

RAJA AMPAT: NATURE'S RICHEST REALM SMALL SHIP CRUISE

This expedition follows spice trade routes that shaped the modern world -- north from Timor-Leste through the Banda Islands, to the 1,500 limestone islands of Raja Ampat. The geographic isolation that made these waters worth fighting over across three centuries has helped to preserve the marine environments that now support 550 coral species and 1,600 documented reef fish species -- the most biodiverse underwater habitat on Earth. Thirty guests aboard Paspaley Pearl means access these waters require -- time and movement shaped by conditions rather than a fixed schedule. When the Portuguese established the first forts in the Spice Islands in 1512, nutmeg and mace commanded prices exceeding gold in European markets -- enough to justify warships, mercenaries, and a century of brutal competition. The Dutch eventually monopolised the trade by force, but their grip came at a price: in the 1667 Treaty of Breda, they ceded a small Dutch settlement called New Amsterdam to the English in exchange for the Spice Island of Run. The English renamed that settlement New York.



ITINERARY

Day 1 Dili, Timor Leste - Colonial heritage and marine environments

Board the Paspaley Pearl in Southeast Asia's youngest nation, where Portuguese colonial architecture features in the waterfront town of Dili, serving as your gateway to the Indonesian islands and Raja Ampat. Once aboard, the evening unfolds with introductions to crew and fellow guests over dinner as the vessel departs for the Banda Sea crossing.

Day 2 At Sea - Historic Island Adventure

Travel through one of the world's great ocean passages where



depths exceed 5,000 metres as you cross the Banda Sea. During this crossing, four onboard naturalists will introduce the journey ahead, explaining the ocean and environmental systems that create the extraordinary marine life found in Raja Ampat. They'll also share the history of the Banda Islands and the conflict-ridden spice trade.

Day 3 Tanimbar Islands - explore a great megalithic site

The Tanimbars lie in the far south of Maluku, some 65 islands set between the Banda and Arafura Seas, with the port town of Saumlaki on the largest of them, Yamdena. We go ashore here and travel up the east coast to Sangliat Dol, a village built around one of the great megalithic sites of eastern Indonesia. A stone stairway climbs from the beach to a ceremonial platform laid out in the shape of a boat, its prow turned toward the sea, carved with spirals and fish and understood as the vessel that carried the first ancestors to these islands. It remains the ritual centre of the village. Tanimbarese carving, goldwork and ikat weaving are among the finest in Maluku, and the forested hills behind the coast hold birds found nowhere else on earth.

Day 4 Kei Islands, Maluku - White sand beaches and remote islands

Arrive at The Kei Islands, where white sand beaches meet clear water over shallow fringing reef systems. Enjoy a traditional welcome ceremony from local communities that trace back to migrations from Java and Bali during the expansion of the Majapahit Empire. Here, rich cultural practices have been maintained across generations and continue to thrive today.

Day 5 Kitikiti Waterfall, Mommon - Freshwater and coral reefs

Today offers the chance to explore the Mommon Peninsula, where the KitiKiti waterfall cascades from rainforest-covered cliffs into the ocean. A refreshing contrast forms where cool freshwater meets the warm tropical sea, creating distinct temperature layers that can be felt while swimming near the falls. Make use of kayaks and paddleboards to explore the coastline and glide above coral reefs that flourish beyond the reach of freshwater. From the surrounding rainforest, you'll hear the cacophony of endemic bird calls only found in New Guinea's western regions.

Days 6 - 10 Raja Ampat Archipelago - 5 days in marine excellence

Spend the next five days exploring the wonders of the Raja Ampat archipelago, with each day offering new adventures. Visit Manta Sandy, where manta rays with wingspans exceeding three metres gather, and Cape Kri, home to a world-record breaking dive documenting 374 distinct fish species in a single dive. Snorkel through vibrant coral gardens with visibility often exceeding 30 metres, drifting from shallow reefs to dramatic vertical wall systems plunge into the deep blue.

Day 11 Sorong - Villages only reached by sea

Disembark Paspaley Pearl at Sorong with memories of limestone islands rising sheer from the water, reefs holding more coral and fish species than anywhere else on earth, and villages reached only by sea. The port sits at the western tip of the Bird's Head Peninsula, the crossing point between Papua and the trade routes of Maluku for centuries before it was a town at all. From here a short transfer takes you to your charter flight back to Darwin.



Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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





ever seen.

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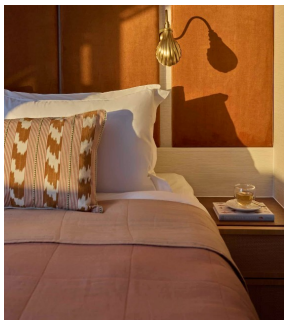
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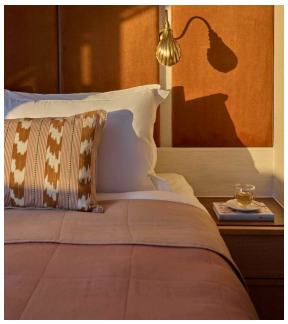


INSIDE YOUR SHIP

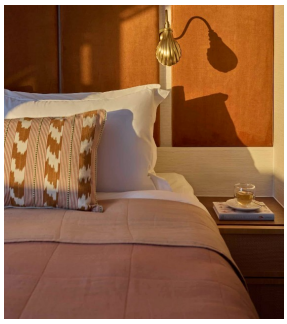
Horizon Suite



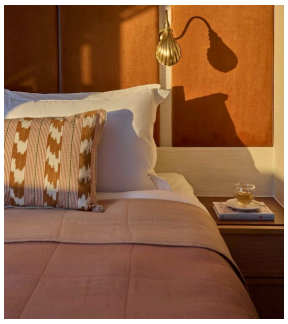
Ocean Double Stateroom



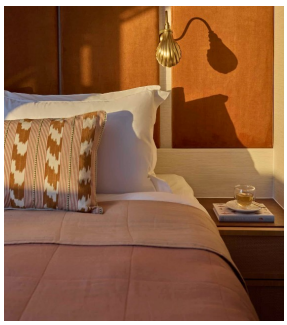
Ocean Stateroom



Ocean Twin Stateroom



Pearl Suite





PRICING

08-Jan-2028 to 18-Jan-2028

Ocean Twin Stateroom	£13249 GBP pp
Ocean Double Stateroom	£11749 GBP pp
Horizon Suite	£16749 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£18499 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£14499 GBP pp

18-Jan-2028 to 28-Jan-2028

Horizon Suite	£16749 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£18499 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£13249 GBP pp
Ocean Double Stateroom	£11749 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£14499 GBP pp

04-Mar-2028 to 14-Mar-2028

Ocean Double Stateroom	£11749 GBP pp
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Horizon Suite	£16749 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£18499 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£14499 GBP pp

14-Mar-2028 to 24-Mar-2028

Ocean Stateroom	£14499 GBP pp
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Horizon Suite	£16749 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£13249 GBP pp
Pearl Suite	£18499 GBP pp

29-Dec-2028 to 08-Jan-2029

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Pearl Suite	£18499 GBP pp
Ocean Stateroom	£14499 GBP pp
Ocean Twin Stateroom	£13249 GBP pp