

Explore the Kimberley: Broome to Broome (or Derby to Derby)

Cruise 10: 13 night Package – cruise first then return by scenic flights

Wednesday 6 July to Tuesday 19 July 2022 – \$10,490 pp

Explore the Kimberley Cruise Package includes:

- One night's accommodation in Broome at Broome Time Resort on July 6
- a coach transfer from Broome to Derby on July 7
- Cruise commences July 7
- 12 night cruise from Derby to Naturalist Island from July 7 to July 19
- a scenic helicopter flight from Naturalist Island to the Mitchell Plateau Airstrip on July 19
- a scenic flight from the Mitchell Plateau to either Broome or Derby on July 19
- a shuttle transfer from Broome or Derby Airport to your chosen destination in Broome/Derby on July 19

Driving Option: we suggest you travel to Derby where you can store your vehicles at our expense for the duration of the cruise. This replaces the accommodation in Broome on July 6.

Experience The Kimberley by sea in one direction and return by air. This fabulous package includes a thrilling helicopter flight over the spectacular Mitchell Plateau and a scenic light air flight between the Mitchell Plateau and Broome. This package starts from and returns to Derby and Broome.

Thursday 7 July: Broome & Derby

After a night's accommodation in Broome (July 6) you will be picked up by an air-conditioned coach and taken to Derby. This is approximately a 3-hour drive. The driver will stop on the way so that you can purchase refreshments. Passengers in Derby will be picked up on the way. Once in Derby you will be welcomed on board Discovery One by our friendly crew. Settle in, get acquainted with the boat and relax as Discovery One cruises to the top of King Sound and the beginning of the Buccaneer Archipelago. Your cruise of a lifetime is about to begin.

Silica Beach:

Silica Beach, on Hidden Island, boasts pure white sands and clear blue water. It's the kind of beach one imagines should be found on an island paradise. It is a lovely place to take a dip in the shallows.

Talbot Bay & the Horizontal Falls:

Talbot Bay is home to the famous Horizontal Falls. The region's massive tides create a spectacular scene, sending huge volumes of water pouring through two narrow chasms in the land formation when the tides reach peak flow in both rising and falling conditions. With up to 10m of height difference between the waters of each of the two inland bays and the sea, water gushes through creating a mass of whirlpools, boils and raging currents. In Cyclone Creek, the incredible marine life includes impressive Tawny Nurse sharks which often come to greet Discovery One.

Montgomery Reef:

North West of Raft Point is Montgomery Reef. This 400 sq km reef can emerge up to 4m above the waterline at low tide, creating a visual spectacle of waterfalls and sea life. Several small islands dot the reef and support rich mangroves, crocodiles, turtles, birds and fish.

Sampson Inlet:

Sampson Inlet leads into a monsoonal rainforest pocket with almost permanent fresh water. Many previous passengers have called this the most beautiful spot on the Kimberley coast.

Hanover Bay & Camden Harbour:

Within Hanover Bay are the pristine sands of Hanover Beach. It is here, in 1838, where Lt. George Grey unloaded his Timor ponies and began the first land based expedition of North West Australia in search of the great inland sea. The journey soon ended when he was speared by Aborigines. Despite this, Lt Grey reported back positively describing the area as 'lush and fertile'. This glowing report encouraged a group of optimistic farmers to establish a new settlement in Camden Harbour in 1864. This was a total disaster from the start. The ruins of that settlement, which lasted only 9 months, can still be seen and the graves of some of these tough pioneers can be found on nearby Sheep Island.

St George Basin and the Prince Regent River:

Within the St George Basin are two flat topped hills, Mt Trafalgar and Mt Waterloo, which provide a spectacular backdrop as you cruise to the mouth of the Prince Regent River. This river is the remains of the longest single straight lineament in Australia, making it yet another geological wonder. Get your cameras ready as you experience some spectacular scenery, flora and fauna on our journey down this remote and pristine waterway, concluding at the majestic King Cascade Falls. This spectacular site is where American model, Ginger Meadows, was fatally attacked by a crocodile in 1987, a horror story which has been retold around the world. Keep an eye out for crocodiles as you view these magnificent falls which cascade over fern covered tiers in breathtaking splendor.

Careening Bay:

Careening Bay is within the southern part of Nelson Bay where, in 1820, Phillip Parker King careened the vessel HMC 'Mermaid' for repairs whilst surveying the Australian coastline. His carpenter carved the vessel's name into an ancient boab tree which is still visible today.

York Sound and the Hunter River:

Prince Frederick Harbour lies within York Sound and it is here that we find the Roe and Hunter River estuaries. This area boasts sensational scenery, with cathedral-like gorges and eroded sandstone features such as the Indian Head at the entrance to the Hunter River.

Tuesday 19 July: The Mitchell Plateau:

Over breakfast, say your good byes to the crew as we head for Naturalist Island at the mouth of the Hunter River. The crew will take you in relays to Naturalist Beach where helicopters will land to take you for an amazing scenic helicopter flight over the Mitchell Plateau and the incredible Mitchell Falls. The awesome geological wonder of this ancient landscape will amaze you. Once at the Mitchell Plateau airstrip, you will change to light planes and continue your aerial view of the Kimberley as you wind your way back to Derby or Broome, arriving mid to late afternoon. Taxis/shuttles will be waiting to transfer you to your chosen destination in Derby/Broome.

Something Extra... This itinerary lists all the places you can reasonably expect to visit on your cruise between the Berkeley River and Derby. It is likely, however, that there will be additional places of interest visited on the actual cruise, time and tides allowing, which is why we prefer not to give you a day by day itinerary. Some of these places are well known, but others have been charted by our Captain. Captain Lennie joined the Discovery One crew in 2006 and has been our Captain since 2010. He has many fabulous, lesser-known spots that he loves to share with passengers – discovered during his years of travelling the Kimberley Coast. It is his aim to maximise the cruising experience for all passengers, so he will decide when and where he will take you during your 13 nights on the Kimberley coast. In this sense, every cruise is a little different and each passenger's experience unique.