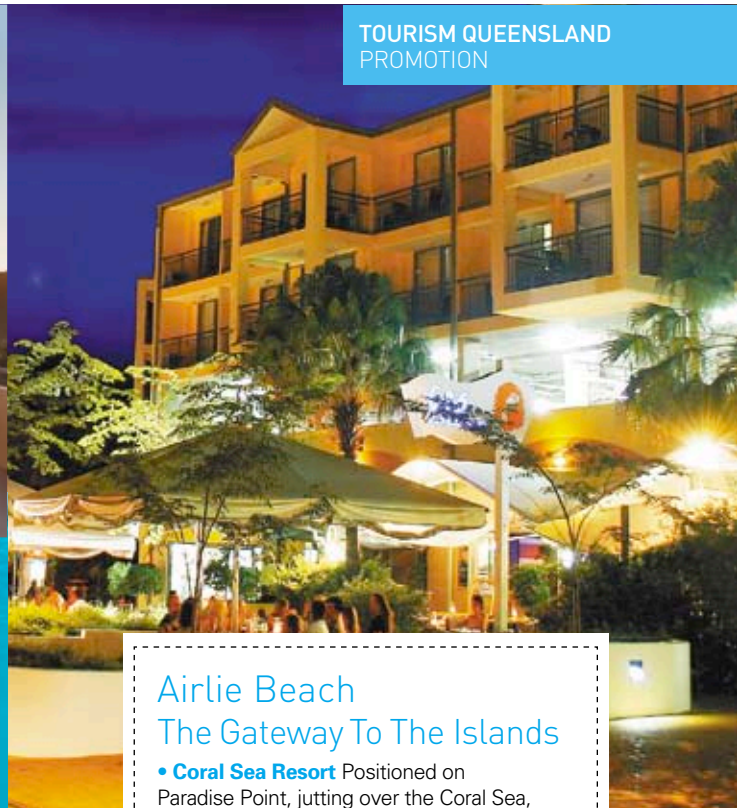




# 90 DAYS OF SUMMER

Seen from the hills  
of Airlie Beach -  
the gateway to the  
Whitsundays' 74 islands  
- the Coral Sea stretches  
like a broad blue canvas,  
with the outlines of  
distant islands visible  
through the  
shimmering haze.



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP**

Searene Whitsundays;  
Airlie Beach Hotel;  
Reef Heart, Hardy Reef.

**FACING PAGE**

World famous,  
Whitehaven Beach.

**Airlie Beach**  
**The Gateway To The Islands**

• **Coral Sea Resort** Positioned on Paradise Point, jutting over the Coral Sea, is an oasis of luxury and tranquility just moments via seaside boardwalk to Abel Point Marina or Airlie Beach Resort Village. Freecall 1800 075 061

[www.coralsearesort.com](http://www.coralsearesort.com)

• **Waterfront Whitsunday Retreat**

Luxury boutique accommodation with a romantic and tropical ambience, Waterfront Whitsunday Retreat offers a perfect blend of relaxation, intimacy and personalised service. Phone 07 4948 6500

[www.waterfrontwhitsunday.com.au](http://www.waterfrontwhitsunday.com.au)

• **Airlie Beach Hotel** From the hotel's unrivalled position at the epicentre of Airlie Beach, you will marvel at the island views whilst exploring the village's playground of restaurants, bars and shops. Freecall 1800 466 233

[www.airliebeachhotel.com.au](http://www.airliebeachhotel.com.au)

• **Water's Edge Resort** Nestled in the hillside with uninterrupted views out to the Coral Sea, Water's Edge delivers a 4.5 star holiday experience only 100m from the heart of Airlie Beach. 1, 2 & 3 bedroom self-contained apartments are available as well as 3 swimming pools and an onsite licensed restaurant to enhance your stay. Phone 07 4948 4300

[www.watersedgewhitsundays.com.au](http://www.watersedgewhitsundays.com.au)

• **Searene Whitsunday Resort** Brand new 4.5 star luxury, 1, 2 & 3 bedroom fully self-contained apartments, featuring large spacious balconies with magnificent views of the Whitsunday Islands, selected apartments have heated jacuzzi spas. Centrally located in Airlie Beach. Phone 07 4948 6866

[www.searenewhitsundays.com.au](http://www.searenewhitsundays.com.au)

There are 90 days in summer and as many ways to enjoy the natural wonders of the Whitsundays.

In the heart of Queensland's Great Barrier Reef lie the Whitsundays, 74 islands floating like jewels in the tropical waters of the Coral Sea, only a 1.5 hour direct flight from Brisbane.

The resort town of Airlie Beach is the gateway to the 74 islands, where visitors are torn between the urge to explore the aquatic playground or just recline on a sun lounge and gaze out over the azure sea. The accommodation styles are as varied as the accents that can be heard in the Main Street, and range from backpacker hostels to luxury apartments and villas set on the hillsides with views to the sea.

