REEF MAGAZINE

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HAMILTON ISLAND & THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

HAMILTON ISLAND
RACE WEEK POWERS BACK

DIVE, SNORKEL AND SAIL SECRET PLACES

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SIP WINNING COCKTAILS
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ISSUE 24
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PASPALEY

INTRODUCTION

For us on Hamilton Island, the past few months have been particularly exciting, as people from all over have embraced the opportunity to once again travel. It has been wonderful to welcome so many guests to the island for well overdue holidays and to see extended families and groups of friends spend time reconnecting. Thank you for supporting us. We're glad you can be here and hope you enjoy this issue of REEF Magazine.

Earlier this year, we welcomed Pete Brulisauer to our team as the new CEO of Hamilton Island. Pete joins the Hamilton Island family with resort experience, having been integral to the success of the Australian snow industry, where he oversaw the ski destinations Perisher, Hotham and Falls Creek for Vail Resorts. From the snow to the sand, Pete is dedicated to Australian tourism and brings a wealth of knowledge to the role. Under his expert eye and personable approach, we are on course for a strong future.

This issue of REEF Magazine goes to press just ahead of the much-anticipated return of Hamilton Island Race Week, following a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic and various travel restrictions. With the 2022 fleet at capacity, we look forward to seeing sailors reunite for some good competition and camaraderie on and off the water.

The Race Week social calendar is as impressive as the offshore action, with highlights including the Paspaley and Charles Heidsieck luncheons at qualia and a series of other exclusive lunches and dinners across the island, with visiting top chefs Peter Gilmore, Paul Carmichael, Analiese Gregory and Will Cowper.

This is the 36th Hamilton Island Race Week and some 224 vessels will compete, including our beloved Wild Oats XI who will be competing on the water for the first time since the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. I am proud to announce that Hamilton Island is the primary sponsor of the boat for the upcoming racing season, which culminates in the 2022 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. For more on the event and Race Week, turn to "The Race to Hobart" (p20), a superb feature by Rob Mundle, our dear friend, respected yachtsman and author.

I hope you thoroughly enjoy your stay with us. Whether you are a returning guest or this is the first of many visits, thank you for choosing Hamilton Island. The team wishes you a memorable stay here in the heart of the Whitsundays.

Sandy

Sandy Oatley
Chairman, Hamilton Island

Hamilton Island would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Whitsundays, the Ngaro people, and their connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and future generations to come and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

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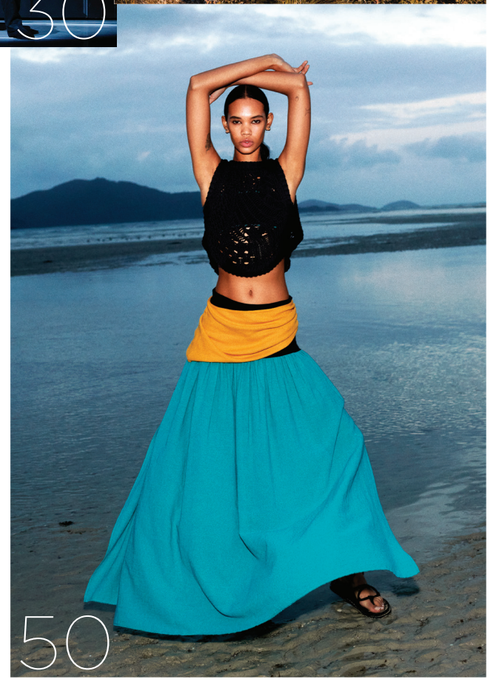
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KENDALL HILL, TRAVEL WRITER

EXPERT TRAVEL HACK?
"Bluetooth earbuds and soothing music – Satie's *Gymnopédies* always work in airport queues."
PACKING MANTRA?
"No idea. I'm the world's worst packer."
IDEAL HOLIDAY RELAXATION?
"Hiking in remote places."
YOU ARE LISTENING TO...
"Kendrick Lamar, currently."
AND READING...
"Anything by Robert Macfarlane or Toni Morrison."
SUNDOWNER?
"Negroni, always."
IF YOU COULD RETURN SOMEWHERE RIGHT NOW, WHERE WOULD IT BE?
"India."
IF YOU COULD TIME TRAVEL...
"I'd go to the time of the Mughal Empire in India."
ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?
"I'd like to understand the countries and cultures of Africa as well as I know those of Europe."
YOU ARE ON HOLIDAY WITHOUT YOUR PHONE...
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
"Panicked. Peace. Out."

RHIANNON TAYLOR, PHOTOGRAPHER

EXPERT TRAVEL HACK?
"SeatGuru [seatguru.com]. Don't get stuck with a weird seat on a plane ever again."
PACKING MANTRA?
"If I've forgotten it, I can buy it when I get there."
IDEAL HOLIDAY RELAXATION?
"A late breakfast."
YOU ARE LISTENING TO...
"Anything by Tourist."
AND READING...
"I prefer podcasts. Right now, it's something about a low-carb diet – not riveting."
SUNDOWNER?
"Southside."
IF YOU COULD RETURN SOMEWHERE RIGHT NOW, WHERE WOULD IT BE?
"Italy."
IF YOU COULD TIME TRAVEL...
"I'd go back to 2019, or to the 1920s."
ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?
"Bhutan."
YOU ARE ON HOLIDAY WITHOUT YOUR PHONE...
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
"Free."

MELANIE COLWELL, WRITER AND EDITOR

EXPERT TRAVEL HACK?
"Take advantage of the drop pin function on Google Maps. Even when you're not using phone data, you'll know how close you are to good coffee at any moment – a necessity."
PACKING MANTRA?
"Packing cubes. They're a godsend."
IDEAL HOLIDAY RELAXATION?
"You can relax at home or when you're dead. Holidays are for exploring."
YOU ARE LISTENING TO...
"*The Rewatchables*, a podcast that revisits iconic films with fun topics like 'Who won this movie?' and 'Half-assed internet research'."
AND READING...
"I'm just about to start *Love Stories* by Trent Dalton."
SUNDOWNER?
"I feel incredibly basic saying a spicy margarita, but there's no denying it."
IF YOU COULD RETURN SOMEWHERE RIGHT NOW JUST TO EAT, WHERE WOULD IT BE?
"Tokyo. Bring on endless bowls of ramen."
IF YOU COULD TIME TRAVEL...
"I like to imagine I would have made a great spy in the Cold War."
ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?
"A big blowout dinner at Massimo Bottura's Osteria Francescana restaurant in Modena, Italy."
YOU ARE ON HOLIDAY WITHOUT YOUR PHONE...
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
"See answer to question one. I'd be incredibly lost and caffeine-deprived."

BRENDAN JAMES, GOLF PHOTOJOURNALIST AND EDITOR

EXPERT TRAVEL HACK?
"I separate worn clothes from clean ones by putting them in my golf bag cover."
PACKING MANTRA?
"Roll – never fold – everything."
IDEAL HOLIDAY RELAXATION?
"Storm the breakfast buffet, waddle to the edge of the pool then stick your head back up for afternoon drinks. Perfect."
YOU ARE LISTENING TO...
"True crime podcasts. I'm a big fan of *Casefile* and the anonymous host."
AND READING...
"I just finished *Seve: The People's Champion* by Paul Daley."
IF YOU COULD RETURN SOMEWHERE RIGHT NOW, WHERE WOULD IT BE?
"It will always be the Old Course at St Andrews in Scotland."
IF YOU COULD TIME TRAVEL...
"I'd go to the late 1970s, a simpler time."
ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?
"To play and photograph the top 100 golf courses in Scotland."
YOU ARE ON HOLIDAY WITHOUT YOUR PHONE...
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
"Fantastic!"

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Castaway... ELYSE KNOWLES

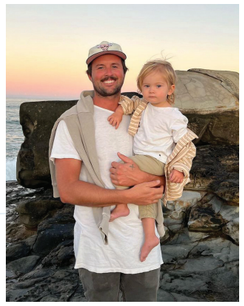
Imagine you are to be stranded on a remote desert island, but you're allowed to take a few essentials with you. Elyse Knowles, model and former winner of *The Block*, knows a thing or two about being resourceful. Here, she shares what's on her must-have list and how she would survive in these challenging conditions...

You can pack three essentials. What would you choose?
"Matches, water, food."

What would you most regret not packing?
"A swag, clothes and a helicopter to get out of there!"

What would you miss most?
"My son [Sunny, 18 months, above right]. He is my sunshine every single day. Oh, and showering."

What book would you bring with you?
"A book about survival."



Dream companion?
"Josh [Barker, her fiancé, above]. We can figure out things together. I'll leave Sunny safe at home."

What would you wear?
"Layers: swimmers, shirt, shorts, boots and a hat, and something warm on cold nights."

Island hobby?
"Catching fish and making cubbyhouses."

What kind of shelter would you build?
"Depends on the surrounds. Something high and with a bed that's off the ground so no animals bite me."

How would you send an SOS?
"I'd pull out my magic fireworks with letters that say 'HELP'."

Who would rescue you?
"Sunny and his crew of mates. They'd be looking for silly Mum and Dad that went on another wild adventure."

The dish you would be dreaming about post-rescue?
"A delicious salmon poke bowl, with some chocolate and a cup of tea to top it off."

Catch of the day? Or...
"Snappppper would be nice. Can't say I'm too good at catching any other animal."

You can channel one fictional character in your downtime (and there will be plenty of that). Who will you choose?
"Someone that has magic powers to fly us out of any danger and to get us home when we have no food and water left."

First place you would go once you've been rescued?
"Probably to the bathroom to have a shower. Or to the beach with the family to have a nice swim."

Favourite island movie for inspiration?
"At the moment, when it's a rainy day and I let him watch something, Sunny likes *Madagascar*. They get stuck on an island, make friends with all the locals and have a hoot of a time."

Your island mantra?
"It's all about the adventure."

If you could have one essential tool, what would it be?
"A knife would be very handy."

Your ultimate accessory?
"A water bottle that is always full and a billy to make a bloody good cup of tea."

What would you grow to eat?
"Lots of veggies, rice and fruit. I would try and find other island folk – if there are any – to hear their knowledge about the land."

Top island listening?
"Anything other than The Wiggles."

PHOTOGRAPHY: AMNAJ TANDEE/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM.

TOP 10 TO DO

1 ADVENTURE: GREAT BARRIER REEF

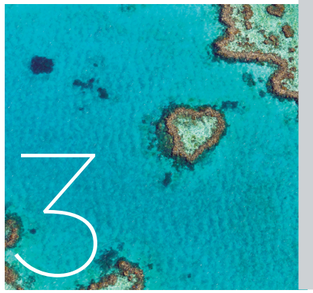
A holiday to Hamilton Island is made complete by taking a trip to the Great Barrier Reef to see the incredible tropical fish and epic coral formations up close. There are many ways to enjoy this World Heritage site. One is to join Cruise Whitsundays and head out to Reefworld for a full day of snorkelling and exploring the beautiful Hardy Reef. Or choose a half- or full-day trip with Explore Group to tour secret spots on the Whitsundays' fringing reefs or outer reefs. Whichever way you see the reef, it will be a once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

2 WONDERFUL: WHITEHAVEN BEACH

With a perfect 7km-long stretch of bone-white silica sand, bordered by clear, turquoise sea, Whitehaven Beach is a pinch-yourself paradise that is truly wonderful. It's one of the world's most unspoiled and beautiful beaches, located in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef. This unreal reality is a short trip from Hamilton Island by helicopter, seaplane, speedboat, sailboat or high-speed catamaran, and there's a fantastic choice of tours with half- and full-day options. Once you get there, walk, swim or simply relax on the sand and marvel at the kind of natural environment seen in glossy travel books and Instagram feeds.

EXPLORE: BUSHWALKS AND THE ICONS TRAIL

Touring Hamilton Island on foot is a good way to see its natural beauty at your own pace. Discover secluded sandy coves, climb to the top of the island for stunning views, or enjoy some lunch at one of the many picnic spots. The Icons Trail takes in four Hamilton Island landmarks: a 3m-tall chair, a giant swing, a hammock and a panoramic viewing platform in a breathtaking setting. Make sure to share the spectacular views with a selfie and the hashtag #HamiltonIslandIconsTrail. If you're intending to walk alone, let someone know before you set off and never swim alone at an isolated beach. Remember to consider the weather and pack a hat, sunscreen, water, snacks and a phone/camera. Respect the environment and take all rubbish with you. Trail maps are available on the Hamilton Island app – time to download and start exploring.



3 PANORAMA: SERIOUS SCENIC FLIGHTS

Take to the sky with Hamilton Island Air and appreciate the jaw-dropping scale and beauty of Hamilton Island, the Great Barrier Reef and the Whitsunday Islands. There's a range of scenic tours to choose from, including helicopter, seaplane and aeroplane trips. Experiences range in price, with the one-hour Heart Reef & Whitehaven Beach Express aeroplane flight being the most affordable way to see the iconic Heart Reef and also take in Hill Inlet, Whitehaven Beach and the Whitsunday Islands from above. The Whitehaven Beach Funseeker trip by seaplane reveals the full glory of this incredible strand with its azure waters, a topographical treat that is followed by a perfect water landing and 75 minutes on the beach. The Best of Both Worlds outing affords amazing views of the Great Barrier Reef and includes a landing at the Reefworld pontoon and at Whitehaven Beach with time to swim, stroll or just relax.

FAUNA: HAMILTON ISLAND WILDLIFE

A great activity for the whole family, Hamilton Island Wildlife Park gives you and the kids an opportunity to see some of the most familiar members of Australia's animal kingdom (bonus: the entry fee includes unlimited park visits). Take a guided tour with one of the expert keepers to learn about the country's unique fauna. Or join a Wildlife Encounter, a group activity with a choice of five animals: a koala, cockatoo, reptile (python or lizard) or dingo. For the ultimate animal adventure, choose the Wildlife VIP Experience, which includes a 30-minute one-on-one experience with an animal keeper and a koala, dingo, python or lizard, as well as some all-important souvenir photographs – plus, the chance to ask lots of questions. After exploring the park, have a coffee or light lunch with the koalas at the wildlife park's café – it's open from 8.00am.

6 DRIVING: FOUR-WHEEL THRILLS AND FUN

Go-kart racing at Hamilton Island's Palm Valley track offers a classic on-land experience in the fast lane. The karts are fun and easy to drive, and they're a great way to let off some city steam. No licence is required and the karts can reach up to 45km/h around the track. Kids too young to drive can still join in the fun, riding as passengers in a double kart. Offroad Adventure Tours offers exciting experiences for riders aged over eight years old. Drive an all-terrain vehicle (a minimum of a P2 licence is required) or let an expert guide you through scenic fire trails and up to the Resort Lookout. For children aged six to 14, Hamilton Island's Quads for Kids operates a short, child-friendly circuit that gets the adrenalin flowing.

7 ACTION: HAMILTON ISLAND BEACH SPORTS

If you're staying at the Reef View Hotel, Palm Bungalows, Beach Club, qualia or Hamilton Island Holiday Homes, you can pick up a complimentary catamaran, paddleboard, windsurfer, kayak or snorkelling equipment from the Beach Sports Hut on Catseye Beach. Paddleboarding is a great way to focus the mind and help achieve good balance while using almost every muscle in the body. You'll feel like you can conquer the world after a session. Kayaking is just as much fun; we love bobbing around, though you can take it more seriously, of course – hardcore kayaking burns an average of 350 calories an hour. And honestly, is there any place better to work out than right here in Catseye Bay?

8 EPIC: HAMILTON ISLAND GOLF CLUB

Dent Island is home to one of Australia's most spectacular 18-hole courses: the Hamilton Island Golf Club, designed by the late, five-time British Open champion, Peter Thomson. It's an incredibly beautiful course to play, with views of the Whitsundays and beyond, so prepare to be somewhat distracted. At the 19th hole, enjoy a laidback lunch at the Clubhouse, which has the kind of menu that will satisfy a hungry golfer after a day on the green. There's also a well-stocked pro shop for any last-minute needs. The 10-minute ferry ride over to Dent Island is a wonderful way to begin and end a day's play, too.

