## MEDIA RELEASE



THE HEART OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

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## It's time to rediscover the ancient rainforests of The Whitsundays!

The Whitsundays is well-known for its azure blue waters, idyllic islands and the Great Barrier Reef, plus it is also home to World Heritage-listed rainforests! With the introduction of many new and exciting ways to experience these intricate ecosystems, it has never been easier to discover this largely untouched part of The Whitsundays.

Escape the crowds and get lost in nature. Go on a camping trip with Scamper – Whitsunday Island Camping Connections, and choose from 15 island camping locations, including Whitehaven Beach. Discover secluded beaches, fringing coral reefs and the distinctive hoop pines of the Whitsundays Islands National Park.

Explore Conway National Park, the largest area of lowland tropical rainforest in Queensland outside of Tropical North Queensland. The Whitsundays offers a variety of ways to experience this thriving natural habitat, such as jumping on a Segway tour with Whitsunday Segway Tours.

For something new that's sure to get your heart racing, try out the newest addition to The Whitsundays - Bike and Hike Whitsunday. The increasingly popular sport of mountain biking is now available in The Whitsundays. Choose between the scenic trails on South Molle Island with the Whitsunday Islands as your backdrop, or take a ride through the mainland rainforest of Conway National Park, descending along old logging tracks, navigating seasonal creeks and experiencing the abundance of native flora and fauna.

Tourism Whitsundays Chief Executive Officer Tash Wheeler said the opening of yet another thrilling mainland National Parks experience means this is the perfect time to rediscover The Whitsundays.

"It is so exciting to be adding to the already amazing list of experiences that we have operating here in The Whitsundays. We need to take full advantage of these stunning rainforests, which date back tens of thousands of years. For those who have previously visited the islands or the mainland, we encourage you to come back and once again discover what we have on offer, whether it be on a Segway or camping, hiking and mountain biking; we truly have something for everyone here," Mrs Wheeler said.

Bike and Hike Whitsunday owner and mountain bike enthusiast Dylan Ford also can't wait to spread the word that The Whitsundays is where it's at for all things nature and adventure.

"Since COVID, there is a massive untapped audience of people who are just itching to get out and explore nature. Whether you are an experienced rider who has travelled with your own bike, a beginner who has just got into mountain biking, or an adventurer wanting to do something totally unforgettable in a beautiful natural environment, this is your opportunity to get out and experience first-hand the native wildlife and species of these incredible ancient rainforests. Better yet, you can do this on the only mountain bike trail in the Whitsunday Islands National Park. Now is the perfect time to get out and discover your own backyard," Mr Ford said.

For more information on what you can do in our National Parks, please reach out to The Whitsundays Visitor Information Centre by <u>email</u> or call 07 4945 3967.

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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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To access the Tourism Whitsundays Media Centre, click here

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