

15 APRIL 2023 VOYAGE

# THE SOLAR ECLIPSE EXPEDITION

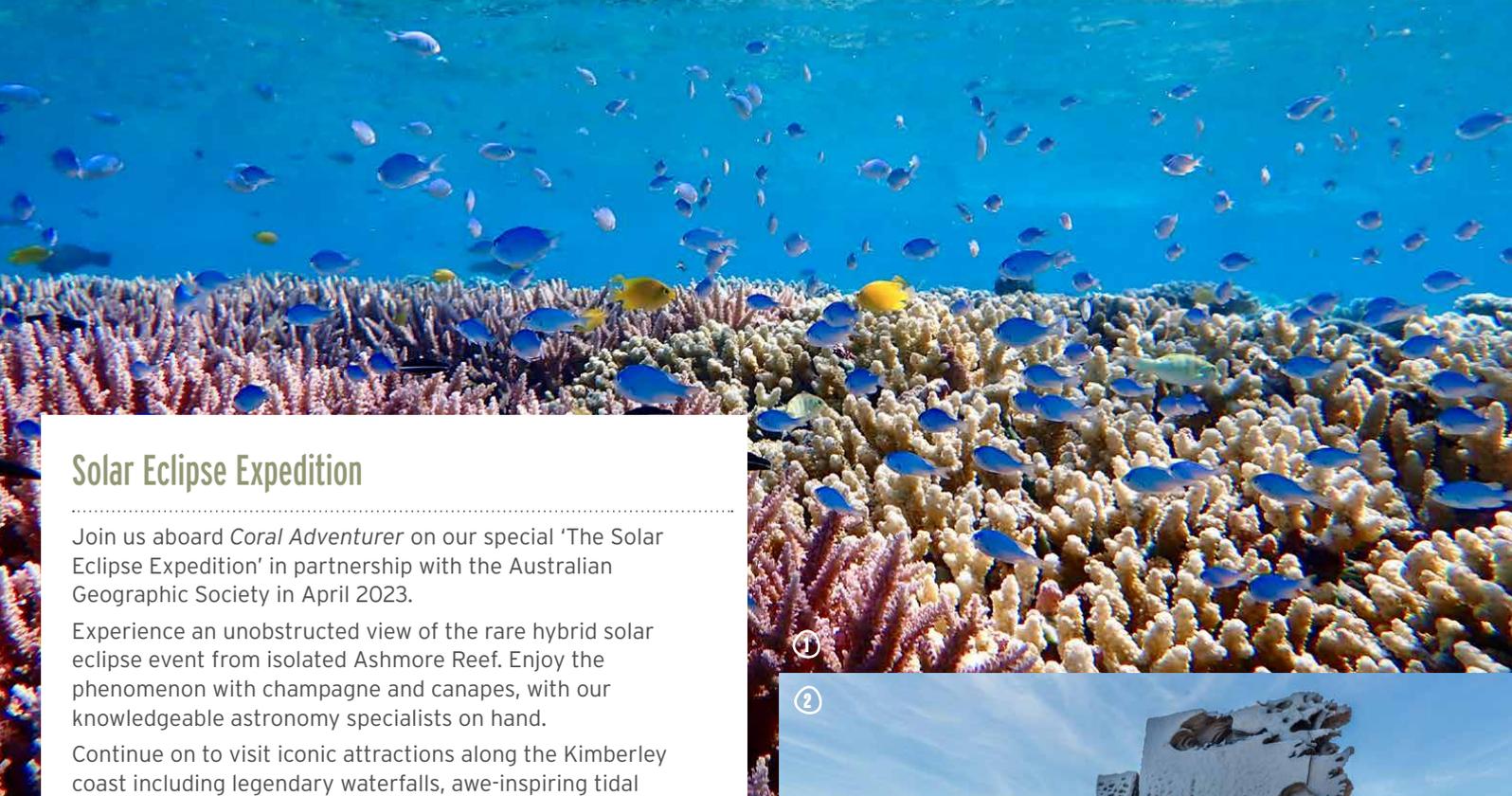


IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE  
AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

- > The Solar Eclipse Expedition  
13 Nights | Darwin to Broome | 60 Staterooms only  
Forces of Nature - rare celestial events to ancient landscapes



**coralexpeditions**  
AUSTRALIA'S PIONEERING CRUISE LINE



## Solar Eclipse Expedition

Join us aboard *Coral Adventurer* on our special 'The Solar Eclipse Expedition' in partnership with the Australian Geographic Society in April 2023.

