

2022 - 2024 VOYAGES

NEW ZEALAND *and* MELANESIA



SailSAFE

Our Health & Safety Plan for guests & crew

- > [To the Islands of Melanesia for Christmas](#)
- > [New Zealand's East Coast](#)
- > [Fiordland & the South Coast](#)
- > [Expedition to the Albatross Latitudes](#)



coralexpeditions
AUSTRALIA'S PIONEERING CRUISE LINE



Birdwatching



Walking
& Hiking



Kayaking



Wildlife
Spotting



UNESCO World
Heritage sites



Historical
landmarks



Cultural
Interaction



Maritime
History



Local Food
Experience



Snorkelling
& Scuba



Workshops
& Lectures



NEW ZEALAND & MELANESIA FOR TRUE EXPLORERS

New Zealand's 15,000km of meandering coastline make it uniquely suited to small ship expedition cruising. *Coral Adventurer* takes you deep into the intriguing history, vibrant culture, and rare wildlife of South Island. Journey to remote locations including Marlborough Sounds and Fiordland and the charming towns of Napier, Kaikoura, and Dunedin. Hike through Waimangu Volcanic Valley, admire lazing seals, pods of friendly dolphins and perhaps even the rare yellow-eyed penguin. Return to your ship after the day's excursions to sample the country's famed produce and wine.

Our Melanesian voyage is a unique expedition to a different world. Spend 21 unforgettable days exploring the vast arc of the Melanesian region, visiting Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Sail into a legendary volcanic cone, walk through an ancient penal colony, and swim with dugongs, while hearing the remarkable stories and experiencing the isolated beauty of the South Pacific.

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 arrive to the embarkation port the day prior to departure and schedule your onward travel arrangements for the day following disembarkation due to any unexpected changes that may occur in scheduling.

Voyage Series

- > **To the Islands of Melanesia for Christmas**
21 Nights | Departs 16 Dec 2022
- > **New Zealand's East Coast**
12 Nights | Departs 7 Jan & 23 Dec 2023
- > **Fiordland & the South Coast**
8 Nights | Departs 19 Jan 2023 & 21 Jan 2024
- > **Expedition to the Albatross Latitudes**
16 Nights | Departs 4 Jan 2024

Australian Hospitality at Sea

On board our Australian-flagged expedition ships, discover a personalised, relaxed style of cruising. With a maximum of 120 guests, there is no need for queues or assigned seating. Instead, an intimate, convivial atmosphere shared with 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 wines and unique beers from Australia and New Zealand.

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 providing environmental and cultural appreciation. Our small group sizes ensure 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 Health & Safety Plan for guests & crew

Our SailSAFE Plan

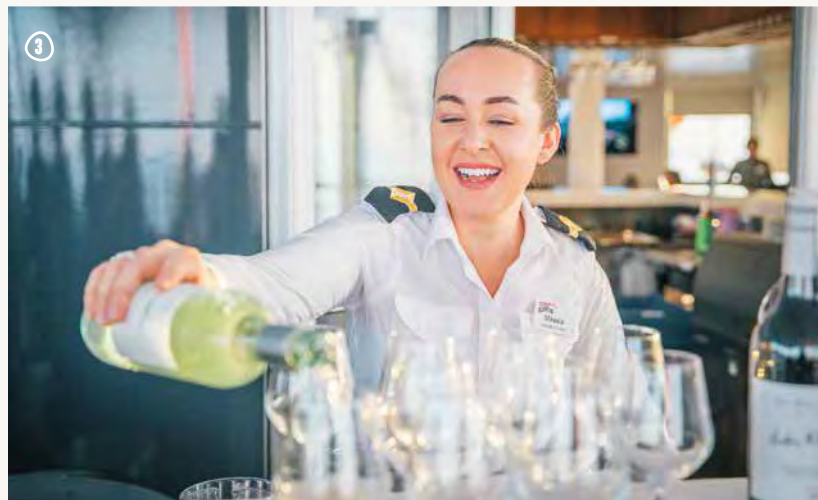
It is our priority to keep our guests and crew safe while travelling with us, and our SailSAFE Plan ensures we operate responsibly in the new environment that COVID-19 has created.

Remote, nature-based expeditions with Australian and New Zealand crew, and small, intimate groups provides a lower-risk environment. Our approved SailSAFE COVID response plan, which includes a 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.

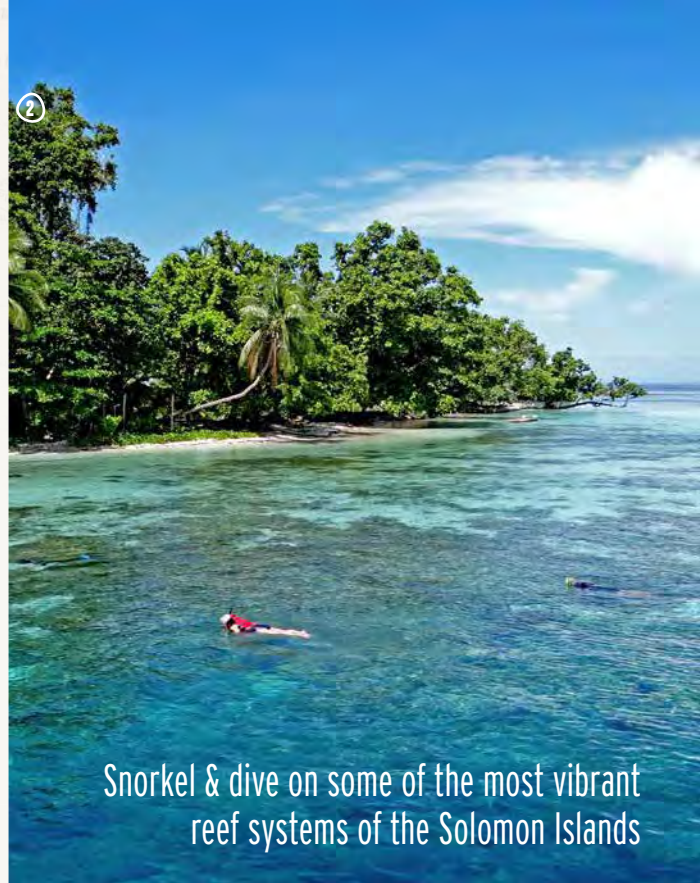
In addition, we have adopted a mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination policy, requiring all guests and crew to be fully vaccinated in order to travel. Medical exemptions in line with Australian medical standards will be acceptable.



