



Trip Dossier

13 Day Abrolhos Islands & the Coral Coast Cruise



Embark Fremantle: 10 March 2021

Disembark Broome: 22 March 2021

Itinerary Highlights:

- Discover the fascinating history and natural wonders of the Abrolhos Islands, as you swim with friendly sea lions and snorkel over the fringing reefs
- Explore World Heritage Shark Bay with visits to Francois Peron National Park & Dirk Hartog Island, to discover the history and abundant wildlife of this region
- Discover World-Heritage listed Ningaloo Reef with scuba diving and snorkelling at outer reefs and from the beach at Turquoise Bay
- Discover sites of cultural significance to Indigenous Australians, including the Dampier Archipelago petroglyphs, with expert interpretation
- Learn about the coast's fascinating maritime history – the wrecks of the Barque Stefano off Northwest Cape, the Trial near the Montebellos, and the Batavia at the Abrolhos
- Birdwatch at the Muiron Islands and Montebello Islands, known for their large populations of nesting seabirds
Fresh Seafood Bounty-Chef prepares the freshly caught local crayfish & reef fish.

This expedition explores Western Australia's wild and largely untouched coast, with its contrasting coastal palette of rich red sands and turquoise sea. With a fascinating maritime and Indigenous history – from the Malgana people of Shark Bay to the exploratory journeys of William Dampier, Dirk Hartog, Baudin and Freycinet – this region is layered with stories. The natural coastal reserves harbour an abundance of bird life and fascinating marine species. Our guides will help guests explore the renowned Houtman Abrolhos Islands, Shark Bay World Heritage Area, Ningaloo Reef, Cape Range National Park, Montebello Islands, Muiron Islands and Dampier Archipelago.



Itinerary

DEPART FREMANTLE

Board Coral Adventurer at 8.00am, where there is time to settle into your stateroom before our 9:00am departure. Take the time to become acquainted with all the facilities onboard as we cruise northwards towards the Abrolhos.

As dusk falls meet your fellow travellers, the Captain and crew for the Captain's Welcome Drinks.

THE ABROLHOS ISLANDS

The Abrolhos Islands consist of 122 islands, clustered into three main groups, the Wallabi, Easter and Pelsaert Groups. Lying in the steam of the southward flowing Leeuwin current, the marine environment here is a meeting place for tropical and temperate sea life. Common marine mammals include Australian sea lions and bottlenose dolphins, and over 90 species of seabird have been identified. The treacherous reefs around these islands have claimed many wrecks over the centuries, the most famous being the Batavia in 1629 – whose Dutch crew swam ashore only to experience a brutal mutiny.

The Abrolhos islands offer a near-pristine natural environment with a diverse range of marine and terrestrial fauna and flora. This area also offers a rich history including shipwrecks and remnants of early colonial industries such as guano mining and commercial fishing.

A broad range of available activities includes visiting historical sites, fishing, wildlife viewing and world-class diving and snorkelling sites. The Australian sea lions love to swim and play with snorkelers and divers here.

FRANCOIS PERON NP & DENHAM / MONKEY MIA (SHARK BAY WORLD HERITAGE AREA)

Spend two days exploring the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, the first location in Western Australia to receive UNESCO World Heritage status in 1991. This is a region of colourful landscapes, rare flora and fauna, and home to a staggering 35% of all of Australia's bird species. Explore Francois Peron National Park, named after the naturalist on explorer Nicholas Baudin's expeditions.

We visit Dampier's Landing, where William Dampier came ashore in August 1699, describing the vegetation and making the first scientific collection of Australian plants. He also named Shark Bay, and 300 years later, a plaque was erected at this site in his honour.

In the afternoon we will snorkel at Louisa Bay coral communities about 200m from shore.

Cabbage corals dominate this area, but there are also staghorns and massive pocillopora and pink pocillopora species. Spot reef fish including coral trout, blue-lined emperor, scribbled angelfish and the fully protected potato cod. Off Sandy Point beach there is a Marine sanctuary zone, which protects a diversity of staghorn, brain and plate corals.

EXMOUTH & CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK (NINGALOO REEF)

One of the longest and most pristine fringing reefs in the world, Ningaloo Reef has an unusually narrow continental shelf. The deep oceanic waters, reef and coastline communities are close in proximity, resulting in a huge array of significant and healthy marine life coexisting in one area. Over 200 coral; 500 fish; 650 molluscs; 600 crustaceans; 1000 marine algae; 155 sponge and 25 echinoderm species are found on this shelf, slope and in deep-sea habitats, many of which are new discoveries and endemic to the area. The Ningaloo Coast is also one of the most important turtle nesting rookeries in the Indian Ocean.

