

Further information and advice regarding forthcoming voyages is available now, speak to your Travel Agent or contact us:

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Papua New Guinea: *A circumnavigation of New Britain*

MADANG / Nip Island / Witu Islands / Kimbe Bay / Ataliklikun Bay / Rabaul / Duke of York Islands / Jacquinot Bay / Tami islands / **MADANG**

EXPEDITION DATES

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 2025 | 2026 |
| 29 October 2025 | 8 November 2026 |
| 18 November 2025 | |

PASPALLEY PEARL



Your 11-Day Journey Around the Ring of Fire

Welcome to your New Britain circumnavigation—where active volcanoes meet ancient traditions, and every day reveals dramatic contrasts between pristine wilderness and living history.

Over the next 11 days, you'll circumnavigate one of the Pacific's most geologically active islands, exploring environments shaped by fire and water. This isn't just a geological sightseeing—you'll snorkel vibrant coral reefs within the Coral Triangle, walk through WWII tunnel systems carved by Japanese forces, and witness secretive Tolai masked ceremonies under volcanic peaks that still steam and rumble today.

Each morning brings new adventures as we navigate between pristine beaches and historically significant battle sites. You'll explore the collapsed rim of Garove Island's spectacular volcanic caldera, swim among the world's

most biodiverse coral reefs in Kimbe Bay, and participate in traditional village ceremonies where Methodist missionaries established their first Pacific mission in 1875.

From tracking through rainforest to hidden waterfalls in remote Jacquinot Bay to exploring Rabaul's ash-covered streets where volcanic eruptions reshaped entire communities, every experience connects you with both natural forces and human resilience.

Our small expedition community of just 30 guests means intimate encounters with environments and communities that remain largely unchanged, whether you're snorkelling pristine reefs or sharing stories with villagers whose lives revolve around volcanic overlords.

This is expedition travel where geology meets culture: engaging, educational, and utterly fascinating. Your Ring of Fire adventure begins the moment we cast off from Madang.

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ITINERARY

The itinerary below is provided as an example only, mother nature will be our guide. Our voyages are true expeditions, where each day's activities will be determined by the Expedition Leader and Captain taking into account the tide, weather, sea conditions and chance encounters.

Day 1: Madang, Papua New Guinea

Board Paspaley Pearl in the "Pearl of the South Pacific," where tree-lined streets and volcanic islands create one of Papua New Guinea's most attractive settings. Meet fellow adventurers while our expedition team prepares you for dramatic contrasts between active volcanoes and ancient traditions ahead.

Day 2: Nip Island, Cape Gloucester

Explore uninhabited islands offshore from this historic WWII battlefield, where American forces landed in 1943 during Operation Cartwheel. Swim and snorkel pristine beaches and coral reefs in warm Bismarck Sea waters while learning how this remote wilderness became a crucial Pacific War strategic position.

Day 3: Witu Islands

Navigate inside Garove Island's spectacular volcanic caldera through the collapsed southern rim creating a dramatic entrance. Join traditional Melanesian communities in this 8-10 kilometre natural amphitheater, exploring lush tropical forests and vibrant marine environments within this remarkable volcanic sanctuary largely untouched by outside influence.

Day 4: Kimbe Bay

Snorkel among Earth's most biodiverse marine environment, where over 860 fish species and 400 coral varieties create spectacular underwater gardens. Explore black volcanic beaches contrasting with lush forests, potentially visiting thermal springs while marvelling at volcanic landscapes supporting this UNESCO-recognised biodiversity hotspot.

Day 5: Ataliklikun Bay

Meet the distinctive Tolai people known for matrilineal clan systems and traditional "tabu" shell money. Witness elaborate cultural performances including secretive "dukduk" masked dances performed during full moon periods, handling traditional currency while learning how coastal communities balance ancient customs with modern influences.

Day 6: Rabaul

Tour this dramatic harbour town within an ancient volcanic caldera surrounded by six volcanoes. Explore recent volcanic devastation sites and extensive WWII tunnel systems carved by Japanese forces, watch active Mt. Tavurvur still steaming while learning how resilient communities live with constant volcanic activity.

Day 7: Duke of York Islands

Discover where Methodist missionaries established their first Pacific mission in 1875, spreading Christianity throughout the region. Experience traditional village life maintaining Melanesian customs, walk white sandy beaches, and enjoy exceptional snorkelling among vibrant coral reefs in this historically significant archipelago.

