

ALL THAT'S NEW AND EXCITING ON THE GOLD COAST

February Update

The school holidays may be over but the Gold Coast continues to serve up a broad range of new things to see and do, plus amazing deals on accommodation and activities to ensure a fun-filled short break for all.

See below a list of new and exciting experiences to be had at Australia's favourite playground as the Gold Coast ushers in the early stages of 2011.

New Developments

- Hilton Surfers Paradise – Boulevard Tower
- Escarpment Retreat - TripAdvisor's Top Ten Relaxation/Spa Hotels in the South Pacific
- Segway Solar Tours of World heritage-listed National Park
- Skypoint Observation Deck
- Dreamworld's All-New Cinematic Experience
- Frog Breeding Program A World First At Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary
- In Conversation with Heston Blumenthal
- Tangalooma Island Resort Sunset Cruise, Segway and Stand up Paddle Board
- Billy Connolly and Motorhead at Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre

Valentine's Day

- Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove
- Sofitel Gold Coast
- Pepper's Ruffles Lodge & Spa
- O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat
- Ripple Massage
- Lauxes Lounge Bar & Restaurant
- Alto Cucina & Bar and Mario's Italian Restaurant

Accommodation, Dining, Activities Packages, Deals and Offers

*(*terms and conditions may apply)*

- Radisson Resort Gold Coast
- Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort & Spa
- Paradise Resort Gold Coast
- Sofitel Gold Coast
- QT Gold Coast
- Mantra and Breakfree Gold Coast
- Q1 Resort & Spa
- Vibe Hotel Gold Coast
- Cedar Creek Lodges at Thunderbird Park
- Dreamtime Resorts Gold Coast
- Gold Coast Tourist Parks
- O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat
- Greyhound Coaches
- Lunch at Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove
- Mount Tamborine Wine Tasting Tours
- Outback Jacks Bar & Grill
- Dreamworld and WhiteWater World
- Skypoint
- Mantra Gold Coast – ANZ RACV Ladies Masters and Good Vibrations

- Queensland residents save 20% on Gwinganna's Spa Weekends

Events

- ANZ RACV Ladies Masters Golf (10-13 February, 2011)
- Quiksilver and Roxy Pro ASP World Tour events (25 February to 9 March, 2011)
- Jazz and Shiraz at the Kingston Butter Factory (9 April, 2011)
- The Garter Belts & Gasoline Nostalgia Festival (29 April to 2 May, 2011)
- 2011 Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show (19-22 May, 2011)

Property News

- All-new QT Gold Coast
- Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre
- Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary Crocodile Turns 40
- Cooly Dive Update

New Developments

Hilton Hotels & Resorts has recently opened the first stage of **Hilton Surfers Paradise**, the brand's first combination hotel and residences in Australia. This first stage of the new-build \$700 million Hilton Surfers Paradise, called the **Boulevard Tower**, comprises 134 residential apartments, managed by Hilton Worldwide. The Orchid Tower, featuring a dedicated 169 room Hilton hotel and further residential apartments, is scheduled for completion in late 2011. Both towers are orientated to maximise views of the ocean, hinterland and city. Leisure and recreational facilities offered at Boulevard Tower will include an indoor lap pool and spa, sauna, gymnasium and barbecue pavilion. Guests who enjoy shopping can indulge their passion when the first stage of a boutique shopping mall within the complex opens. Hilton Surfers Paradise is located in the heart of Surfers Paradise just one block from the iconic Surfers Paradise Beach and in close proximity to restaurants, bars and upmarket shopping areas. To download images and read more about Hilton Surfers Paradise Residences, visit www.hiltonglobalmediacenter.com/surfersparadise

The **Escarpment Retreat** in the Gold Coast Hinterland has been awarded as one of **TripAdvisor's Top Ten Relaxation/Spa Hotels in the South Pacific**. Such recognition places the small, boutique Mount Tamborine six-villa retreat alongside International favourites such as the Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora and the Hilton Moorea Lagoon Resort & Spa in French Polynesia. Unlike any other hotel awards program in the world, TripAdvisor® Travelers' Choice® winners are based on the millions of real and unbiased reviews and opinions about hotels on tripadvisor.com™ and content from across the web. The Escarpment Retreat is pleased and privileged to be awarded such an award from the most important people of all – their guests. Visit www.escarpment.com.au

