

CHARTER HOLIDAY INFORMATION MANUAL



Welcome to Queensland Yacht Charters for what will be one of the best boating holidays you will experience. Please read through this charter information booklet so that you can be fully informed about your charter holiday before it commences. You can contact us at any time for any further queries you may have on 1800 075 013 or reservations@yachtcharters.com.au

Contents:

	Page:
1. Index	1
2. What is Eco Tourism?	2
3. Charter commencing from Airlie Beach	3
Driving Up	3
Flying into the Whitsunday Coast Airport	3
Arriving to Airlie Beach by Ferry from the islands	3
Late arrivals	3
Accommodation	3
Stinger suits/Lifejackets/Snorkel Gear	3
Charter commencing from Hamilton Island	3
Flying into Hamilton Island Airport	3
Transfers from the airport to the Marina	3
Vessel Arrival Times and Briefing Times	3
Hamilton Island Finishes	3
Hamilton Island Restrictions	3
Outstanding Payments Due	3
Stinger suits/Lifejackets/Snorkel Gear	3
Hamilton Island Provisioning	3
4. What's Included	4
Staples Pack	4
What to bring	4
First Aid Kit	4
Boarding the Vessel Early	4
Sleepaboard Boarding	4
Pre Charter Briefings	4
Charging camera/phone/laptop batteries/phone usage and hairdryers	4
How can you prepare for your charter better?	4
Cruising area	4
Experience	4
5. Insurances	5
Charter Negligence Insurance	5
Damage Waiver Insurance	5
Security Bond	5
Travel Insurance	5
Fuel	5
General Inventory List	5
6. Provisioning Options	6
Packages and Self Select/Beverage Options	6
Supermarket information	6
Wine Club deliveries	6
7. Map of the islands and cruising area	7
Sample Itineraries	7
8. Island and anchorage information	8
9. Fishing in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	9
What type of fish can you catch	9
Why have a closed season	9
Marine Hazards - Jellyfish	9
Hire of fishing gear and paddleboards	9
Christmas and New Year bookings	9
What you need to be aware of	9

10. Fishing in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

Eco Tourism Certification

What is Ecotourism? "Ecotourism is ecologically sustainable tourism with a primary focus on experiencing natural area that fosters environmental and cultural understanding, appreciation and conservation".

Queensland Yacht Charters offer tourism in a natural area which offers interesting ways for our clients to learn about the environment.

Our World Heritage Area

The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest World Heritage Area. Because of its outstanding appeal it became a World Heritage area in 1981. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park stretches more than 2300km along the north east coast of Australia and is about 12,000 years old. It is home to an enormous amount of fish species, corals, molluscs and protected species such as Dugongs, Turtles, Seabirds, Whales, dolphins etc.

The Great Barrier Reef ecosystem is not one long continuous reef but a complex system of various marine habitats that include over 3000 reefs, 600 continental islands and 300 coral cays.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is a multiple use area with zoned areas that will help you identify what activities can occur in each area. There are 8 types of zones from General use through to Preservation. Visit www.gbrmpa.gov.au for a zoning map on the Whitsunday area.

What you can do to help

During your boat and area briefing, you will be given information on the do's and don'ts of the Marine Park Area. Please abide by the rules and regulations, respect other people using the area, reduce noise and aim to leave no trace of your visit.

We have on board all of our vessels the following guides and information:

100 Magic Miles of the Great Barrier Reef Cruising Guide
Information on visiting the reef
Public moorings and anchoring
Zoning Map
Introduction to using the Marine Park - booklet
Information on protecting Whales, Dolphins, Dugongs, Turtles & Seabirds
A visitor's guide to the National Park Islands and Ngaro Sea Trail.

The Great Barrier Reef attracts millions of visitors every year. To ensure your visit does not impact the marine environment and to keep it pristine for other generations to enjoy it is recommended that you learn more about the reef prior to your visit. You can visit the following websites to access this information and find out more. There is some great information for kids to learn about and take back to school with them to share with others.

www.reefed.edu.au
www.reefhq.com.au
www.gbrmpa.gov.au

Incident Reporting:

You can help protect our Marine Park by reporting incidents to the Queensland yacht Charters Base or to the relevant authority. Incidents such as:
Oil/diesel/sewage spills, Marine animal stranding's/deaths/fish kills, tagged fish, unusual marine life sightings, crown of thorns starfish outbreaks/coral bleaching, tagged turtles, illegal fishing, marine incidents/accidents, zoning infringements, vessel collisions/groundings.

Ngaro People

There are currently more than 70 traditional owner groups of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people that have connections with the Great Barrier Reef. In The Whitsundays, it is the Ngaro people who had the rights and interests to this area for the last 9000 years. It is thought that the Ngaro people were one of the first to have contact with Europeans in Australia and they hunted large marine animals from their canoes and sometimes from outrigger canoes. They were certainly a sea going people and amazingly, one of the oldest "rock shelter" sites, discovered on the East coast of Australia is at Nara Inlet on Hook Island.

At QYC we would encourage everyone to learn more about the tradition, culture and heritage of our indigenous people and respect the values, cultural and heritage sites of the traditional owners throughout this area.

For charters commencing from Airlie Beach (Abell Point North Marina):

Driving here:

Airlie Beach is located approximately 1150 km north of Brisbane on the Bruce highway. Approximate driving time is 16 hours. If you are driving from Cairns, Airlie Beach is approximately 650 km south on the Bruce Highway. Approximate driving time is 9 hours. Car parking is available at Abell Point Marina at a cost of \$8.00 per day and is not secure. Security Car Parking can also be arranged which is a valet service, your vehicle will be picked up and delivered back to you at the end of your charter. Please contact the office for the current rates. You should plan your arrival time for around 8.15am on the morning of your charter, as your brief will commence at 8:30am.

