



SCENIC ACTION ... experience thrills and spills with Liquid Adventures at 1770, enjoy the seascape from Coral View at Agnes Water or take in a spectacular sunset on the Discovery Coast. Pictures: Tourism Queensland



Go north for a good time

"If someone is on a wave and they're coming towards you, don't try to stop them, just get out of their way."

That's good advice from Luke Wuiske who owns and operates 1770 Liquid Adventures.

"Thanks Luke, but that advice might have been a bit more helpful before we left the beach," I splutter as a fellow kayaker almost skewers me.

I'm in the surf at the Town of 1770, trying my hand at surf kayaking, and some of my companions are having trouble mastering the art of steering.

Thankfully, we are only in waist-deep water and the waves are more like small ripples, so I survive to tell the tale.

There are a couple more near-misses during the two-hour lesson, but the exhilaration of

The Town of 1770 and Agnes Water offer the perfect mix of luxury accommodation with beachside simplicity, writes JESSICA REID.

catching a wave quickly over-rides the trauma of my earlier mishaps.

Luke is a sea-changer who swapped his hectic city lifestyle for the laid back coastal charm of Agnes Water and the Town of 1770, which are midway between Gladstone and Bundaberg.

With his blond locks and a bronzed physique, he epitomises the stereotypical image of a Queensland surfer and seems relaxed and at ease on one of Queensland's best surf beaches.

Liquid Adventures hires kayaks right off the beach and also runs a number of different tours around the Town of 1770 waterways and headland.

Ocean Adventure is Luke's most popular

tour and includes surf kayaking, swimming on secluded beaches, dolphin spotting, and some interesting information about the local area.

For example, the Town of 1770 was named by Lieutenant James Cook who landed there on May 24, 1770.

Touted by some as Noosa's fast-growing younger cousin, holiday resorts and luxury beach houses are rapidly popping up next to the area's longstanding motels and backpacker hostels.

While you can still pitch a tent right by the beach, or settle into a lovely cabin with water or bush views, operators like 1770 Beach Accommodation are becoming increasingly popular with their range of stunning beach houses.

After our kayaking adventure, we meet Corey Karras from 1770 Beach Accommodation who leads us to the beautiful, and aptly-named, Coral View property.

Only a five minute drive from the heart of Agnes Water, Coral View is one of only seven luxury holiday houses in

a secluded private estate. The architect-designed home features four bedrooms, each with built-ins and ensuites.

Guests can take in the sweeping 180 degree views of the Coral Sea from the spacious deck which spans the full width of the house, before wandering down to their private beach at Honeymoon Bay.

The secure gated estate also includes a common area including a 30m swimming pool, a tennis court, a cabana, a barbecue and change rooms.

Guests can cook their own food or pick up a meal hamper from the fully-equipped gourmet kitchen.

They can even have a personal in-house chef.

If going out to eat is more your go, try the new menu at the recently-renovated Agnes Water Tavern, or pop into The Tree to watch a spectacular sunset over a drink or a casual meal.

Another great sunset-viewing vantage point is on board a bright pink amphibious LARC vessel with 1770 Environmental Tours.

On the one hour sunset tour, the LARC traverses easily into the water, over sand banks and across long stretches of secluded beaches in

the Eurimbula National Park. Most days the tour comes complete with a spectacular sunset as the sky transforms into a brilliant palette of pink, purple and red hues.

If you've got more time, take a full day LARC tour, which includes a ride to Bustard Head Lightstation, and a fun afternoon of tobogganing down the caramel coloured sand dunes of Middle Island.

There are also reef trips out to the nearby Lady Musgrave Island, guided tours around town on mini-choppers and scooters, reef surfing and fishing trips, and 4WD tours through the surrounding National Parks.

There's so much to see and do on the Discovery Coast, and the only decision you need to make is when to start packing.

Getting there: Town of 1770 and Agnes Water are a five and a half hour drive north from Brisbane, or 90 minutes from Gladstone.

Alternatively, you can fly or travel on the Tilt Train to Gladstone, then hire a car.

Websites: www.gladstoneregion.info, www.1770beachaccommodation.com.au, www.1770liquidadventures.com.au and www.1770larc.com.au

SMALL GROUP TOURS

EGYPT • TURKEY • GREECE

SOUTH AMERICA

Great Exciting Destinations
Unbelievable Prices

Tours include: All airfares,
4* Hotels, Tours, Entrance Fees,
Guides, Transportation & More

Aegeantours

(02) 9262 4422 • 1800 222 443
sales@aegeantours.com.au

S171840902 ©

Lic No. 2TA 00371S

RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS

10 Night Australia & Barrier Reef

Cruise Only from Sydney

Departing 21st Nov, 1st Dec, 11th Dec 2009

Ports Include: Sydney, Hamilton Island, Cairns, Cooktown, Willis Island, Brisbane, Sydney.

