



The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA: A CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF NEW BRITAIN

Welcome to your New Britain circumnavigation--where active volcanoes meet ancient traditions, and every day reveals dramatic contrasts between pristine wilderness and living history. Over the next 11 nights, you'll circumnavigate one of the Pacific's most geologically active islands, exploring environments shaped by fire and water. This isn't geological sightseeing--you'll snorkel vibrant coral reefs within the Coral Triangle, walk through WWII tunnel systems carved by Japanese forces, and witness secretive Tolai masked ceremonies under volcanic peaks that still steam and rumble today. Each morning brings new adventures as we navigate between pristine beaches and historically significant battle sites. You'll explore the collapsed rim of Garove Island's spectacular volcanic caldera, swim among the world's most biodiverse coral reefs in Kimbe Bay and participate in traditional village ceremonies where Methodist missionaries established their first Pacific mission in 1875. From tracking through rainforest to hidden waterfalls in remote Jacquinot Bay to exploring Rabaul's ash-covered streets where volcanic eruptions reshaped entire communities, every experience connects you with both natural forces and human resilience. Our small expedition community of just 30 guests means intimate encounters with environments and communities that remain largely unchanged, whether you're snorkeling pristine reefs or sharing stories with villagers whose lives revolve around volcanic overlords. This is expedition travel where geology meets culture: engaging, educational, and utterly fascinating. Your Ring of Fire adventure begins the moment we cast off from Madang.



ITINERARY

Day 1 Cairns - Meet your fellow travellers

Your expedition will start with an overnight in Cairns, where you will meet your fellow travellers for the first time. You will then depart the following morning on a charter flight to Madang to meet the ship.

Day 2 Madang - Papua New Guinea

Board Paspaley Pearl in the "Pearl of the South Pacific," where tree-lined streets and volcanic islands create one of Papua New Guinea's most attractive settings. Meet fellow adventurers while our expedition team prepares you for dramatic contrasts between active volcanoes and ancient traditions ahead.

Day 3 Nip Island, Cape Gloucester - Historic battlefields and beach exploration

Explore uninhabited islands offshore from this historic WWII battlefield, where American forces landed in 1943 during



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Operation Cartwheel. Swim and snorkel pristine beaches and coral reefs in warm Bismarck Sea waters while learning how this remote wilderness became a crucial Pacific War strategic position.

Day 4 Witu Islands - Visit Large Volcanoes and Tropical Forests

Navigate inside Garove Island's spectacular volcanic caldera through the collapsed southern rim creating a dramatic entrance. Join traditional Melanesian communities in this 8-10 kilometre natural amphitheater, exploring lush tropical forests and vibrant marine environments within this remarkable volcanic sanctuary largely untouched by outside influence.

Day 5 Kimbe Bay - Biodiversity at it's finest

Snorkel among Earth's most biodiverse marine environment, where over 860 fish species and 400 coral varieties create spectacular underwater gardens. Explore black volcanic beaches contrasting with lush forests, potentially visiting thermal springs while marvelling at volcanic landscapes supporting this UNESCO-recognised biodiversity hotspot.

Day 6 Ataliklikun Bay - Traditional expedition performances and experiences

Meet the distinctive Tolai people known for matrilineal clan systems and traditional "tabu" shell money. Witness elaborate cultural performances including secretive "dukduk" masked dances performed during full moon periods, handling traditional currency while learning how coastal communities balance

ancient customs with modern influences.

Day 7 Rabaul - Distinct harbours and ancient volcanoes

Tour this dramatic harbour town within an ancient volcanic caldera surrounded by six volcanoes. Explore 1994 volcanic devastation sites and extensive WWII tunnel systems carved by Japanese forces, watch active Mt. Tavurvur still steaming while learning how resilient communities live with constant volcanic activity.

Day 8 Duke of York Islands - Religious lifestyles and traditional villages

Discover where Methodist missionaries established their first Pacific mission in 1875, spreading Christianity throughout the region. Experience traditional village life maintaining Melanesian customs, walk white sandy beaches, and enjoy exceptional snorkelling among vibrant coral reefs in this historically significant archipelago.

Day 9 Jacquinot Bay - Remote wilderness meets discovery

Venture into New Britain's most remote wilderness where pristine beaches meet rainforest-covered mountains. Hike to hidden waterfalls cascading through dense tropical vegetation, learning how Australian forces used this natural harbour during 1944 Pacific War campaigns in areas seldom visited by outsiders.



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Day 10 At Sea - Remarkable landscapes and enrichment onboard

Reflect on remarkable volcanic landscapes and cultural experiences during our Bismarck Sea crossing. Join enrichment sessions about regional geology and biodiversity while spotting marine life from the deck, fostering deeper connections within your expedition community as you process extraordinary encounters with natural forces.

Day 11 Tami Islands - Artistic traditions that have inspired generations

Experience the Pacific's most influential artistic traditions on four coral atolls encircling a crystal-clear lagoon. Witness famous "Tami style" wooden carvings and ceremonial masks, try traditional techniques, and participate in cultural performances celebrating artistic heritage maintained across countless generations.

Day 12 Madang - Papua New Guinea

Return to where your circumnavigation began, carrying shared memories of volcanic landscapes, cultural encounters, and pristine environments. From active volcanic sites to traditional ceremonies, pristine coral reefs to WWII tunnels, your journey revealed remarkable stories of geological forces and human cultural resilience.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: PASPALEY PEARL

YOUR SHIP: Paspaley Pearl

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

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INSIDE YOUR SHIP

Horizon Suite



Ocean Double Stateroom



Ocean Stateroom

Ocean Twin Stateroom

Pearl Suite





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PRICING

28-Oct-2026 to 08-Nov-2026

Ocean Twin Stateroom	£11999 GBP pp
Horizon Suite	£15499 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£12499 GBP pp
Ocean Double Stateroom	£10999 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£17999 GBP pp

08-Nov-2026 to 18-Nov-2026

Ocean Stateroom	£10498 GBP pp
Ocean Double Stateroom	£9248 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£9998 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£15498 GBP pp
Horizon Suite	£12998 GBP pp

17-Nov-2026 to 28-Nov-2026

Ocean Stateroom	£12499 GBP pp
Ocean Double Stateroom	£10999 GBP pp
Horizon Suite	£15499 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£11999 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£17999 GBP pp

09-Nov-2027 to 20-Nov-2027

Pearl Suite	£18749 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£13249 GBP pp
Horizon Suite	£15499 GBP pp
Ocean Double Stateroom	£11749 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£12749 GBP pp