[READ THE COMPLETE PLAN >](#)



Spend days exploring the astonishing landscapes of Fiordland & Marlborough Sounds



Snorkel & dive on some of the most vibrant reef systems of the Solomon Islands



Sit with local people in remote villages to learn their way of life and enjoy music and handcraft demonstrations



Observe New Zealand's wildlife, including fur seals, penguins, whales and numerous bird species

Our Australian team of Expedition Leaders and regular Guest Lecturers have a wealth of knowledge of the unique landscapes, flora and fauna and cultures of New Zealand and Melanesia. 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 enlightening and enjoyable as possible by bringing you a new understanding and appreciation of the places you will discover on your expedition.

Our expedition vessel *Coral Adventurer* will voyage through the Solomons and Vanuatu, calling on remote locations including the Laughlan Islands, Arnavon Island conservation area, and astonishing Marovo Lagoon. Enjoy a memorable Christmas at Star Harbour, Makira Island, and celebrate New Years with the natural fireworks of volcanic Tanna before sailing to Auckland via Norfolk Island. *Coral Adventurer* will continue exploring New Zealand, with our expert guides introducing you to the lush Waimangu Volcanic Valley, Maori traditions in historic Gisborne, the sea-drowned valleys of World Heritage-listed *Te Wahipounamu* (place of the greenstone), known as Fiordland, and one of the world's most precious and wild habitats, the Subantarctic Islands.

Find freedom as you explore the furthest reaches.

IMAGES 1 Milford Sound | 2 Snorkelling in the New Guinea islands | 3 Woman making palm mats, Ndendo | 4 Fur seal, Fiordland | 5 Performance at Ureparapara
6 Historic Kingston World Heritage site, Norfolk Island, credit Rawdon Sthradher | 7 Traditional Maori greeting, Gisborne | 8 Hiking in Marlborough Sounds

5



Experience the diverse cultures
of the Solomons and Vanuatu

6



Go ashore at the historic island
outpost of Norfolk Island

8



Discover the marvellous landscapes
and wildlife of the World Heritage listed
Subantarctic Islands

7



Discover Maori culture &
customs at Hauiti Marae

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 Melanesian expedition.

Beginners can join guided snorkelling tours or introductory and resort-style dives, while more experienced divers are able to participate in challenging dives (scuba diving at additional cost). Our 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 requires medical clearance and a medical certificate.

[READ MORE ONLINE >](#)

TO THE ISLANDS OF MELANESIA FOR CHRISTMAS

21 NIGHTS | 16 DECEMBER 2022



Expedition Highlights

- › **Special Event:** Enjoy a memorable Christmas at Star Harbour, with beautiful beach relaxation and a special Christmas feast onboard
- › Spend New Year's Eve at Tanna Island, and hike Mt Yasur with locals guides to gaze into the heart of the volcano
- › Visit the natural wonder of Dei Dei Hot Springs with its bubbling geysers and mud pools at Fergusson Island
- › Explore the natural wonder of the Marovo Lagoon, and see the famous ebony carvings produced here
- › Spot numerous species of birds and marine life at the important conservation areas of Arnavon Island
- › Learn about local 'kastom', kula ring trading and the boat building tradition at the Laughlan Islands
- › Snorkel and dive almost every day over vivid coral gardens and relax on white-sand beaches
- › Enjoy enriching local culture at the remote island villages of Star Harbour and Ndendo, and visit local markets
- › Sail into Ureparapara's spectacular volcanic cone, and be warmly welcomed with a performance of 'water music'
- › Spend an extraordinary day at Norfolk Island to discover the beauty and remarkable stories of this island outpost

See Page 13 for Departures & Fares



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ITINERARY: 21 NIGHTS > CAIRNS TO AUCKLAND

DAY 1: DEPART CAIRNS

Board in Cairns at 8:00am for a 9:00am departure.

DAYS 2-21: KEY DESTINATIONS OF YOUR EXPEDITION

This is an indicative itinerary covering remote areas. Your Expedition Team will make changes to the daily schedule as necessary to maximise guest experience.

Your voyage includes 5 days at sea.

SAMARAI & EBUMA ISLAND

Enter Papua New Guinea at Samarai, before spending the afternoon at Ebuma Island. Be welcomed with song and dance at the local school, and snorkel over the healthy coral reefs around the island. This afternoon, join a guided walk to explore the skull caves that date back to the island's headhunting past.

DOBU ISLAND & FERGUSON ISLAND

Join our Expedition Staff on a walk to Dei Dei Hot Springs on Ferguson Island, and hear the local stories of the spiritual tales of the springs, which are used to cook food in palm frond baskets. Visit Dobu Island to learn the history of the Kula ring trade and enjoy a traditional dance performance by the local school children. Later, snorkel over the fascinating Bubbling Springs Reef.