Prices from: \$1,673

RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS

18 Night Around Australia and New Zealand

Cruise Only Fremantle to Sydney Departing 03 November 2009

Ports Include: Fremantle, Bunbury, Albany, Adelaide, Melbourne, Burnie, Hobart, Milford Sound, Doubtful Sound, Dusky Sound, Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington and Sydney.

Prices from: \$3,267

STAR CLIPPER & EASTERN & ORIENTAL EXPRESS TRAIN

EARLY BOOKING SPECIAL!

14 Nights Fly, Stay, Rail & Cruise. Departing 07 March, 2009

Included: Return flights from Brisbane, 1 night stay Bangkok, 3 night Bangkok to Singapore on the Eastern & Oriental Express, transfers from station to hotel for 3 nights stay in Singapore, transfer from ship to airport in Phuket

Prices from: \$7,549

S171810899 ©

PLEASE CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION

CRUISE SPECIALIST

travelworld

Lic. TAG 1372

RUNAWAY BAY

Shop 1, Liquor Barn Complex, Lae Drive (07) 5528 9991

email: travelworldrbay@bigpond.com

Make it count *Conditions apply

Norfolk Island

Fly Direct from the Gold Coast
7nights Accommodation + Return Airfare
+ Return Transfers + Half day tour

From **\$714**
+ \$209 TAXES/LEVIES



Freephone 1800-257-122

Lic 27A5830 www.norfolk.nu S171836333

travelworld

CANADA - ALASKA

May 2009 Fully Escorted from the Gold Coast
19 Day First Class Tour & Cruise with Tauck
Tours and Holland America Line.

Unbeatable Value!!! From **\$9985***

UK/EUROPEAN 2009 EARLYBIRDS - Be first
with these specials!! Register now for all
Airfares, Tours, Cruise, & Car rental for UK &
Europe in 2009.

Also ask about our
Escorted European River Cruise departing
July 2009.

Travelworld Helensvale

Shop 1124, Main St. Helensvale Town Centre
Helensvale • Phone: 07 5573 5188
helensvale@travelworld.com.au

Travelworld Mudgeeraba

Shop 11 Mudgeeraba Market, Swan Lane
Mudgeeraba • Phone: 07 5530 4755
mudgeeraba@travelworld.com.au

S171820039

*Add Approx \$635 per person in taxes and port charges. All prices are twin share per person
some terms and conditions apply. Ask in store for full details. Prices subject to change.

DISCOVER SABAH

Return Air, Transfers,
7 Nights Accommodation, Breakfast Daily.
Sales until 30 November 2008
From \$1,465 per person plus tax

GREAT VALUE KOH SAMUI

Return Air, Transfers,
Pay 4 Nights, Stay 8 Nights, Breakfast Daily.
From \$1,361 per person plus tax

TALE OF TWO CITIES

Hong Kong and Macau.
Return Air by Viva Macau from Sydney
2 Nights Macau Metro Park Hotel with Breakfast.
4 Nights Hong Kong Regal Oriental Hotel
Macau Museum Admission
From \$1,050 per person plus taxes

FLY/CRUISE SOUTHEAST ASIA

14 Nights Singapore to Shanghai
'Royal Caribbean - Legend of the Seas'
Departing 28th February 2009.
Shanghai, Xiamen, Hong Kong, Sanya, Hue, Nha
Trang, Saigon, Bangkok, Singapore.
From \$4,644 per person plus taxes

Subject to availability.
Terms & Conditions Apply.

travelworld

FOR THE DEAL OF THE WEEK, PLEASE CALL

HARBOUR TOWN 5500 5154

S10848565 ©

Visit NORFOLK NOW

Where you get great all-year specials and hot last-minute deals!

STRICTLY LIMITED TIME ONLY

UNBEATABLE VALUE PACKAGE DEPARTING GOLD COAST

7 NIGHT PACKAGE
\$995.00* pp plus taxes

Return airfares to Norfolk Island, 7 nights accommodation at the All Seasons Colonial Hotel, airport transfers, 1/2 day tour, and 7 days car hire. Bonus inclusions: Sunset Clifftop Tahitian Culture Show and Fish Fry, a bottle of wine on arrival, fully cooked breakfast daily, 9 holes of Golf, use of neighbouring tennis courts, invitation to the Manager's Monday Sunset cocktail party, an Islander arrival fruit punch.

CALL 1800 FLY NOW for this and other great packages
1800 359 669

Visit our website www.visitnorfolknow.com to win two return airfares to Norfolk Island

NORFOLK ISLAND
SOUTH PACIFIC

Lic 2TA5228

NORFOLK AIR

*Prices are based on Twin Share and are subject to availability. Excludes \$30 Norfolk departure tax, taxes ex Gold Coast \$210 (subject to change).
Car insurance and Petrol. Conditions apply. Travel Insurance is essential.

S031825263 ©