

BEST JOB IN THE WORLD BEN SOUTHALL ITINERARY

ISLANDS
OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

July to December 2009

July

With special thanks to the following operators who have supported Ben's travel during July 2009:

Hamilton Island www.hamiltonisland.com.au
 Air Whitsunday www.airwhitsunday.com.au
 Voyager www.cruisewhitsundays.com.au
 Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park www.tjapukai.com.au
 Hinterland Aviation www.hinterlandaviation.com.au
 Voyages Lizard Island www.lizardisland.com.au
 Cairns Seaplanes www.cairnsseaplanes.com.au
 Green Island www.greatadventures.com.au
 Angsana Resort & Spa www.angsana.com.au
 Palm Cove Watersports Tours www.palmcovewatersports.com
 Pangaea Boat www.mikehorn.com
 Sebel Reef House & Spa www.reefhouse.com.au
 Hayman Island www.hayman.com.au
 Fantasea Adventure Cruising www.fantasea.com.au
 Explore Whitsundays www.explorewhitsundays.com.au

Date	Experiences
1-7 July	Arrive on Hamilton Island , settle in and official welcome dinner. Visit Whitehaven Beach with Voyager , its crystal clear waters, pristine silica sand stretching over 7km along uninhabited Whitsunday Island. Meet with a ranger who will talk about the ecosystem and environment of the Islands of the Great Barrier Reef.
8 July	Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park , Cairns offers a showcase of indigenous culture, allowing guests to watch theatrical performances and engage in interactive activities, to learn the traditional culture and customs of the Tjapukai people. During the day learn how bush food is used to create medicinal remedies, learn how to play a didgeridoo, throw a traditional boomerang and spear. Enjoy a traditional performance in our Tjapukai Dance Theatre. Tjapukai by Night is a cultural evening of entertainment with a sumptuous buffet dinner. Immerse yourself in the traditions of the Aboriginal people through traditional dances, music and the telling of dreamtime legends providing a powerful and personal insight into ancient Australian culture.
8-11 July	Scenic flight over the Great Barrier Reef with Hinterland Aviation to Voyages Lizard for 3 Nights. Lizard Island is Australia's quintessential paradise island that really does have it all. For pure luxury, surrender yourself to the Azure Spa massage, followed by a dinner of scallop ceviche. For a sense of history, hike to Cook's Look for ancient aboriginal stories, links to James Cook's passage, and return via the world-

*Tourism Queensland has compiled this information in the interest of promoting Tourism in Queensland and has been assembled with all due care. Details are accurate at the time of publishing and are subject to change without notice.



	renowned research station. For adventure, grab a dinghy and gourmet picnic and discover Lizard's 24 secluded beaches. Just moments from Lizard's beaches, snorkellers are rewarded with coral gardens, brightly coloured tropical fish and giant 80-year-old clams. And just a 50-minute boat ride away, the Great Barrier Reef boasts some of the world's top dive sites, including the famous Cod Hole and the legendary Outer Great Barrier Reef.
11-13 July	Scenic flight with Cairns Seaplanes to Green Island for 2 Nights returning to the mainland with Great Adventures . Green Island is a very unique island and a National park. It is one of 300 sand cays on the Great Barrier Reef, but is the only one with a rainforest. A popular day visitor island, it is also home to Green Island Resort, a 46 room luxury, eco-sensitive resort (with Advanced Ecotourism Accreditation). The sustainable management of the island is paramount. There will be an opportunity to spend time with the island's resident Park Ranger as well as the company's Environmental Manager. Activities will include assisting lifeguard duties - Green Island is the only Great Barrier Reef island with a patrolled beach by Surf Life Saving Queensland, and evening guest activities such as star gazing.
14-16 July	Sunrise kayak tour around Double Island with Palm Cove Watersports Tours returning to the mainland to meet the SkySafari team to travel to Undine Cay by helicopter. Arrival at Undine Cay for G.H.Mumm Explorer lunch and meet the Pangaea Boat for the Mumm Explorer Experience. Enjoy a couple spa treatment in Palm Cove at Sebel Reef House & Spa
16-19 July	Hamilton Island
20-22 July	Transfer to Hayman for two nights accommodation offering a private island five star resort set in tropical surrounds featuring a diversity of flora and fauna.
22-23 July	Hamilton Island
23-25 July	Transfer to Shute Harbour from Hamilton Island with Fantasea Adventure Cruising to meet your 3 day 2 night Learn to Sail adventure around the Whitsundays with Explore Whitsundays and return to Hamilton Island on the afternoon of the 25 th with Fantasea Adventure Cruising
25-31 July	Hamilton Island





August

With special thanks to the following tourism operators who have supported Ben's travel during August 2009:

- Hamilton Island www.hamiltonisland.com.au
- Air Whitsundays www.airwhitsunday.com.au
- Queensland Rail www.traveltrain.com.au
- Australian Helicopters www.austheli.com
- Voyages Heron Island www.heronisland.com
- Voyages Wilson Island www.wilsonisland.com
- Rydges Gladstone www.rydges.com/gladstone
- Fantasea Cruises www.fantasea.com.au
- Lindeman Island www.clubmed.com.au
- Helibiz www.helibiz.com
- Descarada Charters www.descarada.com.au
- Voyages Brampton Island www.brampton-island.com

1 August

Meet the **Fantasea** launch from Hamilton Island to Shute Harbour. Fantasea provides a connection between the mainland, the Great Barrier Reef and islands, Fantasea Adventure Cruising enables visitors to explore and experience the splendor of the Whitsundays. Fantasea's fleet of comfortable, high-speed catamarans will transport you in comfort and style.

Join the 'Panorama Tour of the Whitsundays with **Air Whitsunday Seaplanes**. Air Whitsunday has been spoiling visitors to the Whitsunday region for over 35 years. Day trip to Hayman Island Resort and drink chilled cocktails poolside after partaking in a host of complimentary activities; picnic on Whitehaven Beach and recline in the crystal clear waters with turtles and rays; snorkel in a coral suspended lagoon on the Great Barrier Reef and rejuvenate in refreshing waters as you swim amongst ancient coral gardens teeming with marine life. With Air Whitsunday not only will you experience this amazing region from below sea level, you will be amazed at its magnitude from their vantage point of above sea level!

Join a hosted dinner at the **Airlie Beach Hotel**. At the Airlie Beach Hotel you are at the epi-centre of Airlie Beach – the vibrant coastal village nestled in the Whitsundays. From the hotel's front door, look one way and marvel at the majestic island and ocean views. Look the other way and you are just steps away from the village's playground of cool cafes, shops, clubs and bars. Rarely will you find quality four-star accommodation in such an exclusive location, at such an affordable price. Choose a room that suits your style of holiday, whether that is a four-star beachfront apartment or a value for money motel room. The award-winning Airlie Beach Hotel truly is the hub of the esplanade.

Later that evening depart with **Queensland Rail's Traveltrain** for an overnight experience aboard the Sunlander from Proserpine to Gladstone, staying in Queenslander class. Be mesmerised by the spectacular scenery as Queensland's picturesque coastline unfolds as you relish the comfort of a traditional train service. Comfort, flexibility and a great social atmosphere have made The Sunlander one of Australia's great overnight rail journeys.





2-4 August	<p>After arriving in Gladstone, meet the Reef Voyager launch for Heron Island and stay there for 2 nights</p> <p>Voyages Heron Island is a true coral cay located right on the Great Barrier Reef. Renowned for its world-famous diving, Heron Island boasts more than 30 dive sites, half of which are only 15 minutes from the beach. Plunge yourself into a garden of coral and fish, with snorkelling directly off the beach. Heron is renowned for its abundance of birdlife with dense Pisonia forests which are home to thousands of noddy terns and shearwater mutton birds. And after a day of island exploration, visit the Aqua Soul Spa, where you can relax and rejuvenate whilst experiencing a soothing treatment.</p>
4-6 August	<p>Spend two nights at Voyages Wilson Island</p> <p>Voyages Wilson Island is the ultimate island castaway - think Robinson Crusoe with a touch of luxury thrown in. This tiny five-acre island accommodates 12 guests in deluxe safari-style tents, surrounded by pisonia and pandanus trees, all located on the pristine Great Barrier Reef. Just as nature intended, Wilson Island is a natural coral cay, home to birdlife and Green and Loggerhead turtles. Explore Wilson on foot or discover myriad marine life with world-class snorkelling or from a glass-bottom kayak. Gourmet meals are prepared by your island hosts at the Longhouse, with canapés and champagne finishing off another perfect day.</p>
6-7 August	<p>Fly back to Gladstone with Australian Helicopters</p> <p>Overnight at Rydges Gladstone</p> <p>Gladstone's largest hotel complex is situated in the heart of Gladstone's City Centre, a perfect location with only minutes to the major retailers and service providers. The proximity is ideal to the Gladstone Harbour with ideal access to Heron Island and the Great Barrier Reef. Only 10 minutes drive to Gladstone Airport. CBD Restaurant is open 7 days a week offering a wide selection of a la carte dishes. As the largest venue in Gladstone, this is an ideal location to have a wedding as well as accommodating all guests in the one central location.</p>
7-8 August	Official duties in Brisbane
8-11 August	Hamilton Island
12-14 August	<p>Join a helicopter transfer to Fantasea Reef Sleep pontoon for two nights sleeping above the reef!</p> <p>Float above one of the 7 wonders of the world on Reefworld. Travel in style aboard our large, high speed, air-conditioned catamaran bound for Reefworld at stunning Hardy Reef - your base for exploring this natural wonder. If you think a visit to the Great Barrier Reef sounds special, try staying the night. Experience the unique peace and tranquillity of a night on the reef. With time to explore once the day-trippers have departed, you have the reef all to yourself – apart from a few million fish! Relax and check out the reef life from the comfort of the underwater viewing chamber... after dark, the reef really comes alive!</p>
14-17 August	<p>Spend 3 nights at Club Med Lindeman Island</p> <p>Lindeman Island is one of the most southern Great Barrier Reef islands in the Whitsundays region and is mostly a</p>





