

WHERE ANCIENT KNOWLEDGE MEETS LIVING CULTURE (CRUISE FROM TIWI ISLANDS TO ARNHEM LAND)

Welcome to Indigenous Australia's most significant cultural expedition--where ancient songlines guide modern discovery, and every encounter reveals knowledge systems spanning 65,000 unbroken years. Over eight days, you'll navigate sacred waters between the Tiwi Islands and East Arnhem Land, guided by traditional owners whose families have stewarded these lands since time immemorial. This isn't cultural tourism--you'll participate in ochre mining ceremonies, witness bark painting creation by internationally renowned Yolngu artists, and learn directly from Elders about kinship systems governing one of Earth's oldest living cultures. Each day brings privileged access to communities who choose to share their stories, from Tiwi's distinctive pukumani poles to Yolngu's intricate clan structures connecting people to specific Country through ancestral law. Our small expedition community of just 30 guests ensures respectful exchanges impossible on larger vessels, whether you're fishing estuaries with traditional owners or gathering bush medicines that have sustained communities for millennia. Experience Indigenous Australia through genuine partnership with traditional owners who determine how their stories are shared. The Tiwi Islands and East Arnhem Land represent Indigenous Australia's most culturally intact regions, where traditional governance structures, languages, and ceremonial practices continue unbroken from ancestral times. Unlike mainland Australia where colonization severely disrupted cultural continuity, these remote communities maintained autonomy enabling preservation of knowledge systems, artistic traditions, and spiritual connections to Country that define Aboriginal identity. You'll engage with internationally celebrated artists



whose bark paintings hang in major galleries worldwide, learn from Elders whose knowledge encompasses everything from sustainable fishing practices to complex kinship laws, and understand how contemporary Indigenous communities balance cultural preservation with modern aspirations. This expedition operates under strict cultural protocols established by traditional owners--from where we travel to what stories can be shared--ensuring every encounter respects the extraordinary privilege of accessing Australia's oldest living culture through relationships built on mutual respect



over decades.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Darwin

Board Paspaley Pearl as afternoon light catches Darwin Harbour, beginning your journey north across waters traversed by Makassan trepangers and Yol u mariners for centuries. Meet your 29 fellow adventurers while our expedition team prepares you for privileged access to Tiwi Islands' distinctive artistic traditions ahead.

Day 2 Pirlangimpi, Melville Island

Visit Munupi Arts & Crafts where Tiwi artists work in pottery, weaving, carving and painting using techniques connecting to pukumani funeral ceremonies. Witness distinctive geometric patterns--vibrant ochres against black backgrounds--created with earth pigments enhancing reds through fire, watching traditional body paint designs translate to contemporary media.

Day 3 Mount Borradaile

Scenic flight to Awunbarna's sandstone galleries reveals 8,000-year-old Rainbow Serpent paintings and intricate x-ray art showing animals' internal structures. Walk through registered sacred sites where traditional owner partnerships mean artifacts remain undisturbed--grinding stones, ancient tools, and contact art depicting Macassan praus alongside European ships.

Day 4 Victoria Settlement & Port Bremmer

Explore Britain's 1838 Port Essington settlement ruins--round Cornish chimneys, elevated Governor's residence, cemetery markers telling stories of tropical isolation that defeated colonial ambitions within eleven years. Afternoon at Paspaley's remote pearl farm reveals techniques perfecting Australian South Sea pearl production in pristine coastal waters 370 kilometres from civilization.

Day 5 Maningrida

Visit Maningrida Arts & Culture representing 700+ artists across 7,000 square kilometres speaking 12 distinct languages. Witness master weavers transforming pandanus and jungle vine using ancestral techniques, while bark painters create distinctive rarrk crosshatching with ochres harvested from specific clan estates--materials carrying cultural significance beyond aesthetic value.

Day 6 Galiwin'ku & Gugari Rip

Receive Welcome to Country from Galpu traditional owners at Elcho Island Arts, watching weaving demonstrations creating



dillybags following clan-specific patterns. Afternoon navigation through Gugari Rip--50-metre-wide channel with 12-knot tidal currents racing between ancient rock formations--demands precise timing and respect for natural forces shaping these passages.

Day 7 Yirrkala & Bawaka

Experience Rirratjingu Elders' genuine cultural expression through song and dance at Buku-Larr gay Mulka Art Centre, home to historic Bark Petitions igniting Australia's land rights movement. Afternoon at Bawaka homeland brings hands-on participation--spear-making, bush medicine gathering, traditional cooking--learning through lived experience rather than staged demonstrations.

