

# CORAL ADVENTURER – A UNIQUE SMALL SHIP FOR AUSTRALASIA



For our small ship adventures in Australia and New Zealand, we have chosen to partner with Coral Expeditions and their vessel the Coral Adventurer which was purpose built to explore the remote and tropical regions of Australasia. An Australian-owned and operated company established over forty years ago, Coral Expeditions share our passion for small ships and our aim of bringing small groups of like-minded travellers to some of the most beautiful and culturally fascinating places in the world accompanied by a team of experts and in a high degree of comfort.

We have exclusively chartered the Coral Adventurer which was launched in 2019 and is simply the perfect small ship for the region. Accommodating a maximum of 120 passengers (limited to just 100 for our exclusive charters) and featuring a shallow draft and high manoeuvrability, the vessel can navigate inaccessible reef systems, rivers and shores which are out of reach to larger vessels. In addition to a fleet of Zodiacs, the Coral Adventurer carries two unique Xplorer tenders which provide guests with unrivalled access to nature with ease. The atmosphere on board is relaxed and informal with the focus being on exploration and the excellent Australian crew are dedicated to providing attentive hospitality with a warm and relaxed Australian style.

### **EXPLORING ASHORE**

An unrivalled and unique benefit of sailing aboard the Coral Adventurer are the two tender vessels which simplify travelling ashore and were designed with flexibility and guest comfort in mind. The Xplorer vessels ensure that all guests can travel to shore or explore hidden bays and inlets safely and comfortably. The Xplorers are very easy to board directly from the deck and provide comfortable seating. Onboard, a microphone and speakers assist the guides in sharing their expert commentary, a canopy overhead protects from the sun, and there is a toilet for remote convenience. The Xplorers can be boarded directly from the ship's Coral Deck, before the hydraulic platform gently lowers into the water, making it easily accessible for all guests. The twin Xplorers are equipped with 2x twin 225 horsepower engines and can reach up to 20 knots in speed. The onboard Zodiacs provide a further flexible option for shore excursions and can be paired with the Xplorers for navigating narrow inlets and waterways.





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#### **YOUR SPACE**

Public areas throughout the ship are open, light and airy with large picture windows to take in the surrounding vistas. The comfortable lounge on the Bridge Deck is a place to relax with a good book, attend lectures and presentations and enjoy evening films and activities. The elegant Dining Room on the Promenade Deck features indoor and outdoor seating and operates an open seating arrangement meaning you can sit with whom you like each evening. In addition to the Dining Room and Bridge Lounge Bar there are two additional outdoor bar areas. A much-loved aspect of the onboard experience is the open bridge policy which allows you to spend time with the Captain and Officers learning about all aspects of navigation and trip planning. In addition, for those intrigued by the inner

workings of the vessel, engine room tours provide fascinating access below decks. For guests seeking to maintain their wellness routine while at sea there is access to onboard fitness equipment and a small gym, enabling active guests to make the most of their days at sea. There is also a resource library on board with a selection of books covering natural history, geology, local cultures, and flora & fauna, as well as fictional novels and games to enjoy. Outside there is over 1000 square metres of open deck space with a wrap-around promenade deck providing panoramic views. Another unique attribute of the Coral Adventurer is the wonderful indigenous artworks which you will discover throughout the vessel.



Lounge



Open Bridge

### YOUR DINING

The culinary experience on board emphasises freshness, seasonality, and sustainability and is inspired by the regions being discovered. Meals are prepared daily in small batches in the open galley, maximising freshness and minimising waste. There is a generous daily breakfast buffet which offers a wide choice of hot and cold options, cereals, pastries, fruit and juices. Lunches on board feature a selection of hot and cold dishes including freshly prepared salads, local seafood and seasonal tropical fruits whilst dinner is a three course affair. In between meals, chefs will welcome you back on board with freshly baked treats and will prepare delicious canapés to accompany pre-dinner drinks. Complementing lunch and dinner are a selection of included wines, beers and soft drinks. There is also a 24-hour tea and coffee station with biscuits and fresh fruit always available.