Discovering the Great Barrier Reef is one of life's must-dos and it's easily accessible from Airlie Beach. Multi-hulled boats cruise daily to purpose-built reef pontoons, where snorkellers drift across the reefs and divers descend to explore its deeper wonders. Lesser known is the unique experience of spending a night on the reef at the Fantasea Reefsleep. Highlights include viewing the reef life at night from an underwater observatory and watching the sunrise 51 nautical miles (95km) away from the mainland.

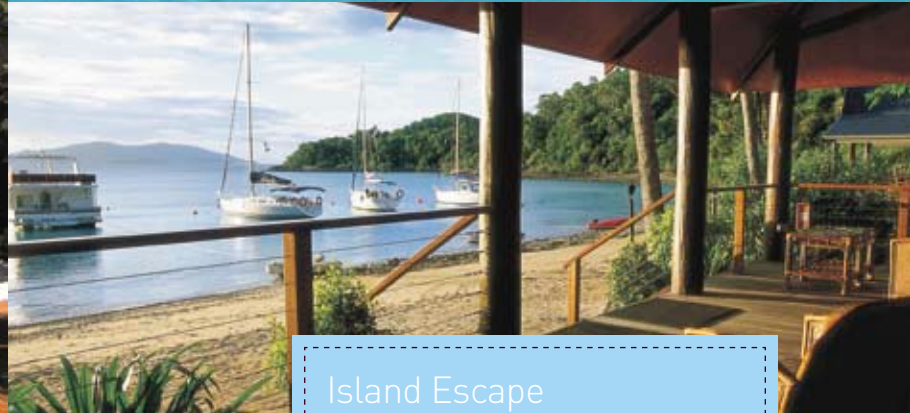
Experiencing this aquatic playground is what it's all about, and not just below the water's surface. Aboard a sailing boat is one of the best ways to appreciate the Whitsundays. Explore at your own pace the secluded inlets, bays and beaches on an un-crewed 'bareboat'. Basic sailing skills are the only requirement and a range of boats are accessible through Whitsundays Rent A Yacht. If DIY sailing doesn't appeal, a range of crewed charters are available. Be navigated around in a classic tall ship such as Barefoot Cruises' Coral Trekker, or aboard the luxury motor cruiser DescaradA. Barbeques on the back deck and Pinot Gris at dusk in the tranquillity of an anchorage like Nara Inlet – the appeal is not difficult to understand.

For those wishing to expend some energy, take to the water on a jet-ski safari or sea kayak from island to island, camping overnight.

## Sail Amongst The Islands

• **Barefoot Cruises Australia** is a boutique cruise company specialising in small ship cruising and fully crewed sailing holidays through the magical Whitsunday Islands. These cruises cater for small groups and offer a unique and quality experience. 3 and 6 night cruise options are available with all cruises offering a generous range of daily water-based and island activities. Phone 1800 075 042  
[www.barefootcruises.com.au](http://www.barefootcruises.com.au)

• **Whitsunday Rent A Yacht** Cruise the magical 74 islands on your own "skipper yourself" chartered sailing yacht, catamaran or motor cruiser - fully equipped for your maximum safety, comfort and pleasure. Phone 1800 075 000  
[www.rentayacht.com.au](http://www.rentayacht.com.au)



There is nothing quite as spectacular as a bird's eye view. From a sea plane or helicopter gaze down at the 74 islands, trimmed by white coral sand beaches and the magnificent colours of the Great Barrier Reef. From above you are sure to spy Mother Nature's naturally formed heart-shaped reef, which has adorned the covers of magazines worldwide. Another 'must-see' from the air is Whitehaven Beach, 7km of pristine silica sand and crystal clear aqua water stretching along the uninhabited Whitsunday Island. This is swimsuit-only territory, offering brilliant swimming and the ultimate location to land the plane and enjoy an intimate picnic.

Out of the 74 islands, only eight are home to resorts: Brampton, Daydream, Hamilton, Hayman, Hook, Lindeman, Long and South Molle. Each is different, their styles and attractions as varied as the colours of the reef and the visitors they attract.

Serviced by its own airport, Hamilton Island has assumed the scale of a small township offering the widest range of restaurants, shopping and accommodation. There is an accommodation style to suit everyone, from the 3-star Palm Garden Bungalows, 4-star Reef View Hotel and 5-star *qualia*.

The recent addition of *qualia*, secluded at the northern end of the island, has become one of the most exclusive properties in the country. Blending into the hillside, the 60 pavilions, some with their own private plunge pool, have floor to ceiling windows framing the postcard view of the Whitsundays. There are two exclusive restaurants and an idyllic spa which offers a range of natural treatments and an open air yoga pavilion.

Day spas are an integral part of a holiday, a time to nurture and indulge the senses. Daydream Island's world-class Rejuvenation Spa offers the latest in naturopathy, hydrotherapy, aromatherapy and reflexology. While

## Island Escape

• **Daydream Island Resort & Spa** With 296 rooms, modern conference facilities, the world class Rejuvenation Spa, various restaurants, lagoon swimming pools, mini-golf, the world's largest outdoor aquarium, plus an outdoor cinema, there's something for everyone on Daydream.

