

Reef

HAMILTON ISLAND &
THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

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Exploring the Whitsundays

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Ultimate family getaway

Spa wumurdaylin
Pampering body and mind

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info@oceandynamics.com.au

www.oceandynamics.com.au



Magazine Director

Javier Degen
P 02 9433 3308
jdegen@hamiltonisland.com.au

Production Manager

Kelsey Hodges
P 02 9433 0428
khodges@hamiltonisland.com.au

Art Director

Luke Gallaway

Production

Louise Stephens

Contributors

Jack Atley, Keith Austin, Andrea Francolini, Fantasea Foundation, Ciaran Handy, Rolf Harris Enterprises, Kylie Hood, Bob James, David Lasky, Jason Loucas, Pete McCarthy, James Morgan, Rob Mundle, Myer, Lindsey Palmer, Belinda Rolland, Louise Stephens, Sunsail, Dick Sweeney, Allison Tait, Wild Oats wines

Advertising

Axxon Media Pty Ltd
P 02 4920 6716
M 0413 808 129
axxon@westnet.com.au

Printing

Webstar
83 Derby St, Silverwater NSW 2128

Publisher

James McRory
Axxon Media Pty Ltd
PO Box 490, Charlestown NSW 2290

REEF Magazine – Hamilton Island & the Great Barrier Reef is published for Hamilton Island Enterprises Limited (ABN 61 009 946 909) by Axxon Media Pty Ltd (ABN 100 076 873) PO Box 490, Charlestown NSW 2290 P 02 4920 6716 M 0413 808 129 axxon@westnet.com.au www.axxonmedia.com.au

Hamilton Island Holidays - Reservations

Lvl 3, 100 Pacific Hwy, St Leonards NSW 2065
P 137 333 (02 9433 0444)
vacation@hamiltonisland.com.au
www.hamiltonisland.com.au

Flight only bookings

P 1300 725 172 (02 9433 0444)
flights@hamiltonisland.com.au

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REEF Magazine is proudly printed in Australia.

Cover image: Hamilton Island's Catseye Beach.



Time Out

As a family we hold special pride in our ownership of Hamilton Island, and we value the opportunity to share this wonderful destination with visitors from Australia and across the world.

Since 2003 we have set out to present to you, our guests, a unique, world-class holiday experience; one where you can relax amid magnificent surroundings while discovering a region that is unquestionably one of the most beautiful in the world.

It is very satisfying for us to see our newest facilities up and running and being so well received - from the Hamilton Island Yacht Club, which overlooks the upgraded marina and takes in the natural beauty of Dent Passage, to the luxury Yacht Club Villas and the picturesque Hamilton Island Golf Club.

In recent times we have turned a special focus towards the expansion of the island's lush gardens, and our dedicated team of gardeners took up that challenge and excelled. The gardens across the entire island are now the best they have ever been, combining colour, balance and vibrancy.

These are just some of the obvious changes. Of course there are many improvements that have been made behind the scenes, all aimed at providing you with the best possible experience on the island.

Fortunately, this ongoing quest for improvement is made easier because of our location. Hamilton Island stands as the centrepiece in a region boasting 74 magnificent islands at the edge of the Great Barrier Reef. This is definitely a special place – as Oprah Winfrey and her audience members discovered recently when they visited Hamilton Island on their first stop during 'Oprah's Ultimate Australian Adventure'.

In 2011, along with maintaining our exceptionally high standards as a holiday destination, we will be presenting some outstanding events for everyone to enjoy.

This exciting schedule will again include our successful Great Barrier Feast Series, with two of the country's most celebrated chefs, Frank Camorra and Dan Hunter, bringing



their culinary expertise to the island in 2011. Wine expert, James Halliday will also lend his talents, selecting the finest wines for each occasion. Also, The Australian Ballet will return for the Pas de Deux in Paradise event, incorporating a unique and very special performance under the stars at qualia.

There will be plenty of action on the tropical waters that surround Hamilton Island as well. In August we will celebrate the 28th Audi Hamilton Island Race Week – the largest offshore regatta in the southern hemisphere. As well as some great sailing, the thousands of sailors along with their families and friends will enjoy an impressive social calendar that includes fashion parades by world-renowned designers, chef's table events and a vast array of live entertainment.

Additionally, the island will be the venue for the SAP 505 World Sailing Championships and once again outrigger canoe enthusiasts will come from across Australia, Hawaii and mainland USA for the spectacular Hamilton Cup.

While the far reaching appeal of these events is obvious, many of our guests keep coming back to Hamilton Island simply to relax and enjoy a good break, while others decide not to leave, instead investing in their own piece of real estate in paradise.

Whether you choose to explore the Great Barrier Reef or nearby Whitehaven Beach, play a round of golf at the Hamilton Island Golf Club, indulge with a massage or simply laze by one of the many pools, I know you will enjoy your time on Hamilton Island. We welcome you now and we look forward to welcoming you back in the future.

Andrew (Sandy) Oatley
Chairman

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Behind the scenes of Myer's island summer fashion shoot

Hamilton Island 2011 Highlights



JANUARY 2011

Summer Festival

Celebrate summer with a host of extra activities and festivities

MARCH 2011

20 Mar – 2 Apr 505 World Sailing Championships

Join the action on the water as the International 505 Class battle it out to claim the World Championship trophy, this 'Worlds' being only the fifth in the class' history conducted in Australia

MAY 2011

1 Deep Breaths

Challenge yourself with the 21 kilometre Hilly Half Marathon

JUNE 2011

16-19 Paddle Power

The colour and excitement of the Hamilton Island Outrigger Cup

JULY 2011

Whale Watching

Whale watching season begins – watch out for the gentle giants through to September

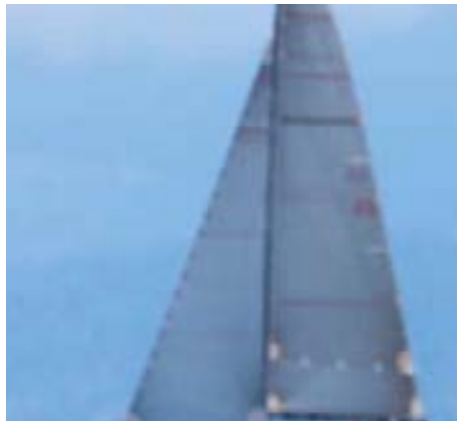
1-3 Pas de Deux in Paradise

A performance like no other as qualia provides the stage for The Australian Ballet

22-24 Great Barrier Feast Series

Join visiting chef Frank Camorra of MoVida in Melbourne for a weekend of Spanish-influenced wining and dining

Hamilton Island is an inspiring destination for many, including some of Australia's finest food and wine experts, artists, designers and sportspeople who choose the island as a place to exhibit their latest creations. Whether it be enjoying fine food and wine with great Australian chefs at the Great Barrier Feast Series, a thrilling outdoor performance by The Australian Ballet, or learning photography with some of the best photographers in the country, these are experiences that are simply unforgettable.



One of the Hamilton Island Highlights from 2010 was a visit to the island by special guest Oprah Winfrey and her US audience members on their first stop as part of 'Oprah's Ultimate Australian Adventure'. Their visit included getting up close with some of the native Australian wildlife at the Hamilton Island Wildlife Park, resulting in a very quick rise to fame for one of our resident koalas, Elvis! See more on all the excitement of Oprah's Hamilton Island visit in the next issue of *REEF Magazine*.

Image copyright Harpo Productions 2010



For more details on Hamilton Island's exciting calendar of events, visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au/events. To book your accommodation and flights, contact Hamilton Island Holidays on **137 333 (02 9433 0444)** or email vacation@hamiltonisland.com.au. For flights only call **1300 725 172 (02 9433 0444)** or email flights@hamiltonisland.com.au.

31 Jul – 5 Aug Caught on Film

AWAY Photography Workshop with hosts David Oliver, Peter Eastway and Bruce Pottinger

AUGUST 2011

19-27 Under Sail

Be a part of Audi Hamilton Island Race Week – Australia's largest offshore racing regatta

OCTOBER 2011

1 Spring Festival

A host of activities to herald the changing of the seasons

NOVEMBER 2011

1 And They're Racing

Melbourne Cup Day Lunch and Calcutta

15-20 To the Limit

The Fujifilm Hamilton Island Triathlon includes a workshop followed by the Whitehaven Beach two kilometre ocean swim and triathlon

11-13 Great Barrier Feast Series

Great Barrier Feast with celebrated chef Dan Hunter from the Royal Mail Hotel in Victoria

DECEMBER 2011

1 Summer Festival

Celebrate summer with a host of extra activities and festivities

24 Festive Celebration

Carols by Candlelight

31 New Year's Eve

Let the party begin – join the celebrations on Front Street, including live entertainment and fireworks

Retail Therapy

No relaxing holiday is complete without some retail therapy, and you'll find plenty of opportunities on Hamilton Island.

Cross apparel, available at the
Hamilton Island Golf Club Pro Shop,
located on nearby Dent Island
07 4948 9760 (59760)

Hamilton Island Retail Outlets

The Art Gallery 07 4948 9657 (59657)
Australia the Gift 07 4946 8371 (58371)
Breeze Resort Wear 07 4946 8221 (58221)
Floral Collections 07 4946 8946 (58946)
Foots Artworks 07 4946 8308 (58308)
General Store 07 4946 8626 (58626)
Hamilton Island Designs 07 4946 8565 (58565)
Hamilton Island Jewellery 07 4948 9857 (59857)

Island Hair & Beauty 07 4946 8244 (58244)
Lord Nelson Menswear 07 4946 8233 (58233)
Marina Tavern Retail 07 4946 8180 (58180)
Offshore Surf & Leisure 07 4946 8273 (58273)
HI Golf Club Pro Shop 07 4948 9760 (59760)
HI Photography 07 4946 8690 (58690)
qualia Boutique (via Island Concierge)
07 4946 8929 (58929)

Spa wumurdaylin 07 4946 8669 (58669)
Resort Centre Lobby Shop
07 4946 8232 (58232)
Reef Lobby Shop 07 4946 9999 (20008)
Resort Store 07 4946 8231 (58231)
Swimwear Store 07 4946 8284 (58284)
Trader Pete's 07 4946 8426 (58426)
Video Store 07 4946 8496 (58496)



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HENRI LLOYD
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The Bare Essentials

It would be almost impossible to do everything on even an extended visit to Hamilton Island and the Great Barrier Reef, but for those wanting to get a good 'feel' for the area, there are at least 10 essential elements to any visit.



2 The Reef Experience

There is no limit to the ways you can enjoy and experience the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef. Whether it be from above, aboard your own chartered helicopter, or from beneath the surface of the pristine waters, the reef defies description. Try snorkelling or a full scuba experience with H2O Sportz, or take a trip to Fantasea's amazing Reefworld on Hardy Reef where a world of wonders are on show through the special underwater viewing area. No matter how you see it, the Great Barrier Reef is an experience you will never forget.

www.fantasea.com.au, www.h2osportz.com.au or contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



3 Dream Drives

This is the stuff golfing dreams are made of. The stunning Peter Thomson-designed Hamilton Island Golf Club is a must not only for the serious golfer, but for anyone looking to improve their skills or just enjoy a round. Brush up with some lessons, fine tune that drive on the aquatic driving range or enjoy lunch at the Clubhouse. With a Pro Shop stocking all the latest golf apparel, you can be sure to look the part, or hire a set of Callaway clubs and take on the picturesque par 71 layout.