Experience an unobstructed view of the rare hybrid solar eclipse event from isolated Ashmore Reef. Enjoy the phenomenon with champagne and canapes, with our knowledgeable astronomy specialists on hand.

Continue on to visit iconic attractions along the Kimberley coast including legendary waterfalls, awe-inspiring tidal phenomenon and soaring rock formations carved by immense tectonic pressure.

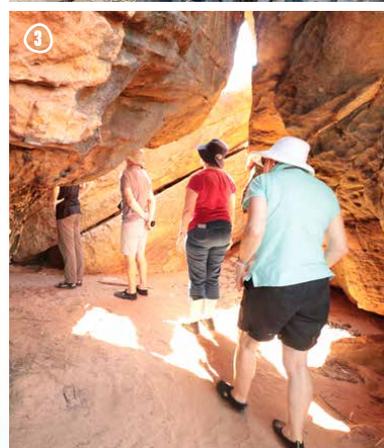
This is an expedition that features the forces of nature in its diverse glory.

## Special Event: The Solar Eclipse

- > Be surrounded by the forces of nature while experiencing a rare hybrid solar eclipse at isolated Ashmore Reef. Watch the birdlife react to this celestial event, flying home to roost in the middle of the day as you plunge into darkness

## Expedition Highlights

- > Enjoy the company of expert guides who will be sharing their knowledge of wildlife, astronomy and nature photography
- > Witness the grandeur of King George River and the power of its thundering twin falls after wet season
- > Walk among ancient natural rock art galleries dating back up to 20,000 years
- > Snorkel and dive in the pristine waters of Scott Reef
- > See the natural phenomenon of Montgomery Reef as it rises out of the sea on the falling tide
- > Experience the thrill of riding on a Zodiac through Horizontal Falls
- > Cruise through the tumultuous Whirlpool Passage and enjoy a swim at stunning Silica Beach
- > Birdwatch and encounter marine life at remote Adele Island and Lacepede Island
- > Conditions permitting, snorkel and dive at Rowley Shoals - a group of three coral atolls with untouched coral gardens, superb water clarity and teeming marine life
- > Enjoy an optional extra helicopter flight over the spectacular four-tiered Mitchell Falls
- > Receive a commemorative photo book featuring images captured by Scott Portelli during the expedition



IMAGES 1 Marine life at Rowley Shoals | 2 Elgee Siltstone structure, Edeline Islands | 3 Rock Galleries, Bigge Island | 4 Montgomery Reef | 5 Total solar eclipse

# THE SOLAR ECLIPSE EXPEDITION



## Your Australian Geographic Society Hosts

We are thrilled to partner with the Australian Geographic Society in an alliance that brings together over 65 years of shared passion and experience for education, discovery, travel and science.

Special guests from the Australian Geographic Society, Fred Watson AM and Marnie Ogg will share their expertise and stories of the places we will visit and around the world.

Also on board will be Australian Geographic Society's Nature Photographer of the Year 2021 Scott Portelli.

**Professor Fred Watson AM** is Australia's first Astronomer-at-Large. Recognised internationally for helping to pioneer the use of fibre optics in astronomy during the 1980s, Fred is best known today for his award-winning radio and TV broadcasts, books and dark-sky advocacy.

**Marnie Ogg** has 30 years of experience in tourism. Seeing the designation of Australia's first Dark Sky Place, managing Sydney Observatory and Founding the Australian Dark Sky Alliance has seen her receive two International Dark Sky Defender awards.

**Scott Portelli** is a scuba diver, underwater and nature photographer hailing from Mosman, New South Wales. Winning numerous national and international nature photography awards between 2015 and 2020.

