



Tongue Point overlooking Hill Inlet, Whitsunday Island

Few natural wonders command such attention as the Great Barrier Reef, the world's greatest coral reef system. Those who see it never forget it. Here, after all, is a spectacle so vast that it can be seen from the moon.

What makes the reef so great is not just what's beneath the surface but also what's above it - the Islands of the Great Barrier Reef. On an island, you can literally immerse yourself in one of the seven natural wonders of the world. From the exclusivity and unbridled luxury of five-star resorts to the back-to-nature simplicity of tented accommodation in sublime natural settings, the reef's islands offer a retreat from the demands of everyday life. Whichever you choose, you are guaranteed an experience that will live with you forever. There are many different islands along the vast stretch of reef to complement your ideal Great Barrier Reef experience: ecological, luxurious, natural, secluded. From these islands you can choose how you connect with the reef. You can dive into it, snorkel through it, sail it, fish it and feel it. You can swim with turtles or watch the whales play.

Daydream Island Resort

Daydream Island Resort and Spa is a small but dynamic resort located in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef.

Nestled among the Whitsunday Islands, it offers affordable luxury for couples and families alike. Its natural attributes – secluded beaches, azure waters and stunning rainforest – are complimented by a diverse range of fun-filled holiday activities, magical dining experiences and contemporary facilities, including a world-class rejuvenation day spa. Daydream Island Resort and Spa offers a range of 4.5-star accommodation styles to suit family vacations, romantic Whitsunday Island honeymoons, conferences and events.

Hayman

Beautifully situated in the magnificent Great Barrier Reef, Hayman is Australia's most celebrated private island destination. The most northerly island of the Whitsundays Group, Hayman invites guests into a world of privacy, luxury, relaxation, fine wines, abundant dining and breathtaking scenery. A member of The Leading Hotels of the World, this idyllic retreat has won a host of prestigious local and international awards.

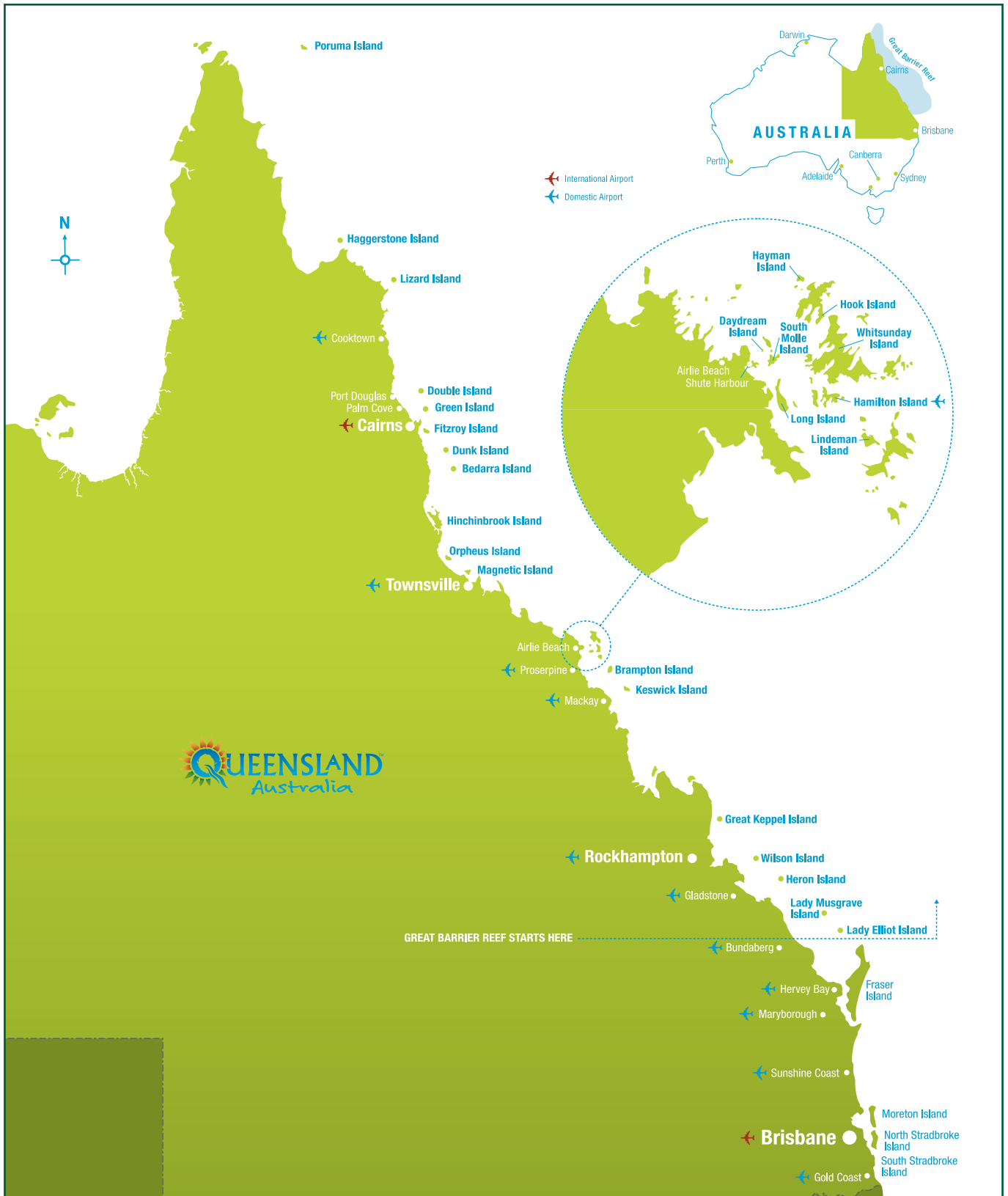
Hayman Island presents resort living in 228 beautifully appointed rooms, suites, penthouses and a villa, all featuring private terraces or balconies and offering breathtaking views of pools, lagoons, beach, gardens or the Coral Sea.