### YOUR LIFE ON BOARD

On board you can expect laid-back Australian hospitality and a relaxed convivial atmosphere shared with like-minded explorers. With no designated seating and few formalities, a spirit of camaraderie and friendship flourishes. You will be accompanied by an expert team who will inform and entertain through their presentations and each evening the Expedition Leader will provide an overview of the next day's activities. A Daily Newsletter outlining excursion information, meal hours, and onboard activities for the following day will also be delivered to your cabin each evening during turn down. The Australian crew enjoy a high level of interaction with the guests and after a day of exploration, guests are invited each evening to gather on deck for pre-dinner drinks.



Bridge Deck & Bar



Restaurant



On Deck

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#### **YOUR CABIN**

All cabins are outside facing with ensuite bathroom, premium amenities, wardrobe, desk, armchair and many feature a private balcony allowing you to enjoy the spectacular vistas from your cabin. With the exception of the two suites on board, all staterooms feature a junior king sized bed which can be separated into twin beds. Staterooms on the Coral and Promenade Decks measure 17 square metres with those on the Coral Deck featuring portholes whilst those on the Promenade Deck feature a large picture window. Staterooms on the Explorer and Bridge Decks measure 21.4 square metres and feature a private balcony with seating for two. There are two very spacious suites on the Bridge Deck which measure 55.8 square metres and are equipped with a super king sized bed, lounge area, private balcony, minibar, personal coffee machine and a large bathroom which features a bath and separate shower.



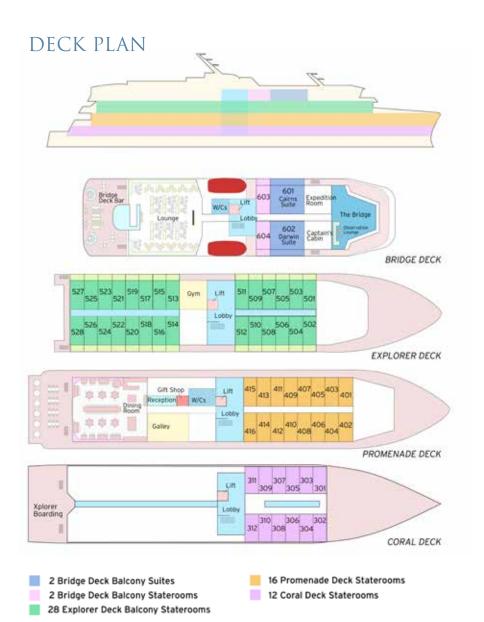
Promenade Deck Stateroom



Explorer Deck Stateroom



Bridge Deck Balcony Suite



# CORAL ADVENTURER VIDEO ONLINE



For further information on the vessel and what to expect, you can view a video tour of the Coral Adevnturer on our website www.noble-caledonia.co.uk



During this voyage you will be visiting out of the way destinations and will be accompanied by an expedition team. Landings and excursions

will be made by the onboard Xplorer and Zodiac landing craft. This cruise will appeal to the more adventurous and those who enjoy the natural world.



Open Galley



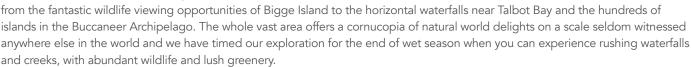
Promenade Deck

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## ACROSS THE TOP Of Australia

Join us aboard the Coral Adventurer and discover the Kimberley, Australia's real 'outback'. Due to its wild and undeveloped nature, the region is a wonderful place for the genuine traveller to explore and is simply perfect for expedition style cruising. It was the last great empty section of Australia to be explored, with European settlers arriving only just over a hundred and fifty years ago and even today much of the region remains uncharted. Covering nearly 423,000 square kilometres, the region is truly one of the world's last great wildernesses, rich in natural, cultural, and historical significance with an incredibly diverse variety of wildlife.