Flying into the Whitsunday Coast Airport, Proserpine (45 minute drive away) or Mackay Airport (approx. 2 hour drive away):

Jetstar, Virgin Airlines and Tiger Airways fly to Whitsunday Coast Airport (Proserpine).

Transfers from the airport to our base or any accommodation in Airlie Beach and return can be arranged through us with Whitsunday 2 Everywhere Shuttle Bus or alternatively you may wish to catch a taxi. If you are arriving late in the afternoon, you may wish to consider a sleepaboard on the vessel that night (contact staff for rates), as our briefings commence at 8:30am. If your flight arrives after 11am you will most probably have to spend the first night in the marina (at your own cost) as the brief generally takes between 3 – 4 hours.

Flights to and from Mackay may also be another option in conjunction with a hire car for the day. Travel time from Mackay to Airlie Beach is 2 hours on the Bruce Highway.

Arriving in Airlie Beach by ferry from the Islands:

There are regular services to and from most of the island resorts in the Whitsundays. [Cruise Whitsundays](#) offer ferry services to and from Port of Airlie. Abell Point Marina is a short taxi ride away from the ferry terminal. Prices can be found on their website.

Late Arrivals:

Should you be arriving to the Whitsundays late in the day, then it is recommended you commence your charter the following day. If you are sleeping aboard the vessel on this night and your arrival is after 5PM our office will not be manned. We will however leave instructions on where to find your vessel (with a map) and marina key on our office door. The fridges will be chilled and the lights will be on.

Abell Point Marina is located a pleasant 10 minute walk from Airlie Beach. There are a myriad of restaurants to dine in to suit all tastes and budgets.

Accommodation:

If you are arriving to Airlie Beach a day or two before your charter and haven't booked your accommodation please contact QYC reservations staff. There is an amazing array of accommodation to choose from in Airlie Beach from budget to 5 stars. Hotels, camping and Bed & Breakfast are all available. Let us know your requirements and we can look into availability and place bookings on your behalf.

Stinger Suits/Life Jackets/Snorkel Gear:

QYC recommend stinger suits to be worn throughout the year, especially in the warmer months. Jelly fish season generally runs from October to May. All stinger suits can be hired through the dive shop in the marina – [Aquadive](#).

All snorkel gear is obtained through the dive shop ([Aquadive](#)) in the marina.

Please note Queensland Yacht Charters do not provide children's lifejackets. As they are now compulsory for children under 12 years (in open boats under 4.8 metres), we recommend that you bring your own or if you prefer they can be hired from the dive shop in the marina.

For Charters commencing at Hamilton Island:

Flying into Hamilton Island:

Jetstar, Virgin Airlines and Qantas all fly into Hamilton Island.

Your vessel can be delivered and picked up from Hamilton Island for your charter at an extra cost, with advance notice and subject to availability. Unfortunately, we cannot arrange a sleepaboard on Hamilton Island. **During Hamilton Island Race week pick-up and drop-off of the vessel is not possible.** Please note charters commencing from Hamilton Island need to commence briefing on board their vessel no later than 12:00 pm.

Vessel arrival times and briefing times:

Your vessel will be delivered to Hamilton Island prior to **12:00 midday** on the day of your charter. Your briefing will commence immediately on board the vessel. Provisioning your vessel must be pre booked via an online service with [Whitsunday Provisioning](#). If your arrival to Hamilton Island Marina is later than 12:00 midday, you will be required to ferry to Abell Point Marina at your expense and overnight on board your selected vessel for the evening. Your brief will commence from Abell Point Marina on the following morning at 8:30am. If you still wish to commence your charter from Airlie Beach, you can arrange your transfers to Port of Airlie via [Cruise Whitsunday](#) (they meet all incoming flights).

Transfers from Hamilton Island airport to the marina:

These can be arranged by yourself on your arrival through the resort link taxis. You can use the house phone at the airport and dial 1 for the taxi service. You can also call the Marina Office (07 49468353) and find out if your vessel has arrived and where it may be berthed. Courtesy trolleys and wheelbarrows for luggage and provisions are located at the end of each marina arm for your use. In the event that you arrive before your vessel, luggage can sometimes be stored in the marina office.

Hamilton Island Finishes:

If you are disembarking at Hamilton Island, your finish time would be 10am unless changed by prior arrangement. If you have an early flight our debriefer may not be able to get across to the island in time in which case we would ask that you leave a note with feedback of your charter. For early departures, it is recommended that you pre organise transfers to the airport by the resort link bus or pre-book a taxi.

Hamilton Island Restrictions:

At certain times of the year Hamilton Island is very difficult to get into (even if you book way in advance). These times generally are school holiday periods, New Year's Eve and Hamilton Island Race Week (August). Any booking at any time will not be confirmed until the morning of your stay there. During race week, overnight stays are not permitted but you may visit for a couple of hours (for an hourly rate) whilst the vessels are out racing if a berth is available. Hamilton Island starts and finishes cannot be accommodated at this time either.

Outstanding Payments Due:

All outstanding monies due to Queensland Yacht Charters must be pre-paid prior to your arrival at Hamilton Island. If there are any outstanding amounts we will provide the briefer with a letter authorizing us to charge your credit card for outstanding monies and the security bond. Fuel will be charged on consumption when the vessel returns to Abell Point Marina.