LAUGHLAN ISLANDS

Laughlan Islanders specialise in canoe building and in this remote corner of the world we find seagoing canoes under construction. The friendly villagers of Bodaluna share their lifestyle of subsistence gardening, fishing, and Kula ring trading. Later, snorkel or dive on the outer reef, where we may see turtles, wrasse, and spinner dolphins in the warm, clear waters.

GHIZO ISLAND & NJARI REEF

This morning, enter the Solomon Islands. Wander through Gizo's open-air markets, which showcase a bounty of tropical fruits and fresh fish, as well as crafts by the region's legendary wood and stone carvers, or instead, choose to scuba dive over the Japanese shipwreck *Toa Maru* as an optional extra. Later, snorkel Njari Reef, said to have one of the highest fish counts in the world.

ARNAVON ISLANDS & DART SOUND

Today, visit Arnavon Islands marine reserve, home to the largest rookery of endangered hawksbill turtles in the South Pacific and some of the healthiest coral reefs in the world. At Kerehikapa Island, learn about the conservation efforts and have the chance to see turtle hatchlings emerging from their nests. Later, cruise up picturesque Dart Sound to Kia village for a traditional welcome and meet some of the rangers that work in the Arnavons.

MAROVO LAGOON

Marovo Lagoon is one of the world's largest double barrier enclosed lagoons and a natural wonder that has been proposed for World Heritage listing. Famous for its coral reef ecosystems, the waters teem with tropical fish and boast exceptional dive and snorkelling sites. Spend time discovering the lagoon, before sitting with the locals to learn about village life and observe the work of expert woodcarvers, who are justifiably famous for the intricate pieces they create from king ebony with inlays of mother-of-pearl.

MARAU SOUND

Located at the Eastern tip of Guadalcanal Island, Marau Sound is a geographical crossroad, separating Guadalcanal's calm northern waters from its *Tasi Mauri* or 'weather coast'. Five marine reserves have been established here to protect the special environment. Visit the local village to hear the panpipes played and watch the women perform water music, and spend a relaxing afternoon snorkelling, diving, and kayaking the turquoise waters.

STAR HARBOUR, MAKIRA ISLAND

Celebrate Christmas Day at Star Harbour. Beginning with a colourful warrior welcome, you will explore the village and meet the school children. Our expert guides will share the harbour's WWII history, before we spend the afternoon snorkelling and birdwatching at nearby Frigate Island. Tonight, enjoy a special Christmas feast onboard.

NDENDO

Our last stop in the Solomon Islands, Ndendo Island is the largest of the Santa Cruz group, and the location of an unsuccessful colonisation attempt by the Spanish explorer Alvaro de Mendana. Here, view and purchase quality artefacts created by the skilled craftsmen of the region. Enjoy a cultural performance at Luowa village, and an opportunity to snorkel over the fringing reef.

UREPARAPARA

One of the most spectacular islands in the South Pacific, Ureparapara is an extinct volcano rising 764m. Cruising into the cone of the volcano, surrounded on three sides by towering ridges, is an unforgettable experience. Cultural performances welcome you, including 'water music' a hypnotic music created by slapping the water, accompanied by vocal harmonies, before the chance to explore the surroundings with local guides.

AMBRYM

Ambrym, the fifth-largest island in the country, is dominated by the 12km wide caldera of the active volcano. Despite the volcanic activity, Ambrym is home to around 7,000 inhabitants, most of which live in the 'safe zone' corners of the island. The rest of the island's astonishing topography is covered by jungle. Be welcomed ashore at Craig Cove with unique costumed dancing, and enjoy tours through the village. See demonstrations of local crafts and hear the stories of living in the shadow of a volcano.

EPI

An adventurer's paradise, Epi Island has a volcanic history, and its rugged terrain, lush rainforest, and black sand beaches create a mood of mystery and magic. Coral gardens and dugongs thrive in the lagoon. Go ashore at Lamen Bay and marvel at the contrast of white and black sand. Enjoy water activities, and you may have the opportunity to swim alongside a sedate dugong.

NGUNA

Nguna Island has white sand beaches, and the surrounding waters are marked as the Nguna-Pele Marine Protected area - home to numerous reefs, sea grass beds, mangrove forests and inter-tidal lagoons. Excursions today include volcano hiking, snorkelling & diving, and village explorations.

TANNA

As you approach Tanna Island, keep your eyes open for hot springs bubbling beneath the oceans' surface. To begin this once-in-a-lifetime experience, local villagers drive us in the back of their trucks through the forest at the foot of Mt Yasur. Continue on foot to the rim of the caldera, and peer into the heart of the volcano. Tonight, enjoy New Year's Eve celebrations onboard.

NORFOLK ISLAND

After time at sea, Norfolk Island will appear rising out of the Pacific Ocean. Cruise into Slaughter Bay and admire the stunning landscape that is unveiled. Going ashore, there will be opportunities for swimming from the beach, visiting the town and walking through the Kingston UNESCO World Heritage site to learn the fascinating history of the island. There may be the opportunity for longer hikes to see some of the island's natural landmarks.

