



MEDIA RELEASE

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TIGER AIRWAYS FIRST INTRASTATE ROUTE A BOOST FOR REGIONAL TOURISM

Minister for Tourism and Major Events, George Souris, and Member for Coffs Harbour, Andrew Fraser, welcomed the commencement of Tiger Airways first intrastate NSW service from Sydney to Coffs Harbour today.

Mr Souris and Mr Fraser joined VIP guests to travel on the inaugural flight of the new service which links Sydney with Coffs Harbour, one of NSW's most popular regional destinations.

"The introduction of the new Tiger service makes it easier and more affordable for visitors from Sydney to travel to regional New South Wales for leisure and business," Mr Souris said.

"It also makes it easy for visitors from Regional NSW to travel to Sydney to enjoy all it offers, including the harbour city's unique attractions and Australia's leading major events calendar.

"Increasing regional air services is a key focus of the Visitor Economy Industry Action Plan and the introduction of this service will help to make the Coffs Coast more accessible as a short break destination.

"The addition of up to 1800 seats per week between Sydney and Coffs Harbour will deliver significant economic returns to the Coffs Coast region."

Member for Coffs Harbour, Andrew Fraser, said: "This is an exciting day for Coffs Harbour with the introduction of a new service providing easy travel between this region and Sydney. This service will affect far more than just the tourism sector.

"Creating better links between regional communities and our State capital is critical to ensuring that regional cities like Coffs Harbour can grow and prosper."

The Nationals' Federal Member for Cowper, Luke Hartsuyker, welcomed the inaugural flight. "This is an excellent development for the Mid North Coast. The more airlines using Coffs Harbour airport for regular flights, the better. Tiger's lower fares should create new marketing opportunities for the tourism and hospitality sectors, with the prospect of more jobs," he said.

Tiger Airways Australia Commercial Director, Carly Brear, said: "Coffs Harbour and Coffs Coast is a great tourism destination for leisure seekers with a fantastic year round climate, superb resorts and classic Australian surf beaches.

"Tiger will be the only low fare operator on the Sydney – Coffs Harbour route and we're confident our services will prove popular, stimulating demand and providing significant tourism and economic benefits to both destinations."