



fact file

An Ecotourism Experience

QUEENSLAND: Kingfisher Bay Resort is a fully-integrated, large-scale ecotourism resort which opened in 1992 and set benchmarks in ecotourism which have been used by ecotourism ventures worldwide. The resort is designed to give guests an enjoyable nature-based ecotourism experience on Fraser Island, while creating minimal impact on the environment.

The resort provides a world-class base from which to explore the Great Sandy National Park. World Heritage-listed Fraser Island stretches for 123 kilometres and features beautiful fresh water lakes, lush rainforests, spectacular cliffs of coloured sands, rare fens, sand blows, endless beaches, shipwrecks, wildflowers and abundant native wildlife. The resort's interpretive, expert rangers take guests to explore Fraser Island's significant natural and geological features and interesting Aboriginal and European histories.

Kingfisher Bay Resort - so named after the Kingfishers that come to nest near the resort in summer - overlooks the calm waters of the Great Sandy Strait and provides easy access to boating, fishing, swimming and beachcombing activities on the island. The resort's grounds also provide the basis of Ranger-guided walks. Landscaping mirrors native vegetation and protects the island's gene pool, walkways protect dunal systems and self-guided walking trails with interpretive signage help guests explore.

Rare acid frogs, bats and sugars gliders can be spotted at night around the resort lakes. Ranger-guided bird walks help guests discover some of the 354 species of birds recorded on the island. The bountiful plant life provides bush tucker (bush food) and natural medicines. Indo-Pacific Bottlenose and Humpback Dolphins, Dugong (sea cows), Humpback and Minke Whales, Turtles and Rays frequent the island waters.

Tastes of Australia experiences such as Bush Tucker Talk and Taste sessions, Australian wine tasting coupled with fishing clinics, guided fishing trips and guided marine and 4WD coach tours give guests an opportunity to experience Australia, learn about the environment and mix and make friends.

Kids have fun learning about the environment with the resort's Junior Eco Ranger program on holidays and weekends.

The resort's architectural design, infrastructure and activities were developed to minimise any adverse effects to the natural environment, conserve energy and minimise waste.



fact file

Resort buildings are deliberately set below the tree line. An energy efficiency program incorporates building design, low energy bulbs and room key shut-off systems and saves 855,000 kW hours of electricity per year.

Paper, glass, aluminium, tin and plastics are recycled. An on-site worm farm turns sewage sludge, waste paper and kitchen preparation scraps into compost for a herb garden which supplies the resort kitchens.

Other waste minimisation, green purchasing and carbon-conscious programs (like conservation credits where consumers are rewarded for not having a daily linen change or green meetings for conferencing guests) complete the environmental program.

Kingfisher Bay's dedication to environmental tourism has been recognised by receiving 32 Australian and international awards for development, architecture, and environmental tourism since opening.

The resort and all tours have been awarded Advanced National Ecotourism Accreditation and the resort has been recognized as a Green Tourism Leader.

Ends.

Media Contact:

media@kingfisherbay.com Phone +617 3032 2809

Kingfisher Bay Resort - Fraser Island

Reservations: Reservations@kingfisherbay.com
Phone: 1800 072 555 (Australia only) or +617 4120 3333
Fax: +617 3221 3270
Web: www.kingfisherbay.com