

2014/15



# QUEENSLAND ISLANDS & WHITSUNDAYS



*For the best times of your life!*



### See the Queensland Islands and Whitsundays – the Sunlover Holidays way!

For over 30 years, Sunlover Holidays has been crafting holidays for families, for couples, for friends and for adventurers right around Australia. From Cape York to Kangaroo Island, from the Gold Coast to Margaret River, from the Kimberley to Bruny Island, and everywhere in between our travel experts are here to design and book your ideal Aussie holiday.

Our 14 Sunlover Holidays brochures have something to suit all tastes and budgets and are the perfect planning tool for your family holiday, romantic getaway, self drive adventure or island escape.

Inside you'll find our 'Essential Experiences' with 'Must Do' activities plus 'Our Local Secrets' section designed to enhance your holiday experience. Our new Free Wi-Fi feature makes it easy to stay connected on holiday, just look for the properties displaying the Free Wi-Fi symbol.

We have a huge range of stay/pay specials to make your holiday dollar go further as well as a fabulous selection of value add offers which are listed throughout the brochure.

Use this brochure for inspiration, then let our travel experts assist you to experience Australia your way – happy travelling!

**Andrew Burnes**  
CEO, Sunlover Holidays

Above Photo: Heart Reef, Whitsundays

Main Cover Photo: Langford Cay, Whitsundays





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# Planning your Holiday

The information on the following pages is designed to help you plan your dream getaway. Discover the Queensland Islands and Whitsundays and check out local events on page 6. We've detailed our Essential Experiences on page 8 and share 'Our Local Secrets' on page 9 as well as other Travel Tips for planning your perfect holiday.

## The Sunlover Holidays Difference

Fantastic prices, a diverse range of Australian holiday destinations, the widest choice of products and unmatched service, combined with over 30 years experience – that's the Sunlover Holidays difference!

We're committed to offering an extensive range of holiday options and our team of product experts regularly travel throughout Australia to bring you the very best holiday experiences. They are passionate about Australia and personally select each product, providing you with the greatest choice at the most competitive price.

Our team of friendly travel experts are here to help, offering advice and information. They can tailor-make your dream holiday from hundreds of fantastic hotels, apartments and resorts as well as flights, cruises, car and campervan hire, extended touring, self-drive holidays and a huge range of sightseeing tours and attractions.

## 100% Australian Owned

Sunlover Holidays is a division of The AOT Group, one of Australia's largest travel companies. We are 100%

Australian owned and proud to employ over 300 staff located in our offices in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. A booking with Sunlover Holidays ensures your dollar stays in Australia and helps generate jobs for Australians!

## 24 Hour Service

We know your holiday experience doesn't end until you are safely home. That's why our Customer Care Team is only a phone call away 24 hours a day, seven days a week, should you require any assistance during your Sunlover holiday. All the necessary information will be provided with your travel documentation and you can contact the team at any time during your holiday. We're with you on the journey.

## Offering You Value for Money

Throughout this brochure you'll find amazing offers including free nights, room upgrades and food and beverage credits to name a few. Just look for the 'Bonus Offer' box.

We have also put together some fabulous Holiday Packages starting on page 10, which offer exceptional value for money. These packages include a choice of accommodation

options to suit all budgets together with 'must do' tours and attractions, exclusive to Sunlover Holidays.

Our product team is always sourcing special deals throughout the year, so make sure you ask your travel agent for the latest Sunlover Holidays specials when making your booking.

## Exclusively For You

We're always on the look out for ways to enhance your holiday experience. Throughout this brochure, you'll find deals marked **Exclusively For You**. These are free bonus offers exclusive to Sunlover Holidays customers.

