



Coral Expeditions to celebrate 35th anniversary with historic 2020 Australian Circumnavigation

New flagship Coral Adventurer to visit 35 significant sites on epic expedition

To mark Coral Expeditions' 35th anniversary as the pioneer of small ship expedition cruising in Australia, the Cairns-based company has announced a one-time only circumnavigation of the Australian coastline onboard its new flagship, the *Coral Adventurer*.

Only 60 cabins, are available on this once in a lifetime voyage.

The 60-day voyage roundtrip from Darwin will depart 7th November 2020, visiting 35 places of maritime, cultural and natural significance that have shaped Australia. Many of these locations are hard to reach by land. The journey will also feature overnight stopovers and events in coastal centres including Fremantle, Adelaide, Hobart, Sydney and Cairns.

A further highlight are several special experiences included in the cruise fare:

- On Christmas day, guests will disembark in Cairns and be whisked by private jet to a special "Australian Christmas dinner under the stars" at Uluru, jetting back to the ship that same evening.
- At historic Cape Leeuwin, guests will disembark to enjoy a private winemakers' dinner at Leeuwin Estate vineyards.
- And in Sydney, an afternoon on glistening Sydney harbour will be made even more special by a special private charter of the historic barque, the *James Craig*.

"We are excited to imagine and to deliver this first-of-a-kind expedition voyage around Australia to celebrate our 35 years" says Mark Fifield, Group General Manager at Coral Expeditions. "It is a significant milestone, an ambitious adventure and is in keeping with our spirit as pioneers of the expedition experience"

"The year 2020 will not only be a milestone for Coral Expeditions, but it also aligns with other significant events including the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook's exploration and discovery of Australia, the 200th anniversary of Sir Philip Parker King's landing at Careening Bay on his great northern explorations and it coincides with the 75th year commemoration of the end of the Second World War."

Master of the Coral Expeditions fleet, Captain Gary Wilson, has led the development of a detailed passage plan offering an exciting and diverse array of shore excursions along the way including highlights such as;

- Visiting the pre historic Stromatolites on the Western Australian coast

- Immersive explorations of Indigenous history at the Wessels Islands and through Arnhem Land
- Retracing the first contact between Europeans and Aborigines at the Pennefather River, aboard the Duyfken in 1606
- Excursions to key sites of the famous voyages of Cpt James Cook in 1770 and Phillip Parker King in 1820
- A service commemorating the loss of HMAS Sydney in WW2 at the resting place of her remains
- A crossing of the Great Australian Bight and excursions through the rarely seen Archipelago of the Recherche.

Australian Geographic, who are expedition partners with Coral Expeditions and share a heritage and love of exploration and conservation around Australia, will play an important role in enhancing the curation of onboard educational content and shore excursion development for the voyage and in the attraction of keynote guest lecturers and experts to join the journey.

The 120-passenger *Coral Adventurer* has been specially designed by Coral Expeditions to suit this style of extended expedition cruising. 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 the visiting regions. 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.

The voyage will be marketed to a loyal following of domestic Australian passengers and through key partners in key global markets such as the UK/Europe and Nth America regions.

Prices start from \$38,860.00 per person (twin share) and limited sole use staterooms available on the voyage.

The voyage will be on sale to the general public from November 6th, 2018. For bookings and further information, please visit www.coralexpeditions.com or phone 1800 079 545.

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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 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 three ships are purpose-built in Australia 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.

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