ISLANDS
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	<p>national park with over 20 kilometres of bushwalking tracks. Also home to Australia's first Club Med Resort, Lindeman Island has seven stunning beaches, with Gap Beach, a fantastic location for snorkelling and oystering. Dolphins can often be spotted from the shore all throughout the year. During the whale-watching season from July to November, Humpback whales can often be seen as well. Stroll through Butterfly Valley or climb Mount Oldfield which is 212 metres above sea level and experience 360 degree views of the surrounding islands: Pentecost, Hamilton and Whitsunday.</p>
17-18 August	Hamilton Island
18-19 August	Official duties
20-29 August	<p>Hamilton Island Race Week</p> <p>(Ben will be taking part in various activities and official duties for this event 27-29 August only)</p>
22-24 August	<p>Visit Voyages Brampton Island</p> <p>Voyages Brampton Island is a beautiful Whitsunday's National Park island surrounded by azure sparkling waters and boasting 12 white sandy beaches, coral gardens and an array of walking tracks - each affording spectacular views. Brampton offers a huge variety of activities, from water sports, hiking, golf and tennis, to relaxing by the two pools or hiking in the Melaleuca Forest on neighbouring Carlisle Island. Just off shore is a diverse range of fringing reefs where you can snorkel and experience what the reef has to offer. As the sun sets, continue your evening with theme nights and live entertainment.</p>
25-26 August	<p>Join the Helibiz experience.</p> <p>Just when you thought the job can't get any better - you get a chance to fly a helicopter yourself!! 74 islands, 1 Helicopter Heaven - that's what we call the Whitsundays in the aviation world. Thirty minutes of exhilarating fun, flying a R22 helicopter around the islands, even try hovering!! BAM!! WOW!! POW!! Batman's got nothing on this ride!!!!</p> <p>Overnight with DescaradA Charters</p> <p>Meet the DescaradA Charters at the Hamilton Island Marina. Pure Cruising Indulgence in the Whitsundays DescaradA's new, luxurious cruising product has arrived in the Whitsundays! This beautifully appointed 70ft motor vessel is ready to impress with exclusive service and prestige facilities, complete with enjoyable activities and culinary moments. With a maximum of eight guests in four private cabins, DescaradA delivers a more personal experience that is best described as 'Pure Cruising Indulgence'. DescaradA is spread across three levels of spacious luxury living and is fully equipped with a high speed 9 seat tender, inflatable rigid dingy, two jet skis, two kayaks, dive tank fill station and a minimum crew of three to see to the guests' every need. DescaradA Charters offers both ready planned two-day and three-day tours and private charters.</p>
26 August – 4 September	Hamilton Island (including Hamilton Island Race Week activities)



September

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Hamilton Island www.hamiltonisland.com.au
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority www.gbrmpa.gov.au
Grand Mercure Apartments Townsville <link www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-6488-grand-mercure-apartments-townsville/index.shtml>
Reef HQ Aquarium www.reefhq.com.au
Calypso Adventure www.calypsodive.com
Coral Sea Kayaking Tours www.coralseakayaking.com
Hinchinbrook Island www.hinchinbrooklodge.com.au
Bungalow Bay Koala Village www.bungalowbay.com.au
Adrenalin Dive www.adrenalindive.com.au
Yongala Dive www.yongaladive.com.au
Rose Bay Resort www.rosebayresort.com.au/index.html
Aussie Reef Dive www.aussiereefdive.com.au
Fantasea Adventure Cruising www.fantasea.com.au
Coral Sea Eco Jet Safari www.coralseaecojetsafari.com.au
Big 4 Adventure Whitsunday Resort www.adventurewhitsunday.com.au
Whitsunday Great Walk
www.epa.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests/great_walks/whitsunday.html
Whitsunday Sailing Adventures www.whitsundaysailingadventures.com.au
Peppers Palm Bay, Long Island www.peppers.com.au/Paml-Bay
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service www.epa.qld.gov.au
Airlie Beach Hotel www.airliebeachhotel.com.au
Cruise Indigo www.cruiseindigo.com.au
Air Whitsunday Seaplanes www.airwhitsundayseaplanes.com.au

5-7 September

Drive to Townsville and stay at the **Grand Mercure Apartments Townsville**. Situated amidst Townsville's restaurant and dining hub in Palmer Street and immediately next door to the well-known Sugatrain Restaurant, Grand Mercure Apartments is ideally located, close to the best shopping, dining and entertainment Townsville has to offer. The 106 room property features a combination of fully self-contained apartments and stylish hotel rooms which can be converted into two bedroom apartments with convenient dual access. The property is equipped with all the deluxe 4.5 star standards and facilities you would expect, such as quality interiors, bedding and linen, swimming pool and spa, fully equipped gymnasium, high speed broadband access in rooms, and 24 hour room service. The Magnetic Island Ferry terminal, Reef HQ, the Casino, CBD boutique shopping precinct, and Townsville's famous Strand and night markets are all just a short stroll from your apartment.

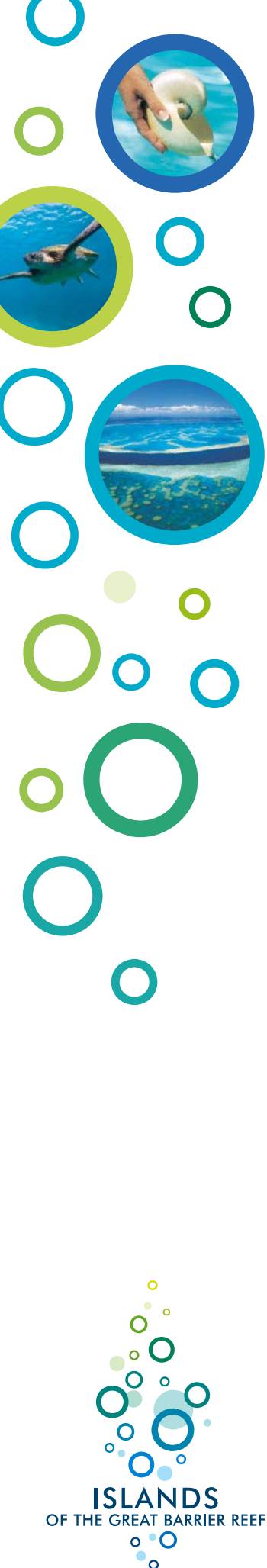
Visit the **Reef HQ Aquarium**. Reef HQ Aquarium is the world's largest living coral reef aquarium and is listed as one of Queensland's "Must Do" experiences. As the National Education Centre for the Great Barrier Reef, the mission of Reef HQ Aquarium is "to provide the best Great Barrier Reef Aquarium experience through education, inspiration and entertainment." Reef HQ Aquarium provides people of all ages and physical abilities with an opportunity to experience the amazing Great Barrier Reef. The underwater viewing tunnel, large observation windows and unique array of living exhibits allow visitors to get up close to the animals and plants that call the Great Barrier Reef home 'without getting wet'. Reef HQ Aquarium is proud to be recognised as an Advanced Eco-Certified operator with Ecotourism Australia. Reef HQ has been recognised on many occasions as being a tourism



	<p>industry leader that ensures a high quality reef experience to all who visit and enjoy the beauty and wonder of the Great Barrier Reef.</p>
<p>8-10 September</p>	<p>Visit Hinchinbrook Island with Calypso Adventures.</p> <p>Kayak around the island with Coral Sea Kayaking Tours. Coral Sea Kayaking is run by David & Atlanta, based in South Mission Beach. They have nearly 40 years, joint adventure guiding experience, leading trips across three continents. They run real, eco-friendly sea kayaking trips to the National Park Islands within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park exploring and totally appreciating the stunning natural beauty of this region. Paddling amongst these islands and camping on their pristine beaches can be relaxing or challenging depending on the conditions. Hinchinbrook Island's spectacular east coast offers a true wilderness adventure experience and great wildlife viewing including turtles, dugong, white breasted sea eagles and other sea birds.</p> <p>Spending time with the REAL Caretaker of Hinchinbrook Island. The Wilderness Lodge is now closed from an accommodation point of view, and will reopen June 2010. The Main Lodge Bar and pool area remains open for day guest visitors on our day tour cruise which we continue to operate from Port Hinchinbrook. Our cruise is one of Queensland's best! PERFECT PEACEFUL PRIVATE PARADISE. Far from just a ferry ride, Hinchinbrook Resorts and Cruises offer a spectacular scenic wilderness experience. You can visit just for a day, or stay a night or a week at the mainland waterside location of Port Hinchinbrook Resort and Marina. Hinchinbrook Island is part of a largely-undisturbed stretch of Queensland's coastline, a National Park and World Heritage listings have ensured that the island remains one of the great wilderness areas left on the Australian coast. The Day Cruise takes you to several unique locations on this magnificent island national park. Throughout the full day tour (9am-5pm) the Skipper and crew make special effort to provide informative commentary about the ecology and history of this very special island.</p>
<p>10-12 September</p>	<p>Spend a couple of days on Magnetic Island visiting Bungalow Bay Koala Village and take part in the Australia YHA Wildlife Volunteer Program. "Sleep with a Koala and wake up with a salt water Crocodile" at Bungalow Bay Koala Village on Magnetic island, Australia's premiere Backpacker Hostel with a difference. This Eco Accredited island resort caters to the budget traveller without crimping on the great service and unbelievable facilities. The reason this hostel won the 2007 Australian Tourism Awards for Best Backpackers resides in it's stylish A frame Bungalows, seven acres of landscaped grounds and it's own very own Koala Sanctuary on site complete with real Aussie rangers to interpret all the environments that make up this world Heritage listed island on the Great Barrier Reef.</p> <p>Diving tour with Adrenalin Dive. Offering live-aboard trips, PADI dive courses and the only day trips from Townsville to the outer reefs and the best dive in OZ the SS Yongala Wreck, Adrenalin Dive is the regions premier dive operation. Both live-aboard and day vessels operate with a maximum of just 20 passengers you won't find the usual hustle and bustle of larger carrying vessels. We travel further out to sea, to find pristine, often untouched sites to offer our guests a truly</p>