DAY 22: ARRIVE AUCKLAND

After time at sea, arrive in Auckland to disembark at 8:00am

NEW ZEALAND'S EAST COAST

12 NIGHTS | 7 JANUARY & 23 DECEMBER 2023

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Expedition Highlights

- › Walk through the lush Waimangu Volcanic Valley, the world's youngest geothermal valley
- › Enjoy walks at Marlborough Sounds and Stewart Island, with spectacular views and birdwatching opportunities
- › Experience the vibrant stories of Maori culture, and spend time with a Maori family at Hauiti Marae
- › Discover the unique character of east coast towns, from the French-influenced Akaroa to Dunedin's Scottish heritage and Napier's art deco architecture
- › Explore three of Fiordland's most beautiful sounds, including the iconic Milford Sound and the largely inaccessible Dusky and Doubtful Sounds
- › Encounter many species of endemic birds and marine wildlife, including the Fiordland crested penguin, New Zealand fur seal, and the dusky dolphin
- › Enjoy the renowned wines produced in the Hawke's Bay and Marlborough regions on our wine list

See Page 13 for Departures & Fares

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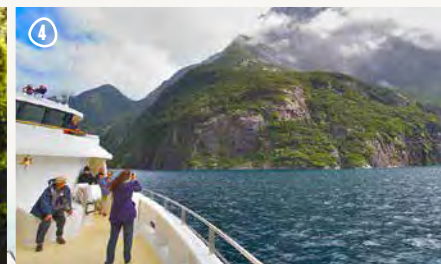
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ITINERARY: 12 NIGHTS > AUCKLAND TO MILFORD SOUND

DAY 1: DEPART AUCKLAND

Board *Coral Adventurer* in Queen's Wharf, Auckland Harbour at 4:00 pm for a 5:00 pm departure. Enjoy Captain's Welcome Drinks this evening.

DAY 2: TAURANGA & WAIMANGU

A coach journey takes us to Waimangu, the world's youngest volcanic valley. Marvel at the gaping volcanic craters, hot water springs and mysterious Inferno Crater. Later, we may have time to stroll through the town of Tauranga.

DAY 3: GISBORNE

Maori traditions record Gisborne as the place where the first Maori canoe landed and Captain Cook first came ashore. At Tolaga Bay, we will be met by a Maori family at the Hauiti Marae with a traditional Maori welcome and the opportunity to hear their stories, before a guided viewing of the carved marae. Later, visit the historic Tolaga Bay wharf.

DAY 4: NAPIER

In 1931 Napier was destroyed by an earthquake, and the rebuilding created the world's greatest collection of art deco architecture, surrounded by the award-winning wineries of Hawke's Bay. Two tour options are available: a city tour to discover the architecture and history of the city, finishing with a flight of wines at New Zealand's oldest winery; or an excursion to the world's largest mainland gannet colony at Cape Kidnappers, with spectacular coastline views.

DAY 5 & 6: MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS

The ancient river valleys that form the Marlborough Sounds are surrounded by forest-cloaked peaks and vineyards, all of which present a breathtaking view from any perspective. This lush region produces much of New Zealand's seafood, and 80% of its wine.

After a relaxing day at sea cruising across Cook Strait to the South Island, anchor at historic Ship Cove to spend the day exploring Queen Charlotte Sound. Discover the dolphins and seals of the sounds with marine spotting from the *Xplorer* and enjoy wonderful birdwatching on walks through Motuara Island birdlife sanctuary. Guided by our expedition team, hike a section of the spectacular Queen Charlotte Track. Visit Ship Cove to learn of Captain Cook's time here. Finish the day with a scenic cruise of the sound before we sail for our next destination.



Cara Cavanagh
Assistant Expedition Leader

Born and raised in Byron Bay, the ocean has always played a big role in Cara's life. She is passionate about the reef and spend many years as a dive instructor before making the leap to Expedition guiding. As an avid traveller, she is excited to bring her experience as an instructor and guide to our explorations of New Zealand. Cara is a keen birder and has a passion for photography.

DAY 7: KAIKOURA

Bordered by the impressive Seaward Range, the picturesque town of Kaikoura is one of the few places to observe the sperm whale. Aboard a specialised boat, search for these amazing mammals. Later, visit the museum and gallery, before joining a guided walk on the beautiful peninsula.

DAY 8: AKAROA

Once a busy whaling outpost, Akaroa was the only French settlement in New Zealand. Here, choose between two included excursions: a harbour cruise to spot marine wildlife, or a tour to visit the world's largest colony of little penguins at Pohatu Bay, with the chance to learn more about the conservation efforts that are protecting them. A variety of short walks are available into the surrounding nature reserves, guided by our expedition team.

DAY 9: DUNEDIN

The Otago Peninsula is an area of exceptional diversity, and we will be welcomed with sights of the world's only mainland breeding colony of northern royal albatross and a colony of the rare yellow-eyed penguin. There will be a choice of included excursions with local operators - choose between a coach tour of the Otago Peninsula's most scenic beaches and Dunedin's highlights, or take time to explore the city at your leisure: perhaps visit the famous Speight's Brewery, art gallery, or New Zealand's oldest botanic gardens.

DAY 10: STEWART & ULVA ISLANDS

Known in Maori mythology as *Te Punga o Te Waka* - 'The Anchor Stone of Maui's Canoe' - Stewart Island (Rakiura) is New Zealand's little-visited 'third island'. On Ulva Island, a sanctuary for rare and endangered birds, take a guided walk to spot birdlife, including the Rifleman, Weka, and Kereru. Explore the village of Oban, and cruise to Prices Point Whaling Station by *Xplorer* to learn the region's history.

DAY 11-12: FIORDLAND NATIONAL PARK

Fiordland National Park is part of UNESCO World Heritage listed Southland. Carved by ancient glaciers, the fiords' sheer cliffs and steep ridges are cloaked with rainforest and cascading waterfalls. These mostly inaccessible and awe-inspiring landscapes were the mysterious source of powerful *pounamu* (New Zealand jade), gathered by Maori from secret riverbeds.