Stinger Suits/Life jackets/Snorkel Gear: Snorkel gear is no longer on the vessel but obtained through the dive shop at no extra cost. Please pop into Aquadive and the friendly staff will fit you out with the correct size. All stinger suits are now hired through the dive shop at Abell Point Marina ([Aquadive](#)). For stinger suits we require your height and weight and for snorkel gear we require your shoe size for the fins. Please note Queensland Yacht Charters do not provide children's lifejackets. As they are now compulsory for children under 12 years (in open boats under 4.8 metres), we recommend that you bring your own or if you prefer they can be hired from the dive shop in the marina. To pre order for your arrival we need to have the child's weight.

Hamilton Island Provisioning:

The facilities for grocery shopping on the island is more limited than on the mainland and at a cost you would expect from an island resort. There is an IGA supermarket, a smaller general store, a bottle shop which provides a large range of alcoholic beverages and a bakery. It is recommended however that you pre plan your provisioning and order through [Whitsunday Provisioning](#).

What's included?

All our vessels are fully equipped with sheets, pillow cases, 2 bath towels per person (towel packs available for additional cost, 10 towels), tea towels, pillows and blankets, fully equipped galley with all crockery, cutlery and coffee plunger, gas deck BBQ, refrigeration, freezers (on most vessels), hot and cold pressure water, stereo/CD player, DVD/TV, snorkel gear, dinghy with outboard motor, cabin fans, charter plotters on most vessels, all navigation equipment, depth instruments and wind/speed on yachts and wet weather jackets.

Staples Pack:

Garbage bags, dishwashing liquid, bathroom soaps (small hotel style), toilet paper, sponge and scourer, matches, pegs, vinegar, salt and pepper.

What to Bring:

- Beach Towel (we do not supply but can be hired)
- 30+ Sunscreen and Zinc Cream
- Insect Repellent
- Polarised Sunglasses (a must for spotting reefs and bommies)
- Hats and Sand Shoes
- Light clothing for summer and light jacket/windcheater/track pants for winter
- Smart casual clothing for visiting resorts
- Your favourite games and reading material (we supply a pack of playing cards)
- CD's and /or MP3 player – please bring an FM transmitter of your MP3 player
- Your favourite DVD's (check that your vessel has a TV/DVD player)
- Fishing gear (as we do not supply but can be hired – see fishing section)

Try and pack all your essentials in soft bags as these are much easier to stow on board. We can store extra luggage on your behalf for the duration of your charter but only if starting and finishing in Airlie Beach.

First Aid Kits:

Your vessel is equipped with a comprehensive first aid kit. However, please be aware that it does not contain the following items: Pain relief or anti-inflammatory medications, seasickness or diarrhoea medication, anti-histamines or antacid tablets.

Boarding the Vessel Early:

Your charter yacht is like a floating hotel room. We need plenty of time to turn the vessel around from its previous guests and not only make sure the vessel is in the cleanest of conditions but to carry out all the on board checks to make sure everything is functioning perfectly for your trip.

Due to this we are unable to store any of your provisions/luggage the night before on the vessel.

Sleepaboard Boarding:

For sleepaboard (Airlie Beach only) the official boarding time is 4PM. A sleepaboard is just that – sleeping on board the vessel the night prior to the charter. No briefing is given as this will all commence at 9am the following morning. You will be unable to board prior to this time or place any provisions/luggage on board. We can store your items in our office if you do arrive early.

Pre Charter Briefing:

On confirmation of your deposit, we will email through our Operations Manual and a Map of the Islands so you are able to familiarize yourself with the product and area. This will mean on arrival, you will be able to have your boat briefing and area briefing then head off to your first anchorage – too easy. Please note, if additional briefing time (above the typical 4 hours included) is required for you to safely handle the vessel, there will be an additional charge payable. In order not to incur any additional briefing charges, please ensure you are ready for your 9am briefing and have all of your shopping either organised or have someone organise this whilst you are being briefed.

Charging camera/phone/laptop and hairdryers:

All our vessels have inverters which can be used to charge all batteries using your existing 240v plug. You can also bring a 12v phone charger (the ones you use in your car) as all our vessels have the cigarette lighter outlet for this purpose. You can only charge batteries and not run such things as computers or hair dryers etc. The only times you will be able to use your hair dryer is when you visit a marina and use the 240v power.

Phone reception is reasonably good around the islands but you may not receive on the Eastern side (i.e.: Whitehaven Beach) and in some deep anchorages (i.e.: Nara Inlet). You will generally have reception when travelling between your anchorages and Telstra works best. If anyone needs to contact you, they can always call our office and we will contact you by VHF radio.

How can you prepare for your charter better?

If you have never chartered in the Whitsundays before, it is highly recommended and worth the small cost to purchase the book "100 magic Miles of the Great Barrier Reef" by David Colfelt. This book will assist you greatly in planning your holiday and will also assist in the briefing process. Although a copy is to be found on all vessels, you will be referring to it at least several times a day whilst on charter. Jam packed with history, resort information, boating information on wind/tides/anchoring techniques/fish and fishing/marine dangers/all anchorages/good diving and snorkelling places – just to name a few! We can post the latest edition to you.

The Operations Manual that we email to you is also a good source of information that you should be familiar with prior to heading out on your holiday.