Contact the Hamilton Island Golf Club Pro Shop on 07 4948 9760 (59760)

4 Under Sail

Hamilton Island is the perfect place from which to set sail. From instruction for beginners to offshore skipper and international qualifications, stay and sail packages or skippered charters, the Whitsundays await you. As relaxing or as exciting as you like, riding a gentle breeze or literally 'hanging out' on the trapeze aboard Adrenalin Rush, a 36-foot Nacra catamaran – your experience under sail can be whatever you want it to be.

www.sunsailwhitsundays.com.au,
www.adrenalinrushsailing.com.au or
contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on
07 4946 8305 (58305)



6 Absolute Pampering

'wumurdaylin' (woo-mer-day-lin) meaning dragonfly, symbolises renewal, freedom and beauty. Often found near water, the name mimics our spa ethos which is to provide hydrating and nourishing spa, massage and skin therapies. With couples' rooms, vichy shower and rain shower rooms and the beautiful signature LI'TYA and Waterlily products – feel the tension melt away when you visit Spa wumurdaylin.

To book your treatment call
07 4946 8669 (58669)

5 Strike!

Looking for something a little bit different? Try your hand at 9-pin bowling, the original worldwide bowling game that dates back to the 11th century. If you like 10-pin bowling you are in for a treat, and with a variety of scoring games on offer, it's bowling as you've never known it. Located in the Resort Centre, the Hamilton Island Bowling Alley boasts seven lanes, an amusement arcade and fully licensed bar, so everyone will enjoy a trip to 'the alley'.

Opens February 2011. Contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on
07 4946 8305 (58305)



1 Simply Stunning

Whitehaven Beach is one place that 'simply must be experienced to be believed' and is without doubt one of the most beautiful beaches on the planet. So much so that Oprah Winfrey recently visited as part of her 'Ultimate Australian Adventure' with celebrity chef Curtis Stone. Only a short boat trip from Hamilton Island, or a longer one should the mood take you, Whitehaven is the perfect spot for an intimate picnic for two or a day of exploration. Cruise Indigo, Fantasea, H2O Sportz and Hamilton Island Watersports all offer trips to Whitehaven. www.cruiseindigo.com.au, www.fantasea.com.au, www.h2osportz.com.au or contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



7 Natural Appeal

With more than 20km of walking trails on the island, a guided walk to the highest point, Passage Peak, will give you a fauna and flora lesson along the way and you'll be rewarded with amazing 360-degree views when you get to the top. Or for something a little less strenuous – take a walking tour around the Hamilton Island Wildlife Park. You can cuddle a koala, watch the crocodile-feeding and finish with a hot breakfast or a coffee in the garden cafe.

For walking trail maps and koala cuddling/ crocodile feeding times contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



8 Born to Ride

Negotiate the fire trails, tackle the different terrain and enjoy Hamilton Island riding your own quad bike. Tremendous fun for ages 16 and up (for the younger thrillseekers, kids 6-14 years can try the quads for kids adventure course), take in some exciting countryside on the way to the Resort Lookout and some of the best views and photo opportunities on the island.

Contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)

9 Foodies Delight

When the idea of kicking back and relaxing over a long lunch is the most pressing appointment in your diary, Hamilton Island is the perfect place to be. You are spoilt for choice in your search for fine food and wine, from the superb Bommie restaurant in the iconic Hamilton Island Yacht Club to any of the outstanding restaurants and cafes around the island. This is the perfect time to really take your time.

For bookings contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



10 Baiting a Line

Renegade Charters and Rapture Fishing Charters offer private or share charters and the crew will even help clean and prepare your catch ready to eat that night. Or for something a little bit more relaxing, hire a dinghy and set off to explore the local waterways – Hamilton Island dinghy hire can supply bait and tackle. www.renegadecharters.com.au or contact Hamilton Island Watersports on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



Sail Away

There are few places on earth to compare with the Whitsundays for sailing. From experienced sailors to those only just discovering the joys of this timeless pursuit, the Whitsundays offer the perfect location to harness the breeze and enjoy this spectacular part of the world under sail.

STORY ROB MUNDLE PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY SUNSAIL, JACK ATLEY, ANDREA FRANCOLINI AND DICK SWEENEY

The Whitsundays – 74 island wonders...'. These well chosen words say it all. This is after all, unquestionably one of the most beautiful tropical destinations on earth and it's here for all to see and experience. The islands of the Whitsundays are considered by many to be Australia's answer to the Caribbean – only better.

This is a region that is special beyond belief, and every one of the 74 islands, plus the Great Barrier Reef and a sizeable chunk of the Australian mainland (which locals often refer to as the largest island in the Whitsunday group!) lie within a 30 nautical mile radius of Hamilton Island.

With so much to be enjoyed within such a relatively small and well-protected area, the logical question is, 'How best can I explore the Whitsundays?'

Well, as a 'Whitsunday tragic' I can tell you there is one truly great way to explore the Whitsundays and absorb all it has to offer, and that is by charter yacht – sail or power. It is the option where you are captain of your own ship and master of your own destiny. Most importantly, it's a simple and carefree way to travel – not to mention extremely therapeutic. The most popular mode of travel is a bareboat charter; one where you and your friends can step aboard a fully provisioned yacht and set sail. Alternatively, many

companies also offer a crewed charter where their qualified staff come aboard as your crew and your guides for the cruise.

My love affair with the Whitsundays started more than 30 years ago. In fact I know the date: 29 June, 1980. A friend, Evelin, and I set off to cruise the Whitsundays aboard a 33ft yacht chartered from one of the very first charter organisations established there. Hamilton Island was not a resort destination back then, so we departed from Shute Harbour, near Airlie Beach, and headed for what we expected to be a stunning destination: Whitehaven Beach on the eastern side of Whitsunday Island. We had seen photographs, and they looked too good to be true – kilometres of fine and bleached white sand, turquoise water, dense, verdant vegetation. Much to our delight, the photographs did not lie, as Evelin's diary revealed: 'We could have been the first people ever to have sailed through here. It was not hard to imagine...what a sight to behold as we turned the corner and saw the beach! A pure white ribbon of sand and lush green vegetation - like a beautiful full green skirt trimmed with frothy white lace. It was a feast for the eyes.'

Captain Cook recorded that he sailed through these waters on 3 June, 1770 or 'Whitsunday', but it was probably 'Whit-Monday' because there had been no

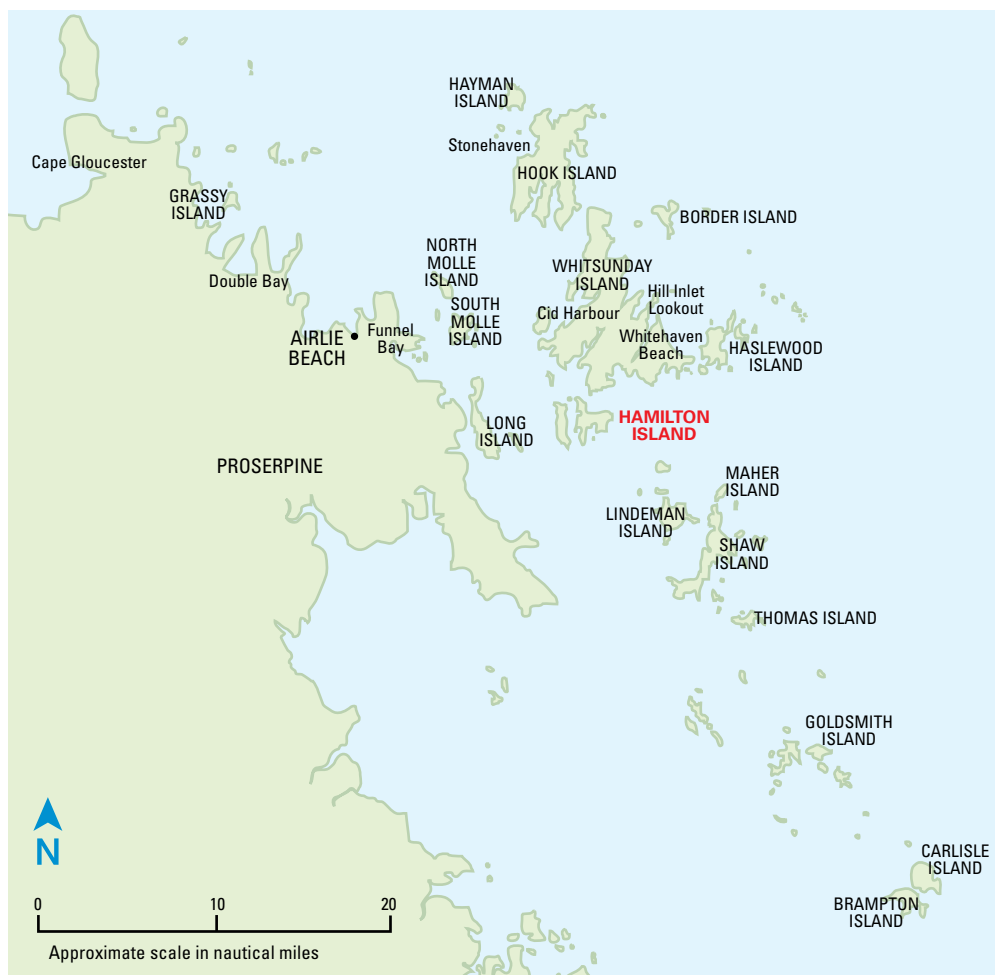
allowance for the international dateline back then. The amazing thing is that despite the number of islands and notable topographical features that surrounded him on that day, he gave names to only the Whitsunday Passage and Pentecost Island (south east of Hamilton Island) before continuing on to the north.

Bareboat charter cruising through these islands is easy: easier in fact than driving a car and using a street directory, electronic or otherwise. For a start there's no traffic and plenty of room to manoeuvre, and finding your way to your next secluded destination is a simple and satisfying procedure. The controls and sail handling equipment on charter sailboats these days is so straightforward that a near novice can manage things single-handed. However, if sailing is not your scene then you will find there are plenty of purpose-built motor boats, particularly catamarans, available for charter.

When it comes to sailing through these generally deep waters it takes only common sense and some simple navigation to see you enjoy your cruise in total safety. Most importantly, your highly experienced charter company operators will best guide you to ensure a safe and carefree voyage.

The best time of the year to be on the water in the Whitsundays is between April and December, with the last four months of the year being the prime time. Even so, when





WHITSUNDAY SAILING OPTIONS

SUNSAIL

From instruction for beginners to offshore skipper and international qualifications, stay and sail packages, bareboat or skippered charters, Sunsail Whitsundays can help you get out and explore the Whitsundays by sail. For more information please visit

www.sunsailwhitsundays.com.au or call **07 4948 9509 (59509)**.

OCEAN DYNAMICS

Ocean Dynamics provide a range of private fully-crewed day or overnight charters, allowing you the opportunity to relax and explore the Whitsunday waters in style. For more information please visit www.oceandynamics.com.au or call **07 3268 4074** or **0400 744 850**.

You'll also find a range of other tour and activity options that allow you to get out on the water in the Whitsundays. Visit the Hamilton Island Tour Desk for more information or call **07 4946 8305 (58305)**.

'We could have been the first people ever to have sailed through here. It was not hard to imagine...what a sight to behold as we turned the corner and saw the beach! A pure white ribbon of sand and lush green vegetation - like a beautiful full green skirt trimmed with frothy white lace. It was a feast for the eyes.'

sailing or boating you must remember that you are dealing with a tropical climate and it can be cantankerous. One tip is to try to organise your cruise around the time of a full moon as this brings a beautiful new dimension to the experience; and don't forget that in July, August and September you get the added bonus of it being whale season in the Whitsundays.

One other point to consider is the increasingly popular stay-and-sail option. This allows you to fly into Hamilton Island and stay for one or two nights before going out on your cruise. Then, when you return, you have the option to stay another couple of nights before flying home.