Based at the award-winning **O'Reilly's in Lamington National Park**, **Segway Solar Tours** is the country's first and only Segway guided tour that is surrounded by a World Heritage-listed National Park. Gliding silently through ancient rainforests within the Gold Coast Hinterland on a solar-powered Segway is a highlight of Australia's newest eco-friendly tour. The private guided tour glides effortlessly through the rainforest aboard a Segway x2, virtually silent and with zero emissions. The tour takes in rainforest, an old dairy farm, a creek crossing, then into a Eucalypt forest for some spectacular views of Morans Falls and the Great Dividing Range. Tours run daily at 9.30am, 12.00pm and 2.30pm and are subject to availability, bookings are

essential, and minimum numbers apply. The tours are available to in-house guests and day visitors. Visit www.oreillys.com.au

Australia's only beachside observation deck, located in the heart of one of the world's favourite holiday hot spots has been transformed from a room with a view to an exciting and educational tourism experience to showcase the destination. Ardent Leisure recently unveiled a brand new look and feel and an exciting new tourism offering with the launch of the Gold Coast's latest attraction, **SkyPoint Observation Deck** on Level 77 and Level 78 of the iconic Q1 tower. The attraction tells the Gold Coast story via glass window overlays, foot level signs, informative feature zones, static displays and video presentations that promote the lifestyle and the entire spectrum of experiences available on the Gold Coast. The high climbing chameleon will double as a chic, high-altitude lounge bar after-dark with a hot line-up of live entertainment every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night and a new cocktail menu including the signature 'Mile High.' The refurbishment includes a sophisticated new look for the venue plus a purpose-built, state of the art kitchen providing the functionality for SkyPoint to provide fresh and delicious dining options in-house for guests and corporate events. Visit www.skypoint.com.au

Dreamworld has launched a brand new cinema experience that is set to become the Gold Coast's newest evening movie theatre location and a popular entertainment spot for theme park guests during the day. The **all new 315-seat cinema** features a new high tech digital projection system which shows movies in RealD 3D and 2D on a massive 21m x 11m screen, one of the largest in the region. The theatre upgrade also includes new ultra-comfortable cinema seating. Set inside the themepark, locals and visitors will now be able to enjoy a movie experience with a difference when they visit the Dreamworld Cinema for evening movie sessions. The two inaugural full length blockbusters are animated action-comedy Megamind 3D and special effects action film Tron Legacy 3D. Sessions will begin at 4.15pm, with three separate sessions featuring the two movies alternatively at the best value cinema tickets on the Gold Coast. Adults will pay just \$15 and \$12 for children. Dreamworld annual pass holders will be entitled to adults at kids prices. Visit www.dreamworld.com.au or phone (07) 5588 1111.

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary has achieved a world first by successfully **breeding the endangered Tinker Frog** in captivity. The Tinker Frog is endemic to Queensland and is in danger of becoming extinct, with a number of relatives within its genus having already disappeared. The permit to undertake the project was delivered in late 2009, allowing keepers from Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and ecologists from Griffith University Environmental Futures Centre to travel to Eungella, where the Tinker Frog is found, to perform a collection. Eight frogs were collected from the wild and brought to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary to be involved in the breeding program, which has since produced 25 tadpoles. www.cws.org.au

Alchemist chef Heston Blumenthal, famed for his extraordinary innovative cooking style, will share his passion for creativity at Sanctuary Cove Gold Coast on **18-20 March**. The culinary genius who brought us dishes such as 'The Sound of the Sea' with edible sand, bacon and egg ice-cream and snail porridge, will host **In Conversation with Heston Blumenthal** - an exclusive weekend event that offers participants an insight into the unique philosophies of one of the world's most intriguing chefs. A special feature of the weekend will be the "Evolution of Taste" sessions where Blumenthal will be sharing his unique philosophy and approach to cooking. Package is \$3750 per couple and includes: 2 night's five-star luxury accommodation at Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove/ "Evolution of Taste" session/ A Fat Duck cookbook per couple signed by Heston Blumenthal/ Cocktail function with guest of honour Heston

Blumenthal/ 3 course dinner hosted by Heston Blumenthal/ Full buffet breakfast daily plus a round of golf. To book contact Events Worldwide on 1300 788 666 or visit www.events.com.au
For more information on Sanctuary Cove, visit www.sanctuarycove.com

