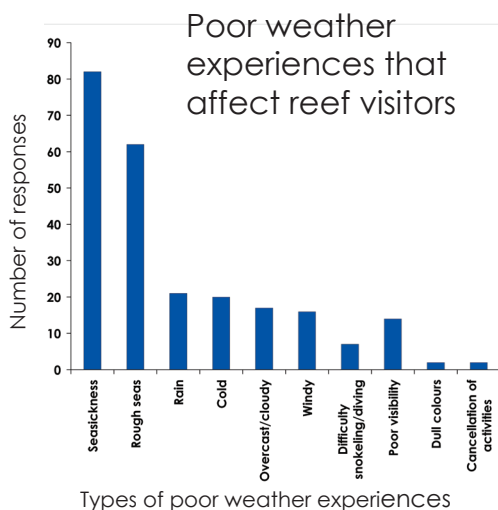




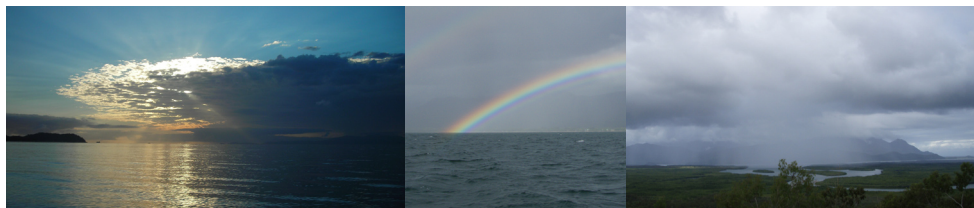
Great Barrier Reef tourism fact sheet How weather influences reef experiences

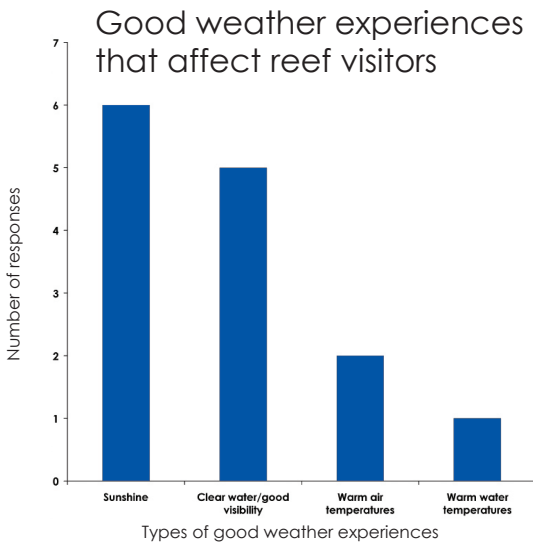
Weather has a huge impact on outdoor tourism operations, particularly those operating in marine environments. Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility funded researchers from James Cook University are conducting a series of visitor surveys to monitor changes and trends in reef tourism in the region.



- Weather affected the experience of 20% of respondents
- Older respondents mentioned poor weather more often
- Poor weather lowers satisfaction with the entire reef experience

Irrespective of weather conditions, crew professionalism and friendliness was the single greatest determinant of satisfaction levels among visitors to the reef





- Poor weather did not influence the respondents' decision to recommend a trip to the GBR to others
- Weather was significantly more likely to influence the satisfaction levels of domestic visitors than those from overseas



The Good:

"Friendly crew, good diving conditions, warm weather and minimal seasickness"

"I like to swim and see fish and coral so it was good that the weather was clear and sunny"

The Bad:

"my wife was seasick and no relief was available onboard the boat i.e. sea sick pills"

"people getting sick all over the place. Looked like a hospital when at dock".



Photo credits: Ann Penny and Olivier Bittar, JCU