The Ningaloo Coast also has a significant maritime history from explorers, traders, pearl luggers, whaling and fishing.

Spend the day at Cape Range National Park with options to snorkel at Turquoise Bay, visit Yardie Creek via a 1.2km Nature Walk, head up to the Vlamingh Head lighthouse or visit the Milyering Discovery Centre. There will also be some free time to explore Exmouth.

MUIRON ISLANDS (NINGALOO REEF)

The Muiron Islands are located approximately 10 nautical miles off the North West Cape. The Islands are well known for their incredible reef, colourful soft corals, an abundance of turtles, schools of fish and even sightings of manta rays! A variety of dive sites are on offer at this destination, including swim-throughs and ledges where nudibranchs, eels and angelfish hide. With fantastic bommies and protected reef, snorkellers will appreciate the variety of soft corals and gorgonians as well the incredible fish life. Birdlife is abundant onshore – see if you can spot wedge-tail shearwaters, roseate terns, osprey, and black-shouldered kites (just to name a few).

The World Heritage listed Ningaloo Reef is the turquoise jewel in the crown of the Western Australian coastline. Spanning over 5,000 square kilometres, this is one of the largest fringing reefs in the world. It's inner and outer reefs create a diverse range of habitats for vibrant corals and more than 500 species of fish. This is also where mega marine life come to feed during their migrations, including humpback whales, giant manta rays, and the majestic whale shark. It is also a coastline with a fascinating heritage, where lonely whalers battled it out against the elements.

After in-water activities, stretch your legs on a stroll down the beach on these untouched islands.

MONTEBELLO ISLANDS

The Montebello Islands or 'Montes' are an archipelago of more than 250 limestone islands and islets off the coast of the Pilbara. Much delight for the birdwatchers among us, the islands are considered an Important Bird Area, as they support over 1% of the world populations of fairy and roseate terns, as well as Sooty Oystercatchers.

The Montes have an 'explosive' past. Alpha and Trimouille Islands were the site of three British atomic weapons tests in the 1950s. Relics of the military operation can still be found on the islands today. We will visit the plinth, which marks Ground Zero at Trimouille Island, where now you will find a haven for wildlife, including the rufous hare wallaby.

A fascinating maritime history surrounds the Montebello Island. Survivors of the Dutch vessel Trial swam here after their ship was wrecked in 1622, therefore being the first Europeans to land on the islands.

We will spend a full day exploring this island group, including wildlife spotting opportunities and beautiful beaches to enjoy a swim. See the rare rufous hare wallaby and lagoon rays while exploring amazing vistas.

DAMPIER ARCHIPELAGO

Consisting of 42 islands and islets, 25 of which are nature reserves, the iron red islands of the Dampier Archipelago stand in bright contrast to the turquoise waters which surround them.

The archipelago not only offers exceptional natural beauty but significant sites for Aboriginal and European Heritage, many of which are in National Heritage Listed Areas. Named for English Explorer William Dampier who first visited the islands aboard the *Cygnets* in 1699, the islands' earliest inhabitants were the Yaburara people, as is evident by thousands of rock engravings, shell middens and stone arrangements scattered across the area.

Search for ancient aboriginal petroglyphs on remote island beaches, swim in the vibrant blue water or paddle out for a leisurely kayak. We will also take some time to enjoy bird and wildlife spotting – bottlenose dolphins are regularly seen in this area, alongside the archipelago supporting the largest hawksbill turtle rookery in the Indo-Pacific region. Birdwatchers will have the opportunity to see several species of migratory waders as well as sea eagles and ospreys. With some luck we may even see the elusive Rothschild's rock wallaby.

ARRIVE BROOME

Arrive in Broome at 7:30am for an 8:00am disembarkation.