So, where are the best destinations? Whitehaven Beach is a must, as is Stockyard (or Chalkie's) Beach on Haslewood Island to the east. It features the same amazing talcum powder sand you find on Whitehaven

Beach, and it has the advantage of having a series of small coral reefs close to shore that are great for snorkelling. To the north of Whitehaven, past the stunning but shallow Hill Inlet, is Tongue Bay. Butterfly Bay on the northern shore of Hook Island is another safe and interesting anchorage – especially if the butterflies are in season, and to the east of there you'll find some excellent snorkelling. My preference is Manta Ray Bay.

There are two other satisfying anchorages on Hook Island: Stonehaven Bay, Nara Inlet, and directly south of Nara, on Whitsunday Island, is the picturesque Cid Harbour.

No matter where you decide to go, you can not help but be absolutely delighted with this stunning area and discovering it by boat (sail or power) will afford you that special perspective that is absolutely priceless. ■

To see more by Rob Mundle, be sure to read his new book Bligh: Master Mariner.



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Family Matters

Travelling with a family puts a completely different spin on things, says travel veteran and mother, Catriona Rowntree – but on Hamilton Island she feels right at home.

STORY ALLISON TAIT PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI, JASON LOUCAS AND DICK SWEENEY

Catriona Rowntree knows a great holiday destination when she sees one. As a presenter on Channel 9's *Getaway* program for nearly 15 years, she has visited just about every hot spot and chill-out zone in the world. And yet, there's one place to which she keeps returning.

"I have a long and happy history with Hamilton Island," she says, on the phone from her property near Geelong, west of Melbourne, where she lives with husband James Pettit, and 16-month-old son Andrew. "During the time I've been with *Getaway*, I've seen its personality change, evolve and blossom."

Aside from work commitments – the most recent visit saw Catriona play a round at Hamilton Island's new 18-hole golf course for the cameras – she's holidayed on the island on her own, recommended it to friends for romantic weekends and family holidays, and taken her own little family to enjoy time together on the island. "I have a friendship with Hamilton Island that's both personal and professional," she laughs.

She admits that taking Andrew on holiday has opened her eyes to a new view of the island. "It does make you see things differently," she says. "For me, the joy is that I feel that my child is within a safe environment. Then there's the weather... I've been there in all seasons and even if it's

raining I can get about in thongs – it's still mild. After moving to Victoria, I find that heavenly!"

Her most important message to other parents, however, is this: "It's one direct flight," she says, with glee. "That's nice when you don't have children, but it's music to a parent's ears. To know that you don't have to get in the car or in another boat or on another small flight..."

When choosing a family holiday destination, Catriona looks for one thing: service. "In my experience, you can have the ritziest location, but if you don't have service then you have nothing," she says. "I've seen it. On Hamilton Island, however, one single family (the Oatley family) is applying their passions and knowledge to their guests, and it's beautiful."

One area in which she believes the island excels is in babysitting. "I've experienced extraordinary babysitters on Hamilton Island as part of my work with The Australian Ballet (Catriona is MC for the Pas de Deux Australian Ballet events)," she says. "For a lot of mothers, it's important to know that you have that option and that you feel safe with the choice made."

She likes the fact that the first-class babysitters also make it relatively easy for parents to enjoy couple and/or solo time during a family holiday. "Many mothers

may not feel comfortable letting other people mind their children," she says. "But I do recommend the babysitters on the island. I believe that one of the greatest gifts I can give my child is that his parents have a loving relationship. If you have the option to spend time together, why not go for it?"

Given the number of activities available on the island for all ages, it's no surprise that Catriona nominates that as another tick for its being the 'ultimate family holiday destination'. From tennis lessons for the kids to mini golf for the whole family, everyone is catered for. The Clownfish Club is the island's kids club and offers activities for children aged six weeks to 14 years, while the use of watercraft such as catamarans, paddle skis and snorkelling equipment is free when staying in many accommodation types.

For most kids, big and small, just getting around is enough fun.

"Andrew really loves the golf buggies used to get around the island," laughs Catriona. "And I prefer knowing that there's a buggy doing the rounds than a zooming car."

In the future, she's looking forward to trying out different activities with her son – and her new baby, due in March 2011. "Checking out koalas, face painting, the kids club," she says. "Going on little expeditions out to different beaches, sampling different pools... the list goes on!"

The sheer variety of activities available make it easy to keep everyone entertained – regardless of age or interest, and the choice of accommodation (including the self-contained Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas, below right) mean there is something to suit every family.



CATRIONA'S TOP 5 TIPS FOR TRAVELLING WITH LITTLES

- If you have a little baby on the plane, remember they need to suck on something when the plane goes up and down. Little ears do hurt.
- Try and book a seat in the very back row or a window.
- If possible, take the bed sheets from home from the night before, so they always have the smell of home around them.
- Be very loose with your arrangements.
- Don't stress about what you don't have. The sky won't fall in if you've forgotten sun cream. Essentially, remember this is your holiday. Enjoy the moment!

One thing she probably won't be doing, despite her story for *Getaway*, is playing a round of golf.

"I've proved I have a talent for near-misses of people's heads with my golf balls," she laughs. "But what I loved about Hamilton Island Golf Club is that there's a fabulous restaurant and bar in the Clubhouse. It's really popular, so book ahead. And if you are there to play golf, take a lot of balls!"

It will come as no surprise to anyone who's followed Catriona's career on *Getaway* that she is also enamoured of the new Spawumurdaylin.

"It's extraordinary," she enthuses. "My only tip is to book early."

When it comes to accommodation, Catriona has, as she puts it, "pretty much done the lot on the island". She agrees that the Reef View Hotel is great for families, even more so now with the new Reef Family Rooms, which provide the convenience of a main room containing two queen beds and an adjoining room with two single beds, perfectly suited for young children. The Palm Bungalows are also a great option for smaller families – and when staying in either, children aged 0-12 qualify for the 'Kids Stay and Eat Free'

program. Complimentary cots are also available on request, if required.

She has directed a lot of her 'couple' friends to the Beach Club mostly, she says, "because you don't have to feel guilty about never leaving the hotel."

qualia, she says, is simply extraordinary and should be experienced. "Even if you only stay one night out of your holiday, it's a beautiful place," she says. "I love the library there."

Or, the new Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas really are the last word in luxury self-catering accommodation for the family. Sitting overlooking Dent Passage with the Yacht Club and all its facilities as well as Front Street a stone's throw away, it really doesn't get any better for the ultimate family getaway!

Having said that, she also mentions the other self-contained accommodation options, such as the Hamilton Island Holiday Homes, and loves that that option is also available on the island, particularly given the easy access to the general store, the chemist and other services. "It's all there for you," she says.

Music to any parent's ears. ■

To find out more about the options available to you for your Hamilton Island family holiday, contact Hamilton Island Holidays on **137 333 (02 9433 0444)**, email **vacation@hamiltonisland.com.au** or visit **www.hamiltonisland.com.au**

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HAMILTON ISLAND
GREAT BARRIER REEF AUSTRALIA



The Great Race

The most coveted prize in international yachting, the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race takes tremendous preparation, skill and heart. With a record fifth victory recently secured, *Wild Oats XI* skipper, Mark Richards knows better than anyone just what it takes to beat not only the opposition but the elements in this gruelling classic.

STORY ROB MUNDLE PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI



Mark Richards (pictured) is single-minded when it comes to preparing for this race – he knows that the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race is unforgiving.



Bob Oatley, the genial and well-liked head of the family that owns Hamilton Island, has held a passion for sailing that extends across almost every one of his 83 years. From very humble beginnings in the sport, he has risen to the very top and today his pride and joy is one of the world's best known and fastest ocean racing yachts; the 30.5-metre long supermaxi *Wild Oats XI* – the race record holder and five-time winner of line honours in the gruelling Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

In this upper-echelon of the sport, Bob is a stand-out on the international stage for first building the revolutionary yacht then establishing a hugely successful racing program around it. Even so, he is quick to tell you that in business and in sport you are only as good as the team you have around you.

In business Bob is busy overseeing the growth and development of Hamilton Island, plus other family business interests, including Wild Oats wines, which is part of Robert Oatley Vineyards. However, equally important in his life is his sport, and when it comes to sailing he has entrusted one man with the task of managing the entire *Wild Oats XI* operation: Mark 'Ricko' Richards.

Mark is the man who has skippered this sleek thoroughbred ocean racing yacht to its five 'first to finish' victories in the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. He is also the man

commissioned with the job of making sure everything is race ready – yacht and crew.

In the commercial world he might be considered a project manager, but when it comes to *Wild Oats XI* it is very much a hands-on role.

In 2010 *Wild Oats XI* made it a record five 'first to finish' crowns in six starts in the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race – one of the world's three great offshore classics. It was an incredible feat, and one that went way beyond the race itself – it was actually a program that spanned a full 11 months.

"About a month after we finish a Sydney Hobart race, when the boat is back in Sydney and everyone has had a bit of a break, key team members and I sit down with Bob and talk about the next Sydney Hobart race and what we want to achieve before that," Mark Richards said. "The Sydney Hobart is the ultimate goal, but more often than not there are other races to be considered – especially Audi Hamilton Island Race Week each August. We have to work our race program alongside our boat development and maintenance program.

"At that initial meeting, the primary aim is to consider what we learnt about the boat and ourselves in the race just completed and what areas could be improved on. We look at what we might need to do to make the boat faster or easier to handle; what new



This is the ultimate in team sports, where the efforts of everyone on board are absolutely vital to the final result.

sails would be needed, and if there are any design developments we should consider. For example, two years ago we decided to lengthen the hull to 30.5 metres – the 100ft maximum overall length allowed for the Sydney Hobart race – just to make sure we were at the top of the tree when it came to performance potential. That decision saw the boat in the builder's shed for more than two months while the modification was completed."

Richards stresses that success in ocean racing comes from having the best team and equipment – it is not a sport built around any individual. However, he does add that the key element is to have "a fabulous owner who allows you to achieve that - and we certainly have that in Bob Oatley."

The 19 crew – 17 men and two women - that were selected to be aboard *Wild Oats XI* for the 2010 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race stood as one of the best in the world: for a start they had 201 Sydney Hobart races between them.

They were chosen for their particular talents – steering, navigation, the trimming of the sails and general sail handling.

Mark Richards' overriding requirement in the preparation of the boat for the 628 nautical mile bash to Hobart is simple: "Always prepare for the worst: anything better than that while you are out there is then a bonus. We have to be fast but more importantly we have to be safe. When things go wrong on a supermaxi they go wrong very fast, so we have to be prepared for every eventuality. If I go to bed at home at night thinking about the race I'm almost always thinking about safety."

Indeed, things got particularly 'hairy' in the 2010 race, which was considered one of the toughest in years. Big seas and gale force winds forced the retirement of a large number of yachts, one yacht, Martin Power's *Bacardi* lost its mast off the NSW south coast, the winds so severe that two chain plates (reinforced fittings that support the mast) ripped right out of the deck.

Rigorous preparation from Richards and the crew of *Wild Oats XI* though, meant that the supermaxi weathered the conditions without incident, crossing the finish line off Constitution Wharf at 2037 AEDT with a time of two days, seven hours, 37 minutes and 20 seconds.

With sailors and seafarers recognised for being superstitious – like no bananas on board and never to carry anything green – it was interesting to note that no such scenario exists aboard *Wild Oats XI*. However there was one thing the crew refuses to race without: Nicky's chicken pies.

"Nicky Oatley is Bob's granddaughter," Mark Richards explained. "A few years ago she made some chicken pies for us to take on a race – and everyone loved them. It was a race that we won, so from that day on we have not gone racing without having Nicky's pies on board. They're the best."

The pies certainly worked their magic again in 2010. ■



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What a Week

Always the perfect sailing destination, for one week each year in August Hamilton Island becomes the epicentre of the sailing world as Audi Hamilton Island Race Week takes hold. A lifestyle event as well as the largest offshore yachting regatta in the southern hemisphere, it is a celebration of fine wine, food and fashion as well as mastery on the water.

PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI AND
BELINDA ROLLAND







01 Superyachts and whales made a big impression 02 Bob and Sandy Oatley 03 Collette Dinnigan fashion parade at qualia 04 Michelle Walsh, Kelly Landry and Kate Waterhouse 05 Fine food is always a feature 06 Erika Heynatz and Anne-Marie Cooksley 07 Matt Moran and Sandra Sully 08 Ben Southall and Silvia Neulinger 09 Sandy and Carol Oatley 10 Collette Dinnigan fashion parade 11 Tom Williams 12 Miranda Otto and Peter O'Brien 13 Mark Beretta 14 Dannii Minogue and Kris Smith 15 Shannon Bennett and Matt Burke 16 Anthony Bell, Martin Walsh and Darren Jahn 17 Zoe Ventoura and Hugh Sheridan 18 Nicky Oatley and Troy Tindill 19 ModelCo styling suites 20 James Paton, Uwe Hagen and Sandy Oatley 21 Kylie Speer, Victoria Finch, Kate Waterhouse, Sophie Baker, Sally Burleigh and Terry Biviano 22 Iain Murray, Bob Oatley and Ros Oatley 23 Rob Mundle and Pru Sterling 24 Gail Elliott and Joe Coffey 25 Kylie Speer 26 Lee Furlong and mother Collette 27 Henri Lloyd fashion parade 28 Humpbacks at play.

qualia boutique

Axel Mano hats
 Bvlgari sunglasses
 Camilla
 CC Skye jewellery
 Collette Dinnigan
 Escapulario jewellery
 Gail Elliott - Little Joe NY
 Galliano
 Gottex swimwear
 Lisa Brown
 Marc Cain
 Maryan Meihorn swimwear
 Melissa Odabash swimwear
 Nat-Sui shoes and accessories
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Collette Dinnigan
 Carnival Print Silk Twill sleeveless dress



A Solid Foundation

One of the natural wonders of the world, the Great Barrier Reef is a precious, yet delicate living thing that needs the protection of institutions like the Fantasea Foundation to ensure its survival for the future.

STORY PETE MC CARTHY PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY FANTASEA FOUNDATION

Visible from space and awe-inspiring up close, the Great Barrier Reef is a fascinating, living thing that has for years, captivated travellers from all over the globe. Covering a massive area of some 3,000 square kilometres, the Great Barrier Reef, or simply the reef as it is known, is home to millions of living creatures – some

microscopic, some amongst the largest creatures on earth – coexisting and indeed relying on one another for survival. Even relatively small changes in climate for example, can cause considerable damage to the whole ecosystem.

Threats to the very survival of the reef are both man-made and naturally occurring,



Marine Biologist Emily Smart is passionate about the reef, and is perfectly placed to oversee the activities of the Fantasea Foundation.

but regardless of their origin, require the dedicated and continuous support of organisations like the Fantasea Foundation to ensure the reef's survival.

Established in 2006 by award-winning tour operator Fantasea Adventure Cruising, who operate many tours out of Hamilton Island, the Fantasea Foundation is a non-profit organisation that works closely with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA), Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), James Cook University and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct important research to help understand and better protect the reef.

Perhaps best known in the region for its tourism work and of course its famous Reefworld at Hardy Reef – home of the world famous Reefsleeper – Fantasea Adventure Cruising's contribution through the Fantasea Foundation is invaluable, each year allocating more than \$100,000 to study and observe the reef, monitor and manage its own activities in the area as well as implementing education programs.

The Fantasea Foundation is managed by Emily Smart, one of four full time Marine Biologists employed by Fantasea, and her knowledge of and passion for the region stands her in good stead in this important role. Although the job is many faceted and the Fantasea Foundation is involved in studying and monitoring a range of areas, Emily Smart says climate change is high on the list of things to watch.

Just a modest increase in temperature will lead to greater coral bleaching in the region and could wipe out vast areas of coral completely. The good news though, is that awareness of the problem is becoming more widespread, which can only help in the long term.

"It's predicted that the green tourism dollar will drive the future of tourism," says Smart, and research by Tourism Australia seems to bear that out, with strong indicators that travellers from the UK, China and Japan in particular rank climate change in their top three issues of concern and importance.

Monitoring the effect of climate change is an important area for the foundation, but its activities are many. Keeping track of crown-of-thorns starfish and the destructive Drupella snails, looking for evidence of coral bleaching and conducting water analysis (to provide information on how the water is being affected by land runoff), are all important areas for the Fantasea Foundation, as is monitoring the sighting of unusual animals or events in the area. As part of

the GBRMPA Sightings Network, Emily and the other biologists regularly report on sightings of tagged, rare or injured marine life in the area and each winter (usually between the months of June and September), keep a close watch on the humpback whale migration, their data used by researchers at the University of Queensland, studying the habits of these magnificent creatures.

Whether it be hosting Reef Check Australia surveyors (part of a global monitoring program) or assisting James Cook University students in their research programs, Fantasea is heavily involved.



The foundation is also heavily involved in the collection and monitoring of data for the GBRMPA Eye on the Reef program, designed to provide early warning signals of change as well as long-term information for GBRMPA

and its researchers.

Although largely unseen by the general public, the work of the Fantasea Foundation is vital to the long-term survival of this natural asset. Whether it be hosting Reef Check Australia surveyors (part of a global monitoring program) or assisting James Cook University students in their research programs, Fantasea is heavily involved.

Even Fantasea's Reefworld, a favourite for those wanting to experience a unique perspective on the reef, is integral in the program, housing a remote weather station for the Australian Institute of Marine Science that sends weather information back to their HQ every half hour.

Every bit helps, and the Fantasea Foundation's ongoing work with the relevant marine bodies are vital to ensure the Great Barrier Reef's survival so that it can be enjoyed by generations to come. ■

To find out more about the Fantasea Foundation, visit www.fantasea.com.au

The diversity of life that makes up the Great Barrier Reef is extraordinary (right). Despite its size (covering more than 3,000 square kilometres), the Great Barrier Reef is extremely fragile (below right).



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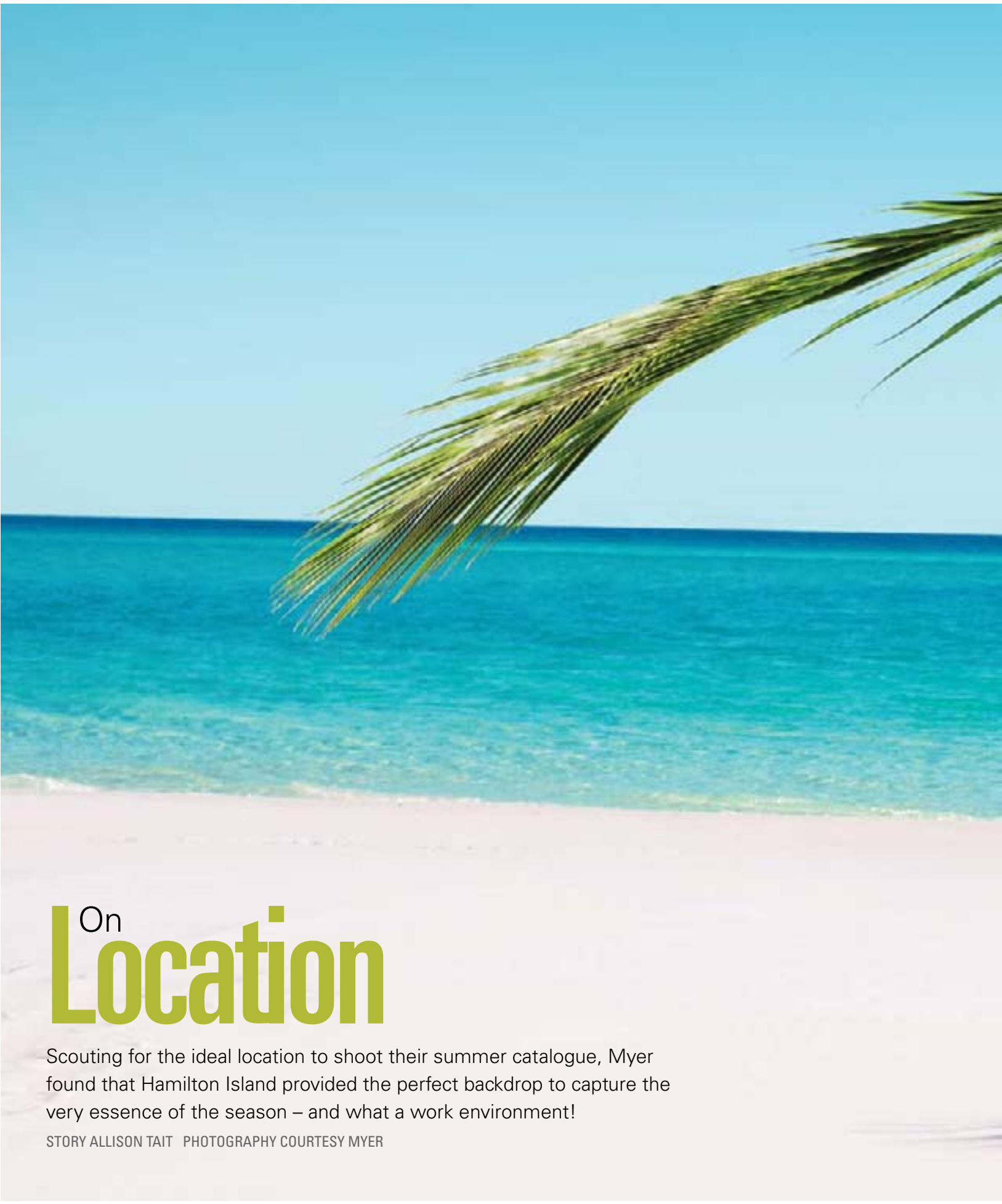
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On Location

Scouting for the ideal location to shoot their summer catalogue, Myer found that Hamilton Island provided the perfect backdrop to capture the very essence of the season – and what a work environment!

STORY ALLISON TAIT PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY MYER



When you're doing a fashion shoot with two of Australia's most beautiful women and one celebrity male that makes the ladies swoon, where do you go to find a location that befits them? Why, Hamilton Island, of course. Expansive blue skies, crystal clear water and pristine sand created the perfect backdrop for Myer's summer campaign, featuring the three highly desirable Myer ambassadors Jennifer Hawkins, Kris Smith and Jessica Hart.

"The environment suited our fashion and homewares trends perfectly, as the range was inspired by a combination of soft pastel colours, nautical looks and a strong military vibe – which worked well with the greenery around the island," says Deb Burkin, Myer Advertising Brand Manager. "We shot in early June and the weather was spectacular!"

The photo shoot took place at various locations on Hamilton Island (Beach Club and qualia), as well as at nearby Whitehaven Beach and Langford Reef. "The last two locations were incredibly isolated," says Deb. "We'd set up a little 'Shoot Shanty' to protect us from the sun."

It takes a village to create a photo shoot. As well as Jennifer, Kris and Jessica, the crew for the shoot included photographers, art directors, a videographer, a producer, stylists, digital operators, photographers' assistants and representatives from both Myer and Myer's advertising agency. All were accommodated comfortably on Hamilton Island, with the Myer ambassadors enjoying quality time at qualia and the balance of the crew staying at the Reef View Hotel. "We were so well taken care of by the hotel and the island staff," says Deb. "Their support was tireless, and didn't stop at the hotel either," she says. "Hanzel and his team at Pool Terrace arranged all of our catering for the location work which was just incredible."