Tangalooma Island Resort has added a sunset cruise and new water sports to its leisure offerings this summer, promising visitors even more opportunities for fun. The acquisition of a 12-metre smooth-water catamaran has proven a worthwhile investment to facilitate the sunset cruise which operates nightly and includes cold drinks and hot canapés. On the water, surrounded by marine and national parks, the sunset cruise experience provides the perfect way to welcome in the island nightlife. Visitors can also put their balancing skills to the test on the new Segway and stand-up paddle board tours. These additions are timely following the release of Tangalooma's new Island Pass that offers value for money at just \$65 per person and \$180 for a family of four. The Island Pass is valid until the 30th June 2011 allowing card holders to travel to the Island as many times as they like during that time.

www.tangalooma.com

The **Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre** is set to become entertainment central over coming months. It's been six years since **Billy Connolly** last visited the Gold Coast and he'll mark his return to the city with the 2011 The Man tour, at the GCCEC on 18-19 February. Billy's charisma and inventiveness have made him a legend in Australia and his shows are expected to sell out. On 1 April the tempo picks up when larger than life, International music supremo, Lemmy fronts his band, **Motorhead**, for a greatly anticipated one-off concert at GCCEC. For bookings call Ticketek 132 849. Visit www.gccec.com.au

Valentine's Day

Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove is spreading the love and giving couples more reasons to treat their Valentine to some five-star luxury on the Gold Coast. February is 'Love Month' at Hyatt and the Amour Package is the perfect Valentine's indulgence. Couples can enjoy five star accommodation, full buffet breakfast, a bottle of sparkling, chocolates and late checkout from \$265 per room per night. On Valentine's night, the hotel's signature restaurant The Fireplace will be celebrating the international day of love with a three course set menu and complimentary glass of sparkling wine for \$85 per person. Fall in love with the delicious entree of wood seared Moreton Bay bugs, scallops, truffled gnocchi romaine, lemon thyme blue blanc and asparagus. For main there's King salmon with mint pea risotto, blistered tomatoes and fennel sage, or Beef Eye fillet with boulangere potatoes, mushroom confit and cafe de paris butter. Finish the meal with a dessert platter for 2, tea and coffee and petit fours. To book Valentine's dinner in The Fireplace, call 07 5501 9832, and to book accommodation call reservations on 13 1234 or visit www.sanctuarycove.regency.hyatt.com

Sofitel Gold Coast brings to life the tradition of courting, romance and the chivalrous expression of love with a sensuous new accommodation and dining package titled L'art de l'amour, meaning 'the art of love'. Experience an opulent evening in the Sofitel's signature suite 'The White Room' and an exclusive dining experience under the stars. Set by the water's edge of the outdoor terrace and overlooking the Gold Coast Hinterland, enjoy a bottle of Dom Perignon and a 10-course degustation dinner. The hotel will only accept one reservation per night over the Valentine's weekend, so be sure to book early to avoid disappointment on 07 5592 2250. Cost \$1499 per couple per night. If you would like a little indulgence but cannot escape for the whole weekend, try Room81's Valentine's dinner on Saturday 12th February? Enjoy European flair, intimate surrounds and a sumptuous five-course dinner complete with a

glass of Moët & Chandon upon arrival. For \$125 per person, cupid will even assist with a special gift. Cost: \$125 per person. For reservations call 07 5592 2250 or visit www.sofitelgoldcoast.com.au

Let **Peppers Ruffles Lodge & Spa** take care of Valentine's Day with their special Valentines Package. Includes two nights accommodation, French champagne, fruit basket and chocolates on arrival, 1 hour full body relaxation massage for two people in the couple's treatment room of the onsite Day Spa, a three-course candlelit dinner for two people on both evenings, daily breakfast for two and their evening turndown with port and chocolates. Priced from \$1325* per couple for a Garden Villa or Chums Spa Villa, \$1625* per couple for a Treehouse Pool Villa or \$1725* per couple for the Executive Suite. Valid 11-15 February, 2011. Call 07 5546 7411 or email ruffleslodge@peppers.com.au

Escape for a hinterland hideaway and cosy up with your loved one at **O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat** this Valentine's Day. Enjoy sunset drinks and canapés at the new Moonlight Crag cliff-top deck with views over the mountain ranges, three-course dinner in the Retreat Dining Room including a shared entree, two main meals and a shared dessert plate plus complimentary glass of champagne on arrival to dinner, all for only \$75.00 per person. Special accommodation packages are also available. Bookings essential, contact O'Reilly's on 1800 688 722 or e-mail reservations@oreillys.com.au