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Costs Per Person Twin Share

Cost:	\$15,490.00	Explorer Deck Balcony Stateroom
	\$12,390.00	Promenade Deck Stateroom

Tour Payments:

A deposit of 20% is required to secure your booking.
The balance of the fare is due 90 days prior to departure

All deposits and payments are non refundable

Included

- Expert Expedition Team and Guest Lecturers
- An authentic, flexible expedition itinerary
- Comprehensive and fully guided sightseeing in each destination
- Lectures, workshops and demonstrations onboard
- All meals, chef-prepared on board
- Showcase wines, selected beers and soft drinks with lunch and dinner service
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Events, and Open Bridge Access
- 24-hour coffee and teas
- Use of all onboard facilities, including a reference library

Not Included

- Pre and post flights, transfers and hotels
- Entry visas/travel permits
- Travel Insurance
- Items of a personal nature including but not limited to phone and internet communications and bar charges (outside of the included drinks package as highlighted), laundry charges and souvenir purchases



About the Coral Adventurer

Launched in April 2019, Coral Adventurer is a 120 passenger ship (**are only taking 100 passengers on this cruise**) built to take you closer to unspoiled vistas in comfort, style and safety. When we set out to build Coral Adventurer, we wanted a ship that would last us decades. Our search for build quality and technology took us to the shipbuilders of Norway who have a long history of building durable ships for the harsh environments of the North Sea. We then looked deep inside to capture the requirements of our guests, our crew and the areas we sail to. The result is a happy marriage of modern shipbuilding technology and cruising Australian style.

Features

- Two trademark Xplorer tenders seat all passengers for shore excursions
- Six zodiacs for more intrepid exploration
- Lecture lounge with multimedia for daily expedition briefings and presentations
- Small on-board Library
- Shallow draft and advanced navigation and propulsion systems

Marine Immersion

- Navigator lounge in the bridge giving a vantage point of ship operations
- Over 1000 sq m of open deck space with a wrap-around promenade deck with panoramic views
- Engine room tours and high level of crew interaction with guests
- Barralong Room for hosting scientific research or exhibitions

Food and Wine Features

- Communal 'wine table'
- Galley viewing window
- Multiple indoor and outdoor bars, including our Explorer bar on the Vista Deck
- Curated wine cellar featuring boutique wines and exceptional vintage Australian reds.

Guest Comfort

- All outside-facing guest cabins with en-suite bathrooms; majority have private balcony
- Active stabilisers
- Internationally compatible power outlets
- Gym
- Passenger elevator
- Wi-Fi available in all guest areas



Cabins



Promenade Deck Stateroom

- 17sqm • Picture Windows

Promenade Deck Staterooms are located below the Explorer Deck and are furnished with a junior King size bed which can be separated into two singles.

A large picture window gives you wide views of the world outside.



Explorer Deck Balcony Stateroom

- 21.4sqm • Private Balcony

Our Explorer Deck staterooms are comfortably furnished with a junior King size bed which can be separated into two singles. Your private balcony has seating for two



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Coral Expeditions Terms & Conditions

RESERVATIONS:

To make a reservation you have to pay a deposit of 20% of the fare. The balance of the fare is due ninety (90) days prior to departure. All prices are quoted in Australian dollars.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY:

Notification of cancellation must be received in writing. At the time we receive your cancellation the following penalties will apply:

Up to 90 days prior to departure – forfeit your deposit of 20% of the fare.

60 to 89 days prior to departure – forfeit 50% of the fare.

No-show to 59 days prior to departure – forfeit 100% of the fare.

Transfer Fees

Date change fee made more than 90 days before departure – \$500pp fee.

Date change within 90 days of departure is considered a cancellation and standard Cancellation Policy applies.

A name change/transfer of the booking to another person is considered a cancellation and Cancellation Penalties (as above) will apply.

A \$200 per person fee is applicable for any amendments not requiring a date change after booking is confirmed.

TRIP CANCELLATION AND INTERRUPTION INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend that all passengers purchase cruise cancellation and interruption insurance as protection against any circumstance which may force you to cancel or leave an expedition whilst it is in progress.

SHARE POLICY:

Accommodation on the Ship is based on twin share occupancy. If you are travelling alone and wish to share accommodation, a room mate will be assigned to your cabin whenever possible. When pairing room mates we always pair participants of the same sex. In the event of a share partner not being found, standard twin share stateroom rate will be applied.

CONTRACT:

Upon payment of the fare for the Cruise and the confirmation of the booking by us or our authorised travel agent a Contract is concluded between us (the carrier) and you (the passenger) concerning the Cruise in terms of these Cruise Ticket Conditions. Any payment of the cruise fare implies acceptance of all Terms and Conditions.

INTERPRETATION:

In these Cruise Ticket Conditions:

“brochure” means this brochure and any other promotional material published by the Carrier with reference to the Cruise.

“carrier” means and includes Coral Expeditions, the Ship, the Ship’s owners, operators, managers, charterers, agents, sub-contractors and employees.

“Coral Expeditions” means Coral Princess Cruises (NQ) Pty Ltd (A.B.N 51 010 809 417) of Hartley Street, Cairns, Queensland, Australia.

