

# Qld government partners with Australian jet boats for new tourist attraction in Moreton Bay

**It's Queensland tourism's sleeping giant, and it's about to be shaken from its slumber by a fast and loud new attraction.**

Jeremy Pierce, *The Courier-Mail*

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IT'S been called Queensland tourism's sleeping giant, but Moreton Bay is set to roar to life courtesy of a new multimillion-dollar tourist venture.

For years viewed as a hidden gem, Moreton Bay will soon be home to a fleet of jet boats offering adventure tours in a move to unlock the region's untapped tourism potential.

This year's Future Tourism campaign, spearheaded by *The Courier-Mail*, identified Moreton Bay as one of the state's most promising tourism regions.

Now the State Government has partnered with Queensland firm Australian Jet Boats Pty Ltd to build four high-speed vessels which will operate Moreton Bay day adventures.

The venture is expected to start running tours early next year with 15 staff.

Queensland Tourism Minister Kate Jones said the tours could open Moreton Bay to visitors like never before.



A jet boat similar to the ones to be constructed for tours of Moreton Bay. Picture: CoastXP

“We’re delivering new tourism infrastructure that we know will create jobs for locals and generate millions for the tourism industry,” she said.

“The next generation of visitors want to experience something they can’t get anywhere else.

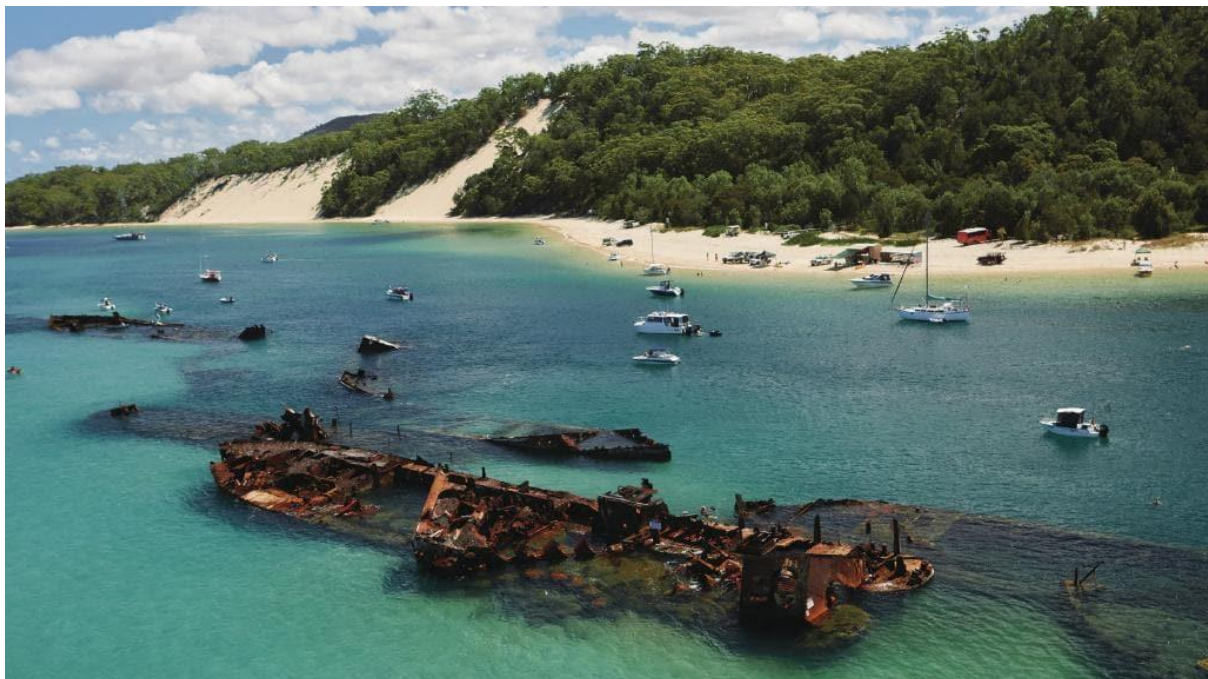
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“By promoting connectivity with Brisbane via the River, there are huge opportunities to grow the tourism industry in Moreton Bay.

“With less than an hour and a half’s ride on a jet boat you’ll be able to experience one of the most beautiful island ecosystems on the planet — this is a huge selling point.”

Once fully operational in mid-2020 the service is expected to attract an extra 62,000 visitors a year and contribute up to \$6 million in visitor expenditure to the region per annum.

Ms Jones said the tours would transport visitors to Moreton Bay where they would be able to learn about Brisbane’s colonial past on St Helena Island, bushwalk on North Stradbroke Island and snorkel the Tangalooma Wrecks.



Jet boat tours could bring more visitors to tourism gems like the Tangalooma wrecks at Moreton Island.

Tour boats would pick up passengers from various departure points like the newly-constructed Queen’s Wharf terminal, the Cruise Ship Terminal at Portside, Howard Smith Wharves and other river access points.

Australian Jet Boats director Anthony Stanton said the tour boats, to be built in Brisbane, could quickly become a ‘must do’ tourism experience.

“Named in the Jandai language after local marine animals, the state-of-the-art boats will ply the Brisbane River and Moreton Bay, linking visitors and locals alike to the fantastic range of wonders on our doorstep,” he said.

“Many tourists arrive in Brisbane and use the city as a stepping stone to other Queensland destinations.

“We hope by linking the city’s key accommodation areas to the wonders of the bay, we can keep these visitors here a little longer.”



Tangalooma Island Resort at Moreton Island, one of the region’s few tourist attractions.  
Picture: Tangalooma