

Work, Study + Play Whitsundays!

This exclusive program offers a once in a lifetime experience in one of Australia's premier holiday destinations.

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Welcome

This guide will provide you with all the info you need to know about this exclusive program to hit the ground running.

To break it down, you will be working, studying and playing throughout this 18 month program. It's the perfect way to combine your studies with industry experience whilst having some fun.

This guide is divided into Work, Study and Play. Head to each section to see what's involved.

For more detail, FAQ's are at the back.

Why Work, Study + Play Whitsundays?

Discover where this program can take you!

No matter your interest, view the variety of industry opportunities this 18 month program sets you up for.

Industry Leadership
positions

Hotel Management

Flight Centre
Travel Group positions

Bachelor of Business

And many many more!

This program sets you up for success. Our Flight Centre Travel Academy recruitment team will help you find the perfect career path, with the experience and study under your belt, the sky is the limit to where you can go in the travel and tourism industry.

Work, Study + Play & Launch Your Career!



Program Overview

After completing your first month of study at home, you will travel to The Whitsundays and begin working at one of our resort employer partners, Hamilton Island or Coral Sea Marina Resort.

Key Dates

For our February intake.

7th of February - Start Study

7-13th of March - Move to The Whitsundays

14th of March - Welcome Workshop and Launch Party

16th of March - Commence Employment



Quick Overview

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Work														Whitsunday Resort	Whitsunday Resort	You choose!		
Study	Home	Part-time					Part-time					Part-time		Part-time			Part-time	
Play														Whitsunday Islands				Whitsunday Eco-tourism

Program Timeline

	Work	Study	Play
Feb		Study at home	
Mar	Coral Sea or Hamilton Island Hotel All-Rounder	Semester 1 Subjects: Travel Trends and Insights Succeeding in Business	Travel Experiences Welcome Party and Induction Red Cat Adventures Whitehaven Beach & Grad Getaway Plus many more stunning experiences!
Apr			
May			
Jun			
Jul			
Aug			
Sep			
Oct			
Nov	Coral Sea or Hamilton Island Hotel All-Rounder	Semester 2 Subjects: Intro to Marketing & Branding Successful Sales Techniques	Whitsundays Eco-Tourism Experiences Turtle Release Coral Spawning Eco-Barge Plus many more unreal experiences!
Dec			
Jan			
Feb			
Mar			
Apr			
May			
Jun			
Jul	The choice is up to you! Pick your third employer from our employer and industry partners.	Semester 4 Subjects: Sustainable Tourism Industry Focus	

Airlie Beach

Airlie Beach will become a second-home. Whether you're completing your Hamilton Island employment or actually living in Airlie when working for Coral Sea.



Welcome Workshop & Launch Party

The welcome workshop is a great way to meet everyone in the program and your on-ground support team. You will be trained in a resilience and strengths finder program by our partners at Shiift Leadership to set you up for success.

The welcome workshop will also include a launch party to officially start your adventure in

Airlie Beach!



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Work

This program is like no other. Find out more about the employers you will be working with throughout your adventure.

Our partners are flexible and open to working with you to create the ultimate Work, Study + Play lifestyle, so you can experience all The Whitsundays has to offer!





Hamilton Island

We are super excited about having Hamilton Island on board this program as one of our employer partners. As the heart of The Whitsundays, this renowned holiday destination will be the experience of a lifetime.

What will I be doing?

Your employment at Hamilton Island Resort will involve a variety of food and beverage, house-keeping and guest services roles. Working at such a luxury destination will give you invaluable insight into the industry at a luxury level.

Where will I be living?

Accommodation for your time at Hamilton will be provided by the resort at an affordable price - score!

The staff digs at Hamilton are comfortable, with shared spaces and a great opportunity to meet new people and socialise with your peers.

There are also some amazing benefits through this program when living and working at Hamilton Island.



Getting around Hamilton Island

Island Shuttle service

A complimentary shuttle bus operates every day, from 7.30am until 10.45pm (subject to change) between the Resort Centre and Marina Village.



Buggy

Explore the island your way! Depending on where you are staying, you may require a hire buggy. Get the gang together and hire a 4-seater buggy.

On foot

There's no better way to explore Hamilton Island than by walking. Discover the amazing restaurants, bars and boutiques (which are conveniently on the resort side of the island).

Read more about your transport options [here](#).



The key points about Hamilton Island

You will be required to work full-time, **38 hours/week**, while studying your Diploma part-time.