Enter Fiordland National Park at dramatic Tamatea / Dusky Sound, and cruise among towering cliffs and sheet granite walls to explore the depths of the inlets in the zodiac, spotting Fiordland Penguins and fur seals. Early in the morning, a dawn cruise traces Acheron Passage to Te Puaitaha / Breaksea Sound, surrounded by breathtaking landscapes on all sides as we retrace Cook's journey. Enter Doubtful Sound / Patea, the deepest and widest fiord. The stillness and silence here is compelling and unforgettable. Cruise past the outer Seal Islands, Nee Islets and through 'the Gut', before entering Te Awa-o-Tu / Thompson Sound.

This afternoon, enter Milford Sound / Piopiotahi to a world-famous view of Mitre Peak, opposite beautiful Stirling Falls. You may have a chance to feel the spray from the waterfall - according to Maori legend it will make you ten years younger! Cruise to Harrison Cove, where an ancient glacier entered the fiord, and visit Bowen Falls.

DAY 13: ARRIVE MILFORD SOUND

Disembark at 8:00 am before transferring by coach to Queenstown. Your coach arrives in Queenstown at 1:30 pm.

FIORDLAND & THE SOUTH COAST

8 NIGHTS | 19 JANUARY 2023 & 21 JANUARY 2024

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Expedition Highlights

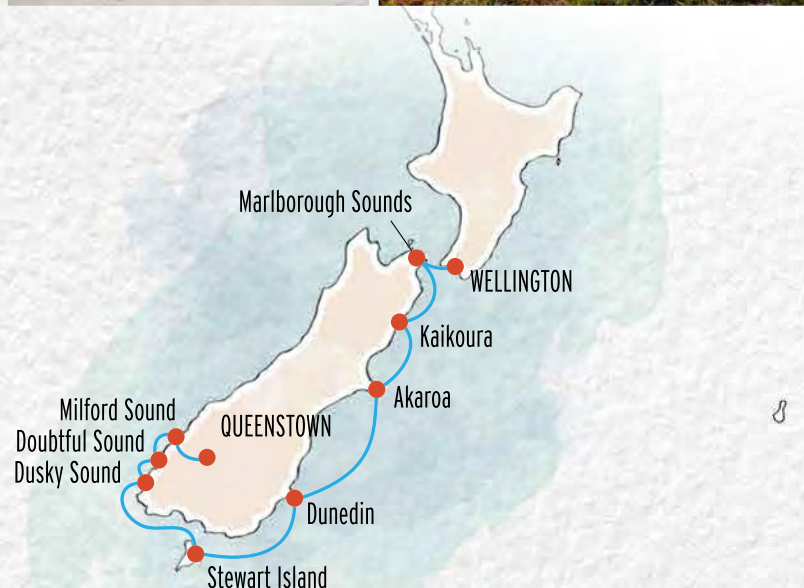
- > Explore Queen Charlotte Sound to discover Ship Cove, and walk a section of the Queen Charlotte Track
- > Discover the unique character of east coast towns, from the French-influenced Akaroa to Dunedin's Scottish heritage and Kaikoura's seaside village charm
- > Encounter many species of endemic birds and marine wildlife, including the Fiordland crested penguin and New Zealand fur seal in Southland
- > Discover the Otago Peninsula's scenic beaches, and explore the city of Dunedin at your leisure
- > Spend two days exploring Rakiura (Stewart Island), enjoy opportunities for endemic birdwatching and hike a section of the Rakiura Track
- > Explore the quiet grandeur of three of Fiordland's most beautiful sounds - the astonishing Dusky and Doubtful Sounds, and iconic Milford Sound

See Page 13 for Departures & Fares

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ITINERARY: 8 NIGHTS > MILFORD SOUND TO WELLINGTON

DAY 1: DEPART MILFORD SOUND

Transfer by coach from Queenstown to board *Coral Adventurer* in Milford Sound at 3:00 pm. Cruise Milford Sound / Piopiotahi to a world-famous view of Mitre Peak, rising some 1,682 metres opposite Stirling Falls, which falls from the top of a 162m high cliff into the inky dark water. You may have a chance to feel the spray from the waterfall – according to Maori legend, it will make you ten years younger! The steep overhanging cliffs are awe-inspiring as we cruise to Harrison Cove and visit Bowen Falls.

DAY 2 & 3: FIORDLAND: DOUBTFUL & DUSKY SOUNDS

Fiordland National Park is part of UNESCO World Heritage listed Southland. Carved by ancient glaciers, the fiords' sheer cliffs and steep ridges are cloaked with rainforest and cascading waterfalls. These mostly inaccessible and awe-inspiring landscapes were the mysterious source of powerful *pounamu* (New Zealand jade), gathered by Maori from secret riverbeds.

Enter Fiordland National Park at dramatic Tamatea / Dusky Sound, and cruise among towering cliffs and sheet granite walls to explore the depths of the inlets in the zodiac, spotting Fiordland penguins and fur seals. Later, trace Acheron Passage to Te Puaiahua / Breaksea Sound, surrounded by breathtaking landscapes on all sides. Enter Doubtful Sound / Patea, the deepest and widest fiord, to marvel at its compelling stillness.