Cruising Area:

Our cruising area for most of our vessels extends from Bowen in the North to Mackay in the South. You should be aware however, that no bareboat charter vessel is able to visit the outer Great Barrier Reef. If you have cruised around the Whitsundays on numerous occasions then you may want to explore areas further afield than the usual places described in the sample itineraries. If this is the case then be aware that assistance, if required, is not readily available from most of these areas. If your charter is under 14 days, then you will find plenty of places to visit in the immediate areas as described in the sample itineraries without wanting to venture further. You can depart your anchorage first thing in the morning (an hour after sunrise) if you choose. We request, for your safety that you are anchored by 4PM – this allows you plenty of daylight to see the reefs and bommies. Very rarely is anyone out cruising after this time anyway – as it is almost sundowner hour!

Experience:

As you should know when you placed your reservation, you do not need a formal qualification or license to hire our vessels. However, we do need you to have hands on experience of handling a vessel prior to your charter. If you are chartering a sailing vessel, then you will need to have some sailing experience. If you feel you may be lacking in certain areas then a sailguide may be just what you need. A half day guide can be placed on board (small extra cost) and they can literally show you the ropes and have you feeling more comfortable and in control. The sailguide will then disembark the vessel (if everyone is feeling confident) and you can continue on your way to your chosen anchorage.

Insurances:**Charter Negligence Insurance (Personal Liability)**

This policy is designed to protect you from claims made against you by others for property loss, accidental death, bodily injury or illness to them caused by (or as a result of) your negligence. For this policy to apply to you, the hire vessel or its tender must be involved in the loss. We recommend [Oceanic Marine Risks](#) and applications can be made online through this link.

Damage Waiver Insurance:

The Damage Waiver is a compulsory, non-refundable payment which will cover against any minor loss or damage to/on the vessel. Payment of the Damage Waiver reduces the excess payable to the security bond per insurable incident (see security bond details below).

Security Bond on arrival:

We require a security bond on your arrival of between \$500 to maximum \$2,000 depending on the vessel type. This amount of which must be available on your credit card, as we obtain pre-authorisation on this). The security bond will cover against any loss or damage to the vessel including groundings, rigging, loss of dinghy or outboard, stuck anchors, blocked heads, prop wraps caused by sheets, moorings, anchor ropes, docklines, dinghy painters, halyards, floating rope and the removal thereof, chase calls due to charterer (i.e: blocked heads). The bond will be released 7 days after completion of your charter. Please refer to clauses 3.1 of the Charter Agreement for further information.

Travel Insurance:

To cover you for the loss of pre-paid travel in the event of cancellation due to sickness, illness, accident, cyclones etc. As you charter fees are non-refundable within 60 days of your charter commencement, we strongly recommend you are cover by some of travel insurance. We recommend [Oceanic Marine Risks](#) and applications can be made online through this link.

Fuel:

Fuel is not included in the price of your charter. On return from your charter the de-briefer will take you over to the fuel dock where you will refuel the vessel. Vessels dropped off at Hamilton Island will be fuelled on return to Abell Point Marina. We will collect your credit card details on arrival and charge the fuel expense to this card. You can expect to use around \$20 per day for sailing vessels and between \$80 - \$120 for power boats. You will need to run the motor for around 3 hours a day to keep your batteries topped-up

General Inventory List (not vessel specific or quantity specific):

Galley	Navigation	Misc. Cont.	Safety Equip Cont.
Cutting Board	Depth & Wind Indicator	Dust Pan & Brush	Dolphin Torch & Battery
Can Opener	Log	Wet Weather Jackets	2.5 kg extinguisher
Corkscrew	Plotter	Batteries D cell 2pk	Coastal Life Jackets
1 x S/M/L Container	Autohelm (on some)	Plastic Pegs	Life ring
2L Jug	Charts	Vinegar 750ml	Man Overboard Light
Coffee Plunger	Parallel Ruler	Toilet Brush	EPIRB
Egg Lifter	Dividers	Deck Equipment	VHF Marine Radio
Plastic Funnel	Pens & Pencils	CQR Anchor	20L water container
Fry pan	Rubber/Pencil sharpener	55m chain	Engine Room Extinguisher
Rubbish Bin	Library	Boat Hook	Electric Bilge Pump
Grater	Guide to Tropical Fish	Broom	First Aid Kit
Acrylic Wine Glass	100 Magic Miles	10L Bucket	Staples
Knife, Fork, Spoon	Small Ships Manual	Gas Deck BBQ	Dishwashing Liquid
Carving Knife	QLD Tide Tables	Deck/Cockpit esky	Salt & Pepper
Whistling Kettle	Vessel Ops Manual	Fenders	Garbage Bags
Vegetable Knife	Resort Info File	Garden Hose	Sponge
3 x Saucepans	Marine Park Info	Mooring Lines	Scourer
Salad Bowl	QYC Ops Manual	Gas Bottles	Small Hotel Soap
Sink Plunger	Misc.	Winch Handles	Toilet Paper
Serving Spoon	Radio/CD	Safety Equipment	
Teaspoon	DVD/TV (on most)	Inflatable Dinghy	
Teapot	Saloon Speakers	Red Hand Held Flares	
BBQ Tongs	Extension Cord	Orange Smoke Flares	
Acrylic Tumbler	Playing Cards	Para Flares	
Gauze Toaster	Coat Hangers	Cylum Sticks	
Vegetable Peeler		Mirror	
Arcoroc Bowls		V-Sheet	
Arcoroc Mugs		Flare Container (dinghy)	
Arcoroc Dinner Plate		Bailer (dinghy)	
3 in 1 Bowls		Fog Horn	
Baking Dish 2L		Day Shapes, Balls,	
Colander			

Provisioning Options:

[Whitsunday Provisioning](#) offers a range of options to suit your specific cruising plans. If you plan to prepare all your own meals in secluded places, you will need full provisioning. However, if you intend to spend some evenings sampling the delights in resort restaurants you will only require partial provisioning (see below for an explanation). Provisioning packages provide all your food items that you will prepare and cook yourself.