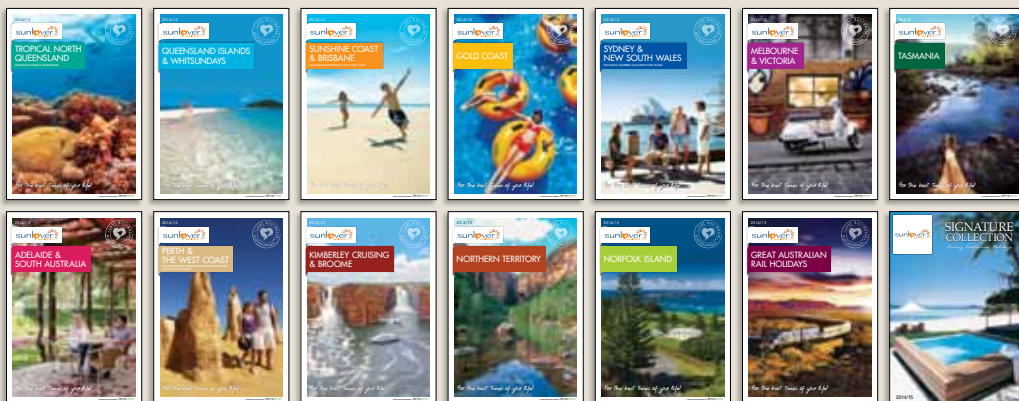
## TripAdvisor



This brochure is a great source of advice and has all the information you'll need to create your dream holiday. We are now partnering with TripAdvisor to offer you (where available) hotel reviews. TripAdvisor rates real travellers' experiences, giving you an unbiased and impartial point of view on the product we feature to assist you with your holiday planning. TripAdvisor ratings and reviews are available to view on our website at [www.sunloverholidays.com.au](http://www.sunloverholidays.com.au).

LET SUNLOVER HOLIDAYS  
**INSPIRE YOU**  
TO **DISCOVER**  
MORE OF THIS  
**INCREDIBLE**  
COUNTRY

ASK YOUR TRAVEL AGENT  
FOR ONE OF OUR MANY BROCHURES







Heron Island

## Pricing Guide

Prices featured in accommodation listings are per room for the period specified unless otherwise stated. The "from" price in the property heading has been calculated using the cheapest nightly rate available, ie. in the lead-in-room type, in off-peak season using the longest stay (eg. 7 nights). If a free night offer is available, even if for part of a season, this has been included when calculating the "from" price. A minimum stay is generally required. Where prices for more than a one night stay are featured, the prices refer to stays of consecutive nights.

## School Holidays

Queensland	5 – 21 Apr, 28 Jun – 13 Jul, 20 Sep – 6 Oct, 13 Dec 14 – 26 Jan 15
New South Wales	12 – 27 Apr, 28 Jun – 13 Jul, 20 Sep – 6 Oct, 20 Dec 14 – 26 Jan 15
Victoria	5 – 21 Apr, 28 Jun – 13 Jul, 20 Sep – 5 Oct, 20 Dec 14 – 28 Jan 15
ACT	12 – 27 Apr, 5 – 20 Jul, 27 Sep – 12 Oct, 18 Dec 14 – 29 Jan 15
Tasmania	18 Apr – 4 May, 5 – 20 Jul, 27 Sep – 12 Oct, 19 Dec 14 – 3 Feb 15
South Australia	12 – 27 Apr, 5 – 20 Jul, 27 Sep – 12 Oct, 13 Dec 14 – 26 Jan 15
Western Australia	12 – 27 Apr, 5 – 20 Jul, 27 Sep – 12 Oct, 19 Dec 14 – 1 Feb 15
Northern Territory	7 – 11 Apr, 23 Jun – 18 Jul, 29 Sep – 3 Oct, 13 Dec 14 – 26 Jan 15
New Zealand	18 Apr – 4 May, 5 – 20 Jul, 27 Sep – 12 Oct, 20 Dec 14 – 26 Jan 15

## Accommodation Ratings

STAR and Diamond ratings are used throughout the brochure to describe the standard of accommodation.

**STAR RATINGS** Properties featuring the STAR symbols are independently assessed by AAA Tourism, the national tourism body of the Australian Auto Clubs. The STARS and the STAR Rating Scheme are a Registered Trademark of AAA Tourism Pty Ltd. We have no input into the assessment process.

**DIAMOND RATINGS** Properties featuring Diamond symbols do not participate in a recognised rating scheme. The rating is supplied by the individual property based on their own assessment. We recommend they be used as a guide only.

- ★★★  
◆◆◆ Comfortable standard of accommodation
- ★★★★  
◆◆◆◆ High standard of accommodation and facilities
- ★★★★★  
◆◆◆◆◆ Superior standard of accommodation and facilities
- ☆  
◇ Denotes additional half rating

## Apartment Style Accommodation

In general, self catering apartments feature cooking facilities with a minimum of microwave, hot plates, saucepans, crockery, cutlery and cooking utensils. Laundry facilities will be located either in the apartment, or in a guest laundry within the property. Most apartments are serviced every 7 days and do not provide hotel facilities such as porterage, room service or mini bars. Most apartments provide an initial supply of items such as tea, coffee, toilet paper and soap.

## Room Images

Room images featured on property listings are the lead-in-room type, unless captioned otherwise.