Ripple Massage has brought a new twist to giving your loved one chocolates for Valentine's Day. The mobile day spa has introduced the decadent chocolate massage, bringing lashings of chocolate to sweethearts while leaving the calories at the door. And as a special bonus with every chocolate massage ordered for Valentine's Day, guests will also receive a \$35 gift box. The massage uses warmed chocolate oil from head to toe to melt away stress and relax muscles, providing the ultimate in decadence without the guilty afterthought. As Ripple comes to you, clients can then snuggle up afterwards without having to travel anywhere. The 2hr Chocolate package for \$195 includes: Full body aromatherapy massage with warmed chocolate, foot reflexology massage, peppermint and lime scented foot soak and foot scrub, organic green clay and cucumber cleansing face mask, hot steamed towels, nourishing moisturizer, Chocolate Lotion and gift of chocolates, Full body exfoliation to polish your skin with walnut, tangerine and lime scrub. Visit www.ripplemassage.com.au

It'll be a Valentine's Day weekend for lovers of romance at **Lauxes Lounge Bar & Restaurant**. Couples can order from Lauxes signature a la carte menu for lunch from noon and two dinner sittings at 6.30pm and 8.30pm. Guests will enjoy a champagne slipper and special Valentine's gift on arrival. Bookings are essential. Phone: 5531 5555 or visit www.lauxes.com.au

Both **Alto Cucina & Bar** and **Mario's Italian Restaurant** will be offering their regular A La Carte menus on Valentine's Day, Monday 14 February, so romantic couples can enjoy their favourite dishes on this special day. Alto and Mario's will be offering beverage specials on our famous cocktails and champagne, and all diners will receive complimentary Valentine's Day chocolates. Being located at the beach end of Broadbeach Mall, Mario's or Alto is the perfect setting to enjoy the most romantic day of the year. Bookings are essential, with Alto offering 2 sittings, at 6p.m. and 8p.m. Phone Alto on (07) 5539 0377 or Mario's on (07) 5592 1899.

Accommodation Packages, Deals and Offers

With school holidays over, Gold Coast operators are now offering some of the best deals of summer.

Here's a list of what's on offer right now.

Radisson Resort Gold Coast

Take a special break at Radisson Resort Gold Coast from \$284. This includes overnight accommodation for two in a deluxe Spa Room, a bottle of sparkling wine, full buffet breakfast, and a three-course dinner for two. Subject to availability and conditions apply.

www.radisson.com/goldcoastau or 1800 333 333.

Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort & Spa

Stay 3 nights and receive 20% off. Enjoy luxurious 5 star accommodation, relax around our sandy beaches or snorkel with over 400 tropical fish in our saltwater lagoon and pay 20% less. Valid for travel until 31/08/11. Subject to availability and conditions apply. Must book by 17/02/11. www.surfersparadisemarriott.com.au or 1800 809 090.

Paradise Resort Gold Coast

Family fun packages start from just \$129 per night for 2 adults and 2 children staying in a resort room, including free sessions daily in the million dollar Zone 4 Kids. With 4 pools, day spa, restaurants, bar and free daily activity program, Paradise Resort is Heaven for kids and Paradise for parents. Conditions apply. www.paradiseresort.com.au or 1800 074 111.

Sofitel Gold Coast Broadbeach

Escape for two nights and receive a third night for free. Book the 'Pay 2 Enjoy 3' package and enjoy luxurious accommodation, indulgent French amenities, stunning hinterland or ocean views and the signature Sofitel MyBed, all located in the heart of Broadbeach. Subject to availability and conditions apply. www.sofitelgoldcoast.com.au or 07 5592 2250.

QT Gold Coast (formerly Gold Coast International)

Book an Ocean View Room or an Executive Spa Suite on the Best Flexible Rate, and receive a complimentary Market Place dinner for two in the new Bazaar Restaurant valued at \$120. Subject to availability and conditions apply. www.qtgoldcoast.com.au or 07 5584 1200.