9 BLISS: SPA WUMURDAYLIN

Spa wumurdaylin offers a selection of authentic, rejuvenating and soothing beauty treatments. This is where the real holiday rest and relaxation happens. The highly skilled therapists provide treatments using LaGaia UNEDITED, a pH-balanced, scientifically formulated Australian skincare range packed with potent vitamins and botanical extracts that are hydrating and deliver our kind of results – bliss. Please reserve all treatments prior to arriving.

10 SPEED: JET SKI TOURS

Hamilton Island's Jet Ski Tours offer an unforgettable experience in an unforgettable location. It's the perfect mix of adrenalin and adventure, and a great tour for the more adventurous traveller looking to maximise their time on the water. Riding on your own jet ski, you'll be accompanied by an experienced and friendly instructor, who will guide you as you zip through the Whitsunday waterways. The tours are available to drivers 18 years and over and passengers 12 years and over. No licence is required, all safety gear is included and the tour takes 90 minutes, which includes a 30 minute safety briefing and then you are all set to go.

Booking ahead of your stay is highly recommended for all tours and activities. To book, please visit the Hamilton Island website and submit an Online Tour Booking Request or call the Tour Desk on (07) 4946 8305. To find out more, download the Hamilton Island app or visit the Tour Desk, located next to Sails restaurant.

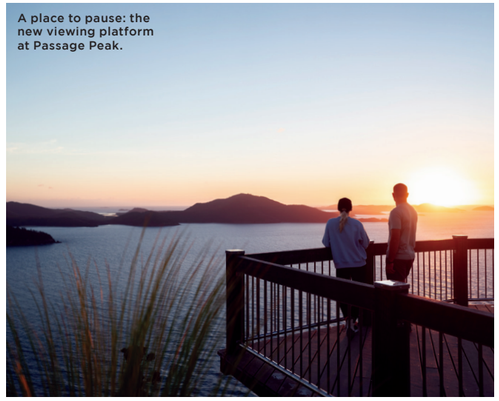
BULLETIN BOARD

It's all about the amazing environment and life on the Great Barrier Reef. Here, the latest updates. By Esther Holmes

Champagne and caviar tasting at qualia's Conversations with the Sommelier.

TALKING CONNOISSEURS

It's official: qualia is now presenting guests with an even more intimate food and wine experience, having added private Conversations with the Sommelier sessions to its world-class dining offering. Guests can choose from the Prestige Cuvée and Caviar experience or Crudo di Pesce Mediterraneo and New World vs Old World Wines. Tough decision. Prestige Cuvée and Caviar is perhaps the ultimate in luxury, featuring a line-up of Louis Roederer Cristal, Dom Perignon, Bollinger La Grande Année and Charles Heidsieck Blanc des Millénaires, matched with beluga and ossetra caviar. The Crudo di Pesce Mediterraneo and New World vs Old World Wines experience is about tasting the difference between the wines, each paired with crudo (fresh seafood, Mediterranean style).



A place to pause: the new viewing platform at Passage Peak.

LANDMARK WALK

The recently upgraded Hamilton Island Icons Trail is the best way to see the highlights of the unique walking tracks that weave around the island, covering more than 20km. Changes to the trail include the construction of stairs throughout and levelling of the terrain to improve accessibility. It can be completed in two hours or, at a more leisurely pace, two days – the views are distracting. There are four landmarks to enjoy along the way, including a 3m-tall chair, giant swing, hammock and a large viewing platform at the highest point of the island, Passage Peak, which offers breathtaking panoramic views. The recently installed platform is the perfect place to relax, or you can enjoy a packed lunch at the picnic table.

HOLLYWOOD AT HAMILTON ISLAND

George Clooney and Julia Roberts are Hollywood royalty and they stayed on Hamilton Island while filming *Ticket to Paradise* late last year. The romantic comedy features Clooney and Roberts as divorcees who travel to Bali to stop their daughter from making the same mistake they made 25 years earlier... getting married. Key scenes were filmed at qualia and around the island, plus surrounding islands, over a six-week period, with 150 members of the cast and crew staying on Hamilton Island during that time. Best location and Oscar-worthy.

Ticket to Paradise co-stars George Clooney and Julia Roberts.

PHOTOGRAPHY: RHIANNON TAYLOR; RILEY WILLIAMS; HAMILTON ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY; DENIS MAKARENKO.

The Great Whitehaven Beach Run, held in June.

RACE TO THE TOP

The 2022 Hamilton Island Endurance Series is well underway, having kicked off in May with the Hilly Half Marathon where athletes followed the twists and turns through the island's ever-expanding trail network. A different challenge awaited those competing in the Great Whitehaven Beach Run in June, the hard-packed sand lending itself to speedy times on the westerly leg but a strong south-easterly made things difficult on the return. Series regular Roland Henderson, from Airlie Beach, had a maiden victory in the half marathon, while Hamilton Island's Francesca Bellicini claimed the women's crown. Fields were strong for all distances, from the half-marathon to the 10km and 5km events. The day's highlights were arguably the junior 500m and 1.5km races, with the energy of the starting sprints and the smiling faces flashing across the finish line. November's triathlon and ocean swim events are set to round out this year's series. The sprint distance triathlon (750m swim/20km ride/5km run) includes a popular relay option for all levels, including beginners to all-star teams. Closing out the weekend triathletes will join swim specialists in the ocean swim, with a 750m and 2km event, and a junior (350m) option.

O'pen Skiff sailor Russell Harris and (below) his brother, Connor.

SPORTS EDUCATION

Twins Connor and Russell Harris, former students of Hamilton Island State School, have been excelling in the O'pen Skiff sailing class. Currently in Year 7 at Whitsunday Christian College, the Harris brothers will represent Australia and the Cruising Yacht Club Hamilton Island (CYCHI) at the O'pen Skiff World Championships in France. The island's yacht club has been very active over the past few years and has developed a good crop of up-and-coming competitors. Both Harris boys have achieved outstanding results of late. In the 2022 Australian O'pen Skiff Championships (Under 13 Division), Russell scored second place and Connor took third. They recently participated in a training camp at Lake Tinaroo in Far North Queensland with six others who will represent Australia at the World Championships.

TOTALLY TROPICAL GARDEN VIEW

The Reef View Hotel renovation continues apace, with refurbishment of the first Garden View Rooms now complete. Located on floors one to four of the hotel, these rooms overlook manicured tropical gardens, affording ultimate privacy. Super spacious and well equipped, each one has a large balcony with new outdoor furniture, plus an ensuite bathroom with a walk-in shower, double vanity and separate bath. Rooms are designed to be family friendly and come with four-star facilities, including a minibar, room service and in-house movies. Storage has been increased and each room has two queen-size beds. The hotel's remaining Garden View Rooms are currently being renovated; with anticipated completion date by early February 2023.

The new Garden View Room at the Reef View Hotel.

A NEW WAY TO EXPLORE

A new addition to the impressive Explore fleet is the super sleek Ocean Explorer. At 24m and with a capacity of 120 people, it is one of the best ways for families to venture out to the reef. Launched in 2020 and designed as a hybrid dive/snorkel and cruise vessel, it has well-appointed indoor and outdoor spaces plus an hydraulic swim platform for easy water access. A bonus for novices and ocean pros. The Ocean Explorer is used for Explore's full day snorkelling and diving experiences out to the Great Barrier Reef and for the popular BBQ Dinner Cruises through the Whitsundays.

DIARY DATES 2022/23

Hamilton Island Race Week.

Set in the most breathtaking scenery in the Whitsundays, some of the best events in Australia's sporting and social calendar are held right here on Hamilton Island.

The Australian Ballet's pas de deux in paradise.

Hamilton Island Triathlon.

Anzac Day dawn service.

Great Whitehaven Beach Run.

Hamilton Island Triathlon.

2022

AUGUST 5
BRISBANE TO HAMILTON ISLAND YACHT RACE

Join us as we welcome competing yachts and crews as they arrive at Hamilton Island Marina, the end of one of Australia's longest tropical Category 2 offshore races. Think of this as the lead-up to Hamilton Island Race Week. And we're off…

AUGUST 20-28
HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK

One of the world's most prestigious yachting regattas – and Australia's favourite. The week features a well-planned blend of short races staged in close proximity to Hamilton Island, plus longer passage races around the beautiful tropical isles that form the Whitsunday Passage. All are designed to test a sailor's ability.
Race Week is one of the busiest times on Hamilton Island and has become an annual social event for competitors, their families and guests. The agenda includes plenty of feasting, with great lunches and special dinners created by the finest chefs including Peter Gilmore, Will Cowper, Paul Carmichael and the popular Paspaley and Charles Heidsieck luncheons. The fun factor stretches from daylight to dusk and beyond, starting at the marina, where crews begin preparing their yachts, and continuing through the day.

OCTOBER 28-NOVEMBER 1
PAS DE DEUX IN PARADISE

Meet us at qualia for an intimate and exclusive showcase from The Australian Ballet, under the artistic direction of the amazing David Hallberg, performed under the glittering evening sky. This is an opportunity to watch some of the country's most incredible dancers in a breathtaking setting and to also access a rare glimpse of life behind the scenes of The Australian Ballet. Held every two years, pas de deux in paradise is about creating the most magical memories.

NOVEMBER 16-21
PHIL CLAYTON & CO SWIM CHALLENGE

Held in the lead-up to the Hamilton Island Ocean Swim, the Swim Challenge is a fun swimming program designed to support, prepare and challenge athletes. Pool swimmers, triathletes, surf lifesavers, passionate ocean enthusiasts and island locals can take part in specialised sessions conducted by a world-class Open Water Swim Coach in preparation for the Hamilton Island Ocean Swim.

NOVEMBER 19
HAMILTON ISLAND TRIATHLON

Combining a swim in idyllic waters with a scenic cycle and a run that has both breathtaking views and challenging hills, the Hamilton Island Triathlon is a truly memorable event. The spectator-friendly course means everyone can watch the action as it unfolds at the resort. The main race is followed by the Junior Triathlon and a Splash'n Dash event, guaranteeing a great day of family fun.

NOVEMBER 20
HAMILTON ISLAND OCEAN SWIM

Dive into the island's Endurance Series with the Hamilton Island Ocean Swim, held at Catseye Beach. There's a 2km option or a more leisurely 750m course. The hardest part may well be post-race, when you'll have to choose between soaking up some sun on the sand or getting those weary muscles back into the beautiful sea. There's also a hotly contested junior event (350m) for under-13s.

DECEMBER 24
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Join the Christmas festivities at the Beach Pavilion as the sun goes down, including a fireworks display that will light up the skyline. It's a great evening for the family and a chance to enjoy live entertainment, sing carols and light a candle to support the Hamilton Island State School. A special guest dressed in red and white, with a stocking full of treats, will also be attending. Pack a picnic or pick up food and drinks at the Beach Pavilion kiosk.

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN RIDLER; SALTY DINGO; KARA ROSENLUND; HAMILTON ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY.

DECEMBER 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE

Start 2023 with a street party that will have everyone up and dancing to much-loved classics. There's live entertainment at the Marina Tavern forecourt from 9.00pm and fireworks at midnight. Events will also be held at the Beach Pavilion near Catseye Beach, including family-friendly fireworks at 8.30pm. Qualia guests will be treated to live music and fireworks at midnight. These celebrations are one of the most unforgettable ways to bring in the new year with family and friends.

2023

APRIL 25
ANZAC DAY

The dawn service is held at the time of the original landing at Gallipoli during the First World War. Like those who congregate at memorials in cities, suburbs and towns across Australia, we gather to commemorate the lives of all Australians who have been lost in military operations.
It's a poignant day for us all on the island. Join us at the Beach Pavilion for the service, followed by a seaside sausage sizzle then games of two-up at the Marina Tavern. Gold coin donations will be directed to Airlie Beach RSL.

APRIL 30
HAMILTON ISLAND HILLY HALF MARATHON

It's an epic endurance run and we're already gearing up for the challenge. And there's a race for everyone: a half-marathon for the fearless, a relay, and three distance options for the kids. The exciting courses weave through the island's dramatic bushland and with such diverse terrain, this is an interesting and ever-changing running experience that challenges athletes of all levels.

JUNE 25
GREAT WHITEHAVEN BEACH RUN

Calling all ages and abilities… The Great Whitehaven Beach Run is an event like no other, taking place at low tide on the hard-packed sand of one of the most photogenic beaches in the world. There's a race for everyone, from the fun of a kids' run through to a serious half-marathon, plus 5km and 10km events. Perhaps the trickiest challenge of all is remaining focused – don't let the turquoise tide lure you in – as everyone sprints to the finish line.
Did we say iconic?

For the latest event information and more details, visit hamiltonisland.com.au/events

Catseye Beach.

Hamilton Island Hilly Half Marathon.

JOURNEY BEYOND
CRUISE
WHITSUNDAYS

Reefsleep

WHITEHAVEN BEACH & HILL INLET

ISLAND ESCAPE DAY CRUISES

GREAT BARRIER REEF

CRUISE WHITSUNDAYS IS THE REGION'S PREMIER TOUR PROVIDER.

Sleep under the stars on the Great Barrier Reef, dig your toes into the pure sand of Whitehaven Beach, snorkel amongst spectacular marine life or soak up the scenery on an island-hopping day cruise – your adventure awaits.

TO BOOK, PLEASE VISIT:

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The race to HOBART

Hamilton Island Race Week boasts some of the greatest boats and crews, is steeped in history and part of the build-up to the prestigious Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race – one of the world's most testing offshore events. By Rob Mundle

It was September 26, 1983, when the yacht *Australia II* ended the longest winning streak in the history of international sport (132 years), and it took a team of highly skilled Australian yachtsmen to do it. The venue for that showdown was Newport, Rhode Island, on America's east coast, and the long sought-after prize was the magnificent silver ewer the world knows as the America's Cup. Back in Australia, the euphoria that came with this remarkable historic victory was such that almost every Australian old enough can tell you where they were on the night *Australia II* won the cup.

The impact of this spectacular victory was beyond belief and the benefits that came our way (some massive, others minimal) remain notable. Among the most significant is that the victorious America's Cup campaign gave rise to what is now Australia's premier yachting regatta: Hamilton Island Race Week.

The concept for Race Week emerged in 1982, soon after the high-profile Queensland tourism property developer Keith Williams purchased the island with a view to creating a tropical resort. Once the deal was done it became apparent that the island's location, amid the primarily uninhabited and naturally beautiful Whitsunday isles, meant it could easily become the centrepiece for a spectacular sailing event, with the potential to draw a fleet from across Australia and, in the long term, overseas.

Williams took himself to Hawaii to see first-hand the staging of the famous Clipper Cup international ocean racing series and then he headed to the ultimate event: that now legendary America's Cup match in Newport, Rhode Island. He returned home inspired, determined to establish the ultimate Australian regatta at Hamilton Island.

With the help of a Victorian racing enthusiast, David Hutchen, Williams put a plan into action. First up, they organised for six high-profile Australian yachting and media identities

The Wild Oats crew at 2019 Hamilton Island Race Week.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SALTY DINGO.

The Whitsundays turn on the charm for the 2019 Hamilton Island Race Week.

Scallywag at Hamilton Island Race Week 2016.

THE BOAT TO BEAT IS *WILD OATS XI*, ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S MOST SUCCESSFUL SUPERMAXIS.

Ichi Ban at Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.

Black Jack at Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.

to meet on the island and formulate plans for the sailing series.

The inaugural Hamilton Island Race Week was staged in 1984 and was a huge success. Yachts and crews came from across the nation, and that has been the case ever since – except that many who make the pilgrimage today do so from all points of the globe.

Members of the country's racing elite agree that as travel resumes in the years following the pandemic, we can expect to see an ever-increasing number of keen offshore racing yacht owners competing at Race Week, with vessels large and small.

The event has been cancelled twice in the past two years due to the rise of Covid-19, but that hasn't deterred 2022's competitors. The calibre and cross-section of ocean racing yachts and crews that are set to race this year confirm the view that taking a title at Race Week is a significant step towards winning Australia's most famous sailing event: the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race (which famously starts on December 26 every year).

During Race Week, a walk on the docks at Hamilton Island's marina consistently affords sightings of local and international legends of the sport, among them "Mr Yachting Gold Medals", Mathew Belcher.

