

THE KIMBERLEY

WITH NORTH STAR CRUISES



Northwest Australia's Kimberley coastline is one of the world's last great wilderness areas, a place of secluded beaches and rivers, spectacular waterfalls, and dazzling

gorges. Here, intrepid visitors view indigenous rock art, abundant wildlife, and partake in dozens of activities ranging from hiking above the waterfalls to fishing for the elusive barramundi.

Join North Star Cruises for the "Ultimate Kimberley's" adventure onboard the 36-passenger True North. The ship comes complete with helicopter for touring, six expedition boats, an internet café, dining room with panoramic windows, and snug ocean-facing cabins with satellite phones. Guests can hike to the top of King Cascade and then dip into a secluded swimming hole. Certified divers and snorkellers can swim or take the chopper over untouched coral gardens with giant potato cod, turtles, and manta rays.

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With no "at sea" days, guests enjoy heli-flights, fishing for mangrove jack and big barramundi, observing the crocodiles, mud-crabbing (the chef will cook up the catch on board) and bush walking. One of the highlights is visiting the "Bradshaws," ancient rock art, possibly the oldest 'paintings' known to man. Indulge in mouth-watering picnics alongside picture-perfect waterfalls and visit an isolated site in the rainforest where a lone bomber crashed during World War II.

At the end of the day, drink champagne as the sun sets on the ocean. And if you don't have time for two weeks in the Kimberley, there's always the "Snapshot" itinerary which condenses the trip into a week (but remember, just like Antarctica, you will probably not return to this pristine wilderness, so go for the two-week adventure). A separate Kimberley itinerary features the remote Rowley Shoals where divers and snorkellers can swim with giant potato cod, turtles, and manta rays. ■



ADVENTURES IN THE KIMBERLEY | Bush walking, swimming in secluded billabongs, fishing for barramundi and mangrove jack, helicopter rides to mountaintops and waterfalls, and mud-crabbing.

BEST TIME TO GO | The Kimberley region's climate is tropical with two distinct seasons: the WET season, from December through March and the DRY season, April through November. Choose winter, the dry season – warm, sunny and no rain.

PRICES | "Kimberley Snapshot" seven nights (per person) from \$11,995 to \$16,995 to December 2016. For 2017: from \$12,995 (per person) to \$17,995. "Kimberley Ultimate" 13 nights (per person) from \$19,995 to \$27,995 to December 2016. For 2017: from \$20,995 to \$28,995.

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