



Lady Elliot Island Eco Resort

GREAT BARRIER REEF

## LADY ELLIOT ISLAND SNORKELLING & WALKING TRAILS



Australian Government  
Department of Resources,  
Energy and Tourism

This is an Australian Government co-funded initiative under T-QUAL Grants

## DISCOVERY WALKING TRAIL

START At the Lighthouse Beach Hut

### 1 HERITAGE PRECINCT

- A Old Lighthouse**  
This heritage listed Lighthouse operated from 1873-1995
- B Lighthouse Keepers Cottages**  
Built in the 1920s, now used as private staff accommodation
- C New Lighthouse**  
The current operating light station has been in use since 1995 and is fully automated and solar powered. Sea eagles can sometimes be seen roosting on top
- D Graveyard** You can see two graves here, read our *History Factsheet* at the Education Centre for more details

- 2 FROGS HOLLOW** (entrance opposite the graveyard)  
Take the immediate left path, after rain you may see or hear frogs
- 3 PISONIA FOREST & NURSERY**  
Established in 1999 by local Parks and Wildlife Ranger John Meech
- 4 WELL** (entrance marked by wooden post)  
Lighthouse keepers used wells on the island for water supply
- 5 WETLAND** (entrance marked by wooden post)  
Fills with water becoming a small lake after heavy rain
- 6 CORAL GARDENS**  
Black Tip Reef Sharks can be seen from the beach in the shallow waters just off the shore (1-2 hours after low tide)
- 7 TURTLE NESTS ON NORTHERN BEACH**  
Depressions in the sand known as *Body Pits* can be seen under trees where female turtles nest during summer
- 8 EASTERN POINT**
  - A** A wide variety of sea birds can be seen here in summer
  - B** At low tide, engines from shipwrecks are exposed and you can explore the rockpools

FINISH Walk along the beach and return to the Resort



## ECO WALKING TRAIL

START At the Reef Education Centre

- 1 OUR CHANGING ISLAND**  
Information on climate change impacts
- 2 LIFE'S A BLEACH!**  
Presenting coral bleaching mechanisms
- 3 THE EVER-RISING TIDE**  
Sea level rise and its impact on low-lying coral cays
- 4 GENDER BENDER**  
Impacts of increased sand temperature on sea turtle sex ratio
- 5 A HIDDEN MENACE**  
Ocean acidification and its effect on coral growth
- 6 SHIFTING SANDS**  
Effect of changing winds on the island's geomorphology
- 7 OCCASION FOR INVASION**  
Impact of climate change on the island's introduced pest species
- 8 SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON HERE**  
Impact of climate change on fish populations at Lady Elliot
- 9 WOULD YOU LIKE SALT IN YOUR WATER?**  
Impact of sea level rise on freshwater supplies
- 10 SEABIRDS GO HUNGRY**  
How the island's seabirds struggle to find food because of climate change
- 11 AN ISLAND POWERED BY THE SUN**  
How the island's solar power station reduces carbon emissions

FINISH Walk along the side of the airstrip and return to the Resort

## MAP AND TRAIL KEY

- Eco Walking Trail
- Discovery Walking Trail
- Points of Interest along trails
- Restaurant & Bar
- Lighthouse Beach Hut
- Coral Gardens Beach Hut
- Well
- Weather Station
- Solar Power Station
- Toilet & Shower Facilities
- Turtle Nesting Area

Allow approximately one hour each for the walking trails.

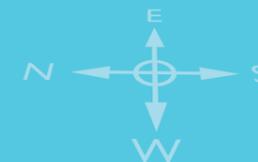
## DO YOUR BIT

1. When you leave Lady Elliot Island, think of your home as an island... imagine life with finite resources
2. Say NO to single-use plastics, plastic bottles, bags and straws and re-use items whenever you can
3. Be mindful of power and water usage
4. "Take 3 for the sea" Pick up at least three pieces of rubbish when you visit beaches or waterways

THIS MAP IS NOT TO SCALE

[www.ladyelliotisland.com.au](http://www.ladyelliotisland.com.au)

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GREAT BARRIER REEF

# SNORKEL TRAILS



## BEFORE YOU GET STARTED...

Snorkelling is a great way to get up close and personal with marine life. Snorkelling on the reef surrounding Lady Elliot Island is accessible right off the beaches, or book on one of the daily glass bottom boat and guided snorkelling tours.

## SAFE SNORKELLING PRACTICES

1. Check conditions with the Dive Shop before entering the water and avoid areas where waves are breaking
2. Take note of the current direction and tide times, especially when snorkelling on western side of island
3. Only snorkel in the Lagoon during recommended times, based on high tide
4. Never snorkel after consuming alcohol
5. Always snorkel with another person (buddy)
6. Know your own limitations and don't exceed them
7. Use the entry/exit channels marked on the map
8. Keep clear of moving vessels at all times



## BEGINNER SNORKEL TRAIL

- ENTER** at Channel One from the beach in front of the bar/dining area
- SNORKEL** towards the marker buoy as you pass over hard corals, seas cucumbers and sea stars
- LOOK** for anemone fish, turtles and schooling fish as you continue to explore the lagoon
- EXIT** at any point before you reach the southern end of the airstrip

## INTERMEDIATE SNORKEL TRAIL

- CHECK** with Dive Shop to determine entry/exit point based on conditions
- ENTER** via the recommended quayway and follow the reef edge
- LOOK** for parrotfish, butterflyfish, angelfish, turtles and a variety of hard coral species
- EXIT** at the recommended exit quayway where you can see a pole sticking out of the water