You will be paid between **\$21.72-\$27.15/hr** and staff accommodation at the on-island Staff Village will cost between **\$100-\$150/week**.

You receive **20% off** restaurants and there are staff restaurants, pools and events available.

All accommodation is located within a 20 minute walk of the resort. There is also a **free shuttle-bus** available to the 1200 on-island staff currently there.

The variety of **employment positions** include food and beverage, house-keeping, front-of-house and guest services.



Coral Sea Marina Resort

What will I be doing?

Working at Coral Sea Marina Resort will involve a variety of hospitality and tourism roles.

This could be within food and beverage, house-keeping or front-of-house events.

Once you arrive at Coral Sea, you will be guided by the staff into a position based on your availability and interests. Your position at Coral Sea will be part-time employment.

Where will I be living?

As Coral Sea Marina Resort is located on the mainland, situated by the buzzin' community hub of Airlie Beach, we recommend living on Airlie Beach during your time with the resort.

Our recruitment team will reach out prior to your program commencing to discuss the available options.

At Airlie Beach there are various accommodation types available, some include:

- Housing rentals
- Backpackers
- Billets
- and many others

You will also be supported through this process, by the team at Coral Sea, by a team of on-ground advocates, and of course by us, Flight Centre Travel Academy.

So, what are the key points?

Employment positions include front-of-house events, house-keeping, food and beverage and kitchen team.

You will be required to work **25 - 30 hrs/week**.

You will be onboarded by the **Head of Department** and the **People and Culture Manager**.



Getting around Airlie Beach

Unless you have driven up to Airlie Beach, there is a variety of transport options available once you begin the program. The mode of transport that best suits you will vary depending on your accommodation location, shift times and what best suits your needs.

Transport types include airport transfers, free shuttle-buses, hire cars, ferries, bikes and many others. You can always walk as well, and explore the mainland.



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Study

Complete the Diploma of Travel and Tourism accredited by Torrens University, whilst making industry connections and experiencing exclusive benefits.

In partnership with:

FLIGHT CENTRE
Travel Academy



TORRENS
UNIVERSITY
AUSTRALIA



Why the Diploma of Travel and Tourism?

We want to provide you with the tools to launch your career in travel and tourism. By studying the Diploma of Travel and Tourism part-time, while you gain hands-on industry experience, you'll be set up for the ultimate start once you graduate.

The Diploma of Travel and Tourism is accredited by Torrens University Australia. It's been designed to provide our students with a broad base of travel and tourism knowledge, covering a variety of industry relevant topics and skills. The Diploma is 18 months part-time (four semesters) and the equivalent of the first year of a Bachelor of Business with Torrens University Australia.



A sailboat is visible on the left side of the frame, floating on a calm body of water. The sun is setting in the center, creating a bright orange glow and a shimmering reflection on the water's surface. In the background, there are dark silhouettes of mountains or hills under a clear, light-colored sky.

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Play

This year is jam-packed with all the good stuff. Discover the exclusive benefits you can experience throughout the program.

With help from our friends at Tourism
Whitsundays.

The
Whitsundays

THE HEART OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

These travel, sustainability and eco-tourism experiences are exclusive to the Flight Centre Travel Academy program, in collaboration with our employer and industry partners. The cost of all benefits is inclusive in this exclusive program (excluding the Whitehaven Beach & Graduation Getaway)

Travel Experiences



WELCOME PARTY & INDUCTION

The welcome party and induction will be your first activity in The Whitsundays. There's no better way than to meet everyone and get pumped for the adventure ahead than a party! Once you arrive in Airlie, there will be a welcome event for everyone to get to know each other, discuss the program ahead, ask any questions and start your adventure!

THUNDERCAT WHITSUNDAYS TRIP

Run by Red Cat Adventures, one of the coolest businesses out there, be prepared for an exhilarating experience around The Whitsundays. Meet the Thundercat Whitsundays. Thundercat Whitsundays is a 1 day tour around the islands, visiting the scenic White Haven beach. Morning tea and lunch are provided, as well as free bus transfers and snorkelling equipment. The awards this trip has won speaks volumes to its position as a stand-out experience of the Whitsundays (2021 Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Award for Tour Operator).



RED CAT ADVENTURES

These guys are so great we had to mention them twice. So not only do Red Cat Adventures run the Thundercat Whitsundays tour, they have a bunch of other really awesome, award-winning adventures. To name a couple of our other favourites, there is the Tongarra ECO Sailing Experience and the Falls To Paradise (this one is great for nature and foodie lovers).