DAY 4: STEWART & ULVA ISLANDS

Known in Maori mythology as *Te Punga o Te Waka* – 'The Anchor Stone of Maui's Canoe' – Stewart Island (Rakiura) is New Zealand's little-visited 'third island'. On Ulva Island, take a guided walk to spot birdlife, including the South Island Saddleback, Kakapo, Weka, and Kiwi. You may also spot a few fur seals lazing on the shore. Enjoy free time to explore the village of Oban, and cruise to Prices Point Whaling Station by Xplorer to learn the history of the region. For the fit, there will be an opportunity to walk a section of the Rakiura Track.

DAY 5: DUNEDIN

The Otago Peninsula is an area of exceptional diversity, and we will be welcomed with sights of the world's only mainland breeding colony of northern royal albatross and a colony of the rare yellow-eyed penguin. Choose from included excursions with local operators – a coach tour of the Otago Peninsula's most scenic beaches and Dunedin's highlights. Later, explore the city at your leisure: perhaps visit the famous Speight's Brewery, art gallery, and New Zealand's oldest botanic gardens.

DAY 6: AKAROA

This morning, sail into the long harbour of Akaroa, formed by the breached volcanic crater that makes up the Banks Peninsula. The village of Akaroa is the only French settlement in New Zealand, and its charming cottages and street names carry that identity.

Surrounded by the rolling hills of the Peninsula, the scenic village was once a bustling whaling outpost. Here enjoy a harbour cruise with a local operator to spot marine wildlife or a tour to visit the world's largest colony of little penguins at Pohatu Bay, with the chance to learn more about the conservation efforts that are protecting them. Guests will also have free time to explore the scenic village. A variety of short walks are available into the surrounding nature reserves, guided by our expedition team.

DAY 7: KAIKOURA

Circled by a breathtaking snow-dusted Seaward Kaikoura Ranges, the picturesque town of Kaikoura is renowned as possibly the best whale watching destination in the world. Kaikoura is one of the very few places it is possible to observe the sperm whale! Aboard a small, specialised vessel, we will explore the ocean in search of these amazing mammals, as well as fur seals, dusky and Hector's dolphins and other migratory whales.

Kaikoura means 'to eat crayfish', and you may have the opportunity to taste fresh local seafood. Stroll through the small town to visit the museums and cafes, before joining the expedition team on a walk over the peninsula to marvel at the spectacular scenery.

DAY 8: MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS

The ancient river valleys that form the Marlborough Sounds are surrounded by forest-cloaked peaks and vineyards, all of which present a breathtaking view from any perspective.

After a relaxing day at sea cruising across Cook Strait to the South Island, anchor at historic Ship Cove to spend the day exploring Queen Charlotte Sound. Discover the dolphins and seals of the sounds with marine spotting from the Xplorer and enjoy wonderful birdwatching on walks through Motuara Island birdlife sanctuary. Guided by our expedition team, hike a section of the spectacular Queen Charlotte Track. Finish the day with a scenic cruise of the sound before we sail for our next destination.

This evening, enjoy Captain's Farewell Drinks in the beautiful surrounds of Marlborough, before crossing the Cook Strait overnight.

DAY 9: ARRIVE WELLINGTON

This morning, arrive in Wellington to disembark at 8:00.

FIORDLAND, SNARES & THE SOUTH COAST

10 Nights | Wellington to Bluff | 21 January 2024

In 2024, this voyage will be enhanced with an additional stop at the Snares Islands / Tini Heke. This Sub-Antarctic anchorage is one of the most pristine places in New Zealand, and is protected as part of the Subantarctic Islands UNESCO World Heritage Site. Landing ashore is prohibited, so we may cruise along the sheltered eastern side of the island to observe unique megaherbs and the many bird species which nest here, including the Snares Penguin, sooty shearwater, and Buller's Albatross.

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Mateo Winter
Guest Lecturer

Mateo hails from the 'deep south' of New Zealand. A passionate conservationist and outdoorsman, Mateo brings a wealth of local knowledge about New Zealand's flora, fauna and environments. Mateo has worked as a ranger with yellow-eyed Penguins, a guide at Orokoni Forest Eco-sanctuary and has established his own land-based tour company. He also regularly volunteers for local conservation projects.

EXPEDITION TO THE ALBATROSS LATITUDES

SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS | 16 NIGHTS | 4 JANUARY 2024



Expedition Highlights

- › Explore the stillness of Dusky and Doubtful Sounds in Fiordland, and encounter many species of wildlife
- › Stroll through the forests of Ulva Island to spot birdlife, including the weka, rifleman, kaka, and kereru
- › Discover the UNESCO World Heritage listed Subantarctic islands, including the Snares, Auckland, Campbell, and Antipodes Islands
- › Spot incredibly rare birdlife, including the yellow-eyed, rockhopper, and erect-crested penguins, northern giant petrel, and 10 species of albatross, in some of the world's most precious and wild habitats
- › Climb through the red-flowering rata and ethereal megaherb pastures on the Auckland Islands to take in a view over the misty seascape of the Southern Ocean
- › Learn about the history of Campbell Island and visit the 'world's loneliest tree'
- › Visit Macquarie Island, halfway to Antarctica, to visit the Australian research station and marvel at the penguin colonies and enormous numbers of seals
- › Spend two days on Chatham Islands to meet the locals and learn the history of the Moriori people, in one of the most remote environments on earth

See Page 13 for Departures & Fares

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ITINERARY: 16 NIGHTS > MILFORD SOUND TO WELLINGTON

DAY 1: DEPART MILFORD SOUND

Transfer by coach from Queenstown to board *Coral Geographer* in Milford Sound at 3:00 pm. Cruise Milford Sound / Piopiotahi to a world-famous view of Mitre Peak, opposite Stirling Falls.