## What the Symbols mean



The property has Free Wi-Fi available in the room/apartment. Free Wi-Fi may or may not be available in public areas. Please refer to the Property Features in the individual accommodation listing for further details.



Kids Club facilities are available. Check listings for details.



Day spa facilities are available.



The property has one or more rooms providing wheelchair access with assistance.



A bonus is available if you are celebrating a special occasion (eg. honeymoon). Advise your travel agent when booking. The definition of 'special occasion' and type of bonus offered is at each property's discretion. Conditions may apply.



Eco-Friendly STAR Accreditation certified by AAA Tourism to properties that have met key criteria in areas of energy efficiency, waste management and water minimisation.



Product that has been accredited under the second level of the national Ecotourism Certification scheme.



Product that has been awarded the highest level of the national Ecotourism Certification scheme.

## Great Barrier Reef Environmental Management Charge

The Australian Government levies a charge for every person aged 4 years and over entering the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Listed Marine Park, to assist in the preservation of this natural wonder. Check tour listings for details.

**DAY TOURS**  
**Buy Now &  
Book Later!**

Our **SUNFLEX** range of tours offers you the flexibility of pre-paying for your "must do" holiday experiences without having to lock in dates in advance. This means you can pick the day that best suits your needs once your holiday has commenced. Simply include a **SUNFLEX** tour in your itinerary, pay for your entire holiday prior to departure, then call us up to 24 hours in advance to book. **SUNFLEX** gives you the flexibility to buy now and book later!  
**Just look for the SUNFLEX symbol on pages 44 and 45.**





# Discover the Islands & Whitsundays

Whitehaven Beach, Whitsundays

## Calendar of Events

### APRIL

Gladstone Harbour Festival	13th-19th
Gladstone Jazz'n Shiraz	20th

### JUNE

Rockhampton Show	3rd-5th
Mackay Show	17th-19th
Hamilton Island Paddling Event	20th-24th

### JULY

Mackay Festival of Arts	TBC
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### AUGUST

Hervey Bay Whale Festival	1st-31st
Airlie Beach Race Week	9th-16th
Whitsunday Reef Festival	15th-18th
Hamilton Island Race Week	16th-23rd
Great Barrier Reef Dancesport Open Championship	TBC

### SEPTEMBER

Airlie Beach Triathlon and Festival of Sport	1st
Coal to Coast Festival, Sarina	TBC

### OCTOBER

River 2 Reef Festival, Mackay	TBC
Global Grooves, Mackay	TBC

TBC – Dates for this event were yet to be confirmed at the time of printing.

## Tropical North Queensland Islands

Who doesn't love the idea of an island paradise? Sipping cocktails at sunset, whiling away the day in a hammock, exploring underwater marine worlds; welcome to the Tropical North Queensland Islands.

Bursting with beauty, the islands in Queensland's tropical northern waters have something for everyone. Escape to Lizard Island for an indulgent or romantic getaway or take the family to Green or Fitzroy Island for organised activities, watersports and beach fun. All three islands boast fringing reef surrounding the islands, so you can explore the colourful coral and marine life from the beach. Wining and dining is another popular island activity, and with so much fresh tropical produce, dining is just one part of your island holiday you'll relish.

## Whitsunday Islands

One of the world's ultimate travel destinations, the Whitsunday Islands combines beautiful beaches and reefs with a huge range of accommodation options and activities to suit everyone.

Located midway on the Queensland Coast, the islands enjoy an enviable temperate climate year round. Simply fly in to Hamilton Island Airport or Whitsunday Coast Airport in Proserpine, and you'll soon be enjoying the spoils of Hamilton, Hayman, Daydream or Long Islands. Tempting luxury awaits at Hayman and qualia, be spoilt for choice on Hamilton Island or be pampered at Daydream Island's state of the art spa. Enjoy the laid back, casual atmosphere of Long Island Resort.

Take a scenic flight over this archipelago of 74 islands and it's easy to see why the Whitsundays is often called the jewel in the crown of Queensland's holiday destinations.

## Southern Queensland Islands

Here you're likely to meet a dolphin, cross paths with a turtle, and discover unique natural environments. Snorkel, swim, walk or take to the sea – there's wonderful scenery and wildlife around every corner.

Heron, Wilson and Lady Elliot Islands are all renowned for their access to the reef and unique natural habitats that create a fantastic natural theatre for visitors.

Exploring by four wheel drive is the order of the day on World Heritage Listed Fraser Island, the world's largest sand island. Kingfisher Bay Resort is gateway to the island and its ancient rainforests, spectacular freshwater lakes and famous 75 Mile Beach.

