NEW 2021 EXPEDITIONS

GREAT BARRIER REEF

Citizen Science on the Great Barrier Reef | 30 Jun

Coastal Cultures of the Torres Strait and Cape York | 3 & 13 Nov

Coral Discoverer

Outerknown Adventures on the Great Barrier Reef | 27 Mar, 10 Jul & 24 Nov

Coral Expeditions

Australia’s pioneering cruise line
THE GREAT BARRIER REEF
FOR TRUE EXPLORERS

Covering an area of over 2300 km and encompassing over 900 islands, the Great Barrier Reef is the world’s largest living structure and home to an abundant and thriving array of marine and birdlife species. It holds pride of place as one of the seven natural wonders of the world and is a UNESCO World Heritage area.

Coral Expeditions pioneered expedition cruises on the outer reaches of the Great Barrier Reef 35 years ago, and since then have forged a reputation for excellence and expertise. In 2020, a new era of Great Barrier Reef exploration will begin as the yacht-like Coral Discoverer commences immersive 7-day adventures to the remote and untouched Northern reef.

These expedition voyages, from October to December, will explore the hidden corners, uninhabited sand cays, small islands and pristine reef systems. Along the way find freedom and solitude amidst this iconic seascape.

**INCLUSIONS**

- All excursions and sightseeing
- Use of Xplorer, Zodiacs and kayaks
- Daily lectures and briefings
- All meals, chef-prepared on board
- Selected wines, selected beers, selected spirits, juices, and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner
- Coffee and selection of teas
- All entrance fees to National Parks and Ports
- Tips and gratuities

**WINE SELECTIONS**

We offer two wine selections, which guests may purchase in addition to our house selection, that feature hand-selected Australian and New Zealand wines, and French champagne.

- A Taste of Australia Selection: with seven bottles featuring one Australian Sparkling, two Whites, three Reds and a Rosé at $285
- Connoisseur Selection: with six bottles featuring one French Champagne, two Whites and three Reds at $355

See our website for more detail.

**Expedition Note**

These are expedition itineraries covering remote regions. Your Captain and Expedition Team will make changes to the daily schedule when necessary to maximise your experience. These itineraries are indicative - some variation may occur due to weather conditions, safety or local community requirements.

We recommend that you do not arrive to the embarkation port on the day of boarding or depart on the day of disembarkation due to unexpected changes that may occur in scheduling.

**Snorkelling & Scuba**

The opportunity to snorkel and scuba dive over spectacular coral gardens and come face to face with brightly coloured tropical fish is a highlight of our Great Barrier Reef cruises.

Beginners can join guided snorkelling tours or introductory and resort-style dives, while more experienced divers are able to participate in more challenging dives (scuba diving at additional cost). Our qualified Dive Instructor accompanies you every step of the way. Snorkelling equipment will be assigned to each guest at the commencement of the cruise, and the onboard introductory scuba skills session is complimentary.

Scuba diving is subject to medical clearance and medical certificate. See our website for requirements.
Australian Hospitality at Sea

On board, you will discover a personalised style of cruising. With only 72 to 120 guests, there is no need for queues, waiting, or assigned seating. Instead, an intimate, convivial atmosphere shared with other like-minded travellers makes you feel at home.

Our Australian and New Zealand crew share their passion for our destinations and the explorer’s life. Join our engine room tours, watch our chefs at work in the open galley, and chat with our Captain or officers on the bridge – they will be delighted to have your company.

Our chefs, inspired by destination flavours, prepare cuisine from fresh regional produce. Our wine cellars hold a curated selection of Australian wines and unique beers. Our guests love to mingle over drinks as the sun sets, enjoy daily educational presentations by our lecturers, participate in stargazing sessions after dark, or simply find a quiet corner on deck and enjoy the solitude.

The Expedition Experience

We explore remote locations that are hard to reach or not often touched by tourists, with shore excursions that promote environmental and cultural appreciation. Our small group sizes ensure that your experience is personal, with minimal impact on the communities and environments we visit.