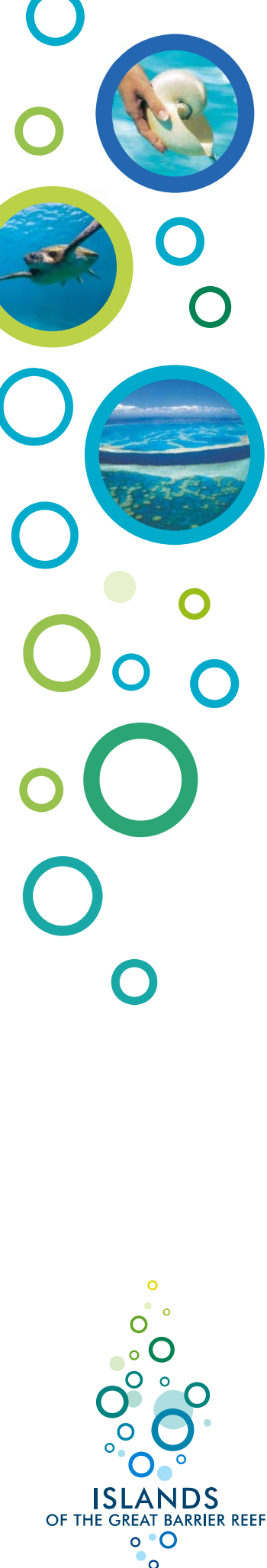
ISLANDS
OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF





	<p>unique reef ECO experience. Adrenalin Dive is a PADI 5 star training facility, are commitment to quality dive training, dive trips, and the protection of our environment has established us in the dive industry. Because we are committed to protecting our natural environment, our day trips are ECO Certified by ECO Tourism Australia. We strive to exceed our guests' expectation of their visit with us. Our Experienced, Professional and friendly crew work hard to ensure your stay with us is safe, comfortable and lots of fun.</p>
<p>12-16 September</p>	<p>Travel from Townsville to Alva Beach and checkout the reef with Yongala Dive, spending the night at Yongala Divers Lodge. The wreck of the S.S.Yongala has been underwater for almost 100 years and observing the size of some of the resident Queensland Grouper, they may have even witnessed the sinking! Yes, everything is bigger, more abundant and concentrated on the wreck than most dive sites anywhere. From 20m Humpback Whales, Whale Sharks, Mantas, Bullsharks, Groupers and huge pelagics down to the most exquisite soft corals and nudibranchs this dive can deliver something for everyone. YONGALA DIVE, located at picturesque Alva Beach are the Yongala specialists, just a fun, fast ½ hour ride to the wreck and diving dreams do come true.</p> <p>Head to the town of Bowen, staying at Rose Bay Resort. Nestled in a secluded beach away from the rest of the world, ROSE BAY RESORT offers a perfect getaway to relax and enjoy the peace and tranquility. Situated on absolute waterfront with unsurpassed sea and island views over sparkling turquoise waters, you will be totally mesmerized by the proximity of the ocean. With only a few footsteps, you will find yourself on the beach, snorkeling, fishing or just relaxing. The 4 1/2 star 1 and 2 bedroom apartments are fully air conditioned with modern beach furniture. Austar, Digital TV, and DVD's will keep the children happy when they are not enjoying the beach or Resort pool. Blessed with a tropical climate of sunshine filled days, Bowen is perfectly located within a relaxing 45 minute drive to Airlie Beach, the gateway to the 74 magical Whitsunday Islands and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.</p> <p>Visit Coral Cove Apartments - Modern, spacious, self contained, fully air conditioned and available with one, two or three bedrooms. They offer luxury accommodation at an absolute beachfront location, making it the ideal site for a relaxing and tranquil weekend getaway or an extended holiday stay. Just step from your apartment onto the beach and enjoy a swim, snorkel or dive on the reef just metres away, fish or just laze on the tropical sand. Come and enjoy the fabulous sunsets over the Coral Sea as Ben did on his Bowen visit.</p> <p>Scuba Dive with Aussie Reef Dive. "Aussie Reef Dive www.aussiereefdive.com.au delivers only the best in personalised, high quality diving services. We offers live, unspoilt, fringing reefs consisting of beautiful coral and reef fish right off our clean white sand beaches. Shore diving is our speciality and this ensures a relaxed and comfortable dive experience for both experienced and beginners alike. We are a PADI Dive Resort and also offer quality 4 star self catering accommodation. No boat trips to pay for, just walk in off our beaches into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park to experience our underwater paradise normally only seen much further offshore. Scuba and snorkelling gear rentals available. We</p>

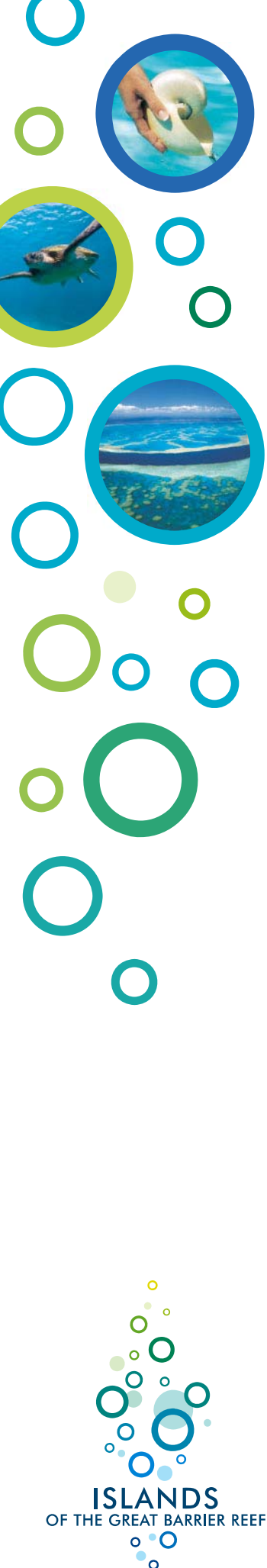




	are located in Bowen, an undiscovered tropical paradise. Situated in the Whitsundays, it is surrounded on 2 sides by the sea. Its beaches are outstandingly beautiful with crystal clear waters and clean white sand. Come share our paradise."
16-19 September	Hamilton Island
19-20 September	<p>Depart Hamilton Island with Fantasea Adventure Cruising for Shute Harbour and transfer from Shute Harbour to Hydeaway Bay for a day experiencing Coral Sea Eco Jet Safari. The half Day safari includes a ride on your own Jet Ski to see the environment up close and personal with guided tours around the beautiful Edgecumbe and Hydeaway Bay. Encounter wildlife in their natural environment and experience the wonders of the mainland reefs. There is an opportunity to see Turtles, Dolphins, Whales, Dugongs, Tropical fish. Enjoy a sumptuous lunch at Cape Gloucester Eco Resort Relax with a drink and take in the beautiful views or spectacular sunsets.</p> <p>Early evening arrive at Big 4 Adventure Whitsunday Resort for 2 night's accommodation. The multi award winning BIG4 Adventure Whitsunday Resort located in beautiful Airlie Beach is a gateway to the magical Whitsunday Islands and Great Barrier Reef. Whether you're a family looking for a fun-filled holiday destination, a couple who love the freedom of caravanning, or an adventure traveller chasing a touch of luxury, you'll just love what we've got to offer. We've built our reputation on providing a holiday experience that is truly memorable ... fun, friendly, relaxed and welcoming with the very best standard of accommodation and resort facilities that are sure to delight.</p> <p>Early Sunday morning transfer to Airlie Beach lagoon to Run the Whitsunday Great Walk. Taking you on a 28km journey through Conway State Forest, starting at Brandy Creek, and finishing at Airlie Beach. Highlights of the Whitsunday Great Walk include wandering through majestic tropical rainforest, relaxing by seasonal creeks, and looking beyond coastal townships to the Whitsunday Islands.</p>
21-22 September	On Monday morning join the team at the Whitsunday Times (the regions local newspaper) for a day working as a cadet journalist
22-25 September	Meet the team at Whitsunday Sailing Adventures and join the Emperor's Wings with 2 full days of diving the Outer Great Barrier Reef and Whitsunday Islands. The Emperors Wings is a fast, stable, new dive cat visiting Whitehaven Beach followed by 2 full days of diving the Outer Great Barrier Reef and Whitsunday Islands. Experienced dive crew will share their knowledge with PADI specialty courses for certified divers, including PADI underwater digital photography with camera equipment for hire on board. PC systems and LCD screens allow on board photo editing and entertaining slide shows in the fully air-conditioned interior and spacious saloon. End the perfect days diving in our heated Jacuzzi under the mesmerizing southern stars. Whitsunday Sailing Adventures presents an extensive range of sailing adventures around the Whitsunday Islands and the Great Barrier Reef marine park. Our fleet of vessels offers sailing holidays to suit individuals, couples and groups who want to sail, dive, snorkel, explore, or simply relax. We also cater for private charters, team building events and corporate functions.

