



The Kimberley with Ponant



Tour Length: 11 Days



Tour Departs: Please advise your preferred dates

Explore the wild and grandiose landscapes of The Kimberley with Ponant.

Such an iconic region of Australia full of surprises. From Broome to Darwin or vice versa, embark on an 11-day expedition cruise.

Highlights

- Horizontal Falls
- Hunter River
- Twin Falls on King George River – the highest falls in WA
- Islands of the Buccaneer Archipelago
- View Gwion Gwion art near Vansittart Bay

Tour Costs Per Person

Priced from:

Price available on request

Price is determined on the date of sailing and suite availability

Call us now to find out more about this tour

0800 500 518



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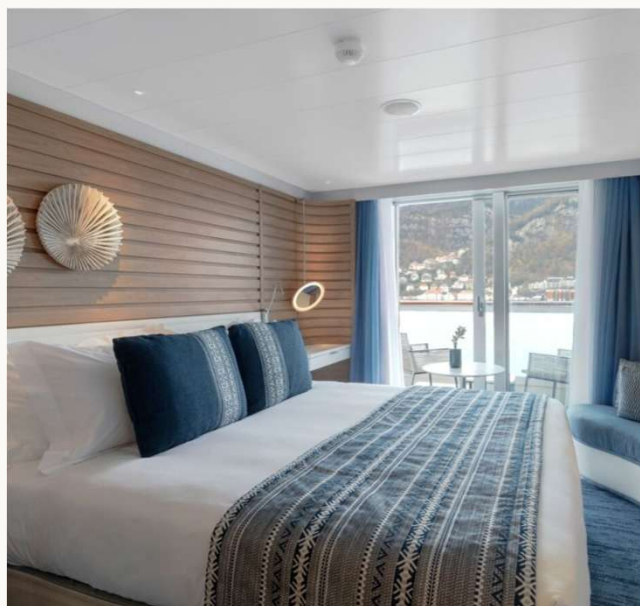
Ponant

Australia's Iconic Kimberley

The ultimate luxury Kimberley cruise, with Ponant you'll discover the vast Kimberley coastline between Darwin and Broome with Zodiac® expedition boats and optional heli experiences.

Cruise Inclusions

- All gourmet meals throughout your voyage
- Open bar with Charles Heidsieck Champagne, wines, beers, spirits and non-alcoholic beverages
- Complimentary in-room minibar, restocked daily, plus 24-hour room service
- Captain's welcome cocktail reception and farewell gala dinner
- Expert-led Zodiac excursions and guided shore landings
- Onboard lectures, presentations and entertainment
- Complimentary access to the fitness centre, sauna and heated pool
- Complimentary access to the Blue Eye underwater lounge (Le Lapérouse only)
- Butler service in selected Suites



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Tour Costs

Inclusions

- Full board from arrival to departure day
- High-end gastronomy in all restaurants
- All beverages in restaurants, bars, and minibars. All drinks are included² (a selection of champagnes, wines and spirits, beers, cocktails, water, soft drinks, hot beverages)
- 24-hour room service
- Butler service for certain suites³
- Unlimited internet access onboard
- Evening events, shows, and other entertainment
- Access to the fitness area and hammam or sauna, depending on the ship
- All port and security charges

Exclusions

- International Airfares
- Tipping

To register for this tour please contact us at 0800 500 518 or tours@mahertours.co.nz

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Tour Itinerary

13 Days

Note: example itinerary only. Ponant's 10 Night Kimberley Cruise operates from either Darwin to Broome, Broome to Darwin, or Darwin to Darwin depending on your departure date.

Day 1 | Darwin

(D)

You'll embark your Ponant cruise in Darwin, boarding mid-late afternoon in time for a sunset drink onboard as you set sail at 5.00pm. Get to know new friends over your first dinner in the Panoramic Restaurant tonight. If it's a warm night, the back deck pool bar is the place to be for ocean views as you commence your journey.

Day 2 | Cruising

(B,L,D)

Today is a leisurely day onboard to enjoy the facilities, food and wine. You may like to visit the wellness area today for a spa treatment or perhaps to use the sauna, which has a great view. The Ponant expedition team is on-hand today to share details about the Kimberley excursion program for your journey. A technical stop is carried out today at Pulau Meitimiarang before continuing towards Wyndham.