Enjoy excursions or activities each day, guided by expert Expedition Leaders and lecturers who provide commentary on culture, history, and the region’s unique geology, plants and wildlife to help you connect with these special places.

Our ships are built for environmentally responsible small-ship cruising, with refined navigation and nimble Xplorer tenders to bring you close to remote coastlines.

**SailSAFE**

Our **SailSAFE Plan** - Keeping you safe when you cruise with us

It is our priority to keep our guests and crew safe while travelling with us, and our SailSAFE Plan ensures we operate responsibly in the new environment that COVID-19 has created.

Remote, nature-based expeditions with Australian crew, and small groups less than one hundred guests provides a lower-risk environment. The addition of our approved SailSAFE COVID response plan, as well as our thorough pre-cruise testing model, create additional confidence when sailing with us.

We have partnered with Respond Global, a specialist medical advisory agency, to assist us in developing these protocols that are among the most thorough in the world.

With a focus on prevention, to target a 100% COVID free environment when we set sail, we have a three-tiered medical screening system in place before boarding. This prevention protocol is supported by onboard mitigation actions and a thorough and compassionate response plan.

Read more:
Dive into the pristine waters of the remarkable outer Great Barrier Reef
Learn about ancient indigenous culture and Australian heritage
Find sanctuary surrounded by the peaceful beauty of the Great Barrier Reef
Meet the iconic marine species of the Great Barrier Reef

Our renowned Australian team of Expedition Leaders and regular guest lecturers have a wealth of knowledge of the unique landscapes, flora and fauna and Indigenous cultures of the Great Barrier Reef region. Passionate explorers, marine biologists, and naturalists, they provide on board lectures and interpretation and are always keen to chat with you and share their expertise. They will ensure your experience is as rich, enlightening and enjoyable as possible by bringing you a new understanding and appreciation of the places you will discover on your expedition.

Escape to discover Australia’s remote natural wonders. Meet charismatic marine species including the sea turtles surfing the ocean currents, find clownfish nestled amongst the coral gardens and marvel at the magnificent humpback whale migration in the deep blue of the Coral Sea. Share the journey with soaring seabirds and swim, dive and snorkel at far-flung Osprey, Escape and Ribbon Reefs. Learn about ancient Indigenous culture and Australian heritage at historic Cooktown. Visit a Turtle Rehabilitation Centre at Fitzroy Island and stretch your legs with a hike to the summit of Cook’s Look on Lizard Island. Enjoy a sundowner with the sand beneath your toes at deserted Sudbury Cay.

Recharge surrounded by tranquillity and warm hospitality aboard our small ship expeditions.
Sip sundowners and feel the sand between your toes on uninhabited islands and sand cays.

Immerse yourself in one of the world’s great seascapes.

Step ashore on remote Great Barrier Reef Islands.

Participate in conserving and protecting the Great Barrier Reef.

TRIP LOG

“We took eager guests up to Cook’s Look at 6am, making it to the summit in just over an hour. The view from the top was spectacular. After breakfast, we landed at Watson’s Bay where we enjoyed snorkelling, beach walking and glass bottom boat tours, spotting giant clams and tiny fish twirling around anemones. We departed Lizard Island for Ribbon Reef #9 and arrived just after lunch. Snorkelling and diving were amazing here - we saw so many different schools of fish, large red bass and clouds of sweet lips congregating around the reef. One large white tip reef shark was spotted multiple times, and lots of moreish idols and beautiful butterfly fish were seen. The keen snorkelers were impressed with the coral density and spectacular visibility.”

MARYSIA PAWLINOWSKA > LIZARD ISLAND & RIBBON REEF #9
OUTERKNOWN ADVENTURES ON THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

MARYSIA PAWLIKOWSKA > EXPEDITION GUIDE

Marine biologist Marysia has a contagious love for the Great Barrier Reef. She was involved in various research projects with CSIRO and Australian Institute of Marine Science, and recently graduated from the Master Reef Guides program. She is now recognised as one of the world’s leading reef guides, interpreters and storytellers sharing the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef through engaging and educational experiences.

