



RIVIERA OWNERS

KIMBERLEY EXPEDITION
APRIL 2011

ESCORTED BY JOHN & SHARON RUSSELL
OF



RIVIERA
SYNDICATION

ØRION
EXPEDITION CRUISES

DARWIN TO BROOME

Orion Expedition Cruises - 25 April to 5 May 2011

The next best thing to cruising in your own Riviera is to enjoy an adventure in the Kimberley onboard the 5 star expedition ship *Orion* with Riviera owners from around Australia. John & Sharon Russell from Riviera Syndication invite you to escape to the hidden treasures of Australia – The Kimberley. Nothing can fully prepare you for the dramatic contrasts Australia's North-West, rich in Aboriginal culture and galleries of ancient artwork. Towards the west, in the historic pearling town of Broome, the colours of nature are vibrant and intense: rich red earth, azure blue seas and brilliant white sand beaches. North of Broome lies the ragged Kimberley coast, a place you can only comprehend from the sea. Rugged gorges, inlets and waterfalls plunging 100 metres, all combine for an awe-inspiring experience you simply can't have by travelling overland.



Mon, 25 April

DARWIN - EMBARK

Darwin developed as a frontier town of crocodile and buffalo shooters and pioneer cattlemen. After the city was wiped out by Cyclone Tracy in 1974 it was rebuilt as Australia's northernmost tropical capital. Litchfield National Park is about 2 hours drive and to the south-east are the teeming wetlands of Australia's largest national park, Kakadu. Much architecture remains from the city's early periods, with museums, markets and an incredible diversity of restaurants to keep visitors entertained.

Tue, 26 April

JACO ISLAND

Orion will make a brief operational landfall at Jaco Island. Guests will remain on the ship.

Wed, 27 April

AT SEA

Thu, 28 April

WYNDHAM

(for included Bungle Bungles flight)

Wyndham is the northernmost town in Western Australia and, for us, the staging post for

opportunities to discover the East Kimberley. Purnululu National Park affords a breathtaking perspective of the Bungle Bungles. They are an incredible sight resembling a beehive forming deep chasms with palm trees and long gorges. To appreciate the overall aspect of this strange landscape, one has to take to the air. Though the Aboriginal people have lived in this region for generations, Purnululu was "discovered" only in the mid 1980's. A television crew came upon the unique beehive shaped domes in 1982 and in 1987 it was proclaimed a National Park. The domes are bordered by great banded cliffs that glow fire-red in the late afternoon sun.

A shuttle bus to Kununurra and around Wyndham township will be provided for those who are not travelling to the Bungle Bungles on the included tour.

Fri, 29 April

KING GEORGE RIVER AND FALLS

Orion will drop anchor in Koolama Bay. Originally known as King George Bay, the area was renamed after the merchant ship Koolama was bombed near here by Japanese aircraft during WW II. The journey by Zodiac will take us up the spectacular King George River with almost vertical sheer canyon walls that have been

eroded over millions of years. The King George River drains the Gardner Plateau and the falls are the highest single-drop falls in the whole of the Kimberley (100m or 330ft).

There are two equally dramatic experiences depending on your timing in the Falls season. Early in the season we will probably hang back in the thundering mist to capture the full might of King George Falls.

For guests looking for even more adventure there is a challenging walk to the top of the falls where you will have the opportunity to cool off and enjoy a swim in one of the fresh water rock pools.

Sat, 30 April

VANSITTART BAY

After our wet landing ashore, *Orion's* Expedition Team will lead us to an outdoor art gallery of Gwion Gwion (otherwise known as Bradshaw) Aboriginal art. Named after Joseph Bradshaw, the first European to record them in 1891, the rock images are hard to date, but are estimated to be up to 40,000 years old. Of the two primary art forms found along the Kimberley coastline – the Gwion Gwion and Wandjina – the latter is more contemporary.





The Gwion Gwion is known for its graceful forms. The Wandjina are instantly recognisable for the distinctive haloes around their heads. One for the trivia devotees, the explorer Phillip Parker King, after finding tamarind trees which he recognised as not being native to the Kimberley also found shards of Macassan pottery here, inspiring him to name the Island, Jar Island.

Sun, 1 May
**HUNTER RIVER
(for Mitchell Falls)**

This is one of the most scenic parts of the Kimberley coast; Prince Frederick Harbour and the Hunter River are lined with green rainforest, mangroves and soaring red cliffs. Cliffs at the river mouth are up to 200 metres high.

Today *Orion* will drop anchor close to Naturalist Island, the indigenous name of which is 'Wunumpurramarra', on the northern side of the bay. Mitchell Falls & Plateau is about 50km and you shouldn't miss the helicopter flight over some spectacular terrain and waterfalls. From the air you'll notice the natural bush landscape is littered with an unexpected feature – the palm! *Livistona eastonii* predominate and grow

in the open eucalypt forest. *Orion's* Zodiacs land you on the main beach.

This region has many crocodiles and you may be lucky enough to see them on the Zodiac safari through the mangroves and hopefully not on the beach.

