

MEDIA RELEASE



Coral Expeditions officially launches new flagship *Coral Adventurer*

Successful float out event with ship's build on schedule for inaugural departure

Coral Expeditions officially launched their new vessel, *Coral Adventurer*, into the ocean on 8th December 2018.

The float out ceremony, which involved two days of relocating the vessel from yard onto the floating dock, was a key milestone for Australia's pioneering cruise line, Coral Expeditions.

"Excitement was at a real high with *Coral Adventurer* now officially in the water and her delivery drawing nearer," says Mark Fifield, Group General Manager Coral Expeditions.

"To date, the construction project has involved expertise from across the world with over 800 workers involved. We were delighted to be joined by over 200 shipyard staff who celebrated this special moment with us, for whom *Coral Adventurer* build has been a labour of love over the past 11 months."

Also at hand were specialists and designers involved in the installation of all interior furnishings including the wood paneling, feature stonework, stateroom fit out and the ship's public areas.

With her build firmly on track and on time, Coral Expeditions expect no delays preparing their fourth vessel for her sold-out maiden voyage in April 2019.

Sea trials will commence in February, handover in late March, followed by shakedown cruises in April. Her official launch will be celebrated in Singapore on April 23rd 2019 before she enters service on her first 18-night departure 'In the trail of Tasman'.

The vessel will then arrive for the first time in Australian waters for an official welcome in Darwin on May 13th.

The 120-passenger *Coral Adventurer* has been specially designed by Coral Expeditions, marrying the company's 34 years of experience building and operating expedition ships with latest advances in marine and environmental technology. The ship's lightweight dual Xplorer expedition tenders, a trademark feature of all Coral Expeditions vessels, will extend the capabilities of the ship by allowing fast transit for all passengers with open views on shore excursions and deeper exploration into rivers and beaches. A new multi-purpose space, the *Barralong Room*, will host interpretive activities and projects that connect guests in an engaging format throughout their voyage experience.

Fifield continues: "*Coral Adventurer* has received a positive response from the market with extremely strong forward bookings and charter interest," said Fifield. "We have had an

overwhelming response to the recently launched 60 day 35th Anniversary Circumnavigation of Australia, which is nearing capacity after only two weeks in the market and this instils great confidence amongst our team and stakeholders to action further fleet development into the future.”

##

Editor’s note:

Caption for group photo –

Senior Management and project team from Coral Expeditions attend floating ceremony for *Coral Adventurer*.

(L to R: Paul Chacko – Executive Director, Tamara Sweeting - Hospitality Manager, Alistair Burgoyne – Director, Perry Wilkes – Finance Director, Frank Krone – Newbuild Project Manager, Gary Wilson – Senior Master, Michael Marson – Marine Superintendent, Jeff Gillies – Commercial Director, Mark Fifield – Group General Manager, Doug Parker – Fleet Engineer and Gary Wyn-Hum – Purchasing Manager)

For more media enquiries and interviews, contact:

Chloe Chun | PEPR Agency

chloe@pepr.com.au or (02) 9380 8080

About Coral Expeditions

Recognised as Australia’s longest established and most awarded expedition cruise operator, Coral Expeditions offers a unique style of immersive expedition cruising in small ships purpose-built to take guests closer to nature and cultures. Starting with environmentally-sensitive cruises on the Great Barrier Reef, 34years later the fleet has grown to four ships that include two ocean-going classic catamarans, *Coral Expeditions I* and *Coral Expeditions II*, the state-of-the-art flagship *Coral Discoverer* and the brand-new *Coral Adventurer*, scheduled to set sail in April 2019. Headquartered in Cairns, Coral Expeditions offers expedition cruises to the World Heritage- listed Great Barrier Reef, the Kimberley region, Tasmania, Cape York and Arnhem Land, Papua New Guinea, Spice Islands & Raja Ampat and the Islands of the South Pacific.

www.coralexpeditions.com