

MEDIA RELEASE



THE HEART OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

For immediate release
December 19, 2019

The Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival countdown is on!

The countdown to the start of the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival has well and truly begun with less than one month to go!

The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race is a unique event, in which more than 700 amateur crew members are teamed with experienced skippers to sail 11 yachts in a 40,000 nautical mile race around the globe.

The Whitsundays stopover will be the final one in Australia for the Clipper Round The World Yacht Race 2019-20 Race and will be held over one week in early January showcasing the Whitsunday region and what it is renowned for - beautiful scenery, amazing sailing, and warm Queensland hospitality.

Tourism Whitsundays Chief Executive Officer, Tash Wheeler is excited to once again welcome the Clipper Race sailors to the region.

“The 2018 Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival was a huge success, hosting world-class-events like the Clipper Round The World Yacht Race is a huge visitation drawcard for our region. We generally see a great spike in guest numbers around these events.

“The Whitsundays is the Heart of Sailing, there is no better way to showcase that than by hosting the globally recognised Clipper Race fleet, as well as their international family and friends,” she said.

Events will be staged across the Whitsunday region following the Clipper Race arrivals from the 9th of January. The festivities will kick off on the 11th of January with the iconic White on Whitehaven by Fish D’vine a long table lunch on the pristine silica sands of Whitehaven Beach, on Whitsunday Island. This will be followed by a free community welcome event which will take place on the new Airlie Beach foreshore the following day providing an opportunity for the local community to show the warm Whitsundays hospitality the region is known for.

Mayor Andrew Willcox said the Clipper events provided the perfect opportunity to showcase the broader Whitsunday region to the world.

The inaugural Rodeo by the Reef was a huge hit and the event proved an instant hit with the community.

“Bowen will become the Heart of Rodeo and the Heart of the Reef on January 18 and I am expecting we will again draw over 3000 for a night of cowboy action.

“The Clipper Carnival turns the international global spotlight on Bowen with a truly unique event,” he said.

Other events throughout the carnival will include the Clipper Golf Challenge at Proserpine Golf Club, the Little Ripper Clipper Cup, and Australiana Long Lunch at Whitsunday Sailing Club. The Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival finishes up with the Parade of Sails and the outstanding Rodeo by the Reef held at the Bowen foreshore.

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Tourism
Whitsundays

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For more information about the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race and the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival please visit the [Whitsundays Clipper Race Website](#).

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About Tourism Whitsundays: *Tourism Whitsundays (TW) is the organisation responsible for destination marketing and visitor attraction for the Whitsunday region. It is the lead agency recognised by Tourism and Events Queensland and the Whitsunday Regional Council to lead the promotion of the region as a tourism destination. Tourism Whitsundays markets all aspects of the region including the Great Barrier Reef, Whitsunday Islands and Coast, accommodation, boating and sailing, fishing, touring, recreational activities, adventure, dining, shopping, weddings and honeymoons, conferencing and business events.*

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