Hamilton Island Resort

Perfectly situated in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, nestled among the Whitsunday Islands, Hamilton Island offers an experience like no other: glorious weather, azure waters, brilliant beaches, awe-inspiring coral reefs, fascinating flora and fauna, fine food and wines, and activities almost too numerous to mention.

With a wide range of restaurants, bars, takeaways, boutiques and shops plus a commercial marina, sports complex and chapel (Could there be a more perfect place to say "I do"?) – not to mention 20 kilometres of bushwalking trails – Hamilton has it all. Whether you're looking for action, relaxation, romance or a fun family getaway, it's all here in abundance, with new experiences and adventures waiting around every corner.

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qualia

An exclusive world-class luxury resort, qualia is nestled into the secluded, northern tip of Hamilton Island, surrounded by the unsurpassed beauty of the Great Barrier Reef. With its own definitive style of understated elegance and quality and mesmerising calmness, qualia is a place of rare natural beauty.

Complementing the established attractions of greater Hamilton Island, this new Whitsundays resort offers outstanding facilities – including a state-of-the-art gym and yoga centre right on the water’s edge, two infinity pools and a luxury spa – along with uncompromising five-star service.

Orpheus Island

Imagine waking up in one of the world’s most exclusive private island destinations. Located amidst the Great Barrier Reef and surrounded by 1,300 hectares of pristine national park, Orpheus Island is a nature lover’s paradise. Strictly limited to 42 pampered guests and with the exclusion of

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Aerial view of Heron Island

telephones, televisions, daytrippers or children under 15, Orpheus provides the ultimate hideaway. The waters off the island are home to a vast array of vibrant, coloured marine life, showcasing 1,100 species of fish and 340 of the 350 known species of reef coral.

Magnetic Island

Nestled in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park – and just 8 kilometres from Queensland’s northern capital, Townsville – Magnetic is like no other island getaway. Two-thirds of this World Heritage-listed island is national park, providing a haven for abundant native wildlife, including more than 2,500 free-roaming koalas. Tropical fish thrive in the surrounding coral reefs and tranquil waters while rocky headlands frame secluded beaches, some accessible only by boat or on foot. The list of sporting and leisure activities is almost endless – as are the opportunities for shopping, wining and dining. Catering for a 2,500-strong resident population as well as holidaymakers in search of the good life, tropical style, Magnetic Island offers a wide range of services and facilities. Here is an island that welcomes all comers.

Lady Elliot Island

The southern most of the Great Barrier Reef Islands, Lady Elliot is a true coral cay and one of the premier eco-tourism experiences in Australia. Situated in a tidal lagoon and surrounded by a vast reef of living corals, the island is a rainbow of colours, from the surrounding turquoise and azure waters to the stunning white-sand beaches and lush green vegetation. A declared “Marine National Park Zone”, Lady Elliot is one of the few islands where you will see live coral and abundant bird and marine life at every level. Popular with visitors of all ages, it’s little wonder Lady Elliot is renowned as a nature lover’s nirvana.

Peppers Palm Bay, Long Island

Nestled amid swaying palms fringing a secluded private beach, Peppers Palm Bay on Long Island is an intimate tropical retreat rimmed by soft white sand and the turquoise waters of Australia’s beautiful Whitsundays. The ideal getaway for a romantic escape or honeymoon (there are no televisions or telephones to disturb the soul-restoring

peace); Peppers Palm Bay is also a perfect base for exploring the Great Barrier Reef and nearby islands.

Long Island Resort, Long Island

Hammocks swinging under palm trees, golden sandy beaches, gentle waves lapping at the shore and 1,012 hectares of tropical rainforest to explore: welcome to Long Island Resort. Nestled in the glorious Whitsundays, in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, Long Island Resort has all the facilities you’d expect from an award-winning three-and-a-half- star resort – including a day spa, 25-metre lap pool and two flood-lit tennis courts – plus a host of activities and entertainment for all ages. It’s little wonder that the resort is a favourite for couples, honeymooners, families and friends looking for an idyllic value-for-money island escape.