The Queenslander, who races in the 470 dinghy class, has two Olympic gold medals and a silver, plus eight 470 World Championship titles.

This year, he will be aboard Matt Allen's Sydney Hobart winner, *Ichi Ban*, a mid-range vessel that could be described as offshore yachting's equivalent of a Formula 1 race car.

Ichi Ban has won the past three IRC Division 1 Australian Yachting Championships and is expected to be a strong contender at this year's event, to be held during Race Week. In 2021, the sport's governing body, Australian Sailing, announced that four prestigious national championships will be decided at the Hamilton Island event. The multihull divisions – catamarans and trimarans – will also be championship races.

The spectacle of some 200 sailboats vying for top honours in their respective Australian championship categories is always enthralling, but nothing is more captivating than witnessing the supermaxis go head-to-head, leaving maritime vapour trails behind them as they spear through the same azure waters as their considerably smaller Race Week counterparts.

For these supermaxis, the event is the unofficial 'training ground'– ahead of the Sydney Hobart.

At this year's Rolex Sydney Hobart Race, five of the world's fastest 100ft supermaxi yachts will compete, including *Andoo Comanche*, *Black Jack*, *LawConnect* and *Scallywag* (of these, three yachts – *Andoo Comanche, LawConnect* and *Black Jack* – have been first to finish in the Sydney Hobart).

But the boat to beat is the high-profile *Wild Oats XI*. Owned by the Oatley family and skippered by Mark Richards, it is considered one of Australia's most successful supermaxis, having recorded line honours in the Sydney Hobart on nine occasions and being a former race record-holder.

Hamilton Island has recently become the proud and primary sponsor of *Wild Oats XI* for the forthcoming racing season.

Of course, the Oatley family is no stranger to Hamilton Island Race Week, having purchased the island in 2003. Recognised as enthusiastic sailors (as well as highly successful winemakers), the family, led by the then patriarch, Bob Oatley, turned the island into a world-class travel destination. Race Week also took on a dynamic new outlook and in the years since, it has achieved unprecedented levels of acclaim within the sport, both nationally and internationally.

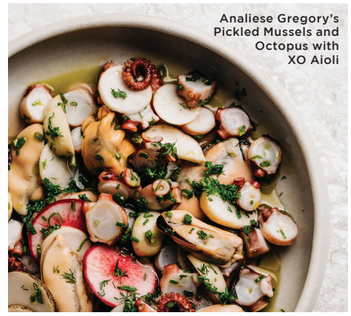
PHOTOGRAPHY: SALTY DINGO; ANDREA FRANCOLINI; KURT ARRIGO.

Analiese Gregory has traded fine dining for the treasures of Tasmania's rugged coast.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ADAM GIBSON; NIKKI TO. IMAGES FROM *HOW WILD THINGS ARE*, COURTESY OF HARDIE GRANT PUBLISHING.

A tale of TWO CHEFS

Internationally acclaimed chefs Peter Gilmore (of Quay and Bennelong) and Analiese Gregory have known each other for more than a decade. In that time, their relationship has shifted from boss/employee to industry peers and genuine pals. With both chefs cooking at Hamilton Island Race Week, Melanie Colwell caught up with them to speak about their enduring friendship.



Analiese Gregory's Pickled Mussels and Octopus with XO Aioli

Peter Gilmore's The Chocolate Crackle.

When Analiese Gregory returned to Australia in 2015 after working overseas, she caught up with her former boss Peter Gilmore for a coffee. She was nervous. "I was worried he would think I'd taken some strange career turns," she says.

The admission is somewhat surprising when you know the full story. Gregory's working abroad stint wasn't what you'd expect of someone in their 20s. Rather, the New Zealand-born chef had spent time beefing up what was already a formidable CV, featuring turns at The Ledbury in London and Le Meurice in Paris, plus four and a half years under Gilmore at the award-winning fine diner Quay in Sydney.

In the end, her nervousness was unwarranted. "He just laughed and said that my career definitely wasn't boring," says Gregory.

Of the reunion, Gilmore only recalls an eagerness to hear about Gregory's experiences abroad. "When she first resigned, I was a little bit shocked because I thought she'd be around for another year or two. But I do remember thinking it was a really good move for her," he says.

The move Gilmore is referring to was Gregory's heading to Laguiole, France, to work with legendary French chef Michel Bras. He knew it was a longtime goal for Gregory. "I was really happy for her that she was going to get that experience. I'd always admired what Michel Bras had done. He was a pioneer, especially with what he had done with vegetables."

While overseas, Gregory also staged at the two-Michelin-starred restaurant Mugaritz in the Basque Country and hosted a pop-up out of Numero 7 in Morocco. Not boring, indeed.

"I felt really proud that she had put herself way out of her comfort zone," Gilmore says.

Gregory's hot streak continued on Australian shores, where she ran the ACME crew's now-closed Bar Brosé in Sydney before heading to Hobart to helm destination diner Franklin (which closed in 2020).

Her career trajectory is testament to Gilmore's eye for talent. His first impression of her, when she arrived at Quay in 2009 as a pastry chef, was that she was "very serious, very matter-of-fact and possibly a little guarded". But he knew she had something special. In time, Gregory was promoted, first to junior sous chef and, eventually, to joint head chef.

"Analiese definitely had potential and leadership qualities; she was conscientious to succeed," he says. "So it was really a no-brainer for me when the [head chef] position came up – that she was the right person to fill it."

Gregory's tenure coincided with a critical period for Quay. International recognition for the restaurant – and for Gilmore – was gathering momentum as the diner gained rankings in The World's 50 Best Restaurants list. Gilmore had to relinquish some of the day-to-day operations, like ordering and rostering, to free up time for more creative pursuits. But he had enormous faith in his leadership team.

"It was a really tense time; things had to be run really well," he says. "They were responsible for a team of 15 chefs every service, so it was a very big job. I knew when I wasn't there, the kitchen was running exactly how I wanted it to under Analiese."

As for Gregory, she says she admires Gilmore's approach. "Pete is very calm in the kitchen, he never swears. This was a big departure for me in terms of what I had experienced from head chefs and the industry in general. It was a kitchen where everyone had equal opportunity," she says.

Gregory attributes a number of her skills to her time at Quay. "Peter has a very interesting take on broths and consommé, which has influenced how I make mine. It was also the first time I really

Sydney chef Peter Gilmore gets his hands dirty.

Gregory embraces a slower pace of life in regional Tasmania.

Peter and Analiese cooking together at the Great Barrier Feast 2011.

"PETE HAS AN INSATIABLE CURIOSITY ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT GROWS. IT'S INFECTIOUS."

appreciated the blending of Asian flavours and techniques in Western cuisine in an elegant and refined way. He's a master of subtlety."

In 2020, Gregory stepped away from high-end commercial kitchens to embrace a slower pace of life in regional Tasmania. Her days are now spent in the wild, where she hunts, dives, fishes and forages for ingredients.

Her passion for sustainable cooking has been bubbling away for years. She attributes it, at least in part, to her time working with Gilmore. "Prior to Quay, I had never worked with abalone before, or quite so extensively with seaweed," she says. "Quay was the first place I worked where I felt the connection to the farmers and suppliers, where visiting them was encouraged. It's where I began to wonder about the food chain itself and how the ingredients are grown and processed before they arrive on the kitchen bench."

As Gregory delved further into the world of wild cooking, a friendship blossomed between her and Gilmore. "Pete has an insatiable curiosity about everything that grows and the why, where and how of it all. It's infectious," Gregory says.

So, it's quite fitting that when asked for a memory that epitomises their friendship, both independently chose the same one: when Gilmore joined Gregory for an episode of her SBS show, *A Girl's Guide to Hunting, Fishing and Wild Cooking.*

"We went pine mushroom foraging in the woods in far southern Tasmania, then built a fire, cooked mushrooms and ate charcuterie I had made from the pigs I raise," Gregory says. "Over the next few days, we did a mushroom-growing course together with a local mushroom grower."

Not only did the experience make the pair closer, it also gave Gilmore an opportunity to see how Gregory has grown. While he considers himself to have always been a "very good communicator", Gilmore believes Gregory was once less at ease with being in the public eye. He ponders whether his mentorship has contributed to the change.

"Her fearlessness for learning and pushing herself out of her comfort zone is something to really admire," he says. "Analiese has really broadened her skill level to include things like cheesemaking and preserving meats. And that whole side of what she is doing down in Tasmania: fishing, hunting and gathering. She's such a well-rounded chef."

Gregory will be showing off her wild cooking skills at one of Hamilton Island Race Week's onshore events. Of the intimate meal she is hosting at qualia, she tells us: "I'm going to be using a lot of my Tasmanian foraged condiments and local seafood, all cooked over coals outdoors."

Gilmore will also be on the island during Race Week. He plans to replicate a similar experience to his 2019 appearance, but the menu itself is under wraps. "I always like to leave it closer to the time to look at what's good and what's in season before I work out what I'm going to serve," he explains. Although it will feature walnuts and The Chocolate Crackle.

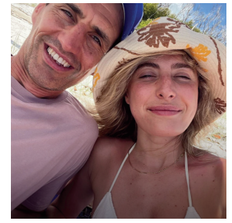
By no means will this be the first event the two have appeared at together over the years. But it's a good opportunity to measure how far both chefs have come. "We've been involved in a couple of charity events together," says Gilmore. "Years ago, she was supporting me and now she is there in her own right. I remember her commenting that it does feel a bit surreal, being able to do those things as equals — as colleagues. To see her blossom into that role has been terrific and I'm so proud of what she has achieved." The sentiment is echoed by Gregory, who says of Gilmore: "So many years later, all I have to say is Pete is insanely talented and an all-round good human."

PHOTOGRAPHY: NIKKI TO; ADAM GIBSON.

POSTCARDS FROM PARADISE

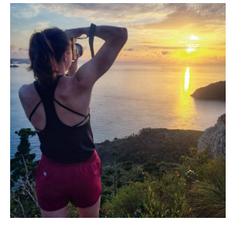
Dear Instagram followers, we are having a wonderful time here...

"Hugo Boss"
@hugh_sheridan



"Bit of glare"
@rebeccalharding

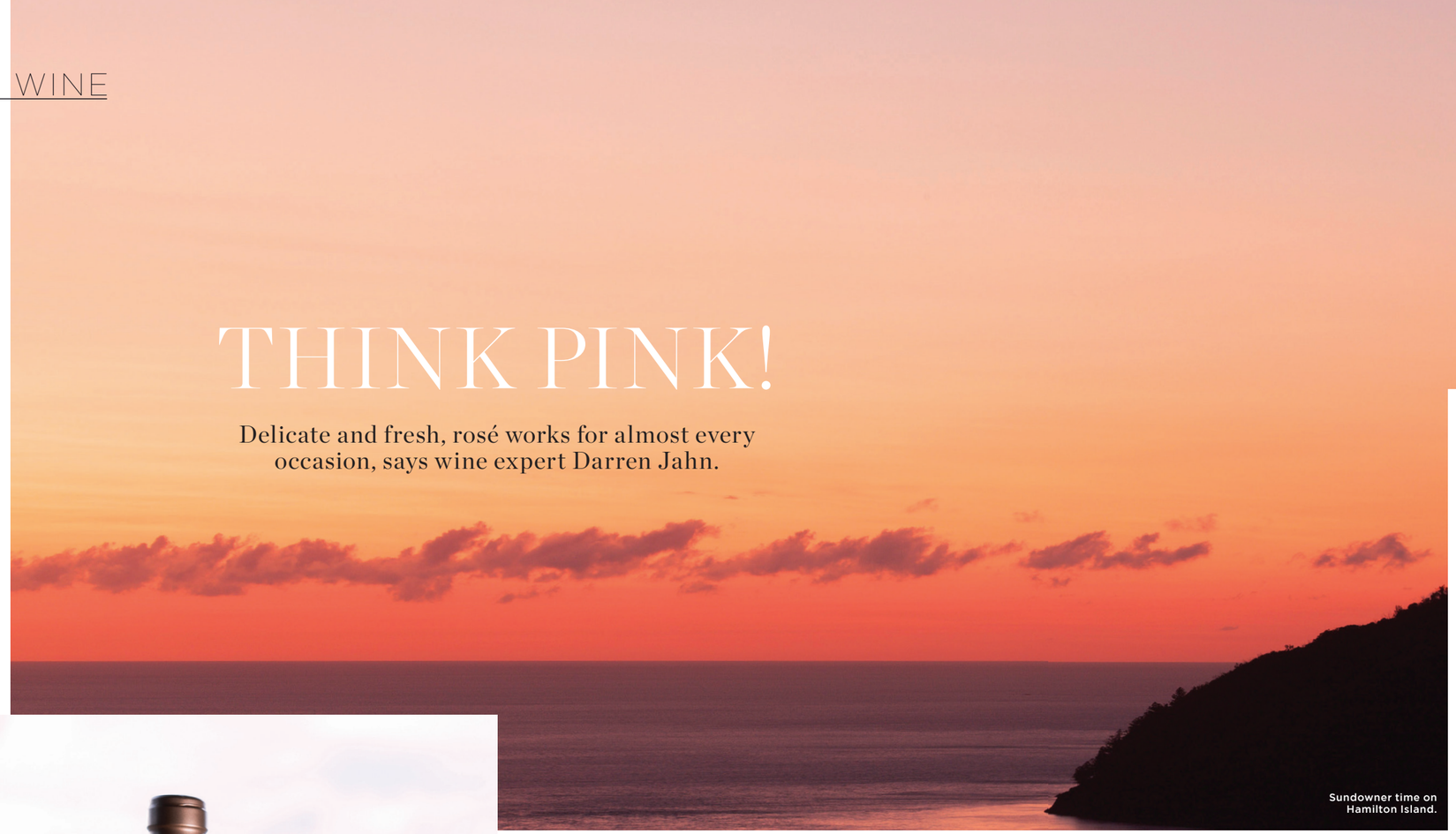
"Waking up still in a dream @qualiaresort"
@lisadanielle_



"Finding ways to keep fit and motivated outside the pool"
@cate_campbell

THINK PINK!

Delicate and fresh, rosé works for almost every occasion, says wine expert Darren Jahn.



Sundowner time on Hamilton Island.

"Moreish" Mirabeau Etoile Provence rosé.

Rosé is enjoying a moment. Once looked down on as a frivolous, ladies-only tipple – a by-product of red wine, made almost as an afterthought – rosé has undergone a revolution over the last decade, becoming a worthy category in its own right.

Not only are world-class winemakers producing serious examples, celebrities are also jumping on the bandwagon. Kylie Minogue, Ian Botham, Sarah Jessica Parker, John Malkovich, John Legend and Sting each have their own product on the market. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie kicked off the trend with their admittedly very good Miraval wine from Provence.

Associated with lazy summer days, be it in southern France or in the Whitsundays, rosé became ever more appealing during those years of the pandemic when travel felt like a distant dream. It has the air of an aspirational lifestyle, though a more accessible one than, say, champagne, making it the "it" wine of today, consumed by countless millions of bottles – and increasingly, magnums – around the world.

Elegant but unpretentious, dry rosé is a wine with tremendous crossover appeal. No longer considered a summer sip, it is now drunk year-round and is one of the most versatile food wines around. Sitting at about halfway between the freshness of a white and the depth of a red, it can be paired with an array of cuisines.

Neither red nor white, rosé is made from red grapes with minimal skin contact in the style of a white wine. And as with most whites, it should be served chilled and enjoyed soon after its release.

PHOTOGRAPHY: HAMILTON ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY.

"HALFWAY BETWEEN THE FRESHNESS OF A WHITE AND DEPTH OF A RED."

Rosé is an extremely popular wine style in Europe, particularly in southern France and Spain. In some regions, including Provence, it is more commonly drunk than white wine during the summer months. A large part of its charm is its simplicity. It's a wine to drink rather than savour and though it makes a great partner to a wide range of dishes, it also lovely to drink without food.

ENJOY THESE TOP DROPS, AVAILABLE AT THE ISLAND'S WINE STORE AND RESTAURANTS.

LUNA ROSA ROSADO

Crafted in Orange, NSW, in the Portuguese style, this great-value tipple is super pale and fruity, with a lick of sweetness and a lovely crisp acid finish.

