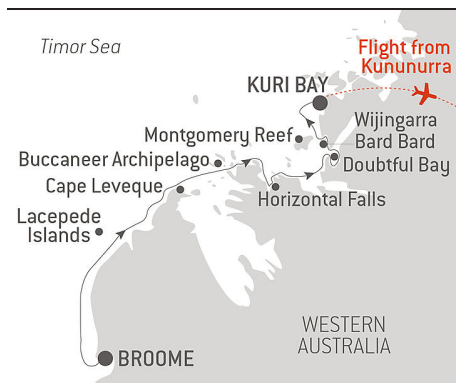


Southern Kimberley Sailing Expedition

From **24/9/2023**
to **1/10/2023**

Ship: **LE PONANT**

From **Broome**
to **Kuri Bay**



PONANT invites you to experience Australia's unique and spectacular **Kimberley coast** in a remarkable new way, under sail aboard its emblematic yacht *Le Ponant*. The majestic three-masted yacht, with elegant lines and an intimate atmosphere for only 32 like-minded guests, is redefining barefoot luxury expeditions. A crew to guest ratio of more than 1 to 1 and an **expedition staff** to guest ratio of 1 to 8, combine to provide the pinnacle Kimberley expedition sailing experience. Unique to the experience, PONANT has partnered with the Paspaley group to include **a spectacular scenic flight over the Kimberley landscape** aboard their Grumman Mallard amphibious aircraft between Kuri Bay and Kununurra.

Often referred to as the "Antarctica of the tropics," the Kimberley is renowned for its **natural beauty** and **cultural significance**. It is the pristine environment, wild, rugged and remote landscapes that gives rise to the comparison. The ancient landscape is the epitome of a sunburnt country, the vast plains and rugged red sandstone gorges are quintessentially Australian and like nowhere else. The Kimberley is **one of the world's last great Wilderness areas**, and **one of Australia's greatest natural assets**.

The 13,000km of remote isolated coastline boasts more than 2,600 islands and is home to **the oldest continuous culture on earth, the world's largest living reptile, the only two 'Horizontal Falls' on the planet, the world's largest inshore reef**, extensive undisturbed **mangrove forests, wild rivers, important seabird and marine turtle breeding colonies** and **the largest population of migrating humpback whales on the planet**. It is a national biodiversity hotspot and listed in the top 4% of least impacted marine environments worldwide.

Our Barefoot luxury sailing expeditions are fully flexible itineraries with no predetermined destinations. With a maximum of 32 guests, we are able to create bespoke itineraries showcasing the changing environment throughout the dry season from April to September. Each day's activities will be determined by the Captain and Expedition Leader, taking into account the season, prevailing weather, tide and sea conditions to deliver the best experience possible.



The information in this document is valid as of 19/4/2024

Southern Kimberley Sailing Expedition

YOUR STOPOVERS :

BROOME

Embarkation 24/9/2023 From 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Departure 24/9/2023 at 6:00 pm

Located in the northwest of the Kimberley region and in the far north of Western Australia, the town of **Broome** is reputed for its history and its glorious **pearling era**. The fascinating Chinatown district, which is the historic city centre, and the famous Japanese Cemetery, dates back to 1896, and has a past marked by the immigration of numerous Chinese and Japanese workers, attracted by the prosperous pearl industry at the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century. Broome is also famous for the “**Staircase to the Moon**”, an optical illusion created by the Moon reflecting on the sand banks at low tide, like a staircase climbing up towards the sky, a unique spectacle provided by nature...

SOUTHERN KIMBERLEY COAST

Arrival 25/9/2023

Departure 30/9/2023

Whilst there is no standard itinerary, our sailing expedition will feature the iconic destinations of **Montgomery Reef** and the **Horizontal Falls**, described by Sir David Attenborough as “One of the greatest wonders of the natural world.” Additional destinations that may be visited include The **Lacepede Islands**, Home to the world’s largest breeding colony of Brown Boobies and Western Australia’s most important breeding habitat for Green Turtles. The iconic **Cape Leveque**, at the tip of the Dampier Peninsula, best known for its pristine white sand beaches and golden red sandstone cliffs. The 800 islands of the **Buccaneer Archipelago** provide an ideal sailing ground to explore. Scattered amongst the islands are secluded white sandy beaches including **Silica Bay**, historical pearling locations such as **Strickland Bay** and The **Edeline Islands** and the remarkable geological scenery of **Whirlpool Pass** and **Nares Point**. Further North **Collier Bay** showcases the massive tides that the region is renowned for at the Horizontal Falls and Montgomery Reef. Here the many outdoor rock art galleries including **Wijingarra Bard Bard** provide an insight into the remarkable history and culture of Australia’s First Nations People. To the East lies **Doubtful Bay** providing access to multiple river systems, including the **Sale River** and **Red Cone Creek**, lined with mangroves, creating the ideal environment to spot crocodiles and an abundance of birdlife. High above the saltwater influence freshwater waterholes provide the ideal locations for cooling off after a day of exploration.

KURI BAY

Arrival 1/10/2023 early morning

Disembarkation 1/10/2023 at 7:00 am

Located 370km north of Broome and 460km west of Kununurra, Kuri Bay lies at the heart of the **Lalang – Garram/Camden Sound Marine Park**. It was the location of Australia's first cultured pearl farm and is named after the company's first principal, **Tokuichi Kuribayashi**. Today it is the home of Paspaley, the world’s most important producer

of cultured pearls. Such is the superior and widely recognised quality of the gems they are in their own category and recognised simply as **Paspaley Pearls**.

Kuri Bay is the ideal location for starting or ending your Kimberley sailing expedition combining a **spectacular scenic flight** over the Kimberley landscape aboard a Paspaley Grumman Mallard amphibious aircraft between Kuri Bay and Broome or Kununurra