

MEDIA RELEASE



THE HEART
The Whitsundays
OF EVENTS

For Immediate Release
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Whoa Black Betty! **Spiderbait, John Schumann, Shane Howard, Ben Lee and more, join** **Airlie Beach Festival of Music line-up**

Get ready to scream that “bam-ba-lam” chorus at the top of your lungs when Spiderbait perform their classic rendition of Leadbelly’s Black Betty at the Airlie Beach Festival of Music from November 5-7.

Front-man Kram said having performed at the festival as part of the supergroup ‘Australian Rock Collective’ (ARC) in 2019, he was looking forward to getting back to The Whitsundays as Spiderbait, and promised fans the performance “will be sick”.

“Shows like this are always special for the band as well as fans – they can have a bit of magic about them (and the reef location is epic,” he said.

Joining Spiderbait on the 2021 main stage line-up and performing as a duo with their ‘Red Rockin’ Dirt Band’, are Australian icons John Schumann (Redgum) and Shane Howard (Goanna), whose respective songs I Was 19 and Solid Rock, have become enshrined in antipodean music history.

Other headline artists announced today include The Badloves, whose debut album Get on Board spent a massive 69 weeks in the charts, and Ben Lee, author of ARIA-winning hit Catch My Disease.

Festival founder, Gavin Butlin, said these were all firsts for Airlie Beach and capped off an all-Australian line-up he was proud to bring to The Whitsundays.

“Spiderbait are one of Australia’s best party bands; Shane Howard is one of this country’s best singer-songwriters, and John Schumann is amazing,” he said.

“It’s going to be a pleasure to have them at the Airlie Beach Festival of Music and I know they’ll all bring so much energy to the main tent.”

Country and rodeo fans will be pleased to see The Re-Mains joining the line-up, with repeat festival-goers set to welcome back up-and-coming artist Matty Rogers.

Completing the main stage headline artist line-up are The Angels, Rogue Traders, Bill Chambers, The Pierce Brothers and Mi-Sex.

Tourism Whitsundays Chief Executive Officer, Tash Wheeler, said the Airlie Beach Festival of Music team had promised a stellar Australian line-up, which today’s announcement delivered.

“The calibre of our Whitsundays events is so high that fear of missing out is real,” she said.

“With only 2,000 tickets to the Airlie Beach Festival of Music this year, I would urge people not to wait but book now, for what will be a boutique music experience like no other in The Whitsundays, the Heart of the Great Barrier Reef.”

Tickets cost \$300 for a three-day pass and are available via the official festival website www.airliebeachfestivalofmusic.com.au.

For more information, as well as artist opportunities including the national Passport to Airlie competition and ‘Liverpool International Song for Kindness’ contest in memory of John Lennon, follow the festival on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

For images of the artists please [click here](#).

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About Tourism Whitsundays: *Tourism Whitsundays (TW) is the organisation responsible for destination marketing and visitor attraction for the Whitsunday region. It is the lead agency recognised by Tourism and Events Queensland and the Whitsunday Regional Council to lead the promotion of the region as a tourism destination. Tourism Whitsundays markets all aspects of the region including the Great Barrier Reef, Whitsunday Islands and Coast, accommodation, boating and sailing, fishing, touring, recreational activities, adventure, dining, shopping, weddings and honeymoons, conferencing and business events.*

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