

# Wild Landscapes of Kimberley & South-East Asia

From **5/9/2022**  
to **19/9/2022**

Ship: **LE LAPEROUSE**

From **Broome**  
to **Benoa, Bali**



Transfer city centre/pier

Give in to the temptation of an all-new expedition cruise between the wild and grandiose landscapes of the **Kimberley** region and the sublime islands of **East Timor** and **Indonesia**. Set sail aboard *Le Lapérouse* for an **unforgettable 15-day cruise** from **Broome** to **Bali**.

Your cruise will start in the emblematic Australian region of **Kimberley**.

As you sail in the **Lacepede Islands** nature reserve, an important breeding site for green turtles, you'll be able to observe colonies of sea birds: brown boobies, Roseate terns, Australian pelicans, etc. You will also visit Collier Bay, where you will be able to admire the **Montgomery Reef**, home to vast expanses of lagoons and immense coral reefs.

In one of the most picturesque parts of the Kimberley region, the **Hunter River**, you will see wild mangrove forests where saltwater crocodiles live along with many species of birds.

After calling at Jar Island, which is home to ancient galleries of rock paintings specific to the region, discover the King George River and the dual King George Falls, among the highest falls in Kimberley and unquestionably one of the highlights of this cruise.

Your last Australian port of call will take you to the northernmost village in Western Australia, **Wyndham**. *Le Lapérouse* will then head for **East Timor**.

Welcome to **Jaco Island**! Uninhabited and wild, it is part of the **Nino Konis Santana National Park** and offers a setting of uncanny beauty.

After a port of call in the Timorese capital, **Dili**, you will sail towards the magnificent Indonesian archipelago. At **Kalabahi**, in the Alor Islands, you will encounter ethnic groups of the Flores people who have succeeded in preserving their traditional way of life.

Continue your trip with a visit to **Komodo national park**. This wild and isolated island is home to the famous **Komodo dragons**.

Your cruise will come to a close in **Bali**, "*the island of the gods*" with its

captivating charm and grace.



The information in this document is valid as of 7/7/2021

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## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### BROOME

Embarkation 5/9/2022 from 18h00 to 19h00

Departure 5/9/2022 at 20h00

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...

### LACEPEDE ISLANDS

Arrival 6/9/2022

Departure 6/9/2022

The **Lacepede Islands** are Western Australia's most important breeding habitat for **Green Turtles** (*Chelonia mydas*), and have been named by BirdLife International as an **Important Bird Area (IBA)**. The breeding colony of Brown Boobies is possibly the largest in the world. Up to 20,000 Roseate Terns have also been recorded here. Other birds breeding on the islands include Masked Boobies, Australian Pelicans, Lesser Frigatebirds, Eastern Reef Egrets, Silver Gulls, Crested, Bridled and Lesser Crested Terns, Common Noddies, Pied and Sooty Oystercatchers. Join your expedition team for a guided Zodiac<sup>®</sup> tour to view the prolific wildlife. Due to the sensitive nature of the environment, landings are prohibited on the Lacepede Islands.

### COLLIER BAY

Arrival 7/9/2022

Departure 8/9/2022

Lying to the east of the Buccaneer archipelago, the ancient landscapes of **Collier Bay** have been shaped by the **massive tidal movements** the region is renowned for, creating a photographer's paradise. With a tidal range exceeding 14 metres, recorded near Yule entrance at the southern end of the bay, they are among the largest in the world. This massive daily movement of water creates **unique phenomena that occur nowhere else in the world**. Nestled in the centre of the Bay is **Montgomery Reef**, the world's largest inshore reef system. As the tide falls a raging torrent of water cascades off the top of the reef, creating **turbulent 'rivers' and mini waterfalls**. At the Southern end of the Bay, **Talbot Bay** is home to the world's only '**Horizontal Falls**' described by Sir David Attenborough as “One of the greatest

wonders of the natural world.” Hidden in the many caves and grottos of this ancient landscape are a multitude of ancient **Rock Art galleries**. Here you can find spectacular examples of the Wandjina and **Gwion Gwion** styles.

*As we are at the mercy of weather and tide conditions in this region, the activities mentioned above are only possible experiences and can't be guaranteed.*

## HUNTER RIVER

Arrival 9/9/2022

Departure 9/9/2022

Arguably one of the most scenic parts of the Kimberley coast, Prince Frederick Harbour and the **Hunter River** are lined with ancient rainforest pockets, pristine **mangroves** and mosaic sandstone cliffs. They are considered to be some of the most pristine mangrove forests in the world, containing up to 18 different species, supporting a rich and diverse fauna. The **sandstone escarpment** at the river mouth, known as “Kampamantiya” **rises over 200 metres high** before giving way to extensive mud banks and mangrove forests home to numerous bird species and the iconic **saltwater crocodile**. Our expert Expedition Team will share their knowledge with you as you explore this pristine mangrove environment by Zodiac® keeping a constant lookout for wildlife. You will also have the opportunity to reach the Mitchell Falls by helicopter from Naturalist Island beach.

