

## The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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## NEW ZEALAND - WELLINGTON TO MILFORD SOUND

Join us on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure to discover the dramatic scenery, fascinating Maori culture and iconic wildlife of New Zealand's beautiful South Island. Over 8 unforgettable nights cruise from the country's charming and cosmopolitan capital Wellington to Milford Sound, experiencing the country's iconic sights and the genuine warm welcome for which New Zealanders are renowned. After boarding Oceanic Discoverer in New Zealand's cosmopolitan capital Wellington, located on the southern tip of the North Island, we follow in the footsteps of famous explorer Captain James Cook in the scenic Marlborough Sounds. At Kaikoura, considered to be the world's premier destination for whalewatching, we join a special cruise allowing us to get up close and personal with these majestic mammals. Then, soak up the French ambience of pretty Akaroa, where myriad wildlife experiences await, before the opportunity to explore historic Dunedin, a fascinating city which retains a strong Scottish heritage and many interesting sights to explore. A highlight of our expedition will be a visit to the renowned wildlife area that is Stewart Island. In the company of our expert local guides you will encounter New Zealand's native birdlife, including the iconic kiwi, which is often seen foraging on the beach. Our cruise concludes with three memorable days cruising the World Heritage-listed waters of the South Island's Fiordland National Park. Experience Milford Sound and cruise amongst the towering peaks of rarely-visited Doubtful and Dusky sounds, where myriad marinelife frolics in the cool waters. Our expedition concludes in Milford Sound, before an included coach transfer through spectacular mountain scenery and the green farming lands of the South Island to Queenstown, a resort town of

unrivalled beauty, where our journey



concludes.

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Wellington

Boarding of Oceanic Discoverer commences at 5:00pm in readiness for our departure from Wellington at 6:00pm. As we depart we enjoy spectacular views of New Zealand's scenic capital city as we make our way amongst the islands of the Cook Strait. This evening meet your fellow travellers, the Captain and his crew at the Captain's Welcome Drinks.

#### Day 2: Marlborough Sounds

We explore an array of spectacular waterways including the fiord-like Queen Charlotte Sound. Retracing the history of

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Captain Cook we visit Ships Cove a regular stop for Captain Cook on his voyage of discovery and the place where he careened his vessel the Endeavour. The day offers a multitude of explorations aboard the Xplorer and inflatable Zodiacs under the guidance of our Expedition Leader and with interpretation from our experienced Guest Lecturers. Subject to timings we may visit Moturoa Island where we enjoy an abundance of birdlife. We farewell the dark green hills and blue-green waters of the Sounds with an evening cruise through the scenic Tory Channel as continue our journey southwards.

### Day 3: Kaikoura Whalewatching

The scenic coastal town of Kaikoura is renowned as possibly the world's best destination for whalewatching and one of the few places in the world where it is possible to view the giant Sperm Whale in its natural environment. We join a special cruise to discover these majestic mammals along with Fur Seals, dolphins and other migratory whales, an experience never to be forgotten. Enjoy time for a stroll around the pretty coastal town before reboarding Oceanic Discoverer to continue our journey.

### Day 4: Gallic Akaroa

This morning we cruise into secluded Akaroa Harbour, a very scenic village nestled in the heart of an active volcano. Stroll through the village, discover its French history, cosy cafes and excellent craft stores. Enjoy optional shore excursions, perhaps swim with one of the smallest and rarest dolphins – the Hector's or New Zealand Dolphin.

### Day 5: Discover Dunedin

The Otago Harbour welcomes us as we cruise past the world's largest mainland albatross colony at Taiaroa Heads, also home to the world's rarest penguin, the Yellow Eyed Penguin. Of Scottish

heritage, Dunedin offers a great diversity of experiences from abundant wildlife to the historic Edwardian and Victorian architecture, the Otakou Maori Marae, the famous Speights Brewery, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Settlers Museum and New Zealand's oldest botanical gardens. Enjoy a full day ashore to explore at your own pace.

### Day 6: Stewart Island

Discover the natural delights and scenic beauty of Stewart Island, a large island that is almost totally wilderness and home to a vast number of seals, birds and other wildlife. Landing ashore at Paterson Inlet, join a guided walk to encounter native birds such as the Weka, Tui, Bellbird, Kaka and New Zealand's iconic national bird, the kiwi. Unlike other species of kiwis, the Stewart Island Kiwi is active both during the day and night and is often seen foraging on the beach for sandhoppers and other insects.

### Day 7: Dusky Sound

Our first experience of the deep Fiordland National Park begins as we enter Dusky Sound. We spend the day in awe of the spectacular and dramatic wilderness as we cruise amongst the sheer cliffs and tumbling waterfalls of this beautiful landscape. Enjoy the view from Oceanic Discoverer or choose to explore the inlets from Xplorer or zodiacs. Continuing northward, we anchor for the evening at the entrance to spectacular Doubtful Sound.

