



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

Orion Expedition Cruises – from polar ice cap to the tropics - new destinations and itineraries for 2012

Orion Expedition Cruises has released an expanded range of *path less travelled* itineraries for 2012. Incorporating the first full year of voyages for *Orion II*, as well as *Orion*, these expeditions - well off the marine superhighway - include rarely visited destinations from polar ice cap to the tropics.

In addition to existing itineraries *Orion* takes a fresh look at New Zealand with new *Pure New Zealand* and *Bay of Islands* voyages.

Orion II's new sailings feature the islands of Micronesia and additional 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 an inaugural visit to Java includes the temples of Borobudur.

2012 will see the two purpose-built expedition cruise ships undertake 69 voyages to 17 countries and 174 destinations stretching from Antarctica to the Russian Far East including Borneo, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, the Inland Sea of Japan, Korea, China and Micronesia (onboard *Orion II*). Australia's Kimberley coast, Arnhem Land, Great Barrier Reef, the Spice Islands, New Zealand, the Sub Antarctic islands and Papua New Guinea feature in *Orion's* range of expeditions.

The complete 2012 *Calendar of Sailings* is now available through travel agents or by contacting Orion Expedition Cruises direct on 1300 361 012 (Australia) or 0800 444 462 (New Zealand).

The website www.orionexpeditions.com also features details of the new voyages ahead of the pending release of the 2012 brochure in a few weeks.

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

For reservations or to obtain a brochure of 2011 or 2012 voyages 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.

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