



30 JUNE 2021

QUEENSLANDERS FLOCK TO SUPPORT GOLD COAST RECOVERY DURING FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 2021

Queenslanders visited the Gold Coast in unprecedented numbers during the first three months of 2021, according to the latest National Visitor Survey (NVS) figures released today (30 June) by Tourism Research Australia.

However, the full set of data for the 12 months to March 2021, shows a complete picture of the impact to travel throughout the pandemic.

For the year ending March 2021, intrastate visitor numbers decreased 4 per cent to 1.8 million visitors. This represented a large increase in intrastate visitors for the March quarter of 2021, up 71.1 per cent to 585,000 visitors when compared to same period in 2020. Encouragingly, there was also a 9.8 per cent increase from the 2019 March quarter, the year before the pandemic began for this cohort.

Domestic overnight travel for the year was down 37.7 per cent to 2.4 million visitors, who injected \$1.9 billion into the local economy, also down 47.6 per cent over the period.

As with 2020 calendar year data, most of the decline from domestic overnight travel stemmed from a decrease in interstate visitors (down 67.3 per cent) for the 12 months to March 2021, attracting 682,000 travellers. For the March quarter interstate visitors were only down marginally, dropping 4.9 per cent to 393,000 visitors, however this figure was 21.8 per cent down on interstate visitation levels for the March quarter of 2019.

Daytrip trips were also down 28.9 per cent for the year to 6 million visits, with spending decreasing by 36.3 per cent to \$571.8 million.

With Australia's national borders closed to leisure travel for more than 12 months, international visitation to the Gold Coast recorded no measurable levels of travel.

Overall, the Gold Coast welcomed 8.5 million visitors for the 12 months, down 36.8 per cent.

Visitor nights reduced by 67 per cent to 8.1 million and total spend declined to \$2.5 billion (down 57.3 per cent) – equivalent to a loss of approximately \$3.27 billion of visitor expenditure for the year.

Total Gold Coast Visitors Quarterly Overview (for January – March 2021).

| | Total Visitors March Qtr. 2021 | Total Nights March Qtr. 2021 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Gold Coast | 2.7m (-7.4%) | 3.5m (-35.2%) |

Total Gold Coast Visitors Overview (for 12 months to March 2021).

| Total Visitors | Total Spend | Total Nights |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 8.5m (-36.8%) | \$2.5bn (-57.3%) | 8.1m (-67.1%) |

Domestic Overnight Visitors (for 12 months to March 2021).

| | Total Visitors | Total Spend |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Australia | 72.8m (-35.2%) | \$45.7B (-42.0%) |
| Queensland | 17.1m (-31.1%) | \$12.1B (-36.2%) |
| Gold Coast | 2.4m (-37.7%) | \$1.9B (-47.6%) |
| GC Daytrips | 6.0m (-29.3%) | \$571.8m (-36.3%) |

Gold Coast Domestic Overnight Visitors (for 12 months to March 2021).

| Visitors | Spend | Nights | ALOS |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 2.4m (-37.7%) | \$1.9B (-47.6%) | 8.1m (-46.4%) | 3.3 nights (-0.5 night) |

International Visitors (for 12 months to March 2021).

| | Total Visitors | Total Spend |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Australia | 60,000 (-99.3%) | \$504.9m (-98.2%) |
| Queensland | 16,000 (-99.4%) | \$89.9m (-98.4%) |

ENDS

CONTACT: Cristina Matisan, Communications Manager
+61 7 5584 6216 / 0412 334 794 / cristina.matisan@destinationgoldcoast.com

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