



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Record visitors expected for Bowen's Walk to the Lighthouse!

On Saturday 11th of August visitors and locals alike will gather to experience Bowen's Walk to the Lighthouse. From 3pm the annual walk will begin as the winter low tide connects North Head Island to the mainland via a sand spit dotted with Bowen's giant red starfish.

Showcasing the diversity of sea life found on the shores of Bowen, and the rich history of the town, the Walk to the Lighthouse is an exciting adventure for all ages.

The walk departs from Dalrymple Point in Bowen and takes approximately two hours winding through rocky outcrops and across sea grass flats. Upon reaching North Head Island, walkers are treated to views from one of Queensland's oldest lighthouses.

What was once a low-key tradition followed annually by Bowen locals, the Walk to the Lighthouse has become a must-do for many travellers along the Queensland Coast. In 2018 the event will be captured by Queensland Weekender and showcased to potential visitors to the Whitsundays.

Bowen Tourism and Business Chairman Jonathan Freeman said the increased interest in the event is a result of continued efforts to promote Bowen as a unique holiday destination within the Whitsundays region.

"Bowen has long been a secret spot to escape the crowds, enjoy beautiful, secluded beaches and snorkel the reef right from the shore" he said.

"Word is getting out, however, and we are excited to welcome more visitors to experience the very unique Walk to the Lighthouse and discover red starfish, sea cucumbers, green sea turtles, spotted rays and the occasional humpback whale in the distance".

Tourism Whitsundays General Manager Tash Wheeler said the event was sure to be one that would grow year on year. "My family and I did the walk last year celebrating 150 years of the lighthouse and it was absolutely brilliant. Seeing the large array of star fish and sea cucumbers on the walk was a highlight for all of us" she said.

"This year we are creating a little event where the Grand View Hotel will have some refreshments available and live music. It is the perfect location, so bring a picnic rug and after you finish the walk sit back and enjoy the sunset while listening to some live music and having a sundowner!"



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On the day local tour operator Whitsunday Paradise Explorer will be available to assist visitors by boat, to and from North Head Island, for a small fee. Seats can be booked on the day.

For those embarking on the adventure, reef boots, sunscreen, hat, water and camera are highly recommended. For more information, visit <https://www.tourismwhitsundays.com.au/see-do/whats-on/events/event/104537-walk-to-the-lighthouse>.

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