

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

15th August, 2007

Orion Tasmania Food and Wine gourmet cruise.

Orion's exquisite taste of Tasmania

Only a handful of suites remain for *Orion's Tasmanian Food & Wine* voyage in December 2007, indicating this culinary voyage will, like its predecessor, be a run away sell-out.

The gastronomic delights of this gourmet cruise – with wine tastings, special dinners and informal presentations as *Orion* cruises from Sydney to Hobart along Australia's stunning east coast and Tasmania - will be balanced by *Orion's* specialist expedition team ensuring plenty of activities ashore for guests to work up an appetite.

Blessed with pristine air and pure waters fresh from the Antarctic, lush pastures and a range of microclimates, visually stunning Tasmania is renowned for the production of some of the world's best shellfish, seafood, dairy, meat and wines.

So is it any wonder Tasmania's leading Consultant Chef and Culinary Advisor John Bailey (of The Banc Restaurant in Swansea) and pre-eminent Tasmanian winemaker and wine consultant Andrew Hood have joined forces onboard *Orion* for this voyage to share their thoughts and prepare, present and discuss some of the very best produce available in Tasmania?

Orion's fortunate few (*Orion* carries a maximum of just 106 passengers) will enjoy relaxed demonstration classes and experience tastings and matching of fine food and wine – naturally focussing on the diversity and quality that Tasmania has to offer.

Those guests who are quick to secure one of the remaining suites can join the luxury expedition cruise ship *Orion* for this food and wine voyage in December 2007. Commencing in Sydney, this 5 night voyage includes visits to the historic whaling port of Eden and a Zodiac expedition to rugged Flinders Island. Naturally, on a Food and Wine cruise it is appropriate for *Orion* to visit Wineglass Bay (followed by oyster tastings at Coles Bay!) and exploration along the pristine waterways and coast of Tasmania's remote Southwest National Park.

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Orion's Tasmanian 5 night Food & Wine Voyage, 7th December, 2007

SYDNEY, Eden, Flinders Island, Wineglass Bay and Coles Bay, Port Davey, Southwest National Park, HOBART

NOTE: Only a few staterooms and suites remain on this sought after voyage so it will be necessary to act quickly. 5 night fares begin from \$3,260 per person for an Ocean View category B Stateroom through to \$6,820 per person for an Owners' Suite.

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

Specific information relating to this voyage can be found at http://www.orioncruises.com.au/expeditions/tasmania/voyage_summary

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

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John Bailey runs The Banc Restaurant in Swansea, Tasmania. He has been Consultant Chef to Lactos, has worked as a Chef at Butterfields Cheese and Baileys of Tasmania and was Executive Chef at the Sheraton in Hobart. While at Raffles Hotel, John presented and showcased Tasmanian products to the Singapore market. He has conducted numerous culinary workshops, been responsible for menu design and conducting cooking classes in Australia and Asia.

John's interest in and knowledge of primary products from paddock to table has enabled him to create his own consultancy business, bringing together primary and end users.

For John, cooking is a serious business, demanding what he calls a "Holy Devotion". He says "I don't fix cars, build houses or play the violin, I do food".

Andrew Hood is Director of Winemaking at Hathaway Trading. Prior to this he established and managed his own winemaking business and successfully established the "Wellington" and "Roaring 40's" wine brands.

He has been Lecturer in Wine Science at Charles Sturt University and has twice been nominated as a Finalist in the Qantas/Australian Gourmet Traveller Wine Magazine Australian Winemaker of the Year (2000 and 2004).

NOTE: Further information and background on John Bailey and Andrew Hood is available by contacting Michael Corbett.



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