WILD OATS ROSÉ

Made by Debbie Lauritz using the Oatley family's grapes, grown in Mudgee, NSW, this consistent gold medallist is dry and features notes of tangy red berries, cranberries and pomegranate. Delicious.

BREMERTON RACY ROSÉ

Winemaker Rebecca Willson has created the perfect wine for alfresco drinking. With its fuller colour, some would assume it is quite fruity, but that's not the case. It's dry and gently flavoured, with a little more texture than fruity sweetness.

DOMINIQUE PORTET FONTAINE ROSÉ

Ten generations of winemaking have fine-tuned this family's talents, with young Ben Portet delivering an enticing, succulent and refreshing dry rosé. Unsurprisingly, given the family's heritage, this drop is very French in style.

THE LANE PINOT ROSÉ

As the name suggests, this rosé is made from pinot noir grapes, grown in the Adelaide Hills. It's crisp and fresh with distinct cherry and red grapefruit characteristics.

MARQUIS DE PENNAUTIER ROSÉ

A classic rosé, made in the southern French style with cinsault, grenache and syrah. Savoury-edged, light, crisp and dry, it makes a scrumptious aperitif.

MIRABEAU ETOILE PROVENCE ROSÉ

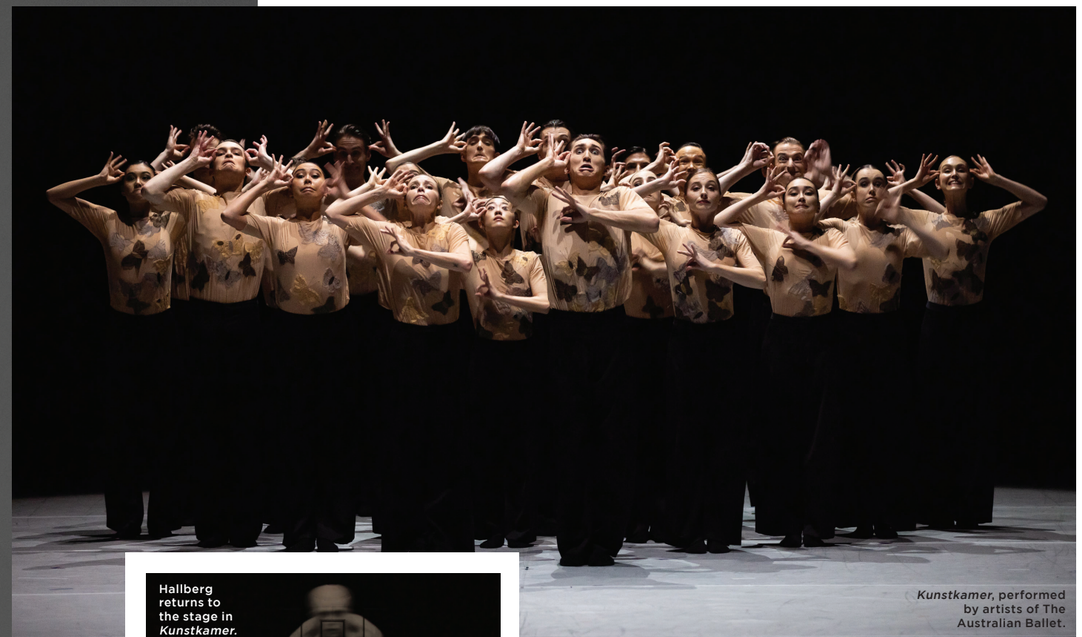
One sip of this Côtes de Provence wine and you'll be transported to a yacht in St Tropez. Super stylish, this pale salmon rosé is very dry, with citrus and mineral notes. Moreish.

The world-renowned Australian Ballet has enjoyed a special relationship with Hamilton Island for many years, culminating in the celebrated “pas de deux in paradise” that plays out under the stars at qualia. Valerie Lawson talks to artistic director David Hallberg about his vision for the company.

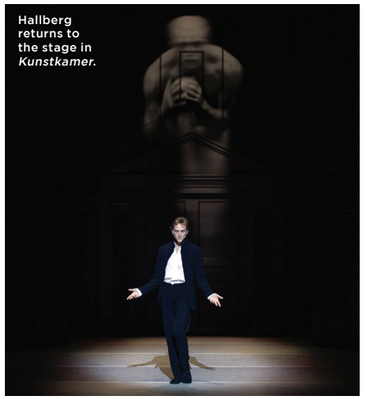
Rising STRONG

David Hallberg, artistic director of The Australian Ballet.

PHOTOGRAPHY: DANIEL BOUD; PIERRE TOUSSAINT.



Kunstkamer, performed by artists of The Australian Ballet.



Hallberg returns to the stage in *Kunstkamer*.

It has been almost two years since David Hallberg took up the role of artistic director at The Australian Ballet. One of the most talented dancers of his generation, Hallberg has performed on stages around the world, from South Dakota, where he was born, to the hallowed Bolshoi Theatre, where he was the first American to join the Bolshoi Ballet as a principal dancer, becoming one of Moscow’s most lauded stars.

But nothing could have prepared him for his first 12 months at the helm of The Australian Ballet – a year shaped by Covid-19 lockdowns and show cancellations. On arriving in Melbourne to take up the directorship, Hallberg had hoped to usher the company and its 77 dancers into a bold new era; instead, he spent every day of 2021 in “nothing short of survival mode”.

Now that restrictions have eased and he has finally had a moment to reflect, Hallberg – ever the optimist – tells me that the challenging year gave him a chance to shape the future of the organisation.

“I gained so much insight into the company, the dancers, the way things work,” he says. “I didn’t spend time getting performances on the stage, but instead with the dancers, homing in on technique and focusing the energy into the new artistic vision.”

Today, that vision is pushing The Australian Ballet into new territory. Hallberg has been lauded for his 2022 repertoire, with highlights so far including *Anna Karenina* and the ambitious *Kunstkamer*, a groundbreaking work originally choreographed for the Nederlands Dans Theater.

With pandemic restrictions no longer a barrier, his international connections are also proving fruitful. Two of the four choreographers behind *Kunstkamer*, Sol León and Paul Lightfoot, both from the Nederlands Dans Theater, came to Australia during the first half of 2022 to oversee rehearsals and watch the opening night performances in Sydney and Melbourne.

Alexei Ratmansky, a former artistic director of the Bolshoi Ballet and artist in residence at American Ballet Theatre, has also travelled to Australia this year, to produce his revival of *Harlequinade* for the 2022 season.

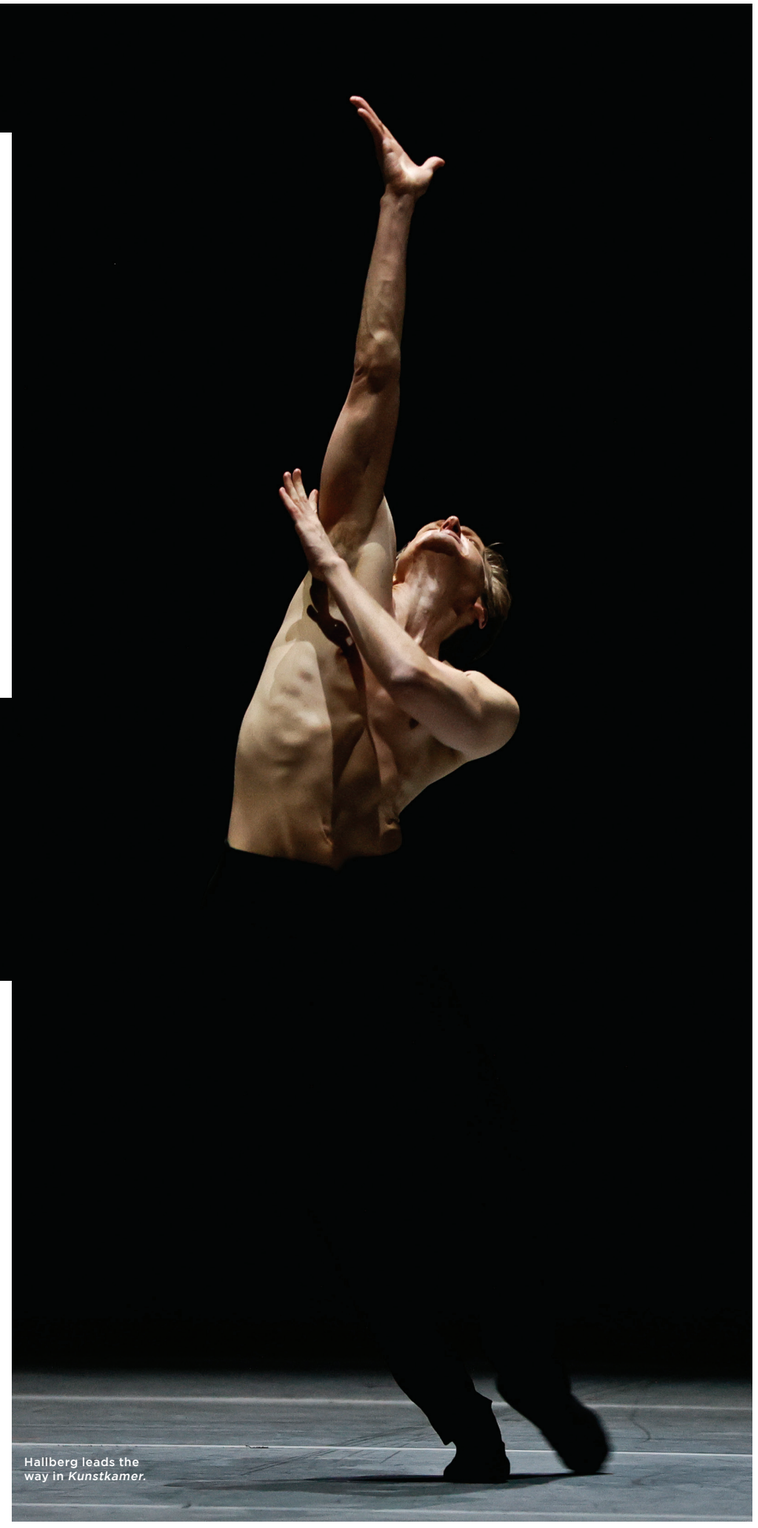
This year hasn’t seen many tutus grace the stage (*Harlequinade* being the notable exception), but Hallberg says fans of classical ballet needn’t worry. “Next year, it’s tutu galore,” he promises. “Although *Kunstkamer* was such a success for the dancers to perform, there is also a commitment to tackling a traditional repertoire. When we announce the 2023 season, it will be full of classical ballet.”

Lilla Harvey partners with Callum Linnane in *Kunstkamer*.

The contemporary work has dancers embracing ballet's dark side.

The Australian Ballet's Dana Stephenson and Timothy Coleman.

"I FEEL LIKE IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO SHOW THE ARC AND BREADTH OF THE COMPANY."



Hallberg leads the way in *Kunstkamer*.

The repertoire for the 2022 "pas de deux in paradise" at qualia (October 28 to November 1) offers a glimpse of the kind of classical works audiences can expect from Hallberg's directorship. Featuring pas de deux from four ballets – *Don Quixote*, *Raymonda*, *Le Corsaire* and *The Merry Widow* – the program will showcase the extraordinary technique of the company's artists in a spectacular outdoor setting. "I feel like it is really important to show the arc and breadth of the company," says Hallberg. "It's also a really great opportunity for the dancers. Some of these dancers haven't done these pas de deux before, so it's a great opportunity to develop them and perform them."

At 40, Hallberg still has the technical and artistic ability of a principal dancer – as he proved in *Kunstkamer*, in which he danced a lead role at the request of Sol León. Hallberg has been performing since he was eight years old, having been inspired to take lessons after seeing Fred Astaire in the movies *Swing Time* (1936) and *Shall We Dance* (1937).

A prodigious talent, he quickly rose through the ranks, beginning in 1999 when, at age 17, he was accepted into the notoriously competitive ballet school at the Opéra national de Paris. But his goal was always to dance at American Ballet Theatre. As he puts it, he had a "completely one-track mind in that way. The dancers that I looked up to were all from ABT and I aspired to be like them, sharing the stage in NYC."

He got his wish in 2000 when he began his professional career with the American Ballet Theatre Studio Company. He moved to the main company the following year and was promoted to principal in 2005. Six years later, he was appointed a premier dancer at the Bolshoi Ballet and began splitting his time between New York and Moscow while also taking up guest roles around the world.

In 2010, Hallberg undertook a guest role with The Australian Ballet, dancing in Peter Wright's *The Nutcracker*. It was his first taste of Melbourne's unique coffee and laneway culture. Five years later, following a potentially career-ending injury, he returned to the city to work with the company's world-class physiotherapy and rehabilitation team. In the 14 months that followed, he forged deep connections with the company, its dancers and the country, and was appointed The Australian Ballet's first international resident guest artist.

In 2018, the company's outgoing artistic director, David McAllister, asked Hallberg if he would be interested in taking on the directorship. It was a natural step for the dancer, who had previously expressed a desire to give back to the company that, he says, gave him his career back.

Now, having weathered the worst of the pandemic, Hallberg has his sights set on The Australian Ballet's 60-year celebrations, which will begin in early 2023. The company is still a sapling compared to international giants such as the Bolshoi Ballet and Paris Opera Ballet, but while a long legacy can enrich a company, it can also restrain it; The Australian Ballet's youthfulness means Hallberg can tread new ground and reinvent the organisation with relatively few restrictions.

Since its founding, under the directorship of Peggy van Praagh, and more recently at the steady hands of McAllister, who steered the company for 20 years, The Australian Ballet has rapidly branched out from its British roots to produce contemporary works by homegrown talents, like Stephen Baynes, as well as international masters, such as Jiří Kylián.

In the late 1990s and 2000s, it shed the "cultural cringe" – a hangover of the 1960s – and gave classic productions an Australian spin. Standouts include Graeme Murphy's internationally acclaimed *Swan Lake* (2002) and *Nutcracker* (1992). Stephen Page's landmark work, *Rites* (1997), staged in partnership with the country's leading Indigenous company, Bangarra Dance Theatre, also proved particularly successful, both at home and on the stages of Paris and London, and it helped to give The Australian Ballet a distinct identity.

One work Hallberg plans to stage in 2023 is a version of *Swan Lake* choreographed by Anne Woolliams, who served as artistic director from 1976 to 1978. He says her iconic classical production will be given a fresh perspective and design. "It's important for a major company to have a *Swan Lake* that stands the test of time."

Never one to get stuck in the past, Hallberg won't just be interrogating the archives for The Australian Ballet's milestone year; he says he will also be "looking at the company of the now" and its relevance to Australian culture today. As ever, he will do it his way: incorporating influences from overseas while challenging the company's dancers and giving local choreographers a chance to put their stamp on the next 60 years of Australian ballet.

PHOTOGRAPHY: JEFF BUSBY; DANIEL BOUD.

Chorten Nyingpo monastery in Bhutan's Punakha Valley.

PHOTOGRAPHY: KENDALL HILL.

THE ROADS LESS TRAVELLED

Two years of travel restrictions have created the kind of wanderlust that can only be satiated by experiencing the profound wonders of this world. The intrepid travel writer Kendall Hill shares some of his most incredible and unexpected discoveries with REEF.

There's a lovely expression in German, *fernweh*, which means – and I'm simplifying because German is complex – the feeling of longing for somewhere you've never been. It can also be translated as "far-sickness": a yearning for faraway places. The opposite of homesickness.

There's nothing like a couple of years of being confined to home to sharpen one's sense of *fernweh*. No doubt we all had our own travel epiphanies during the stifling days and months of lockdowns: dreaming of distant adventures with family or friends, plotting that big-ticket, bucket-list blowout or, like me, scheming to get as far away from everyone else as possible.

For my first overseas trip after Melbourne's last heroic stretch of home detention, I flew to Namibia, primarily because it's very large, very sparsely populated and had very few virus cases (about 12 a day when I arrived in April, in a country almost as big as France and Germany combined). It sounded like the safest place on the planet.

A road trip seemed the smartest option at that point in the pandemic. Just the two of us, a friend and I, charting a course through Namibia's vast and magnificent wilderness. Often ours was the only car on the road. Some days we met more elephants, or giraffes, than people.

