

2023 VOYAGES

RAJA AMPAT & SPICE ISLANDS



SailSAFE

Our Health & Safety Plan for guests & crew

- > Raja Ampat & Spice Islands - Darwin to Biak
- > Raja Ampat & Spice Islands - Biak to Darwin



coralexpeditions
AUSTRALIA'S PIONEERING CRUISE LINE



RAJA AMPAT & SPICE ISLANDS FOR TRUE EXPLORERS

The rich history and diverse marine life of the Spice Islands and Raja Ampat are brought to life on Coral Expeditions' voyages. Aboard *Coral Adventurer*, retrace the ancient trade routes of spice merchants trading Chinese silks for cloves, Indian cotton for nutmeg and Arabian coffee for pepper.

Explore some of the hundreds of rarely visited islands of Raja Ampat whose waters harbour over 75% of the world's coral and fish species. Swim with the giant but docile whale sharks of Cenderawasih Bay in what guests describe is a 'life changing experience'. Walk through vibrant village markets unchanged for hundreds of years. Experience a traditional welcome at Banda Neira where our ship is serenaded by traditional kora canoes. Enjoy the view over sunset drinks at 17th century Dutch Fort Belgica. Climb atop Mount Pindito to marvel at one of the world's most photographed marine scenes: the jagged green limestone cliffs and crystal clear water of Wayag.

Our Raja Ampat & Spice Islands voyages offer some of the most spectacular combinations of history, marine life and natural beauty to be found on any expedition voyage.

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 on the day prior to departure and schedule your own travel arrangements for the following disembarkation due to unexpected changes that may occur in scheduling.

Voyage Series

- > **Raja Ampat & Spice Islands**
13 Nights | Departs Darwin 19 March 2023
- > **Raja Ampat & Spice Islands**
13 Nights | Departs Biak 1 April 2023

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 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 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.

SailSAFE

Our Health & Safety Plan for guests & crew

Our SailSAFE Plan

It is always our priority to keep our guests and crew safe while travelling with us. We have put in place a range of tested and proven protocols to manage our expeditions in a world in which COVID-19 exists. We have partnered with Respond Global, a specialist medical advisory agency, to develop this system that is among the most thorough in the world.

Our key focus is on preventative measures where our protocol includes mandatory vaccination and COVID-19 testing for all guests and crew prior to boarding. Once on board we have adopted a wide range of mitigation actions and a response plan that is approved by authorities in the regions in which we operate. Our plan is supported by Standard Operation Procedures, developed for each vessel requirements specific to the cruise destination.

We have maintained a high standard of safety and guest comfort for almost four decades - a record we are proud of.

[READ THE COMPLETE PLAN >](#)



RAJA AMPAT & SPICE ISLANDS

DARWIN & BIAK

13 NIGHTS | MARCH & APRIL 2023

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Expedition Highlights

- › Swim with the gentle and majestic whale sharks at Cenderawasih Bay, the world's largest fish
- › Enjoy three days in spectacular Raja Ampat, the famed 'Four Kings' archipelago
- › Swim in the turquoise waters of Yapap natural pool
- › Discover Wayag's 'gumdrop' islands and be rewarded by the view from Pindito Peak
- › Be welcomed to Banda Neira by the exciting spectacle of the traditional kora kora canoes
- › Explore the ancient kingdoms fought over by English, Dutch and Portuguese explorers
- › Learn the customs and cultures of West Papua and Indonesia by experiencing traditional dances, handicrafts and fresh local food

See Page 6 for Departures & Fares

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[VIEW AVAILABILITY & BOOK ONLINE >](#)



ITINERARY: 13 NIGHTS > BETWEEN DARWIN & BIAK

DAY 1: DEPART DARWIN OR BIAK

Board at Darwin at 7:30 am for 9:30 am departure.

Board at Biak at 4:00 pm for 5:00 pm departure.

DAYS 2-13: 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.

AT SEA

Spend a luxuriant day at leisure as we cross the Timor Sea. Join our Expedition Team for an introduction to your itinerary.

BANDA NEIRA, SPICE ISLANDS

The Banda archipelago was once the world's only source of nutmeg and have attracted merchants for at least 2,000 years as highly sought-after goods such as cloves, textiles, batik and rice were moved through Banda. On our approach to Banda Neira, admire the photo-worthy spectacle of Moluccan paddlers propelling kora kora canoes. Snorkel and dive over the nearby lava flow reef system or explore ashore and enjoy local tea and snacks on the waterfront. Later, explore Fort Belgica, built in 1611. Join the locals for a traditional dance and music performance before enjoying a glass of bubbles as the sun sets over the fort.