## ADVANCED SNORKEL TRAIL

- NOTE** The following route description is for entering at the lighthouse (please reverse the instructions for entry at the coral gardens)
- CHECK** with Dive Shop to determine entry/exit point based on conditions.
- ENTER** via the recommended quayway
- SNORKEL** out towards the bommies in deeper water, marked with white triangular marker buoys
- LOOK** around lighthouse bommies, a popular cleaning station for manta rays
- LOOK** for turtles, rays and sharks resting on the coral and ocean floor
- SNORKEL** back in towards Second Reef marked by a line of white buoys
- LOOK** for schools of big-eye trevally and blue-green chromis
- FIND** the anchor in the sand at the northern end of second reef
- SWIM THROUGH** the arches at coral gardens
- EXIT** via the recommended quayway

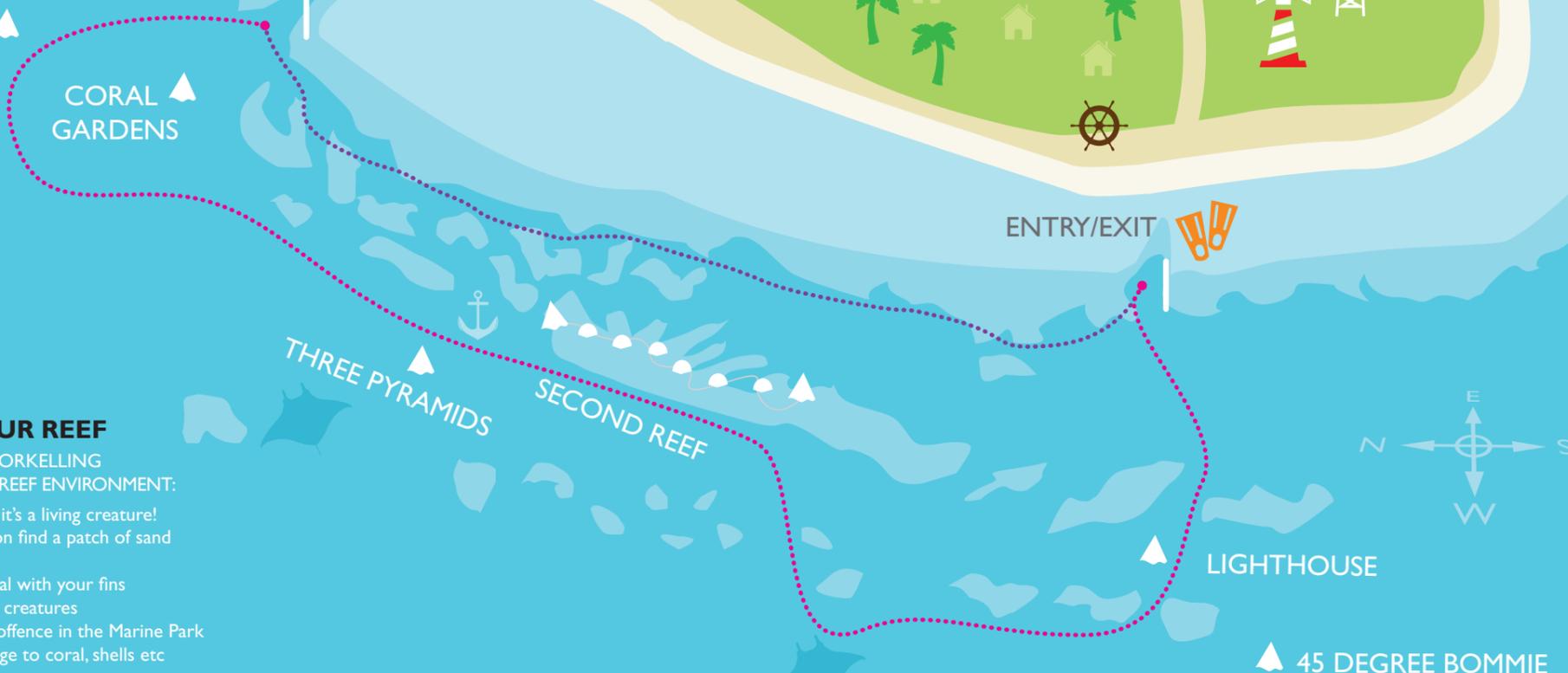
Enjoy snorkelling as long as you like but it's important to watch those tides & currents, cover up & wear plenty of sunscreen.



## PLEASE PROTECT OUR REEF

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR SNORKELLING ACTIVITIES DO NOT HARM THE REEF ENVIRONMENT:

1. Never rest or stand on coral, it's a living creature!
2. When snorkelling in the lagoon find a patch of sand if you need to stand up
3. Be careful not to kick the coral with your fins
4. Look, but don't touch any sea creatures
5. Take only photos. It is a legal offence in the Marine Park to remove or cause any damage to coral, shells etc



## MAP AND TRAIL KEY

- Beginner Snorkel Trail
- Intermediate Snorkel Trail
- Advanced Snorkel Trail
- Marker Buoys
- Lighthouse Beach Hut
- Coral Gardens Beach Hut
- Turtle Nesting Area
- Entry/Exit Point
- Marker Poles

THIS MAP IS NOT TO SCALE

