



# Kimberley Classic Adventure

A typical 13-night itinerary

## Wyndham to Broome

The Kimberley is a rugged region subject to 12 metre tides. No two Kimberley Classic Adventures are ever exactly the same. We plan each day according to the tides, Mother Nature and guest preferences! The following is a typical itinerary.

### Day 1 – Depart Wyndham Port

An air-conditioned charter bus will meet you in Kununurra between 4 and 4:30 pm to transport you and fellow passengers to Wyndham where you will be welcomed aboard your vessel around 5pm. Our friendly crew will meet you on the wharf and show you over the boat. Enjoy a cold drink and nibbles while your Captain delivers a familiarization and safety briefing. Then cast the ropes and settle into the beginning of your Kimberley Classic Adventure. Once we are under way you will enjoy a delicious dinner as we cruise down the Cambridge Gulf toward the Berkeley River.

### Day 2 - Berkeley River

The Berkeley River is a spectacular river system that offers a wide variety of entertainment options. The river mouth is very shallow and so our vessels can only enter and exit on the high tide. Your Captain will have to plan the day around this important factor. Once inside the river you will enjoy a beautiful cruise down through the sandstone cliffs where the fresh meets the salt. There are a number of fresh water creeks that feed the main river and this gives us a few options for a nature walk and a cool off in a beautiful fresh water pool. When the tide is right there is the opportunity to dangle your line, catch that elusive 50 pounder then relax after your big effort for a picnic lunch. In the afternoon we move back down the river and anchor just outside the mouth for the late afternoon. This is a chance for a last minute fish, a sunset wallow in another fresh water lagoon or to just kick back and relax.

### Day 3– King George River

Your Captain will decide whether you will cruise to the King George River in the early morning or the night before. It is approximately 4 hours from the Berkeley River and will be arranged to make the most of the weather and the tides.

Your backdrop for breakfast will be the awesome cathedral like gorges cruising down the magnificent King George River. Your vessel will be driven right up to the cascading waterfalls and you can take a shower right on the bow of the boat! Depending on the volume of water coming over at the time we can tie up under the falls.

You will spend today trekking; exploring and enjoying the fantastic scenery this river has to offer. It is another river that has a very shallow entry that can only be entered and exited on the high tide. Your Captain will again have to plan the day around this important factor.

The weather and the tide will decide whether you head off to Vansittart Bay at sunset or around 2am the next morning.

### Day 4 – Vansittart Bay

A relaxing morning onboard your vessel that will most likely start with a fishing excursion to organise the daily lunch buffet. We target a few pelagic species here like Giant Trevally, Queen Fish, Tuna, Mackerel etc. There are also a few places to pick up a Mangrove Jack, Fingermark or Bluebone Fish as well.

Just before lunch we will head into the beach for a refreshing swim and to view a few mysterious Bradshaw galleries. Then back to the vessel for a sumptuous fresh lunch as we cruise further down into the Cove to explore an old DC3 that crashed near Truscott Airbase at the end of WW II.

The evening/night will be spent cruising around Cape Bougainville to the mighty Mitchell River.

### Day 5 – Mitchell River

This is a huge open estuary type river that is very conducive to hunting the elusive Barramundi. We will try to organise fishing excursions to take advantage of both the low tides during the day. With Mother Nature on our side these usually occur at dawn and dusk – very nice!!

We will try for a gorgeous picnic lunch at Surveyors Creek thanks to our most wonderful crew who will cart it all there for you. After lunch enjoy a fresh water swim in Surveyors Creek or rendezvous with the helicopter for a flight over the Mitchell Plateau to the Mitchell Falls (Heli flights are approx \$280 pp).

We will stay at anchor tonight on the Mitchell River for one last attack on the barramundi at first light!

### Day 6– Mitchell River – Bigge Island

We cruise off around Cape Voltaire to Bigge Island around mid morning. This is a great time to kick back and soak in the Kimberley scenery.

We will arrive at Bigge Island around the late afternoon and go ashore to view an Aboriginal art gallery depicting early European contact. Tide and weather permitting we might have a fire on the beach as the sun sets.

This evening we will cruise down into the Hunter River.

