

## 15 Days | Across the Great Australia Bight | Expedition

Fremantle - Margaret River - Albany - Flinders Island - Coffin Bay - Kangaroo Island - Adelaide - and more...

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From **\$7,399** Typically \$8,299 pp twin share

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Visit Rottnest Island and wade in its gin clear waters

Encounter stingrays at Hamelin Bay and Climb Cape Leeuwin lighthouse, the tallest on mainland Australia

Learn about Albany's WWII history during a visit to the ANZAC museum

Shuck your own delicious oysters fresh from the waters of Coffin Bay AND MUCH MORE!

## Description

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Set sail on an Extraordinary Expedition that immerses you in the diverse environments, rich history, and wild beauty of Australia's Southern Coastline

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**Book Your Spot on this AMAZING Expedition**

***THE SHIP IS BOOKING OUT FAST!***

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This once-in-a-lifetime journey offers the unique opportunity to cross the Great Australian Bight, visiting picturesque islands, iconic national parks, and charming coastal towns along the way. Every moment of this voyage promises unforgettable experiences, from guided walks to encounters with Australia's unique wildlife.

Begin your adventure with guided walks at Rottnest Island and Cape Naturaliste. Rottnest Island, known for its stunning landscapes and clear waters, offers a chance to hike sections of the Wadjemup Bidi trail, revealing the island's natural beauty. At Cape Naturaliste, you will be captivated by the coastal scenery and the opportunity to see stingrays swimming in the shallows at Hamelin Bay, a tranquil spot where nature showcases its wonder. The journey continues to Lucky Bay, renowned worldwide for its pristine white sands and kangaroos lounging by the beach, offering a quintessential Australian experience.

The iconic Busselton Jetty is next on the itinerary, inviting you for a leisurely stroll along its length before heading to the esteemed Leeuwin Estate in the Margaret River region. Here, you can sample some of the finest wines, a testament to the area's rich viticultural heritage. The adventure deepens with a visit to Jewel Cave, where the underground world unveils its breathtaking stalactites and stalagmites, leaving you in awe of nature's artistry.

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As you sail further along the coast, the voyage brings you to Albany, a town steeped in history. At the ANZAC museum, you will delve into Albany's significant role in World War II, gaining insights into the past. The town's Historic Whaling Station offers a glimpse into its maritime heritage, rounding out a day filled with historical exploration. Each stop along the way enriches your understanding of Australia's cultural and historical tapestry.

One of the voyage's highlights is the crossing of the Great Australian Bight. Over two days, you will gain a unique perspective of the Bunda Cliffs from the sea, an awe-inspiring sight that few have the chance to witness. This part of the journey allows you to connect deeply with the vast and rugged beauty of the southern Australian coastline, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

In South Australia, the adventure continues with culinary delights and wildlife encounters. Coffin Bay, renowned for its oysters, offers a hands-on experience where you can shuck your own fresh oysters straight from the water. On Flinders Island, sample fresh abalone, adding to the gourmet experiences of the voyage. These stops provide a taste of the region's bountiful seafood, highlighting the flavors of the southern coast.

Concluding the expedition, a visit to Kangaroo Island's Seal Bay offers a chance to get up close to a colony of sea lions. This encounter provides a fitting end to a journey filled with nature's wonders and wildlife. Kangaroo Island, known for its diverse fauna, ensures that your final memories of the voyage are as spectacular as the rest.

Throughout this 14-night voyage from Fremantle to Adelaide, each destination and experience is thoughtfully curated to provide an immersive exploration of Australia's southern coast. From hiking pristine trails and

savoring local wines to witnessing majestic cliffs and engaging with wildlife, this expedition promises to be an enriching and unforgettable journey. Join us for an adventure that celebrates the natural and cultural treasures of this remarkable region.





## Itinerary

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### Day 1

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#### Fremantle

Make your way to Fremantle: Berth C for boarding at 4PM, where there is time to settle into your stateroom. As dusk falls meet your fellow travellers, the Captain and crew for the Captain's Welcome Drinks.

*\*This itinerary is indicative and we may make changes to the itinerary due to weather conditions.*

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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### Day 2

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#### Rottnest Island (Wadjemup)

Rottnest Island is well known for its turquoise waters, fascinating history, and, of course, the adorable marsupial, the quokka. We will visit this normally bustling island during the quieter time of the season, when humpback whales are known to be cruising past. Land on one of the island's more remote central and western beaches, walk sections of the Wadjemup Bidi to view spectacular coastal headlands, and take to the clear waters for snorkeling opportunities.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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### Day 3

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#### Busselton & Margaret River Winery

Enjoy free time in the charming seaside town of Busselton. Stroll its heritage listed jetty, extending almost 2 km over the protected waters of Geographe Bay, or take the jetty train to visit the underwater observatory. Spend the afternoon savouring a wine tasting at the award-winning Leeuwin Winery, with time to view the art gallery and walk the grounds of this picturesque Estate.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

## Day 4

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### Cape Naturaliste & Dunsborough

In 1801, French navigator Nicolas Baudin stopped here during his explorations of Australia and left his mark on the region at Geographe Bay, named after his flagship Geographe and Cape Naturaliste, after the ship Naturaliste.