A Voyage in partnership with Australian Geographic  
15 April 2023 | The Solar Eclipse Expedition

## DEPARTURES & FARES

13 Nights - Departs: 15 April 2023 from Darwin aboard *Coral Adventurer*

	Bridge Deck Balcony Suite	Bridge Deck Stateroom	Explorer Deck	Promenade Deck	Coral Deck
<b>Twin Share</b>	\$29,990	\$23,590	\$21,580	\$16,180	\$13,490
<b>Sole Use</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$24,270*	\$20,235*

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

\*Limited sole use occupancy available.

[VIEW AVAILABILITY & BOOK ONLINE >](#)

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Fred Watson & Marnie Ogg



Scott Portelli



## INCLUSIONS

- > All excursions and sightseeing (Mitchell Falls helicopter not included)
- > 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
- > Snorkelling & equipment on The Solar Eclipse Expedition itinerary. (Scuba diving at additional cost)

# ITINERARY: 13 NIGHTS DARWIN TO BROOME

## DAY 1: DEPART DARWIN

Arrive at Darwin's Fort Hill Wharf to board *Coral Adventurer* at 8:00 am for a 9:00 am departure. Once on board, meet the crew and attend the safety briefing before spending the evening mingling at the Captain's Welcome Drinks as we cross the Bonaparte Gulf.

## DAYS 2-13:

This itinerary is an indication of the destinations we visit and activities on offer. Throughout the expedition, the Master and Expedition Team may make changes to the itinerary as necessary to maximise your eclipse viewing and expeditionary experience. Allowances may be made for weather, tidal conditions, cloud coverage and any other event that may affect the operation of the vessel. As clear skies for optimal viewing of the eclipse event is our priority, there may be substantive changes made to the itinerary to accommodate this experience.

## SPECIAL EVENT: SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING

### ASHMORE REEF - SOLAR ECLIPSE

The Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands is made up of the West, Middle and East Islands of Ashmore Reef as well as Cartier Island and the surrounding 12 nautical mile Territorial Sea. The islands are uninhabited and are a haven for wildlife including marine turtles, whale sharks, dugong and migratory bird populations. Here we will view the rare hybrid solar eclipse event from the sheltered anchorage of the lagoon. Watch as the birdlife reacts to the celestial event, flying home to roost in the middle of the day as the sky darkens. Enjoy the phenomenon with champagne and canapes on the Vista Deck with our knowledgeable astronomy specialists, including Fred Watson, on hand.

## TIDAL PHENOMENON

### HORIZONTAL FALLS & BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO

The Horizontal Falls are created as the ocean is forced through a narrow gorge in the McLarty Ranges, creating a rushing horizontal waterfall of swiftly flowing seawater. Riding the rapids on our Zodiac inflatable tenders is one of the highlights of our Kimberley expedition cruises. See evidence of massive geological forces in the impressive rock formations as we cruise through the Iron Islands, past Koolan Island, before enjoying sunset drinks at Nares Point.

### BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO, WHIRLPOOL PASSAGE, EDELINE ISLAND & SILICA BEACH

Whirlpool Passage divides Chambers and Hidden Islands (Bangoon) in the Buccaneer Archipelago. When conditions allow, passing through the passage when the tide is running is a dramatic experience as the ship negotiates the whirlpools.

Explore Edeline Island, home to the Elgee Siltstone structures. Discover this wild and unspoiled destination with guidance and insight into the flora and fauna from our experts.

Depending on the tides, stroll along the flawless white sand, surrounded by towering rock formations at Silica Beach.

### MONTGOMERY REEF (YOWJAB) & DOUBTFUL BAY

In a one-of-a-kind marine spectacle, witness the ocean recede with tidal flow anywhere from 4 to 10 metres to reveal a thriving flat top reef. Witness birds hunting in the newly exposed lagoon for marine life in the rock pools and be entertained by green sea turtles exploring the shallow reef. Our expedition team will share their knowledge of the reef and wildlife.

## UNIQUE CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

### VANSITTART BAY (BANJAL)

Discover culturally and historically significant sites such as the Gwion Gwion Aboriginal rock art galleries estimated to be up to 20,000 years old before heading to the Anjo Peninsula to view the well-preserved wreckage of a US Air Force C-53 Skytrooper aircraft.