Soaring sand dunes and granite mountains (below) on Namibia's Skeleton Coast.

It was a test of stamina, of sorts: up to eight hours' driving in a stretch, travelling along largely unpaved and occasionally unmarked paths with the odd riverbed. But the rewards were many: meeting Himba tribespeople, beachcombing the barren and windswept Skeleton Coast, sleeping under a carousel of stars and planets, and the incidental bonus of learning 4WD skills on the job, so to speak. Each one of these memory-making moments reminded me that the most extraordinary experiences usually require a lot of effort and endurance.

The question travel writers are most often asked is: what's the most amazing place you've ever been? It's impossible to answer because the really astonishing parts of this globe defy simple descriptions. But I do keep a mental list of those places where nothing and no-one was anything like I'd imagined.

Places like the Arctic Circle. Getting there involved a 40-hour slog from Australia via Toronto to the stark fjord-side town of Kangerlussuaq in Greenland. There, I boarded a 120-passenger polar ship and cast off into a realm of ice castles, "shadow people" and unseen spirits, mirages, and fantastic beasts like musk ox, narwhals and polar bears, and tales of inconceivable hardship on Earth's frozen edge.

Tibetan refugees Ama Khandu and Apa Dorji at home in Paro, Bhutan.

The prairielands of Kaokoland in Namibia.

Even today, some years later, visions of Canada's Arctic regions regularly tug at my consciousness, stoking my sense of *fernweh*. I remember hiking until midnight across the moors of Imiliit (Ragged Island), battling fierce gales but being enchanted by the fading light of a sun that refused to set, bathing the land in a rosy glow. Being the first Europeans (we think) to make the ascent of Inglefield Hill near Dundas Harbour, and later tracking musk ox across the snowy plains above Radstock Bay. And cruising through freshly calved glaciers that were already 30,000 years old.

Of the two poles, the north is my firm preference. Antarctica is savagely beautiful and rich in penguins, but its lack of human civilisation leaves me cold. While ostensibly I have nothing in common with the Inuit people, learning about them and their unique culture only confirmed our shared humanity. Their language, in particular, fascinates me.

The Inuit famously have dozens of words for weather and snow, but they also have highly descriptive verbs; for example, a term for "waiting all day at a seal breathing hole" and "two men fighting a tug of war over a woman (with her in the middle)". A world so far outside my own life experience but still connected, somehow. Miraculously.

Likewise, in Madagascar I couldn't shake the sense I'd landed on another planet, or at least a more ancient version of ours. During a fortnight of crisscrossing the world's fourth-largest island, constantly coming upon immense and utterly fanciful landscapes, I wouldn't have raised an eyebrow if a dinosaur had suddenly lumbered into view stage right. Nothing would have surprised me.

Very little on this island, whether plant, animal or insect, occurs anywhere else on Earth. Madagascar cleaved from mainland Africa more than 150 million years ago, so almost every living thing has evolved in isolation. It's a bit like Australia in that respect, though it is unlike it in every other.

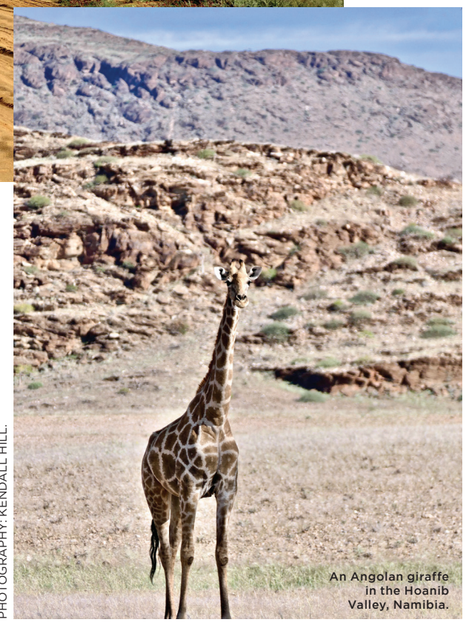
MY PARTICULAR BRAND OF WANDERLUST IS FOR THOSE PLACES WHERE IT'S STILL POSSIBLE TO HAVE A SENSE OF DISCOVERY.

For all the country's wonders, nothing reinforces the sense that you've stumbled into a forgotten land quite like the cry of the indri. The largest species of lemur and one of our earliest primate ancestors is a child-size mass of limbs and fur and chilling melodies.

It's said that lemurs were named after the evil spirits of the dead from Roman times. To hear their cries ring out from unseen heights in a rainforest canopy, so forceful they make the ribs vibrate, is one of those terrifyingly beautiful occasions when you don't know whether to laugh or cry. From memory, I did both. One of the most remarkable and haunting moments of my life.

The Himalayas also defy expectations. I have two favourite places there. One is a mountain utopia of untouched forests and simple lives where the government, famously, prioritises the happiness of its 770,000-strong population above all else.

Along the Via Francigena in Tuscany's unsung Lunigiana region.


An Angolan giraffe in the Hoanib Valley, Namibia.

PHOTOGRAPHY: KENDALL HILL.

I'm speaking, of course, about Bhutan, the tiny "Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon" wedged precariously between India and China.

Arriving there is like being teleported into a quieter, more tranquil time in human history. An alpine utopia of indescribable beauty, where education and health services are free, smoking is effectively banned and every aspect of life is filtered through the lens of mindfulness and good manners – or *driglam namzha*, "the conscious pursuit of harmonious living". Unfortunately this attention to detail does not extend to the nation's roads, which are atrocious.

In Europe, it's possible to find tranquillity and peace in the most tourist-friendly destinations. Take Tuscany, perhaps Italy's most celebrated region, where I spent a week wandering the Via Francigena, a thousand-year-old trail that ancient pilgrims once trod between Canterbury and Rome.

Recent works have revived the forgotten trail so it is once again possible to navigate its 1,700km, including the stretch from Tuscany to the coast at Liguria. The path, scented with wild chicory and fennel, meanders through sun-dappled beech forests via sleepy medieval villages and moss-covered bridges from the 12th century. Hiking up and down the Apennine Mountains, sometimes even walking cobbled Roman paths, I passed just a handful of people along the way. The biggest crowds appeared one sunny afternoon on the border of Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany, where foragers swarmed the forest in search of autumn mushrooms.

I guess my particular brand of wanderlust is for those places where it's still possible to have a sense of discovery. In a well-trammelled world, it always pays to wander off the beaten paths. To see what everyone else might be missing. And to be reminded that travel, in 2022, can still be a novelty and a joy.

Which brings me back to the Arctic and a quote I saw on the noticeboard one morning from the American ornithologist Bradford Torrey (I hadn't heard of him either): "Life would soon lose its charm for most of us … if we could no longer pursue the unattainable."

LISTEN UP

The perfect podcasts for a bushwalk or stroll on the sand

ON PURPOSE WITH JAY SHETTY
The host, Jay Shetty, aims to enlighten listeners with the wisdom he gained from his days as a monk and through conversations with some incredibly talented, insightful people.

THE DIRTBAG DIARIES
This is a staple for those who love the outdoors, featuring humorous, thrilling stories from wildly adventurous people.

OPRAH'S SUPER SOUL
The media mogul is on a mission to help us all find deeper meaning in the world around us, with advice from spiritual leaders, authors and wellness experts.

TARA BRACH
Offering weekly guided meditations and healing talks that combine Eastern spiritual practices with Western psychology, Tara Brach is the most calming companion for a walk.

OVERHEARD AT NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
Coming to us from National Geographic HQ, Amy Briggs and Peter Gwin catch up with photographers, explorers and scientists from all over the globe.

HISTORY THIS WEEK
Produced by the American TV channel *History*, this podcast is the ultimate source for stories of momentous happenings that have helped create the world we live in today.

Going DEEP

There is nothing quite like seeing the reef through the eyes of an expert. Jarrod Parkinson, a marine biologist, aquarist and vessel master who works in the Whitsundays and the wider Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, shares the best diving and snorkelling locations – each one accessible by boat and within 60 minutes of Hamilton Island.

The bright lights of life below the water's surface.

Jarrod Parkinson has a bachelor's degree in marine science (he majored in biology) and is an experienced skipper with a Master Class 5 ticket and marine engine certifications. He has a passion for the reef and has spectacularly photographed and documented the Whitsundays region, unearthing the kind of insider knowledge that goes to the heart of what we all want to know. Diving in...

CHALKIES BEACH

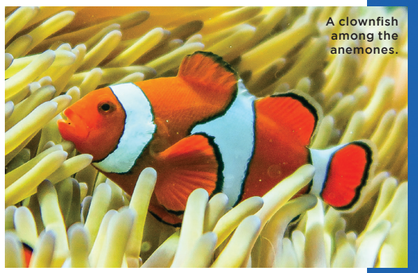
Located on the western coast of Haslewood Island, directly opposite Whitsunday Island's famous Whitehaven Beach, this silica-sand beauty has a unique fringing reef that is ideal for snorkelling and diving. The sandy seabed makes for a comfortable snorkelling spot for all ages and swimming abilities, as well as a very safe anchorage for boating enthusiasts. Total protection from the south-east trade wind makes it an easy pick for in-water activities.

Chalkies Beach is extremely popular due to the abundance of green sea turtles that swim amongst the sea grass; best viewing is at low- to mid-tide. Coral growth is best along the shallow reef flats at the southern end of the beach, where you'll find an abundance of colourful soft species. Hard corals cover the majority of the reef slope, with plenty to explore as you dive down. Tropical fish life is diverse. Amazing.

General visibility: 2-8m
Diving depth: 3-15m

Jarrod Parkinson selfie with a green sea turtle.

PHOTOGRAPHY: JARROD PARKINSON


A clownfish among the anemones.

BUTTERFLY BAY

Nestled into Hook Island's north, Butterfly Bay is beloved by locals for its mesmerising snorkelling and diving. The site offers an incredible horseshoe-shaped fringing reef that grows outwards from both sides of Hook Island and features stunning shallow walls of coral outcrops. The multicoloured hard corals are breathtaking, with large branches of staghorn and enormous brain corals persistent throughout the site. The numerous soft corals include gigantic growths of spaghetti and other types of finger corals. Butterfly Bay is protected from the south-east trade wind, which makes it comfortable for snorkelling and diving year-round. The volcanic nature of the bay ensures there is also exceptional water clarity year-round – it's one of the best sites for water clarity in the entire Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

General visibility: 5-15m
Diving depth: 3-20m

MANTA RAY BAY

Without a doubt, Manta Ray Bay, on the northern tip of Hook Island, is one of the best snorkel and dive locations in the Whitsundays. It is a playground of underwater valleys, caves and swim throughs nestled within the beautiful walls of scattered coral bomboras. The range and sheer abundance of marine life, including large Maori wrasse, giant trevally, batfish and colourful parrot fish, is what makes it so special. During the winter months, squadrons of manta rays frequent the area in search of food. A truly majestic spot.

General visibility: 5-20m
Diving depth: 3-20m

PETER BAY

You'll find Peter Bay in the north-east of Whitsunday Island, the largest island in the chain. A sandy channel runs through the outer walls of the reef, allowing vessel access into an extremely protected lagoon system within the bay. The coral cover here is spectacular, dominated by large plate corals, enormous boulder corals and dazzling spaghetti corals. Clownfish, surgeonfish, yellowtail fusiliers and damselfish are also plentiful throughout. Spectacular viewing.

General visibility: 3-12m
Diving depth: 3-15m

Wonderful world of the Great Barrier Reef captured by Jarrod Parkinson.

"IT IS A PLAYGROUND OF UNDERWATER VALLEYS, CAVES AND SWIM THROUGHS NESTLED WITHIN THE BEAUTIFUL WALLS OF SCATTERED CORAL BOMBORAS."

Exploring the ocean depths.

MACKEREL BAY

The reef at Mackerel Bay, on the eastern side of Hook Island, is shaped into two very different keyhole lagoon systems. Between them lies an awe-inspiring reef wall. The coral is absolutely incredible; healthy, vibrant soft coral carpets the shallow reef flats, while magnificent hard corals completely fill the coral reef edges and coral reef bottom.

Mackerel Bay teems with all sorts of tropical fish life, including a plethora of anemone fish, which occupy some of the larger rock corals in the southern lagoon. Parrot fish, damselfish, coral trout and Maori wrasse are also prevalent throughout the bay. Superb exploring.

General visibility: 2-12m
Diving depth: 3-12m

PHOTOGRAPHY: JARROD PARKINSON.

CATERAN BAY

Locals refer to Cateran Bay, at the northern end of Border Island, as an explorer's dream because the entire fringing reef system is a jungle of underwater caverns, tunnels and swim throughs. The reef walls are blanketed in hard and stony corals that extend to the sea floor – a whopping 20m below. Soft corals occupy the shallower reef flats and with constant nutrient flow from the deep water, they are thriving. An abundance of large predatory fish and smaller reef sharks occupy the edge of the deep reef walls, which makes for spectacular viewing. A truly exhilarating part of the Whitsundays.

General visibility: 2-15m
Diving depth: 3-20m

BLUE PEARL BAY

Hayman Island's Blue Pearl Bay has complete and healthy coral cover; to see the best of it, head for the southern beach, where you'll find colourful soft corals and vibrant hard corals. Towards the northern side, expect massive isolated coral bomboras – a diver's dream – with coral cover extending down to 20m.

The isolation of these coral reef walls and the shallow sandy bottom attracts amazing marine life, including turtles, blacktip and whitetip reef sharks, manta rays and all kinds of tropical fish. Protection from the prevailing south-east trade wind ensures visibility is always between 5m and 15m. A perfect location for an ocean fanatic.

General visibility: 5-15m
Diving depth: 3-20m

ISLAND PLAYLIST

Songs to inspire your next adventure.

1. *Howling by RY X*
2. *Islands by The xx*
3. *Left Me Like Summer by Daily J*
4. *New Age by Tora*
5. *Mornin Dew by Sunni Colón*
6. *Back to Oz by Sufjan Stevens, Angelo De Augustine*
7. *Northern Sky by Nick Drake*
8. *Over the Hill by John Martyn*
9. *Time (You and I) by Khruangbin*
10. *Yebo/Sema by Masego*
11. *Oceans by RY X, Ólafur Arnalds*
12. *Summer Days by Rhye*
13. *Daydreaming by Harry Styles*
14. *Lost in Yesterday by Tame Impala*
15. *Big Love by Fleetwood Mac*
16. *Home Soon by Dope Lemon*
17. *My Friend by Groove Armada*
18. *Higher Ground by Stevie Wonder*
19. *Ray of Light by Madonna*
20. *Around the World by Daft Punk*

To listen, scan the Spotify code below.

NEGRONI

MIRRORING THE HOMECOMING SUNSET

INGREDIENTS
30 ml Tanqueray London Dry gin
30ml sweet vermouth
30ml Campari liqueur
Orange peel, for garnish

METHOD
Place ice in an old fashioned glass and leave to chill. Add all liquid ingredients and ice to a mixing glass, stir until glass is ice-cold. Replace ice in glass with an ice sphere. Use julep strainer to strain contents of mixing glass over the ice sphere. Add garnish.

Line honours

These standout cocktails have won their place in the hearts and hands of salty sailors and the crowds that come to watch at Hamilton Island Race Week. So, whether you're toasting at the Captain's Club, Sails Bar, Reef Lounge, qualia or on the balcony at home, here's to all the winners.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RHIANNON TAYLOR

PEACH BELLINI

FOR THE CHEERS

INGREDIENTS
30ml peach purée
Sparkling wine OR prosecco, to taste
Orange rind, for garnish

METHOD
Place purée in flute, add sparkling wine or prosecco. Stir and garnish.

CLASSIC MARGARITA

INSPIRING DANCE MOVES AT THE CAPTAIN'S CLUB

INGREDIENTS
45ml Don Julio Blanco tequila
15ml triple sec
30ml fresh lime juice
Salt and lime wheel, for garnish

METHOD
Place liquid ingredients in shaker, add ice and shake. Fine strain into salt-rimmed coupette, garnish with lime wheel.

