



Tucked away in a secluded cove at the southern end of Long Island, a small retreat overlooks the calm waters of the Coral Sea. It's the picture-perfect ideal, the kind of place treasured by escapists the world over, complete with palm trees, golden sands and a hammock to spare.

Queensland's Whitsunday region may be well known to many, but only a fortunate few have ever been to this place. Paradise Bay Eco Escape caters for just 16 guests at any one time and it exudes a luxuriously laid-back island feel.

The property was recently named the winner of the 2008 Tourism Whitsunday Eco Resort, and delivers an unpretentious experience whilst still maintaining a strong commitment to protecting the environment. Built on the edge of Conway National Park - which itself is contained within the renowned Great Barrier Reef Marine Park - the resort is surrounded on all sides by

wilderness and breathtakingly beautiful sea.

Long island is one of the largest and most densely forested islands of the Whitsunday group, and is approximately 9km in length and up to 2km in width. Like most islands around these parts, much of its coastline is rocky in nature, interspersed with small sandy beaches.

Paradise Bay is one of the prettiest of these deserted stretches of sand and, at about 80 metres wide, is one of the largest. Fringing coral reefs lie just beyond the low-tide mark and the gently lapping waves wash ashore delicate, intricately-patterned shells.

Formerly known as South Long Island Nature Lodge, Paradise Bay Eco Escape changed hands in 2007 and the new owners embarked on an ambitious upgrade of the facilities.

Today, the entire Lodge complex consumes less energy than an average suburban house. This

has been achieved simply by careful selection of appliances and fitting. Completely self-sufficient with regards to fresh water, electricity and waste water disposal, the property uses a combination of solar power, natural gas and harvested rainwater to deliver every comfort and convenience expected.

Ten waterfront bungalows are spaciously appointed to deliver absolute peace and privacy. Crafted from solid Australian hardwood and featuring vaulted ceilings, their huge front windows afford uninterrupted water views.

The heart of the Lodge is the Gazebo Lounge; a convivial social space where guests meet for breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, canapés and dinner. By day, the Lounge is the perfect place to relax on a day bed, while at night it offers palm-framed views of impossibly starry skies.

The Chef creates distinctive gourmet meals



PARADISE BAY ECO ESCAPE, WHITSUNDAYS

WHERE CRYSTAL WATERS BECKON
WOULD-BE ROBINSON CRUSOES.



using local seafood and tropical fruits, and carefully selected premium wines are chosen to complement meals.

A small orchard contains trees that bear seasonal fruits such as apples, pears, star fruit, paw paw, avocado, grapefruit, Myer lemon, kaffir lime, macadamia, Brazilian cherry, red and yellow guava, cherry guava, cumquats, black sapote, lychees and custard apple; all of which guests are welcome to pick for their own consumption.

A 34-foot catamaran provides a leisurely way to explore surrounding islands, and private daily yacht safaris are run daily from 10am - 4pm (except on Sundays). The skipper will chart a course that makes the most of the many anchorages, snorkel spots and beaches in the Whitsundays; guests are free to participate in the sailing experience as much - or as little - as they wish.

A hiking trail leads to a lookout at the southern

tip of the island from which spectacular views down Whitsunday Passage can be gained. The return trip is just over 5km long and takes at least 3 hours to complete when undertaken at a leisurely pace.

With an all-inclusive tariff that includes

helicopter transfers, secluded waterfront accommodation, gourmet meals, non-alcoholic beverages, wine with dinner, and daily yacht cruises, Paradise Bay Eco Escape offers an idyllic way to discover one of Australia's most spectacular tropical havens.



‡ Uniquely; there is no single-traveller surcharge.
There is also no TV, mobile phone reception, no children under 15 years or day trippers. This means you'll be free to totally unwind.
‡ Transfer by helicopter is from Hamilton Island or Airlie Beach.
‡ The resort's Chef is able to cater to individual dietary requirements.



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