HATTA ISLAND, SPICE ISLANDS

This morning, continue to explore Banda Neira on a guided tour, before visiting a local nutmeg plantation to gain a fascinating insight into the spice that started it all. Alternatively, snorkelling over the nearby lava flow system will reward with spectacular colourful coral and fish species. After lunch, cruise to nearby Hatta Island within the Banda Archipelago to enjoy exceptional snorkelling and diving just 5m from shore with turtles, dolphins and plenty of fish. Stroll through the village, and visit a pepper and nutmeg plantation.

MOLANA ISLAND & SAPARUA ISLAND, SPICE ISLANDS

Start your day at uninhabited Molana Island. This historic island is home to unique vegetation and wildlife, including Pacific monitor lizards, Moluccan scrubfowl and Coconut Crabs. Here, we may snorkel and dive over the beautiful corals surrounding the island. After a refreshing morning, be welcomed at nearby Saparua by singing school children. Experience a day of rewarding cultural connection meeting the local people, and visiting the 17th century Fort Duurstede to witness a thrilling war dance.

SAWAI, SERAM ISLAND

Sawai Village on Seram Island is one of the oldest villages in the Maluku Islands. Simple homes built on stilts line the shore. Spend the day swimming in the crystal-clear waters. This is our final stop before we start our journey to Raja Ampat.

MISOOL, RAJA AMPAT

Your first stop in Raja Ampat is at Misool. Raja Ampat's name means 'Four Kings' for the four main islands: Waigeo, Batanta, Salawati and Misool, in an archipelago of over 1,500 islands.

Known for spectacular turquoise lagoons and magnificent rock formations. Today, explore Balbulol Lagoon, peppered with conical-shaped islets that rise from the peaceful waters like Christmas Trees. Swim and kayak amongst the islands in this beautiful lagoon, before spending time at Yapap, considered one of the best natural pools in the world. At Yapap, the sea has such clarity that grains of sand and coral reefs on the seabed are visible from the surface. Later, visit heart-shaped Dafalen Love Lake, or climb to the summit to view the lake from above.

KOFIAU, RAJA AMPAT

At Kofiau Island we are welcomed by dancers on traditional boats who lead us ashore to Deer village to board longboats to Awat village to attend the traditional Sasi Opening Ceremony. Sasi is a traditional ceremony to preserve the ecosystem and is a very important way the local people protect their environment. After lunch, we snorkel and swim, with the potential to go ashore to visit other villages.

ALJUI BAY, RAJA AMPAT

Known for an incredible diversity of tropical fish and coral species, Aljui Bay is one of the best diving and snorkelling destinations in the world. Spend the morning exploring the colourful underwater environment, searching for unusual coral formations and spotting marine species. Over a satisfying lunch, cruise to Kawe where we celebrate crossing the equator! Go ashore to see the equator marker and then visit an abandoned tin mining settlement. There may be a final opportunity for a refreshing dip in the warm tropical waters before returning to your ship.

WAYAG ISLAND

More Raja Ampat treasures await today as we explore the magnificent waterways and lagoons of Wayag Island by Xplorer and Zodiac. Take in the otherworldly natural beauty of many karst islands topped with emerald foliage surrounding by sparkling blue sea and white-sand beaches. Enjoy time to swim in the clear water, kayak around the 'gumdrop' islands and stroll the white-sand beaches. After lunch, an energetic hike up to famed Pindito Peak rewards with panoramic views over the island. Alternatively, continue swimming, snorkelling.

AT SEA

Leaving Raja Ampat in our wake, we enjoy a luxuriant, relaxed day at sea as we make our way towards Cenderawasih Bay.

ROON OR AURI ISLAND

Depending on the weather and conditions, today we will enjoy either Roon Island or Auri Island. Located in the Teluk Cenderawasih National Park, these islands are picturesque and remote. At Roon Island, have the chance to snorkel or dive on the wreck of a Japanese Zero fighter plane. The wreck has become a marine habitat for corals and many species of fish. At Auri Island, enjoy beach activities.

CENDERAWASIH BAY & KWATISORE

The biodiversity hotspot of Cenderawasih Marine Park attracts a significant population of whale sharks, the biggest fish in the sea. This is one of the few places where it's possible to swim with this endangered species, as they are drawn to the fisherman's *bagans*. If nature allows, we will snorkel beside the whale sharks. This is a true once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Later, visit Kwatisore village to meet the local people and learn about West Papuan culture, music, and lifestyle

DAY 14: ARRIVE BIAK

After an early morning arrival into Biak at 7:00am, disembark to visit the historic Binsari Caves before your 12:00 noon charter flight to Darwin (charter flight at additional cost).

