

MEDIA RELEASE

PORT DOUGLAS DAINTREE TOURISM STAYS STRONG

Port Douglas, 18th **January, 2018** – Port Douglas/Daintree tourism continues to see an increase in overseas travellers to the region – and they are staying longer.

Tourism Research Australia figures for the year ending September 2017 show international visitor numbers were up 5.9 percent to 108,000.

For the same period visitor nights increased 6.9 percent to 623,000. The average length of stay was also up.

Australian visitor numbers also stayed firm, with an increase in the average length of stay for domestic travellers.

In total 412,000 overnight visitors came to the region, staying 2.3 million bed nights.

Tourism Port Douglas Daintree executive officer Tara Bennett said the latest figures continued an upward trend, demonstrating how healthy and vibrant tourism was in the region.

"Port Douglas and Daintree is firmly on the international radar for people wanting a unique, extraordinary tropical destination".

"Our tourism industry is thriving and this is complemented by the health of the Port Douglas Daintree economy – just recently for instance Port Douglas units were named as having the highest gross rental yield nationally at 9.3 percent in a CoreLogic housing market report."

Ms Bennett said the latest figures available from Tourism Research Australia showed tourists brought in \$489 million to the region.

The top three visitor sources were the United Kingdom (20,000), US (18,000) and NZ (13,000). There are more than 320 tourism businesses in the region.

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For more information, please contact: Tara Bennett, Executive Officer Tourism Port Douglas & Daintree

Phone: 07 4099 4588

Email: eo@visitportdouglasdaintree.com
Web: www.visitportdouglasdaintree.com

Issued by Tanya Snelling Strategic PR P 0417 202 663

E tanya@strategicpr.com.au