



OUTBACK TO OCEAN

RAIL & SAIL

Pair the legendary journey through the red-hearted centre of Australia on The Ghan with a voyage through the Kimberley aboard PONANT's Le Laperouse and you have a journey of epic proportions. The Kimberley region of Western Australia is a wild land of remote, spectacular scenery, spread over vast distances, much like the Red Centre brushed with a different colour palette. From the outback town of Alice Springs to the Horizontal Falls in Talbot Bay, this rail and sail adventure is one to be cherished.

INCLUSIONS

- 2 nights' aboard The Ghan, Adelaide to Darwin, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experiences in Marla, Alice Springs and Katherine
- Transfer from Darwin Rail Terminal to Darwin hotel
- 1 night's accommodation in Darwin including breakfast
- Transfer from hotel to Le Laperouse
- 10-night Australia's Iconic Kimberley expedition cruise aboard PONANT's Le Laperouse, including prepaid gratuities
- Transfer from Le Laperouse to Broome hotel
- 1 night's accommodation in Broome including breakfast
- 14 breakfasts, 11 lunches, 11 dinners

HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness spectacular outback landscapes as you travel on The Ghan
- Visit the impressive natural wonder of Nitmiluk Gorge
- Discover ancient landscapes and rock art in the Northern Territory and the Kimberley
- Get up close to King George twin falls
- Explore pristine mangrove environments and spot crocodiles
- See the oldest detailed depiction of human figures in the world on Jar Island
- Take a helicopter flight over Mitchell Falls
- View the effects of unique tidal phenomena, Horizontal Falls

DAY 1 – SUNDAY, 21 MAY 2023, BOARD THE GHAN IN ADELAIDE

Board The Ghan in Adelaide for an iconic showcase journey of inland Australia. As the train leaves the city heading for the Flinders Ranges and beyond, the dramatic changes in landscape will ignite your imagination over the next two days. (L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights The Ghan

DAY 2 – MONDAY, 22 MAY 2023, THE GHAN AND ALICE SPRINGS

After your first night enjoying the fine dining and relaxed comfort of this iconic train, you'll wake to an unforgettable outback sunrise at Marla – a remote outpost 160 kilometres from the Northern Territory border that marks the start of the Oodnadatta Track. Enjoy the magnificent outback scenery as you make your way onwards to Alice Springs. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 – TUESDAY, 23 MAY 2023, THE GHAN, KATHERINE AND DARWIN

When the landscape transforms into rocky gorges and fast-flowing canyon streams, prepare to experience one of the Top End's most impressive natural wonders, Nitmiluk Gorge. Continue to Darwin, where you will be transferred to your overnight accommodation. After checking in, you may wish to explore the Waterfront Precinct with its many restaurants and bars. (B,L)

OVERNIGHT: 1 night Adina Apartment Hotel Darwin Waterfront

DAY 4 – WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2023, BOARD LE LAPEROUSE IN DARWIN

This morning is yours to explore Darwin at your leisure. In the afternoon, you will be transferred from your accommodation to the Port of Darwin to board Le Laperouse for your Kimberley cruising. Settle into your elegant cabin, make yourself comfortable, and perhaps have a nightcap at the Blue Eye, a multisensorial underwater lounge. (B,D)

OVERNIGHT: 10 nights Le Laperouse



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DAY 5 – THURSDAY, 25 MAY 2023, LE LAPROUSE AT SEA

Enjoy a leisurely day at sea to take advantage of the luxurious onboard services or sip a cool drink by the pool. Your expedition team will offer an enrichment programme focusing on Australian history, flora and fauna. Enjoy some down time on the deck sunbathing, relax in the sauna, or sample culinary specialties prepared by the Chef and Galley Team. There will be a brief technical stop at Pulau Meatimiarang but guests will be unable to disembark here. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 – FRIDAY, 26 MAY 2023, WYNDHAM

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 region. There are three complimentary excursions on offer (subject to availability): the Ord River experience, navigating between Kununurra and Lake Argyle; a scenic flight onboard a Cessna from Kununurra to the Bungle Bungle massif; or the El Questro experience, journeying through Emma Gorge and Zebedee Thermal Springs before boarding a Chamberlain River Cruise. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 – SATURDAY, 27 MAY 2023, KING GEORGE RIVER

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 change with the light creating a continually changing vista that is simply stunning. The journey culminates at the King George twin falls, the highest single-drop falls in the whole of the Kimberley. Your Expedition Team will escort you to the foot of the twin falls and explain the stunning geological formations of the canyon. (B,L,D)

DAY 8 – SUNDAY, 28 MAY 2023, VANSITTART BAY

Jar Island contains ancient rock art galleries depicting the Gwion Gwion style unique to the Kimberley region. Gwion Gwion art may extend back to over 30,000 years before our time and represents 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. (B,L,D)

DAY 9 – MONDAY, 29 MAY 2023, SWIFT BAY

The Bonaparte Archipelago consists of a rugged maze of islands stretching almost 150kms along Western Australia's coast. Its remote location has ensured it remains a remarkably pristine location to explore and experience. The 'T' shaped bay is composed of heavily fractured sandstone providing an abundance of rock shelters. On the walls of these shelters are examples of Wandjina and Gwion Gwion style rock art. Join your Expedition Team ashore for a guided walk to a number of rock art galleries depicting these unique rock art styles. (B,L,D)

DAY 10 – TUESDAY, 30 MAY 2023, HUNTER RIVER

Arguably one of the most scenic parts of the Kimberley coast, Prince Frederick Harbour and the Hunter River are lined with pockets of ancient rainforest, pristine mangroves and mosaic sandstone cliffs. 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 saltwater crocodile. The Expedition Team will share their knowledge as you explore by Zodiac, keeping a lookout for wildlife. You will also have the opportunity to reach the Mitchell Falls by helicopter from Naturalist Island beach. (B,L,D)

DAY 11 TO 12 – WEDNESDAY, 31 MAY 2023 TO THURSDAY, 01 JUNE 2023, COLLIER BAY AND HORIZONTAL FALLS

Lying to the east of the Buccaneer Archipelago, the ancient landscapes of Collier Bay have been shaped by massive tidal movements, creating a photographer's paradise. With a tidal range exceeding 14 metres, this movement of water creates unique phenomena. 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. Activities here will be determined by the weather and tide conditions. (B,L,D)



JOURNEY BEYOND
THE GHAN



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DAY 13 – FRIDAY, 02 JUNE 2023, LACEPEDE ISLANDS

The Lacepede Islands are Western Australia's most important breeding habitat for Green Turtles 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 and up to 20,000 Roseate Terns have also been recorded here, amongst the plethora of other birdlife. Join your Expedition Team for a guided Zodiac tour to view the prolific wildlife. (B,L,D)

DAY 14 – SATURDAY, 03 JUNE 2023, BROOME

The town of Broome is reputed for its history and its glorious pearling era. This is where your Kimberley cruising will come to an end. Early this morning, Le Laperouse will dock in the Port of Broome, where you will disembark and be transferred to your hotel. The day is yours to enjoy at leisure. Visit the fascinating Chinatown district, which is the historic city centre, and the Japanese Cemetery, dating back to 1896, with a past marked by the immigration of numerous Chinese and Japanese workers, attracted by the pearl industry at the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century. (B)

OVERNIGHT: 1 night Oaks Cable Beach Resort

DAY 15 – SUNDAY, 04 JUNE 2023, BROOME

Take in any last-minute sights in and around Broome as your rail and sail adventure concludes. (B)