### Day 8: Doubtful Sound

Awaken this morning to the magnificent scenery of Doubtful Sound. The deepest of the sounds, Doubtful was named by Captain Cook in 1770 and is often described as Fiordland's most spectacular waterway. Join the Guest Lecturers aboard Xplorer as we cruise amongst the towering peaks and explore a





maze of hidden waterways, home to myriad marine and bird life. This evening, enjoy our the Captain's Farewell Cocktails as we make our way to world-famous Milford Sound, our final stop on this memorable journey.

#### Day 9: Milford Sound and Queenstown

Savour breakfast as we cruise the dramatic 22 kilometre length of Milford Sound. The calm waters of the sound mirror the sheer peaks that rise all around, including the instantly recognisable Mitre Peak, towering some 1,600 metres above the waterway below. At 8:00am we disembark in Milford Sound and farewell the Captain and his crew. Then, join our chartered coach for the drive through Fiordland National Park and along the shores of beautiful Lake Te Anau before arriving in the pretty alpine town of Queenstown at approximately 1:30pm. During the drive, enjoy breathtaking mountain scenery and pass through the remarkable 1,200 metre Homer Tunnel, a fantastic way to conclude our journey exploring 'the land of the long white cloud'.



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## YOUR SHIP: CORAL DISCOVERER

**YOUR SHIP:** Coral Discoverer

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

Yacht-like Coral Discoverer set a new benchmark standard of sophistication in expedition cruising when she was constructed by us in 2005. Coral Discoverer sailed on pioneering expeditions through Papua New Guinea, the islands of the South Pacific, Vanuatu, New Zealand, West Papua, and the Spice Islands. She led explorations into remote areas, focusing on destinations that were largely inaccessible to larger cruise ships. Coral Discoverer is exceptionally nimble and maneuverable, with a shallow draught to get up close to destinations, ocean views from all public spaces, an expansive open-air sun deck, all outside-facing staterooms, and state-of-the-art tools for exploration including the Xplorer, zodiacs, a glass-bottom boat, and kayaks. A full refurbishment in 2018 saw the addition of private balconies, the much-loved Xplorer sundeck bar, and all new furnishings throughout the ship. Comfortable, reliable, and intimately scaled, Coral Discoverer now conducts expeditions across Australia's coast - Tasmania, Cape York and Arnhem Land and the Kimberley. Australian flagged and staffed by an Australian and New Zealand crew, your experience aboard Coral Discoverer will be memorable. Onboard Accommodation Onboard accommodation comprises 36 spacious modern

staterooms. You can select from Bridge, Promenade or Main Deck staterooms offering a choice of twin through to junior king-size doubles. All staterooms have an ocean view, en-suite facilities, settee, large wardrobe, desk, luggage storage, individual air-conditioning control, and are serviced daily. Onboard Facilities What you would expect of a much larger cruise ship: Large sundeck Spa Pool Guest computer Comprehensive reference library Phone and fax facilities Lecture lounge with large plasma screen Limited laundry facilities Two fully stocked cocktail bars Boutique and dive shop Air-conditioned public areas Coral Discoverer is equipped with the latest technology active stabilizers and is fitted with state-of-the-art safety and navigational equipment and is the only Australian passenger ship registered with full SOLAS compliance allowing opportunities to explore a multitude of international voyages. Dining All meals during the cruise are included. Breakfast and lunch are served in the Dining Room located on the Main Deck and are buffet-style while dinner is table d'hote. Coffee and tea is available 24 hours. Standard hours are breakfast from 7:00-8:30am, lunch at 12:30pm and dinner at 7:30pm however meal times may vary according to the day's activities. Meal times will be advised in the onboard daily bulletins. Excursion Boats And Zodiacs The "Xplorer" is a specially designed aluminium excursion vessel used for the majority of our excursions. This vessel has high horsepower engines and will accommodate all passengers at one time. The "Xplorer" will be used for landings and for extensive exploration of rivers and tributaries. For your added convenience and comfort, the "Xplorer" is equipped with an awning and toilet. We





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also carry two inflatable landing craft (Zodiacs). Designed for expedition work, these large and heavy-duty inflatables are extremely safe. Separate air compartments retain a large reserve of buoyancy even if the boats damaged. The flat bottom design permits these crafts to land directly onto the beaches. Expect nonetheless to wade through shallow water to reach the shore. See photo



below (right)



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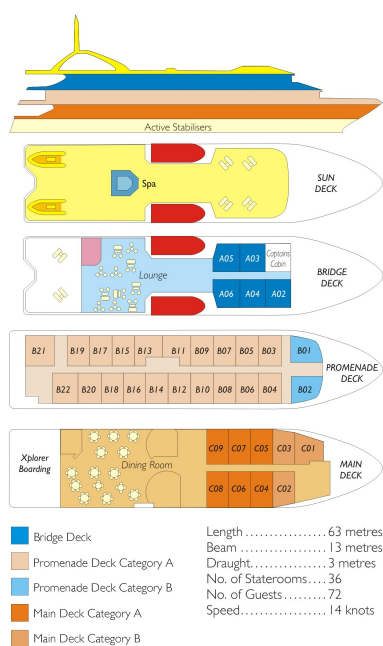
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP





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## PRICING



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