



5continents

THE WORLD. YOUR TRIP. YOUR WAY.

12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS

KIMBERLEY XPLOER CRUISE - DARWIN TO BROOME

\$14,189 < From
Per person/Double occupancy
Cruise & Land package
Departure: April 12, May 3, June 7 + 26,
August 17

A Kimberley Cruise is a cruise like no other. The fleet of 3 specialized expedition ships and tenders take guests to some of the most beautiful, yet undiscovered islands and coastal regions of the world.

One of these places is the Kimberley region in the far north of Australia.

The smaller ships mean fewer guests and more intimate, personal encounters along the way. These purpose-built vessels can access areas that larger ships cannot reach, and the Xplorer tenders on board each ship, known as the 'safari jeeps of the sea,' enable guests to safely and easily explore remote rivers, reef systems, and isolated beaches.

DAY 1: DARWIN ARRIVAL

After clearing customs and collecting your luggage, the transfer driver will be waiting in the arrivals area to transfer you to the hotel with the rest of the day at leisure.

Night in Darwin: Guest Room at the Double Tree Inn by Hilton

DAY 2: DARWIN DEPARTURE

This morning you will be transferred to the Darwin Fort Hill Wharf for boarding at 8:00am, with time to settle into your stateroom before the 9:00am departure. There will be a light breakfast available upon boarding before you cruise across Joseph Bonaparte Gulf and sail into Western Australian waters.

Take the time to become acquainted with the facilities onboard before joining the expedition team in the Bridge Deck Lounge for an introduction to the Kimberley. As dusk falls, mingle with fellow travellers, the captain and crew at Captain's Welcome Drinks. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected





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DAY 3: KING GEORGE RIVER AND FALLS

Fed by the King George River as it drains across the Gardner Plateau, the 80-meter-tall King George Falls are the most impressive waterfalls in the Kimberley and the highest twin falls in Western Australia. Before reaching the mist-like spray rising from the base of King George Falls, you'll cruise through steep-sided gorges carved by a river system that shaped the Kimberley landscape 400 million years ago. Early in the waterfall season, you may be able to cruise around the base of the impressive King George Falls, while in later months, you'll have the opportunity to view the honeycomb erosion patterns of the sandstone cliffs up close. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected

DAY 4: KING GEORGE RIVER – 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 Sky trooper 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. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected

DAY 5: VANSITTART – MITCHELL FALLS, WINYALKAN AND SWIFT 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. Take a scenic helicopter flight (additional cost) to multi-tiered Mitchell Falls where emerald-hued 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 savor 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. Another option while anchored at Winyalkan Bay is a visit to a series Wandjina and Gwion Gwion rock art galleries at Swift Bay.

In the evening enjoy watching the sunset over the Indian Ocean while indulging in a gourmet BBQ. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected





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DAY 6: MITCHELL FALLS – PRINCE FREDERICK HARBOUR AND 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. Board a Xplorer tender vessel on a 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. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected

DAY 7: PRINCE FREDERIK HARBOUR – PRINCE REGENT RIVER

King Cascade is a beautiful, terraced waterfall and is one of the most photographed waterfalls in the Kimberley. Falling from a considerable height and around 50m across, 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.



Travel to King Cascade after cruising in the Xplorer tender vessels down the steep-sided Prince Regent River which is a remarkable anomaly as the river runs dead straight along a fault line.

Lt. 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. 200 years later, the Mermaid Boab Tree has since split into two trunks and sports a mammoth girth of 12m. 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. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected

DAY 8: PRINCE REGENT RIVER – MONTGOMERY REEF

Montgomery Reef is a biologically diverse area covering over 300 sq km and was named by Phillip Parker King. Twice daily, as the sea recedes in mammoth 11m 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, you get up close in the Xplorer and Zodiac inflatable tenders to witness the spectacle as 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. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected



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DAY 9: MONTGOMERY REEF – DOUBTFUL BAY

Red Cone Creek flows gently downstream until it meets the small but impressive Ruby Falls. Named by local mariner Capt. 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. The falls may be a gurgling torrent or a gentle trickle, depending on the time of the year. Other sites you can visit in Doubtful Bay include the mighty Steep Island and Ruby Falls at Red Cone Creek. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected

DAY 10: DOUBTFUL BAY – HORIZONTAL FALLS

The Horizontal Falls are one of the Kimberley's biggest attractions and are a result of the mammoth 11m tides the Kimberley is renowned for. Naturalist David 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. Riding the rapids on Zodiac inflatable tenders is one of the highlights of the Kimberley expedition cruises.

Talbot Bay is at the heart of the Buccaneer Archipelago, where rocks on the 800 or so islands are estimated at over 2 billion years old. At Cyclone Creek, you will see evidence of massive geological forces in the impressive rock formations and cruise through the Iron Islands, past Koolan Island, before enjoying sunset drinks at Nares Point. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected

DAY 11: HORIZONTAL FALLS – 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, frigate birds, 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, you will explore the lagoons by Xplorer and Zodiac tender vessels.

As your incredible Kimberley adventures draw to a close, you'll enjoy the Captain's farewell drinks on the last evening aboard, surrounded by new-found friends. (B,L,D)

Night on cruise: Stateroom as selected

DAY 12: LACEPEDE ISLANDS – BROOME

The ship arrives at 8am in Broome and once you have disembarked, you will be transferred to the airport for departure.





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THE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Private transfer from the Darwin Airport to the hotel
- 1 night in a Guest Room at the Double Tree Inn by Hilton Darwin
- Private transfer from the hotel to the Darwin wharf
- 10 nights cruise in double occupancy
- Use of Xplorer and/or Zodiacs
- All excursions with the Expedition Team
- Daily lectures and briefings with Guest Lecturers
- All meals, chef-prepared on board
- Captain's welcome and farewell events, and open bridge access
- Selected wines, selected beers and house spirits, juices, and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner
- 24-hour barista-style coffee and tea station
- All entrance fees to National Parks, ports, traditional owner fees and charges imposed by governing authorities
- Gratuities on board
- Use of all onboard facilities, incl. a reference library
- Expedition diary, along with a photo and video gallery documenting the highlights of your voyage
- Wifi Access – Standard speed connectivity enabling email, social image sharing, web browsing and messaging
- Transfers from the Broome Pier to the airport for departure

THE PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Any flights
- Meals & beverages not mentioned
- Visa for Australina – or ETA

CRUISE & LAND PACKAGE, 12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS, PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

Departure dates 2025	Per person / Double occupancy
April 12, May 3, June 7 + 26 and August 17 Coral Discoverer - Maximum 72 Guests	Main Deck Cabin B - \$14,189
April 15 + 25, May 6 + 27, June 17, July 8 + 29 and August 19 Coral Adventurer – Maximum 120 Guests	Coral Deck Stateroom - \$15,289
May 19, June 9 + 30 and July 21 Coral Geographer – Maximum 120 Guests:	Coral Deck Stateroom - \$15,289

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