



# Reef Naturalist Programs

**Reef Teach's Reef Naturalist Program (RNP)** is designed to give Reef visitors a far more meaningful Great Barrier Reef experience and the opportunity to give back to The Reef at the same time. By having your own personal marine biologist guiding you around the Great Barrier Reef you will see more and understand more about the Great Barrier Reef than any other visitor. Guests also have the opportunity to collect crucial coral reef data via one or more of the citizen science programs Reef Teach supports and endorses.

## Who Are we:

**Reef Teach** is a world-leading platform for gathering and sharing information about the Great Barrier Reef through research and education. Our education programs like the RNP is how we raise funds to perform our research. The ability to raise our own funds gives us many advantages, most of all we can maintain our independence.

As the original "Marine Biologist for a Day" experience in Cairns starting back in the mid 1990's. Originally called "Underwater Naturalist" our program has grown from a one-day experience to multiple days options too. Participants actively learn more about the GBR and proactively collect data through different reef survey techniques that suits their abilities and that are actually uploaded to the corresponding databases.

## General Information:

- For in-water activities participants must have a minimum average swimming ability (Comfortably swim 1 or more lengths of a 50m pool).
- Reef Teach does **not** own its own vessel. We use commercial tourist dive and snorkel vessels. You will be on a vessel with other tourists but Reef Teach staff will be your private guides and hosts. No other passenger will be participating in your RNP unless they are part of your group / family / party.
- All in-water is done by snorkelling.
- We supply one Reef Teach marine biologist to 15 participants.
- Reef Teach staff are marine biologists (post-graduate qualified) working on the GBR as researchers and or science communicators.
- All participants must complete a medical declaration prior to participating. Books are only confirmed once the medical declaration is received and checked by Reef Teach. This is a requirement of the Queensland workplace health and safety dive and snorkel code of practice.















# Reef Naturalist Programs

Reef Teach offers 1 day, 2 day, 3 day and 4 day programs. Each program is built up with different components.

The components are

- **Reef Teach (RT) Reef Talk** – this is Reef Teach’s evening Reef Talks and are offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. See website for more detail or request information sheet.
- **RT Private Reef Talk** – This is the RT Reef Talk delivered at a time outside of the scheduled times. On request
- **Advanced Reef Teach (ART)** – This is a full day in-depth classroom session. Information sheet can be provided on request.
- **Fringing Reef** – Or Continental Island. A full day excursion to one of the beautiful fringing reefs. This is generally where reef ecology and coral reef survey techniques are practiced and developed.
- **Coral Cay Island** – These are also known as sand spits. These reefs are usually further out to sea than the fringing reefs. Participants have a full day trip where they see a different type of reef structure as well as performing more coral reef surveys
- **Outer Great Barrier Reef Trip** – These reefs are the furthest off the coast and again are a different reef type, gives the participants and even great variety. More coral surveys can be completed.

## Reef Naturalist Program Structure

Components	1 Day RNP	2 Day RNP		3 Day RNP			4 Day RNP			
		Day 1	Day 2	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
RT Reef Talk*	 *	 *								
Advanced Reef Teach										
Fringing Reef Trip										
Coral Cay Reef Trip										
Outer GBR Trip										

\*RT Reef Talks are scheduled for Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30pm. This component of the programs is planned for the evening before the first reef trip. If this does not suit, guests can attend at another time prior to trip that suits. If the timing for the scheduled talks does not fit into an itinerary the options is a private RT Reef Talk on request.

**\*\*\* Please note that within reason we are able to personalise a Reef Naturalist Program using different combinations of the above components. \*\*\***

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