### **Day 7 –Hunter River**

Wake up to a panoramic vista that is the Hunter River! Sandstone cliffs and ancient rainforests make this river a scenic heaven. Dawn reflections are a must see before we head off in the tenders to soak in the picturesque river.

There will be the opportunity to hike up through a rainforest environment to Jackson Falls. This is quite a difficult walk through and over big stone boulders – you may want to talk to your crew before you decide on this hike to gauge difficulty.

### **Day 8 – Careening Bay - Prince Regent River**

At the mouth of the Prince Regent River you will visit an ancient Boab Tree on which the crew of the HMC Mermaid carved the name of their vessel in 1820. Enjoy a walk on the beach up to a grove of ancient Cycad palms before we cruise off to the Prince Regent River. Your vessel will cruise down through the islands and narrow channels into the St George Basin and into the Prince Regent River. It is a beautiful cruise to enjoy the Kimberley geography as we make our way to either King Cascade or Camp Creek (tide and time dictating the Captains decision).

After lunch we head down to Camp Creek for a trek and swim in a beautiful pool at the base of a waterfall.

### **Day 9 –King Cascade**

Spend the morning fishing and exploring the interesting tributaries in our immediate vicinity. Vessels can only access King Cascade on the rising tide, as it is very shallow in the upper reaches of Prince Regent River. Once we are there, we will anchor right next to the cascading waterfall and may even fill our freshwater tanks with some of this magnificent water. Time permitting you can climb the hill to swim in a multitude of crystal clear fresh water pools and waterfalls.

In the late afternoon we will head back down the Prince Regent River toward Camden Harbour.

### **Day 10 –Camden Harbour – Kuri Bay**

Today we visit Camden Harbour and Sheep Island – the first attempted European settlement in the Kimberley. The crew will walk you through the tragic story that befell the settlers in this area in 1894.

Afterwards the tide may be kind enough for us to gather delicious Kimberley oysters for the evening entrée. The late morning will be spent cruising through the Kuri Bay pearl farm toward Doubtful bay. Listen as one of your crew give you an insight into the pearling industry.

The afternoon will be spent around Langii – where we can see the ‘Petrified Warriors’ and swim in crystal clear waters.

### **Day 11 –Doubtful Bay**

Marvel at the waterfalls of Montgomery Reef in an early morning foray along this unusual reef structure. Discovered by Phillip Parker King in the early 1800's this area has a rich history. Your crew will tell you a few interesting stories that relate to the reef. Often we see a number of turtles grazing on the exposed seagrass also sharks and the odd dugong or two have been spotted here. If the tide is performing we may have the opportunity to go fishing or we may cruise over to Doubtful Bay to start exploring all this area has to offer.

Discover an ancient Aboriginal Art gallery perched high on the side of Raft Point. The views from here are breathtaking looking over to Steep Island. We will spend the night anchored under the magnificent Raft Point and watch this huge rocky outcrop glow and change colour as the sun slowly sinks into the ocean. Have your cameras at the ready in this area.

### **Day 12 – Doubtful Bay**

Doubtful Bay is a large bay and has a lot on offer. You will be encouraged to help decide what areas we will visit, ranging from a swim under the waterfall at Ruby Falls, fishing at 3-Ways, a cruise down the spectacular Sale River, BBQ lunch on the sandy beach under a rainforest canopy or a hike to visit some of the local rock art.

The evening will be spent cruising over to Talbot Bay.

### **Day 13 –Talbot Bay – Yampi Sound**

The day begins with an exciting dingy ride through the infamous Horizontal Waterfalls. We will then head off in the tenders to view the amazing geography at the back of Talbot Bay. Mid morning we will cruise off to the Yampi Sound area. Enjoy the scenery as we weave through the Iron Islands and the Koolan Island Gap towards Crocodile Creek! This will be the last place for our cherished Kimberley freshwater swim! Kick back, relax and savour the last couple of daylight hours in the heart of the incredible Kimberley coast.

### **Day 14 – Disembark Broome Wharf**

Your Kimberley Classic Adventure will finish up at 08:00 hours. You will be met and transferred to your accommodation or the airport. We are confident that you will leave us having had the trip of a lifetime.