Hand feed the dolphins at Tangalooma Island Resort on Moreton Island, sand toboggan down its dunes, or enjoy the choice of more than 80 activities.

## Whitsunday Coast

Airlie Beach encompasses everything we love about the Whitsundays. It's your gateway to the islands and the Great Barrier Reef, and a great holiday hub with a range of accommodation, dining options and nightlife.

Spend a lazy day at the magnificent man-made lagoon overlooking Pioneer Bay, or there's an assortment of exciting day tours and extended sailing cruises leaving from Abell Point Marina and Shute Harbour. Visit Whitehaven Beach by catamaran, bareboat or see all 74 islands from the air! Whether you drop anchor and explore your island of choice, or venture further out to the reef for a day, there's so much to do in the Whitsundays.

## Central Queensland Coast

Fancy some reef and beef? The Central Queensland Coast combines the best of the land and the sea to bring you an unforgettable holiday.

Rockhampton is known as 'Australia's Beef Capital' and has grown into a bustling regional centre, while just north is the Capricorn Coast with its 13 beaches along the scenic coastline between Yeppoon and Emu Park.

Coastal Mackay boasts great fishing, rainforest and beaches, and an impressive marina.

Gladstone is the gateway to Heron and Wilson Islands, and the Southern Great Barrier Reef, making it the perfect base for snorkelling, diving and exploring the flora and fauna.





**TROPICAL  
NORTH  
QUEENSLAND  
ISLANDS**  
Page 17



**WHITSUNDAY  
ISLANDS**  
Page 21



**WHITSUNDAY  
COAST**  
Page 39



**CENTRAL  
QUEENSLAND  
COAST**  
Page 54



**SOUTHERN  
QUEENSLAND  
ISLANDS**  
Page 34



- INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS
- REGIONAL AIRPORTS
- MAIN ROADS
- RAIL

**DISTANCES BY ROAD (KM)**

BRISBANE							
289	HERVEY BAY						
363	121	BUNDABERG					
643	400	295	ROCKHAMPTON				
976	733	623	330	MACKAY			
1118	875	770	477	150	AIRLIE BEACH		
1705	1463	1357	1063	738	624	CAIRNS	

Distances should be used as a guide only.



Great Barrier Reef

## Essential Experiences



Whitsundays Sailing

### 1. Great Barrier Reef

Make sure you tick the Great Barrier Reef off your bucket list. It's not surprising this national treasure is a must do for all visitors. See the abundance of amazing marine life and beautiful coral – an experience you won't forget. (see page 44 for details)

### 2. Whitehaven Beach

With crystal clear water and pristine white sand this is a paradise hot spot not to miss. Take a cruise to Whitehaven Beach and enjoy the scenery and contrast of beautiful colours overlooking the coast. It's no wonder this is Australia's most photographed beach. (see pages 44 and 45 for details)

### 3. Sail the 74 Whitsunday Islands

If stopping on a deserted beach to witness an amazing sunset or dropping anchor to snorkel away from the crowds is appealing, consider hiring a yacht or motor cruiser. With 74 Islands to choose from, your options are endless. (see pages 45 to 53 for details)

### 4. Heart Reef

Take a breathtaking seaplane tour over the iconic Heart Reef. A truly spectacular view. (see page 45 for details)

### 5. 24 Secluded Beaches

Visit Lizard Island located on the most northern end of the Great Barrier Reef. Offering natural beauty and secluded from the rest of the world. Escape on one of the 24 secluded white sandy beaches; take a walk, a good book or a picnic and enjoy owning the beach all to yourself.

### 6. Whale Watching

Get up close and personal with the gentle giants of the ocean. Take a cruise from Hervey Bay, Fraser or Moreton Islands (June – November), for the experience of a lifetime.

### 7. Walking Tracks

Follow one of the many walking tracks through cool rainforests and national parks. Whitsunday Peak located in Whitsunday Island National Park is one of the most challenging but offers rewarding views over the Whitsunday passage. Make sure you take your camera!