Mantra and BreakFree Gold Coast

In the heart of Surfers Paradise, guests can relax and rejuvenate at Mantra Legends Hotel from just \$120* per night in a hotel room (Sunday to Thursday stays); or bring the family to BreakFree Moroccan from \$196* per room per night for a two bedroom apartment. The beautiful beaches of Broadbeach is another great summer holiday option with rates starting from \$126* per night in a one bedroom apartment at BreakFree Neptune.*Subject to availability. Valid for travel from 24 January to 31 March, 2011. Minimum night stays and blackout periods may apply. www.mantra.com.au/stocktake or for Mantra 13 15 17 or for BreakFree 132 007

Q1 Resort & Spa

Celebrating the relaunch of the stunning SkyPoint Observation Deck Q1 Resort & Spa offers luxurious One, Two and Three Bedroom apartments with unparalleled views, just a stones throw from the beach ... perfect for your next holiday or corporate needs. Call 13 15 17 or visit www.mantra.com.au

Vibe Hotel Gold Coast

The Summer Vibe package includes overnight accommodation, buffet breakfast for two, late check-out at midday and an exclusive summer Vibe towel, from \$189 per night. *Prices may vary and package is subject to availability, valid from 1/11/2010 – 31/03/2011. www.vibehotels.com.au or 13 VIBE (8423).

Cedar Creek Lodges at Thunderbird Park

Enjoy a luxurious rainforest escape for two at Tamborine Mountain's Cedar Creek Lodges for \$334 per person, twin share. The price includes an overnight stay in a deluxe spa room with a spa bath, a bottle of wine, chocolate dipped strawberries, a two-course dinner for two, and a cooked breakfast. Subject to availability and conditions apply. www.cedarcreeklodges.com.au or 07 5545 1468.

Dreamtime Resorts Gold Coast

With a listing of properties ranging from 3.5 to 4.5 star, you'll enjoy the ease of finding your ideal holiday destination at Dreamtime Resorts. All eight Gold Coast properties are offering magnificent packages that provide individuals and families with the opportunity to stay four and pay for three nights or stay seven nights and pay for just five. www.dreamtimeresorts.com.au

Gold Coast Tourist Parks

Gold Coast Tourist Parks are encouraging caravanners and campers to help with the Queensland flood recovery by taking a short break. The seven Gold Coast parks were not affected by the recent floods and there are plenty of cabins and campsites available, especially over the next few months. All parks are operating as normal and bookings for the Christmas period can be made from 1 February onwards. Located near some of the best beaches in Australia, each of the parks offers a unique holiday experience. Accommodation options include caravan and camp sites, self-contained villas with all the comforts of home and group lodgings. Customers who book for six nights between now and 15 April will get the seventh night free. Gold Coast Tourist Parks are located at: Tallebudgera, Burleigh, Main Beach, Kirra, Broadwater, Miami and Jacobs Well. Visit the website at www.goldcoasttouristparks.com.au

O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat

Make the most of the extended Easter break with these great getaways offered by O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat. Conditions apply and you must book before 28th February. Mountain Villa Escape where you'll enjoy: 5 nights accommodation in a two bedroom Mountain Villa for up to 4 adults and enjoy use of the infinity edge lap pool. Only \$1700 per Villa. Or relax and unwind in a Mountain View room where you'll enjoy: accommodation for up to 2 adults, morning and afternoon tea daily, early morning bird walk, afternoon guided rainforest walk, evening audio visual presentation. Only \$220.00 per room, per night or stay 4 nights for only \$190.00 per room, per night. Book before 28th February to save! Contact O'Reilly's on 1800 688 722 or e-mail reservations@oreillys.com.au

Greyhound Coaches

Greyhound Australia is calling on all Australians to show their patriotism and book a Queensland holiday to help get the State's flood battered tourism industry back on track. Greyhound Chief Financial Officer Rick Romanin said research findings showed the Queensland tourism industry could be boosted by approximately \$61 million if just 1% of Australians booked a two-day getaway to the State. To assist with this Greyhound will offer a 20% discount on all Express tickets for travel on the East Coast between Sydney and Cairns.

For more information or to book your Greyhound Australia flood relief getaway visit www.greyhound.com.au or call 1300 GREYHOUND (1300 473 946).

