

Trip Dossier

11 Day Kimberley Coast Cruise

(King George Falls & Bigge Island, Camden Sound & Joseph Bonaparte Gulf)



Darwin - Broome 31 May - 10 June 2019

Darwin - Broome 21 June - 01 July 2019

Broome - Darwin 01 July - 11 July 2019

Itinerary Highlights:

- Photograph massive seabird rookeries on the Lacepede Islands
- Admire graceful Gwion Gwion figures and informative Wandjina paintings
- Delight in the wonders of the many layers of geology found throughout the Kimberley Coast
- Trek through untrodden bush and climb to hidden waterholes
- Spotlight for saltwater crocodiles and massive manta rays in Prince Regent Nature Reserve
- From boobies to frigates, flycatchers to fantails, delight in the variety and beauty of birds you'll see
- Zodiac cruise into the spray of King George Falls, Western Australia's highest waterfall
- Raise your adrenaline on a Zodiac cruise through the Horizontal Waterfall

Since 1998 Aurora Expeditions have delved deep into Australia's ancient Kimberley Coast, teasing out its hidden treasures and spectacular natural wonders.

Led by Kimberley experts, our Kimberley Coast adventure allows you to discover one of the wildest and most unique natural wonders on Earth.

At Prince Regent Nature Reserve

Mangrove stands, towering red cliffs and powerful tidal currents characterise Prince Regent Nature Reserve, where more than half the Kimberley's bird and mammal species thrive. Optional trek to the top of King Cascade at Prince Regent River.

On Bigge Island

Wandjina figures and 'first contact' paintings adorn rock shelter walls on this remote island. Discover fine examples of both Wandjina and Bradshaw art and hear from our Guest Lecturers about these traditional art forms and the myths from the Dreamtime that inspired them.

At King George Falls

A spectacular plummet, one of the twin falls is the Kimberley's highest single-drop waterfall at over 80 metres, marking the end of a 10 kilometre gorge carved by King George River on its way to Koolama Bay. Feel dwarfed by red rock cliffs rising more than 50 metres into the air.

On Montgomery Reef

As the world's largest inshore reef, Montgomery Reef transforms by some of the biggest tidal changes on earth. At high tide, the reef, including a large lagoon found at low tide, is submerged. At low tide the reef is exposed, as much as four metres above sea level, water from the lagoon still flows across the reef top and cascades into surrounding channels. We cruise through the deep channels of this marine wonderland.

On the Lacepede Islands

A series of low-lying islands consisting of sand and coral lying atop a platform reef, the Lacepede Islands are renowned as Western Australia's most significant breeding ground of the green turtle, often seen nesting on the islands. Explore the island's lagoon, keeping an eye out for many species of marine birdlife including Australian pelicans, frigate birds, egrets, gulls and terns.



Itinerary Overview

Day 1 Explore Broome before boarding Coral Expeditions I for a late afternoon departure.

DAY 2 Passing Dampier Peninsula in the morning, we aim for the seabird and turtle nesting grounds of Lacepede Islands.

DAYS 3–4 Buccaneer Archipelago's 800 iron-rich islands stretch across azure waters, delighting photographers. Crocodile Creek beckons us to cool off in refreshing waters, while the Horizontal Waterfalls lure the adventurous. Montgomery Reef channels reveal manta rays and sharks and tidal cascades.

DAYS 5–8 Look for humpbacks and their calves in Camden Sound Whale Sanctuary. Spot wildlife in Prince Regent Nature Reserve, where more than half the Kimberley's bird and mammal species thrive. On Bigge Island, immerse yourself in captivating Wandjina and Gwion Gwion figures interpreted by our rock art specialists.

DAYS 9–10 The area of Vansittart Bay offers wonderful opportunities to search for Gwion Gwion figures or WWII relics. Cruise along King George River to the thundering cascade of King George Falls, before our last leg across Joseph Bonaparte Gulf.

DAY 11 On arrival in Darwin, farewell shipboard friends and transfer to hotel or airport. rling industry and captivating history.

NOTE: The above itinerary may be varied according to conditions and advice.
Reverse itinerary for Darwin to Broome Cruises

Cruise Costs Per Person Twin Share

Cost:	\$8,690.00	Cabin
	\$9,990.00	Stateroom
	\$10,790.00	Upper Stateroom
	\$10,990.00	Deluxe Stateroom

Solo Passengers can have sole occupancy of a cabin by paying 70% supplement on top of twin share price

Tour Payments

Non-refundable deposit:	At time of booking	\$3,000.00
Non-refundable final Payment:	90 Days prior to departure	

Included

- Accommodation during the voyage
- All meals, snacks, tea and coffee during the voyage
- All shore excursions and Zodiac (inflatable boat) cruises
- Educational lectures and guiding services from our expert team
- Daily cabin service
- Comprehensive pre-departure information
- Professionally produced hard-back photo journal of your voyage
- Port taxes and charges
- All applicable landing fees and permits
- Transfer from hotel to the ship prior to the voyage
- Transfer from the ship to your hotel or airport after the voyage.

Not Included

- Flights to Darwin or from Broome, unless otherwise stated
- Meals and accommodation before and after the voyage in Darwin or Broome
- Optional Mitchell Falls helicopter flight
- Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges.
- All items of a personal nature including but not limited to: alcoholic beverages and soft drinks, laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, gratuities, and email or phone charges



Ship Information

Coral Expeditions 1

Coral Expeditions I is the perfect vessel to explore the remote waters of the Kimberley coast. At just 35 metres long, the 42-passenger custom-fit catamaran features all the creature comforts you require for cruising along the Kimberley coastline. We make landings using Zodiacs and the purpose-built landing craft, the Explorer, designed to navigate the Kimberley's shallow, narrow tidal waters.

Shore Excursions

During your adventure or expedition cruise, you will have the opportunity to participate in at least two included shore excursions or activities on most days, along with onboard briefings and presentations. The ship is equipped with a fleet of excursion tender vessels to simplify travelling ashore and enjoying water-based activities.

Purpose- Built Landing Craft

The Explorer boards directly from the ship's main deck, before the hydraulic platform gently lowers into the water, avoiding the need for you to clamber aboard or get your feet wet. On board, there are microphone and speakers for our guides to share expert commentary along the way.

Observation Areas

Coral Expeditions I operates an open bridge policy, allowing you to spend time with the Captain and crew as we cruise. The ship's forward lounge and the refurbished sun deck at the rear is the perfect place to relax and take in the panoramic views.

Onboard Accommodation

The 21 cabins are bathed in natural light, with a fresh and modern decor creating a breezy feel. Choose between double and twin-bedded rooms, each fully equipped with a spacious private en suite, air-conditioning and ample storage space.

Weather

The cruises have been timed to coincide with the dry season. Days are usually dry and hot with temperatures around the low to mid 30's (degrees Celsius).

Fitness Requirements

This voyage is suitable for people of most ages and physical abilities. We offer a variety of soft and harder walking options, some of which may be over uneven and/or slippery surfaces. You are free to choose which activities and outings you would like to participate in, and less nimble passengers are given the choice whether to land or not.

To fully enjoy your expedition, we recommend that you are able to walk up and down the ship's gangway (the equivalent to a steep set of stairs), and are able to get in and out of Zodiacs (inflatable rubber boats) with some assistance from the staff.

To make a booking or further information please contact

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