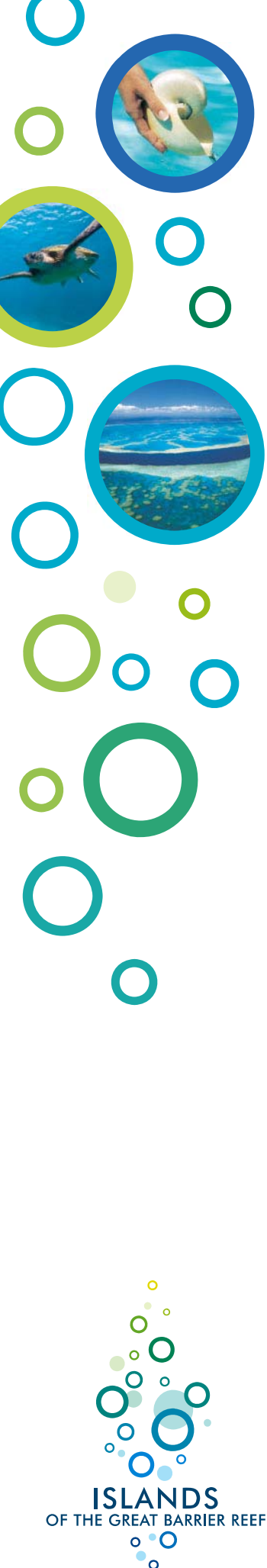
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<p>25-27 September</p>	<p>Staying at Peppers Palm Bay, Long Island. Located amidst the turquoise waters of the Whitsundays lies Peppers Palm Bay, an intimate and secluded tropical retreat. The ideal getaway for a romantic escape or honeymoon, Peppers Palm Bay Whitsundays is exclusive and intimate with only 21 bures, cabins and bungalows scattered along or near the beachfront of Long Island. From the hammock of your private balcony, look out across the water at uninterrupted views of other Whitsunday Isles. Pack a gourmet picnic lunch and speed off in your own boat to discover the secluded beaches of Long Island's National Park. Grab a snorkel and explore the underwater world of the reef, or be pampered with beauty and massage treatments at Endota day spa. There are numerous excursions available to see the reef by sea or from the air and it's reassuring to know that you'll be coming back to your own intimate retreat at the end of the day. If you want to experience the charms of the Whitsundays without the crowds, then Peppers Palm Bay is for you.</p>
<p>27-29 September</p>	<p>Pickup by 'Scamper' with Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service for an overnight 'Under the Stars' camping experience on a deserted Whitsunday Island with the following day helping out the QPWS team with their Parker Ranger duties for the day.</p> <p>Following your park ranger activities, spend the night back at Blue Pearl, Hamilton Island.</p>
<p>29-30 September</p>	<p>Experience a day out with local character, chef and fisherman, Kevin Collins - catching mud crabs and fishing in some of the best kept secret spots in the Whitsundays. Once you have caught enough for a feast, Kevin and yourself will head into the Fish D'vine kitchen, cook up a storm, and then enjoy their day's catch with a few lazy rums at the Rum Bar (there's over 140 to choose from!)</p> <p>Spend the night on the mainland at Airlie Beach Hotel. At the Airlie Beach Hotel you are at the epicentre of Airlie Beach – the vibrant coastal village nestled in the Whitsundays. From the hotel's front door, look one way and marvel at the majestic island and ocean views. Look the other way and you are just steps away from the village's playground of cool cafes, shops, clubs and bars.</p>
<p>30 September – 5 October</p>	<p>Spend the following nights at Blue Pearl, Hamilton Island. During these days Ben will also have media engagements and interviews with various international journalists from the UK and Nordic countries as well as TV crew from Hong Kong, where Ben will be joining them on Cruise Indigo and experience a scenic seaplane flight with Air Whitsunday Seaplanes. Cruise Indigo, Hamilton Island's premier day cruise operator, offering a variety of tours throughout the Whitsunday Islands. We can cater from two people to one hundred people on our two stylish vessels, each with their own individual characteristics. Air Whitsunday has been spoiling visitors to the Whitsunday region for over 35 years. Day trip to Hayman Island Resort and drink chilled cocktails poolside after partaking in a host of complimentary activities; picnic on Whitehaven Beach and recline in the crystal clear waters with turtles and rays; snorkel in a coral suspended lagoon on the Great Barrier Reef and rejuvenate in refreshing waters as you swim amongst ancient coral gardens teeming with marine life. With Air Whitsunday not only will you experience this amazing region from below sea level, you will be amazed at its magnitude from their vantage point of above sea level!</p>





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October

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- Hamilton Island www.hamiltonisland.com.au
- Avis www.avis.com.au
- Keswick Island Guesthouse www.keswickislandguesthouse.com.au
- Mantra Pavillions Mirage on 1770 www.pavillionsresort.com.au
- 1770 LARC tours www.1770larc.com.au
- 1770 Liquid Adventures www.1770liquidadventures.com.au
- Scooter Roo Tours www.scooterrootours.com
- Lady Musgrave Cruises www.lmcruises.com.au
- Hinkler Hall of Fame www.hinklerhalloffaviation.com.au
- The Bundaberg Barrel www.bundaberg-brew.com.au
- Bundaberg Rum Distillery www.bundaberg.com.au
- Manta Bargara www.mantabargara.com.au
- Peppers Pier Resort www.peppers.com.au/Pier-Resort
- Voyager www.cruisewhitsundays.com
- Daydream Island www.daydreamisland.com
- Villa Botanica www.villabotanica.com.au
- Horn Island www.torres.qld.gov.au/tourism/hornisland
- Heli Biz www.helibiz.com.au
- Whitsundays Reef Festival www.whitsundayreeffestival.com.au/reeffestival
- Skydive Airlie Beach www.skydiveairliebeach.com.au
- Waters Edge Resort www.watersedgewhitsundays.com.au
- Daydream Island www.daydreamisland.com
- Longreach www.outbackholidays.info
- Cobb and Co station <http://kinnonandco.com.au>
- Stockman's Hall of Fame www.outbackheritage.com.au
- Agricultural College www.agriculturalcollege.qld.edu.au
- Qantas Founders Museum www.qfom.com.au
- School of Air www.queenslandholidays.com.au/things-to-see-and-do/longreach-school-of-distance-education/index.cfm
- Proserpine www.whitsundaytourism.com/places_to_visit/proserpine.cfm
- Vertical Adventures www.verticaladventures.com.au
- GBR Helicopter Group www.qbrhelicopter.com.au
- Black Country Bliss Adventure's Michaela Flood www.backcountryblissadventures.com.au
- Daintree Discovery Centre www.daintree-rec.com.au/centre.html
- Jungle Surfing Tour www.jundlesurfing.com.au
- Paradise Palms Resort www.paradisepalms.com.au
- Daintree National Park <http://www.queenslandholidays.com.au/destinations/tropical-north-queensland/places-to-visit/mossman-gorge-daintree-national-park/#>
- Salsa Bar & Grill www.salsaportdouglas.com.au
- Hilton Cairns www.cairns.hilton.com
- Tony's Island Adventures www.tonysislandadventures.com.au
- Jardine Motel www.jardinemotel.com.au
- Barrier Air <http://barrieraviation.bigpondhosting.com>
- Poruma Island Resort <http://www.ozhorizons.com.au/hotels/qld/cairns/poruma-island-resort>
- Barrier Air charter flight <http://barrieraviation.bigpondhosting.com/>
- Lowatta Lodge http://www.tropicalaustralia.com.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/29644/Aboriginal__and__T.I_Brochure.pdf
- Cairns Convention Centre <link www.cairnsconvention.com.au

5-6 October

Catch a **Fantasea** ferry to shute harbour and pickup your **Avis** rental vehicle for a self drive down the coast to the city of Mackay.

Transfer from Mackay by plane to Keswick Island, a 530 hectare national park of bushland, with five deserted white

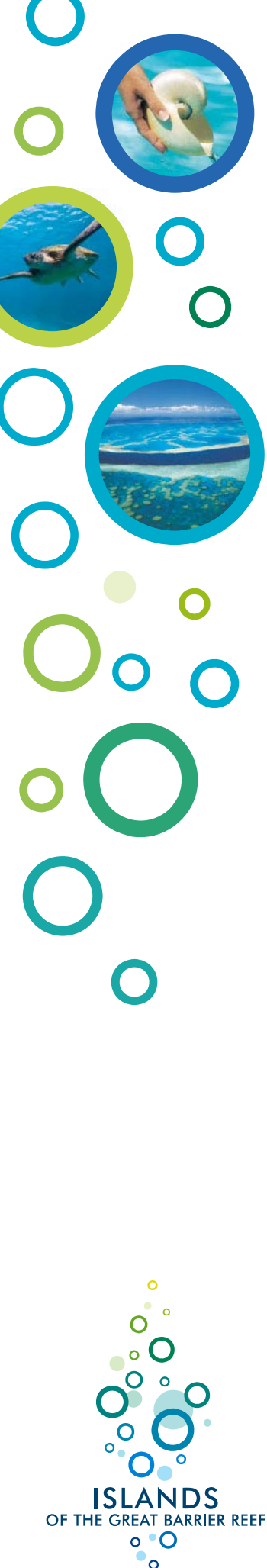




	sandy beaches and coral reefs. Natural plants and animals live in its reefs and forests. Just off the North Queensland coast, 32kms from the city of Mackay, Keswick Island is 'island life at its basic best!' Keswick Island Guest House is the perfect retreat for those wanting peace, beauty, serenity and nature. Brian and Lyn Kinderman are two of only about 12 residents on the island. The guesthouse is a paradise with just four ensuite rooms, guest library, huge deck and gourmet meals and snacks.
7-8 October	Official duties in Brisbane
7-10 October	<p>Fly from Brisbane to Bundaberg and transfer to the Town of 1770. Check into Mantra Pavillions Mirage on 1770 Perfectly situated opposite the beachfront and just minutes from Agnes Water, Mantra Pavillions Mirage on 1770 provides the perfect base to explore the Discovery Coast and experience the natural beauty of the surrounding national parks and the great wonders of this stretch of coastline. Mantra Pavillions Mirage on 1770 offers spacious one, two and three bedroom apartments which were designed with sea breezes and warm morning sunshine in mind with large balconies and barbecues. Leisure facilities include a heated plunge pool and spa, a 25m lap pool, children's wading pool, guest lounge, barbecue facilities, landscaped gardens and direct beach access just 80m away, Tour Desk and more, allowing guests to take advantage of all that this secluded beachside paradise has to offer. As the closest departure point for the Southern Great Barrier Reef, the region is also the ideal base from which to explore Lady Musgrave and Lady Elliot Islands, and enjoy the northern-most surf beaches on Australia's eastern seaboard.</p> <p>Enjoy the LARC! Afternoon Cruise the sun approaches the horizon signaling the end of another beautiful day, experience the peaceful solitude and changing moods of our tropical paradise. This one hour cruise takes in the magic of Round Hill creek and Eurimbula National Park with its wildlife and magnificent views. It is the perfect way to experience the delights of 1770 and the thrill of our unique amphibious vessels.</p> <p>In the afternoon join the Scooter Roo Tour experience an exhilarating ride, spotting wallabies and kangaroos, then enjoy sunset over the ocean in the dream location in the Town of 1770.</p> <p>On the morning of Friday 9th October board the Spirit of 1770 for a full day tour exploring Lady Musgrave Island with Lady Musgrave Barrier Reef Cruises and the surrounding reef. Lady Musgrave Island and Lagoon is a true coral cay situated only 32 nautical miles from the Town of 1770. Lady Musgrave National Park is a tropical paradise abundant in pisonia forests and bird life. The island is set on 3000 acres of living reef with a deepwater coral lagoon which is unique to the entire Great Barrier Reef region. Our vessel enters the calm waters of the lagoon. This provides a protected haven for all age groups to explore the wonders of a living reef eco-system and the colourful variety of marine life all in one great day!</p>