REVERSE DIRECTION:

This itinerary is also available in the opposite direction, departing Biak to Darwin. For our Biak to Darwin itinerary, your charter flight will board in Darwin and a tour of Binsari Cave is included prior to boarding the ship.

OPTIONAL CHARTER FLIGHT

Charter flights are available between Biak & Darwin at approximately \$850 per person. This will be a direct flight, and a Coral Expeditions staff member will accompany guests. Limited seats available, call our reservations team for more information.

DEPARTURES & FARES

RAJA AMPAT & SPICE ISLANDS

13 Nights | Coral Adventurer | Departs:

> 19 March 2023 - Darwin to Biak
> 01 April 2023 - Biak to Darwin

VISIT >

	Bridge Deck Balcony Suite	Bridge Deck Stateroom	Explorer Deck	Promenade Deck	Coral Deck
Twin Share	26,520	20,660	18,890	14,160	11,790
Sole Use	n/a	n/a	28,335	21,240	17,685

Optional charter flight is available between Darwin & Biak at an additional cost of approximately \$850 per person.

DISCOVER MORE ONLINE >

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

Refer to website pricing at time of booking as pricing may be subject to change.
*Limited sole use occupancy available.



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 Micronesia 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 >



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
- > Connoisseur Selection: with six bottles featuring two Whites, three Reds and French Champagne

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, 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 is served | 3 Sunset drinks on the Vista Deck

CORAL ADVENTURER

Passengers: 120 | Staterooms: 60
Length: 93.4m | Draught: 4.5m | Tonnage: 5,516

Our expedition vessel, *Coral Adventurer*, will be your home for this voyage. *Coral Adventurer* accommodates 110 guests in 60 spacious staterooms, with all Explorer Deck staterooms, Bridge Deck staterooms and suites offering private balconies.

With over 1000sqm of open deck space including a wrap-around promenade deck with panoramic views, *Coral Adventurer* features spacious and vibrant living spaces inspired by the company's Australian ethos and the wide-open spaces the ship visits. Multiple indoor and outdoor bars, including the Xplorer bar on the sundeck, a well-equipped gym and a passenger elevator creates an environment designed for guest comfort.

Coral Adventurer is purpose-built for comfortable ocean voyages and for exploring remote areas inaccessible to larger cruise ships. The ship's lightweight dual Xplorer expedition tenders extend the capabilities of the ship by allowing deeper exploration, on shore excursions and an easy, step-on embarkation from the ship's main deck. *Coral Adventurer* also features advanced technologies and environmentally-responsible design, including anchor-free technology and efficient water and waste recycling systems.

As an Australian flagged and crewed vessel, you can expect the highest standard of service, environmental responsibility and the intimate and personal experience of small-ship cruising on *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

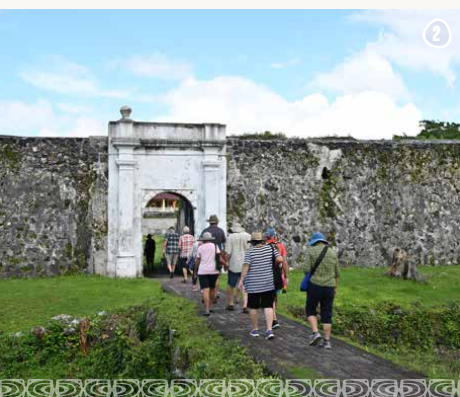
Stateroom Categories

Bridge Deck Balcony Suites	• 37.5sqm • 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 >](#)

IMAGES 1 Explorer Deck Stateroom | 2 Bridge Deck Suite Bathroom | 3 Bridge Deck lounge | 4 Xplorer | 5 Toasts on the Vista Deck | 6 Dining room





IMAGES 1 Wayag Island | 2 Exploring Hatta Island | 3 Kayaking from the beach | 4 Laughing with the locals at Tagalaya Island

SMALL SHIPS
FEWER THAN
120 GUESTS

VACCINATED
PASSENGERS &
CREW

REMOTE
NATURE-BASED
EXPEDITIONS

WARM
AUSTRALIAN
HOSPITALITY

APPROVED
SAILS SAFE
PLAN



SailSAFE

Our Health & Safety Plan for guests & crew

Contact us today or speak with your travel agent.

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