While modelling may look glamorous, it usually involves a lot of early mornings





Myer ambassadors Jennifer Hawkins (previous page), Kris Smith (below) and Jessica Hart (opposite). Shooting on spectacular Whitehaven Beach was a highlight (left).

– and long days. “If we were heading to a location off the island, it wasn’t unusual to be on a boat at five o’clock in the morning,” says Deb. “Then we’d shoot until sundown.” The crew most enjoyed the days when they were shooting on Hamilton Island itself – meaning they could start a little later and enjoy breakfast by the hotel pool. “Except our poor producer who would be racing around organising equipment, props and catering in the early hours every morning!” says Deb.

While everyone has different, beautiful memories of the shoot, Deb’s favourite included the day spent at Whitehaven. “Dropping anchor just off Whitehaven Beach and approaching those incredible sands... it was a privilege just to be there,” she says.

Where possible the shoot team spent evenings enjoying Hamilton Island’s facilities, including the gyms, swimming pools, walking tracks and yoga classes. “After the exercise, it was time to eat,” says Deb. “We particularly enjoyed the Pool Terrace, Steakhouse (we even managed to convert a vegetarian) and Mariners.” After three or four early starts, however, some crew members opted for quiet meals and a glass of wine on the balcony looking out over the water. Perfect.

The shoot for the Myer summer campaign was deemed a huge success. “The atmosphere was laid-back, the Hamilton Island staff were more than accommodating and the area was a great canvas with fantastic light – we were destined to get beautiful pictures,” says Deb. So beautiful, in fact, that the Myer team returned for a second shoot, for Father’s Day, mid-June! Any excuse! ■





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HAMILTON ISLAND
GREAT BARRIER REEF AUSTRALIA

Culinary Heaven

Cementing its reputation as a centre for fine food and wine, Hamilton Island's Great Barrier Feast Series events are not to be missed, with some of the country's best chefs heading to the Whitsundays in 2011.

STORY KEITH AUSTIN



Hailed as one of the great culinary events on the Australian calendar, the Great Barrier Feast Series for 2011 promises to deliver another mouth-watering offering to those fortunate enough to be taking part.

The 2010 series showcased, over three weekends in March, July and November, the talents of Australia's most famous chef, Tetsuya Wakuda, Bécasse's Justin North, and Ben Shewry, whose Attica restaurant in Ripponlea, Melbourne, made it on to the prestigious San Pellegrino list of the world's best restaurants in June last year.

In 2011, that level of five-star expertise is set to continue with a visit by *The Age Good Food Guide 2009's* Chef of the Year Frank Camorra, of famed MoVida Spanish restaurant in Melbourne, followed by Dan

Hunter whose restaurant in the Royal Mail Hotel, Dunkeld, Victoria, was called 'Australia's answer to El Bulli' by *The Age's Epicure* food section and named Restaurant of the Year in *The Age Good Food Guide 2011*.

A visit to any of these chefs' restaurants alone would be a foodie's idea of heaven but imagine combining that with the spectacular backdrop of the Whitsundays, super-luxurious accommodation, a stunning welcome dinner created by qualia's Executive Chef Jane-Therese Mulry (no culinary lightweight herself, having been Marco Pierre White's first female Head Chef in London), two guest chef master classes, and then the main event – a showpiece dinner at qualia in which the chef will take guests through the preparation of the meal via a live camera link-up in the kitchen.

And if that wasn't enough, all the dinners will feature Australian wines paired to individual dishes by the legendary wine expert James Halliday.

Nicky Oatley, Hamilton Island Special Events Manager, said: "We have hand-picked Australia's most innovative chefs to showcase the incredible produce of the Whitsundays and inimitable flavours of the region. We invite food lovers to join us for the second annual Great Barrier Feast Series which promises both culinary excellence and passion."

One of the recurring highlights of 2010 was the opportunity to see chefs of the calibre of Tetsuya, North and Shewry working in the kitchen. Think of the thrill of seeing – as we did in March – Tetsuya flipping wagyu beef cuts on the grill one second and it appearing



on your plate just minutes later. Last year North revealed that this was one of his favourite features of the weekend: "It's good for guests to see what goes on in the kitchen, to see things from the chef's perspective."

This will be the second year of the Great Barrier Feast Series but the idea first came into being in 2002 when the late Australian wine expert Len Evans had the brainwave of conducting feasts and cooking master classes on the island once a year. The change in format last year, to multiple weekends featuring different chefs, was a huge success that is certain to be repeated in 2011.

On the weekend of 22-24 July, MoVida's Frank Camorra will bring to the island his own interpretation of Spanish tapas classics and beyond. Born in Barcelona, Camorra moved to Australia when he was seven. Part Spaniard, part Aussie, his roots are in the barrios of Spanish cities and the fincas and huertas (farms and kitchen gardens) of the Spanish countryside.

"And that's where MoVida's food comes from," he says. "The idea of taking something that is naturally beautiful and gently easing it through the kitchen so as to take none of that beauty away. You're just adding a little something of your own skill, sometimes centuries old tradition, sometimes 21st century technique, but always respecting the season, always respecting the sense of place of the food." Camorra added that while he'd never been to qualia he had been to Hamilton Island: "It's a great spot and I'm excited to be involved in an event that's all about quality. Of course what we do at MoVida is based around tapas and sharing plates so we'll have to adapt the dishes a little bit, but as



(Clockwise from top left) Master chefs – Tetsuya Wakuda, Dan Hunter, Frank Camorra, Justin North and Ben Shewry.

A visit to any of these chefs' restaurants alone would be a foodie's idea of heaven but imagine combining that with the spectacular backdrop of the Whitsundays...

far as the style, ingredients and flavours are concerned we'll be true to what we do here. Given the location we'll probably use a lot of seafood."

Camorra says he's been involved in a food and wine matching event with James Halliday previously and is looking forward to working alongside the wine legend again this time: "I'll probably send him a menu and an idea of the flavour profiles – it'll be interesting to see what wines he picks."

Later this year, from 11-13 November, Dan Hunter, Executive Chef at the Royal Mail Hotel in Victoria, will showcase the food that took him from Melbourne's Langton's and Verge restaurants to Michelin-starred restaurants across Spain – including Chef de Partie, Sous Chef and then Head Chef at the two-starred Mugaritz in Spain's Basque Country. Since his return to Australia in 2007 he has taken the Royal Mail Hotel from strength to strength. It was also a move that has allowed him to create his own kitchen gardens with free-range chickens, fruit orchards and a green house for herb production. He now works closely with his dedicated garden and kitchen teams to produce food that reflects the natural surrounds and seasons.

As Hunter's appearance falls later this year, he's a little short on actual details of the food he'll be preparing but says he's happy to be in such exalted company: "It's a real privilege to be included in the line-up alongside the iconic Australian chefs who have been involved to date."

"It's also a great opportunity to present our style of cuisine to the audience. The format of the weekend is interesting for us because you get to do a demonstration and showcase the sort of food we do in the restaurant as well."

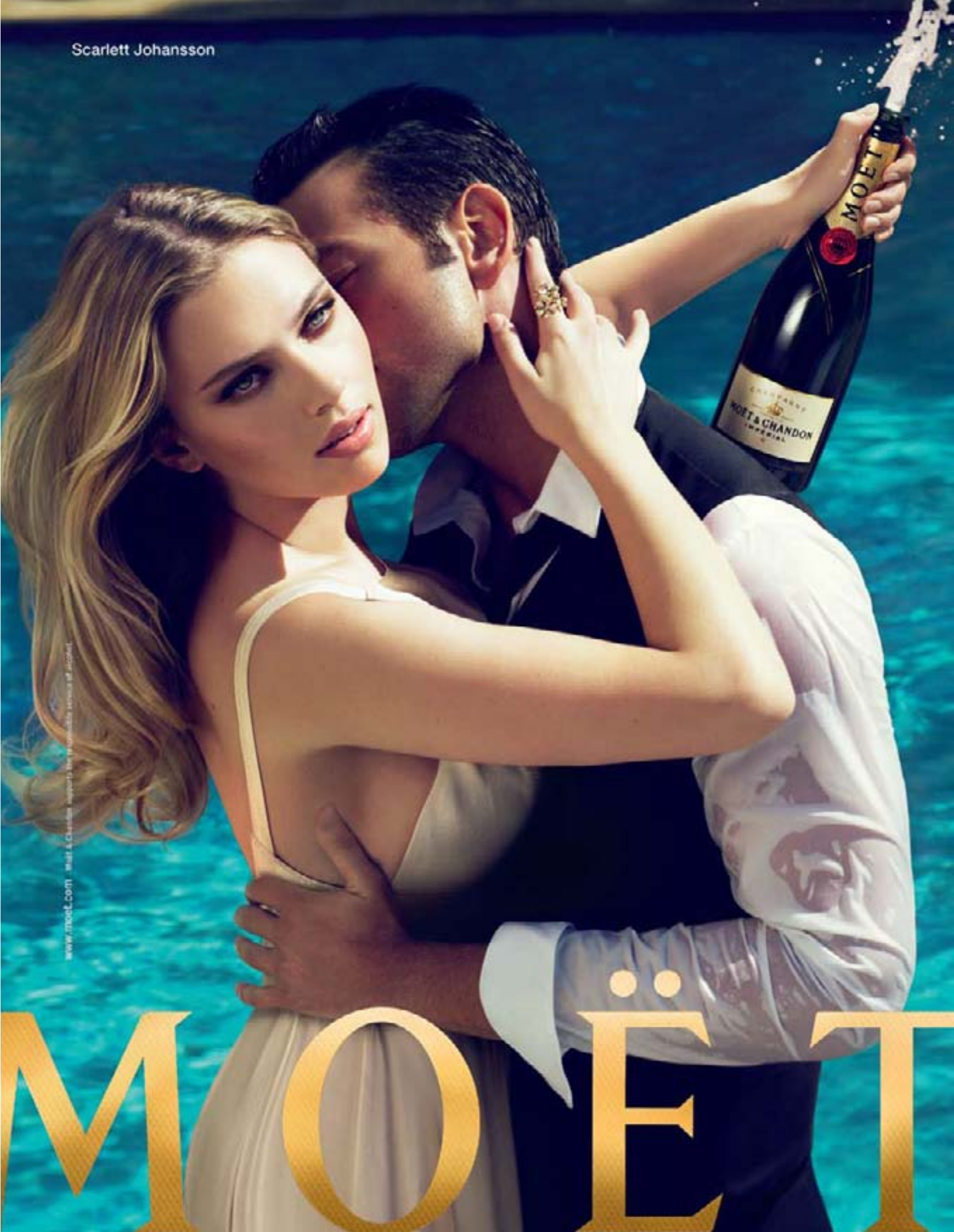
Certainly, for those fortunate enough to take part, this is a slice of culinary heaven and an experience they will not soon forget. ■



Exquisite food and fine wine in one of Australia's most spectacular locations – no, it really doesn't get any better than this.

Luxury accommodation packages are being offered for the 2011 Great Barrier Feast Series events. To find out more or to book visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au/feast or contact the Luxury Specialists on 1300 780 959 (02 9433 3349) or email reservations@qualia.com.au

Scarlett Johansson



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MOËT

Soul Food

Offering a world of sensory delights and pure indulgence to those looking to renew body and mind, Spa wumurdaylin redefines the very concept of relaxation. In fact, until you have experienced Spa wumurdaylin, you're really only guessing at what true calm feels like.

STORY LOUISE STEPHENS PHOTOGRAPHY CIARAN HANDY AND BELINDA ROLLAND





Jacqui Smith, Manager of Spa wumurdaylin.

Think of relaxing on Hamilton Island and any number of exotic images come to mind. Sailing on the pristine waters, savouring a decadent long lunch, watching the sun dip below the horizon with a cool drink in hand...the list goes on. Indeed, the list just got even longer with the opening of Hamilton Island's full-service day spa, the beautiful Spa wumurdaylin.