ISLANDS
OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

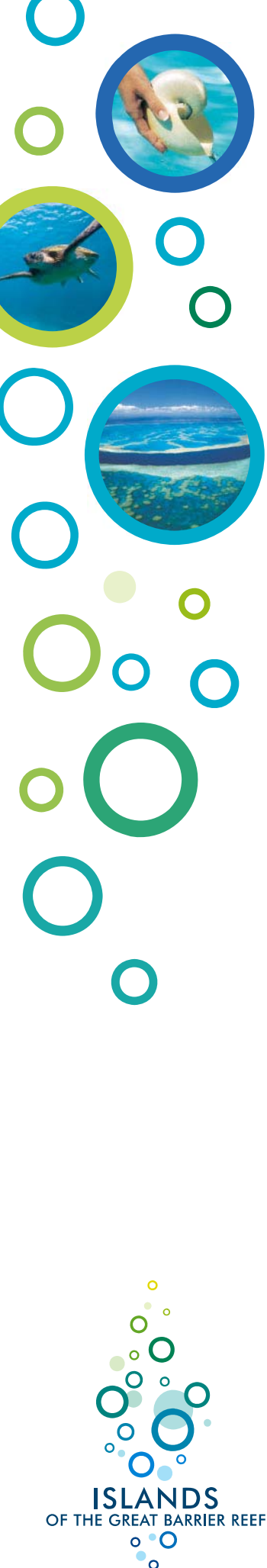




<p>10-11 October</p>	<p>While in Bundaberg visit the Hinkler Hall of Fame; The Bundaberg Barrel and Bundaberg Rum Distillery.</p> <p>Spend the night at Manta Bargara Resort offering luxury five star absolute beachfront holiday accommodation in the idyllic blue seaside setting of Bargara Beach. Situated at the southern tip of the Great Barrier Reef and just minutes from the largest concentration of nesting marine turtles on the eastern Australian mainland at Mon Repos Beach.</p>
<p>11-12 October</p>	<p>Travel to Hervey Bay and stay at Peppers Pier Resort Located opposite the famous pier on Urangan Beach, Peppers Pier Resort provides a unique vantage point from which to enjoy all the natural wonders of Hervey Bay. The resort provides the perfect sanctuary to de-stress and enjoy a seaside village holiday. Spend the following morning on a whale watching cruise with Blue Dolphin Marine Tours Hervey Bay's only sail whale watch vessel. We are also the smallest in the fleet at just 10.5m in length. Most of the whales we see are 10 to 13 metres in length and 30 tonnes or more, that over 5 times our weight. So when you see a whale from Blue Dolphin you really see a whale! With a small number of passengers an unforgettable and intimate experience awaits you.</p>
<p>12-13 October</p>	<p>Official duties in Brisbane.</p>
<p>13-16 October</p>	<p>Hamilton Island.</p>
<p>16-17 October</p>	<p>Meet with Heli Biz to take a scenic flight over the Whitsundays as well as instruction on how to fly a helicopter. Helibiz was launched to expand the helicopter sales business at Whitsunday Airport taking into account the natural beauty of the Whitsunday's as a draw card for flight demonstration flights and training. Helibiz has been an Australian ROBINSON Distributor since 1997 and has expanded their Robinson Dealership to include engineering service centres, commercial and private helicopter training schools, helicopter display showroom and pilot supplies and accessories, together with a large Robinson parts centre. Attend various Reef festival events as the official celebrity ambassador for the Whitsunday Reef Festival.</p> <p>On the 17th, experience Skydive Airlie Beach. The ultimate adrenalin rush with the ultimate view, Skydive Airlie is a 2/3 hour activity with free local pick ups, operated by a highly professional crew that have thousands of jumps each. All you have to do is have fun! In the afternoon, marshal for the Whitsunday Reef Festival - Street Parade. You will be the official celebrity ambassador for the Whitsunday Reef Festival.</p> <p>Spend 2 nights at Water's Edge Resort. It is nestled in the hillside, 100m from Airlie Beach, the property providing the ultimate 4.5 star relaxing holiday experience. It exudes style, sophistication and refinement. Professional and personalised service, breathtaking location with exquisite Balinese decor and luxurious surroundings.</p>
<p>18-19 October</p>	<p>Travel and stay at Daydream Island to experience a full day of resort activities, including mini golf, parasailing, banana boat ride, volley ball competition. Just five kms from mainland, it features an open air cinema, a variety of water sports, snorkelling, scuba diving, coral viewing, reef fishing and more! With new furnishings and fitting, it has all the luxuries that you would expect from a resort of this standard.</p>

ISLANDS
OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF





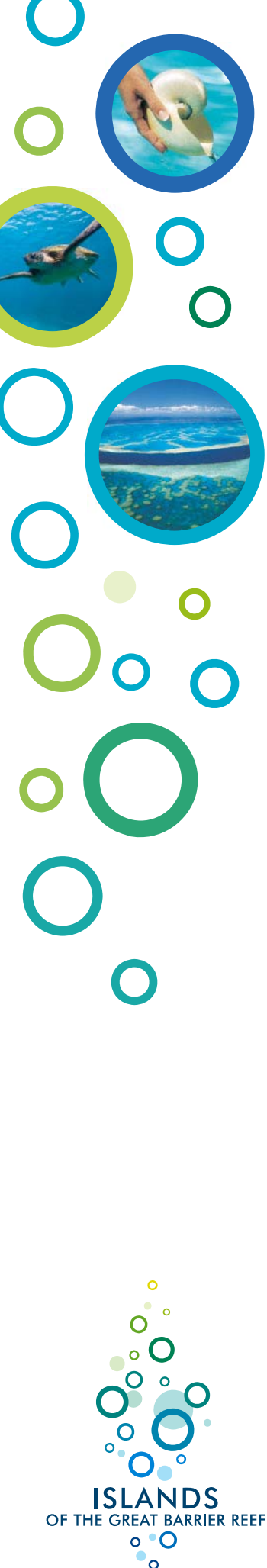
19 October	Hamilton Island.
	Arrive at Longreach . Smoko at Cobb and Co station . In the 19th century Cobb & Co. stagecoaches transported passengers, parcels and mail in every mainland colony. Longreach was a major hub for Cobb & Co in Queensland, but also played a part in the demise of the stagecoach. Lunch at Stockman's Hall of Fame . The Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre is dedicated to the story of these unsung heroes, the men and women who opened up outback Australia. Outback Australia was conquered by pinoneers who gave up the comfort of coastal settlement to carve a new life in the unknown interior of this vast continent.
	Muster Cattle at Australian Agricultural College . The campus was originally set up as Queensland's first rural training school, being 3.5 kilometres east of Longreach. There are about 7500 sheet, 1500 meat goats and 100 head of beef cattle. The campus specialises in training for: beef cattle production, horse breeding, sheep and wool, goat production, farm production. Visit the Qantas Founders Museum . In 1998, in the middle of a extreme drought and a recession in agricultural commodities, a public meeting held in Longreach unanimously endorsed the concept of erecting a museum to house the people and places involved in the foundation of Qantas and to record the history of the time. The museum is an initiative of the people of western Queensland.
	Accommodation for Ben & Bre at Albert Park Motor Inn. The Albert Park Motor Inn is one of the finest quality establishments in western Queensland, with 56 spacious four star rooms, the Oasis Restaurant and Bar, resort style pool complex and a modern Conference and Function Centre. It has extensive landscaped grounds with abundant local fauna and flora.
21 October	Breakfast at School of the Air to give a 'lesson' on Great Barrier Reef. Join Cobb & Co coach for the Great Outback Riverboat Race on the Thompson River. Visit and sheep mustering Crossmoor Station, outside Longreach. Visit and overnight at Muttaborra - dinosaur country and the geographical centre of Queensland.
22 October	Depart Muttaborra and charter aircraft to Proserpine. Tour of Proserpine . Official duties and overnight at Villa Botanica . Breathtaking is the only word for Villa Botanica, Australia's most exquisite and exclusive wedding venue; an enchanted place where your most magical day becomes an unforgettable experience you'll treasure for life.
23-24 October	Hamilton Island
25-26 October	Take Vertical Adventures helicopter flight from Cairns to Bow Bay. Vertical Adventures has been founded to combine the local knowledge and aviation experience of with the leadership of the boutique eco-adventure guiding company "Back Country Bliss Adventures" to bring to you a truly unique series of adventure touring experiences.
	Pick up by Black Country Bliss Adventure's Michaela Flood and transfer to Daintree Discovery Centre. Our boutique eco-adventure guiding organisation started in 2004 by Barnaby Marris and Michaela Flood. They aim to provide a unique style of personalised adventure tour for the discerning guest to the area. Tour and lunch at the Daintree Discovery Centre . The is a world class interpretive facility that allows visitors easy access to this unique rainforest wilderness via boardwalk tours, a 23 metre high Canopy Tower, Aerial Walkway and comprehensive Display Centre.





