



## GOOD AS GOLD

## Panama luxury cruise offers the ultimate Gold Coast experience

very year, over 12 million visitors flock to Queensland's Gold Coast to marvel at the iconic Surfers Paradise beach, explore the lush Hinterland, and generally soak up the laid-back Australian atmosphere. Visitors looking to experience this beautiful area by boat, in a more personal and stylish setting, can step aboard *Panama*, a custom-built, 15-meter (49-foot) luxury cruiser, designed to meet their every wish — and more.

Panama owner Todd Holzapfel is a Gold Coast local — born and raised — and is extremely proud of his roots. "The big attraction for boating enthusiasts here on the Gold Coast is the Broadwater, an amazing stretch of inland waterways and estuaries with wonderfully white, sandy beaches. Cruising along the Broadwater is a superb way to explore the wider Gold Coast area."

## Luxury home on the water

Holzapfel has a long background in the marine sector, including his current activities as an independent dealer for Grand Banks and Ocean Alexander yachts. "My philosophy has always been to go the extra mile when it comes to service, which

creates a lot of happy customers, repeat business, and word-of-mouth referrals. With *Panama*, we've adopted the same philosophy: offering our customers a once-in-a-lifetime experience onboard our much loved vessel, complemented by knowledgeable local staff and first-class service."

He certainly knows what he's selling. When *Panama* is not booked, Holzapfel takes his family out for some quality time of his own around the Broadwater. "She's amazingly comfortable, especially since we've completed the major refit. We remodeled the saloon with new seating and installed new flooring. The open-plan design gives *Panama* lots of space and makes socializing with the guests inside the saloon or out in the cockpit a pleasure."

## **Repowering right**

At 15 meters (49 feet) long and 4.4 meters (14.4 feet) wide, *Panama* is also a delight to navigate, thanks to her new twin PowerTech 6068TFM50 engines. Steve Shale, from John Deere engine distributor Marine Diesel, recommended and supplied the engines and helped ensure a seamless installation. Holzapfel credits his decision to go for

John Deere to Shale's involvement with the project. "From the moment I discussed the repower with Steve, I benefitted greatly from his experience and overall advice. Before, during, and after the installation, I have been impressed with both the product and the service. It was an easy decision, and I am delighted we chose John Deere."

Panama is available for a wide variety of cruises, from luxury breakfasts to sunset cocktails, as well as corporate events and private weddings. Popular spots to visit include Marina Mirage, Australia's leading resort-style master-planned community at Sanctuary Cove, and the relaxed anchorages inside of South Stradbroke Island. "Marina Mirage to the south offers a vibrant glimpse of boating here on the Gold Coast. Having said that, we often venture north to quieter, more private locations, too. Panama navigates wherever our customers please. She's a golden opportunity to discover the treasures of the Gold Coast!"

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