Green Island Resort

Situated on one of the seven natural wonders of the world – the Great Barrier Reef – is another of nature’s rare gifts: beautiful Green Island. A small coral cay, Green Island is one of Australia’s

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premier heritage sites and home to Green Island Resort. Widely regarded as one of the most environmentally sensitive tourist developments in the world, it is also the only five-star resort off the Cairns coastline located on a true coral cay.

Lady Musgrave Island

A true coral cay, Lady Musgrave rests on the edge of a coral-fringed lagoon measuring 8 kilometres in circumference. This aquatic playground boasts a huge variety of colourful marine life, while the cay itself – cloaked in dense pisonia forest and fringed with sheoaks and pandanus palms – is home to rare turtles and birds. In this World Heritage-listed marine national park, nature prevails. A variety of commercial launches cater for day-trip visitors, but for those seeking the ultimate “castaway” experience, the island offers bush camping for a maximum of just 40 people at any one time.

Hinchinbrook Island

When a place is perfect, sometimes it's best not to touch it. So it is that Hinchinbrook Island is Australia's largest island national park, where vast tracts of tropical rainforest, rugged mountains and glorious beaches remain in pristine condition. Located just a short ferry ride from the mainland, and surrounded by the Great Barrier Reef, Hinchinbrook is the perfect place to restore body, mind and spirit. The award-winning Wilderness Lodge is the island's only settlement, offering splendid isolation in spacious crafted timber “tree houses” that are accessed by a meandering timber boardwalk. This eco-lodge makes a great base from which to explore the many activities on offer on the island, such as bushwalking, fishing, snorkelling, swimming, day cruises, bird watching or just laying around and soaking it all in.

Voyages Lizard Island

Outstanding in every respect, the unique pleasures of Voyages Lizard Island have created an idyllic

retreat second to none. Australia's northernmost resort, Lizard is located right on the spectacular Great Barrier Reef, fringed with colourful coral reefs and 24 powdery white beaches. It is little wonder that this tranquil escape has won a host of prestigious national

and international awards for excellence. Lizard truly is one of a kind. Each of the 40 villas on Voyages Lizard Island is elegant and spacious, with either ocean or beach views.

Voyages Wilson Island

Voyages Wilson Island is a tiny coral cay located just 40 minutes from Heron Island. A divine sweep of castor-sugar sands that is home to turtles and birds, Wilson is both part of the Great Barrier Reef, and surrounded by it. Its pristine waters are host to an unimaginable variety of marine life, including colourful coral and fish, with some of the best snorkelling in the Great Barrier Reef, just off the beach.

Voyages Bedarra Island

When you simply don't wish to be found, when you need to escape, unwind and experience the finer things in life, there is no better place to disappear to than Voyages Bedarra Island. This is Australia's most exclusive resort, an indulgent tropical private haven, lying off the coast of Cairns. At Bedarra, guests can do as they wish, when they wish. And with a maximum of just 32 guests, no-one's going to cramp your style. Bedarra Island's 16 secluded villas are hidden in the rainforest, only minutes from the beach.

Voyages Dunk Island

Golden sands, palm-lined beaches, tranquil waters and a thriving rainforest. Dunk Island is Australia's most spectacular rainforest island. It was known to the first inhabitants as “Coonanglebah”, the isle of peace and plenty. Today, the palm-fringed beaches and lush rainforests of this tropical island are ideal for those who want to enjoy time out or the time of their lives. With a huge variety of activities, facilities and experiences to choose out, from, you'll be tempted to extend your stay indefinitely. Located in a national park, and lying midway between Townsville and Cairns, the resort is one of a few tropical islands that puts you within easy reach of the Great Barrier Reef.

Voyages Brampton Island

From the emerald greens of the island's national park to the azure blues of the surrounding waters and its 12 golden beaches, Brampton's style is vibrant and

easy-going. It's hard not to be captivated by the beauty of this classic Queensland island, lying at the southern entrance to the world-renowned Whitsunday Passage off Mackay. Brampton is big on fun and activity – and with so much included, it's a perfect haven for couples in search of a romantic hideaway with all the trimmings. (Plus there are no day-trippers to interrupt the peace and solitude!)

Voyages Heron Island

Voyages Heron Island is a true coral cay, located right on the Great Barrier Reef. A place of stunning natural beauty, it has sugar-white sands, crystal clear waters and acres of brilliant coral with colourful marine life. At this World Heritage-listed marine national park, all flora and fauna is protected, so the island is a nature lover's paradise, where the emphasis is on enjoying natural beauty.

Poruma Island

Poruma Island may appear like a pinprick on a map – it's just two kilometres long – but its reputation as an exclusive hideaway is no small thing. This remote coral cay is located at the extreme northern tip of the Great Barrier Reef, in the Torres Strait, between mainland Australia and Papua New Guinea. Home to approx 200 saltwater people – Australia's other indigenous people – Poruma combines luxury “huts”, a tropical island escape and water sports with island culture.

For more information on the Islands of the Great Barrier Reef visit:
www.queenslandholidays.com.au