	<p>Take a Jungle Surfing Tour. Fly with the birds and tree kangaroos, as you glide up through and above the rainforest canopy along a series of Flying Fox cables or Zip Lines. Stand or sit and wonder at the many levels of this ancient rainforest on viewing platforms high in the towering trees. Overnight at Paradise Palms Resort. Paradise Palms Resort and Country Club is a 4.5star , 96 room golf course accommodation set on 126 hectares and is framed by rainforest covered mountains with a picturesque undulating landscape affording panoramic ocean views.</p> <p>On the 26th, arrive at Daintree National Park to explore Mossman Gorge. Lunch at Salsa Bar & Grill. Salsa Bar & Grill has developed a reputation for having great food and fantastic service. The restaurant relocated to a Tropical North Queensland from Macrossan Street in 2000. Overnight at Hilton Cairns. The Hilton Cairns overlooks the Trinity Inlet and is located just a short walk from the city centre and next to the Reef Casino.</p>
27-28 October	<p>Transfer to Horn Island and take the Horn Island 'In Their Steps' WW2 Tour. This tour is the only one of it's kind in Australia, combining WW2 history and Torres Strait Island life. Horn Island is the only place in Australia where indigenous and non indigenous came together in such numbers for a common goal – the defence of Australia. Enjoy lunch with Tony's Island Adventures. Explore Torres Strait and Thursday Island with local Tony Titasey who draws on his thousand year seafaring ancestry in doing what he loves best: fishing and meeting people. Overnight at Jardine Hotel. This beachfront location gives spectacular views across the Strait to Horn and Prince of Wales Islands.</p> <p>On the 28th, take a Barrier Air charter flight to Poruma (Coconut) Island. A full day of activities on Poruma Island including traditional dancing, feasting with locals, fishing with locals. Overnight at Poruma Island Resort. Poruma Island offers outstanding accommodation, pristine, deserted beaches and dazzling colours. See a side of Australia that few Australians know about. Luxury is a hallmark of the accommodation, and interaction with the locals adds immeasurably to the total experience.</p>
29-30 October	<p>Barrier Air charter flight to Masig (Yorke) Island. Afternoon of activities on Masig Island such as traditional dancing, feasting with locals, fishing with locals. Yorke Island, traditionally known as Masig, is a coral cay, about three kilometers long and 800 metres at its widest point in the west-central Torres Strait. Overnight at Lowatta Lodge. Lowatta Lodge offers self-contained cabins set in a delightful tropical garden.</p>
31 October	<p>In the evening, attend the 2009 Tourism Tropical North Queensland Awards at Cairns Convention Centre.</p>





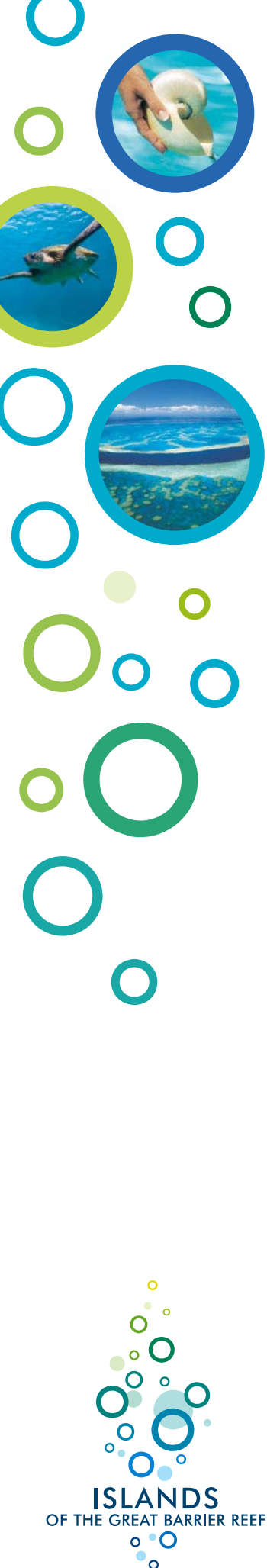
November

With special thanks to the Tourism operators who have supported Ben's travel during November 2009

- Hamilton Island www.hamiltonisland.com.au
- Orpheus Island www.orpheus.com.au
- Voyages Dunk Island www.dunk-island.com
- Voyages Bedarra island www.bedarraisland.com
- Hinterland Aviation www.hinterlandaviation.com.au
- The Coral Princess Vessel www.coralprincess.com.au
- Kookaburra Tours and Charters www.kookaburratours.com.au
- Elandra Mission Beach www.elandraresorts.com
- Pullman Reef Hotel Casino www.reefcasino.com.au
- Hot Air Cairns www.hotair.com.au
- Pullman Reef Hotel Casino www.reefcasino.com.au
- Conrad Jupiters www.conrad.com.au
- Paradise Bay Eco Escape www.paradisebay.com.au
- Fantasea www.fantasea.com.au
- Cruise Whitsundays www.cruisewhitsundays.com
- Long Island Resort www.longislandresort.com.au
- Aviation Adventures www.av8.com.au
- Descarda Charters www.descarada.com.au
- Pride of Airlie www.prideofairlie.com
- Koala Adventure Island Resort www.southmolleisland.com.au
- Maxi Ragamuffin www.maxiaction.com.au

<p>1–2 November</p>	<p>Hot air ballooning tour with Hot Air Cairns early morning. Experience the fun and unique sensation of being in a hotair balloon flying gently high above the Ahterton Tablelands, Austalia. Transfer to Dunk Island with Hinterland Aviation. Hinterland Aviation specialises in personalised air charters throughout Australia and the South Pacific. With over 20 years' experience we are one of North Queensland's most experienced charter companies. Transfer to The Coral Princess Vessel. Coral Princess Cruises operate two modern, expedition style cruise ships on three, four and seven night Great Barrier Reef and island cruises between Townsville and Lizard Island. The cruises offer unique, intimate and educational soft adventure, expedition-style experiences. Overnight on the vessel.</p> <p>On the 2nd enjoy a cruise amongst the scenic Family Group of Islands, the only tropical islands on the Australian coast. Discover Coral Princess Cruises' very own tropical island, Pelorus. Overnight on the vessel.</p>
<p>3–4 November</p>	<p>Disembark at Breakwater Terminal Townsville. Transfer to Orpheus Island and overnight accommodation at Orpheus Island Resort. Orpheus Island Resort is an exclusive retreat surrounded by 1,300 hectares of national park. All guest accommodation is located on the beachfront surrounded by lush tropical gardens and only a short stroll from the multi award-winning restaurant.</p> <p>On the 4th, spend the day doing day activities on the Island e.g. snorkeling trip, dingy lunch and wine and cheese tasting. Overnight at Orpheus Island Resort.</p>
<p>5–6 November</p>	<p>Transfer to Townsville Airport and take Kookaburra Tours and Charters to the Elandra Mission. Kookaburra Tours & Charters pride ourselves on providing legendary hospitality and experiences through expert commentary, interpretation and story telling on our great part of Australia. Overnight at The Elandra Mission Beach, which is a boutique resort which</p>





	houses 55 creatively designed rooms, nestled in amongst the lush tropical rainforest.
	On the 6th, spend the day at Dunk Island . Dunk Island was known to the first inhabitants as 'Coonanglebah' - the isle of peace and plenty. Today, the palm-fringed beaches and lush rainforests of this tropical island are ideal for those who want to enjoy time out or the time of their lives. Overnight at Dunk Island Resort . The resort is located in a National Park, and lies midway between Townsville and Cairns, one of a few tropical islands that puts you within easy reach of the Great Barrier Reef.
7-8 November	Launch transfer to Bedarra Island . When you simply don't wish to be found, when you need to escape, unwind and experience the finer things in life, there is no better place to disappear to than Bedarra Island. This is Australia's most exclusive resort, an indulgent tropical private haven, lying off the coast of Cairns. Overnight at Bedarra Island .
	On the 8th, day off to explore Bedarra Island. Overnight at Bedarra Island .
9 November	Transfer to Cairns and check in at Pullman Reef Hotel Casino Pullman Reef Hotel Casino Cairns is a five star hotel forming part of the Reef Casino complex. The hotel has 128 rooms and suites that are spacious and tastefully decorated in a low-key modern style with plenty of natural light.
10-12 November	Hamilton Island
13-14 November	Overnight at Conrad Jupiters . Conrad Jupiters, in the heart of Queensland's glorious Gold Coast, is the focal point of entertainment and excitement in Australia's favourite holiday playground. Conrad Jupiters combines the luxury of an international resort with the 24-hour excitement of Jupiters Casino. Attend the Queensland Tourism Awards evening.
	Return to Hamilton Island .
15-16 November	Helicopter transfer to Paradise Bay Eco Escape, Long Island . Paradise Bay is one of Australia's most authentic environmentally sustainable resorts and is located in the Whitsundays. With a maximum of 16 guests at one time, and an all inclusive tariff, this is a very personal, special, and fun way to explore Australia's most spectacular natural region.
	Spend a day out on Wilderness Explorer the resort's 34 foot sailing catamaran. Enjoy the relaxing sail, help the skipper with the sails or just lay back and watch paradise go by.
17-21 November	Hamilton Island
22-23 November	Fantasea transfer to Shute Harbour. Cruise Whitsundays transfer to Long Island Resort . Relax under the palm trees on the beach or spend the day waterskiing, parasailing, island hopping, cruising, playing tennis or exploring the 20 kilometres of bush walks considered by many to be some of the prettiest in the Whitsunday Islands group. Take a 10 min scenic flight with "Bubble Hlicopter" with Aviation Adventures . Overnight at Long Island Resort .
	On the 23rd, take a Great Barrier Reef Adventure tour with Cruise Whitsundays . Cruise through the stunning Whitsunday Islands and on to the outer Great Barrier Reef on board 'Seaflight', the Whitsundays' premier day cruise vessel. Overnight at Long Island Resort .