Day 8 Yirrkala

Conclude your journey where continuous Yol u occupation spans tens of thousands of years. Reflect on artistic diversity from Tiwi geometric patterns through Maningrida's multilingual complexity to Yirrkala's internationally significant bark paintings--contemporary expressions of 65,000-year-old knowledge systems asserting Indigenous rights and cultural continuity through art.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: PASPALEY PEARL

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

PASPALEY PEARL marks a milestone in the development of boutique expedition travel, offering a benchmark-setting standard of excellence in the Asia Pacific region. As a modern boutique expedition vessel in the Kimberley featuring private balconies, we have the ability of reaching exotic destinations previously inaccessible by larger vessels. You're invited to ignite your sense of discovery, all whilst travelling in comfort and safety that has been designed to create the smallest possible footprint, with a philosophy of empowering local people and creating ambassadors for the destinations visited. Designed to feel like your home away from home Marrying PASPALEY's heritage of over 80 years in the Kimberley and Northern Australia with PONANT's 35-year history of luxury expedition travel, PASPALEY PEARL emerges as the embodiment of comfort and adventure. Featuring 15 staterooms and suites and hosting a maximum of 30 guests per voyage, PASPALEY PEARL emerges as the newest and only boutique expedition motor yacht in the Kimberley with private balconies. The perfect place to relax while exploring _Main Dining, Lounge and Bar_ Nestled on the Ocean Deck is our main dining area, lounge, and bar. As our skilled chefs craft your locally-inspired dinner, take a moment for a pre-dinner drink before being spoiled with the finest produce Australia has to offer. If you're interested in exploring some of PASPALEY's exquisite offerings, you'll be delighted by their showcase of the world's most beautiful pearls, available for purchase as a cherished memento of your time on board. _Outdoor Dining, Lounge and Bar_ When journeying through the tropics, immersing yourself in the outdoors becomes essential. Indulge in breakfast and lunch daily within a relaxed yet refined setting. With two expansive dining tables and abundant lounges, relish the idea of dining amidst the natural surroundings you explore. Craving a refreshing drink after a day of exploration? Our friendly staff at the Outdoor Bar have you covered. The Outdoor Lounge doubles as the perfect space for afternoon briefings with your expedition team, ensuring you receive all the information needed for the following day's adventure. _Sun Deck Lounge and Jacuzzi_ Bask in the sunshine on the Sun Deck, furnished with sun beds, lounges, and an 8-person jacuzzi. Whether you prefer reading a book under the shelter of the protective shade cloth or engaging in conversations with newfound friends, the Sun Deck promises a haven of pure relaxation. _Sunset Lounge_ Located ahead of the bridge, you can savour panoramic views rivaling those of the captain at the Sunset Lounge. Order a drink from one of the bars downstairs and relax as you witness some of the most breathtaking sunsets you've





ever seen.

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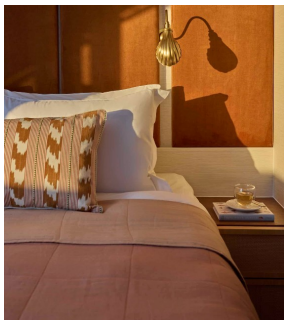
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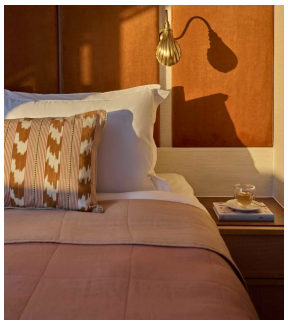


INSIDE YOUR SHIP

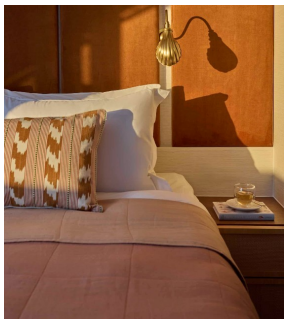
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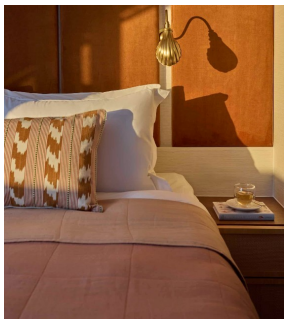
Ocean Double Stateroom



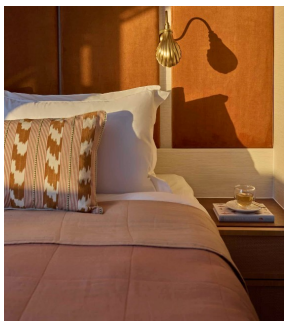
Ocean Stateroom



Ocean Twin Stateroom



Pearl Suite





PRICING

17-Sep-2027 to 24-Sep-2027

Ocean Double Stateroom	£7999 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£13999 GBP pp
Horizon Suite	£11249 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£9749 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£8499 GBP pp

11-Oct-2028 to 18-Oct-2028

Horizon Suite	£12249 GBP pp
Ocean Double Stateroom	£8499 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£9499 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£10499 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£13999 GBP pp