

Raja Ampat & The Spice Islands

An expedition celebrating the natural marvels of East Indonesia

12 nights on board

13 Days

PKG No. UC045

Departure dates

See Schedule

Starting from (AUD)

A\$20,995

*Per person twin share

Solo Travel Option

Single Pricing Starts From (AUD)

Contact Agent

*Per person twin share

Paspaley Pearl by Ponant

East Indonesia

Overview

Discover the undeniable beauty and diverse ecology of Raja Ampat, explore spectacular landscapes and walk the streets that were once the most sought-after real estate on the globe. Solo Traveller options available.

Embark on an expedition through the captivating landscapes of Ambon and Raja Ampat, where history, culture, and natural wonders converge to create an unforgettable journey. Here's a preview of the exclusive highlights awaiting you. Each moment is a celebration of East Indonesia's cultural heritage and natural marvels, promising an experience that transcends the ordinary.

Expedition Highlights:

- Visit the ANZAC war cemetery in Ambon.
- View the dramatic scenery surrounding the water village of Sawai.
- Hike in search of Birds of Paradise in Raja Ampat.
- Explore the dramatic Karst landscape of 'the thousand temples' in Misool.
- Discover picture perfect postcard views throughout Raja Ampat.
- Swim and snorkel in the most biodiverse marine system on earth.
- Enjoy cultural interaction with the remote villages in Raja Ampat.
- Hike to spectacular view points in Raja Ampat.
- View the spectacular Kitikiti waterfall.
- Walk along streets that were once the most sought-after real estate on the globe.
- Gain an insight into the history, culture, and incredible diversity of life from your expert expedition team.

Flexible Expedition Itinerary

Experience the freedom of a flexible expedition itinerary, where the adventure unfolds in harmony with nature. Our itineraries adapt to tides and other environmental factors, ensuring an authentic exploration. Embrace the cultures, history and biodiversity of the remote areas we visit, guided by a team of expert guides who offer a dynamic and unforgettable journey tailored to the whims of the elements.

Vessel



Marrying Paspaley's heritage of over 80 years in the Kimberley and Northern Australia with PONANT's 35-year history of luxury expedition travel, *Paspaley Pearl* emerges as the embodiment of comfort and adventure.

Featuring 15 staterooms and suites and hosting a maximum of 30 guests per voyage, *Paspaley Pearl* is the newest and only boutique expedition motor yacht in the Kimberley with private balconies.

Main Dining, Lounge and Bar

Nestled on the Ocean Deck is our main dining area, lounge, and bar. As our skilled chefs craft your locally-inspired dinner, take a moment for a pre-dinner drink before being spoiled with the finest produce Australia has to offer. If you're interested in exploring some of PASPALEY's exquisite offerings, you'll be delighted by their showcase of the world's most beautiful pearls, available for purchase as a cherished memento of your time on board.

Outdoor Dining, Lounge and Bar

When journeying through the tropics, immersing yourself in the outdoors becomes essential. Indulge in breakfast and lunch daily within a relaxed yet refined setting. With two expansive dining tables and abundant lounges, relish the idea of dining amidst the natural surroundings you explore. Craving a refreshing drink after a day of exploration? Our friendly staff at the Outdoor Bar have you covered. The Outdoor Lounge doubles as the perfect space for afternoon briefings with your expedition team, ensuring you receive all the information needed for the following day's adventure.

Sun Deck Lounge and Jacuzzi

Bask in the sunshine on the Sun Deck, furnished with sun beds, lounges, and an 8-person jacuzzi. Whether you prefer reading a book under the shelter of the protective shade cloth or

engaging in conversations with newfound friends, the Sun Deck promises a haven of pure relaxation.

Sunset Lounge

Located ahead of the bridge, you can savour panoramic views rivaling those of the captain at the Sunset Lounge. Order a drink from one of the bars downstairs and relax as you witness some of the most breathtaking sunsets you've ever seen.

Powered by two main aft Azimuth propellers and a forward tunnel thruster, complemented by a single rudder and fin stabilisers, PASPALEY PEARL ensures impeccable manoeuvrability and stability. Safety is paramount, with two lifeboats and four purpose-designed exploration vessels. Embracing environmental responsibility, the vessel features an advanced wastewater treatment system, SOLAS certification and a fuel-efficient, quiet diesel-electric propulsion system. Catalytic inverters reduce NOX emissions by 90% and a heat recovery system provides hot water for showers and the galley.