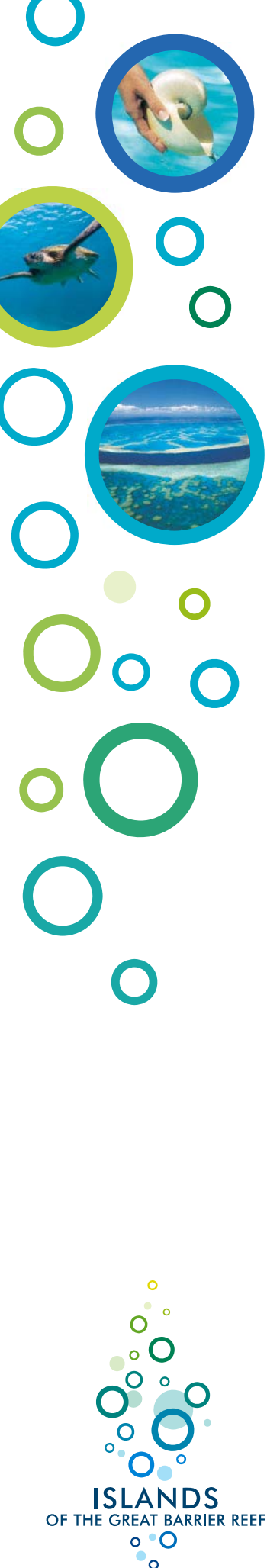
ISLANDS
OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF





<p>24-25 November</p>	<p>Transfer to Shute Harbour with Cruise Whitsundays. Full day kayaking tour with Salty Dog Sea Kayaking. Salty Dog Sea Kayaking has been running kayaking expeditions since 1996. Its qualified staff have an intimate knowledge of this region and enjoy nothing better than sharing this with friends and guests.</p> <p>Board DescardA Charters at Able Point Marina. DescardA is best described as a small luxury cruising ship, accommodating a maximum of eight guests for overnight tours. We offer memorable and luxurious charters in prestige facilities, complete with enjoyable activities and culinary moments. Overnight on cruise, at Bluffs Point.</p> <p>On the 25th, Pride of Airlie transfer to Koala Adventure Island Resort. Designed for those aged 18 and over, Koala Adventure island is about kicking back, relaxing and having fun! You can explore this tropical paradise in the morning, relax by the pool at lunchtime, re-energise with one of the many activities in the afternoon and party into the night! Overnight at Koala Adventure Island Resort.</p>
<p>26-27 November</p>	<p>Day at leisure at Koala Adventure Island Resort. Transfer to Hamilton Island, overnight at Blue Pearl. On the 27th participate in the Ocean Swim Whitehaven Beach.</p>
<p>28-29 November</p>	<p>On the 28th, at home at Hamilton Island.</p> <p>On the 29th, participate in the Hamilton Island Sprint Distance Triathlon.</p>
<p>30 November</p>	<p>Board Maxi Ragamuffin. Take the Blue Pearl Bay Adventure for the day. A two-hour sail from the mainland, Blue Pearl Bay on Hayman Island boasts some spectacular fringing reef. Snorkel or Scuba Dive amongst the beautiful coral and colourful tropical fish of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.</p>





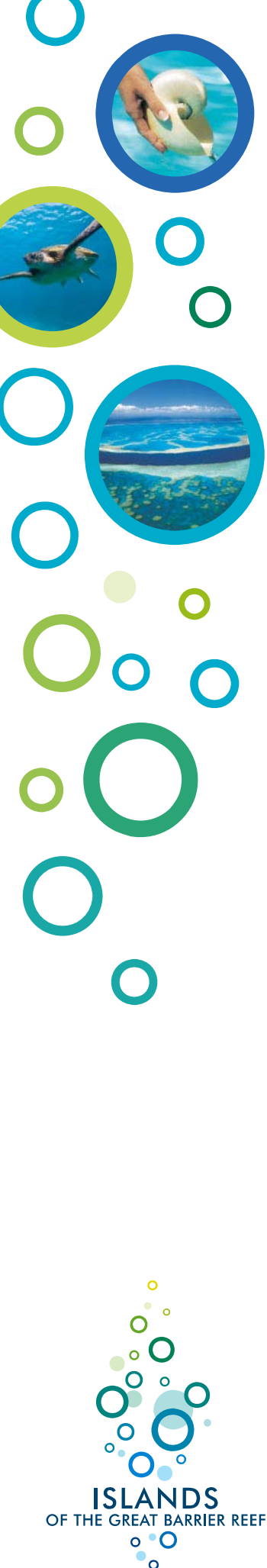
December

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- Hamilton Island www.hamiltonisland.com.au
- Brisbane Marriott Hotel www.marriott/bnedt
- Brisbane Story Bridge Adventure Climb www.storybridgeadventureclimb.com.au
- Grand Mercure Apartments Bargara www.accorhotels.com.au/GrandMercure_Bargara/default_en.aspx
- Mon Repos Turtle Experience www.bundabergregion.info/turtles/turtles_home.cfm
- Mon Repos Conservation Park www.epa.qld.gov.au/projects/park/?parkid=83
- Lady Elliot Island www.ladyelliott.com.au
- MI Helicopters www.mihelicopters.com.au
- Kingfisher Bay Resort www.kingfisherbay.com
- Aussie Trax www.fraserisland4wd.com.au
- Fraser Island Company www.fraserislandco.com.au
- Air Fraser Island www.airfraserisland.com.au
- Hyatt Regency Coolum www.coolum.hyatt.com.au
- XL Surfing Academy www.robbiesherwell.com.au
- Bistro C www.bistroc.com.au
- Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort www.tangalooma.com
- Capricorn Resort Yeppoon www.rydges.com/capricorn
- Capricorn Caves www.capricorncaves.com.au
- Great Keppel Holiday Village www.gkiholidayvillage.com.au
- Keppel Bay Escapes www.keppelbayescapes.com.au
- Seaspray Resort & Spa www.seaspray.com.au
- Qualia www.qualia.com.au

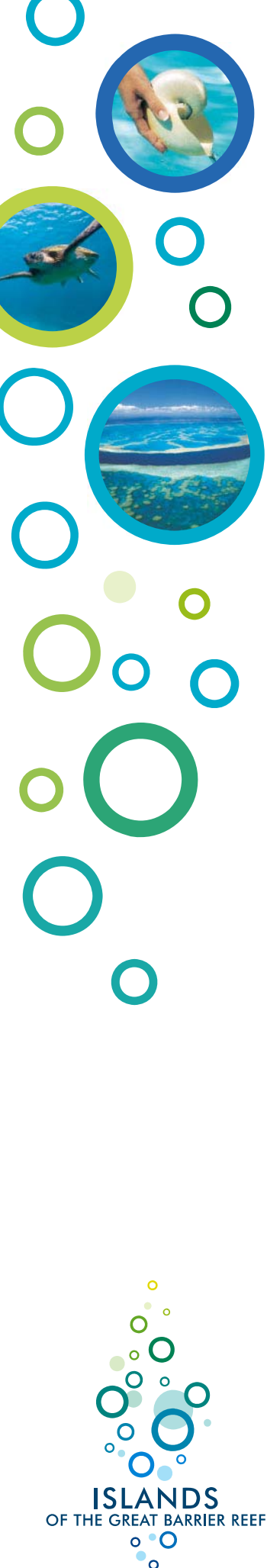
1-2 December	Hamilton Island
3 December	<p>Breakfast with the Koalas, Hamilton Island and meet the winners of the Best Experience in the World competition... the Defeo family</p> <p>Overnight at the Brisbane Marriott Hotel. The 28-level Brisbane Marriott Hotel is located on the corner of Queen and Adelaide Streets, a short riverside walk or ferry ride to all city attractions and views over the central business district to the Brisbane river. The hotel also offers four dedicated executive floors, allowing guests to enjoy the additional benefits of complimentary continental breakfast, evening drinks and canapes, as well as valet parking. Superior recreational facilities include complimentary use of the fully equipped gymnasium, indoor heated swimming pool, sauna and Brisbane's only day spa, The Dome.</p>
4 December	<p>Brisbane Story Bridge Adventure Climb The Story Bridge Adventure Climb is a 2.5 hour climb to the very top of Brisbane's iconic Story Bridge- open to the public for the first time in its 65 year history. One of only three such experience in the world, it's a journey of almost a kilometre up over the bridge's superstructure with a high point almost 80 metres above the Brisbane River. From the summit of the bridge, climbers enjoy uninterrupted 360 degree views of Brisbane, its river and surrounding mountains and bay islands. The bridge climb tour is available at dawn, dusk or during the day.</p> <p>Depart Brisbane for Bundaberg</p> <p>Check into Grand Mercure Apartments Bargara for overnight accommodation. Situated on the newly developed Esplanade in seaside Bargara, at the bottom of the Great Barrier Reef, Grand Mercure Apartments Bargara, Bundaberg is the first AAA rated 5-star property in the area. Close to</p>