Lunch at Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove

Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove is serving up a very tasty lunch special. For just \$49 for two (usually \$39 per person), you and a friend can enjoy the delicious mouth-watering cuisine from Cove Café's International Lunch Buffet. From delicious Australian BBQ marinades and stir fried vegetables to antipasto platters, roasts, smoked fish and seafood salads; the ever changing menu has something to satisfy every guest. The dessert station also features a tempting assortment of cakes, tarts, biscuits and sweets. Open daily for lunch from 12noon to 2pm, bookings are essential on 07 5501 9832. Visit www.sanctuarycove.regency.hyatt.com

Mount Tamborine Wine Tasting Tours

Mount Tamborine Wine Tasting Tours is currently offering 10% discount entry fee to the Rainforest Skywalk, plus discounted entry to the Glow Worm Cave at Cedar Creek Winery. These discounts will run through until Easter. Aussie Vineyards is also offering a range of cost effective lunch alternatives including freshly made gourmet pie or sausage roll, salad and glass of AU wine, plus antipasto and dip platters upon pre-ordered request. www.tamborinewinetours.com.au

Outback Jacks Bar & Grill

Outback Jacks Bar & Grill has introduced its Diamond Cut Gold Series steak range, exclusively sourced from Australia's richest grazing lands to ensure absolute premium quality. To celebrate the restaurant chain's stores at Southport, Nerang and Coolangatta are offering a free entrée with every main meal ordered from Monday through to Thursday. Conditions apply. www.outbackjacks.com.au

Dreamworld & WhiteWater World

Dreamworld and WhiteWater World's \$69 Summer Passport is the Gold Coast's best value themepark pass. For just \$69, holders get access to unlimited thrills and spills at both Dreamworld and WhiteWater World until 30 June, 2011. Grab some friends or bring the family and enjoy adrenaline, adventures and animal encounters all the way to winter. www.dreamworld.com.au or 07 5588 1111.

SkyPoint

Experience the stunning transformation and unparalleled views of SkyPoint Observation Deck on level 77 of the Q1 tower. SkyPoint's new informative feature zones, mini-theatrette and iconic displays reveal the region's best kept secrets. Enjoy a delicious meal alongside the perfect accompanying beverage or stay on to experience a high altitude lounge bar with live entertainment every Friday and Saturday night. SkyPoint's \$29 Annual Pass gives you unlimited access for a full 12 months. www.skypoint.com.au or 07 5582 2700.

Mantra properties during ANZ RACV Ladies Masters

The ANZ RACV Australian Ladies Masters golf tournament is swinging into action this February on the Gold Coast. Follow the fairways and take in the gorgeous beaches with a stay at BreakFree Diamond Beach, situated less than 100m from the Broadbeach foreshore, right by the Pacific Fair shopping megaplex and a short drive from the event. This world-class golfing competition at the RACV Royal Pines course runs from February 9 to 13 with BreakFree Diamond Beach offering up Deluxe 2 Bedroom resort-style apartments from \$172* per night for a minimum of 5 nights, where guests can soak it up poolside or head over to

watch the golf - it's up to you. Visit www.breakfree.com.au or call 32 007. For tournament information visit www.ladiesmasters.com

Mantra properties during Good Vibrations

With the fantastic sounds of the Good Vibrations Music Festival hitting Gold Coast Parklands on February 19, make the most of your day by staying in style at Mantra. Right in the heart of Surfers Paradise is Mantra Circle on Cavill, with seaside city views, from \$225 per night in a modern One Bedroom apartment. Or there's also Mantra Legends Hotel with shopping, night life and the golden beaches virtually on its doorstep. Mantra Legends Hotel has Deluxe hotel-style rooms from \$160* per night. Call 13 15 17 or visit www.mantra.com.au

Queensland residents save 20% on Gwinganna's Spa Weekends! For an inspirational and restorative weekend escape, try a Spa Weekend at the award winning Gwinganna Lifestyle Retreat and save 20% off regular rates. With several dates to choose from until 27 March, the fully inclusive packages offer a perfect short break in an ideal Queensland location. Whether it's to celebrate a special occasion or just to get away and recharge, this is a weekend like no other. Fully inclusive packages start from just \$1140 per person and Queensland residents can save 20% on these weekend programs until 27 March 2011. Some conditions apply. Visit www.gwinganna.com

Events

February sees the Gold Coast maintain its world class sporting status with the hosting of the annual **ANZ RACV Ladies Masters** golf tournament at RACV Royal Pines Resort. This 10-13 February weekend attracts many of the top ranked ladies professionals and is a must for sports enthusiasts. The final installment on the Gold Coast music festival agenda will see Faithless, Phoenix and NAS headline on Saturday 19 February during **Good Vibrations 2011**. Then it's back to the beach for a double header of surfing action to round out a full Gold Coast summer events package. The **Breaka Burleigh Surf Pro** from 17-21 February is a World Qualifying Series event that attracts the top Pro Juniors, WQS seeds plus many of the ASP superstars who use the event as a lead in to the season proper. The Gold Coast then provides the first stop for the 2011 ASP World Tour during the **Quiksilver and Roxy Pro**. With the likes of Kelly Slater, Mick Fanning, Joel Parkinson and Stephanie Gilmore all competing, the surfing community truly comes alive from the 25th February to 9th March. So whether beachside, trackside or anywhere else in between there's a range of exciting events to be enjoyed on the Gold Coast this summer. Visit: www.VisitGoldCoast.com