FLAT WHITE ESPRESSO MARTINI

FOR THAT DANCE-TILL-DAWN MOMENT

INGREDIENTS
30ml Ketel One vodka
15ml Kahlúa coffee liqueur
15ml Baileys Original Irish Cream liqueur
60ml espresso
15ml sugar syrup
3 coffee beans, for garnish

METHOD
Place liquid ingredients in shaker, add ice and shake. Fine strain into coupette and add garnish.

DIRTY MARTINI (VODKA OR GIN)

FOR THOSE SERIOUS SUPERMAXI CREWS

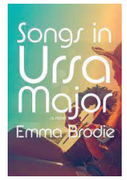
INGREDIENTS
60ml Ketel One vodka OR Tanqueray London Dry gin
5ml extra-dry vermouth
10ml olive brine
3 olives, for garnish

METHOD
Place ice in martini glass and leave to chill. Add liquid ingredients into a mixing glass and stir until glass is ice-cold. Empty martini glass of ice and single strain contents of mixing glass using a julep strainer. Garnish with three olives on a skewer.

BOOK IN HAND

There's nothing better than a good beach read

FINDING ME: A MEMOIR *by Viola Davis*
In an inspiring memoir about self-love, Viola Davis writes about overcoming poverty and abuse to become the first Black woman to win the "triple crown of acting": an Emmy, an Oscar and a Tony. Out now.



SONGS IN URSA MAJOR *by Emma Brodie*
Fans of Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Daisy Jones & The Six* will love Emma Brodie's debut novel. Set in 1969, it follows a young singer-songwriter's journey to become a world-famous rockstar, partly inspired by Joni Mitchell and James Taylor's love affair. Out now.

BOOK LOVERS *by Emily Henry*
Yet again, Emily Henry proves she is a master of the contemporary romance novel. This is the fun, charming story of two rivals in the publishing world who are brought together through their love of books. Out now.

CARRIE SOTO IS BACK *by Taylor Jenkins Reid*
The LA-based author Taylor Jenkins Reid has returned with a new perspective: Carrie Soto's. Fans of Reid's work will know Soto, who appeared as a side character in the epic novel *Malibu Rising*. Now Soto is playing centre court and is ready to make a comeback. Out August 30.

EXILES *by Jane Harper*
The latest novel by the critically acclaimed Australian author Jane Harper is a thrilling mystery set in the heart of South Australia, featuring Aaron Falk, our favourite detective. Out September 20.

Paul Carmichael, once part of the Momofuku empire, is bringing the flavours of the Caribbean Down Under.

PHOTOGRAPHY: JASON LOUCAS.

Happy cooks are the BEST COOKS

Meet the calm, cool and collected Paul Carmichael. Former executive chef at Sydney's Momofuku Seiōbo, he got his start on the pots and pans as a toddler. All these years later, he still loves to use his culinary prowess to make others happy.
By Emma Joyce

Celebrated chef Paul Carmichael has been cooking professionally since he was 15, but really he began tinkering in the kitchen at three years old. "I took to cooking like a fish takes to water," he says. "My parents tell me I'd crawl out of my crib and go to the kitchen to pull stuff out of the cupboards. It just came naturally for me."

The Barbados-born chef landed his first big gig at Sandy Lane, a hotel on the country's west coast, then upped sticks and went to the US to study at The Culinary Institute of America. After cooking at New York restaurants wd-50 and Aquavit, among others, he teamed up with celebrity chef Dave Chang at Momofuku's now-closed New York diner Má Pêche, where he went on to become executive chef. In 2015, Carmichael moved to Australia to take over the kitchen at Sydney's Momofuku Seiōbo – Chang's first restaurant outside North America.

Seiōbo ran its last service in June 2021 and after six years of guiding the menu at one of the most celebrated restaurants in Sydney, the former executive chef won't be leaping into another full-time venture anytime soon. "I thought Kylie [Javier Ashton, general manager at Seiōbo] and I did a good job of making something that's supposed to be a bit stiff, a bit fun," he says. "Kylie and I made the choice to close. And I'm the kind of person that if I make a choice, I'm happy to live with it, so I have no regrets. I think we did everything we could have done in that space. I'm happy."

Since closing the fine diner, Carmichael, who still lives in Sydney, has been cooking at pop-ups and food festivals around the country, from serving sandwiches at Sydney bar Earl's Juke Joint to headlining this year's Melbourne Food & Wine Festival. In August, he'll curate a 140-person feast at qualia during Hamilton Island Race Week, an event he says will be a "cool Caribbean party" inspired by the region's winter produce.

"For me, it's not just about the food," he says. "The food is the simple bit. I think the harder bit is putting everything together for an experience that seems genuine. I don't want anything I do to seem kitschy."

In May, the 42-year-old flew to Hamilton Island for the first time to scope out the private beach where the exclusive dinner will take place. "Hamilton Island is like a fairytale," he says.

Fine dining with a taste of the tropics at Momofuku Seiōbo.

"It's like an adult playground: a good-time place. It's quite beautiful and it smelled like the tropics, which I enjoyed."

A defining element of Carmichael's cooking in the time he's been in Australia is the unique way he honours local produce while melding it with the flavours of the Caribbean. At Seiōbo, he served marron in a capsicum and onion sauce, and dressed up cou cou (a polenta-and-okra side, considered the national dish of Barbados) with caviar and a sweet-corn sauce.

It's been years since Carmichael was last in Barbados, but he has a trip planned for this year. "I'm very excited," he says. "I used to go quite often 'cos my parents are still there. When your parents are old, you don't want to spend too much time away… I don't want to not see them because every year is a gift."

His loyalty to the flavours of the Caribbean comes from the food he grew up with, prepared by his parents and grandparents. "Mum is an exceptional cook and Dad's just a good cook," he says. "They are very intuitive cooks, so they make classic Bajan dishes, like fish cakes and bakes [similar to a pancake], cou cou and flying fish, black pudding and souse [steamed sweet potato and pickled pork]. I've never had a bad meal in that house."

"MUM IS AN EXCEPTIONAL COOK AND DAD'S JUST A GOOD COOK."

Is he nostalgic for the food of his country? "Not really," he says. But there is a fast food restaurant he'll go to on his trip home. "They do everything from fried chicken to roti to pizzas, and I used to love their pizzas when I was a kid. There's also a beer that I want to have when I'm there, because it doesn't exist anywhere else. It's called Banks, a Barbados lager, and it's quite delish. But top of the list would be Mum's cooking."

When asked if he has a cookbook in his future, Carmichael says that if he did, it would be the first to represent the region in "an honest and respectful way" – that it would be more than just a collection of recipes and pictures. "I don't know how to do that just yet, but that's what I want it to be."

As a chef, Carmichael has a reputation for being calm and collected. He's firm but not aggressive or overbearing; he's a stickler for detail but not a hard taskmaster. "I love cooking and it's always been my happy place, even when I moved from cooking at home to restaurants. I love the act of it," he says. "I also believe that happy cooks are the best cooks. You don't make a lot of mistakes when you're calm; you make a lot when you're flustered or angry."

Patience, he says, has come with age and experience. "I've learned to love to fail, which I think is a very good quality. I feel like I'm pretty good with people, but that's another learned skill," he says, smiling. "As far as my craft, I always have been – and I think I always will be – a stickler for the craft of cooking. I enjoy learning and constantly being better, never settling."

Carmichael has a rule that if he's cooking for himself at home, the food has to be prepared and eaten in under 30 minutes. But as a professional, it's all about creating memorable experiences. "I like to use my skills for making people happy, whether it's selling sandwiches or having people pay $225 for a meal. They're all equally important to me. I want people who are spending money with me to have a good time."

He'll be bringing everything he has to the pass at qualia during Race Week. "I want to go above and beyond because it's the opening party."

PHOTOGRAPHY: JASON LOUCAS.

Charles Heidsieck Champagnes are remarkable due to the inclusion of 50% reserve wines and a minimum three year's ageing in vast and rare Crayéres (chalk cellars). Charles Heidsieck is one of the world's most awarded champagnes. Just like his wine, Charles was a man of style and depth, of conviction and character.

CHARLES HEIDSIECK
CHAMPAGNE CHARLES HEIDSIECK
1851
CHAMPAGNE
CHARLES
HEIDSIECK
BRUT RÉSERVE
Maison fondée à Reims en 1851

Packing room WINNERS

Two well-travelled powerhouses, Scott Maggs and Rhiannon Taylor, share their expert advice and golden rules for holiday preparation. We're going places.

SCOTT MAGGS

This superstar has made skin-cancer awareness his No. 1 mission, founding the non-profit group Skin Check Champions. Yes, it's all about early detection and a good SPF50+.

WHAT DO YOU NEVER LEAVE HOME WITHOUT?
"Hmm… officially, I'd have to say sunscreen, a good broadbrimmed hat and my favourite pair of sunglasses. Unofficially, I'd add a smile and a keen sense of adventure."

CAMERA OR PHONE?
"When I had my beard, I used it as a conversation starter [in 2021, Maggs shaved the beard he'd been growing for 11 years, raising more than $1m for his charity]. I'd meet someone new every day, take their photo and post it on our socials, along with a little story and a challenge to get a skin check. This didn't require anything special camera-wise so I'm used to just using my iPhone. No fancy apps either – you don't need any filters, especially on Hamilton Island!"

YOU'VE VISITED HAMILTON ISLAND MANY TIMES. WHAT'S AN ABSOLUTE MUST-PACK?
"It's a pretty tough assignment – especially for Race Week [Maggs runs skin check clinics at the event]. My advice is linen, linen and more linen. Hat, sunglasses, swimmers – obviously – and some runners to hike to Passage Peak. Everything else should figure itself out."

BOARDIES OR BUDGIES?
"It's a personal choice, this one, but I typically roll with boardies. Above the knees, of course."

BUCKET HAT, BASEBALL CAP OR…?
"Neither. An Akubra or a quality Panama all the way."

ONE SUITCASE OR TWO? OR THREE?
"One. With suit bags and hats as carry-on."

WHEN YOU PACK, ARE YOU A GOOD "EDITOR" OR DO YOU TAKE IT ALL WITH YOU?
"This is a bit nerdy but I lay out all my clothes on the bed before I pack and plan what to wear for each day. I'll mix it up where I can so there's a bit of efficiency. This takes away some decision-making when I'm there, too, so I can maximise my island time."

BOOK OR PHONE?
"It's cliché but I really wish I had the time to read more. I'm a 'doing' person and I struggle to sit still so reading feels like something I'll do more of when I retire. However, I've got a big copy of *The Pale Fox* on my bedside that I'll be bringing up [for Hamilton Island Race Week] just in case I clock off. And I'll keep the scrolling to a minimum."

YOU'RE THE SUNSCREEN GURU. WHAT FACTOR SHOULD WE BE USING?
"SPF50+ every day. That'll protect you from 98% of ultraviolet rays. And make sure it's broad spectrum, which blocks UVA and UVB. If you imagine your skin is like a brick wall, UVA attacks deep into your mortar and UVB attacks your bricks. And the more exposure you get without sunscreen, the more damage gets done. So lather up and live. Oh, and if you're going to get wet, make sure you're using something specifically designed for that."

THE EVENING LOOK YOU ALWAYS PACK?
"Oooh, a nice tailored jacket will never let the team down for dinner, and a couple of light party shirts go well when revelling."

ROLL, FLAT PACK OR STUFF IT ALL IN?
"It's a sliding scale, depending on how much time I've given myself. I often end up jumping in the car with a go-bag and whatever suit is ready and dry-cleaned. For Race Week this year, now that you've asked and the seed is planted, I will aspire to roll."

TRAVEL MANTRA?
"Never be afraid to ask questions."

BEST TRAVEL HACK?
"Get off the beaten track, hang with the locals and perfect the practice of saying yes."

FAVOURITE THING TO DO ON THE ISLAND?
"Big question. Anything and everything! It really is paradise. Smile, wave at people driving golf buggies, watch the sunset, awe at the whales, swim with the turtles, relax and keep some nights free for the Captain's Club."

PHOTOGRAPHY: SCOTT EHLER.

RHIANNON TAYLOR

She has forged a career photographing incredible interiors, some of the best design-led hotels and interesting travel and lifestyle brands around the world. She knows her packing.

WHAT DO YOU NEVER LEAVE HOME WITHOUT?
"Camera, passport, my daughter and husband. I figure if I've forgotten to pack anything else, I can pick it up while I'm away – unless we're somewhere remote, then I really have to plan my luggage, which is so not my thing."

CAMERA OR PHONE?
"I've just moved to medium format digital and I'm shooting on a Fujifilm GFX100. It's a huge camera and the files are massive, but I love the results for my travel images and client work. I love my iPhone camera but it's currently smashed – toddlers, sigh – so all my phone pics have weird fog and light shards. It's been like that for six months and I've just learned to live with it."

YOU'VE VISITED HAMILTON ISLAND MANY TIMES. WHAT'S AN ABSOLUTE MUST-PACK?
"Swimwear. Unless you're staying at qualia – then if you forget it, you have a great excuse to peruse the beautiful boutique."

BIKINI OR ONE-PIECE?
"One-piece, always."

BUCKET HAT, BASEBALL CAP OR…?
"Baseball or Panama. I'm very functional."

ONE SUITCASE OR TWO? OR THREE?
"I think the last time I went to Hamilton Island I had eight. To be fair, half were for equipment and one was probably toddler supplies. I do not travel light."

WHAT KIND OF PACKER ARE YOU?
"I take it all. I'm always packing last-minute – the morning of, usually – so I just throw it all in and hope for the best. Most of the time it's really weather-inappropriate. I think I went to Alaska without a jacket a couple of years ago."

BOOK OR PHONE?
"*Where the Crawdads Sing* is the last book I read but that was a long time ago. I love reading but I don't get many chances to do it now. If I get a rare free moment, I feel like I need to be doing something productive, like catching up on emails or doing the washing. I'm really bad at relaxing; it drives my husband mad that I can't switch off. So on holidays I'm probably scrolling my phone instead of reading."

WHAT ABOUT SUNSCREEN? DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE?
"If I'm outside, I wear it on my face every day. I use Mecca Cosmetica's To Save Face SPF50+ Superscreen."

THE CLASSIC EVENING LOOK YOU ALWAYS PACK?
"I love a ribbed dress that skims the form in a nude, black or sometimes green."

ESPADRILLES OR…
"I'm often working when I'm in a warm location so I tend to lean towards sandals that have extra support and strap on securely. I have a great pair from bassike, otherwise Birkenstock have some really chic editions, or Chanel 'dad sandals' for a splurge."

ROLL, FLAT PACK OR STUFF IT ALL IN?
"Roll carefully for the trip to the destination then stuff it in on the way back (how did it fit in the first place?)"

TRAVEL MANTRA?
"Everything will be fine once we get there."