Day 3 | Wyndham

(B,L,D)

This morning you'll arrive into Wyndham, one of the northern-most towns in Western Australia and the gateway to the Kimberley. Guests enjoy one of three unique included excursions today, which can be booked on a first-come basis and subject to availability:

Ord River experience: navigate the Ord River between Kununurra and Lake Argyle as you spot wildlife and take in the landscape. A simple buffet lunch is served at a riverside camp before returning to the ship.

Bungle Bungle scenic flight: join a panoramic flight onboard a Cessna airplane from Kununurra to the Bungle Bungles in Purnululu National Park. Views of the Carr Boyd Range and beehive domes of Purnululu will be a highlight of this aerial tour of the East Kimberley.

El Questro experience: Visit the El Questro Wilderness area with an El Questro ranger and take in spectacular Emma Gorge before a visit to Zebedee Thermal Springs. Take a mid-day break for lunch and end the full day with a picturesque river cruise between the mighty Chamberlain gorge walls.

Day 4 | King George River

(B,L,D)

Today is a highlight for many, with a journey up the King George River passing between the 80-metre-high sides of the gorge walls. The colours of the gorge change with the light as you travel further upstream culminating at Twin Falls; the highest single-drop falls in Western Australia. Fed by the Kimberley wet season run-off, the level of water cascading over the falls varies from year to year and throughout the season. The Ponant Expedition team will lead you Zodiacs® or the ship's tenders to the foot of the Falls, allowing you to get up close to this stunning geological formation.

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Day 5 | Vansittart Bay

(B,L,D)

Arriving into Vansittart Bay today, guests have an opportunity to discover the ancient Aboriginal Gwion Gwion rock art of Jar Island. Unique to the Kimberley, Gwion Gwion art has gained world prominence in recent years and is thought to date back over 30,000 years and be the oldest detailed depiction of human figures in the world. Join your Expedition Team ashore for a short walk past fascinating rock formations to the site of the Gwion Gwion art galleries.

Day 6 | Bonaparte Archipelago

(B,L,D)

The Bonaparte Archipelago is a network of islands stretching along 150km of WA's remote Kimberley coast. You'll discover more Aboriginal rock art today as you cruise the remote archipelago and explore the fractured sandstone landforms and rock shelters of Swift Bay. On the walls of these shelters are examples of both Wandjina and Gwion Gwion style rock art, which you'll visit on a guided walk with the expedition team.

Day 7 | Prince Frederick Harbour & Hunter River

(B,L,D)

Arguably one of the most scenic parts of the Kimberley, Prince Frederick Harbour and the Hunter River are lined with ancient rainforest, pristine mangroves and towering sandstone cliffs. Today is all about the wildlife and scenic cruising. Spot saltwater crocodiles and a variety of bird species as you explore the river and mangrove environment by Zodiac®.

If the Mitchell Falls is on your Kimberley bucket-list, today is the day. There is an option to fly by helicopter from Naturalist Beach to Mitchell Falls and experience the three-tiered waterfall from above; a fee applies for this experience.

Day 8 & 9 | Montgomery Reef, Talbot Bay & Horizontal Falls

(B,L,D)

Today we arrive at Montgomery Reef, the world's largest inshore reef system, nestled in Collier Bay. For the next two days we discover the landscape to the east of the Buccaneer Archipelago, that has been shaped by the huge tidal movements of this region which range as high as 14 metres. The massive daily movement of water here creates a unique natural phenomena where water cascades off the top of the reef creating mini waterfalls and rivers. At the southern end of the archipelago is Talbot Bay and Horizontal Falls; once described by David Attenborough as "one of the greatest wonders of the natural world". There is the opportunity to discover more spectacular examples of the Wandjina and Gwion Gwion style rock art too, hidden in the caves and grottos of this water wonderland. *Today's activities are subject to tides and weather conditions.

