



Dear Travel Industry Friends,

What a week it has been! Ben Southall from the UK was selected as Caretaker of the Islands of the Great Barrier Reef in the race for Queensland's **Best Job in the World**. He beat more than 34,000 contenders, including the final 15 to emerge winner in this global competition that has captured the world's attention. He embarks on his six-month adventure as Island Caretaker from 1 July, where he will share his experiences on the Islands of the Great Barrier Reef on www.islandreefjob.com. Sign up [here](#) for email updates of Ben's experiences.



Ben Southall, UK



And just hot off the presses – a brand NEW Australian Day Tours brochure is now available. For those who have not picked up a copy of this essential guide brimming with ideas, please contact Christine at christine.chew@tq.com.au.

For information on JPT Tour Group (the new owner of Australian Day Tours), please contact Ms Lidia Latimer, Director of Sales & Marketing at lidia@jpttours.com or visit www.jpttours.com.

Warm regards
Tourism Queensland team

EVENTS



American Impressionism and Realism: A Landmark Exhibition from The Met

A world exclusive landmark exhibition of American paintings on loan from The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York will be on view at the Queensland Art Gallery in Brisbane, from 30 May to 20 September. The exhibition will feature 71 paintings by 34 well-known and less familiar artists from these two traditions that have never before been displayed together. See the works of influential artists including John Singer Sargent and Mary Cassatt. qag.qld.gov.au



Stradbroke Day

Join in the festivities at Queensland's grandest racing event, the AAMI Stradbroke Handicap on 6 June – Stradbroke Day. With a history that spans 118 years, it has grown to become Queensland's richest sprint race offering one million dollars in prize money. Gates at Eagle Farm Racecourse, Ascot opens at 9am. For more information, visit www.classicstradbroke.com.au.



Hel-a-va Fun on the Gold Coast

Enjoy two new exhilarating experiences on the Gold Coast! Hel-a-va Jet offers a 40-minute ride departing from under the Outrigger Twin Town Resort that incorporates a 15-minute adrenalin-fuelled, high velocity jet boat blast in a fully-enclosed cabin. June through November, whale watching cruises are also offered. www.helavatweedheads.com.au For more hair-raising experiences, take up a skydive and land on popular Kirra Beach. Gold Coast Skydive has opened in the area and is the only Tandem Skydive Operation in the world operating beside an international airport. www.goldcoastskydive.com.au



New Sunshine Coast Cruise

Explore a hidden natural wonderland on a delightful new Mooloolah River tour by Cruise Away River Tours. Discover bird and marine life on this 90-minute nature cruise aboard an 11-seater craft and access the remotest parts of the Mooloolah River that stretches 44km inland. www.cruisemooloolaba.com.au



Superbee at the Ginger Factory

Follow the latest buzz at the renowned Ginger Factory on the Sunshine Coast, with the all new Superbee Live Bee Show. Six live shows daily give you the opportunity to see the action of a living hive and watch as bee-keepers reveal the secrets of the honey bee. Also discover the delightful taste of pure, natural honey with a delicious tasting session. www.gingerfactory.com.au.



Gold Coast Getaway at Gwinganna

Located in the Gold Coast hinterland, the exclusive Gwinganna Lifestyle Retreat has added another level of luxury to their range of stylish accommodation. The Villas at Gwinganna have been built in a secluded area of the retreat on the edge of the ridge with spectacular Gold Coast views. www.gwinganna.com



Brisbane Accommodation Updates

A new AUD\$10 million facelift of the Stamford Plaza Brisbane will be unveiled in late May with new-look suites and rooms, complete with mini LCD TVs in the bathrooms. www.stamford.com.au Newly opened Chester's Guest House, a contemporary-designed residence located in the heart of Fortitude Valley offers five-star hotel facilities in the privacy of a modern B&B. www.chesters.net.au

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