



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Australian Tourism Exchange Portal

12 May 2016

HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE WHITSUNDAYS LATELY?

Escape the cold this winter and experience warm weather and sunshine in the Whitsundays, the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, on Queensland's coast.

Home to the perfectly shaped Heart Reef, which can only be seen by seaplane or helicopter in the Whitsundays, the swirling turquoise sands of Hill Inlet and world-famous Whitehaven Beach, there are so many stunning landscapes to explore.

Flaunting seven kilometres of pristine white 98% silica sands and turquoise waters, Whitehaven Beach recently won the titles of Australia's Best Beach and Best Beach in the South Pacific in the TripAdvisor 2016 Traveller's Choice Awards.

With three such iconic Whitsundays experiences on offer and many other diverse attractions, from crocodile spotting in the Proserpine River, to reef fishing from the Bowen beaches, to rainforest Segway tours in Conway National Park on the Whitsunday Coast, there are many amazing adventures to be had in the region.

This is the perfect time of year to splash about in the aqua blue waters, and snorkel the beautiful corals and thousands of fish which inhabit the Great Barrier Reef and fringing reefs near the Whitsunday islands.

Whale season will be starting soon in the Whitsundays, with the first giant visitors expected in June as they begin their annual migration up the East Coast of Australia. Whale watching tours are available to witness mothers and their calves as they shelter in the protected waters of the Whitsunday islands for respite from their perilous journey.

And the sailing season calendar will soon be in full swing, with a number of exciting events planned for the winter months, starting with the Bowen Offshore Superboats, the Airlie Beach Race Week Festival of Sailing and the world-renowned Hamilton Island Race Week.

The Whitsundays offers some of the world's best sailing and it is incredibly easy to charter a boat and explore the Whitsunday islands, as captain of your own bareboat or in a skippered vessel. Or for something more adrenalin pumping, join a jetski or rafting tour and skim across the water in style.

Swim with thousands of brightly coloured fish and brilliant corals while snorkelling or scuba diving, and witness diverse marine life including humpback whales, dolphins, turtles and dugongs.

Soak up the tropical lifestyle and laze on one of the many uncrowded beaches or relax with a sunset cocktail. Explore the endless natural landscapes and after a great day, indulge in fresh local seafood at one of the many al-fresco restaurants.

You can find every kind of beauty, adventure and luxury in the Whitsundays.

What's New in the Whitsundays?

Heart Hotel and Gallery Whitsundays is scheduled to open in September 2016. This luxury boutique hotel features 40 stunning rooms including 20 club floor rooms, 24 hour reception, 24 hour room service, fine dining restaurant, cocktail bar, day spa and retail precinct in the heart of Airlie Beach.

Whitsunday Bliss Luxury Sailing Vessel is coming on-board soon in the Explore Whitsunday fleet. The Luxury 60' Jutson Sailing Yacht will provide a 3 day chartered cruise option for up to 6 guests.

Wings Mini 4WD Tour will take you exploring the amazing Whitsundays hinterland, with scenic trails through grasslands, wetlands, creek beds and a hill climb to a lookout. Finish with the mud pit challenge area and have a splash!

The Thundercat 1 Day Whitsundays trip offers an exhilarating ride around the Whitsundays in comfort and style. Built for stability and speed, this all inclusive trip includes two snorkel stops, two beaches and Hill Inlet lookout for the adventure of a lifetime!

To learn more about the Whitsundays region and plan your next trip to paradise, visit the website at www.tourismwhitsundays.com.au.

- ENDS -

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES, CONTACT:

Joanne Hennessy

PR & Communications Specialist

Tourism Whitsundays

Ph: 07 4948 5917 or 0417 765 736

Email: communications@wmdl.com.au