

## MEDIA RELEASE

### DOUGLAS CARD NOW OFFERS FREE MOSSMAN GORGE SHUTTLE

**Port Douglas, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2018** – Port Douglas and Daintree is putting out a generous welcome to Tropical North Queenslanders again this summer with the free Douglas Card, which includes free return travel on the Daintree ferry and just introduced Mossman Gorge shuttle bus and a range of other deals for singles, couples and families.

The Douglas Card encourages local visitors to experience the Mossman Gorge then travel on the Daintree Ferry to explore north of the river.

Once across the Daintree River, there are various opportunities to explore the world's oldest living rainforest beneath its degrees-cooler canopy and see just where the World Heritage listed reef and rainforest meet.

Tara Bennett, executive officer for Tourism Port Douglas Daintree, said people living between Cardwell and Cooktown, including the Atherton Tablelands, may apply online through Douglas Shire Council's website for the complimentary card.

"The 2018-19 Douglas Card is active right through until February 28 so there is ample opportunity for North Queenslanders to visit and enjoy the many deals our local businesses and attractions are providing," Ms Bennett said.

"These include a free campsite with an Ocean Safari booking, an opportunity to stay and save at the Cape Trib Beach House and the Black Palm Spa Cabin in Cape Tribulation, a 10% discount on Jungle Surfing and a Turtle Rock Café lunch deal."

Douglas Shire Council has also supported the Daintree Marketing Cooperative's move to secure free shuttle bus transfers at Mossman Gorge for Douglas Card holders.

Mayor Julia Leu said including the Mossman Gorge shuttle bus on the Douglas Card offer made it more attractive for locals, particularly families, to explore two of the Tropical North's tourism jewels this school holidays.

"Mossman Gorge is one of the country's most sought-after Indigenous experiences and its pristine swimming hole is famous with visitors from across the globe," Mayor Leu said.

"This natural beauty of ancient rainforest and fresh, cool water is a vibrant mix in the wet season and you can see why this experience has surpassed Uluru with visitor numbers.

"Council hopes adding the Mossman Gorge will encourage locals to explore our beautiful Douglas Shire, stop into the Mossman Gorge for a refreshing swim and then head north to explore the Daintree region. It should bring an economic boost for our small businesses during our traditionally quiet summer period."

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The Douglas Card is available to residents of the Douglas Shire, Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire, Mareeba Shire, Hopevale Shire, Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire, Cook Shire and Cairns, Tablelands and Cassowary Coast regions.

Douglas Card holders and one guest will be eligible for free travel on the Mossman Gorge shuttle bus. The Daintree Ferry vehicle fee of \$28 will also be waived.

Apply for a free Douglas Card online with proof of residency such as a driver's licence, at [https://douglas.qld.gov.au/download/daintree\\_ferry/DF02-Douglas-Card-application-form\\_2.pdf](https://douglas.qld.gov.au/download/daintree_ferry/DF02-Douglas-Card-application-form_2.pdf)  
To pick up a great Douglas Card deal visit: [www.visitportdouglasdaintree.com/daintreedeads](http://www.visitportdouglasdaintree.com/daintreedeads)

**ENDS**

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