



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 17 December 2012

For immediate release

Domestic holidaymakers bolster Tropical North Queensland's tourism industry

The number of Aussies holidaying in Tropical North Queensland increased 12 per cent to 809,000 in the year to September 2012, according to new figures released today.

Hinchinbrook MP, Andrew Cripps, said the latest *National Visitor Survey* revealed a surge in the number of domestic holidaymakers choosing Tropical North Queensland.

"Australians spent \$1.7 billion on visits to Tropical North Queensland in the year to September 2012, 8 per cent, or \$132 million more than the year before," Mr Cripps said.

"This equates to more than 1.5 million Australian visitors to Tropical North Queensland in the year to September 2012, up 10 per cent.

"Visitors also stayed a total of 7.6 million nights, up 4 per cent on the previous year.

"Queenslanders holidaying in Tropical North Queensland were the main driver of the impressive results, increasing 30 per cent to 443,000 in the year to September 2012.

"The Newman Government is getting tourism back on track. We have listened to the industry and the people on the ground right across North Queensland."

In other results, NSW residents ignited a love-affair with Tropical North Queensland in the year to September with the number travelling for a holiday increasing strongly to 169,000.

More than 7.6 million Australians holidayed in Queensland in the year to September 2012 (up seven per cent), spending \$6.4 billion on their visits (up 9 per cent).

Overall, 18 million Australians visited Queensland in the year to September 2012 (up 5 per cent) and spent \$13.5 billion (up 12 per cent).

Mr Cripps said tourism was a pillar of the Queensland economy and the Government was committed to doubling annual overnight visitor expenditure to \$30 billion by 2020.

National Visitor Survey information for Queensland regions can be found at www.tq.com.au/research

Contact:	Andrew Cripps MP	Address:	PO Box 1515	Ph:	07 4776 1428
	Member for Hinchinbrook		Ingham Qld 4850	Fax:	07 4776 3503
	E-mail: Hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au		- Web: www.andrewcripps.com.au		