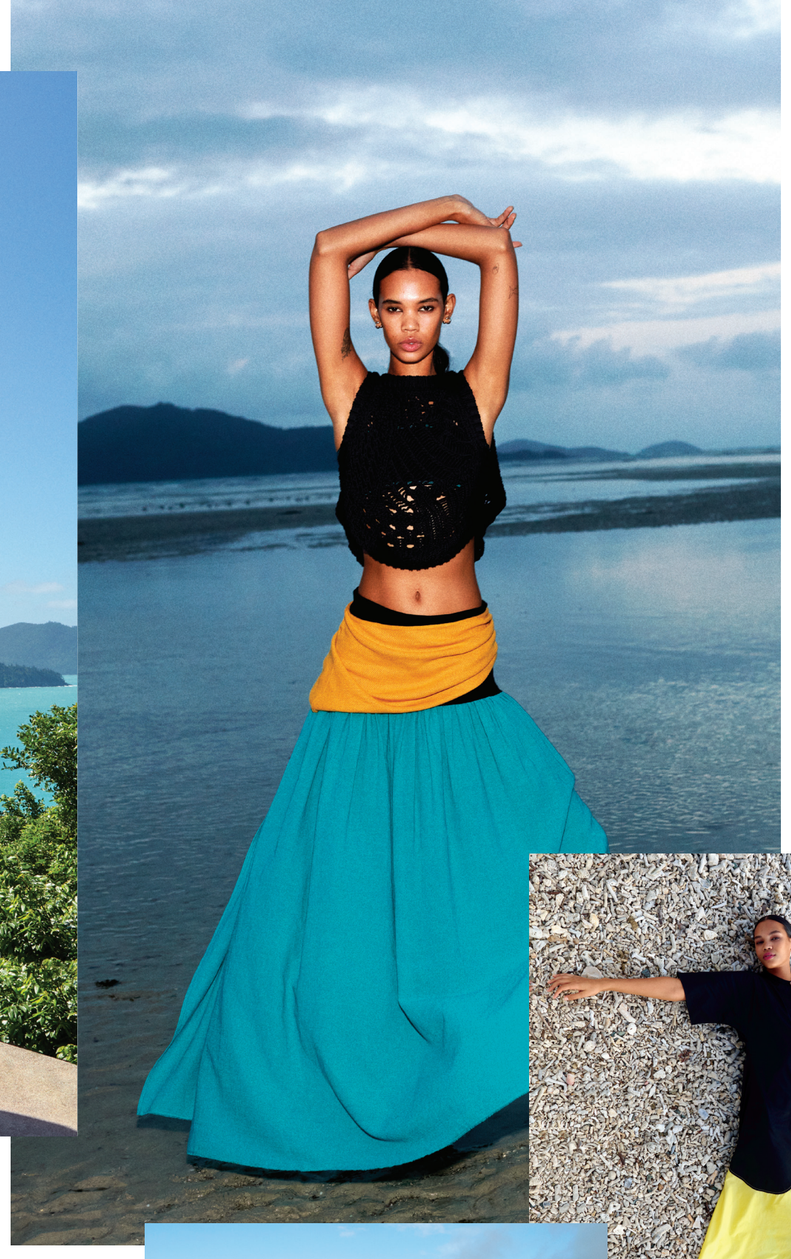
BEST TRAVEL HACK?
"I love Timeshifter's The Jet Lag App, which helps you slowly adjust your body clock to a different time zone in the lead-up to long-distance travel. It really helps with jet lag."

FAVOURITE THING TO DO ON THE ISLAND?
"Finding a nook that's hidden away from other people, where you can have tranquillity and feel like a castaway."

New WAVE

They danced on yachts, ran wild on beaches and loved island life. Directed by Ben Morris, the model crew at bassike took over Hamilton Island, showcasing the vibrant resort 2023 collection with designs inspired by the reef and its intricate ecosystem. By Roxy Lola

Jordan Daniels wears bassike's new reef-inspired collection.



All images from the campaign, shot on Hamilton Island, with Jordan Daniels (pictured) wearing looks from bassike's resort 2023 collection.

"I am constantly inspired by the beauty in nature and our environment," says Deborah Sams, the co-founder and creative director of bassike. "Filming [the resort 2023 campaign] on Hamilton Island allowed us to showcase this unique Australian landscape and transport our audience to a vibrant tropical paradise. The bold and contrasting colours, textures and shapes throughout the collection were inspired by the diversity of species that make up the reef and the way they interact. My aim was to create a feeling of fun with this collection, which was born from my fascination with life underwater."

Set in the ultimate island playground, the campaign shows the bassike crew in brilliant sea-blue skirts, earthy crocheted dresses and loosely tailored printed shirts. The pieces are infused with a sense of liberation and hope, as well as ease and simplicity. "The world has reignited with energy, so there is a light and optimistic nature built into this collection," says Sams, "a feeling of festivity and fun that mirrors the warmth and vitality of a trip to the Whitsundays."

Sams has mastered the Hamilton Island getaway, perfecting every element from the soundtrack to the best views and, of course, the right look. "The [bassike] Open Mesh Knit Sweat and Double Cotton Pleated Pant are perfect for island living," she says. "Wearing head-to-toe white always feels so crisp and fresh, and the cotton knit strikes the perfect balance for the tropical climate. I wore multiple versions of this easy but elevated look during my stay."

For adventures on the island, she suggests a classic bassike combination: "An organic cotton jersey T-shirt with a voluminous low-slung cotton pant and a sneaker is perfect for a day of exploring."

On her playlist? "Anything from Daft Punk or Pharrell." As for hangouts, she says: "Taking in the 360° views at One Tree Hill is a must, but the pool area at qualia is my ultimate favourite."

> "THERE IS A LIGHT AND OPTIMISTIC NATURE BUILT INTO THIS COLLECTION."

For Sams, minimising bassike's impact on the planet has become a core focus. Almost 80% of the resort 2023 collection is made with sustainable materials, including organic and responsibly sourced yarns. The magnificence of the Great Barrier Reef, and the need for its protection, was at the forefront of the design process.

"We hope we will inspire positivity and a vibrant energy," Sams says of the new collection, "and inspire people to make more considered choices to support the future of our planet and in order to protect this truly amazing ecosystem that we are lucky enough to have right here on our doorstep.

"I adored my stay on the island – I always feel my best when I'm connected to nature," she adds. "The expansive views, immersive sounds and breath of fresh air was truly rejuvenating. It feels like you're on another planet."

We concur. This season, we're channelling the bassike woman: a woman who is on holiday, is "creative, confident, spirited and grounded", conscious of the environment and totally in her element on Hamilton Island.

PHOTOGRAPHY: BEN MORRIS.

ISLAND RETAIL THERAPY

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FLORAL COLLECTIONS
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HAMILTON ISLAND DESIGNS
07 4946 8565

HAMILTON ISLAND JEWELLERY
07 4948 9857

THE DECKHOUSE
07 4946 8180

PRO SHOP (HI GOLF CLUB)
07 4948 9760

QUALIA BOUTIQUE
07 4948 9473

RESORT CENTRE LOBBY SHOP
0427 148 952

REEF VIEW LOBBY SHOP
0427 148 623

SALT SWIM AND RESORT WEAR
07 4946 8221

THE ART GALLERY
07 4948 9657

THE HUT
07 4946 8273

TRADER PETE'S
07 4946 0907

MY Alani sleeps six and is equipped with a slippery dip.

CHARTER class

Every day is a good day out on the water. Especially with experienced skippers who can magic a water slide at Whitehaven Beach, navigate lagoons for perfect turtle-spotting and generally make paradise feel like it's all for you. By Tracey Withers

...FOR THE THRILL

Bring a wish list. Always wanted to scoot down a giant slippery slide into water the colour of a curaçao cocktail? Easy. Fancy flopping onto a sandy beach so isolated it seems as if you're the first human to set foot on it? It shall be done – and with a picnic.

"Every charter is different," says Alani's Mason Dawe, who operates the 82ft *MY Alani*. "We have our own way of showing off iconic places like Whitehaven Beach, but we also love taking people to quiet, lesser-known places where it feels like you've got your own slice of paradise."

Bring a wedding party, birthday party… any party (up to 35 people). "We can bring a private chef on board to deliver a menu you design, or our stewardess can do fresh meals – she's a really good cook," Dawe says.

If the expansive interior and deck isn't enough, you can have an inflatable island, bobbing with beach toys, suspended from the yacht's stern. And while you're in the calm of Whitehaven Bay, Dawe will have a big, bouncy water slide hooked up to the roof of the boat. "Everyone has a crack. It's so much fun," he says.

Try stand-up paddleboarding or head to Chance Bay, a nook of the Whitsundays where the reef runs along the shoreline, to spot green, flatback and hawksbill sea turtles floating on the sparkling surface.

"For snorkelling, there are spectacular little bays around Hook Island that we take you in to by tender," says Dawe. Ask an *Alani* guide where you might find Nemo at Luncheon Bay's coral gullies and ledges. And look for the "tunnel of love", an underwater canyon that scuba divers can swim through.

"Up around that northern end of the island, you get big black and yellow batfish flapping around the back of the boat and you can see massive aquamarine Maori wrasse. It's an incredibly healthy reef system." Look out for coral trout and you might just spot a male changing colour as he shows off to potential mates.

If the mood for romance strikes, a castaway picnic awaits. "We can set up a canopied table on the sand or just grab a bottle of Champagne, a hamper and drop you off somewhere deserted with a beach umbrella."

Be back on board for sundowners then either head ashore to Hamilton Island Marina, or have the *MY Alani* drop anchor in a sheltered spot for the evening (the plush cabins sleep six).

"The sunset is incredible," says Dawe, "but there's nothing like waking up to daybreak out on the water. It's just magic."

Day charters, sunset cruises and overnight stays, hamiltonisland.com.au/alani

...FOR THE BIG MOMENTS

"You see a change happen in people when we get out sailing," says Frank Hobson, skipper of day-charter catamaran *Ricochet*. "When we're out on the open water, coming from Hamilton Island and getting that south-easterly trade wind, it's exhilarating. Then when we come into Whitehaven Bay, everything shifts. Mobile reception drops out, all you can hear is the wind in the sails, and families – even teenagers – start really connecting with each other again. It's amazing."

The 47ft *Ricochet* is impressive and built for pace. And Hobson, who has operated luxury vessels around the world, among them Richard Branson's *Necker Belle*, knows how to crank her up to speeds in excess of 25 knots.

"If you want to jump behind the helm or trim sails and get involved, we're definitely up for showing you the ropes," he says. But the wide, flat double-hull also makes for a smooth, easy ride for families. "On private charters, the experience is designed to work with you: anyone from zero to 99 years old will love it."

Kids usually start off on the trampoline, he says, "catching the spray and laying facedown to watch dolphins playing under there as we part the waves. Then adults get on, too." If you're sailing between July and September, keep your eyes peeled for whales – curious youngsters have been known to breech just off the bow.

Hobson reads the wind, weather and tides to make sure you get the best swimming and snorkelling conditions, but the rest is up to you. "The first thing I say on a private day charter is: 'This is your boat for the day. What do you want to do with it?'"

Ricochet hosts a maximum of 20 guests (usually around 12) and offers both private and shared charters. The catamaran is considered low-impact, which means it can access places that are off-limits to tour boats and bigger vessels. "We don't have to be where the crowds are restricted to at Whitehaven – we've got 95% of the beach," says Hobson.

While you are on Whitsunday Island, walk the new National Parks trail to get knockout views of the green isles to the south. Or head to a lookout to see the swirling white and turquoise mosaic of Hill Inlet at low tide.

The gleaming silica-sand shallows and reef at Chalkies Beach on Haslewood Island are all yours to snorkel. "There's also a secret spot we call Dave's Cove, though that's not the official name," says Hobson. "It's where there's a very narrow passageway between reefs; once we get through that keyhole, we get to a lagoon where we can anchor, surrounded by reef."

Dive off the back of *Ricochet* into the lagoon and you'll be surrounded by the colourful coral that grows on the edge of the drop-offs and huge "bommies" that flash and pulse with fish. "It's also our favourite place for seeing baby turtles," says Hobson, "they're five to 20 years old, but small compared to the 100-year-old ones that are the size of dinner tables."

The return journey (there are no sleepovers aboard the *Ricochet*) has you in a prime position as the sky starts to blush. "Between 5pm and 7pm in the summertime, we're coming down the western side of Whitsunday Island, with a full view across the passage to the western skyline." You can toast that hot orange sunset all the way back to Hamilton Island.

Private and shared (scheduled tour) charters for full-day, part-day and sunset cruises. hamiltonisland.com.au/sailing

The 47ft *Ricochet* catamaran takes travellers where other vessels can't.

An early start means *Palm Beach* delivers the greatest luxury: solitude.

...FOR NEXT-LEVEL GLAMOUR

With its navy-blue hull, flashy silver hardware and classic lines cut from Burmese teak, Hamilton Island's most elegant motor yacht definitely has a touch of George-Clooney-at-Lake-Como about it. But Europe could only wish it had the kind of playground the *Palm Beach* has access to.

"These are some of the most beautiful and unspoilt waterways in the world and we're about giving you the most exclusive experience of it," says skipper and marine operations manager Matt Tempero, who has been sailing these waters for more than two decades.

Morning starts have never been more attractive. Catering for up to 12 and only available for private charter, *Palm Beach* heads out earlier than most – when the light is crisp and lungfuls of air are that bit more fresh. "We're often the first boat out at Whitehaven Beach and have the pick of the spots," says Tempero. "We can be snorkelling without another soul in sight and doing bushwalks before the day really heats up."

The trail to Hill Inlet Scenic Lookout at the northern end of Whitehaven is hardly a struggle, but it's even more enjoyable when there's someone to carry all your beach stuff. Tempero and the boat's steward will walk you down to the beach at Hill Inlet, where the bathwater-warm, protected shallows are frequented by stingrays and timid lemon sharks (it's a safe spot to paddle, perfect for pretending that time has stopped ticking). "We bring a bottle of Charles Heidsieck Champagne, too," says Tempero.

Be sure to ask him about Katies Cove. "Ah, yes… that's the big secret," he says. "It's where I take the movie stars and VIPs who want complete privacy. It's a beach similar to Whitehaven but it's tucked around a corner on another island, facing out to sea. It's like a different world."

As you travel the northern islands, do a cinematic dive straight off the boat to swim or snorkel in the marine wonderlands of Mantaray Bay and off Langford Island. Then slip around to the south-west of Hook Island to Nara Inlet and the Ngaro Cultural Site track, where you'll find an Indigenous rock art cave in the forested hills.

The walk is only 340m return but the shell middens and paintings will take you back 9,000 years to a time when the Ngaro people were alone in this region. The rock art marks one of the oldest Indigenous sites on Australia's east coast. At the end of the inlet, in the rainy season, you'll also find a freshwater rock pool and an impressive waterfall.

Return to the air-conditioned salon to sink into the soft leather seats and feast on lobster tails and sushi from the personalised Bento boxes prepared by the chefs at qualia. This special treatment used to be reserved for those staying at the resort, but has recently been made available to guests across Hamilton Island. Good timing.

Private charters only. hamiltonisland.com.au/palmbeach

PHOTOGRAPHY: NEIL PIDDICK; JUSTIN BLANK; KARA ROSENLUND.

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Dent Island, home of the Hamilton Island Golf Club.

PHOTOGRAPHY: GARY LISBON.

A course as scenic as it is testing.

Hamilton Island Golf SURVIVAL GUIDE

Playing any course for the first time can be a daunting experience. When that course is Hamilton Island Golf Club – widely regarded as one of the most challenging (albeit visually striking) in Australia, if not the world – you need to be at the top of your game. Brendan James shares his tips for a memorable round.

The Peter Thomson and Ross Perrett-designed course at Hamilton Island Golf Club is not actually on Hamilton Island; it's on Dent Island, a tree-and-scrub-covered monolith that rises steeply (to about 145m at its highest point) from the aquamarine waters of the Coral Sea. The course is reached by ferry from the Hamilton Island Marina. As you cross the passage, you'll get glimpses of the layout on the clifftops high above, fuelling excitement for the challenge ahead. Here, we offer six tips to turn some of those bogeys into pars and, perhaps, a few birdies.

PLAY THE COURSE FOR YOU

There are three sets of tees on each hole, named after trees that are native to Dent Island: Hoop Pine, Pandanas and Grass Tree. Hoop Pine represents the longest test of the par-71 course and, in this writer's opinion, is best tackled by professionals and elite amateurs. Undoubtedly, the temptation will be too much for the masochistic golfer reading this, but be warned: take plenty of golf balls.

There are long carries to reach some fairways, and the tee shots on the par-3s are among the most exacting you will find anywhere in the country. Most will be best served playing from the Pandanas tees, though if you're a casual golfer, opt for the Grass Tree tees to get the most out of your round. That said, if you are planning to play a few games at Hamilton Island, why not mix it up from round to round or hole to hole?