Features:

- All meals – menus designed by the famed Serge Dansereau of Bathers Pavilion.
- Open Bar including French champagne, wine, beer, spirits, cocktails and non-alcoholic beverages.
- Complimentary and unlimited Wi-Fi (connectivity dependent on navigation and latitude).
- Shore landings and exploration vessel outings guided by a team of expert Expedition guides.
- Kimberley Visitor Passes (For all Kimberley voyages)
- Entry fees to National and Marine Parks
- Non-motorised water sports (Kayaking, Stand-Up Paddle Boarding, Snorkeling)
- Fishing equipment (On Kimberley voyages)

Tonnage 994

Build date 2021

Crew 22

Capacity 30

Length 53m

Itinerary



Day 1 Dili, Timor Leste

Lying on the northern coast of the island of Timor, along the narrow plains between the central mountains and the Ombai Strait, the laidback seaside city of Dili was thrust into the role of a national capital when Timor Leste became an independent country in May 2002. The peaceful city has a small-town vibe with a distinct Portuguese flavour. PASPALLEY PEARL will be alongside in Dili.

Day 2 At Sea

A day spent at sea provides an ideal opportunity for contemplation, allowing you to reminisce about the extraordinary moments shared with fellow adventurers. Take a moment for yourself to savour the rare tranquillity of the open sea and connect with your expedition team to discover exciting upcoming adventures on the horizon.

Day 3 Ambon, Maluku Province, Indonesia

Ambon is an island steeped in history from the first European contact by the Portuguese in 1526 to its strategic role in WWII. Today, there still remains many historical and cultural sites among the remnants of forts built by the Dutch East Indies Company during the heyday of the spice trade. The ANZAC War Cemetery near Ambon commemorates the allied soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice during World War II. All this aside, it is the friendliness of the Ambonese people that will leave the greatest impression.

Day 4 Sawai, Seram. Maluku, Indonesia

Located to the North of Ambon Island, Seram is the largest island in Maluku Province. For most central moluccans it is colloquially known as Nusa Ina or Mother Island, and is considered to be the original ancestral home of all the people of Central Maluku. Set at the foot of towering limestone cliffs on the North coast, the remote village of Sawai is one of the oldest villages in the Maluku region, said to have existed long before the arrival of the Spanish, Portuguese and Dutch to the archipelago. Located at the edge of the bay, the village is predominantly built on stilts atop the clear tropical waters of the Ceram Sea.

Day 5 Raja Ampat. West Papua, Indonesia

Situated off the northwest tip of the Bird's Head Peninsula on New Guinea Island, Raja

Ampat, or the Four Kings, comprises over 1500 small islands, cays, and shoals surrounding the four main islands of Misool, Salawati, Batanta, and Waigeo. According to Conservation International, the diversity of marine life is greater than any other area sampled in the Coral Triangle, making Raja Ampat quite possibly the richest coral reef ecosystem in the world. Whilst Raja Ampat has gained fame for its remarkable marine environment, it also boasts spectacular landscapes, diverse culture and unique wildlife encounters.

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Day 10 Kitikiti Waterfall. West Papua, Indonesia

The remoteness and beauty of West Papua's landscape is showcased at the remarkable Kitikiti falls. Whilst the falls are not very high, they are unique in that they fall directly into the ocean, surrounded by rainforest clad mountains, the falls are a photographer's dream. The

surprisingly cool waters are filtered by the limestone and volcanic terrain, creating a crystal clear cascade into the Ceram sea. Despite the influx of freshwater, colourful coral reefs are located nearby that provide good snorkelling opportunities.

Day 11 Banda Neira. Maluku, Indonesia

Banda Neira was the global centre for nutmeg trade for more than four centuries. Join local guides and your expedition team for a guided walking tour and gain an insight to a time when every colonial power of significance was fighting for control of this small island that today has become almost forgotten. Explore the ruins of the Dutch and Portuguese forts, and see the home of Christopher Cole, the British captain who liberated the Bandanese from their oppressive Dutch dictators. It is without doubt the most historically significant and interesting of all the Spice Islands.

Day 12 At Sea

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Day 13 Dili. Timor Leste

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Departure Schedule

30 January 2025

11 February 2025

Special Inclusion



- 12 night/13 day luxury cruise aboard Paspaley Pearl
- All meals – menus designed by the famed Serge Dansereau of Bathers Pavilion.
- Open Bar including French champagne, wine, beer, spirits, cocktails and non-alcoholic beverages.

- Complimentary and unlimited Wi-Fi (connectivity dependent on navigation and latitude).
- Shore landings and exploration vessel outings guided by a team of expert Expedition guides.
- Entry fees to National and Marine Parks
- Non-motorised water sports (Kayaking, Stand-Up Paddle Boarding, Snorkeling)

Special Information

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Please contact us for the latest information on entry and visa requirements.

INOCULATIONS

At time of publishing, vaccinations were not required. Passengers should consult their travel agent for the latest requirements.

RATES

Rates are per adult, in double or single occupancy. These fares are correct at the time of printing and are subject to change; with or without notice.

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

Shipboard purchases, gratuities, port taxes other than those specifically provided for, and other personal items. Rates quoted at the time of printing are based on current costs and are subject to change up to and including the date of sailing.

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