	<p>central Bundaberg and Bundaberg Airport, with alfresco dining, a championship golf course and extensive outdoor activities within walking distance, Grand Mercure Apartments Bargara, Bundaberg offers the ultimate accommodation in Queensland's Coral Coast Region with 39 beautiful apartments, all with ocean views.</p>
	<p>Visit the Mon Repos Turtle Experience - Mon Repos supports the largest concentration of nesting marine turtles on the Eastern Australian mainland and is one of the two largest Loggerhead turtle rookeries in the South Pacific Ocean. Successful breeding here is critical for the survival of this endangered species. Research at Mon Repos ensures this, but the centre is also used to guide other major Queensland rookeries and is an important training centre for research program volunteers and wildlife managers from the Indo-Pacific region. Dr Col Limpus spearheaded a major research project in the 70s, tagging over 100,000 hatchlings. The 30-year research program examines reproductive and migration studies, animal surveys of nesting turtles, behavioural studies and incubation and genetic studies. More people visit Mon Repos every year to watch nesting turtles and emerging turtle hatchlings. Although turtles nest along the entire "Turtle Coast" between Woodgate and the Town of 1770, long, isolated beaches and darkness ensure few are actually seen. Turtles are also easily disturbed which makes Mon Repos an ideal place for a chance to see these 'ancient mariners'.</p>
<p>5-7 December</p>	<p>Depart Bundaberg for Lady Elliot Island A true island paradise, Lady Elliot Island Eco Resort is a popular destination for families and leisure groups keen to explore the rich marine eco-system located at the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef. Lady Elliot Island lies 80 kms north east of Bundaberg, and is easily accessed by daily flights which land at the island's own airstrip. The Lady Elliot Island Eco Resort is a low key destination focusing on its amazing natural setting. Four levels of accommodation are offered ranging from permanent safari style eco cabins up to two bedroom air conditioned suites overlooking the coral lagoon. A limited number of guests are allowed on the island at any one time and the moment you step onto the island, you know you've arrived somewhere special. On Lady Elliot Island, you set the pace. You can go diving with a qualified dive instructors, marvel at the underwater world from a glass bottomed boat, snorkel to your hearts content, read a book on a stretch of deserted beach or explore the island on one of the many guided tours. Formed over 3000 years ago, this beautiful coral cay is home to 57 species of birds, nesting sea turtles and a stunning underwater world of coral formations and diverse marine life. All inclusive day trips to the island depart the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Hervey Bay and Bundaberg daily, and are an exciting and economical way for visitors to experience the Great Barrier Reef from the air, on the water and from under it all in one day.</p>
<p>7 December</p>	<p>Transfer to Fraser Island by helicopter with MI Helicopters MI Helicopters offer a range of scenic flights and tours servicing Hervey Bay and Fraser Island. Tours include 10-60 minutes scenic flights to half day tours where you can view Fraser Island and the Great Sandy Straits from the air and then spend some quality time in one of the Resort Restaurants of your choice (Kingfisher and Happy Valley) or lazing on the beach (picnic lunch provided).</p>





ISLANDS
OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

	<p>Arrive and overnight at Kingfisher Bay Resort, Fraser Island. Kingfisher Bay Resort is the gateway to the World Heritage wilderness of Fraser Island. This Australian icon is famous for its ancient rainforests, spectacular fresh-water lakes, remarkable wildlife and famous 75-Mile Beach with streams spilling into the ocean, mighty sand blows, coloured sand and even a shipwreck. The resort nestles among tree-covered dunes on the edge of the calm waters of the Great Sandy Strait and is a paradise for boating, fishing, swimming, bush walking, four-wheel driving and just enjoying the magnificent, natural beauty of this island. Kingfisher rangers guide a variety of four-wheel-drive coach tours and personalised tours for up to four people, to explore Fraser Island. Rangers also have a free, daily program of nature walks and activities such as bird watching, stargazing and fishing clinics. Dolphin search cruises operate all year round except from August to October when there are daily whale watch cruises to see the migrating humpback whales.</p> <p>Pickup 4WD for the day from Aussie Trax Aussie Trax 4x4 Rentals is Hervey Bays' largest and longest established 4WD adventure tour operator for Fraser Island self-drive experiences. With offices in Hervey Bay and on Fraser Island's Kingfisher Bay Resort Aussie Trax is an obvious choice when selecting your multiple awards winning hire company.</p> <p>Overnight with the Fraser Island Company experienced and knowledgeable tour guides are ready to showcase this island paradise from the luxury of 4WD air-conditioned vehicles complete with panoramic windows. One of our award-winning, advanced eco accredited Fraser Island tours is sure to suit you. Choose from a variety of Fraser Island packages including 1 and 2 day safaris; or a personalised 3-day exclusive camping safaris exploring areas not frequented by other companies; 5-day reef packages visiting heritage-listed Lady Elliot Island; and whale watching tours. Our Fraser Island camping accommodation, featuring our permanent tent village, tastefully provided with all facilities; is located at Frasers at Cathedral Beach, a lush 25-acre property also offering spacious campsites and bungalow accommodation. Alternatively you can enjoy the Fraser Island backpackers resort, offering individual ensuited 1 and 2 bedroom timber lodges located at Happy Valley. Come with The Fraser Island Company to experience the remarkable natural beauty of the world's largest sand island.</p>
<p>8 December</p>	<p>Scenic flight from Happy Valley to Hervey Bay Air Fraser Island is a tourist based air charter service, specialising in aerial tours of World Heritage Listed Fraser Island, using the eastern beach of Fraser Island as its unique airstrip.</p> <p>Self drive to Sunshine Coast from Hervey Bay and arrival at Hyatt Regency Coolum. Set at the base of Mount Coolum, the Hyatt Regency Coolum Resort covers 350 acres of natural woodlands, bushland, rainforest, wallums and gardens, with the resort hotel fronting onto the Pacific Ocean with two kilometres of pristine Sunshine Coast beach. Facilities at Hyatt Regency Coolum include: a Tennis Centre with seven night-lit tennis courts, the award winning Sun Spa, an 18 hole golf course which is Home of the Australian PGA Championship, Nine sparkling swimming pools, Camp Hyatt for children and the Creative Arts Centre. The resort also offers a range of dining choices, from the comfortable</p>





	atmosphere of The McKenzie Grill to the contemporary surrounds of FishTales and the relaxed atmosphere of the Village Square with its variety of food and beverage outlets.
9-11 December	Surfing lesson with XL Surfing Academy
	Golf lesson with Adam Scott - Australian Pro Golfer
	Hosted lunch at Bistro C Located on Noosa's main beach overlooking the crystal clear water of Laguna bay Bistro C is Noosa's most loved beachside dining experience. With award winning food, friendly, professional staff and an atmosphere that is both casual and chic Bistro C showcases the best of everything that is on offer in the Noosa dining scene and does it all with a style that is uniquely it's own. Whether you stroll in off the beach in your bathers for a tantalising breakfast or lunch or join us for an intimate evening of cocktails, fine wine and fabulous food the staff at Bistro C will go out of their way to make sure your experience is a memorable one.
	Arrive at Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort for overnight accommodation. Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort is situated on Moreton Island, only a 75-minute cruise across Moreton Bay by a high-speed catamaran from Brisbane. Fringed on three sides by Moreton Island National Park, the Resort is situated amongst landscaped gardens and natural bushland. Accommodation options include 96 air-conditioned hotel rooms, 134 self-contained resort units and 56 two-storey villas - all 50 metres of the beachfront. A highlight of any stay at Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort will be the opportunity to interact closely with our native wild life. Each evening the Tangalooma inshore dolphins swim up the beach, where they are hand fed fresh by the Dolphin Care staff and Resort Guests in a controlled manner. Guests have the opportunity to participate in the feeding or watch from the jetty. In the mornings our resident pelicans and cormorants also enjoy a bucket or two of fish hand fed to them on the beach. Day tours also allow you to Sand Toboggan, swim in Blue Lagoon, snorkel sunken shipwrecks and visit Cape Moreton Lighthouse.
11-16 December	Ben's Farewell and Aussie Christmas event, Hamilton Island
16 December	Self drive to Rydges Capricorn International Resort in Yeppoon for overnight accommodation. Nestled amongst 22,000 acres of sprawling tropical landscape, Rydges Capricorn Resort offers an unparalleled range of leisure facilities, sightseeing activities and day tours to key tourist attractions within the Capricorn Coast region. Just 45 kms from Rockhampton this integrated resort facility is located where an alluring stretch of coral reef coastline meets wetlands and rainforest. The surrounding unspoilt bush and wetlands are home to some of Australia's most beautiful and rare bird life and wildlife.
	Visit Capricorn Caves . The spectacular Capricorn Caves are a unique system of above ground caves in a limestone ridge situated 23kms north of Rockhampton, central Queensland. These ancient caves have been attracting visitors since their discovery by John Olsen in 1882. Today, they are the only privately owned show caves on freehold land in Australia. Tours range from easy walking , wheelchair accessible caves to wild caving adventure tours. A tranquil caravan park and cabins nestle amongst the bush and visitors can enjoy the native flora and fauna and first class facilities. The property





	has gained advanced level eco-tourism accreditation and is the winner of many major tourism awards.
17-19 December	Transfer to Great Keppel Island and spend two nights at Great Keppel Holiday Village A holiday getaway where you can rest, swim, snorkel, bushwalk and enjoy the peacefulness of a remote, natural island? Welcome to our island paradise! Great Keppel Island is one of those undiscovered treasures sitting amidst a group of Great Barrier Reef National Park islands off the Capricorn Coast of Central Queensland. Sometimes referred to as "Woppaburra" after the Aboriginal people who originally lived on the island, the name translates as "resting place". The atmosphere of our eco-friendly Holiday Village is what you would expect on an island – going back to a simpler time of low-key, relaxing and lazy days either on the beach or in a hammock; a bushwalk on tracks to deserted beaches; swimming and snorkelling; or maybe a kayak or motorised canoe trip to surrounding areas. And then there are the sunsets. A true private "island in the sun" experience.
19-20 December	Spend the night on a sailing adventure with Keppel Bay Escapes . The climate and location are a perfect mix for sailing adventures. The pristine beauty of the Keppels is the cruising yachtsman's best kept secret. Learn to sail in tropical island waters with an experienced instructor. Take one of our bare boats around the islands and use a guide to discover the secluded beaches and unique sailing experience of Keppel Bay.
20-21 December	Drive to the town of Zilzie and spend the night at Seaspray Resort & Spa is laidback with all the luxury you will need without costing the earth. The resort embodies the feelings, sights, smells and sounds of a less complicated era. Of simple pleasures enjoyed at a slower pace - of living well. Like exploring for shells or napping in the afternoon. There's a sincerity about Seaspray Resort & Spa.
21-31 December	Self drive from Zilzie back to Airlie Beach and spend Christmas at home at Blue Pearl , Hamilton Island
31 December – 6 January	Spend New Year at qualia , Hamilton Island

