Itinerary

11 Day Kimberley Coast Expedition Cruise

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.**

DAY 1: DEPART DARWIN OR BROOME

Today marks the beginning of our Kimberley adventure, with embarkation available from either Darwin or Broome, depending on your selected itinerary. Take the time to settle into your stateroom, explore the ship, and meet your fellow travellers as we set sail into one of Australia's most remote and stunning regions.

DARWIN DEPARTURES

Arrive at Darwin's Fort Hill Wharf for boarding at 8:30am. A light breakfast will be served onboard as you settle in and familiarise yourself with your surroundings. We set sail at 9:00am, cruising across the vast Joseph Bonaparte Gulf and into the waters of Western Australia.

- **Boarding Time:** *8:30am at Fort Hill Wharf*
- **Departure Time:** *9:00am*
- **Notes:** *Light breakfast available on board*

BROOME DEPARTURES

Meet at the Mangrove Hotel in Broome at 3:30pm, followed by a transfer to Broome Deep Water Port for boarding at 4:00pm. After settling into your stateroom, we depart at 5:00pm to begin our journey along the Kimberley coastline.

- **Meeting Point:** *Mangrove Hotel at 3:30pm*
- **Boarding Time:** *4:00pm at Broome Deep Water Port*
- **Departure Time:** *5:00pm*
- **Notes:** *Coach transfer included*

After departure, take some time to explore the ship's facilities and enjoy the scenery as the coastline drifts past. In the evening, join your expedition team in the Bridge Deck Lounge for a welcome briefing and introduction to the Kimberley region. As the sun sets, mingle with fellow guests, the captain, and crew during Captain's Welcome Drinks.

MEALS: Breakfast (Darwin departures), Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Coral Expeditions Vessel

DAYS 2–10: EXPEDITION CRUISE

Over the next nine days, we'll journey through some of the Kimberley's most iconic and remote destinations—where ancient rock art, thundering waterfalls, rare wildlife encounters, and powerful tidal phenomena await. Each location reveals a different facet of this remarkable region, offering a rich blend of natural beauty, Indigenous culture, and adventure.

NOTE: ***The order of visits may vary depending on your voyage direction and prevailing weather and tidal conditions.***

KING GEORGE RIVER & FALLS (OOMARI FALLS)

Fed by waters draining from the Gardner Plateau, Oomari – King George Falls are the tallest twin falls in Western Australia, plunging 80 metres over ancient sandstone cliffs. We cruise through steep-sided gorges carved over millions of years, arriving at the base of the falls. During waterfall season, we may cruise beneath the misty spray by Zodiac, in the dry season, marvel at intricate honeycomb erosion patterns in the surrounding cliffs. The site holds deep cultural significance for the Balangarra people.

VANSITTART BAY (BANJAL)

Home to culturally and historically important sites, Vansittart Bay includes the remarkable Gwion Gwion (Bradshaw) rock art at Ngula – Jar Island, believed to be up to 20,000 years old. These delicate, stylised figures are among Australia's oldest known artworks. We also visit the Anjo Peninsula to view the well-preserved wreckage of a US Air Force C-53 Sky trooper, which crash-landed during WWII.

MITCHELL FALLS, WINYALKAN & SWIFT BAY

Deep within the sandstone escarpments lies the iconic Punamii-Uunpuu – Mitchell Falls, cascading over four tiers into emerald pools below. You may choose to take an optional scenic helicopter flight for breathtaking aerial views. On foot, sandstone terraces offer natural lookouts. At Swift Bay, explore a series of Wandjina and Gwion Gwion rock art galleries tucked into coastal caves.

MONTGOMERY REEF (YOWJAB)

Covering over 300 square kilometres, Montgomery Reef rises from the ocean twice daily with the retreating Kimberley tides. Water cascades from its surface in rivulets and waterfalls, revealing rock pools teeming with marine life. Join our Zodiac and Xplorer tenders to witness this dynamic event up close, as turtles, dugongs, and sea birds feed on the exposed reef. Our Expedition Team will interpret the reef's unique ecosystem and formation.

