



SCHOOL FIELD EXCURSION

Information & Booking Form

Created by
Christine Wilson
On **23/02/2017**

FARMERS' MARKET SCHOOL TOURS

The Greater Whitsunday Farmer's Market support local farmers and value adder producers by providing a space for them to sell direct to the public. The Greater Whitsunday Food Network operates the Farmers' Market and is key to our region being able to support growers in the production of local produce. The not for profit community organisation is driven by a diverse group of passionate individuals who are instigating change within the regional food system. The region covers the local council areas of Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday. The Network develops the food provenance of the region and builds consumer awareness of local produce both here and further into the Northern Australia Region.

Many schools are now adopting the From Paddock to Plate (FP2P) Schools Program <http://www.frompaddocktoplate.com.au/school-programs/> as part of their curriculum. FP2P is a one-stop shop to learn about where food comes from in a variety of different industries, on a variety of topics, using a variety of resources, covering the entire Australian Curriculum from Years 5 to 10 in nine different subject areas. The bonus for our community is that we do have a local farmers' market that students can attend and we invite you to include a visit to the Greater Whitsunday Farmers' Market in your school program.

Not only will the students be able to see, examine and/ purchase local produce from the Mackay, Isaac & Whitsunday Region, they will also be able to speak directly to a number of farmers. How important it is to have the opportunity to gain a personal connection with the farmer who has grown the produce. The students can learn how best to cook the produce and gain ideas on what is available seasonally in our region direct from farmers. The students will be able to speak with the farmers about how the produce is grown and how each farmer adds to the value of creating a sustainable environment and community.

Tour Option Details:

School Students would be required to be onsite at 9:30am on the day of the Tour. We generally offer one market day per month for School Excursion Tours, however we are happy to discuss individual needs. Please contact our market coordinator for current date options. Market location is 10 River Street, Bluewater Quay, Mackay City Centre. Bus parking can be made available with prior arrangements on Brisbane Street.

- We would like to offer the students a guided tour of the Farmers' Market.
- We suggest breaking the students into groups to allow for easier access and discussions with stallholders/farmers.
- We will require each group of students to be accompanied by a teacher or parent.
- We can also provide volunteers to assist the group if required (please confirm if required).
- We would require the students to be seated on the deck at the top of the Bluewater Quay where the Farmers' Market is held – 10 River St, Mackay - at 9:25am ready for a 9:30am start.
- We can offer a brief introductory talk.
- We can provide a platter of cut fruit at the end of the tour.
- Optional – Pork or Fish Sliders, Smoothies, Juices, Bacon and Egg Rolls ect can be purchased at the markets. Please complete order form prior to attending market. (please request upon booking)

One of our Market Management Team Members will greet all students at 9:30am to start the tour. We have access to a number of farmers and members who are confident in presenting information to groups. They will be able to assist the students learning experience whilst at the Farmers' Market.

Please be aware that customers will be shopping at the markets whilst the students are visiting the market and it is the schools responsibility to ensure the students remain within their groups and are accompanied at any time that they leave the group including visiting restrooms.

We can provide a photo media release form to the school to use for students in the event that we have media/network taking photos for the purpose of promoting the Farmer's Market. Please let us know if you do not wish for this to happen.

You may wish to put together a questioner booklet for students to complete. Here are some suggestions which can be tailored to meet the different year levels:

1. Notes from guest speaker at Farmers' Market.
2. What are some of the measures farmers take to ensure produce quality food?
3. What sustainable practices do farmers use?
4. Do you have a Quality Assurance system that you implement on the farm?
5. Do you use pesticides and sprays? What effects does that have on your produce?
6. What are some of the effects from climate change you have seen over the years on your farm?
7. What other produce are you looking into planting and growing?
8. What do you know about the history of the land that you use?
9. Describe for me the day in a life of a farmer.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact myself or Deb McLucas on 0428 380191. We would require confirmation on final numbers no later than the Monday COB prior to your tour date.

FEES AND CONDITIONS

Currently there is no fee charged for school tours. However we do encourage students to purchase from stallholders if they wish to on the day. We also have Farmers' Market calico bags available for purchase for \$5 each, should students wish to purchase one.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,
Christine

**Christine Wilson | Administration Coordinator | Greater Whitsunday Farmers' Market
Greater Whitsunday Food Network Inc.**

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COMING SPECIAL DATES

Wednesday – 3 rd May 2017 – Cooking Demos with Special Guests
Wednesday – 17 th May – Sustainable Living Market – Special Guests from Reef Catchments and Bee Keeping Association (tbc)
Wednesday – 7 th June 2017 – Cooking Demos. Farmers' Market 1 st Birthday. Queensland Week



Booking Form – School Field Excursion

Contact Name: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Proposed Date: _____

Estimated Students: _____

I wish to participate in the following way: (Please tick which option/s apply to you)

- School Excursion
 Opening Talk
 Guided Tour
 Fruit Platter
 Food Order Form

Declaration

I have received, read and understand the outlined conditions for the Greater Whitsunday Farmers' Market School Excursion Tours. I further agree to indemnify the Greater Whitsunday Farmers' Market (Greater Whitsunday Food Network) against any claim whatsoever that may be brought against Greater Whitsunday Farmers' Market (Greater Whitsunday Food Network) by any person in relation to this school excursion agreement.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: ____/____/____

Position Held: _____

Terms & Conditions: Greater Whitsunday Farmers' Market (Greater Whitsunday Food Network) reserves the right to cancel school excursions due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

Please return this form to the Farmers' Market Coordinator – Christine Wilson

markethq@greaterwhitsundayfood.org.au

Office Use Only	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approval Emailed ____/____/____	<input type="checkbox"/> Reminder Sent ____/____/____
<input type="checkbox"/> Email sent to advise stallholders ____/____/____	<input type="checkbox"/> MMC Notified ____/____/____