## JAR ISLAND

Arrival 10/9/2022

Departure 10/9/2022

Jar Island contains ancient rock art galleries depicting the Gwion Gwion style unique to the Kimberley region. Mainly neglected by, or unknown to, the early European researchers of Aboriginal culture in the Kimberley in favour of the dominant & more dramatic Wandjina art, Gwion Gwion art has in recent years gained world prominence. It is generally thought that this art may extend back to over 30,000 years BP & represent the first wave of seagoing colonisers of the Australian continent. As it is, these are the oldest detailed depiction of human figures in the world. Join your Expedition Team ashore for a short walk, past some fascinating rock formations, to the site of the Gwion Gwion art galleries.

## KING GEORGE RIVER

Arrival 11/9/2022

Departure 11/9/2022

The journey up the **King George River** is nothing short of breathtaking. The 80-metre-high sides of the gorge display varying degrees of weathering of the ancient Warton sandstone. The colours and textures of the gorge change with the light as you travel further up the river creating a continual changing scenery that is simply stunning. The journey culminates at the **King George twin falls**; the highest single-drop falls in the whole of the Kimberley (80 m or 260 ft). Fed by wet season run-off the level of water cascading over the falls varies from year to year. Your Expedition Team will escort you in either the Zodiacs® or ships tenders to the foot of the twin falls, and explain all about the stunning geological formations of the canyon.

## WYNDHAM

Arrival 12/9/2022

Departure 12/9/2022

**Wyndham** is the northernmost town in Western Australia and in many ways is the gateway to the **Kimberley**. It is surrounded by some of the most spectacular landforms, rivers and wetlands in the Kimberley.

## AT SEA

Arrival 13/9/2022

Departure 13/9/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

## JACO ISLAND

Arrival 14/9/2022

Departure 14/9/2022

Located at the eastern end of the island of Timor, Jaco is a small, low-lying island edged with immaculate sandy beaches and coral reef. The island is uninhabited as it is considered as sacred by the local population, lying at the meeting of the Banda and Timor Seas. Jaco Island is part of the Nino Konis Santana National Park, East Timor's first national park, created in 2007, which ensures the conservation of its large underwater diversity in particular. At the heart of the Coral Triangle, the region is indeed home to many species of coral and fish. You will be able to enjoy a pleasant moment of swimming or snorkelling in the crystal-clear and abundant waters of this tropical desert island that is like a taste of paradise.

## DILI

Arrival 15/9/2022

Departure 15/9/2022

Located on the northern coast of the island of Timor, along the narrow plains between the central mountains and the Ombai Strait, the seaside resort of Dili is the capital of East Timor, a former Portuguese colony that has been independent since May 2002. The uniqueness of this territory, still preserved from the tourist routes, is unveiled thanks to the beauty of its intact landscapes, with dense tropical forest covering undulating hills, coral reef and immaculate sandy beaches. You will be enchanted by this small and peaceful town with a distinctive Portuguese atmosphere, and will discover the riches of its historic and cultural heritage during your visit.

## KALABAHI, ALOR

Arrival 16/9/2022

Departure 16/9/2022

The unique culture of the Alorese continues among the Takpala indigenous group who have preserved their traditional architecture and ceremonies. The island of Alor is also known as the island of a Thousand Moko's. The Moko is a small bronze kettledrum which is believed to have originated from the Dong Son culture of Vietnam. However, it remains a mystery as to how these prehistoric Dong Son drums arrived in Alor. Local legend says that the Moko's were discovered buried in the ground, and indeed mokos are still being uncovered today. Join the expedition team and local guides for a tour by local transport to Takpala village, the Museum of a Thousand Mokos and the thriving main market of Kalabahi.

## KOMODO NATIONAL PARK

Arrival 17/9/2022

Departure 18/9/2022

## BENOA, BALI

Arrival 19/9/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 19/9/2022 at 07h00

If it's a taste of exotic authenticity you're after, prepare to be spell-bound by the **island of Bali**, tucked away in the heart of the Indonesian **archipelago**. The beauty and diversity of its landscapes, the depth and richness of its cultural heritage and the plethora of activities on offer here make **Bali** a little slice of heaven on Earth. The island's southern coast enthralls with its white sand beaches, its picturesque little fishing villages such as **Benoa**, and its hills patchworked with terraced rice paddies further inland. Nicknamed 'the Island of Gods' for its sumptuous temples, Bali is the beating heart of Indonesian Hinduism.