

All aboard! - Wildcat Mackay ready to set sail

Island day trips and tours to start 1st December

The 17m catamaran that was specially designed for Mackay Waters is raring to go and ready to welcome its first passengers on board.

Unveiling the one-of-a-kind boat on 14th November 2021 at Brisbane's Riverlife Adventure Centre, the "sea beast" will take guests on an adventure to explore the hidden wonders of the Mackay region.

Funded by Queensland's Government Growing Tourism Infrastructure (GTI) fund, the launch of Wildcat Mackay was fast-tracked to boost economic development and facilitate tourism growth across the region.

Queensland's Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport Stirling Hinchliffe said it is excellent to see tourism operators make full use of funds provided by the government to expand their businesses.

|| INSERT QUOTE FROM MINISTER ||

Attracting locals and interstate travellers with their unique island day tour packages, the multi state and national award-winning company, Red Cat Adventures aims to motivate travellers to experience Mackay's world-class tourism industry.

The day tours will set guests on a journey around Mackay's 'secret' pristine destinations – Cumberland Islands with destinations such as Brampton and Keswick.

Red Cat Adventures directors Asher and Julie Telford said the finishing line is in sight and they are excited for Wildcat to make its mark in Mackay.

"It has been a long journey and we are at the final stretch. We are grateful to the government for giving us this opportunity to expand our business.

And of course, the Mackay locals for showing us love and providing valuable insights into the region, "Mr Telford said.

The launch of Wildcat Mackay plays a significant role in raising Mackay's tourism profile as it is predicted boost the regions visitor economy by \$2 million per year.

It also presents a unique opportunity to reposition Mackay as the go-to destination for regional and international travellers.

"Mackay Tourism's goal is to attract more tourists (especially in off-peak seasons) to serve as a catalyst for other tourism events and also foster a positive destination image to pump up visitation numbers" said Mackay Isaac Tourism Chief Executive Officer, Mr Tas Webber.











_____ ENDS_____

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact,

Sam Taher | *Communications Officer* **m.** +61 (0) 448 994 180 | **p.** +61 (0) 7 4837 1277 | **e.** <u>communications@mackayregion.com</u>