There are so many highlights, it is difficult to know where to begin when extolling the virtues of an expedition in the Kimberley. From the King George River and Falls to the tidal phenomena at the Montgomery Reef,



For our expedition we have exclusively chartered the Coral Adventurer and working with Coral Expeditions, the Australian owners of the vessel whose local expertise is unrivalled, have devised an exciting itinerary. Coral Expeditions pioneered expedition cruising on the Kimberley coast and the onboard team have a deep knowledge and passion for the region. We will be able to drop anchor in remote bays and use the unique Xplorer tender vessels and the Zodiac landing craft to land in otherwise inaccessible places, making the most of the Kimberley's extraordinary natural attractions. At the end of each day we return to the Coral Adventurer and indulge in the delights of the celebrated cuisine and wine along with the convivial company of just 100 fellow passengers. We will be joined on board by an expedition team including guest lecturers who have a wealth of knowledge of the unique landscapes, flora and fauna and Indigenous cultures of the Kimberley. Passionate explorers, marine biologists and naturalists, they will provide lectures and interpretation on board and are always keen to chat with you and share their expertise.

### **EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS**

- Get up close to Montgomery Reef and discover the tidal reef's diverse marine life.
- Witness King George River and the 80 metre tall twin King George waterfalls.
- Cruise the Prince Regent River to the 'hanging garden' King Cascade waterfall.
- Encounter Indigenous rock art galleries and learn about ancient Wandjina and Gwion Gwion art.
- Spot native wildlife and birdlife in their natural habitat.
- Enjoy sunset canapés and drinks on the beach as dusk settles over the Kimberley.



### THE ITINERARY

Belle salar

Montgomery Reef

Lacepede Islands

Broome-

Bigge Island Careening Bay

Vansittart Bay

Horizontal Falls

**AUSTRALIA** 

Mitchell Falls

Prince Regent River

Prince Frederick Harbour

King George River & Falls

This is an expedition cruise to a remote region. No two trips are ever the same in the ever changing Kimberley region. Your Captain and the Expedition Team will make changes to the daily schedule when necessary to maximise your experience. The following itinerary is indicative of what is planned, however please note some variation may occur due to weather and tidal conditions, safety or local community requirements.

Day 1 London to Perth, Australia. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

**Day 2 Perth.** Arrive and transfer to our centrally located hotel for a two night stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax after your journey or explore the city independently.

Day 3 Perth. After breakfast in the hotel we enjoy a tour of Perth which will include a guided walk around Kings Park, perched on Mount Eliza. Absorb the impressive views of the city and the Swan River and see some of Western Australia's remarkable flora in the Botanical Gardens. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon before we meet tonight for our welcome dinner.

**Day 4 Perth to Broome.** After breakfast in the hotel we will transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Broome. On arrival we transfer to the Coral Adventurer and sail this evening.

Day 5 Lacepede Islands. The Lacepede Islands are a protected class-A nature reserve and are significant as a seabird nesting rookery for brown boobies and roseate terns. Other species often sighted at the Lacepedes include Australian pelicans, frigatebirds, egrets and gulls. The four low-lying islands are also an important breeding and nesting habitat for green turtles. If weather and tide conditions are suitable, we will explore the lagoons using the Xplorer vessels and Zodiacs.

**Day 6 Horizontal Falls & Buccaneer Archipelago.** The Horizontal Falls are one of the Kimberley's biggest attractions and are a result of the 11 metre mammoth tides which the Kimberley is renowned for. Naturalist David

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Attenborough described the Horizontal Falls as 'one of the greatest natural wonders of the world.' This natural phenomenon has been created as the ocean thunders through a narrow gorge in the McLarty Ranges. Water builds up on one side and is forcibly pushed through the bottleneck, creating a rushing horizontal waterfall of swiftly flowing seawater. Talbot Bay is at the heart of the Buccaneer Archipelago, where rocks on the 800 or so islands are estimated at over two billion years old. At Cyclone Creek, we will see evidence of massive geological forces in the impressive rock formations and will cruise through the Iron Islands, past Koolan Island, before enjoying sunset drinks at Nares Point.

Day 7 Doubtful Bay. Red Cone Creek flows gently downstream until it meets the small but impressive Ruby Falls which were named by local mariner Captain Chris Trucker after his daughter. Red Cone Creek is carved through rock formations stacked atop each other like building blocks. These rock walls are great for climbing and clambering over before reaching a series of freshwater swimming holes and waterfalls. Raft Point guards the entrance to sheltered Doubtful Bay, which harbours significant sites such as the ancient Wandjina rock art galleries. Doubtful Bay is the traditional country of the Worrora people who follow the Wandjina. Their stories, knowledge and culture have been recorded in stone for millennia.

