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EXTREME ADVENTURES

GLADSTONE REGION'S FULLY SICK

The Gladstone Region is sick. It's fully sick. It's so sick you can get 'amped' to the max. Anyone familiar with 'extreme lingo' knows that this is good. The variety of extreme adventures in the Gladstone Region makes it the perfect place for daredevil dudes and adrenaline junkies searching for a rush.

Agnes Water and the Town of 1770 combine to become the proverbial heart that pumps the adrenaline through the veins of the region. There are so many different adventures conveniently located in these sea side towns. 'Awesome' sand boarding, 'gnarly' reef surfing, wild ocean rides to 'carve it up' and 'bad' ocean kayaking are among the adventures on offer.



1770 Holidays is the one-stop-shop sand boarding and reef surfing experiences. The LARC Adventure Tour provides something for both the extreme enthusiast and tame traveler alike. On board the bright pink Lighter Amphibious Resupply Cargo vessel or LARC tourists can experience land and sea based adventures

from the one craft. After a morning filled of history, ecology and lashings of food, the LARC takes a fun filled ride up Bustard Head to the deserted lighthouse.

On the way back to the Town of 1770 enjoy an ecological walk along Jenny Lind Creek before plucking up the courage to tackle the giant dunes of Middle Island onboard a sand board. Feel the wind rush through your hair and if you're unlucky the sand in your mouth as you face plant the dunes.

For those wanting to 'hang loose', 1770 Holidays Reef Jet provides a unique reef surfing experience. After traveling in air conditioned comfort to Fitzroy Reef round up a minimum of four surfing dudes and for a small fee, head to three surf breaks off the reef while the others snorkel, fish or scuba dive. These breaks aren't suitable for 'quimbies', experience is a must.

For those chasing extreme speed and exhilaration on the water Thunder Cat 1770 and Oceanrunners are the places to go. Thunder Cat 1770's White Water Explorer tour takes you on a thumpin' ride

around the 1770 foreshore and headland, through surf breaks and across Bustard Bay in a four metre, 50 horse power, surf racing Power Cat.

The vessel has a power to weight ratio similar to a Formula 1 racing car. At full throttle the beast can reach in excess of 90 kilometres per hour. Despite the massive force of the Power Cats, Thunder Cat 1770 provides a safe adrenaline rush with education and local history to boot. The experience is personalized and exclusive as only 2 guests can be in the boat at any one time. Thunder Cat 1770 is in the process of purchasing a new Power Cat with extra seating capacity meaning slightly larger groups can enjoy the thrill of the Thunder Cat.

Oceanrunners, is another Discovery Coast operator who prides itself on structuring water rides that get the adrenaline pumping. The company's 7.3 metre Gemini Waverider RIB's are powered by 2175 horsepower Mercury outboards, providing plenty of grunt to explore the hidden coastline at scintillating speed. The High Speed Combo is an action packed 1 hour scenic and extreme tempo thrill ride down the Discovery Coast. Rides are structured to provide a unique adrenaline pumping adventure. The rides pause at intervals to allow patrons to regain their composure and take photos before taking off again.

For an adventure that is less fast paced, but still exhilarating, 1770 Adventure Tours is the place to go. The business has a variety of tours available to suit any type of thrill seeker.

Traverse the unique landscape of Eurimbula and Deepwater National Park in a personalized morning of ½ day 4WD tour. Alternatively, four-wheel drive through Deepwater National Park and then jump aboard a Camelot Camel and hump it down beautiful Rules Beach and enjoy a bar-be-que lunch. For some awesome pictures and adventure to boot why not enjoy a guided sunset kayak or 4WD tour.



If water sports are more your scene, a guided day ocean kayak adventure is right up your alley. But, those that want to be left alone why not hire a catamaran, ocean kayak, Canadian canoe or surfski and explore the wonderful coast line.

Not all adventures in Agnes Water and The Town of 1770 are on the water. Under the ocean is where the fun begins.

The Capricornia Bunker Group of the coast of 1770 includes Lady Musgrave, Hoskyn and Fairfax Islands and Fitzroy Reef. It makes up the southern most section of the Great Barrier Reef. It is undoubtedly the most colourful and vibrant section of the Great Barrier Reef full of a wide variety of tropical and subtropical fish, coral and animal life. Although Agnes Water and The Town of 1770 has experienced unprecedented growth in recent years, the reefs in the area are all relatively untouched, unexplored and in pristine condition.

Two local dive operators, Dive 1770 and 1770 Undersea Adventures offer small, personalised diving trips for beginners to advanced. Both operators offer ½ day or full day trips to excellent dive spots in the Southern Great Barrier Reef, Lady Musgrave Island as well as to local wrecks, Karma and Centacea. Dive 1770 can also provide overnight and private dive charters to the outer reef as well as dives closer to shore. For something a little different why not try a night dive. Dive 1770 offers adventure seekers a chance to explore reef outcrops and see how it comes to life in the evening.

The extreme water sports of Wakeboarding and Kite Surfing are all the craze at Boyne Island and Tannum Sands. The Boyne River provides an excellent spot for Wake Boarders and Tube Riders to strut their stuff. On many a weekend or afternoon, Kite Boarders flock to Tannum Sands Beach on Millennium Esplanade to get some 'insane air'. Kite boarding, which can simply be described as fusion of Kite Flying, Wakeboarding and Windsurfing, is one of the fastest growing extreme sports in the world. Each year during the Easter long weekend, hundreds of Kite Boarders from around Australia converge on Tannum's main beach for the Coconet Classic. Local businesses can hook the Kite Boarding enthusiast up with all the latest gear and insider knowledge.

The Boyne Valley, better known for its farming, is fast becoming the place the push body and machine to the limit. The Ubobo Mountain Challenge held on the May Day weekend each year is ideal for those wanting to test their physical and mental toughness against nature.

The steep 5.2 kilometre climb up Mount Roberts tests the might of those competitors resilient enough to tackle the rugged track. Once sheer exhaustion sets in, the prize money may be the only incentive to attempt the treacherous down hill stage. After completing the course kick back, relax and enjoy the country hospitality and bush activities.

The Nagoorin Trail Ride in late July is the perfect opportunity for motocross enthusiasts to rip into the rugged ranges. Upwards of 500 dirt bike enthusiasts converge on the Boyne Valley each year to sample what the local backyards have to offer.

Dirt bikers can go 'flat stick' on over 35 kilometres of track. Graded loops from H3 to H10 ensure that novices to extremists are well catered for. Although the event is non-competitive there are plenty of prizes up for grabs. There's also a \$100 hill for those who fancy the climb.

Camping at the event is a must with quality sites while the food and bar facilities will give you a chance to mix with fellow enthusiasts and the locals. Saturday night sees everyone in camp gather for a bonfire and a screening of the days riding as recorded by the sweep riders. The footage of the weekend can also be purchased on DVD and Video, a very popular memento. Best of all, participating in the event helps many local organizations; in particular the Nagoorin State School P & C Association which utilizes money from the event to carry out much needed work to the local school.

For further information on totally sick adventures around the Gladstone region, contact Gladstone Area Promotion and Development on 4972 4000 or www.gladstoneregion.info.