

## **CAPE YORK REFRESHED AND OPEN**

After a spectacular wet season, Cape York Peninsula is superbly refreshed and open for business with the 2008 tourism season set to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008. Australia's last frontier encompasses over 100,000 square kilometres of untouched wilderness and this itself is the Cape's chief attraction.

Leading Cape York operator, Cairns-based Wilderness Challenge, is looking forward to the dry season's blue skies and fresh air.

"There's a wonderful energy about the Cape after the land has been refreshed by the rains," explains spokesperson Russell Boswell.

"For us, it's as if the wet season is a gate or a door to the Cape. It's just opening up now. For first time visitors, Cape York is the real Australia so many of us imagine: connecting with the land and the people there is the visitor's reward.

"For return travellers, it's about re-tracing steps to familiar ground. Knowing some of the birds or revisiting places you remember is very special. New sites like Jowalbinna Rock Art Safari Camp are providing amazing new experiences in the Cape."

Now the wet is over, this year's visitor season is beginning with the first of Wilderness Challenge's new 2008 safari dates. Upper Cape York is accessed by 7-14 day camping and accommodated safaris beginning in May, and lower Cape York is explored on 3 day Rock Art, Rainforest and Cooktown safaris.

*Photo Caption: Maree Emerson from Adelaide enjoys a refreshing dip at Fruit Bat Falls during a stopover on a Wilderness Challenge adventure. Streams and waterholes throughout Cape York Peninsula have been refreshed by the wet season and the region is now open for the 2008 season.*

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