

Reef Check and River to Bay Collaborate to Upgrade Moreton Bay's Conservation Science

River to Bay cruises is deepening its support of marine conservation by becoming a Reef Check Australia "Local Champion". Since 2001, Reef Check Australia, a citizen science and reef Conservation organisation, has engaged community members to visit local reefs, collect data and document their condition. In January, Reef Check Australia will be cruising on River to Bay boats to the Bay's amazing marine wildlife hotspots to collect vital reef health data. Access to these sites is a major cost to the charity. Partnering with River to Bay helps alleviate these costs, allowing funding to be spent on increased data collection and community training activities. Data and images collected will be added to Reef Check Australia's longitudinal study of reef health, informing decision-makers about the condition of the area.

Jodi Salmond, GM of Reef Check Australia, said, "It's great to have access to River to Bay's boats. We can access the reefs of Moreton Bay easily with their scuba friendly design, and we can share our findings and conservation tips with the guests that we share the boat with."

Reef Check Australia will also benefit every time River to Bay has an educational school group. The interpretive materials on the excursion were designed by Reef Check Australia's education team, so River to Bay will make a contribution for every student that uses them.

River to Bay Cruises is a new Brisbane-based company that brings people from Brisbane's CBD to Moreton Bay on their fast, low impact boats. Reef Check Australia is an environmental charity that supports wildlife through robust citizen science, inspiring educational experiences and tangible local conservation. To find out more or how you can get involved, head to www.reefcheckaustralia.org and www.rivertobay.com.au

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Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kz8opee6wbbjn6u/AABvpF5nzM1STXbiMZp6_X0ca?dl=0

Recent survey of Moreton Bay coral reefs on River to Bay vessels.

Please note the coral images must be credited to Gary Cranitch. They are from the Moreton Bay area.

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