

AUSTRALIA'S GREAT SOUTHERN COASTLINE



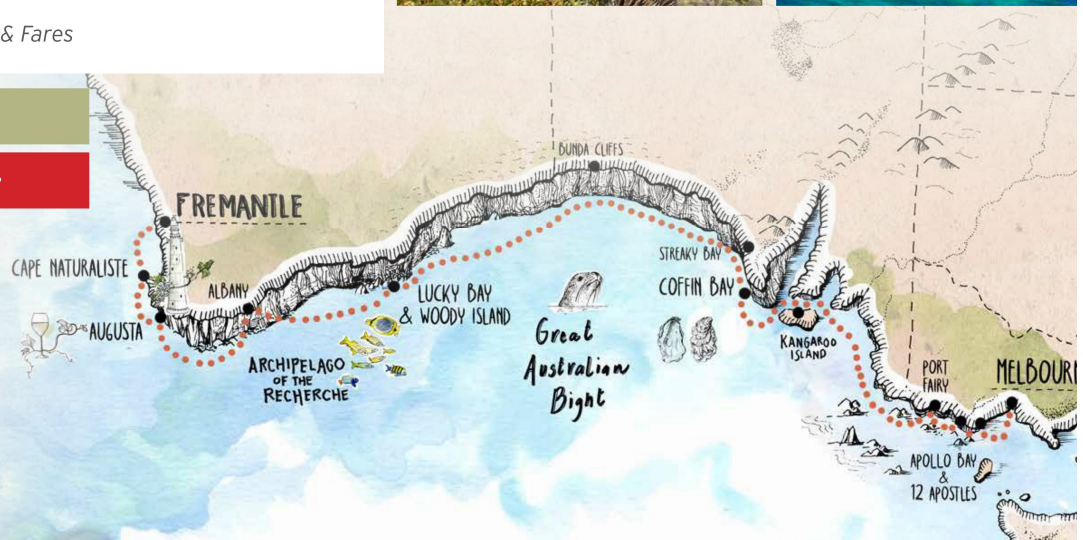
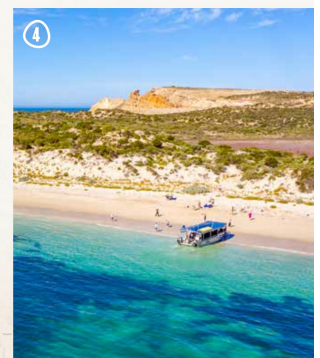
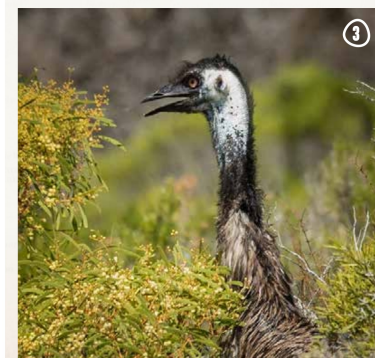
Expedition Highlights

- › Learn to shuck your own delicious oysters fresh from the waters of Coffin Bay and taste them at their freshest!
- › Abalone Tasting experience at Streaky Bay and learn the interesting history of Abalone wild harvesting
- › Climb Cape Leeuwin lighthouse, the tallest on mainland Australia, to take in the view over the Southern Ocean
- › Stroll through breath-taking Jewel Cave at Augusta and learn about its formation over thousands of years
- › Relax and enjoy sunset drinks alongside the friendly kangaroos at Lucky Bay.
- › Enjoy a relaxing and indulgent wine tasting among the vineyards of the award-winning Margaret River wine country
- › Enjoy the company of an Australian Geographic Society special guest host, as they share their passion for Australia's coastline and share their spirit of adventure

See Page 15 for Departures & Fares

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ITINERARY: 14 NIGHTS > MELBOURNE TO FREMANTLE

DAY 1: DEPART MELBOURNE

Board in Melbourne at 4:00pm for a 5:00pm departure.

DAYS 2-14: KEY DESTINATIONS OF YOUR EXPEDITION

APOLLO BAY & TWELVE APOSTLES

Apollo Bay is surrounded by wineries and famous for seafood. Today, a leisurely walk takes us to the Great Ocean Road Brewery to enjoy their unique beers, along with regional wines and boutique gins from local distilleries. Return to the *Coral Geographer* for lunch on the deck while cruising to the 12 Apostles. If conditions permit, get a closer look at the 12 Apostles from the Xplorer. This evening, enjoy Captain's Welcome Drinks while the sunset illuminates the iconic rock formations.