Cape Naturaliste is the northernmost point of the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge, located on the western edge of Geographe Bay. As part of the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park, the Cape is known for its spectacular coastal scenery and some of the best walking tracks in the Margaret River Region.

Today we will spend the morning exploring these walking trails, with options to suit all levels. Spend time at the Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse grounds, or walk along the boardwalk to Sugarloaf Rock in the afternoon we visit the stunning Meelup Beach, one of the few places in Western Australia where you can watch the moon rise over the ocean and is most attractive on a full moon!

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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## Day 5

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### Augusta & Margaret River Highlights

Augusta is the most south-western town in Australia and is nearby to the towering karri timber of Boranup Forest and spectacular Jewel Cave. The south west coast was first seen by explorers in 1622 from the Dutch ship Leeuwin. Then expeditions by French explorers De Freycinet, D'Entrecasteaux, Baudin and Hamelin sighted the coast in the late 18th to early 19th century.

Captain Matthew Flinders charted the south west coast from 1801 to 1803 and proved that Cape Leeuwin was part of the mainland. With the arrival of settlers, Augusta was founded in 1830. The subsequent increase in ship traffic over the next few decades led to the construction of the impressive Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse 1896.

Here, we will climb Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse, the tallest lighthouse on mainland Australia overlooking the point where the mighty Southern and Indian Oceans collide. We will also visit Jewel Cave, an awe-inspiring and extremely well decorated cave, containing many beautiful examples of delicate helictites, cave coral, pendulites, a very large stalagmite called 'The Karri Forest', and beautiful examples of flowstone such as 'The Frozen Waterfall' and 'the Organ-pipes'. Remarkably, fossilised remains of several Tasmanian Tigers have been discovered within Jewel Cave, more than 3000 years after the thylacine became extinct on mainland Australia.

This afternoon visit Hamelin Bay to see sting rays swimming in the shallows, with an option of a walk under the towering karri trees in Boranup Forst.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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## Day 6

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### Albany

Albany is the oldest colonial settlement in Western Australia, predating Perth and Fremantle by over two years. For many years, it was the colony's only deep-water port, having a place of eminence on shipping services between Britain and its Australian colonies. The town has a role in the ANZAC legend, being the last port of call for troop ships departing with infantry and cavalry horses from Australia in the First World War.

Today guests will have the opportunity to visit the National ANZAC centre or Albany's Whaling Station, exploring an intact whale processing factory and whale chasing ship, fully restored and ready to discover. Guests also have the option to enjoy free time in Albany, with opportunity to view the Museum of the Great Southern.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

## Day 7

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### **Woody Island, Recherche Archipelago**

Today we will explore Woody Island. Located just 15km off the coast of Esperance, Woody Island's stands of tall trees have given it its name. Surrounded by pristine, clear waters, you will have the opportunity to experience the snorkel trail in Shearwater Bay. The cool southern waters provide excellent visibility for your journey of discovery.

There are several beautiful walks on the island, from easy to moderate, and you will appreciate the spectacular views across the archipelago along the way. For the bird lovers, a wide variety of bird life is sighted on the island, from land dwellers to those dependent on the sea. Spot singing & new holland honeyeaters, silvereyes, red-eared firetails, rock parrots and sacred kingfisher. While along the walk trails catch a glimpse of the golden whistlers, brown quails, spotted pardalotes, brush bronzewings, raptors and fan tailed cuckoo.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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## Day 8

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### **Cape Le Grand National Park - Lucky Bay**

Along quiet Lucky Bay, kangaroos are known to laze on the whitest sand in Australia. Enjoy time on the beach meeting the friendly wildlife and the turquoise water is wonderful for a quick swim. If time permits, enjoy a walk to Thistle Cove, taking in the peaceful beauty of the national park, which is home to pygmy possums, western grey kangaroos and many colourful native wildflowers.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer



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## Day 9

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### Day At Sea - Bunda Cliffs

Spend two days crossing the mighty Great Australian Bight. About halfway through our voyage, the Bunda Cliffs will come into view.

For 100km along the Great Australian Bight runs these awe-inspiring 120m tall white chalky Bunda Cliffs. This 300m thick limestone slab was once part of an ancient seabed and now forms the Nullarbor Plain, extending far inland with many layers containing many fossils. Depending on sea conditions we will cruise along the cliffs and enjoy a vantage point from sea very rarely experienced.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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## Day 10

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**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

## Day 11

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### Flinders Island

Located around 35kms from the Eyre Peninsula Coast, Flinders Island has a long history of sealing, whaling and farming. Owned by the Woolford family since 1979, they run an established sheep farm, abalone harvesting business and are working to establish a safe haven for vulnerable native species. Meet the Woolford family to learn about the history and conservation projects on the island.

