



Explore the Kimberley Package: Broome/Derby to Broome/Derby

Cruise 9: 14 days/13 nights

Tuesday June 23rd to Monday July 6th 2020 - \$9,990pp

Explore the Kimberley Cruise Package includes:

- one night's accommodation in Broome on June 23rd
- a taxi/shuttle transfer from your accommodation to Broome or Derby Airport on June 24th
- a light air scenic flight from either Broome or Derby to the Mitchell Plateau on June 24th
- a scenic helicopter flight from Mitchell Plateau Airstrip to Naturaliste Island on June 24th
- a 13 day/12 night cruise from the Hunter River to Derby from June 24th to July 6th
- a bus transfer from Derby jetty to your chosen destination in Derby or Broome on July 6th
- This package starts from and ends in Broome/Derby

Please Note: For those with vehicles, 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 June 23rd.

Experience The Kimberley by sea in one direction and by air in the other. 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.

Wednesday June 24th 2020: The Mitchell Plateau

This morning you will be picked up by taxi/shuttle from your accommodation and taken to the airport for a scenic light air flight from Broome or Derby to the Mitchell Plateau. This is followed by a helicopter flight over the Mitchell Plateau and the spectacular Mitchell Falls. The helicopter will land on Naturaliste Beach where the crew will transport you to the boat. You will be welcomed on board Discovery One and then it's time to settle in, get acquainted with the boat and relax as you take in the beauty of the Hunter River and York Sound. Your cruise of a lifetime is about to begin.

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.

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 viewable today.

Saint 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 splendour.

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.

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.

Montgomery Reef:

Located at the beginning of the Buccaneer Archipelago, 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.

Raft Point:

ESE of Montgomery Reef is Raft Point, so named because of the Indigenous people who were seen there with their rafts used for hunting turtles, rays and dugongs. This is home to some ancient and well preserved Wandjina cave paintings.

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.

Yampi Sound & Crocodile Creek:

Yampi Sound contains islands (Irvine, Koolan and Cockatoo) which boast some of the richest iron ore deposits in the world. When mining operations existed on Koolan Island, the miners would get away to Crocodile Creek with its beautiful rock pools fed by fresh waterfalls. Situated above the creek, access is via a ladder bolted into the rock. The pools are an ideal place for a swim.

Silvergull Creek & Squatters Arms:

Travelling down Silvergull Creek brings you to Squatters Arms, where an intriguing couple made their home for around 20 years, after they sailed in and discovered this beautiful spot with its freshwater springs.

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 in an island paradise. It is a lovely place to take a dip in the shallows.

Monday July 6th 2020: Derby & Broome

We wake up in Derby. Here the crew will bid you farewell. A bus will be waiting for you at the jetty to take you to your chosen destination in Derby or Broome.

Please Note:

This itinerary lists all the places you can reasonably expect to visit on your cruise between the Hunter River & 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 days on the Kimberley coast. In this sense, every cruise is a little different and each passenger's experience is unique.