Red Cat Adventures goes above and beyond to provide you with an unforgettable Whitsundays experience, through their exceptional customer service and pure love of The Whitsundays.

WHITEHAVEN BEACH & GRADUATION GETAWAY

Someone say Whitehaven? This might be one of the most beautiful beaches in the world, let alone Australia. At the end of your program, as your final activities and in order to send you off the right way, there will be an organised visit to White Haven beach as well as a two-night graduation adventure trip with your peers. Talk about a proper send off.

This travel benefit will require a small cost at your own expense.



These activities sound cool but how do I organise all this?

All travel experiences will be organised by Flight Centre Travel Academy and our employer and industry partners.

Sustainability & Eco-Tourism Experiences



ECO BARGE

Eco Barge Clean Seas Inc. is an amazing not-for-profit environmental organisation based at Airlie Beach that has been bringing the community together to protect the aquatic environment of the Whitsunday region since 2009. This is an awesome experience to get involved with cleaning our oceans (and maybe even make a thong fish), and gaining an insight into the eco-tourism world.

TURTLE RELEASE

The journey to the ocean for a baby turtle is crucial to its survival in the deep. It can take around 1-4 days for a baby turtle to break through their egg and be ready to head to the sea. Be a part of the experience that is turtle releasing and witness one of the many wonders of this creature.

Plus, they're pretty cute.



CORAL SPAWNING (IVF)

Huh? Coral IVF?

Yep, that's right. Coral spawning is super important for the survival of this species. Male and female corals cannot move into a position to reproduce, hence the need for coral spawning. Spawning is when mass groups of coral release millions of eggs and sperm into the water simultaneously, creating a synchronised mating event.

I don't know about you but I'm interested.



REEF RESTORATION

For over three decades, coral restoration has been an important player in assisting damaged reefs, contributing to regeneration. Reef restoration involves mimicking natural processes in the sea by discovering the types of coral that can withstand harmful events (such as bleaching), and taking small cuttings from them in order to grow and reproduce the coral. Think of when you might take a sneaky cut of your neighbour's plant to grow something beautiful in both of your yards.



REEF RESEARCH

Restoration and research go hand-in-hand. To ensure we are protecting our reefs to the best of our availabilities, and not doing more harm than good, we need reef research.

All sustainability and eco-tourism experiences will be organised by Flight Centre Travel Academy and our employer and industry partners.

Quarterly events will be posted exclusively for the program participants, providing you with the opportunity to sign up.



Frequently Asked Questions

WORK Q'S

When do I start working? If you are enrolled in our February intake, you will begin working in March 2022. If you are enrolled in the May intake, you will begin work in June 2022.

Where will I live? This one is a two-part answer.

Hamilton Island: You will live in staff accommodation "The Staff Village", which will be in single rooms and have shared common spaces.

Airlie Beach: We do have some accommodation available for \$220/week at Kipara Tropical Rainforest Retreat. However, some students may be required to source their own accommodation. Our tip is to check-out the local Facebook Buy/Sell/Swap Pages which have rooms for rent at affordable prices.

[Airlie Beach And Whitsunday Real Estate Sales, Rental & Accommodation](#)
[Accommodation Airlie Beach - Units & Rooms to Rent](#)
[Whitsundays Buy/Sell/Swap Chat](#)

Will I have my own room? All accommodation on Hamilton Island will be single rooms. Depending on where you stay in Airlie Beach, accommodation type may vary.

Will I need to pay a bond for my accommodation? No, a bond is not required for Hamilton Island or the Airlie Beach accommodation (Kipara Tropical Rainforest Retreat). You may be required to pay a bond if you are staying in other Airlie accommodation.

Will uniforms be provided? Yes

Are there staff food vouchers? You will be provided with staff food discounts at Hamilton Island such as 20% off all restaurants and cafes, and access to the staff kitchen. At Coral Sea, there is a Coles on the mainland so you can set yourself up for the week!

Can I take time off work? Just like any job, time off is provided by our employer partners and we encourage you to make the most of it by exploring the beautiful surrounds of the Whitsundays. Please note that time off work may be quite restrictive during peak holiday periods eg. Easter, School Holidays etc.

Is there a probation period? Yes, there is a 3 month probation period.

How much will I earn? Our employer partners pay in line with HIGA (Hospitality Industry General Award), which for your employment the base rate is \$21.72 p/hr and can increase to \$27.15 p/hr, plus overtime. Your weekend pay rates will be slightly above this.