“Cruise” means the passage agreed to be undertaken by the carrier in the Contract.

“passenger” means each person purchasing or accepting the Contract entitled to board the Ship for the Cruise.

“Queensland” means the State of Queensland in the Commonwealth of Australia.

“the Ship” means the Cruise Ship used by the carrier to conduct the Cruise.

“Unexpected Event” means any act, circumstance or event beyond the control of the carrier caused or arising from but not limited to acts of God, public enemies, government restraint, riots, strikes, lockouts, labour troubles, epidemic, civil disturbances, perils of the sea, harbours, rivers or other navigable waters, fuel shortages or abrupt and unexpected increases in fuel costs, collisions, stranding, fire, lightning, storm, rough and adverse sea conditions, tidal waves, cyclones, theft, barratry or any other crime by any person, faults or errors of navigation or management of the Ship or any other vessel, explosions, breakage of shafts or any defect or unseaworthiness in hull, machinery or appurtenances, equipment, furnishings or supplies of the Ship or launches or vehicles or any defect of the carrier’s premises, fault or neglect of pilots, tugs, crew, agents or independent contractors, port closures, delays in allocation and permits to berth the Ship at ports on arrival and seizure of the Vessel under legal process.

BROCHURE:

Where this brochure contains particulars of our conditions or policy about reservation procedures, bookings, cancellations, refunds of fares and itineraries for the Cruise then it forms part of these Cruise Ticket Conditions and if there is any inconsistency these Cruise Ticket Conditions shall prevail.

NON-TRANSFERABLE:

Passengers do not have the right to transfer their rights and obligations under these Cruise Ticket Conditions. The fare paid shall not be refundable except as permitted in these Cruise Ticket Conditions and the carrier will not be liable to make any refund to the passenger if the passenger fails to embark on the Ship for the Cruise.

CRUISE CHANGES, DELAYS OR CANCELLATIONS:

The carrier will endeavour to follow the Cruise itinerary as described in the brochure and the passenger accepts that the carrier has the right to change the itinerary, the Ship or cancel the Cruise as a result of some Unexpected Event or prevailing inclement weather conditions and the passenger accepts that the passenger will not be entitled to any compensation or a refund of the fare paid should this occur. If the carrier cancels the Cruise for any other reason the carrier will refund the fare paid and if the departure of a Cruise is delayed or if the Cruise itinerary is shortened for any other reason the carrier will refund part of the fare paid on a pro rata basis to allow for the time lost. So far as these Cruise Ticket Conditions constitute a contract for the supply of services then and in no event shall the liability of the carrier to the passenger for a breach of an express or implied condition or warranty in that respect exceed, at the election of the carrier:

an obligation on the part of the carrier to supply the services again, or;

the refund or payment to the passenger of an amount equal to the fare paid by the passenger for the Cruise.

PASSENGER HEALTH AND RESPONSIBILITY:

The passenger admits a full understanding of the nature and character of the Ship and the scope of the activities contemplated by the passenger during the Cruise (including those relating to off Ship activities such as excursions in the Ship’s tenders, snorkelling and diving) and assures and undertakes to the carrier:-

that they are in good health and well able to undertake the Cruise and the contemplated activities;

that they will effect travel insurance sufficient to cover any limitation of liability against them imposed by these Cruise Ticket Conditions should they wish to do so;

that they accept the risk that they may suffer from sea sickness;

that they have disclosed any physical or mental disability requiring special attention (including the use of a wheelchair) or treatment at the time when the reservation for the Cruise was made;

that no passenger will be permitted to embark or continue on a voyage while their mental or physical condition is, in the opinion of any representative of the carrier, such as to render them incapable of caring for themselves, or whereby they become objectionable to other passengers, or they become a hazard to themselves or others. The carrier will not be responsible for any expenses resulting in such persons being precluded from completing the cruise; that the passenger accepts that a medical certificate certifying fitness for travel may be required at the carrier’s request and if any passenger has had surgery less than twelve (12) months prior to sailing that passenger must submit a letter from a qualified physician stating that he or she is fit to travel

and the carrier reserves the right to deny passage if a passenger requires care and attention which the carrier cannot adequately provide and this decision may be made by the carrier in its sole discretion;

The carrier reserves the right to refuse or deny participation in activities or programmes either aboard the Ship or off Ship which are sponsored or promoted by the carrier to any passenger who has a past or present medical condition that may present risks if the passenger participates in those activities and any decision in this respect may be made by the carrier in its sole discretion;

Any charges incurred by passengers for medical reasons including but not limited to physicians, surgeons, hospitals, off Ship accommodation, medication, diagnostic facilities, air ambulance evacuation or ground ambulance shall be the sole responsibility of the passenger;

for the safety and comfort of passengers smoking is not permitted in the Ship except on designated open deck spaces outside all air-conditioned and sealed areas of the Ship;

and the passenger agrees to indemnify the carrier from and against all claims, costs, charges, fines or penalties arising as a result of any claim made against the carrier in this respect.