Day 8 Montgomery Reef. Montgomery Reef is a biologically diverse area covering over 300 square kilometres and was named by Phillip Parker King. Twice daily, as the sea recedes in mammoth 11 metre tides, Montgomery Reef rises from the Indian Ocean in a cascade of rushing water revealing a flat-topped reef pockmarked with rock pools and rivulets. As the reef emerges, we will be able to get up close using the Xplorer vessels and Zodiacs to witness the spectacle as members of the expedition team share their knowledge on the formation of the reef and the myriad wildlife. Opportunistic birds take advantage of the emerging reef, feeding on marine life left exposed in rock pools. Turtles, dolphins, dugongs and sawfish too are also attracted to feeding opportunities as the ocean recedes. The ocean is awash in a swirl of eddies and whirlpools as the moon's gravitational force takes hold. Then, a few hours later the entire water-borne drama is reversed as the tide comes in and Montgomery Reef disappears below sea level.

**Day 9 Prince Regent River & Careening Bay.** King Cascade is a classically beautiful, terraced waterfall and is one of the most photographed waterfalls in the Kimberley. Falling from a considerable height and around 50 metres

wide, water tumbles down a staggered terrace of Kimberley sandstone. Layer upon layer of ochre-hued and blackened rock sprouts grasses, mosses and ferns in a sort of lushly vegetated hanging garden. We will reach King Cascade after using the Xplorer tenders to cruise down the steep-sided Prince Regent River which is a remarkable anomaly as the river runs dead straight along a fault line. Lieutenant Phillip Parker King named nearby Careening Bay after he beached his leaking vessel HMC Mermaid to effect repairs. While stranded on this remote coastline for 17 days the ship's carpenter carved HMC Mermaid 1820 into the bottle-shaped trunk of a boab tree near the beach. Over 200 years later, the Mermaid Boab Tree has since split into two trunks and sports a mammoth girth of 12 metres. Significantly, the bulbous tree is listed on the National Register of Big Trees and the carpenter's careful inscription now stands almost as tall as a person.

Day 10 Prince Frederick Harbour & Bigge Island. Prince Frederick Harbour is one of the Kimberley's most spectacular locations at the southern end of York Sound. The harbour is dotted with islands lined with mangroves and monsoon rainforests, set against a backdrop of ochre-hued escarpment. White-bellied sea eagles and other birds of prey are often seen here, and at low tide, expansive mudflats reveal large populations of mudskippers and mangrove crabs. We will use the Xplorer tenders to cruise up Porosus Creek to view some striking rock formations. Bigge Island's indigenous name is Wuuyuru, and the Indigenous Group of the area is the Wunambal people.

Day 11 Mitchell Falls & Wollaston Bay. Tumbling down the Mitchell Plateau in a series of tiered waterfalls and emerald, green rock pools, the Mitchell Falls are the photogenic poster child for the Mitchell River National Park. Today there will be the opportunity to take a scenic helicopter flight (additional cost) to the multi-tiered Mitchell Falls where rock pools cascade down the escarpment and ancient rock art galleries are concealed in caves behind curtains of water. Mitchell River National Park is inhabited by significant numbers of mammals, amphibians, reptiles and bird species which are lured by a year-round water source. Sandstone terraces beside tiered rock pools make a terrific viewing platform from which to savour the serenity of this ancient landscape. An alternative option to Mitchell Falls is exploring the sandstone caves of Wollaston Bay or Wollaston Creek. This mass of weathered tunnels, arches and columns form a labyrinth-like maze and was once an Aboriginal midden. This evening we will enjoy watching the sunset over the Indian Ocean while indulging in a gourmet BBQ.

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Day 12 Vansittart Bay. Vansittart Bay is home to many cultural and historically significant sites like the remarkable Gwion Gwion (Bradshaw) Aboriginal rock art galleries estimated to be up to 20,000 years old. Jar Island is so-named after the pot shards found here, brought to the island by Makassan fishermen harvesting sea cucumbers (also known as trepang). Nearby, on the Anjo Peninsula lays the well-preserved wreckage of a US Airforce C-53 Skytrooper aircraft, the result of a pilot losing his bearings flying from Perth to Broome in 1942 and putting down on a salt pan near present-day Truscott Airbase.