The **Platinum Package** is a must for those who appreciate the finer things in life. This package can be supplied either full or partial (see partial explanation of how partial provisioning applies). As well as prime cuts of meat, a variety of fresh seafood, gourmet cheese, pates and boxed chocolates will be included in your provisions.

The **Full Gold Package** gives you three splendid meals a day, as well as snacks, and morning and afternoon teas. This package is suitable for those who wish to take full advantage of deserted islands with the freedom to sail and anchor wherever the prevailing winds dictate. If you plan to prepare all your own meals in secluded faraway places you will need full provisioning.

Special dietary requirements or special requests can be catered for. Please give us advance notice so that we can order in the items that you require – some items are not readily available in North Queensland. Birthday cakes, presentation baskets, wines etc. are available on request. (Birthday cakes are available for Hamilton Island deliveries due to transportation difficulties). Where a provisioning package exceeds eight days we will automatically re-provision your vessel on the 6th day. This ensures a continuous supply of fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy products and meat. Should you wish to dine at one of the resort islands, or enjoy the “catch of the day”. You will only require partial provisioning.

Partial Package Provisioning (either Gold or Platinum) will provide you with all of your breakfasts, lunches, morning and afternoon teas as well as snacks; however a proportion of your evening meals will not be catered for i.e.: in a 5 day package your 1st and 3rd main meals are not catered for. This option allows you the freedom to indulge in the restaurants and night life of many of the Whitsunday resorts.

Self-select – some charterers prefer to select their own provisions, rather than use our very popular packages, this allows you the freedom to order specific products and quantities. Please use the order list on the website, which will also give you a cost as each selection is made. If you choose the self-select option and you require a re-provision, please submit two separate self-select lists, one for the initial delivery and another for the re-provision with the date required. Re-provisioning to Hamilton Island will incur an extra charge for delivery.

Packages for children are available in both Gold and Platinum and are designed to complement the adults menu as much as possible. These packages are only available with a minimum of two adult packages and are recommended for children up to 8 years for age (parental discretion applies). Alternatively, you could choose the self-select option for the children.

Beverages – Beverages can also be ordered through Whitsunday Provisioning (as part of food order), using their self-select beverage list on line. Alternatively, you can purchase beverages from the bottle shop at Whitsunday Shopping Centre and in Airlie Beach.

Supermarket Information:

Coles and Woolworths are located a short distance away from the marina.

Coles is situated at Whitsunday Shopping Centre which is a 5 minute drive away or a 20 minute walk along the boardwalk.

Woolworths is located 10 minutes away at the Centro Shopping Centre in Cannonvale or there is a new store located in Airlie Beach itself. The one out of town is better and has more on offer.

Their opening hours are:

Monday to Friday 8am – 9pm
Saturday 8am – 5.30pm
Sunday 9am – 6pm

There is a smaller supermarket; IGA; also 10 minutes from the base in Jubilee Pocket which is open from:
Monday to Sunday 6am – 9pm

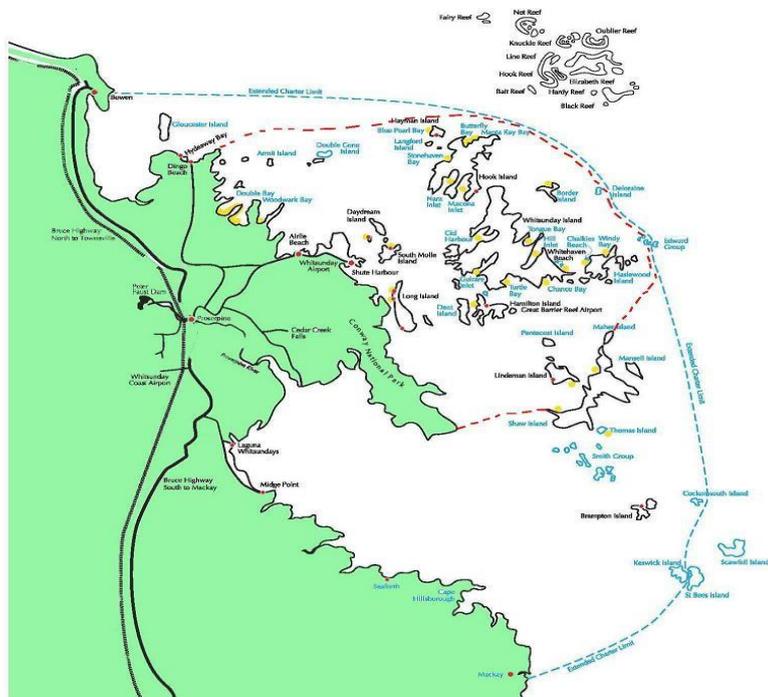
Coles and Woolworths supermarkets offer online shopping. However, they cannot guarantee an exact delivery time and you will need to be available at all times to accept the delivery, as QYC cannot be responsible for this and we cannot interrupt charter briefings. Therefore, this method is not recommended.

