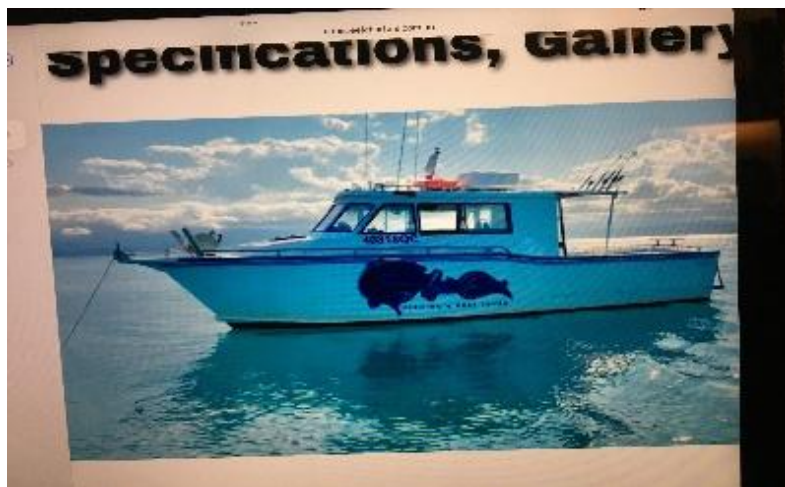


## 18 JUL 25 - Port Douglas Aquis Charter Fishing Report

Sue and I, along with our Granddaughter, Kate, travelled to Port Douglas for a seven day holiday at Villa San Michelle and I did a fishing charter with Aquis Reef Charters. This is for up to 6 people on the charter for this 30 foot half cabin boat "White Cloud" which is quite comfortable. The other five were all part of a group attending a wedding in Port Douglas, they were a great group to fish with. Charter includes all gear, lunch and non-alcoholic drinks. We were very well looked after. The boat was skippered (and owned) by Flynn Bickford and crewed by his son Corey Bickford. Flynn is very experienced in all things marine both above and below the water. He also spent quite a bit of time in South Australia including 4yrs on Kangaroo Island. Flynn also operates the Shaolin Junk and Lady Douglas cruises both excellent tours as well. For more info look on their website [aquisreefcharters.com.au](http://aquisreefcharters.com.au).



Day started at 0800 from the Port Douglas Yacht Club Marina and he headed out through the estuary mouth of Packers Creek. Had only gone about a couple of kilometres out and got a bonus view of a whale cruising around out from the headland and had some quite up and personal views of the behemoth.



Today we started on the inner reefs and got a variety of fish, Finger Mark, Golden Snapper, Coral Trout, Cod and many more. All had a good feed in the bag. We then moved to the outer reef area, about 20kms offshore. Caught same species again and I was lucky enough to get a 50cm Coral Trout, the biggest of the day and my personal best. Sadly it wasn't a club record which currently stands at 70cm which I might say is a bloody big Coral Trout.



Flynn had put a Spanish Mackerel live bait line out, luck had it that a Mackerel decided to have a go and one of the other group was closest to grab the rod and hook up. A great fight ensued some blistering runs and some stretched arms got a 14kg Spanish Mackerel into the boat. Flynn made sure everyone was out of the way when the fish came in as they have a very vicious set of dentures and tend to jump around quite a bit.



Other good sized reef species were caught by all. We were back alongside by about 1500 after a most enjoyable day and having been very well looked after by a competent and affable crew. I highly recommend this charter if you are in the Port Douglas area.

**Cheers and Tight Lines**

**Rob Kearvell**