Here, relaxation and pampering have been elevated to a true art form, and after spending even a short time nestled in this haven, your outlook on life will be positively changed for good.

Pronounced woo-mer-day-lin, which means dragonfly, the spa's name symbolises renewal, freedom and beauty. The latest in an impressive list of world-class facilities that have opened on Hamilton Island, Spa wumurdaylin is a stunning space, boasting a comprehensive spa menu and is available to all guests and residents on the island.

It is the perfect complement to the already relaxing island lifestyle and also the perfect counterpoint to the vast array of more action-based pursuits available on Hamilton Island.

If relaxation and pampering is your poison, so to speak, it is quite possible that once through the doors you'll find you have reached Nirvana.

No expense has been spared in the creation of Spa wumurdaylin, which is evident as soon as you step into the luxurious interior. Award-winning Sydney design firm Hare + Klein, whose influence can be seen at a number of other island developments, have worked their own brand of magic here and

successfully created an inspired space in which to relax and indulge.

Simple yet elegant is the key, but with a touch of glamour stirred into the mix, for a space which is both welcoming and calming.

"We have created a first-class spa experience for the pleasure of all our island guests and residents," says Jacqui Smith, Manager of Spa wumurdaylin.

"We are thrilled to be increasing our wellness offering across the treatment rooms, spa menu and spa therapists," she says – and an impressive offering it is.

Boasting 11 treatment rooms (including three couples' suites) and four wet rooms consisting of a seven-head vichy shower or luxury rain shower, Spa wumurdaylin is perfectly equipped to meet the needs of every customer. Trained professionals administer the extensive spa menu which perhaps offers the only stressful part of a visit to Spa wumurdaylin – choosing which treatment to indulge in.

Of course all of the traditional favourites are included, but mixed with indigenous inspired signature spa treatments for a uniquely Australian selection. In addition, the spa also offers Naturopathy and Reiki, so you will quickly realise that one visit will simply not be enough. Perhaps a 30-minute massage on your first visit and then...why not a whole day!

Adding to the experience, Spa wumurdaylin uses carefully selected luxury Australian spa products from Waterlily and LI'TYA, which, in the hands of the professional staff, breathe their rejuvenating properties into the body and soul, the



The experience begins as soon as you step through the door at Spa wumurdaylin. Whether you are there for a relaxing massage or a day long treatment, you will leave with a new outlook on life.

essential oils, pure organic extracts and natural fragrances enhancing the already wonderful experience as you sample the delights of the menu.

Indulge in one of the spa's most popular treatments, the LI'TYA Susu Dew (meaning 'sea spray'), which was inspired by traditional Aboriginal techniques. This rhythmic body massage uses a combination of pressure points and spiralling movements to enable the body to start healing itself, relieving physical and emotional tension. Combine this with LI'TYA Lowanna (meaning 'beautiful') treatment and your face, hands and feet are also in for an incredible experience.

But why stop there? Mums-to-be can delight in the Waterlily Maternal Blessing Body Wrap, a deeply nourishing full body ritual. The Waterlily Destination De-Stress releases stress and tension and is the ideal treatment for over-worked bodies and minds. Or, for those with a view to some serious pampering, then nurture, renew and revitalise with the 'Of the Sea' LI'TYA Ocean Dreaming three-hour spa journey. Your

body and face will be cleansed, renewed and nourished, your muscles nurtured and re-energised. Hand and pedi spas ensure you are treated from the tips of your fingers to the end of your toes and the Sapphire Sea Wrap completes your experience, leaving you absolutely relaxed and renewed both physically and mentally.

Couples, mums-to-be and indeed all who like to indulge in the spa lifestyle will find a connection with Spa wumurdaylin. Even those looking to relieve tired muscles after some 'serious relaxing' elsewhere on Hamilton Island will discover the same welcoming atmosphere at Spa wumurdaylin and enjoy the rich results of even the simplest massage.

Renew, revitalise or simply relax – the choice is very much yours, and an extensive choice it is. Without a doubt, Spa wumurdaylin now ranks with the likes of a sunset sail, a walk along Whitehaven Beach or drinking in the impossibly stunning views of the island as a memory to be treasured and an experience to be repeated as often as possible. ■

Spa wumurdaylin is open daily from 9:00am-7:00pm. To enquire or book your treatment, contact the Spa on 07 4946 8669 (58669).



Dreaming of a white wedding?

Whether you choose to get married in the beautiful island chapel or to break with tradition and have a barefoot ceremony on the beach, Hamilton Island at the edge of the Great Barrier Reef offers the perfect location for your dream wedding or honeymoon. From the flowers to the cake, for two to 200, there is no detail our experienced team of wedding consultants can't look after. To find out more about having your dream white wedding on Hamilton Island, call Hamilton Island Weddings on **07 4946 8515**. To plan the perfect honeymoon, or simply a romantic getaway, contact Hamilton Island Holidays on **13 7333** or visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au



HAMILTON ISLAND
GREAT BARRIER REEF AUSTRALIA



HAMILTON ISLAND
WEDDINGS
GREAT BARRIER REEF AUSTRALIA



A vertical photograph on the left side of the page shows a tropical resort. In the foreground, there's a swimming pool with a dark, textured edge. The water is clear and blue. In the background, there are several palm trees and other tropical foliage. A small thatched-roof structure is visible near the pool. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

Precious Time

It's the perfect time to get away and relax together before the big day arrives. Couples are embracing the concept of the babymoon and there's nowhere better than Hamilton Island to indulge.

STORY ALLISON TAIT PHOTOGRAPHY JASON LOUCAS AND LINDSEY PALMER

Everyone's heard of a honeymoon, but have you ever come across the idea of a 'babymoon'? Once upon a time, the term babymoon was used to describe the initial days that new parents spent bonding with a new addition to the family. But the meaning has changed, and now a babymoon is a short holiday taken by parents-to-be before the baby arrives. Precious time to spend together, enjoying the final days before they become a family.

Melbourne-based psychologist Meredith Fuller is not surprised that this generation of parents-to-be has claimed the babymoon as their own. "This is a generation that understands pampering and looking after themselves," she says. "It's important that they feel special, and planning a babymoon is like having a wedding all over again."

Chantelle Ellem, editor of the website www.birth.com.au, agrees that babymoons are on the rise. "We did some research on our site and everyone thought a babymoon was a great idea," she says. "Even those who hadn't heard of it wished they'd done it once we brought awareness to it."

According to Chantelle, the key elements that mums-to-be are looking for in a babymoon include a pregnancy massage, a comfortable bed, good food – and a place to relax.

It's with this in mind that Hamilton Island's Beach Club resort has developed a special babymoon package, featuring a range of delights designed specifically with the mum-to-be in mind.

"It's a new thing for Beach Club," says Nicolette Groenendijk-Wijers, General Manager of the Beach Club. "The resort is for guests 18 years and over only, so when a guest comes here and she's pregnant, it may technically be 18 years before she can come back!"

Giving babymoon guests something to remember is easy at the Beach Club, situated as it is right on Catseye Beach,

yet set back for guests' privacy. This is the perfect hideaway for those wanting to relax in privacy, yet with the marina and all its attractions just a short buggy ride away (or a short stroll for energetic mums-to-be!).

There are no end of indulgent activities to be enjoyed at the resort or indeed around the island. From a sunset sail on the yacht Banjo Paterson or a dinner cruise aboard Denison Star, there is no shortage of relaxing ways to build tranquil memories. The infinity pool at the Beach Club is inviting at any time for a leisurely dip, while the new Spa wumurdaylin offers a full menu of delicious treatments, including indulgences specifically designed for the mum-to-be, such as the Pregnancy Massage and pampering Maternal Blessing Body Wrap.

Apart from the activities and special treats available, the Beach Club is ideal for couples who want quality time together.

"We offer beautiful waters-edge dining," says Nicolette. "Our special dish for pregnant women, duck breast with polenta cake, silverbeet, cabbage pancake and tomato vinaigrette is part of the menu which is mindful of the particular dietary needs of these important guests." And of course, a cool mocktail, aptly named Sunshine Baby, is the perfect accompaniment for an afternoon spent lazing by the pool.

The idea is a success, says Nicolette and has seen many couples returning once they have kids.

"They'll leave the children with their grandparents," she says. "More and more are coming before their second and third babies are born. They'll have had a babymoon with their first child and think 'let's do it again'."

The emphasis at Beach Club is on providing whatever your heart desires and there is no better place to satisfy whims or cravings than in this environment, even if your desire is simply to kick back and contemplate the stunning Whitsunday horizon.



qualia's specially designed baby moon breakfast and dinner menu items (pictured left) provide a mouthwatering feast, rich in vitamins and minerals which are essential to a healthy pregnancy.

Hamilton Island's qualia also rolls out the red carpet for baby mooners, and with celebrated Executive Chef Jane-Therese Mulry on hand, it's not surprising to find that culinary delights are high on the agenda.

Their specially designed menu is a mouthwatering feast, rich in vitamins and minerals which are essential to a healthy pregnancy, but avoiding foods or food preparation methods which have an associated risk factor.

"At qualia, we are focused on delivering an organic experience wherever possible and with the growing demand for organic produce worldwide, more and more ingredients become available all the time," says Mulry.

So, what should baby mooners expect to find on the menu at qualia?

Breakfast

- Organic full cream acai berry and banana smoothie
- Fresh seasonal fruit, honeyed natural organic yoghurt
- Organic quinoa bircher muesli, raspberry compote

Breakfast is deliberately gluten free and includes ingredients like quinoa and acai berries, both members of the superfood family. Quinoa is close to one of the most complete foods in nature because it

contains amino acids, enzymes, vitamins and minerals, fibre, antioxidants and phytonutrients.

Acai berries or 'miracle berries' contain 10 times the antioxidants of grapes and twice that of blueberries. The versatility of the acai berry is making it the latest wonder food as it is naturally rich in omega fats, amino acids, electrolytes, antioxidants, protein and vitamins A, B1 and E.

Lunch

- Dukka-crusted calamari, mandarin, chickpea and avocado guacamole
- Wok fried Asian vegetables, tamari and ginger dressing, steamed jasmine rice
- Open organic chicken sandwich on rye, roast butternut, baby spinach, pine nuts, sundried tomatoes and basil pesto

Lunch delivers a tasty adventure through some powerhouse produce and most are purposefully rich in folate...butternut, avocado, spinach, basil, chickpeas and more. To accompany these superstar ingredients, we have added high-quality proteins like chicken and calamari, which is a fantastic source of essential amino acids with traces of omega 3 fatty acids and contains less saturated fat than meat.

Dinner

- Poached coral trout, buckwheat noodles, bok choy, daikon radish, tomato and

miso broth

- Poached pineapple and tropical fruit martini with apple sorbet and elderflower ice

Dinner is a light affair to ensure mum doesn't go to bed with that full feeling. Coral trout is a beautiful reef fish which can be well cooked without compromising on taste or texture. It is an amazing source of omega 3 and 6, and polyunsaturated fats.

While many people think that buckwheat is a cereal grain, it is actually a gluten free fruit seed which is related to rhubarb and sorrel. Miso is another fantastic food source as long as one uses an organic brand which is free of MSG. Miso contains generous quantities of the minerals iron, zinc, copper, manganese, vitamins K and B12, and is great for the digestion. Elderflower is a soothing natural healer and is known to boost the immune system, reduce inflammation and stimulate circulation.

Mums-to-be haven't been forgotten at the bar, either. The beverage team at qualia have created some specially-designed mocktails to complement the resort's baby moon-friendly food menu options, including the apple and elderflower sour and pina colada foam with chocolate mousse.