Wine Club Deliveries:

Deliveries of alcohol are accepted up to a few weeks before your charter but please make sure that the boxes are clearly marked with your charter name, our business name (Queensland Yacht Charters). We can then store until your charter commences. We will not accept any liability, for damage or loss should it occur. You can have these delivered to the following address:

Queensland Yacht Charters
Unit 9, Shingley Drive
Abell Point North Marina
Airlie Beach QLD 4802

Cruising Limits Map



Sample Itineraries:

Airlie Beach - 5 night		N/M
Day/night 1	Airlie Beach to Nara Inlet	13nm
Day/night 2	Nara Inlet to Butterfly Bay	12nm
Day/night 3	Butterfly Bay to Whitehaven Beach	18nm
Day/night 4	Whitehaven Beach to Hamilton Island	10nm
Day/night 5	Hamilton Island to Cid Harbour	7nm
Day 6	Cid Harbour to Airlie Beach	15nm
Airlie Beach - 7 night		N/M
Day/night 1	Airlie Beach to Nara Inlet	13nm
Day/night 2	Nara Inlet to Cid Harbour or Gulnare Inlet	8nm/14nm
Day/night 3	Cid/Gulnare to Hamilton Island	7nm/3nm
Day/night 4	Hamilton Island to Whitehaven Beach	10nm
Day/night 5	Whitehaven Beach to CATERAN Bay	8.5nm
Day/night 6	CATERAN Bay to Butterfly Bay	10nm
Day/night 7	Butterfly Bay to South Molle or Palm Bay	14.5nm/20nm
Day 8	South Molle/Palm Bay to Airlie Beach	8.5nm/12nm
Airlie Beach - 10 night		NM
Day/night 1	Airlie Beach to Cid Harbour	14.5nm
Day/night 2	Cid Harbour to Whitehaven Beach	12nm
Day/night 3	Whitehaven Beach to CATERAN Bay	8.5nm
Day/night 4	CATERAN Bay to Nara Inlet	10.5nm
Day/night 5	Nara Inlet to Daydream Island	11.5nm
Day/night 6	Daydream Island to Stonehaven	11.5nm
Day/night 7	Stonehaven to Butterfly Bay	4nm
Day/night 8	Butterfly Bay to Blue Pearl Bay	5.5nm
Day/night 9	Blue Pearl Bay to Macona Inlet	11nm
Day/night 10	Macona Inlet to Woodwark	16nm
Day 11	Woodwark to Airlie beach	

These itineraries are samples only and care must be used regarding the wind and tide conditions you are experiencing at the time. The following anchorage details have been sourced from "100 Magic Miles of the Great Barrier Reef" by David Colfelt.

Plantation Bay (Lindeman Island) or Neck Bay (Shaw Island):

Plantation Bay is a tranquil anchorage with a nice long beach to explore. Good anchoring in NW-NE and okay in E-SE-E up to 15 knots.

Neck Bay has a great beach and you can access the other side of the island by a short walk. There is an extensive reef, so you need to watch the tides when going into shore. Good in S-SE winds and can be a bit rolly if it is more easterly.

Thomas Island:

There are anchorages on either side of Thomas that afford protection from all breezes up to 15 – 25 knots except from the west. There are nice sandy beaches on either side and this island is less frequented than those to the north. Some vessels are restricted in coming this far south. Check with reservations.

Whitehaven Beach (Whitsunday Island):

This 5km beach of pure white silica sand is extremely popular and a must to visit on everyone's itinerary. Sometimes it can be rolly at night. Dusk and dawn if on the beach watch out for the sand flies. Good in all breezes but N-NE.

Cid Harbour (Whitsunday Island):

Sawmill Beach is a very good anchorage in anything except W-NW-N winds. In this case anchoring in Dugong Inlet is an option in all but West winds. Sawmill Beach has a great walking track which is not too strenuous around to Dugong Beach or if you are fit and the whole day consider a walk to Whitsunday Peak for spectacular views over the Whitsundays. This anchorage is teeming with turtles and you will also spot Sea Eagles and the occasional dugong.

Hamilton Island Resort:

This resort island is located in the middle of the Whitsunday group and can be a great mid charter stop over for many reasons. You are free to use all the resort facilities (pools, restaurants, showers etc.) and there are a great many restaurants and cafes to choose from and a good range of activities to keep you amused. Fill up with water, top up the fridge and get rid of your garbage. There is also a medical centre, general store, bakery, bottle shop, bank, post office and many boutique clothing stores.

Cateran Bay (Border Island):

Good in E-SE-S-SW breezes but can be a little rolly as the wind easts. Best to visit in light wind conditions. Great for snorkelling and diving, has a pretty beach accessible at high tide. There are public moorings in place here and anchoring is permitted outside of the reef protection buoys.

Macona Inlet (Hook Island):

Entrance to Macona is on the Port side. Almost as protected as Nara Inlet and has some nice sand beaches to explore. Good in all winds.

Stonehaven (Hook Island):

This is a really good anchorage that has 10 or so moorings to pick up. Anchoring is also possible however it will be in fairly deep water. This anchorage is known for its bullets in strong breezes but does offer protection between N-E-SE-S between 15 – 20 knots. There are some snorkel spots to be found here.

Langford Reef (Langford Island):

When approaching Langford from Stonehaven, be very careful to negotiate your path between the special mark on the southern end of Black Island and the starboard mark on the SE edge of Langford's sand spit. There are moorings to pick up here and very good snorkelling. Great lunchtime spot and walking along the sand spit which gets more exposed as the tide goes out is amazing. Protected in SW-S-SE to 15 knots.