DAYS 2-15:

Your Expedition Team may make changes to the itinerary in order to maximise your expeditionary experience. Below are the key destinations we visit.

AT SEA

This itinerary includes a total of 5 days at sea to reach these destinations. During sea days, relax or join our Expedition Team for a program of interactive workshops and presentations.

DOUBTFUL SOUND & DUSKY SOUND

Fiordland National Park, a World Heritage site once described as the Eighth Wonder of the World, is characterised by 14 fiords carving through just 215km of coastline. This morning, we enter dramatic Tamatea / Dusky Sound to cruise past the towering cliffs and sheet granite walls of Facile Harbour, and explore the sheltered inlets by zodiac. Doubtful Sound / Patea is flanked by towering cliffs and adorned by cascading waterfalls. The stillness and silence of this fiord is compelling and unforgettable, especially in the afternoon light. You may spot lounging fur seals, dolphins, and the Fiordland penguin.

STEWART ISLAND / RAKIURA

Known in Maori mythology as *Te Punga o Te Waka* - 'The Anchor Stone of Maui's Canoe' - Stewart Island is New Zealand's little-visited 'third island'. On Ulva Island, take a guided walk to spot rare birdlife, including the Rifleman, Weka, and Kereru. Explore the village of Oban, and cruise to Prices Point Whaling Station to learn the region's history.

SNARES ISLANDS / TINI HEKE

This morning, sail into your first Sub-Antarctic anchorage at the Snares Islands. The most pristine place in New Zealand, the islands are protected as part of the Subantarctic Islands World Heritage Site and landing ashore is prohibited. We may cruise along the sheltered eastern side of the island to observe unique megaherbs and the many bird species which nest here, including the Snares Penguin, sooty shearwater, and Buller's Albatross.

AUCKLAND ISLANDS / MOTU MAHA

360 kilometres south of Stewart Island, the Auckland Islands are known for their towering mountains and slopes blooming with southern rata and megaherbs. We will go ashore at Enderby Island to spot many of the unique birds that nest here, including the Southern Royal Albatross, northern giant petrel, and yellow-eyed penguin. On Auckland Island, explore the remains of Hardwicke Settlement, abandoned in the early 1800s, and climb the slopes to observe the shy albatross colony and take in the view. Cruise by zodiac through the sheltered inlets of Carnley Harbour and spot rare sea lions, or visit other historic sites.

MACQUARIE ISLAND

Discovered in 1810 by the Australian sealer Frederick Hasselborough, Macquarie Island is a natural wonder. Added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1997, it is the only location where rocks from the earth's mantle are exposed above sea level. The island is home to the entire royal penguin population during breeding season, as well as numerous other species including king penguins. Seal species include fur seals and elephant seals. Cruise Lusitania Bay to take in the awe-inspiring site of thousands of penguins, go ashore to visit the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition, and marvel at the diverse wildlife.

CAMPBELL ISLAND / MOTU IHUPUKU

Campbell Island is New Zealand's most southern island. Over many years it was the location for sealing, whaling, and farming endeavours, but was declared a nature reserve in 1954. Go ashore at Perseverance Harbour, the location for the now automated meteorological station, to observe the otherworldly flora display of megaherbs, including the Campbell Island daisy, the Silver Leaf Daisy and the Campbell Island Carrot. Walk carefully along the protected pathways to spot some of the six species of albatross that breed here, as well as rare yellow-eyed penguins and many other birds, and visit the 'world's loneliest tree', a Sitka Spruce over 100 years old.

ANTIPODES ISLANDS

The Antipodes Island group, volcanic and uninhabited, are part of the New Zealand Subantarctic World Heritage site. The steep and rocky islands are recognised as an Important Bird Area. We may spot the southern rockhopper and erect-crested penguins, albatrosses, petrels, and the Antipodes snipe, pipit and parakeet. The islands are surrounded by basalt cliffs emerging from the sea, hollowed by sea caves, and blanketed by mist. Here, we will cruise the coastline to spot birds and admire the landscape of tussock grass, shield fern and megaherbs.

CHATHAM ISLANDS

The Chatham Islands, a territory of New Zealand, have sustained human settlement for centuries. For over 400 years, the original Moriori settlers were isolated from the outside world.

Over two days, explore these islands and meet the local people. On tender cruises around Mangere Island and Pyramid Rock, look for endemic species such as the Forbes' parakeet, Chatham Island Shag, and perhaps the critically endangered Taiko and Black Robin. Visit the main settlement of Waitangi, and learn about Moriori and European history at Pitt Island.

DAY 17: ARRIVE WELLINGTON

This morning, we arrive at Wellington to disembark at 8:00am.



Steve Cox
Expedition Development

Having previously worked as a dive instructor, tour guide, and professional cricketer, Steve then spent 12 years guiding guests with Coral Expeditions. Steve joined our product development team in 2021 to bring his experience from the field to help create new expeditions. Steve's best experience with Coral Expeditions was swimming with the whale sharks in Indonesia.

