



## Coral Expeditions grows Sales team

Coral Expeditions continues with preparations for fleet growth and enters a season of expansion by introducing three new sales roles to their commercial team.

Lead by Commercial Director Jeff Gillies, the expanding team pre-empted the arrival of the *Coral Adventurer*, the company's fourth vessel and buoyant forward bookings.

"The *Coral Adventurer's* arrival next year means we've been able to increase the number of departures during the Kimberley season and include five new sailings throughout New Guinea in 2019," says Gillies.

"Our sold-out maiden voyage onboard *Coral Adventurer* and strong bookings for 2019 Kimberley season is very encouraging and we are now looking toward a strong 2020 season with increased focus on broadening our brand reach and distribution partnerships."

With a diverse career spanning 25 years in travel, **Liz Sawers** has been appointed as the **National Sales Manager** for Australia and New Zealand. Liz joins Coral Expeditions after 7 successful years with Viking Cruises as the Director Sales, Australia and New Zealand. Based in Cairns, Liz will utilise her extensive trade network to lead the national sales and reservations team and further build on Coral Expeditions' strong and enduring partnerships with key industry stakeholders.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to join this well-respected brand," says Sawers. "I was drawn to Coral Expedition's focus on nature-based cruising, its highly personalized service, and its mission that guests not only enjoy themselves, but also learn about the amazing places and people they encounter."

Coral Expeditions also welcomes **Cathy Alexander** as their new **Sales Executive QLD, NT and WA**. With a background in senior sales roles in the MICE and events market and tourism sector, Cathy has extensive experience in creating bespoke incentive travel programs and specialist events.

"As a North Queensland local, I love Australian travel experiences," says Alexander. "I'm especially excited to be a part of a successful home-grown company and look forward to spreading the word about the unique stories of Coral Expeditions."

After leading the Sales and Distribution team for Coral Expeditions over the past two years, **Elizabeth Webb** will move into the new role of **International Sales Manager**. Her wealth of experience and strong global network will be utilised to grow specific key international markets including the UK, Germany, North America and the Scandinavian regions. Based in Cairns, Elizabeth will build on-ground presence, distribution partnerships and consumer awareness for Coral Expeditions in these markets.

"Over the past couple of years, I've been privileged to experience many destinations that Coral Expeditions travel to. Places like the Tasmanian wilderness, the Kimberley and Papua New Guinea

are truly world class nature destinations and I look forward to building the awareness of these voyages to key long haul travel markets,” says Webb.

Coral Expeditions continues to expand the organisation in anticipation of future fleet growth, with hiring underway for a range of commercial, marketing and seafaring roles. The Coral Adventurer remains well on track for her maiden voyage on April 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 and will be floated out at the shipyard on 7<sup>th</sup> December and formally named at a ceremony in Singapore on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.

**For more information, please contact:**

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**About Coral Expeditions**

With a 34-year history of innovation, Coral Expeditions is recognised as Australia’s longest established and most awarded expedition cruise operator. Starting with environmentally-sensitive cruises on the Great Barrier Reef, the fleet has grown to four ships that include two 35-metre oceangoing 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. All four ships are purpose-built for expedition cruising, with shallow draught, high maneuverability, and dynamic shore tender capabilities. 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.