Blue Pearl Bay (Hayman Island):

Can be reached easily from Langford, making sure you stay on the outside of Akhurst Island as you make your way into this anchorage. There are moorings to pick up and some great snorkelling and diving to be found in this popular anchorage. Protected from NE-E-SE 15 – 25 knots this anchorage can get rolly at times. Hayman Island resort is not accessible to non-resort guests.

Butterfly Bay (Hook Island):

Is a great place for snorkelling or diving. There are quite a few public moorings in these bays but anchoring can also be done outside of the reef protection markers. Bullets can be frequent in strong southerlies, so if anchoring make sure it is well set. From Butterfly you can also dinghy around to Maureen's Cove for more beautiful snorkelling and diving. There is an abundance of fish and corals that can take you days to explore. This is not a good anchorage in northerlies and fishing is not permitted.

Nara Inlet (Hook Island):

Is a beautiful fjord like inlet. Entrance is on the starboard side as there is an extensive reef to port. Nara Inlet features ancient Aboriginal cave paintings with a good bush walk and views over the inlet. Take a walk to the top of the waterfall which is spectacular after heavy rains. Anchoring only (no moorings) with very good holding and one of the best places for a sound night's sleep in all conditions.

Happy Bay (Long Island):

Good in NE-E-SE-S-SW 15 – 25 knots. Can be a good first night or last night stopover. Moorings are available. There are 20 kilometres of walking tracks for those wanting to stretch their legs. Resort closed.

Palm Bay Resort (Long Island):

A beautiful boutique resort nestled in the neck of Long Island. They offer a secluded private cove, and spacious Balinese inspired villas with extensive view of the Whitsunday Passage and Coral Sea. Moorings are available upon request, starting from \$50.00 – no island access. Should you wish to visit the resort and use the facilities, the cost is \$100 (overnight) for the first 2 people and \$15.00 each per son thereafter. (Limited to 2 mooring's). Smart casual attires must be worn. www.palmbayresort.com.au

May's Bay:

A pretty anchorage, can give a great view of the sun setting over the mainland. Caution must be taken when anchoring here as there are a few isolated bommies. The anchorage can be rolly in a more easterly breeze but suitable for conditions E-SE-S 15 – 20 knots.

Bauer Bay (South Molle Island):

Good in E-SE-S-SW 15 – 25 knots. Can become rolly as the wind turns Easterly. Resort currently closed.

Daydream Island Resort and Spa:

There are moorings here which are located just outside the harbour entrance. This anchorage is not the best in windy conditions but the resort is well worth the visit especially if you want to treat yourself to a wonderful spa experience. There is a bar, restaurants, pool, outdoor aquarium, mini golf and outdoor cinema to enjoy.

Hook Island Resort and Observatory:

Currently closed.

Lindeman Island:

You can visit the island but the resort is no longer open.

Fishing in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:

For those in the know, fishing around the Whitsundays can be very fruitful. For those not so knowledgeable, it can simply be fun to drop a line and see what happens. Having said that, there are many rules and regulations to abide by and it is advisable to get the latest updates by visiting www.dpi.qld.gov.au/fishweb

The information contained here is gained from many different sources and is by no means complete and is only to be used as a basic guide. You should do your own research before embarking on your fishing trip as changes to legislation etc. may occur.

What type of fish can you expect to catch in the Whitsundays?

Bluefin and mackerel are in abundance all year round. They can usually be located by the sight of seabirds skipping over the surface of the water where the tuna are. Casting or trolling around the headlands and in the passages between the islands should also land you a few good tuna for dinner. There is excellent estuary fishing to be found in Gulnare Inlet, Hill Inlet, Nara and Macona Inlets. Coral reef fishing can provide the likes of Coral Trout, Sweetlip, Emperor, Gropers etc.

Before visiting the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, it is important you study the zoning map for the area you are visiting to be sure of the activities that you can do and where you can do them. A link to the zoning map is below.

<http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/zoning-permits-and-plans/zoning/zoning-maps>

Why do we have closed seasons?

Closed seasons prevent people from fishing at certain times of the year to protect species at vulnerable times in their life cycle, such as during spawning seasons.

Throughout the Queensland East Coast, a closed season applies to Barramundi from midday on the 1st November to midday 1st February.

There are 3 x nine day periods that have been implemented as closed seasons for the taking of all coral reef fish. These are October, November and December each year around the new moon phases. The closures apply to all Queensland East Coast waters between latitude 10'41'S and 24'50'S. The closures are designed to protect spawning aggregations of most Coral Reef Fish Species.

Marine Hazards:

The box jellyfish is a potential hazard all along the Queensland Coast during November through to May, although peak season in the Whitsundays is more likely around March-April. The box jellyfish breed in the mainland estuaries and rivers and in summer with the rains they are usually washed down and found along the mainland coastline and very seldom around the islands. The box jellyfish causes extremely severe stings and possibly death.

Irukandji is a very small, hard to see jellyfish that can be extremely hazardous to the elderly or children. If you are stung, you usually don't feel the symptoms until 30 minutes afterwards. These jellyfish can be found everywhere but generally their presence is higher after having persistent strong northerly winds (usually October to March).

Wearing a stinger suit with the gloves, booties and hood is known to reduce the incidence of stings by 75% or more. So it is well worth wearing one.