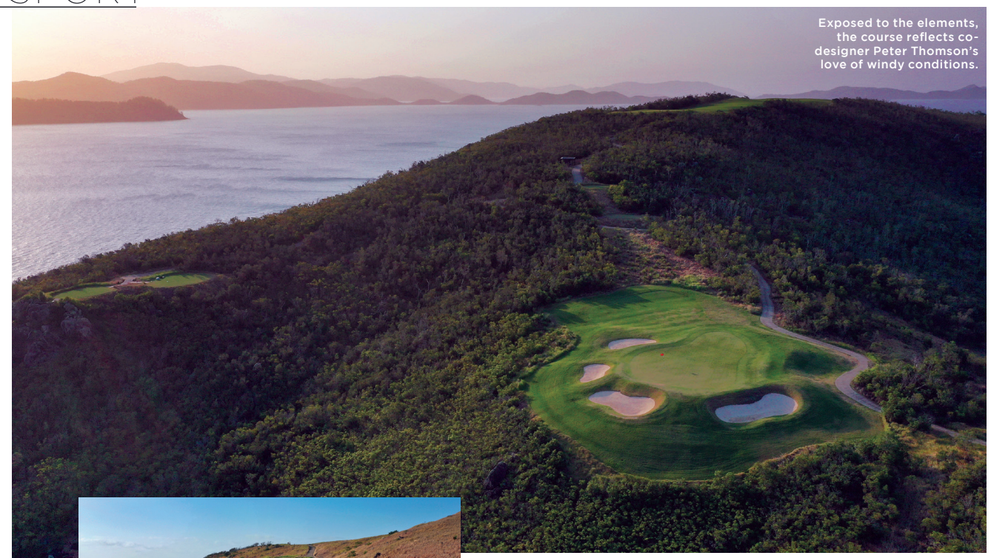
CONTROL YOUR BALL

Peter Thomson was one of the world's best golfers in the wind, which is why he won five Open Championships. He brought his love of seaside courses and windy conditions to his golf course architecture career, creating layouts that play fair, yet strong, in all wind strengths.

Key to making a good score at Hamilton Island is knowing how to play in the wind; keep your ball on a low trajectory into a headwind or crosswind, and hit the ball high downwind. Or, in Thomson's words: "You, not Mother Nature, need to control your ball."

PICK YOUR CLUB

This is a simple one. The Hamilton Island layout covers dramatic terrain, with great elevation changes from tee to green on most holes. If the flag is above your eyeline when you're hitting to a green, consider hitting a longer club to make



Exposed to the elements, the course reflects co-designer Peter Thomson's love of windy conditions.

A feat of engineering and a test for the most stoic golfer.

The epic view from the Clubhouse.

the distance. Conversely, if the flag is below your eyeline, you will need a more lofted club. Obviously, the more uphill or downhill the shot is, the greater the difference in club (from a shot played on level ground) you will require.

PREPARE FOR AMAZING

It only takes a few holes to really appreciate what an incredible feat of engineering, course design and construction it was to create a layout in such rugged terrain. To give you an idea, hundreds of tonnes of rock were carved from the landscape to facilitate the positioning of tees, greens and fairways. This rock was crushed on site to make sand that was then shaped to become the foundation of the Bermuda and Couch grass-playing surfaces.

The opening trio of holes eases you into the round and then the real challenge begins: the par-3 fourth hole. From the Hoop Pine back markers, it is 175m across a scrub-filled valley to a large undulating green that is more exposed to wind than any other hole on the front nine. The putting surface lies on a ridge where shots hit long and short left are gone for good. Backdropped by the distant Long Island and mainland, and beautifully framed by rocky outcrops, this is a fantastic hole.

That said, all four of the par-3s are outstanding. Each demands different shots, clubs and strategies to equal par, and poor shots are punished. Good wind play, smart club selection and a hint of bravado will put you in good stead for the par-3 14th, which can play as long as 150m (or 113m at its shortest), and from varying angles, across a scrub-filled gully to the green. Surrounded by deep bunkers on three of its four sides, the hole's only "safe" miss is to the left of the putting surface, a part of the course that is extremely exposed to the elements.

DON'T GET COMFORTABLE

The 160m par-3 16th, off the Hoop Pine tee, has a reputation for being a destroyer of good scores. The tees and green have been cut out of the side of an escarpment, with the tee elevated high above the putting surface, making the hole play much shorter than the scorecard suggests. This is the most spectacular hole on the course and, perhaps, the most treacherous.

The only bail-out here area is just short of the green. Even the deep bunker cut into the front right edge of the green looks good when you are standing on the tee. Miss the green right or long and you can drop another ball, while any tee shot drifting left will leave a tough chip from long grass.

It's no coincidence that the shortest holes at Hamilton Island are the most dangerous to the scorecard. All four green complexes are island-like: there's little room for error with your tee shot and mis-hits are repelled from the putting surface.

KEEP YOUR HEAD UP

You can follow all of the above but there is a pretty good chance you won't play to your handicap. That's golf. The real winner on this course is the player who remembers to take in the scenery at every turn of the journey, from the first tee to the 18th green.

PHOTOGRAPHY: GARY LISBON.

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Golf Cars Australia

Expansive outdoor living areas make the most of the marina views.

DIAMOND in the Marina

One of Hamilton Island's most extraordinary properties, this home is perfect for tropical living. By Esther Holmes

With generous entertaining spaces, not-to-be-missed Hamilton Island Marina views and a coveted front-row position for those unbeatable Whitsunday sunsets, Kaylan House is our version of spectacular. The home's clever design spans three levels and includes four large bedrooms, every one of them offering incredible tropical views.

This is the first time Kaylan House has been presented to the market since it was built in 2007. It's a must-see for families seeking a permanent home on the island and for savvy investors looking for a property with an impressive holiday-letting history.

On entering the home, via the middle level, a spacious setting unfolds, featuring a well-equipped open-plan kitchen, a stylish central dining space and a welcoming living room. The interiors open onto an expansive balcony that connects the home with its lush natural surrounds and makes for seamless indoor/outdoor living.

The upper level features another large deck, designed with escapism in mind. In addition to beautiful views, it offers a wet bar and an immersive entertainment experience, complete with a 2.4m cinema screen, reclining lounges and a sound system. Also on this level is the master suite with ensuite, making for a luxe retreat – ideal for both living and holidaying on Hamilton Island.

The lower level of Kaylan House features three sweeping bedrooms, each with an ensuite, ensuring the privacy of all residents. The bedrooms connect to a central deck with a relaxing leafy outlook – the perfect spot to reset, rest and unwind.

Kaylan House is sold with all furniture and includes two buggies to get you around the island. What are you waiting for…

To find out more, visit Hamilton Island Real Estate on Front Street or call (07) 4948 9101

Perfect positioning for sunset drinks.

Capturing the best of Hamilton Island.

PHOTOGRAPHY: NEIL PIDDICK.

The spacious interior showcased by the glossy wooden floors.

Folding doors bring the outdoors in.

WITH A COVETED FRONT-ROW POSITION FOR THOSE UNBEATABLE WHITSUNDAY SUNSETS, IT'S OUR VERSION OF SPECTACULAR.

PAVILLIONS 13
1 AIRPORT DRIVE
$4,200,000

3 3 1

One of Hamilton Island's most exclusive developments, Pavillions are the island's only waterfront luxury apartments offering an exclusive marina berth right at the front door. Newly renovated and featuring a modern and stylish interior, this 350sqm first-floor property is spaciously set on a single level, with spectacular northern views across the iconic Hamilton Island Marina. Offering an expansive kitchen, open plan living and dining area, luxurious media room and study, the apartment is complemented by a spacious wrap-around balcony and private spa. Other features include a secure garage, 18m marina berth and luxury furnishings, all this within walking distance to the marina precinct.

HIBISCUS 206
16 RESORT DRIVE
OFFERS OVER $995,000

2 2

One of the most popular properties for buyers and holiday makers, Hibiscus 206 is all about a clever combination of stylish lifestyle and good location. At the heart of the resort centre, it is a short walk to all resort amenities, including the island bus service. Enjoy the apartment's open plan entertaining spaces and sweeping views across Catseye Bay from the private balcony, plus easy access to the complex pool and grassy area. Updated since the original build, Hibiscus 206 presents the perfect family holiday home, retiree pad or savvy addition to an investment portfolio.

BELLA VISTA EAST 4
12 WHITSUNDAY BOULEVARD
$1,550,000

2 2 1

Bella Vista Apartments are renowned for their expansive living areas, generous room size, unique design and solid construction. This elevated, single-level apartment is surrounded by manicured tropical gardens, breathtaking views and is complemented by the highly sought-after north-eastern aspect. The open plan design perfectly suits Hamilton Island's tropical climate. Recently updated and sold fully furnished, the property also boasts an impressively large patio overlooking the complex's private green lawns and pool area.

PROPERTY SALES: CONTACT LIAM KEARNEY 0458 178 601 OR LYNN MILSOM 0415 039 060
The properties featured in the REEF Magazine Real Estate section are available at time of print. For a full listing of properties for sale or to review recently sold properties, visit the Hamilton Island Real Estate office on Front Street, or go to **www.hamiltonislandrealestate.com.au**
PROPERTY SALES: 07 4948 9101 **PERMANENT RENTALS:** 07 4946 8028 **HOLIDAY HOMES PROPERTY MANAGEMENT:** 07 4946 8746

INFINITY
11 WHITSUNDAY BOULEVARD
OFFERS OVER $3,999,000

5 5 2

This open plan, three level luxury home has been exquisitely designed, furnished and comfortably sleeps up to 14 people. Situated on 2,035sqm of land, the 521sqm residence features a kitchen, dining, living and balcony on the upper level. Stairs lead to the middle level, which consists of an impressive master bedroom and a second large bedroom, both with open plan ensuites, plus a third bedroom and laundry. The lower level features a further master, large ensuite bedroom, lounge and kitchenette that opens to a beautiful deck with an infinity pool and spa. The owners have researched holiday guest needs and have designed and built with this in mind - with strong forward bookings.

OASIS 22
2 FLAMETREE GROVE
$989,000

3 2 1

This beautiful property is perfect as a prime investment or somewhere to call home away from home. Oasis 22 features stunning sunset views across the water, with a spacious indoor/outdoor living area, and split system air conditioning throughout. Sold fully furnished and with strong forward bookings and great return guest rates, it is not hard to see why these properties in this complex are so popular.

WHITSUNDAY APARTMENTS
14 RESORT DRIVE
CONTACT AGENT

1 1

Conveniently close to Catseye Beach, it is easy to see why these apartments in this lagoon style complex, with pool and spa, are popular holiday homes and a good investment. All needs are met here for a self-contained family holiday. The spacious 84sqm floor plan accommodates up to five guests, with a well-equipped kitchen, open plan lounge and dining area, large bedroom and dual access bathroom. Stepping onto the generous balcony, the view is over the tropical gardens and takes in the Coral Sea.

WAVES 6
3 ACACIA DRIVE
OFFERS OVER $2,000,000

4 **2.5** **1**

Designed by iconic, award-winning architect Harry Seidler, Waves is a stunning, multi-level townhouse complex offering magnificent views. Waves 6 has been carefully designed with an abundance of space, spread over three levels. On the upper level, the unified space flows from the gourmet kitchen through to the extra-large open plan living and dining area leading out to the expansive balcony. On the middle level, the master bedroom features a magnificent ensuite and furnished balcony. A further three bedrooms and a large bathroom with spa bath cater to the largest families. The lower level offers access to parking and features a large mud/sand room and laundry.

PEBBLE BEACH
10 MELALEUCA DRIVE
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ONLY

3 **3** **2**

If you are looking for exclusivity, it doesn't get more unique than Pebble Beach. Designed by renowned Whitsundays property designer, Chris Beckingham, this is the only home on the island with direct access to a pebble beach. This stunning property features a split level, indoor-outdoor design with hardwood floors, high ceilings and a multitude of balcony living spaces with spectacular views. Other features include ceiling fans, split system air conditioning, eastern view lines, a one-acre lot size and complete privacy whilst enjoying a most private island getaway.

PANDANUS N
4 BANKSIA COURT
$470,000

2 **1** **1**

Located in a popular townhouse development, this fully furnished property is perfect for an owner-occupier or permanent tenant investment. The spacious double storey apartment consists of two bedrooms and one bathroom, with a bright and airy open-plan living area featuring high ceilings, and a generous balcony capturing the impressive sea views. The surrounding tropical landscaped gardens are well-maintained and the in-ground pool is a unique addition for the residents to enjoy.

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ELANDRA
10 WHITSUNDAY BOULEVARD
$3,875,000

5 **3** **1**

Elandra boasts mesmerising island 180-degree views over the surrounding Whitsundays. Designed by Chris Beckingham, the 1,000sqm property features a generous master suite with balcony, two spacious bedrooms on the upper level and two on the lower level with convenient adjoining ensuites. The property enjoys an expansive open living area with generous kitchen and the grand, vaulted ceilings allowing for an abundance of natural light. The signature Chris Beckingham timber floors throughout complete this architectural gem. The in-ground wet-edge pool and manicured gardens complete the home, providing an amazing island getaway.

POINCIANA 006
2 MARINA DRIVE
EXCELLENT VALUE

2 **2** **1**

This north-facing, fully-furnished ground floor apartment is located in one of Hamilton Island's most popular developments. Poinciana Lodge is a short walk to the resort centre, beach and marina, with its private and shaded complex lagoon-style pool. This feature-packed apartment has been well renovated including great kitchen and stylish bathrooms. The spacious outdoor entertaining area provides direct lawn access and beautiful eastern views across Catseye Bay. This property is a perfect paradise for families with young children, or those wishing to avoid stairs.

OASIS 10
2 FLAMETREE GROVE
$949,000

3 **2**

This property is perfectly positioned to take in the stunning sunsets of Hamilton Island and features an open plan living and dining area, high ceilings and a bright airy ambiance. Outdoor entertainment is the central theme of tropical Whitsunday living and Oasis 10 delivers. The spacious and fully renovated balcony is suitable for every weather condition, with bifold windows to protect from the elements. Sold fully furnished, this property is ready for a new owner to reap the rewards with a strong history of holiday letting.

HORIZONS

5-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY
FROM: $3,000 PER NIGHT
MAXIMUM CAPACITY:
12 PEOPLE

6 4 2

This impeccably-designed luxury home boasts an elevated position with spectacular, wrap-around views of the Whitsundays from every angle. Set over three levels with a seamless indoor to outdoor layout, Horizons also features its own spectacular plunge pool which runs off the main deck and offers views across the ocean. Situated on the resort side of the island, it is just a short distance to all of the island's key attractions.

HIBISCUS LODGE 002

4-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY
FROM: $660 PER NIGHT
MAXIMUM CAPACITY: 6 PEOPLE

2 2 1

With superb views and an idyllic location behind Catseye Beach, this spacious single floor apartment is air-conditioned throughout, and opens directly onto a private grass area that's perfect for young children. Enjoy access to the Hibiscus Lodge complex pool, spa and BBQ area and an easy stroll to the island's resort centre.

BLUE WATER VIEWS 2

4-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY
FROM: $570 PER NIGHT
MAXIMUM CAPACITY: 6 PEOPLE

2 2 1

This large and bright two bedroom apartment is located on the western side of Hamilton Island, allowing guests to enjoy the island's beautiful and spectacular sunsets from a ringside balcony. Positioned on the ground floor with a single level layout, this spacious, modern family holiday home has a vast outdoor entertaining area and direct access to the sparkling shared pool.

BELLA VISTA EAST 6

4-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY
FROM: $710 PER NIGHT
MAXIMUM CAPACITY: 4 PEOPLE

2 2 1

With its open plan, single level layout and views across tropical gardens to the Fitzalan Passage, this apartment is ideal for families or couples. Relax on the covered outdoor balcony and enjoy views over the turquoise Whitsunday waters, and access to the shared complex pool. Located at the tranquil northern end of Hamilton Island, it is a short buggy ride to all of the island's main attractions.

HOLIDAY RENTALS: CONTACT HAMILTON ISLAND HOLIDAYS 137 333 (02 9433 0444)
To view the full Hamilton Island Holiday Homes rental listings go to hamiltonislandholidayhomes.com.au
*RATES QUOTED ARE LOW SEASON RATES. OTHER RATES AND DURATIONS OF STAY AVAILABLE, PLEASE ENQUIRE AT TIME OF BOOKING.

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NEVER STRAIGHT

It is said the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. But at sea, charting any course comes with a slew of uncontrollable factors. The winds, the currents, the swell… Only the strongest will, the keenest experience and a sharp intuition can overcome such overwhelming powers. Only by keeping the highest expectations and harnessing the deepest resources can one chart a course between where one is and where one aims to be. There is very little chance it will ever be a straight line. **Yet more often than not, it will be the right one.**

#Perpetual

OYSTER PERPETUAL YACHT-MASTER 42

ROLEX