Day 8: Jacquinot Bay

Venture into New Britain's most remote wilderness where pristine beaches meet rainforest-covered mountains. Hike to hidden waterfalls cascading through dense tropical vegetation, learning how Australian forces used this natural harbour during 1944 Pacific War campaigns in areas seldom visited by outsiders.

Day 9: At Sea

Reflect on remarkable volcanic landscapes and cultural experiences during our Bismarck Sea crossing. Join enrichment sessions about regional geology and biodiversity while spotting marine life from the deck, fostering deeper connections within your fellow expedition travellers as you process extraordinary encounters with natural forces.

Day 10: Tami Islands

Experience the Pacific's most influential artistic traditions on four coral atolls encircling a crystal-clear lagoon. Witness famous "Tami style" wooden carvings and ceremonial masks, try traditional techniques, and participate in cultural performances celebrating artistic heritage maintained across countless generations.

Day 11: Madang

Return to where your circumnavigation began, carrying shared memories of volcanic landscapes, cultural encounters, and pristine environments. From active volcanic sites to traditional ceremonies, pristine coral reefs to WWII tunnels, your journey will reveal remarkable stories of geological forces and human cultural resilience.





SUN DECK



OCEAN LOUNGE



SUNDECK - JACUZZI



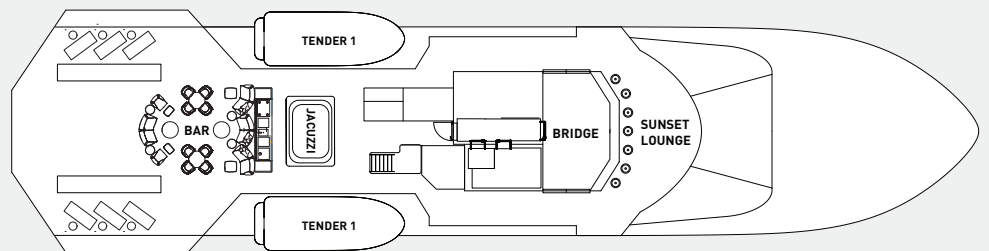
HORIZON GRILL, LOUNGE & BAR



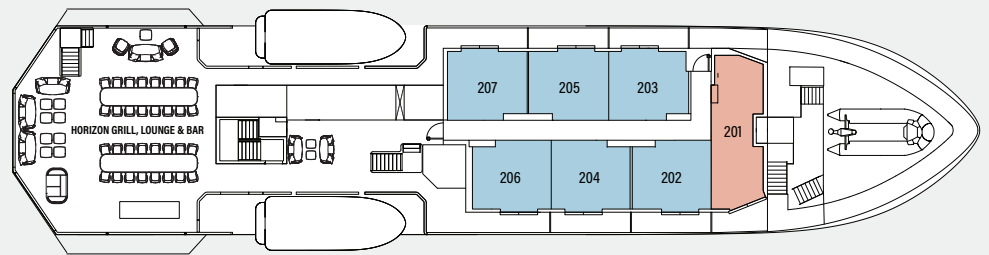
FINE DINING



PASPALY PEARL AT DUSK



SUN DECK



HORIZON DECK



OCEAN DECK

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| | PRICING 2025 | PRICING 2026 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| NIGHTS | 10 | 10 |
| Ocean Double Stateroom* | \$17,495 | \$18,495 |
| Ocean Twin Stateroom | \$18,495 | \$19,995 |
| Ocean Stateroom | \$19,995 | \$20,995 |
| Horizon Suite | \$23,995 | \$25,995 |
| Pearl Suite | \$28,995 | \$30,995 |

Prices are in AUD\$ per person based on twin share. Single supplement pricing is available on application. *Sole occupancy of stateroom #107 attracts no single surcharge.

- Ocean Double Stateroom*
14sqm / Double Bed
- Ocean Twin Stateroom
16sqm / Twin Bed
- Ocean Stateroom
17.5, 18sqm / Queen Bed
- Horizon Suite
20sqm inc. balcony / Queen Bed
- Pearl Suite
27sqm inc. balcony / Queen Bed

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Details of destinations, life onboard, accommodation options, expedition dates and itineraries for 2025 and 2026 will progressively be updated on our website.

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