The **2011 ANZ RACV Ladies Masters** will continue its tradition of showcasing the finest golfing talent and discovering a new generation of world beaters. To be played at the RACV Royal Pines Resort on Queensland's Gold Coast from 10-13 February, the tournament has an enviable reputation for launching little known players on to stellar careers. It began in 1993 when tournament founder Bob Tuohy, an astute judge of talent, found a spot in the field for a young Swedish rookie named Annika Sorenstam. World No. 1 Laura Davies won that year and Sorenstam finished four shots back in eighth place. This year, as usual, there are plenty of hugely talented young players looking for their first professional win at Royal Pines. American Alexis Thompson could be the one. She turned pro at 15 last year and won more than \$330,000 from five starts. For those who look for omens, she plays the first round on her 16th birthday. Greg Norman thinks Spanish beauty Belen Mozo, 22, has what it takes because he sponsors her. The 2006 British Amateur champion finished third at the US Tour School and is making her pro debut in

Australia. Tickets are available at the gate or via Ticketmaster www.ticketmaster.com.au For further information please visit www.ladiesmasters.com

The surfing world will converge on the Gold Coast from 26 February to 9 March as two of the biggest surfing events kick start the 2011 ASP Men's and Women's World Tours. The **Quiksilver and Roxy Pros presented by Land Rover** will light up on the southern end of the Gold Coast's iconic point break of Snapper Rocks. The 2011 Quiksilver Pro presented by Land Rover will feature the world's top male surfers including the likes of reigning and ten-time x World Champion Kelly Slater (USA), two-time World Champion Mick Fanning (AUS) and hometown hero Joel Parkinson (AUS). Surfing sensation Slater is the only non-Australian to have won the Quiksilver Pro (twice) and looks to be a top threat in the 2011 competition after sealing an unprecedented 10th world title in Puerto Rico in November. The Gold Coast's most southern break of Snapper Rocks will also be host to the women's Roxy Pro presented by Land Rover and brings together the world's top female surfers including the reigning and four-time World Champion Stephanie Gilmore (AUS) and world number two Sally Fitzgibbons (AUS). Visit www.quiksilverpro.com.au or www.roxypro.com.au

For those people visiting the Gold Coast on the weekend of 9 April and partial to a sophisticated evening of music, food and wine, they're encouraged to head north to **Jazz and Shiraz at the Kingston Butter Factory**. Visitors are encouraged to lay out a blanket, pop a cork and pour a glass of wine, before settling back to enjoy some of the smoothest, most melodic sounds around. Jazz and Shiraz combines blues, world music, soft sensual melodies and big band tunes. Be at Kingston Butter Factory between 4 and 8pm on Saturday April 9 for the perfect way to spend a mellow autumn evening. Free tickets will be available to book after February 7 by phoning (07) 3412 4770.

The Garter Belts & Gasoline Nostalgia Festival is held each Labour Day weekend in the Gold Coast Hinterland and is a celebration of the cars, music, fashion, arts and culture inspired from the 1940s and 1950s. Included in the 2011 entertainment mix in and around Mt Tamborine, from 29 April to 2 May will be art exhibitions, a vintage soap box derby, vintage shop tour and high tea, photography pin-up booth sessions, Saturday afternoon movie matinee at Zamia Theatre, Friday, Saturday and Sunday night Rockabilly and musical performances at St Bernard's Hotel, Hot Rod Carnivale, vintage markets and various musical performances. For further information visit www.garterbeltsandgasoline.com.au

