

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

Orion Expedition Cruises releases 2012 season brochure

Orion Expedition Cruises has released an expansive 2012 season brochure of year-round voyages for expedition cruise ships *Orion* and *Orion II*, featuring itineraries for 69 voyages to 17 countries and 174 destinations.

Stretching from Antarctica to the Russian Far East the extensive range of *path less travelled* itineraries incorporate the first full year of voyages for *Orion II*, as well as *Orion*, with signature expeditions well off the marine superhighway.

Borneo, Vietnam, Thailand, the Inland Sea of Japan, Russian Far East, China and Micronesia are included in *Orion II's* itineraries; while Australia's Kimberley coast, Arnhem Land, Great Barrier Reef, the Spice Islands, Antarctica and Papua New Guinea feature in *Orion's* range of expeditions.

Individual destination summaries by region provide useful reference for potential expedition travellers, revealing the differences between typical mainstream cruising and the rewarding cultural interaction and intellectual stimulation to be had on Orion's luxury small ship expeditions.

Along with a useful pricing supplement and early booking incentives the brochure includes a DVD depicting life onboard, highlights of destinations and typical cultural, historic and wildlife experiences encountered.

The luxury life onboard is exemplified through *Orion* and *Orion II's* range of accommodation (including floor plans for Staterooms and Suites through to Owner and Penthouse Suites) and onboard facilities that include boutique, massage, spa, elevator and lounges – along with Serge Dansereau's award winning cuisine.

2012 voyage highlights:

Orion II's new sailings feature the islands of Micronesia and themed voyages to Japan with *Art of Japan* and *Culinary Voyage of Japan* itineraries. China is included for the first time with expeditions that includes the Yangtze Delta (Kobe to Shanghai) and Shanghai to Tawau (Yangtze, Taiwan, Philippines), while a visit to Java includes the long lost temples of Borobudur.

- 16 **Kimberley Expeditions**, all with inclusive Bungle Bungle flight-seeing
- *Orion's* inaugural **New Zealand Bay of Islands Voyage of Discovery**
- *Orion II's* Voyage of Discovery to the islands of **Micronesia**
- 7 voyages to **Japan** reveal fine art, cuisine and ancient cultures

- **Russian Far East** expeditions include rarely visited Cold War hot spots
- 15 **Borneo** voyages with various itineraries circumnavigate the island
- 3 **Vietnam** Explorer voyages each explore 4 UNESCO World Heritage sites
- 6 **Papua New Guinea** expeditions reveal untouched cultures
- A visit to **Java** includes the 8th century Buddhist temples of Borobudur
- 2 inaugural voyages that include **China** and a trip up the Yangtze River
- 3 **Antarctic** voyages to Commonwealth Bay (Mawson's Hut) and the Ross Sea (Scott and Shackleton's huts)
- 2 voyages to **Thailand** and Cambodia, include the Mekong Delta, Ho Chi Minh City and the temples of Angkor Wat

Further information on Orion Expedition Cruises can be obtained by visiting the website www.orionexpeditions.com

For reservations or to obtain copies of the 2011 or 2012 brochures call Orion Expedition Cruises: 61-2 9033 8777 (Sydney callers) 1300 361 012 (regional and interstate) / 0800 444 462 (New Zealand) or see your travel agent.

Email: info@orionexpeditions.com

Additional information

An electronic version of the Orion 2012 brochure can be downloaded from www.orionexpeditions.com/ebrochure or a printed version mailed directly simply by contacting Orion Expedition Cruises: 61-2 9033 8777 (Sydney callers) 1300 361 012 (regional and interstate), emailing info@orioncruises.com.au or through specialist expedition cruise travel agents.

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