Visit the Kapara shipwreck at Bryant's Bay, and stroll through the shearing sheds at the farm. Taste fresh abalone at Eyrewoolf Abalone.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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## Day 12

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### Coffin Bay

Bordered by sea and National Parks, Coffin Bay is a stunning destination. The pristine waters of the bays in this area are home to numerous pods of dolphins, sea lions, seals, and many seabirds. Emus and kangaroos roam and the natural beauty of the turquoise sea, white sand dunes, and bright blue sky is a wonderful backdrop to our day's adventures.

Join a guided tour of a local oyster farm surrounded by crystal-clear water brimming with wildlife. A veteran oyster farmer will share with you the history of oyster farming, and describe how premium Coffin Bay oysters are produced & how the pure Coffin Bay waterways create world-renowned oysters. You'll also be taught how to shuck like a pro and enjoy fresh oysters straight from the source. Later this afternoon there is time for walks ashore at one of the many pristine beaches of the bay.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

## Day 13

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### Cape Donnington

A headland at the most northerly part of the Jussieu Peninsula on the east coast of Eyre Peninsula, Cape Donington is a great spot to enjoy refreshing sea views and rocky coastline. Take a dip at Cape Donington Beach before heading along the 2km trail over to September Beach. Keep an eye out for western grey kangaroos, emus or goannas near the Cape Donington lighthouse, or head out to Donington Island to view long-nosed fur seals or Australian sea lions from the Xplorer.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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## Day 14

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### Kangaroo Island

Today enjoy a truly unforgettable wildlife experience at Seal Bay. After traversing the scenic interior of Kangaroo Island by coach from American River, we will visit the heart of the third largest colony of endangered Australian Sea lion, and share the beach with these magnificent animals. This is the only place in the world you can see Australian sea lions at close quarters and walk on a beach where pups frolic, bulls battle for supremacy and resting mothers suckle their young.

**Meals:** All Meals Onboard

**Accommodation:** Coral Adventurer

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## Day 15

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### Adelaide

Arrive at the outer harbour of Port Adelaide at 7AM for disembarkation at 8AM.

Complimentary post-cruise transfers to Adelaide CBD or airport will be available, organised onboard with the Purser.

**Meals:** Breakfast

## Inclusions & Exclusions

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### Inclusions

- 14 Nights onboard Coral Adventurer in a Coral View Stateroom
- All excursions with our Expedition Team
- Use of Xplorer, Zodiacs and Kayaks
- Snorkelling & SCUBA equipment (SCUBA diving at an additional cost)
- Daily lectures and briefings with Guest Lecturers
- All meals, chef-prepared on board
- Captain's welcome and farewell events, and open bridge access
- Selected wines, selected beers and house spirits, juices, and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner
- 24-hour barista-style coffee and tea station
- All entrance fees to National Parks, ports, traditional owner fees and charges imposed by governing authorities
- Tips and gratuities
- Use of all onboard facilities, incl. a reference library
- Your expedition photos captured during the voyage
- Post-cruise transfers
- Wifi Access – Standard speed connectivity enabling email, social image sharing, web browsing and messaging

### About your Ship:

#### *CORAL ADVENTURER*

Coral Adventurer carries a maximum of 120 guests, inspired by the company's Australian ethos and the wide-open spaces the ship visits, is purpose-built to take you closer to unspoiled vistas in comfort, style, and safety.

### Upgrades - Based on Twinshare Cabins only

Promenade Deck Stateroom \$2999.00 per person surcharge

Explorer Deck Balcony Stateroom \$6399.00 per person surcharge

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### Exclusions

- Pre-cruise transfers
- Pre and post cruise flights/charter flights
- Pre and post cruise accommodation
- Travel Insurance
- SCUBA Diving
- Entry visas & travel permits for the country you are traveling to/from
- Alcoholic drinks (including beer and wine) outside of lunch and dinner service
- Laundry service (available at a cost)
- Items of a personal nature such souvenir purchases
- Optional Extras (in some destinations)



**Travel Insurance:** We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click [HERE](#).

**Cabin type:** Coral Deck Stateroom. Upgrades Available, contact us NOW for a quote.

**Important:** This itinerary is an indication of the destinations we visit and activities on offer. Throughout the expedition we may make changes to the itinerary as necessary to maximise your expeditionary experience. Allowances may be made for seasonal variations, weather, tidal conditions, and any other event that may affect the operation of the vessel. Coral Expeditions suggests that you do not arrive on the day of embarkation or depart on the day of disembarkation due to any changes that may occur in scheduling.

**Travelling on your own? Why not join the [Traveldream Solo Travellers Facebook group](#) where you can interact with other travellers.**