The **2011 Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show** has already confirmed a huge range of world releases which will be unveiled at the May 19 to 22 event this year. World launches include Clipper Motor Yachts' release of the Cordova 45 in a world first, the latest model in the company's semi-displacement Cordova series. Prominent Australian company Maritimo will unveil its new M60 Series II Motoryacht in a world launch along with the M48 Series II Motoryacht. It is part of the company's display of 10 boats at the show including three Sports Cabriolets, the new Aegean A55 enclosed flybridge, three Motoryachts and three Offshore Convertibles. The Integrity 320 Sedan makes a world boat show debut, while exhibitor All4Solar presents the world launch of the Aquawatt, an environmentally-friendly electric drive producing an output of 30hp. Visit www.sanctuarycoveboatshow.com.au

Property News

2011 marks a new beginning for The Gold Coast International as it transforms into **QT Gold Coast**, the first designer hotel in the QT Hotel range launching Australia wide. After years of preparation and six months of extensive renovations, the refurbishment of The GCI is a bold

move by owners AHL (Amalgamated Holdings Limited) to unveil the entirely new QT Hotel brand within Australia. QT Gold Coast has been created to inspire conversation and introduce the new standard in service and unparalleled interior decoration. The finishing touches on QT Gold Coast will continue to reveal over time but guests will immediately sense the state of the art changes from the moment they arrive. The architecturally redesigned lobby boasts slick interior design, rich floor to ceiling wood paneling, artist crafted feature walls and custom lighting for mood as well as function, setting the stage for a memorable and inspiring stay. QT Gold Coast also houses three hot new venues that cater to all aspects of the Surfer's Paradise scene, certain to become Gold Coast hotspots for both tourists and locals. Open from midday till late, the luxurious yet relaxed **Stingray Lounge** boasts an extensive mixologist crafted cocktail list, delicious Californian meets Mexican tasting menu, and international resident DJs. Ideal for a laid back drink or settling in for a all-nighter with friends, Stingray has all the ingredients for your ideal night, served straight up! Meanwhile the invigorating excitement of **Bazaar** restaurant puts a unique spin on hotel dining, offering an interactive marketplace style concept from award winning chef George Francisco. Cured meats hang from high ceilings, fresh prawns and sand crabs sit chilled, an array of exotic dishes, wood-fired pizzas and mouth watering rotisserie cooked meats tempt the taste buds. The exquisite cuisine on offer not only changes daily but guests are encouraged to watch as each meal is prepared right before their eyes making Bazaar a truly exciting ocular and gastronomic experience. **Fixx** is the third new venue for QT Gold Coast. As a more casual haven Fixx offers delicious treats and beverages for an on-the-go breakfast snack, freshly baked muffins, pastries, picnic hampers or simply a barista made coffee from 7am daily. As the excitement builds, events will be held in February to officially launch Stingray Lounge and Bazaar, coinciding with signage officially changing to QT Gold Coast.

www.qtgoldcoast.com.au

What do you love to do? Perhaps its yoga on a Sunday, a stroll on the beach or cooking for friends? At the **Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (GCCEC)** it's everything we do for our clients from the smallest ingredient that goes into our meals, to hosting a capacity crowd at an unforgettable concert. The key is passion and the rest comes naturally. 'Love What You Do; We Do' is the motto for the GCCEC's new ad campaign set for release in early February. "Love What You Do" features 7 new ads reflecting the Centre's destination, service, flexibility and size, among others, addressing key market segments through powerful imagery and references. www.gccec.com.au

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary's male, saltwater, estuarine crocodile, Holey recently turned 40. Weighing in around 800 kilos, nearly a Tonne and measuring five metres in length, Holey is a true heavy weight when it comes to salt water crocodiles in captivity. Holey was treated to a special meal of wild pig for the big event while the crowd joined in to sing him Happy Birthday with balloons, streamers and even some birthday cake. Holey was born as a hatchling in 1971 in North Queensland at the Edward River croc farm, the first commercial croc farm in Australia. Holey made the journey from North Queensland to his current home in Currumbin eight years ago with a free flight from Qantas into Brisbane and then transported to the Gold Coast by local truck driver Johnno Mills and delivered by crane into his new home at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. Holey is on display daily at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary with his crocodile presentation daily at 2.45pm. Visit www.cws.org.au

Cooly Dive has reported an abundance of Leopard Sharks, Green Sea Turtles, Manta Rays, numerous species of tropical fish and sea anemones witnessed by guests in and around Cook Island during the first weeks of 2011. Diving expeditions are being coordinated 7 days a week,

with morning trips departing 8am. Transfers are available upon request at additional charge. Trips can be booked on Ticketmates, ATD or direct. Visit www.coolydiver.com.au

Gold Coast Tourism is available for comment:

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