### BIGGE ISLAND (WUUYURU)

Bigge Island is known for its historical Indigenous rock art. An easy 50 metre walk from our beachside landing site, admire the art works on the cave walls. Rare vulnerable species thrive here including the Northern Quoll, Scaly-tailed Possum and Monjon.

## MIGHTY WATERFALLS

### KING GEORGE RIVER & FALLS (OOMARI)

Fed by the King George River draining across the Gardner Plateau, the 80m tall King George Falls are the most impressive Kimberley waterfalls and the highest twin falls in Western Australia.

Before reaching the base of the falls we cruise through some 13 kilometers of steep-sided sandstone gorge. Enjoy getting up close to the falls, which will be in full flow following the wet season, by Xplorer or zodiac.

### MITCHELL FALLS & WOLLASTON BAY

Tumbling down the Mitchell Plateau in a series of tiered waterfalls and emerald green rock pools, the Mitchell Falls (Punamii-Uunpuu) are the photogenic poster child for the Mitchell River National Park. Take a scenic helicopter flight available at an additional cost for a unique perspective of this unspoiled landscape.

An alternative option to Mitchell Falls is exploring the sandstone caves of Wollaston Bay. This probable former sea cave is now a fascinating art site featuring Gayarra Wanjina and Wanjina paintings.

## MARINE SANCTUARIES

### ROWLEY SHOALS & SCOTT REEF

If conditions allow, we will visit the Rowley Shoals, a chain of 3 coral atolls including Clerke, Mermaid and Imperieuse Reefs. The shoals offer some of the best snorkelling and diving opportunities in the world with unparalleled water clarity. Their shallow lagoons are inhabited by countless coral species and marine life, including giant potato cod, Maori wrasse and species of coral and fish of which many are not found on other coral reefs. Conditions permitting, we will spend a full day at Clerke Reef. Guided by our on-board marine biologist, snorkel and dive on the atoll that covers about 90sqkm.

Scott Reef is an incredible snorkelling and diving location, here we will explore the diverse underwater ecosystems of this acclaimed coral habitat. If weather and tide conditions allow, we will land on a sand cay.

### ADELE ISLAND & LACEPEDE ISLANDS

Pristine Adele Island is recognised as a wildlife sanctuary, declared as a Nature Reserve in 2001 and classified by BirdLife International as an Important Bird Area for its seabirds and waders. This location features a unique reef habitat, with exclusive discoveries having been reported here, sparking scientific interest.

The Lacepede Islands are a protected Class-A nature reserve and are significant as a seabird nesting rookery for brown boobies and roseate terns. Other species often sighted at the Lacepedes include Australian Pelicans, frigate birds, egrets and gulls. The four low-lying islands are also an important breeding and nesting habitat for green turtles. We will explore these locations via Xplorer and zodiac.

## DAY 14: ARRIVE BROOME

Arrive to disembark at 8:00 am.

# CORAL ADVENTURER

Passengers: 110 | 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 • Three cocktail bars • Well-equipped gym • 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 >](#)

IMAGES 1 *Coral Adventurer* | 2 Explorer Deck Stateroom | 3 Bridge Deck Suite Bathroom | 4 Bridge Deck lounge | 5 Xplorer | 6 Toasts on the Vista Deck | 7 Sunset drinks, *Coral Adventurer*

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IMAGES 1 Twin Falls, King George River | 2 Brown Booby with chick | 3 Zodiac on the King George River | 4 Sunset fun

SMALL SHIPS  
FEWER THAN  
**120 GUESTS**

**VACCINATED**  
PASSENGERS &  
CREW

REMOTE  
**NATURE-BASED**  
EXPEDITIONS

WARM  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
HOSPITALITY

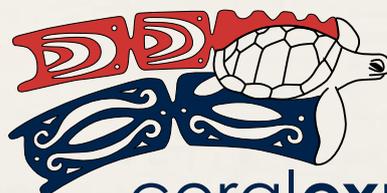
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**SAILS SAFE**  
PLAN



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