DOUBTFUL BAY & RAFT POINT (NGUMBREE)

Doubtful Bay is traditional country of the Worrora people, custodians of the Wandjina belief system. At Ngumbirri – Raft Point, visit extraordinary Wandjina rock art galleries high on the escarpment, overlooking the sea. Weather permitting, we journey to Red Cone Creek to reach Ruby Falls, where a short climb over natural rock formations leads to a refreshing swim in a secluded freshwater pool. We may also explore the Sale River by Xplorer if time allows.

HORIZONTAL FALLS (GARAANNGADDIM)

One of the Kimberley's most iconic features, the Horizontal Falls are created when the region's massive tides force seawater through a narrow gorge in the McLarty Ranges, creating a spectacular sideways waterfall. Conditions permitting, take an exhilarating Zodiac ride through the rapids, a highlight of the expedition.

PRINCE FREDERICK HARBOUR & BIGGE ISLAND (WUUYURU)

Set against dramatic escarpments, Prince Frederick Harbour is dotted with mangrove-lined islands and monsoon rainforest. Cruise up Porosus Creek to spot white-bellied sea eagles, mudskippers, and mangrove crabs. Later, visit nearby Lumbarrni Island to explore Indigenous rock art sites, and learn about the cultural heritage of the Wunambal people.

PRINCE REGENT RIVER & CAREENING BAY (WUNBUNG-GU)

Following a straight fault line, the Prince Regent River leads us to King Cascade, a beautiful, tiered waterfall flowing over layers of Kimberley sandstone, lush with mosses and grasses. Nearby at Careening Bay, we view the Mermaid Boab Tree, still bearing the inscription "HMC Mermaid 1820," carved by the ship's carpenter during repairs led by Lieutenant Phillip Parker King.

TALBOT BAY & BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO

In Talbot Bay, discover dramatic geology in Cyclone Creek, where rock folds and ancient strata reveal the area's violent natural history. We cruise through the Iron Islands, pass by Koolan Island, and enjoy sunset drinks at Nares Point—a stunning conclusion to the day amidst 2-billion-year-old rock formations of the Buccaneer Archipelago.

THE LACEPEDE ISLANDS

Subject to tide and weather, we visit the Lacepede Islands, a Class-A Nature Reserve and vital bird nesting site. The islands support tens of thousands of brown boobies, roseate terns, and are an important breeding ground for green turtles. Explore the lagoons by Zodiac or Xplorer, with opportunities for birdwatching and spotting marine life in this pristine sanctuary.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Coral Expeditions Vessel

DAY 11: ARRIVE IN BROOME OR DARWIN

This morning, we conclude our unforgettable journey along the wild and ancient Kimberley coast. After breakfast, it's time to bid farewell to the captain, crew, and your fellow travellers, taking with you the memories of spectacular landscapes, cultural discoveries, and new friendships forged at sea.

BROOME ARRIVAL

We arrive into Broome at 8:00am, with disembarkation shortly after. Post-cruise transfers to Broome CBD or Airport are included. If you have time before your flight, why not explore this vibrant outback town? Wander the streets of historic Chinatown or relax on the iconic white sands of Cable Beach—the perfect end to your Kimberley experience.

- **Disembarkation:** *Approx. 8:00am*
- **Transfers:** *Included to CBD or airport*
- **Optional Suggestions:** *Visit Cable Beach, Chinatown, or local cafés*

DARWIN ARRIVAL

We arrive into Darwin at 9:00am, with disembarkation at Fort Hill Wharf at 9:30am. post-cruise transfers to CBD hotels or the airport are included. If your flight is later in the day, take the opportunity to explore Darwin's relaxed tropical vibe—from the landscaped waterfront precinct to the popular Wave Pool, or enjoy a coffee in one of the city's open-air cafés.

- **Disembarkation:** *Approx. 9:30am*
- **Transfers:** *Included to CBD hotels or airport*
- **Optional Suggestions:** *Visit the Waterfront, Wave Pool, or local attractions*

MEALS: Breakfast