Day 10 | Lacepede Islands

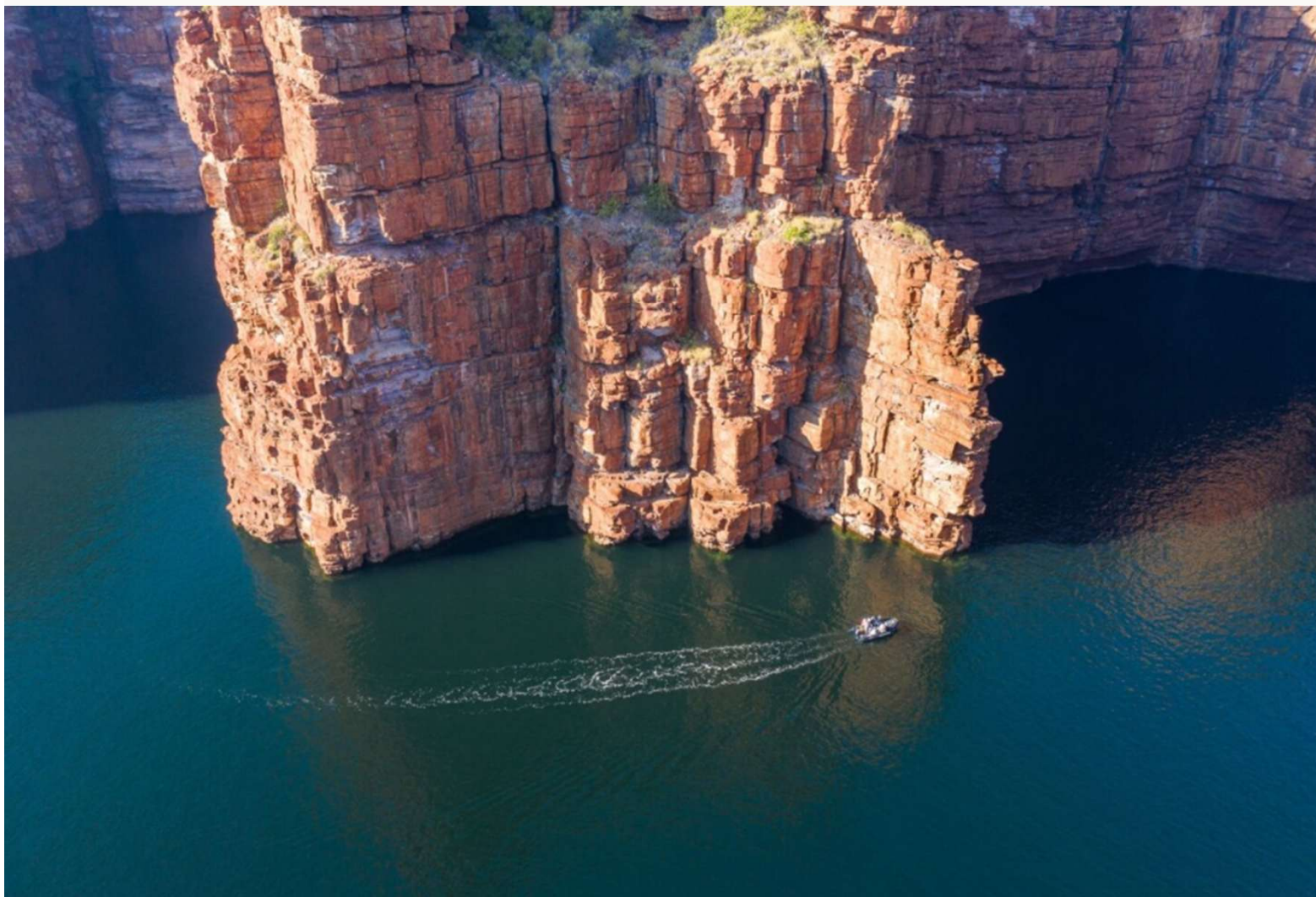
(B,L,D)

As the ship continues south toward Broome, you'll discover the important habitat of the Lacepede Islands, one of the most important breeding areas for the Green Turtle and a variety of birdlife. The breeding colony of Brown Boobies here is possibly the largest in the world, and up to 20,000 Roseate Terns have been recorded here. Other birds breeding on the islands include Masked Boobies, Lesser Frigatebirds, Eastern Reef Egrets, Crested, Bridled and Lesser Crested Terns, Common Noddies, Pied and Sooty Oystercatchers, among many others. You can join the expedition team for a closer view of the wildlife from a Zodiac® or relax onboard for your last full day of cruising.

Day 11 | Broome - Disembark

(B)

After an exceptional journey along the vast Kimberley Coast, you'll arrive into Broome this morning welcomed by the colours of the red sandbanks and turquoise bays. Farewell the crew and new friends before disembarking at 7am for your onwards transfer.



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FULLY ACCREDITED



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