DEPARTURES & FARES

TO THE ISLANDS OF MELANESIA FOR CHRISTMAS

21 Nights - Departs Cairns | 16 Dec 2022 | *Coral Adventurer*

[VISIT >](#)

Date	Departs				
16 December 2022	Cairns				
	Bridge Deck Balcony Suite	Bridge Deck Stateroom	Explorer Deck	Promenade Deck	Coral Deck
Twin Share	\$39,590	\$30,790	\$28,190	\$21,120	\$17,590
Sole Use	n/a	n/a	\$42,285	\$31,680	\$26,385

NEW ZEALAND'S EAST COAST

12 Nights - Departs Auckland

[VISIT >](#)

Date	Departs	Vessel
07 January 2023	Auckland	<i>Coral Adventurer</i>
23 December 2023	Auckland	<i>Coral Geographer</i>

Rates:	<i>Coral Adventurer</i>		<i>Coral Geographer</i>		
	Bridge Deck Balcony Suite	Bridge Deck Stateroom	Explorer Deck	Promenade Deck	Coral Deck
Twin Share	\$24,120	\$18,790	\$17,120	\$12,890	\$10,720
Twin Share	\$22,990	-	\$17,120	\$12,890	\$10,720
Sole Use	n/a	n/a	\$25,680	\$19,335	\$16,080

FIORDLAND & THE SOUTH COAST

8 Nights - Departs Milford Sound | 19 Jan 2023 | *Coral Adventurer*

[VISIT >](#)

	Bridge Deck Balcony Suite	Bridge Deck Stateroom	Explorer Deck	Promenade Deck	Coral Deck
Twin Share	\$16,390	\$12,740	\$11,690	\$8,740	\$7,290
Sole Use	n/a	n/a	\$17,535	\$13,110	\$10,935

FIORDLAND, SNARES & THE SOUTH COAST

10 Nights - Departs Wellington | 21 Jan 2024 | *Coral Geographer*

[VISIT >](#)

	Bridge Deck Balcony Suite	Explorer Deck	Promenade Deck	Coral Deck
Twin Share	\$19,190	\$14,290	\$10,720	\$8,920
Sole Use	n/a	\$21,435*	\$16,080*	\$13,380*

EXPEDITION TO THE ALBATROSS LATITUDES

16 Nights - Departs Milford Sound | 04 Jan 2024 | *Coral Geographer*

[VISIT >](#)

	Bridge Deck Balcony Suite	Explorer Deck	Promenade Deck	Coral Deck
Twin Share	\$28,720	\$21,390	\$15,990	\$13,360
Sole Use	n/a	\$32,085*	\$23,985*	\$20,040*

[DISCOVER MORE ONLINE >](#)

[MAKE A BOOKING ENQUIRY >](#)

Prices are per person, listed in Australian Dollars (AUD) and include GST.

*Limited sole use occupancy available.



Cuisine & Wine

On board you will discover a personal and relaxed atmosphere befitting our Australian heritage. We do not have formal nights, organised entertainment or designated seating. Instead, you will enjoy a convivial atmosphere shared with like-minded explorers, with our experienced and friendly crew always at hand.

Enjoy freshly prepared meals from the open galley featuring local ingredients from the regions we visit. Relax in the spacious and open atmosphere of our indoor and outdoor bars and dining areas. Enjoy craft beers, artisanal spirits and wines sourced from the Australia and New Zealand's finest terroirs at the end of a long day ashore.

WINE SELECTIONS

We offer two wine packages, 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 \$285.00
- > Connoisseur Selection: with six bottles featuring two Whites, three Reds and French Champagne, at \$355.00

[FIND OUT MORE >](#)

INCLUSIONS

- > All excursions and sightseeing (excluding optional extras)
- > Snorkelling & equipment (Scuba diving at additional cost)
- > Use of Xplorer, Zodiacs and kayaks
- > Daily lectures and briefings
- > All meals, chef-prepared on board
- > Selected wines, beers, and spirits, juices, and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner service
- > Coffee and selection of teas
- > All entrance fees to National Parks and Ports
- > Choice of local operator excursions at some locations
- > Tips and gratuities

IMAGES 1 Chefs at work, credit David Kirkland | 2 Dinner served onboard *Coral Adventurer*, credit Amy Foulkes | 3 Sunset drinks on the Vista Deck

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CORAL GEOGRAPHER

Features

• 2 Xplorer tenders, 6 Zodiacs • Navigator Lounge in Bridge • Single seat dining with wine table • Three cocktail bars • Well-equipped gym • Passenger elevator • Anchor-free technology

Stateroom Categories

Bridge Deck Balcony Suites	• 37.5sqm • Private Balcony
Explorer Deck Balcony Staterooms	• 21.4sqm • Private Balcony
Promenade Deck Staterooms	• 17sqm • Picture Window
Coral Deck Staterooms	• 17sqm • Porthole Window

[VIEW DECK PLAN >](#)

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⑤

CORAL ADVENTURER

Features

• 2 Xplorer tenders, 6 Zodiacs • Navigator Lounge in Bridge • Single seat dining with wine table • Three cocktail bars • Well-equipped gym • Passenger elevator • Anchor-free technology

Stateroom Categories

Bridge Deck Balcony Suites	• 55.8sqm • Private Balcony
Bridge Deck Balcony Staterooms	• 21.4sqm • Private Balcony
Explorer Deck Balcony Staterooms	• 21.4sqm • Private Balcony
Promenade Deck Staterooms	• 17sqm • Picture Window
Coral Deck Staterooms	• 17sqm • Porthole Window

[VIEW DECK PLAN >](#)

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IMAGES 1 Coral Geographer | 2 Explorer Deck Stateroom | 3 Gym | 4 Lounge
5 Coral Adventurer | 6 Explorer Deck Stateroom | 7 Bridge Deck Suite Bathroom
8 Sunset drinks, Coral Adventurer



IMAGES 1 Dancers at Star Harbour, Makira Island | 2 Women of Ureparapara playing water music | 3 Dunedin landmark | 4 Friendly lizard, Sisiga Village

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