This is the stuff fond memories are made of and the perfect way to relax and prepare for the momentous arrival. ■

The Beach Club Baby moon Package includes 4 nights accommodation, a la carte breakfast daily, a 'Ritual of Rejuvenation' massage for her (including a complimentary pregnancy massage oil take-home gift) and a 'Destination De-Stress' massage for him at Spa wumurdaylin, VIP return airport/marina to Beach Club transfers and chauffeur service, use of catamarans, windsurfers, paddle skis and snorkelling equipment, use of the island's gym, spa, sauna, tennis and squash courts and use of the Beach Club lounge, pool and restaurant. To find out more or to book, call Hamilton Island Holidays on **137 333 (02 9433 0444)** email **vacation@hamiltonisland.com.au** or visit **www.hamiltonisland.com.au**

For qualia bookings or enquiries, contact the qualia Luxury Specialists on **1300 780 959 (02 9433 3349)** email **reservations@qualia.com.au** or visit **www.qualia.com.au**



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Full Circle

Just as getting raw produce, consumer goods and materials onto an island presents its own special set of challenges, so too does disposing effectively with the waste products. Hamilton Island has made significant investments in initiatives, training and specialised equipment, all designed to remove rubbish efficiently without any ill-effect on the environment.

STORY BOB JAMES

Remember that chilled bottle of wine you enjoyed with a few friends last time you were on Hamilton Island? Although you may not realise it, you probably drove over it on your way from the airport on this trip. No, there wasn't broken glass on the road, but rather, there's a chance your empty bottle – or those of the countless other visitors to the island each year, had been recycled and quite literally become a part of the road.

This is just one of the many unseen initiatives undertaken by Hamilton Island to recycle wherever possible the considerable cast-off materials generated each year, says Hamilton Island's Gavin Herholdt.

Not only are there practical considerations to transporting the food and goods needed to keep Hamilton Island fully-stocked and operational, there is likewise the issue of resultant rubbish, and, as Gavin points out, Hamilton Island has no garbage landfill, so all that is required to be disposed of at a landfill site, must be removed from the island – in this case, by barge to the mainland and on to the appropriate facilities in Proserpine.

Obviously this process is time consuming and costly, so alternative solutions have been sought through extensive recycling programs, to sort the materials into different streams and deal with them individually – an involved process that requires considerable public education, but one which Hamilton Island management feel is vital to the future wellbeing of the island and surrounding environment.

The process starts with a slogan as simple as 'do the right thing, use the right bin' and the provision of different, colour-coded bins to help separate out the different types of waste.

Materials such as plastic milk bottles, PET plastics, glass, cardboard, aluminium and steel cans can all be recycled, and the new brightly coloured bins which you will find at various locations on the island allow this to start at the source, says Herholdt.

The program is supported by the





Hamilton Island's state-of-the-art glass crushing machine is capable of crushing one tonne of glass waste per hour with the resultant 'glass sand' available for use as aggregate in local roads.

Department of Environment and Resources, and as well as the practical objectives of recycling as much of the waste material as possible, it is hoped that over time, a culture of recycling will become established and become ingrained.

Of course, education and raising awareness is only one part of the whole. With the island's recycling centre fully operational, the materials still need to be dealt with, which is where specialist machinery like the new glass crusher come into their own.

This state-of-the-art machine is capable of crushing one tonne of glass per hour, with the resultant 'glass sand' then used as aggregate in local roads and as pipe embedment in services trenches.

"The current four tonnes per week is not anywhere near full capacity," says Gavin Herholdt, and the challenge now is to increase that to at least 10 tonnes per week – a figure he feels is well within reach as visitors, residents and businesses on the island continue to embrace the recycling culture.

"While the other waste is sorted and baled ready for transportation, the crushed glass is used on the island and doesn't need to be taken anywhere."

This is just another area where Hamilton Island strives to maintain the natural beauty of the island and minimise the environmental impact to the whole surrounding area. The recycling of waste water has long been in place on the island and continues to play its part keeping Hamilton Island green despite being surrounded by salt water.

Likewise, the Hamilton Island Golf Club was designed to be self-irrigating, the specially designed and constructed catchment on Dent Island providing sufficient water from rain fall to keep the stunning course in top condition year-round.

Every little bit counts, and it is this approach of painstaking attention to 'the little things' that will ensure the future of Hamilton Island and this breathtaking region. ■



Playing Around

It's not only avid golfers who can enjoy the spectacular Hamilton Island Golf Club and its facilities. With private lessons available and special golf clinics for children and families during school holidays, everyone can hone their skills or start their golfing career on the Peter Thomson-designed layout. What a place to tee off!

STORY DAVID LASKY PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI,
JASON LOUCAS AND JAMES MORGAN

For some it is an obsession, while for others it is a game to be enjoyed on occasion, and to some 'it is a good walk wasted'. The ancient game of golf – chasing a little white ball up hill and down dale – is one of the most popular, rewarding, frustrating, relaxing, enjoyable pastimes on earth and there is nowhere better to experience it than at the brilliant Hamilton Island Golf Club.

Already hailed as one of the finest courses

in the southern hemisphere, Hamilton Island Golf Club is not just for the seasoned player (although its Peter Thomson design will appeal to the most discerning golfer), but even offers golf clinics for children and families during school holidays to help improve everyone's game or, if it's your first time, give you a taste of the game that can very easily become an addiction.

Regardless of your skill level, the course is well worth a visit if only to drink in the



The view alone is reason enough to duck over from Hamilton Island, but once at the Hamilton Island Golf Club, the rewards out on the course are there for the taking.

view and breathe in the sea air. Located on neighbouring Dent Island, just a short ride across Dent Passage, the course has been masterfully designed to blend in with the natural vegetation and topography of the island and produce a 6,120 metre, par 71 championship layout. Here, the seasoned golfer can really test his or her mettle against holes that are as challenging as they are picturesque. There are greens that require pinpoint accuracy to avoid a one

way trip to the rough, but the rewards for the brave – and skillful – are well worth it.

For those starting out, the program of family clinics, held during school holiday periods, are the perfect way to engage the whole family and perhaps discover if there is a budding professional within the ranks.

“It doesn’t matter whether you are a beginner or polished amateur, we’ll cover the technique basics, providing skills to improve both long and short games as well

as going over golfing etiquette and rules,” says resident professional, Cherie Alison (nee Byrnes).

Even if there isn’t a junior Great White Shark in your midst, the clinics provide the perfect launching pad from which to enjoy the game, and Cherie and her teaching staff have the combination of expertise, tour experience and enthusiasm to create the right atmosphere for all participants to enjoy and get the most from the great game.



There are other ways to enjoy a leisurely afternoon at the Hamilton Island Golf Club without so much as lifting a club!

HAMILTON ISLAND GOLF CLUB

Half day family golf clinics:

\$55* (adults) \$45* (children)
Includes ferry transfers to and from Hamilton Island Golf Club, use of golf clubs (if required) and refreshments.

Green fees:

18 holes \$150*, 9 holes \$100*

Includes use of an electric golf buggy on-course and return ferry transfers.

Hire clubs:

Callaway
Clubhouse: Facilities include Clubhouse restaurant and bar, open from 7:00am for light refreshments and from 11:00am for lunch – bookings essential – please call 07 4948 9759 (59759)

Tee times:

First tee off: 7:30am
Last tee off: 18 holes 1:00pm^
Last tee off: 9 holes 3:30pm^

*Prices are subject to change.

^Last tee times vary according to sunset.

www.hamiltonislandgolfclub.com.au
07 4948 9760 (59760)

Private lessons from the teaching staff are available all year round, giving novices the chance to build a solid foundation for their game and for the more seasoned player to work on specific areas or iron out problems.

Of course, there are other good reasons for a trip to the Hamilton Island Golf Club that don't necessarily include playing golf. The superb Hamilton Island Golf Clubhouse (and the restaurant housed within) is reason enough to visit Dent Island. This is the perfect venue for a long lunch (perhaps while other members of the party tackle the course?) and to take in one of the finest views anywhere in the world. It is also interesting to get a different perspective on Hamilton Island, looking back across the passage towards the island, or just gazing out over the Coral Sea. The Chris Beckingham-designed Clubhouse takes many of its design cues from the award-winning qualia on Hamilton Island,

and with floor to ceiling electric windows that open completely, the inside and outside become one.

There are special lunch packages designed for the non-playing visitor in mind that include transfers to and from Dent Island, lunch and a drink at the Clubhouse and a tour of the Hamilton Island Golf Club (by golf buggy of course), just so that you can say that you have actually inspected the course. Be warned though, this might just prove enough to arouse your curiosity and have you return to rent a set of clubs and try your hand.

For those who have played before though, there will be little encouragement necessary to get out on the sweeping fairways and play. When designer Peter Thomson finished the course, he said "it has a wow factor that I think is unmatched," and even the uninitiated can tell that this is a very special place. ■



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An Enduring Talent

One of Australia's favourite sons, Rolf Harris has become the face of the Wild Oats wines TV commercial for friend Bob Oatley. Rolf's first Australian TV brand campaign in 25 years, he demonstrates just why he has stayed at the top of the game for so long.

STORY JAMES MCRORY PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY ROLF HARRIS ENTERPRISES
AND WILD OATS WINES

Icon is a greatly overused word in the modern lexicon, but when describing Rolf Harris it's really the only one that works. In a career that spans more than 65 years and counting – Rolf Harris – artist, entertainer, TV personality, musician and Member of the Order of Australia, has done it all, and shows absolutely no signs of slowing down.

Recently, Rolf stepped in front of the cameras to record his first Australian TV brand campaign in 25 years (since British Paints), becoming the face of the recent Wild Oats wines TV commercial for good friend Bob Oatley, owner of Robert Oatley Vineyards and Hamilton Island.

"I painted Bob Oatley's portrait a while back and in that time we became friends," says Rolf.

"When he asked me to film the wine ad I instantly agreed. How could I say 'No'?" he says with a smile.

The campaign shows Rolf, deeply involved in one of his paintings, helped along with just the right amount of inspiration by one of Bob's own creations.

The campaign works perfectly with Rolf's sense of humour, and his relaxed style in front of the cameras, born of years spent on TV both here and in the UK. Using wine in such an unorthodox way certainly appealed to Rolf, the man who scored one of his many

international hits when he recorded his own version of the rock classic, *Stairway to Heaven* – on the wobble board!

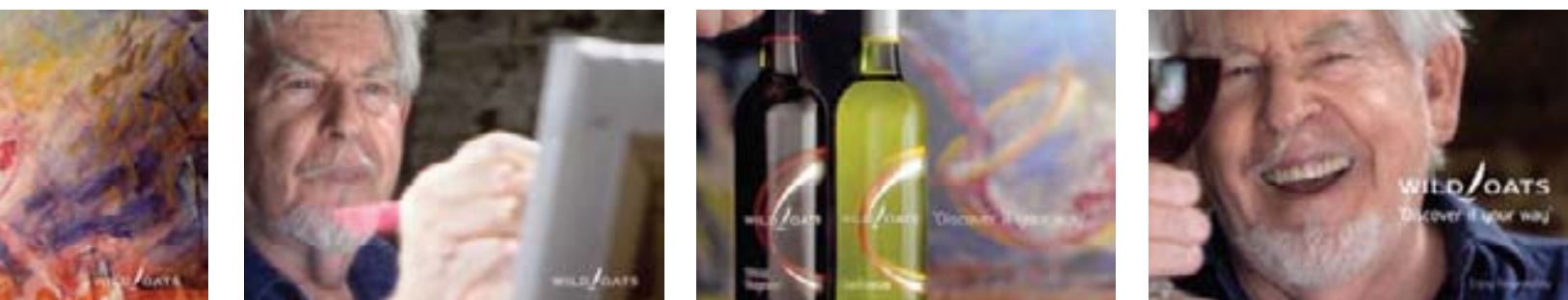
"Using wine in one of the paintings came out of a conversation with the creative team at Robert Oatley Vineyards," says Rolf. "The moment it was suggested, it made me smile, and I thought 'Yes, let's do it!'"