Hiring fishing gear:

As Queensland Yacht Charters do not supply fishing gear (we can organise this for you), it is recommended you either bring your own equipment (generally handlines are the easiest if you just want to dabble) or you can hire gear from Rods n Hooks.

Hire paddleboards:

Single paddleboards can be hired for the duration of your charter (minimum of 5 nights) on request. Paddleboards are similar to a kayak but they are very light weight and you sit on top of them, rather than in them. We can also organise a stand up paddleboard.

Christmas and New Year bookings:

Queensland Yacht Charters will be closed on 25th December and 1st January. We will be doing one radio scheds on these days which will be in the morning at 9am only. Outside of this time the base will not be manned and radio calls will go unanswered. However, if there is an emergency one of our staff members will be contactable by mobile phone or if no reception then VMR Whitsunday will be of assistance.

What you need to be aware of:

On your arrival to the base, we will collect a security bond of between \$550 to \$2000 dependant on the vessel type. This bond will be authorised and refunded to you within 7 days of your charter completion unless loss or damage has occurred to the vessel or dinghy.

Your vessel is dived upon and the hull checked for any damage prior to your charter commencing. Once your charter is finished, a dive check is then carried out prior to the next charter. If damage is found to the hull and QYC were not notified by the client, then charges will occur and a loss of the charter bond is a possibility.

Call out fees:

If QYC are called out for a problem to the vessel for which you are not at fault, you will not be charged. However, if QYC are called out for a problem such as those detailed below the charge out fee will be taken from your credit card bond, along with time taken to fix the problem.

- **Wraps:** Take special care to avoid prop wraps, especially dock lines (to be stowed in a cockpit locker when not in use), dinghy ropes and mooring buoy lines. As your briefer would have made you aware, you need to check where your dinghy rope is located at all times and your dinghy must be pulled in close to the vessel when anchoring, reversing etc. so as not to foul the prop with the rope. This can cause major damage to your vessel and QYC must be notified immediately, so appropriate checks can be taken. If mooring boy line is destroyed, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Association will also charge for the replacement of a new one.
- **Groundings:** No matter how small the grounding, if your vessel 'touches' the bottom, you must let QYC know so we can discuss, check and assess for any damage that may have occurred. As detailed above, the vessel is dive checked before and after every charter, so any damage caused by your charter may be charged to your bond. Do not anchor in shallow water less than 4 metres (with the exception of Gulnare and Dugong Inlets).

Blocked Heads (toilets): The heads are checked prior to your charter to make sure they are in working order and not blocked. Please take care with the heads as they can be easily blocked - most commonly with the following: Tampons, 2/3 ply toilet paper (please only use paper supplied by QYC), baby wipes/moist towelettes/face wipes, too much toilet paper being use and flushing anything that you have not eaten.

Not only is a blocked head a total inconvenience to your charter holiday but charges may occur if the above items have been found to cause the blockage. You will need to come back into the marina at Abell Point Marina for the blockage to be cleared.

Sailguide:

If you have taken the option of the sailguide, you need to be aware that should the guide feel that you are not quite ready or confident to take the vessel for the night (especially in instances of strong winds etc.), then you will return to the harbour for the evening and have the option of the guide for a further instruction, at your cost, if needed. Sail Guide is calculated per Day of Charter e.g 5 night charter would be charged a 6 day Sail guide fee.

If you have chosen not to have a sailguide and your briefer deems you to be too inexperienced to be in control of the vessel, you will have to take a sailguide for at least a half day, returning to Abell Point Marina for the nights (at your own cost) and you may also have to have a sailguide for the following day at your expense.

Pricing Sheet (subject to change without notice):

Whitsunday 2 Everywhere Transfers:	\$22 p/adult from Proserpine Airport to Abel Point North Marina
Cruise Whitsunday Ferry to Port of Airlie	\$62 p/adult to/from Hamilton Island Marina or \$55 to/from Hamilton Island Airt Marina
Secure Parking (undercover):	\$150 for 5 nights
Whitsunday Taxi:	\$80 - \$130 one way from Proserpine to marina
Hamilton Island Pick Up:	\$450 (on request only)
Hamilton Island Drop Off:	\$450 (on request only)
Stinger Suit Hire:	\$30 for 7 nights
Snorkel Gear:	Complimentary

Insurance:

Bareboat Hirer's Liability Insurance: Priced from \$90 for 5 nights. We recommend [Oceanic Marine Risks](#) and applications can be made online through this link.

For travel Insurance we recommend [Oceanic Marine Risks](#) and applications can be made online through this link.

Fishing Gear:

Can be hired through QYC but must be pre booked prior to arrival as we use an outside supplier.

Fishing Pack: \$12 per day - 1 x 25lb rod and reel, 1 x 50lb handline, 1 x landing net, 1 x tackle box with assorted hooks, sinkers, swivels and soft plastic lures.

Fishing Rod: \$8 per day

Paddleboards:

Must be pre ordered.

Sit down Boards: \$18 per day

Kayak: \$15 per day

Stand up: \$25 per day

Resort Mooring Prices:

- Hamilton Island: \$120 overnight - 24 hour period. 11am to 11am (booking recommended). \$300 New Year's Eve.
- Palm Bay Resort: \$50 mooring fee (no resort access). \$100 for resort access for the first 2 people and \$15.00 each per son thereafter.
- Daydream Island: Currently Closed
- South Molle Island: Currently unsurveyed and not in use
- Hayman Island: Currently Closed to non-guests

ALL PRICES ARE IN AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.