

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

Discover the extraordinary art of Arnhem Land

Hosted by pre-eminent collectors of Australian indigenous art, and suitable for experienced and novice collectors alike, this Orion Expedition 8 night *Art of Arnhem Land* voyage is a "must-do" journey to remote and rarely visited Australian art communities. An art expedition that tracks the evolution of indigenous art culture along Australia's Arnhem Land coastline.

This will be a truly enriching journey for those interested in the multi-layering of indigenous art. In the Pirlangimpi art community in the Tiwi Islands, view Tiwi ceramics and carved totemic Pukumani funeral poles. Art lovers and collectors will be drawn to the Munupi Art Centre with its contemporary collection of paintings, pottery and carvings celebrating Tiwi cultural heritage and the natural environment.

Maningrida is one of the powerhouse art centres of central Arnhem Land, home of distinctive bark painting, pandanus, weaving and wood carvings. And the Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Art Centre in Yirrkala is one of the leading galleries of Northern Australia, along with the adjoining museum which houses the iconic "Church Panels".

Orion's guests will be introduced to Yolngu art and its guiding presence of the spirit that represents the past, present and future; while a visit to Thursday Island, the largest of the 18 islands of Torres Strait, provides an opportunity to explore this historically fascinating military and pearl-trading outpost.

For those wishing to understand more about one of the world's most ancient and artistically rich cultures there is one Orion *Art of Arnhem Land* expedition in 2011 and a further expedition (7 nights, with slightly varying itinerary) in 2012.

2011 and 2012 *Art of Arnhem Land* voyages:

13 September 2011: 8 nights, DARWIN, Pirlangimpi (Tiwi Islands), Maningrida, Elcho Island, Yirrkala, Merauke, Thursday Island, CAIRNS

8 night fares from \$5,945 per person for an ocean view (Category B Stateroom) Suites begin from \$8,200 per person for a Junior Suite
Orion's Owners' Suites are \$12,445 per person. All prices twin share.

20 September 2012: 7 nights, DARWIN, Pirlangimpi (Tiwi Islands), Maningrida, Elcho Island, Jensen Bay, Yirrkala, Merauke, THURSDAY ISLAND

7 night fares from \$3,805 per person for an ocean view (Category B Stateroom) Suites begin from \$5,250 per person for a Junior Suite
Orion's Owners' Suites are \$7,970 per person. All prices twin share.

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

For reservations or to obtain a brochure of 2011 or 2012 voyages call Orion Expedition Cruises: 61-2 9033 8777 (Sydney callers) 1300 361 012 (regional and interstate) / 0800 444 462 (New Zealand) or see your travel agent.

Email: info@orionexpeditions.com

Ranked #2 expedition cruise ship in the world in the current Berlitz Cruise Guide, Orion is the world's latest purpose-built luxury expedition cruise ship, featuring an unmatched range of onboard facilities.

With 75 crew and a maximum of just 100 passengers Orion offers the highest staff to guest ratio and guest to public space ratio of any ship based in Australian waters.

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