Day 13 King George River & Falls. Fed by the King George River draining across the Gardner Plateau, the 80 metre tall King George Falls are the most impressive Kimberley waterfalls and the highest twin falls in Western Australia. Before reaching the mist-like spray rising from the base of King George Falls, we will cruise through steep-sided gorges carved by a flooded river system that carved a swathe through the Kimberley landscape 400 million years ago.

**Day 14 Darwin to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 15 London. Arrive today.



#### **EXPLORING ASHORE**

This voyage is expeditionary in nature, exploring remote regions only accessible by sea. The Captain and Expedition Team will make changes to the daily schedule when necessary based on weather and tidal conditions to maximise your experience. We will be at anchor on most days and will utilise the Zodiacs or Xplorer tenders to go ashore. Most walks are leisurely strolls along beaches, however, there are some more strenuous walks on offer. An alternative excursion will always be offered in place of higher impact walks and the Expedition Team will advise walking conditions and requirements prior to each excursion. There are very limited swimming options in the Kimberley and the saltwater regions are the home of large saltwater crocodiles and some freshwater holes flood with saltwater on high tides. The expedition team will offer swimming options if and when conditions and tides allow. If you have any queries pertaining to the use of Zodiacs or the level of fitness required for this voyage please do not hesitate to contact one of our experienced Travel Consultants.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

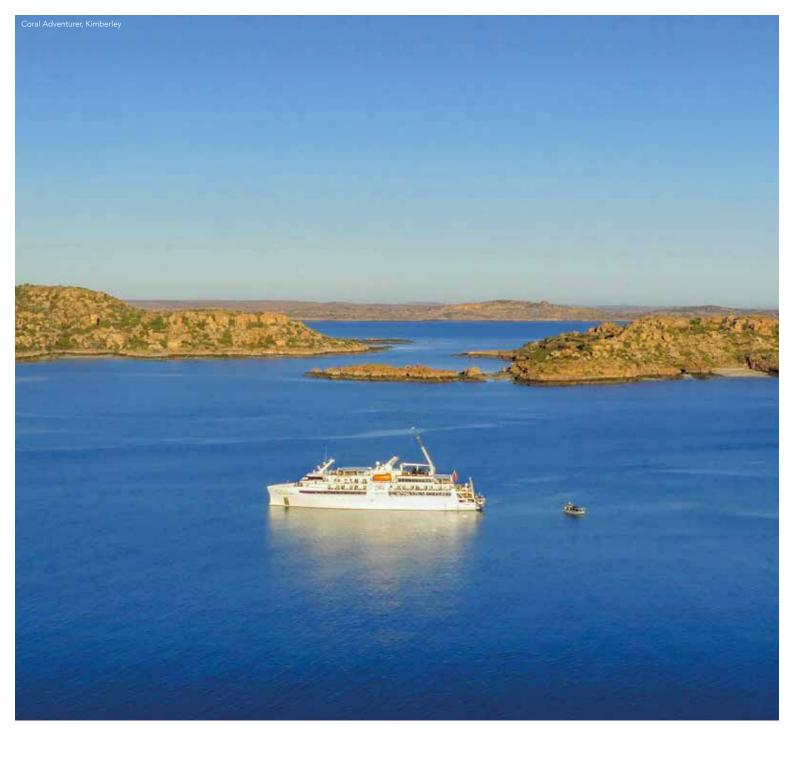
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY			
DECK	CABIN DESCRIPTION	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Promenade	Stateroom with picture window	£12995	£12495
Explorer	Stateroom with private balcony	£14395	£13895
Bridge	Stateroom with private balcony	£15395	£14895
Bridge	Suite with private balcony	£16795	£16295
Coral	Stateroom with porthole for sole use	£13995	£13495

SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE £500 PER PERSON

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Two nights hotel accommodation in Perth with breakfast • Dinner on Day 3 • 10 nights aboard the Coral Adventurer on a full board basis • House wines, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Onboard Expedition Team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Australia ETA, optional helicopter flight.

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