Although his ability to laugh at life and himself has helped him survive and thrive in the often cut-throat show business industry, painting is Rolf's enduring passion. While his astounding 'quick portraits' performed on TV still make it look so easy, he is a real and rare talent, and it is his passion for painting that underpins his





The tireless Rolf Harris defies description – but throughout his many-faceted career, his passion for painting has remained a driving force.





With friend Bob Oatley, beside the portrait he painted of Bob on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

artistic endeavours and what drives him.

"I love to paint and the total focus on what I happen to be painting at the time is very relaxing," he says.

It was his dream of becoming a famous portrait painter that first saw Rolf, aged 22, leave his native Australia in 1952 and head for England. Studying first at London's City and Guilds Art School and then under Australian impressionist, Hayward Veal, Rolf's natural talent was immediately evident, and, coupled with a now trademark enthusiasm has seen him foster that talent and fashion it into an enduring career that has received both critical and popular acclaim.

His paintings and in particular, portraits, have been exhibited all over the world, from the National Gallery in London, to the Australian National Portrait Gallery in Canberra. His portrait of HM Queen Elizabeth II (commissioned for her 80th birthday) was also shown in Buckingham Palace – as well as being the subject of a BBC TV documentary.

Indeed Rolf has long employed TV to bring a range of subjects, including the world of art, to an enormous international audience.

From early appearances for the BBC in the 1950s, Rolf was instantly at home in front of the camera and his popularity has continued

to grow to the present day, switching between the UK and Australia and back again, he has never gone 'out of fashion', not that that is something that concerns Rolf at all. One of his many TV projects, *Rolf on Art* for the BBC holds the record for the highest television ratings for an arts program – ever!

His other recent television projects include 19 series of the award-winning *Animal Hospital*, *Rolf's Star Portraits* and TV's biggest art event, with a live broadcast on BBC One aptly entitled *Rolf on Art: The Big Event* and, more recently a TV documentary *My Family at War* about his father and uncles' experiences in WW1. As well as TV projects, Rolf takes on a prodigious amount

HAMILTON ISLAND 2011 CONFERENCE ITINERARY

- 7.00am Breakfast at the Hamilton Island Wildlife Park**
Enjoy a hot full buffet breakfast in the garden courtyard of the island's Wildlife Park. After breakfast take a tour of the park and 'meet the locals'. *Note: Bring camera - in case you get to cuddle a koala.*
- 9.00am Conference starts at the Hamilton Island Yacht Club - Ketch Room**
Make your way to the Hamilton Island Yacht Club. Located at the end of the island's marina - look for the amazing building with a roof similar to the Sydney Opera House. *Note: Bring camera - if you get a moment the views from the Yacht Club are incredible.*
- 10.00am Morning Tea on the Flag Deck**
Join the rest of the team for warm pastries, coffee and tea on the Flag Deck of the Hamilton Island Yacht Club overlooking the water. Conference resumes at 10.30am.
- 12.00pm Lunch Cruise to Whitehaven Beach**
Meet the cruise vessel at the marina for a relaxed lunch and turtle-spotting tour. *Note: Bring camera - you won't want to go home without some photos of this magnificent beach.*
- 2.00pm Arrive back at Hamilton Island**
- 2.30pm Hamilton Island Golf Club**
Meet the Island Links ferry down at the marina for a 10min ride over to Dent Island. Hole-in-One contest and golf tips from the resident golf pro. *Note: Bring camera - this is apparently being hailed as one of the most picturesque new golf courses in Australia.*
- 4.00pm Arrive back at Hamilton Island**
For those with a bit more energy left, join the Amazing Race buggy rally - the team who wins gets a complimentary spa treatment at Spa wumurdaylin.
- 6.00pm Dinner on the Dock**
Fresh seafood dinner at a fine dining table setting stretching the length of the jetty down at the marina. *Note: Bring camera - the sunset from this spot is unbelievable, and the fireworks display later in the evening will be amazing.*

What a conference!



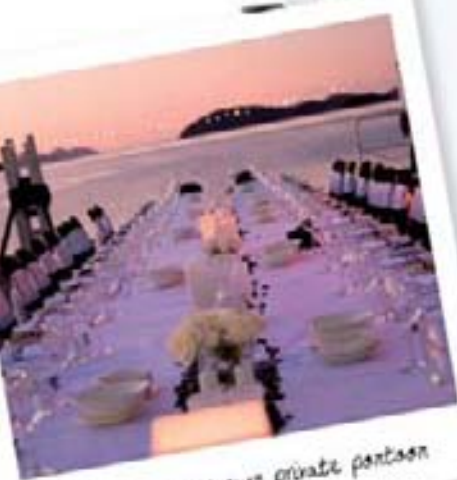
Breakfast with the koalas



Hamilton Island Yacht Club



The beautiful Whitehaven Beach



Dinner on our own private pontoon



Our Hole-in-One contest

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Rolf Harris' painting, created for the Wild Oats wines TV commercial (right).



FIVE STAR WINES

Bob Oatley was recently acknowledged as one of Australia's 21 Most Influential Liquor Identities of the past 21 years, as voted by the industry in an online poll. Fellow luminaries included a number of famous winemakers, marketers and writers, including the undisputed doyen of wine critics, James Halliday.

Each year, Halliday completes the gruelling task of tasting over 8,000 wines to compile his *Australian Wine Companion*, the most respected guide to the finest Australian wines. In the latest edition he has upgraded Robert Oatley Vineyards (makers of Wild Oats wines), to a Five Star rating and selected Larry Cherubino Wines as his Winery of the Year.

Larry Cherubino (pictured above) has worked as an advisor with the Oatley family since 2007, and in late 2010 Sandy Oatley announced that he would increase his role, as Director of Production, a move that is bound to continue the very high standards of this leading Mudgee-based winery.

"We are excited that Larry is working with us in this capacity," Sandy Oatley said of the announcement.

"He adds depth to a terrific team who have produced some outstanding wines in our first four years of operation."



"They (Wild Oats wines) are really fine wines...and a really good wine is like a work of art!"
Rolf Harris

of work. In 2010 he also performed in front of 130,000 people at the popular Glastonbury Festival (his sixth appearance); he played at WOMAD (World of Music, Arts and Dance) and performed at the Pacific National Exhibition's 100th Anniversary celebrations in Vancouver. In March last year a children's book, *Buster Fleabags* was released and a major art book *Rolf Harris – A Life in Art* was published by DeMontfort to celebrate Rolf's 65 years in art and his 80th birthday year!

Asked where his seemingly limitless energy comes from, the tireless wit is evident.

"I put it down to huge amounts of sleep and good food in my childhood," he laughs.

"I have a natural enthusiasm for learning more about the things that interest me. And I'm fortunate in that I really enjoy what I do

for a living. So I feel energised with every new project that I take on."

Certainly there are no end of new projects recently completed or on the horizon.

"BBC Television has just filmed a big documentary which covers me painting a number of pictures inspired by Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, working with a series of remarkable women in the public eye...and I will be attending a number of exhibitions of my work at art galleries throughout the UK."

So, no plans to take a break and perhaps visit Hamilton Island in the foreseeable future?

"I would love to visit Hamilton Island... maybe I could do that later this year, but for the moment, I'm flat out with a full schedule in the UK." ■

*"I hope you enjoy
drinking these wines
as much as we enjoy
making them"*

Bob Oatley



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REEF

MAGAZINE – HAMILTON ISLAND & THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

Real Estate

Your property guide for purchasing your own piece
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www.hamiltonislandyachtclubvillas.com.au www.hamiltonisland.com.au



The Edge on Hamilton Apartment 12

5 Acacia Drive, Hamilton Island

FOR SALE. \$2,100,000 3 2 1

This pristine top floor three bedroom apartment offers the ultimate in style and waterfront luxury.

Showcasing captivating Coral Sea and island views from almost every room, floor-to-ceiling glass doors from the expansive open-plan living area open out to the generous full-width balcony for stunning Whitsunday sunsets.

With an ultra modern decor, sleek finishes and stylish fixtures and furnishings throughout, the property offers a deluxe, open-plan kitchen, a magnificent master bedroom with its own balcony and designer spa ensuite, and sophisticated smart technology and security systems.

The Edge is a popular choice for holiday makers due to its close proximity to the marina and restaurant precinct.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222



Lot MP

9 Coral Sea Avenue, Hamilton Island

FOR SALE. \$2,400,000

This north-facing lot offers remarkable views over Fitzalan Passage and Whitsunday Island, and gives you direct water frontage.

Lot MP consists of 2,589 square metres of gradually sloping vacant land and sits in a private, exclusive location surrounded by superior homes.

This sizeable asset comes complete with approved concept plans for a luxury residence designed by Chris Beckingham, architect of neighbouring luxury resort 'qualia'.

The proposed residence offers three bedrooms, four bathrooms, separate master bedroom pavilion, pool and games room, plus landscape design plans.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222

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Iluka

6 Whitsunday Boulevard, Hamilton Island

FOR SALE. \$4,200,000 5  4.5  2 

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222

'Iluka' Ultimate Tropical Paradise

One of the finest private residences on Hamilton Island, Iluka is a design masterpiece by renowned Whitsunday architect Chris Beckingham. This stunning property captures breathtaking north-easterly views, with a design emphasis on local materials. The property is set amongst over 2,000 square metres of stunning tropical gardens.

Iluka's vast internal space allows two families to be accommodated in superb luxury. With a focus on effortless living, indoor areas flow gracefully onto expansive outdoor areas embracing the spectacular natural setting and creating a fabulous entertaining precinct. The property comprises two separate lounge rooms, five bedrooms including two master bedrooms, each with ensuite and a swimming pool. Iluka represents an opportunity of enviable proportions.

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Lot MVL

10 Marina Terrace, Hamilton Island

FOR SALE. \$1,200,000

Elevated high above the marina with excellent views over Dent Passage through to Dent Island and the new 18-hole championship Hamilton Island Golf Club, this parcel of land stands out from its competition based on views and listed price.

Centrally located to both the marina precinct and Resort Centre, this vacant block of land is situated amidst already well-established, architecturally designed homes.

The stunning views across the marina at nightfall make this an ideal location to relax and unwind after a tough day, whether it be after a long day fishing or out on the golf course.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222



Hibiscus Lodge Apartment 004

16 Resort Drive, Hamilton Island

FOR SALE. \$925,000 2  2  1 

Ground floor, open-plan, single level, fully furnished, airconditioned, complex pool, electric buggy, ever-popular development... the list goes on.

Solidly built and low maintenance, the lodges with their north-facing aspect are designed to capture the summer breeze and winter sun.

With resort facilities at your doorstep and direct access to Catseye Beach, this family-friendly lodge should almost guarantee a stress-free holiday for you and your guests.

Hibiscus 004 is firmly established in the holiday letting pool, and with zero land tax and stamp duty only payable on furnishings, you have here the ultimate "holiday home meets investment", saving you money upfront and proven rental returns.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

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Consider the possibilities of your very own island escape.

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HAMILTON ISLAND
REAL ESTATE

THE SKIPPER'S WATCH

No other watch is engineered quite like a Rolex. The Yacht-Master II, designed to meet the needs of professional sailors, is the world's first complication built with a patented programmable countdown and mechanical memory. This ensures perfect synchronisation with the start of any regatta. The 44 mm Yacht-Master II, presented here in 18 ct yellow gold, features a bezel inlaid with a virtually scratch-resistant blue Cerachrom disc.

THE YACHT-MASTER II