Freecall 1800 075 040  
[www.daydreamisland.com](http://www.daydreamisland.com)

• **Long Island Resort** Enjoy Long Island Resort, recent tourism award winner, by staying in affordable and newly refurbished beachfront rooms. This island of natural beauty is surrounded by hectares of national park, scenic walks, a stunning sandy beach and all the other trimmings of an island resort. Garden and Beachfront rooms, restaurant, cafe, free kids club, swim up bar, themed nights and 'all inclusive rates' combine to give you the best value resort with full board!

Freecall 1800 075 125  
[www.oceanhotels.com.au](http://www.oceanhotels.com.au)

### CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

Whitsundays Rent A Yacht;  
The Beach Hut, Peppers Palm Bay Long Island;  
Lovers Cove Daydream Island Resort & Spa.

### FACING PAGE

DescaradA Charters; Hayman;  
Windward Pavilion, *qualia*; Fantasea Reefworld.

## A Little Bit Of Luxury

• **Hayman** Australia's celebrated private island destination in the Great Barrier Reef, presents luxurious resort accommodation, magnificent international dining and an array of exciting spa, island and reef activities. Freecall 1800 075 175 [www.hayman.com.au](http://www.hayman.com.au)

• **DescaradA Charters** take you to the 74 pieces of paradise catering to your every need from fine food to fun activities. DescaradA's intimate and exclusive cruises offer the ultimate island escape of sweet indulgence. Freecall 1800 606 136 [www.DescaradA.com.au](http://www.DescaradA.com.au)

• **Peppers Palm Bay** Nestled amongst swaying palms fringing a private beach and lapped by the turquoise waters of the Whitsundays, Peppers Palm Bay Whitsundays is an exclusive Peppers Retreat offering a private, intimate and secluded accommodation hideaway. Phone 07 4946 9233 [www.peppers.com.au](http://www.peppers.com.au)

• **qualia, Hamilton Island** sets a new pinnacle for luxury on the Great Barrier Reef, Australia. Relax and unwind in one of 60 private luxury guest pavilions - where the sounds of the trees, local bird-life and the Coral Sea are the only disturbances. Phone 1300 780 959 [www.qualia.com.au](http://www.qualia.com.au)



harmony is being restored

the kids can be entertained at the award-winning Skippers Kids Club, mini-golf course or viewing the outdoor aquarium with over 50 fish and coral varieties.

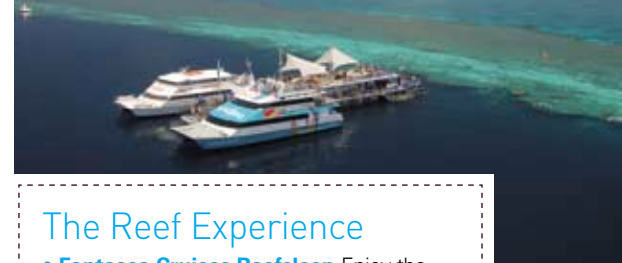
Another family friendly playground is Long Island Resort, situated at the northern tip of Long Island. There are three resorts on Long Island ranging from the 3½-star classic resort experience to luxury waterfront bungalows. Long Island Resort boasts multiple swimming pools, scheduled activities, kids club and evening entertainment.

Peppers Palm Bay, situated on Long Island, is a secluded hideaway with its own beach. There are only 24 bungalows, bures, cabins and an exclusive 2-bedroom suite; all with their own hammocks to sway in the sea breeze. Explore the island's national park during the day or spend a few hours at *endota* spa, and as the evening approaches be tempted by the fine cuisine and wine at La Riviera restaurant.

For the holidaying 'foodie', the Chef's Table experience at Hayman is not to be missed. Executive Chef, Glenn Bacon or Sous Chef Justin Zammit, host only 25 guests in the theatre of the Main Kitchen. Not only do the lucky guests have a chance to learn the secrets of a renowned chef but they will delight in six sumptuous courses, with accompanying wines and a tour of the famous La Fontaine wine cellar and Chocolate Room. Multi award-winning Hayman features an impressive list of fine dining restaurants set in the most beautiful surrounds.

The Whitsundays begs to be explored. It is an aquatic playground, set in 5-star natural beauty on the edge of the largest reef system in the world.

There are only 90 days of summer so there's no time to lose.



## The Reef Experience

• **Fantasea Cruises Reefsleap** Enjoy the unique peace and tranquility of Reefsleap. View ocean life by night from the underwater viewing observatory, enjoy sumptuous meals served by your Fantasea host in the comfort of your private king room. Phone 1800 650 851 [www.fantasea.com.au](http://www.fantasea.com.au)

## Getting There

A 1.5 hour direct flight from Brisbane. Flights leave daily to the Whitsunday Coast (Proserpine) and Hamilton Island ariports via **Virgin Blue** [www.virginblue.com.au](http://www.virginblue.com.au) and **Jetstar** [www.jetstar.com.au](http://www.jetstar.com.au)

For more information visit  
[www.thewhitsundays.com.au](http://www.thewhitsundays.com.au)



**THE WHITSUNDAYS**  
74 ISLANDS OUT  
OF THE BLUE