

P R E S S R E L E A S E

10th August 2006

**ORION ANNOUNCES NEW CALENDAR OF SAILINGS FOR 2007-2008**

Orion Expedition Cruises has released an extensive Calendar of Sailings for voyages between 30 December 2006 and 16 April 2008.

This marks Orion's third successful season in Australia, with a range of expeditions that include the Kimberley, Papua New Guinea, the Antarctic, and in 2008 for the first time, the islands of Melanesia.

**Kimberley:** Orion's 2007 voyages will see her spend April to September 2007 exploring Australia's stunning Kimberley coastline. Catering to strong demand there will now be 17 expedition cruises scheduled across two itineraries, including a new 11 night *Complete Kimberley* Broome to Darwin (or vice versa) itinerary to supplement the current popular 10 night *Kimberley Expedition* Darwin/Darwin expeditions.

**Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands:** In both March and November 2007 and between February and April 2008 Orion will be returning to further explore remote parts of the coastline of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. 8 voyages across two itineraries of 10 and 11 night's duration, alternating between Cairns and Rabaul, feature the very best of this fascinating and unspoilt region.

**Antarctica:** In addition to the two sold-out January 2007 Antarctic expeditions, in December 2007/January 2008 Orion will return with more awe-inspiring Antarctic itineraries. Catering to the popularity of her voyages from Australia and New Zealand to Antarctica, Orion has managed to schedule a further expedition, now making a total of three departures to the Antarctic over the Christmas 2007 and New Year/January 2008 period. Each will be 18 nights duration.

**Melanesia:** February 2008, departing from Auckland, Orion will undertake an all-new 16 nights South Seas sojourn to Rabaul, visiting the exotic and romantic islands of New Caledonia, Melanesia and Papua New Guinea including the Isle of Pines, Espiritu Santo, Tanna and Utupua Islands and Marovo Lagoon - the largest double barrier lagoon in the world, with thousands of islands from tiny coral islets to massive 1600m volcanic islands.

Pricing for 2007/2008 voyages has changed over 2006, with seasonal adjustments now being applied across the Calendar of Sailings. In a change from previous years, Orion's pricing will vary by destination and season, while the number of accommodation types onboard has been reduced and simplified.

Details of Calendar of Sailings, itineraries, pricing and all relevant details regarding the ship and shore expeditions can be found on the Orion Expedition Cruises website: [www.orioncruises.com.au](http://www.orioncruises.com.au)

**For further media information please contact:**

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**Fares Guide: 2007/2008**

*Depending on itinerary, date of travel and type of accommodation selected 10 nights Kimberley fares begin from \$7,200; 11 nights from \$7,340; 16 nights Melanesia expedition fares from \$11,530 and 18 night Antarctic voyages from \$16,920.*

*All prices per person, sharing accommodation. Orion has six levels of accommodation to choose from including staterooms, suites and owners suites.*

Further information on Orion Expedition Cruises can be obtained by visiting the website [www.orioncruises.com.au](http://www.orioncruises.com.au)

For reservations or to obtain a brochure call Orion Expedition Cruises: 61-2 9033 8777 (Sydney callers) 1300 361 012 (regional and interstate) or your travel agent.

Email: [info@orioncruises.com.au](mailto:info@orioncruises.com.au)

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