CITIZEN SCIENCE ON THE GREAT BARRIER REEF
Australian Geographic Society Hosted Departure

We have partnered with the Australian Geographic Society for a once-in-a-lifetime nature conservation experience on Australia’s Great Barrier Reef. This special Citizen Science departure will explore some of the most remote edges of the outer reef, discover beautiful and complex habitats, and find sanctuary in the peaceful solitude of the Coral Sea.

Hosted by some of Australia’s most accomplished reef experts including Dr Dean Miller from the Australian Geographic Society, John Rumney, co-founder of GBR Legacy, and Dr Charlie Veron, widely known as the ‘Godfather of the Reef’, you will participate in real scientific research projects. The Citizen Science component of the expedition will be curated by this expert team, and includes a focus on the annual migration of the dwarf Minke whales - with the opportunity to swim eye to eye with these magnificent creatures - and coral surveying and identification for the world-first Living Coral Biobank project.

With full access to the most knowledgeable and respected Marine Scientists in the world and the opportunity to witness their expertise, energy and passion, this expedition offers a rare chance to learn and make a difference in coral conservation. $500 from your fare benefits GBR Legacy. See our website for more details.

10 Nights - Departs: 30 June 2021 aboard Coral Discoverer

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DAY 1: DEPART CAIRNS
Board at Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal at 4:00pm for a 5:00pm departure.

DAYS 1-7: Our Great Barrier Reef itineraries are flexible, to take advantage of changing weather and reef conditions. Below is a selection of the key destinations we visit.

COKTOWN
Come ashore in historic Cooktown and learn the history of the Guugu Yimithirr, the first people of this ancient country. Discover recent European history with a visit to the site where Lt. James Cook beached HMB Endeavour to effect repairs in 1770. Wander through the rare flora collection at the Botanic Gardens and visit James Cook Museum, where the story of Cook’s landing is told from an Aboriginal perspective and where artefacts are on display.

LIZARD ISLAND
We spend a whole day at Lizard Island where there is time to hike to the summit of Cook’s Look and enjoy the same view Lt. James Cook did when searching for safe passage through the maze of coral reefs. Snorkel over giant clam gardens at Watson’s Bay, relax on the white-sand beaches beneath shady she oak trees and learn about the tragic story surrounding Mary Watson. There may be an opportunity to visit Lizard Island Research Station, operated by the Australian Museum to facilitate coral reef research and education on the Great Barrier Reef.

OSPREY REEF
Osprey Reef is the summit of a 2,000m undersea mountain located beyond the continental shelf with no landmass visible. Enjoy amazing underwater visibility here, and observe magnificent corals, plummeting drop-offs and many fish in the crystalline waters. Osprey Reef is a highly prized tropical dive location amongst scuba divers, called an ‘oasis for living creatures of all kinds’ by Sir David Attenborough. Osprey Reef is a true expedition-style destination and our visit is subject to appropriate weather conditions.

RIBBON REEF #9 & RIBBON REEF #3
The Ribbon Reefs are a line of outer coral reefs on the edge of the continental shelf and are renowned for their prolific marine life and extensive coral species. Enjoy the rare opportunity to snorkel and dive over these excellent reefs, with Ribbon Reef #9 a favourite for its wide variety of marine life and pinnacles cloaked in coral. Join a guided snorkel tour led by our expert Expedition Team and witness this extraordinary ecosystem up close. These northern reefs are renowned for spotting iconic marine species such as potato cod, wrasse, sharks and turtles.

DAINTREE RIVER & MACKAY REEF
Explore the Daintree River which cuts through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Daintree Rainforest, the world’s oldest tropical rainforest. With an expert guide onboard, we look for the region’s famed wildlife such as saltwater crocodiles, rare and endangered cassowaries and the prolific bird life that inhabits the forest and mangrove-lined river banks. Immersed in the rainforest, we learn more about the diverse Wet Tropics ecosystem which contains the largest habitat of flora and fauna in the world.

