

Media release

22 August 2017

Pacific Eden Homeport season begins



Vessel Information

Built: 1993
GT: 55,451
Builder: Fincanteri
Length: 219.4m
Beam: 30.8m
Draft: 7.5 m
Decks: 14
Passenger capacity: 1500
Crew: 600
Shipping Agent: Inchcape

The Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal will begin the bustle of the 2017 homeporting season on Thursday August 24 with the arrival of *Pacific Eden*.

The ship is scheduled to dock in the Port of Cairns at 0700hrs, allowing passengers to disembark from Cooktown. Ports North staff will then coordinate the “turnaround” to allow for new passengers to embark and set sail for Alotua, PNG, at 1600hrs.

Pacific Eden’s visit heralds the largest homeporting season in Cairns with 11 cruises being offered between August and November this year.

“It is an exciting time for our port with *Pacific Eden’s* visits boosting the economic growth the cruise ship industry brings to the Far North,” Ports North Chairman Russell Beer said.

“Thousands of guests will arrive in Cairns either to set sail or finish their journey and we know from last year’s success, about half of those guests are from interstate, and most are staying in Cairns before and after their cruises for several days.”

The inaugural homeporting season in 2016 included nine turnarounds by *Pacific Eden*, and was estimated to have injected \$6m into the local economy through tourism, local businesses and employment opportunities.

Pacific Eden’s visit also sets the stage for one of the busiest cruise ship months in the year, with some 10 visits during September 2017.

Her next call will be on Saturday September 2, then she will make another four homeporting stops in the month.

Also arriving will be cruise ship *Pacific Explorer* on Sunday September 3, for her maiden visit.

Sea Princess, Sun Princess and *Pacific Aria*, will also be making calls to the Port of Cairns throughout September.

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