### 8. Snorkel from a Coral Cay Island

Visit coral cay islands Green, Heron and Lady Elliott and swim off the beach into a coral paradise. See thousands of species of brightly coloured fish and brilliantly coloured corals, not to mention the diverse marine life including dolphins, turtles and dugong. (see pages 18, 34 and 35 for details)

### 9. Green Turtles

Visit Heron Island or Lady Elliot Island to see Green turtles. Walk along the beach after the evening tide and follow the tracks in the sand (January – May). (see pages 34 and 35 for details)

### 10. Hand Feed Wild Dolphins

For an unforgettable experience visit Tangalooma Island Resort and hand feed wild Bottlenose dolphins. (see pages 36 and 37 for details)

### 11. Fraser Island

For relaxation, swimming, wildlife and fun in the sun visit World Heritage Listed Fraser Island, the world's largest sand island. (see page 38 for details)

### 12. Rejuvenation

Treat yourself to a full pampering experience at Spa quaila on Hamilton Island and Rejuvenation Spa on Daydream Island. Immerse yourself in the beautiful surrounds at One&Only Hayman's Rainforest Massage, simply paradise! (see pages 26, 28 and 30 for details)



Dolphin Feeding, Tangalooma Island Resort



Rainforest Massage, One&Only Hayman



Lizard Island





## Travel Tips

Airlie Beach

### How to Get There

**BY AIR** For information on how to get to the Queensland Islands please refer to the individual island pages for details.

The Whitsundays can be accessed by flights into Hamilton Island or Whitsunday Coast Airport in Proserpine. Coach and/or launch transfers will connect you from these airports to your accommodation.

Direct flights are available to Hamilton Island daily from Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Cairns with connecting flights from other cities. Direct flights from Brisbane to Proserpine operate daily with connecting flights available from other cities.

#### FLIGHT DURATION

FROM / TO	HAMILTON ISLAND	PROSERPINE
Brisbane	1 hr 45 mins	1 hr 45 mins
Sydney	2 hrs 30 mins	-
Melbourne	2 hrs 55 mins	-
Cairns	1 hr 25 mins	-

The above table shows flight durations for direct flights only. Connecting flights from other destinations are also available. Times are a guide only and subject to change.

**BY RAIL** Enjoy Queensland's coast in comfort aboard the innovative Tilt Train or The Sunlander from Brisbane or Cairns.

**BY CAR** Take the time to explore as you make your way to Queensland's Whitsunday and Central Queensland Coast. Whether it's getting there or getting around we recommend Avis car hire. See page 57 for details.

### Beach Safety

Queensland has some of the world's best beaches, however care and caution should be exercised at all times. Please remember to swim between the red and yellow flags and listen to instructions from lifesavers and lifeguards. Marine stingers are present in coastal waters from October to June, so please heed warning signs and look for beaches with netted enclosures for safe swimming.

### School Leavers Celebrations

Each year from mid November to mid December, school leavers from Queensland and southern states head to Airlie Beach for School Leavers Celebrations. During this period, bonds and conditions may apply to some properties. Check with your travel agent at time of booking.

### Weather Guide

#### TEMPERATURE AVERAGE in The Whitsundays

Summer	24°C to 31°C
Autumn	21°C to 28°C
Winter	15°C to 24°C
Spring	20°C to 28°C

### OUR LOCAL SECRETS

#### *For a unique dining experience...*

Join One&Only Hayman Island's Executive Chef for a gourmet dining experience you will never forget. Guests are invited backstage into the Main Kitchen to enjoy a six course dinner with carefully paired wines and educational commentary. Guests can also visit the famous Hayman Cellar and Chocolate Room. Perfect for upcoming food connoisseurs.

#### *To see an amazing sunset...*

Pack a gourmet picnic and cruise in your golf buggy up to Hamilton Island's One Tree Hill lookout, enjoy the views of the island and watch the beautiful Whitsundays sunset.

#### *For food and celebrity lovers...*

Go to Capers Bar and Grill by the beachfront in Airlie Beach, alfresco dining with fabulous views of the Coral Sea. Locals have spotted Nicole Kidman, Matthew McConaughey and Hugh Jackman.

#### *For a marine experience...*

Visit Daydream Island's living reef featuring over 115 species of marine fish and 80 species of coral. You can even hand-feed the resident sharks, barramundi and stingrays.

#### *If you fancy a touch of country...*

Visit Rockhampton and discover the country in the city. Go to the Great Western Hotel to enjoy a mouth watering steak and even catch a weekly Rodeo in one of Australia's largest arenas.

#### DISTANCES BY ROAD (KM)

BRISBANE						
534	GLADSTONE					
643	111	ROCKHAMPTON				
674	149	36	YEPPON			
976	446	330	355	MACKAY		
1091	566	453	478	126	PROSERPINE	
1118	593	477	502	150	25	AIRLIE BEACH
1705	1177	1063	1089	738	611	624 CAIRNS

Distances should be used as a guide only.