This afternoon, enjoy more spectacular diving and snorkelling opportunities at Mackay Reef, where we look for green sea turtles, and explore the vibrant soft and hard coral gardens.

FITZROY ISLAND & SUDbury CAY
At Fitzroy Island enjoy a walk through the Secret Garden rainforest or a hike to the lighthouse for enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding islands and mainland mountain ranges. Snorkel over the fringing reef, relax on the beach and learn about the life cycle of turtles at the Cairns Turtle Rehabilitation Centre where sick and injured turtles are cared for before being returned to the wild.

Later, arrive at secluded Sudbury Cay and enjoy the Captain’s farewell drinks at sunset on the tiny sand island.

DAY 8: ARRIVE CAIRNS
Disembark in Cairns at 8:00am.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS
› Immerse yourself in one of the world’s great seascapes with the Great Barrier Reef experts
› Cruise the Daintree River and walk amongst the World Heritage-listed Daintree Rainforest
› Learn about Indigenous culture and Australian heritage at historic Cooktown
› Swim, snorkel, dive or simply view the iconic marine species of the Great Barrier Reef
› Observe the vibrant underwater world of the untouched outer Great Barrier Reef
› Enjoy solitude and seven magical Queensland sunsets
› Sip sundowners and feel the sand beneath your feet on isolated sand cays and uninhabited islands
› Visit a turtle rehabilitation center and participate in efforts to conserve the Great Barrier Reef

DEPARTURES & FARES
7 Nights | Departs from Cairns aboard Coral Discoverer
› 27 March 2021
› 10 July 2021 (Sold out, join our waitlist)
› 24 November 2021

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Prices are per person, listed in Australian Dollars (AUD) and include GST. *Limited sole use occupancy available.

SUBMIT A BOOKING REQUEST >
COASTAL CULTURES OF THE TORRES STRAIT & CAPE YORK
ITINERARY: 10 NIGHTS > BETWEEN CAIRNS & HORN ISLAND

DAY 1: DEPART CAIRNS OR HORN ISLAND
Board in Cairns at 4:00pm for a 5:00pm departure. Board in Horn Island at 4:00pm for a 5:00pm departure.

DAYS 2-10: Key destinations of your expedition.

COOKTOWN
Discover historic Cooktown, with buildings dating back to the 1870s. Visit the Botanic Gardens and the James Cook Museum to see original artefacts from the HMB Endeavour.

LIZARD ISLAND
Spend a day exploring secluded Lizard Island. Snorkel over giant clam gardens, walk on the white-sand beach, and take a guided tour of the Lizard Island Research Station. An optional dawn hike leads to the summit of ‘Cook’s Look’.

REMOTE OSPREY REEF
Osprey Reef is the summit of an undersea 2,000m mountain located beyond the continental shelf with no landmass visible. Enjoy amazing underwater visibility here, and observe magnificent corals, plummeting drop-offs and many fish in the crystalline waters. Osprey Reef is a highly prized tropical dive location amongst scuba divers, called an ‘oasis for living creatures of all kinds’ by Sir David Attenborough.

STANLEY ISLAND & DAVIE REEF
At Stanley Island, view the Indigenous contact-period rock art depicting sailing ships and marine life, and hear stories from a traditional owner of the Yiithuwarra saltwater people. Later, visit Davie Reef and sand cay for snorkelling and birdwatching.

FORBES & RESTORATION ISLANDS
At Forbes Island, walk to the grave of beche-de-mer fisherman Frederick Lancaster, beachcomb on sweeping beaches and snorkel in the tropical waters. Later we visit Restoration Island, with its tall palm trees and white beaches, which was named by Captain Bligh and landed here after the mutiny on the Bounty. It is the home of ‘millionaire castaway’ David Glasheen. We will visit David and stroll.

TIP OF CAPE YORK: NORTHERNMOST POINT
The rocky headland of Cape York Peninsula is the northernmost point of Australia. Go ashore and experience a champagne at sunrise or sunset at this special place. Later visit historical sites at Somerset, Possession Island and Albany Island.

TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS
The Torres Strait is home to 200 strikingly beautiful islands, however only 17 are inhabited. Have the privilege of spending three immersive days exploring this remote region, visiting Thursday Island, Badu and Moa Islands where the local communities will welcome you and share their distinctive culture. Visit and purchase art from renowned art centres and enjoy a local meal and exciting cultural performances.

DAY 11: ARRIVE HORN ISLAND OR CAIRNS
Disembark in Horn Island at 8:00am
Disembark in Cairns at 8:00am

TRIP LOG
“We had arrived off Moa Island early last evening and straight after breakfast we were warmly welcomed by David Bosun, an artist and community leader, who led us up to the art centre where several workshops had been organised, ranging from weaving to lino printing. There was a great variety of art and many of us took advantage of the opportunity to buy direct from the artists. The village was spotlessly clean and the people so friendly - nothing was too much trouble for them. We took a walk up the headland for a view over the ocean and heard about the traditional understanding of the currents and how they indicated the whereabouts and availability of dugong and turtle.

David directed us to Browne Island, which had a most beautiful beach. We swam in the wonderfully clear, cool water, or climbed the sand dunes to take in the view. All too soon, it was time to take our leave of Moa, but I am sure that none of us will forget it. It was a stunning place and a special visit.”

IAN MORRIS > FRIDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2018 > MOA ISLAND

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS
› Enjoy a champagne sunrise or sunset at the tip of Cape York, Australia’s northernmost point
› Learn about Torres Strait art and cultural traditions at remote island Art Centres and be welcomed to communities with song, dance, and traditional feasts
› Snorkel the clam gardens of Lizard Island and scuba dive the northern Great Barrier Reef at Davie and Osprey reefs
› Admire Endaen rock art at Stanley Island and hear stories from an elder of the Yiithuwarra people
› Spend time in the beautiful islands of Cape York & the northern Great Barrier Reef, rich with historic stories and bird-spotting opportunities
› Be refreshed by the remote beauty of northern Australia

DEPARTURES & FARES
10 Nights - Departs: 3 Nov 2021 from Cairns aboard Coral Discoverer
10 Nights - Departs: 13 Nov 2021 from Horn Is. aboard Coral Discoverer

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Prices are per person, listed in Australian Dollars (AUD) and include GST.
*Limited sole use occupancy available.

SUBMIT A BOOKING REQUEST >
Classic small ship Coral Discoverer is built for environmentally responsible small-ship cruising, with refined steering capabilities, active stabilisers, shallow draught, and a nimble Xplorer tender to bring you close to remote places on the Great Barrier Reef with ease.

With only 72 guests, an intimate atmosphere and warm Australian hospitality make you feel at home. Spacious lounge areas, communal dining and open decks provide the opportunity to relax or spend time with old and new friends.

**FEATURES**

- One Xplorer tender, two Zodiaks and a Glass bottom boat
- Open Bridge
- Single seat dining
- Three cocktail bars
- Panoramic Sun Deck with daybeds
- Spacious lounge and deck areas
"Coral Expeditions is simply the best adventure experience you can have on water. Over 7 days we saw and swam with an amazing diversity of marine life. Too many corals and fish to mention and we had the special experience of seeing sharks, turtles and following a graceful manta ray. We had a great time with fellow guests from around the world and we shared good times with a fun and attentive crew who run a tight ship. They are clearly very experienced and work hard to make sure guests get the best and most out of their trip. We had so much amazing food and sitting ashore at sunset with a champagne at Sudbury Cay made us feel like millionaires. If you are thinking of a cruise of this kind we strongly recommend Coral Expeditions."

FINN > 2019

Our Range of Expeditions Include
> The Kimberley > Great Barrier Reef > Tasmania > Cape York, Torres Strait & Arnhem Land
> Papua New Guinea > Raja Ampat & The Spice Islands > Islands of Indonesia > The Solomons & Vanuatu
> New Zealand > Small Islands of the Indian Ocean > Circumnavigation of Australia