friends.

Organisers are delighted to welcome back Cruise Whitsundays for a fourth year, as Platinum Sponsor with naming rights for the 2018 festival and the Half Marathon event.

The focus of the festival, which is due to take place on Sunday, July 22, has changed slightly this year, with proceeds going towards two vital services in the region – the RACQ CQ Rescue Helicopter and the Ronald McDonald House, in Townsville.

There are a number of other local businesses sponsoring the festival and they are listed on the sponsors' page on the festival's website.

"We thank them all for their confidence in the running festival," event manager Tim McQuoid-Mason said.

"The courses are very similar to last year with the start/finish at the Port of Airlie. This venue will be supported with music, food and a jumping castle to create a festival atmosphere.

"As the marathon, half marathon, 2km and 1km events will involve several laps, the venue is an ideal spot to spectate or support the runners.

"We have also added a three-team relay event to the Half Marathon and a Corporate Team Challenge to the 5km event this year."

Tourism Whitsundays Sales & Marketing Manager Tash Wheeler said the Airlie Beach Running Festival had become one of the biggest events on the Whitsundays mainland calendar.

"The Airlie Beach Running Festival is a great event that sees the sport's best athletes running along with members of the local community and there is a fantastic atmosphere in town the whole weekend," she said.

“Many entrants add a few days either side of the running festival so they can have a holiday in the wonderful Whitsundays at the same time. What more could you ask for – a sporting event that the whole family can participate in with a stay in paradise as well!”

Registrations for the festival opened on February 28 to enable people to train and plan ahead if they require accommodation in the Whitsundays (sponsor Mantra Hotels are offering a 10 per cent discount for participants staying at Mantra Club Croc or Mantra Boathouse Apartments).

Visit www.tourismwhitsundays.com.au for your accommodation, tours and trips.

More information on the Airlie Beach Running Festival can be found at www.runairlie.com.au with regular updates on the Facebook page @runairlie.

Airlie Beach Running Festival 2018 full program:

Saturday, July 21, 2018

14:00-18:00 - Last minute manual registrations /Race number collection at Port of Airlie

Sunday, July 22, 2018

06:00 - START - Airlie Beach Marathon

06:30 - START - Cruise Whitsundays Half Marathon and Relay

07:30 - START – Mantra Hotels 10km Fun Run

09:30 - START - 5km Fun Run and Corporate Team Challenge

10:30 - START - 2km Junior Dash & Primary School Challenge (6-12 years)

11:00 - START - 1km Kids Run/Walk (under 6)

11:30 - Presentations

12:00 - END of all races

ends

More information and images:

Tim McQuoid-Mason - Event Manager

Cruise Whitsundays Airlie Beach Running Festival 2018

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