LIMITATION OF CARRIER'S LIABILITY:

The liability of the carrier to the passenger is limited with respect to both personal injury and damage to loss of property to the full extent permitted by law and in terms of these Cruise Ticket Conditions. The carrier accepts no responsibility or liability to the passenger for loss, death, or delay of, or injury to any passenger or loss, damage or delay to a passenger's baggage, personal effects or other property arising from or caused by an Unexpected Event. These Cruise Ticket Conditions remain in effect for all periods when the carrier is under any responsibility to the passenger or the passenger's property. No variation or waiver of any term or condition of these Cruise Ticket Conditions will have any effect unless they are in writing and signed by the carrier. No undertaking, guarantee or warranty is given or shall be implied as to the seaworthiness, fitness or condition of the Ship. In addition to any other limitation of liability contained in these Cruise Ticket Conditions the carrier shall have the benefit of any statutory limitation of liability available in Queensland including but not limited to the Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989 (Cwth). Where tours and services of operators other than the carrier are engaged e.g. tour operators and hoteliers, which are not under the control of the carrier, whilst the carrier takes all reasonable care in selecting these operators it cannot accept responsibility for those operators' conduct or the conduct of their representative employees or agents or for any ramifications of that conduct.

PASSENGER BAGGAGE:

All baggage brought on board the Ship by a passenger remains in the possession and control of the passenger during the Cruise and must be stored and kept in the cabin allocated to the passenger. The carrier has made recommendations with respect to baggage in the brochure. Baggage should be prominently marked with the name and address of the passenger. The passenger must not bring on board the Ship in baggage or otherwise any dangerous or inflammable substance including any prohibited drug or non-prescribed drug. Liquor laws prohibit passengers from bringing supplies of alcohol or liquor on board the Ship. Baggage remaining unclaimed on arrival of the Ship will be stored at the passenger's sole risk and expense. The carrier is not responsible for money, jewellery, documents and any other valuables which passengers keep on their person, in their cabins or in their baggage and the carrier strongly recommends that passengers obtain adequate insurance to cover any loss or damage in this respect. In no event will the carrier's responsibility or liability to the passenger for loss of baggage or personal effects exceed \$100 and the passenger agrees to indemnify and keep indemnified the carrier from and against any claims made against the carrier in excess of this amount in this respect.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The carrier will not be liable to passengers for any injuries or damage which occur while the passenger is participating in recreational activities aboard the Vessel or otherwise including but not limited to passenger participating in snorkelling or scuba diving programmes. By utilising these facilities passengers agree to assume all risks associated with those activities and fully release and discharge the carrier from any and all claims, demands, damages, causes of action, present or future, resulting from or arising out of the passenger's use of or participation in those facilities.

The passenger may be required to sign a release or waiver prior to undertaking these activities and the carrier will be entitled to refuse to allow the passenger to participate in those activities if the waiver or release is not signed by the passenger prior to participation in those activities.

APPLICABLE LAW:

Should any provision of these Cruise Ticket Conditions be contrary to or invalid by virtue of the laws of Queensland or the Commonwealth of Australia or for any other reason the relevant provision will be deemed to be severed from these Cruise Ticket Conditions and shall be of no effect but all remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect. These Cruise Ticket Conditions shall be governed in all respects by the laws of Queensland and the passenger agrees that any claims or disputes between the passenger and the carrier in connection with these Cruise Ticket Conditions shall be commenced, filed and litigated before a Court of proper jurisdiction in Queensland and if possible in the State of Queensland.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

For most activities a relatively low level of exertion is required. You will need to climb into and out of zodiacs and other excursion tenders for excursions ashore: there will be staff and crew members on hand to assist. Ashore, you must be able to walk moderate distances over sometimes rough terrain. Although our new ship Coral Adventurer features a lift, it is still essential that all guests have reasonable agility to use the steep stairways between decks. Participants will most enjoy the remarkable opportunities these expeditions offer if they travel with a spirit of adventure.

To make a booking or further information please contact

Tom or Sylvia Grove at Coates Wildlife Tours

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