What if I don't like the job? This program is about experiencing different positions and employers within the travel and tourism industry and we encourage you to take on the position with an open-mind and positive attitude to make the most of your time in that position or with the particular organisation.

STUDY Q'S

What study support will I have? Our facilitators and student engagement team pride themselves with ongoing workplace and study support. We will reach out on a regular basis to ensure that you are well equipped to complete all your subjects, assessments, and activities.

What if I can't make it to online classes? We have live classes and if you're unable to attend you're able to watch back over some of the key points. All Q&A sessions are recorded which are relating to each assessment and every module has recording or other key content for you to learn/watch at your own pace.

When can I start studying? Our first intake is February 2022. If this doesn't suit your plans, our next intake is May 2022.

How much does study cost? The university accredited Diploma costs \$2300/subject. Eligible students can use [FEE-HELP](#) for these payments (this is like HECS).

Can I study full-time? You can study your first semester full-time prior to commencing work. You would then move to Airlie and begin studying part-time with your employment.

What if I am already studying? If you are already studying the Diploma of Travel and Tourism with us, you can still get involved! Please reach out to our recruitment team to discuss your options.

What if I fail? You will be given the opportunity to resit the subject at your own expense if you fail.

What if I withdraw from my studies or work? You will not be able to continue with the program if you withdraw from your studies and/or work. If this situation occurs you will be connected with our recruitment team to find a suitable alternative or solution.

PLAY Q'S

How much are the Play activities? The travel and sustainability/eco-tourism activities are either discounted for our program goers or free.

Are activities optional? Yes – all travel and eco-tourism benefits are completely optional and up to you.

General Q'S

How long is the program? 18 months.

Will I need my own transport in The Whitsundays? Your own transport is not required whilst you are in The Whitsundays. There are plenty of great transport options to get your way around.

What does my Work, Study + Play Whitsunday Orientation look like?

Your orientation for this program will involve a pre-start call with the Flight Centre Travel Academy recruitment team which will outline how to begin and get ready for your adventure in The Whitsundays. There will also be one on one and group orientation calls from the Flight Centre Travel Academy engagement team to set you up for success.

When do I need to be there? If you start studying in Feb, you will need to be at Airlie Beach in March to commence your activities and employment. Starting study in May will mean you need to be there in June.

How do I get to the Whitsundays? This is self organised but there are a couple of options! You can fly to Proserpine Airport and then board the Whitsunday Transit Bus, take a taxi, or hire a car to the town. It is approximately a 25 minute drive. If flying isn't for you, grab some mates and make a road trip of it. You can also fly direct to Hamilton Island and take the ferry to Airlie Beach for the Welcome Workshop. However, we recommend that flights only be booked once your first work placement is advised.

What do I need to bring? (Checklist) At Hamilton Island you will require pillows, sheets, towels etc. anything you think you will need to set up your life in The Whitsundays. Airlie Beach accommodation will depend on your arrangement. More information regarding a pre-start checklist will be provided closer to your intake start-date.

Do I pay my own accom? Yes - accommodation for this program will be approx. \$220/week at Airlie and \$100-\$150/week at Hamilton Island. The idea is that your employment will cover living costs and leave you plenty left over for all the fun you can get up to. Quick tip, it would be a good idea to have some savings built up before you start your employment.

Will I have any local support if I need it? Yes, Flight Centre Travel Academy partner with Shiift, a Whitsundays-based organisation that will provide you with an exclusive resilience training and support at the start of your program in addition to 4 individual 1:1 sessions and a mentoring hotline (phone or email).

What is the enrolment cut-off date? For our February intake, enrolments can be submitted up until the 6th of February 2022.

Is there any financial help out there? Financial incentives from the Queensland Government (where eligible) of up to \$1750

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Get in Touch

We're here to help! Reach out to our team and see how you can get your adventure started.

Call us / 1300 369 649

Email us / travel_academy@flightcentre.com

Chat us online / <https://www.fctravelacademy.com>

FLIGHT CENTRE® Travel Academy

We bring you this program in collaboration with some amazing employer and industry partners.

Employer and Industry Partners

Hamilton Island
Coral Sea Marina Resort
Red Cat Adventures
Eco-Barge Clean Seas Inc.

Education and Support Partners

Torrens University Australia
Shift Leadership

Program Partner

Tourism Whisundays