Mon, 2 May
MONTGOMERY REEF/RAFT POINT

You will embark *Orion's* Zodiacs for an expedition team guided safari of Montgomery Reef, coinciding with the changing of the tide. Initially, you'll see very little of Montgomery Reef, however as the tide drops rapidly away, a raging torrent of water will cascade off the top of this 400 square km reef, appearing to rise out of the ocean. In the channel as water cascades down on either side, it's the perfect spot to watch cormorants, egrets and sandpipers forage for sea life trapped on the surface of the reef. Below the waterline, sea turtles, reef sharks and many larger fish also take advantage of this feast.

The second half of our day will involve an expedition to an elevated outdoor rock art gallery. After landing ashore by Zodiac at Raft Point, your expedition leader will guide you

on a climb up to a saddle of rock that forms a spectacular outdoor Aboriginal art gallery.

Tue, 3 May
**TALBOT BAY
(Horizontal Waterfalls)**

The Horizontal Waterfalls in the Buccaneer Archipelago are a product of the huge tides in the region, and the effect is created by the rapid tidal fall on the ocean side of gaps in the cliffs. When conditions are right it is possible for a 'waterfall' up to 3 metres high to form as the waters trapped on the landward side cascade out through the narrow gap to the ocean side.

A flotilla of *Orion's* Zodiacs will take you for an exhilarating trip to witness the phenomenon of the falls. Later in the day join expedition team members on a Zodiac excursion to Cyclone Bay, where the tortured geological folds of what was once seabed will be explained.

Wed, 4 May
CAPE LEVEQUE

Cape Leveque is situated 220km north of Broome on the tip of the Dampier Peninsula. It is a remote oasis in the white sands, red earth

and thick bush. Unless travelling onboard *Orion*, Cape Leveque can only be accessed by self-drive 4WD (some four hours – and only in the dry season) or by air.

During your visit to Cape Leveque you will enjoy beautiful swimming in rock pools with clear water and abundant tropical fish. You may choose to experience a guided beach walk with a member of the Lombadina community or go fishing.

Thu, 5 May
**BROOME
(disembark after a leisurely breakfast)**

The town is full of contrasts: stroll along kilometres of pristine white sand and swim in the clear water of Cable Beach or skim across tidal flats aboard a hovercraft to Gantheaume Point, home of 130 million year old dinosaur footprints. Spend some time uncovering the town's history at the Broome Historical Society Museum or reflect on the dangers of the early days of diving at the Japanese Shinto Cemetery, final resting place for over 900 pearl divers. Then visit the Paspaley Pearls Boutique to discover how things have changed since those days.



ORION
EXPEDITION CRUISES

a faith less travelled...

www.orionexpeditions.com

ABOUT ORION

Although custom-made for expedition cruising, *Orion* is the epitome of elegance. No expense has been spared when it comes to the quality of fittings and furnishings, and the range and calibre of onboard recreational facilities are nothing short of five-star. *Orion's* luxurious appointments means she is more mega-yacht than cruise ship and her guests are few; around just 50 couples, all cared for in 5-star comfort by a crew of 75.

Every room offers you ocean views, room to relax during the day and a choice of either queen or twin bed sleeping arrangements. All of the Staterooms and Suites have the same high standard of amenity. All rooms have marble bathrooms and offer conveniences such as ample storage space, complementary 24-hour room service, a flat screen TV, DVD/CD player, internet connectivity, a personal safe, hairdryer and a mini-refrigerator continuously stocked with complimentary bottled water.

To make a booking or request more information please contact:

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EXPEDITION CRUISES

Escorted by John & Sharon Russell
Riviera Syndication's



**RIVIERA
SYNDICATION**

10 night cruise aboard *Orion* including accommodation as booked, ship transportation, all meals onboard, 24-hour room service, a range of shoreside expeditions led by the expedition team, entertainment and educational programs, use of the ship's sporting equipment and facilities, port and handling charges, shipboard gratuities, Zodiac and tender transfers, access to the ship's library, government fees and taxes



10 Night Kimberley Expedition Departing 25 April 2011

Day 1	Darwin, Northern Territory
Day 2	Jaco Island
Day 3	At sea
Day 4	Wyndham (for Bungle Bungles)
Day 5	King George River and Falls
Day 6	Vansittart Bay
Day 7	Hunter River (for Mitchell Falls)
Day 8	Montgomery Reef/Raft Point
Day 9	Talbot Bay/Horizontal Waterfalls
Day 10	Cape Leveque & The Lacepedes
Day 11	Broome, Western Australia

Expedition Fares

Category	Type	Brochure Fare	Special Riviera owners fare [^]
B	Oceanview Stateroom	\$9,100	\$7,735
A	Oceanview Stateroom	\$10,565	\$8,980
JS	Junior Suite	\$12,550	\$10,668
DS	Deluxe Suite	\$13,745	\$11,683
BS	Balcony Suite	\$16,405	\$13,944
OS	Owner's Suite	\$19,055	\$16,197

* Savings vary by category type and are subject to availability. Fares are per person twin share in Australian dollars.

[^] Also available to Riviera owners friends and family.