

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW PORT DOUGLAS WEBSITE IS WEDDED BLISS

Port Douglas, 6th August, 2018 – If it's a marriage made in heaven then odds on it was held in Port Douglas Daintree.

And these days with a wedding season extending far beyond the traditional months and couples looking for that picture perfect backdrop and eclectic sense of style, the Douglas region remains one of Australia's top wedding choices.

Capitallising on this growth, Port Douglas Wedding Professionals (industry led organisation) has launched its one-stop-shop super site offering soon-to-be-weds everything they need to plan a beautiful occasion in Tropical North Queensland.

It features a wedding business directory, handy tips, real wedding inspiration, and a go-to-guide for the best reception and ceremony locations in Port Douglas.

Tara Bennett, executive officer of Tourism Port Douglas Daintree said with warm weather all year round, an amazing range of venues, incredible settings and celebrated event planning expertise, people are drawn to the area practically all year round.

"Our promotion of the area for destination weddings has paid off handsomely and the season has extended beyond just a few months during the balmy winter for which the region is known.

"It's such a beautiful, memorable place to be married that people come for their special day almost throughout the year now.

"The industry on the whole has been increasing by two per cent each year and Port Douglas Daintree has a significant slice of that market," Ms Bennett added.

Rob Cooke, chairman of Port Douglas Wedding Professionals, said the extension of the traditional wedding season had not gone unnoticed.

"People looking for a beach or tropical wedding traditionally headed north between June and October. Nowadays the season has extended to almost all year round.

"We have more of a shoulder, particularly with people from Victoria and the Melbourne Cup long weekend is very popular."

The Port Douglas Daintree wedding market has also enjoyed the upswing seen around Australia with the legalisation of same sex marriage.

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“We had one commitment ceremony last year. This year so far, we have had six same-sex marriages and they are now just part of the mix.”

Mr Cooke said the refreshed Port Douglas Wedding Professionals website offers even more ideas about wedding ceremony and reception venues.

There are a range of choices from the picture-perfect St Mary’s By the Sea church to Rex Smeal Park and coconut palm framed Little Cove.

“That is my number 2 spot. There are also numerous places along Four Mile Beach. Resorts such as Sea Temple and The Sheraton have their own access points and there are numerous perfect spots along that four mile stretch with that amazing combo of beautiful beach and rainforest backdrop.”

For an extra exclusive destination, people can get married on the Great Barrier Reef. “For something really special out on the coral cay can’t be beaten,” he added, “That makes a small wedding pretty special.”

The Port Douglas/Daintree wedding market is also unique for its seven day a week flavour. As a destination wedding, guests are usually in the region for several days so midweek dates are as easy to organise as a Saturday.

“Up here week days are practically the same as weekends so you have as many options on a Wednesday as a Saturday.”

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