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Slice of heaven on the Reef

Paul Loughnan

WITH a private beach, 30m pool and access to a personal chef and masseur, Alinghi is the ultimate beachhouse.

About 10 minutes drive from the town of 1770 on the mid-Queensland coast, the three-year-old cedar, stone, glass and concrete property is another masterpiece by prominent architect James Grose.

In his youth, Grose surfed and camped at nearby Honeymoon Bay, a beach now accessible only to Alinghi guests and the exclusive Rocky Point estate.

Built into the cliff face, Alinghi is surrounded by 5ha of native bushland on the southern tip of the Great Barrier Reef.

Architecturally magnificent and designed to take in the natural surrounds, it's not hard to see why

the property is regarded as one of the top five beach houses in the world (UK *Independent*, 2006).

Floor-to-ceiling doors and windows offer amazing views from every room of the house, including the bathroom.

While Alinghi can sleep 12 comfortably, it is the ideal self-contained retreat for a couple or family.

Complete with a gourmet kitchen, and regal fittings and furnishings, it is a veritable utopia.

If you don't want to cook, there is also the option of a personal chef.

Paul Loughnan's stay was organised by Tourism Queensland.

PLAY

Spend a day on Lady Musgrave Island with 1770 reef cruises. Adult

tickets cost \$145, seniors \$135 and children \$70. A family ticket for two adults and two children costs \$410. Optional extras include scuba diving. Certified divers can dive with a guide for \$30. Introductory dives are also offered for \$65. 1770 reef cruises leave at 8am and return about 5.30pm. Details/bookings: 1770reefcruises.com.

STAY

From now until October 25 you can rent Alinghi for seven days for \$6000. A minimum stay of seven days is required. The property has 10 beds and can accommodate 12 people. Maximum stays of 21 days are available. Details/bookings: www.1770beachaccommodation.com.au.



Lady Musgrave Island.