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Cover: On the Daintree
Fishing Charters



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Fishing Port Douglas News



with Heff

Federal Election win: A summary of the Australian Labor Party's commitments to tourism.

Over the weekend, Australians cast their vote and elected Anthony Albanese as the nation's 31st Prime Minister.

On behalf of Queensland's tourism industry, QTIC has extended congratulations to Anthony Albanese and the Australian Labor Party (ALP) on a successful outcome at the 2022 Federal Election. Prior to their win, the ALP pledged themselves to several pre-election commitments which impact our tourism industry. We have compiled an outline of these industry-related assurances in QTIC's summary of ALP commitments.

We're pleased to share that several of these commitments align with QTIC's Federal Election priorities, which form the backbone of our advocacy. It is affirming to see that the commitments of the ALP demonstrate a considered response to our industry's lobbying and needs.

As a \$23 billion industry, employing 174,000 people (both directly and indirectly), it is more important than ever for Australian tourism to stand united and ensure that our industry receives the support it merits.

As your voice to government, QTIC is committed to building on the ALP's pre-election guarantees and to working closely with all levels of government to facilitate the sustainable growth of our industry and ensure our future success.

*Kind regards, Brett Fraser
Chief Executive Officer
Qld Tourism Industry Council*

Port Douglas 2022 Carnivale

Following a few lack lustre years in the opinion of many, Port Douglas Carnivale recently bounced back in a major way with over a week of fantastic, well run events. It saw record visitors come to town for the festivities as well as partaking in the splendours of everyday tours on offer. This included our fishing tours and aided with some delightful weather, we saw healthy numbers of participants for this time of year. We didn't disappoint either as the fishing went ballistic and recorded our best number of fish catches for the year as well. With so many people around town I've got no doubt we held up our end of the bargain in promoting the area.

It was also good to see that the Seafood Extravaganza Event at the local marina was back to normality with lots of seafood and beverage product to choose from. It also attracted a steady crowd of people over the course of the day. Port Douglas is back on track and with the wind in the sails, prepping for a massive year ahead.





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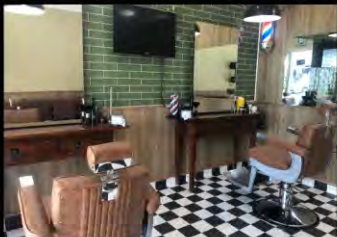
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Fishing On the Daintree

with Jamie Beitzel



I don't use too many bad words by choice, 'But Bugger Me Brown Dog', boy oh' boy have I been busy. In between a very hectic charter schedule, family life and trying to juggle other things including boat maintenance, I'm surprised that I've been able to achieve everything. Days just roll from one into the other and you become adjusted the routine.

I'm not complaining because business is better than ever in all my years. With Heff from Fishing Port Douglas keeping me on my toes with many, many new quality clients, I'm also starting to see a lot of really old clients from years gone by come out of the woodwork as well.

I must say I'll give myself a pat on the back because I've been able to produce quality trips on all occasions. Some days are a bit more productive than others, but I've walked off the boat a very satisfied bunch of people recently.

Some of the highlights for the month included on the really calm days some wonderful sessions along the coast. It can happen at

this time of the year after the following of the wet season. A healthy bait supply can create a mecca of species from the pelagics to the bottom feeders. I think I came across as many as you could expect including spanish mackerel, long tail tuna, giant trevally, big queenfish, fingermark, large mouth annygai and bar cheek trout. It's all a bit of a mouthful but it was very rewarding when presented with the opportunity.

Back in the main Daintree River itself it certainly didn't disappoint. I sourced some pretty good barra to 80cm, mangrove jack as well as my normal supply of fingermark and also big river grunter across the flats. The grunter have been my savour when the conditions have been a little bit tougher, but crikey have they been impressive of late.

My forward bookings are incredibly busy in the coming weeks and beyond, so I'd like you experience what we have to offer on the doorstep of the World heritage Daintree Rainforest - Booking Ahead is quite critical.



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Dragon Lady Charters

with Steve Adamson



Before leading into this month there was a sense that the fishing was definitely on the improve. Well all this came to fruition in recent weeks as the fishing went to a new level. This was assisted by some settling conditions as we move into a typical winter pattern for the tropics. Luckily for us and also the punters we were able to explore most areas with calmer seas on most days.

You know when you are in for a big day when you hook into in excess of 30 fish on your first hang of the trip. This happened before our eyes on one particular trip and we had to relocate within 20 minutes once they kept piling on the deck. It was mayhem to say the least and the small mouth nannygai of considerable size were the main culprits. There was enough fish for everyone, and as crew we had to deal with the carnage before us for processing. From memory we shifted from middle ground waters into the shallows and mustered up quite a few trout for the remainder of the day. It's days like this that stick in the memory. All our other charters were very consistent in conjuring up a heap of quality trout, spangled emperor, red emperor and a few large mouth nannygai.