PORT FAIRY

Port Fairy boasts wide streets lined with beautiful nineteenth century cottages, great Norfolk pines and old stone churches. Spend the day exploring the wonderful 1800's architecture or browse the array of boutiques, antique shops and art & craft stores throughout the town. Follow the Port Fairy Maritime & Shipwreck Heritage Walk to discover white-washed cottages built by whalers, or enjoy the Griffith's Island Nature Walk.

WESTERN RIVER COVE, KANGAROO ISLAND

This morning, go ashore at remote Western River Cove. Beachcomb the small crescent-shaped beach and stroll along the river to the historic Homestead. You may have the opportunity to hear the personal story of the homestead owners as they escaped the devastating 2019 fires. An invigorating hike up the ridge line behind the homestead offers spectacular views of the valley. Later, cool off with a snorkel or swim at the beach.

COFFIN BAY

Coffin Bay is a stunning destination. The pristine waters are home to dolphins and sea lions, while emus and kangaroos roam. Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime tasting experience - don waterproof waders and take a seat at the Saltwater Pavilion to shuck your own Pacific oysters, fresh from the sea. Later, enjoy a short hike in the Coffin Bay National Park, and swim or kayak with the chance to spot marine life.

STREAKY BAY

This morning, stroll through the quaint township of Streaky Bay known for its fine cafes, and pop-up food vans. Visit the Streaky Bay National Trust Museum to gain an insight into the town's history. Learn about the history of abalone farming in the region with a visit to the processing plant and an opportunity to taste the delicacy of wild-caught green-lip and black-lip abalone, harvested by hand from the pristine waters of the Eyre Peninsula.

BUNDA CLIFFS & GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT

The Bunda Cliffs, some 120 metres high, are part of the longest stretch of sea cliffs in the world. We will sail in sight of the cliffs for an awe-inspiring view. On your once-in-a-lifetime crossing of the Great Australian Bight, you may also have the chance to spot the diverse marine wildlife which flourishes here.

LUCKY BAY & CAPE LE GRAND NATIONAL PARK

Cape Le Grand National Park's massive granite peaks, rolling heathlands and curving white beaches are a beautiful backdrop for a morning hike on the Le Grand Coastal trail. The beautiful coastal scenery is home to pygmy possums, western grey kangaroos and colourful native wildflowers. Enjoy a dip in the turquoise water of Lucky Bay and meet the friendly kangaroos lazing on the whitest sand in Australia. This afternoon, visit Woody Island in the Recherche Archipelago, to enjoy a bush-walk with spectacular views across the archipelago. Keep an eye out for Golden Whistlers, Brown Quails, Spotted Pardalotes, or Raptors.

ALBANY

Best known for its ancient tingle and karri forests, Albany is also alive with history. Arrive after lunch and travel to the Albany War Memorial to pay homage to those whose lives were lost in action. Later, explore at your own pace to take in the colonial buildings, galleries and museums.

AUGUSTA

Augusta is the most south-western town in Australia. Here, we will climb Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse, the tallest lighthouse on mainland Australia, which overlooks the place where the mighty Southern and Indian Oceans collide. Journey to visit Jewel Cave, an awe-inspiring and well decorated cave, with many beautiful examples of delicate helictites, cave coral, pendulites, and flowstone such as 'The Frozen Waterfall' and 'the Organ-pipes'.

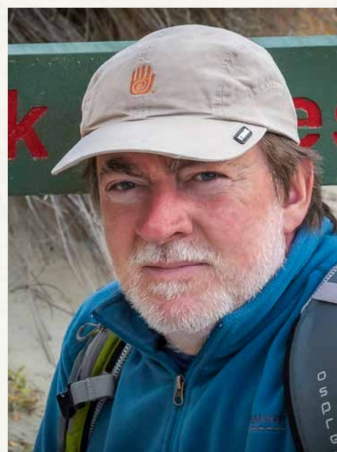
CAPE NATURALISTE

Cape Naturaliste is on the western edge of Geographe Bay, and is known for spectacular coastal scenery. The Wardandi people called it *Kwirreejeenungup* - 'the place with the beautiful view'. This morning, explore the beautiful walking trails, and visit the Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse. After lunch, delight in a flight of wines at a renowned Margaret River estate, learning the history and stories of the five founding vineyards of this famous wine region.

DAY 11: ARRIVE FREMANTLE

Disembark in Fremantle at 9:00am

A post cruise transfer to the CBD or airport is included (Fremantle and Perth).



Quentin Chester
Guest Lecturer

Quentin is a writer, photographer and outdoor guide who has led treks from the Himalayas to the Flinders Ranges. A resident of Kangaroo Island, Quentin's deep knowledge of the region is shared through conservation projects and guiding roles. Together with Alasdair McGregor he's the co-author of *Australia's Wild Islands*, as well as their acclaimed *The Kimberley: Horizons of Stone*.



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