We enjoyed some other great moments at times catching on the same day a swag of big cobia and also half a dozen spanish mackerel on the floating rig. Overall there was not a bad day on the water in regards to catching fish. Clients were extremely happy which is the main concern in our business.

Moving forward I'm really keen for some of those really super calm days so we can explore the deepest grounds in our



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repertoire. Everything indicates the BIG large mouth nannygai will be champing at the bit if given the chance to fish. For the next couple of months they will be on our radar.

It is good to see numbers of spanish mackerel back in the area even though they've had a bit of a slower start this year. They go into to the community chest at the end of the day so at least everyone goes home with a feed of fish, even if an individual lucked out.

We've experienced a steady run of stock standard shared reef charters as normal, but are now seeing more private charters booking in whether it be a big family group, buck's party occasions and even more promising, conference groups rocking back into town. It seems things are getting back to pre-Covid trade and for us we can't see a quiet time for the rest of the year. So there will be no rest for the wicked unless we get a block of bad weather.

Pre-bookings are now more important than ever if you'd like to join a genuine day of outer reef fishing with us.

Saltaire Charters



with Craig Newbold

Hi to All, my name is Craig but for many years people know me as my nickname, 'Brutus'. I'm the new owner of the Saltaire Charter business and have been for a few months now. I thought it was time to publicly announce it as secrets don't last for too long in FNQ. I'm proud to have taken over from Damian Collete who has built Saltaire into a formidable charter with an outstanding reputation. We plan to continue in the same vein offering high quality private trips to the outer reef. Thus far we have achieved this and plan to enhance its reputation further as a leading operator in the area.

This past month started off at a slower pace but gathered serious momentum in the back half. Good weather and a healthy supply of customers to the region turned it into a very productive period. The fishing went to new heights as well with all aspects of our daily program hitting on the money.

In the previous month we were a bit restricted as to where we could travel due to more challenging conditions. Well in recent times we

were offered much better sea conditions allowing us to spread our wings and travel to the vast corners of our outer reef.

We'll start with our bottom fishing efforts which we encourage at this time of the year. These attempts were simply brilliant in sourcing high quality fish such as large mouth nannygai and red emperor. The reef fishing was always due to hit top gear with weather, currents and sea temperature all working in tandem. Average sizes of fish were around 6kg with the odd one extending to 7.5kg. High end table fish and a robust angling experience was enjoyed on most of our days.

We furthered our efforts towards the outer eastern edges of the reef and came across some big patches of spanish mackerel. Always great fun on lighter gear and we saw some explosive moments. Trailing a spread of lures shallow and deep we encountered hot bites which entailed quadruple hook-ups at times. Very exciting times for all involved and if it wasn't a four way tussle it was either a triple or double header on the go. There's been a lot of bad press about our spanish numbers on the reef but these consortiums don't get see what we do on a daily basis. Yes they were a touch slow to get going this year but they are here now in droves. Even on the inside of the reef we've been catching them to 15kg plus. They are for the winter months a big part of our program and a very exciting one at that. They are very much a nomadic species so naturally you'll see the data differ from season to season. If things keep going at this point this year it will change a lot of figures and heads will bow in apology.

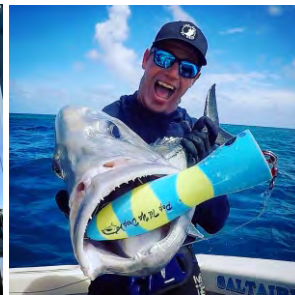
Looking ahead in the coming weeks we kick off our light tackle marlin season which will see us working the wide grounds. As well we start our Hope Island extended reef packages filled with countless fishing opportunities in a very picturesque part of the world just up the road in boating terms. We'll keep you posted on the fun times ahead.



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Top 6 Ranking

Dated 18th May By Google Business - Fishing Port Douglas
Our 613 photos posted got 56,071 total views in the last month



Reel Cooking with Heff Queenfish Tacos with Aeoli



Ingredients

80cm plus Queenfish bled immediately and filleted afterwards

Soft Taco Bath Tub Shells

Tandaco Salt & Pepper Squid seasoning powder

Ice Cube Lettuce finely chopped or preferred salad

Aeoli Bottled Sauce



Method

Dust Queenfish fillets with Tandaco seasoning, leave in fridge for 30 minutes.

Then gently fry shallow in pan till golden brown, don't over cook on high heat to maintain the moisture of the fish

Moderately warm the Taco Bath Tubs in oven for a few minutes before serving

Fill the Bath Tubs with fresh lettuce or your preferred salad

Place the fish on top and then give a generous squirt of Aeoli sauce over the whole lot

A Mouth watering and a quick dish which will have you coming back for more



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