

INDIAN PACIFIC

THE GHAN



WEST COAST ODYSSEY CRUISING

RAIL & SAIL

DEPARTING

Wednesday, 04 August 2027 aboard Le Soleal
32 Days / 31 Nights

Begin your holiday in style aboard the Indian Pacific, travelling from Sydney to Perth across Australia's vast interior. Then embark on PONANT's West Coast Odyssey from Fremantle to Broome—a luxurious expedition cruise blending French elegance with adventurous discovery along a coastline of ancient landscapes, turquoise seas, and remote islands. Enjoy a modern small-ship experience with expert naturalists leading wildlife encounters, gorge walks, and cultural insights into First Nations heritage. Conclude your journey aboard The Ghan in Darwin, relaxing into another iconic rail adventure south to Adelaide.

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights aboard the Indian Pacific, Sydney to Perth, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experiences in Broken Hill, Adelaide, Cook and Rawlinna
- Transfer from East Perth Rail Terminal to hotel
- 1 night accommodation in Perth, including breakfast
- Transfer from Perth hotel to ship
- 20-night Australia's West Coast Odyssey expedition cruise aboard PONANT's Le Soleal, including all meals, select beverages, excursions and prepaid gratuities
- Transfer from ship to Darwin hotel
- 4 nights accommodation in Darwin, including breakfast daily
- Transfer from Darwin hotel to Darwin Rail Terminal
- 3 nights aboard The Ghan Expedition, Darwin to Adelaide, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experiences in Katherine, Alice Springs and Coober Pedy
- 31 breakfasts, 24 lunches, 26 dinners

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore mining and artistic history in Broken Hill
- Visit the foodie capital of South Australia, Adelaide
- Witness the barren beauty of the Nullarbor Plain
- Explore the western coast of Australia
- See wild beaches, turquoise waters, isolated islets and coral reefs
- Discover UNESCO World Heritage Sites, national parks and marine parks
- Sail past the location of the first recorded European landing at Cape Inscription
- Be amazed by the unspoilt beauty of nature

- View the unique tidal phenomena, Horizontal Falls
- Take a helicopter flight over Mitchell Falls (additional cost)
- See the oldest detailed depiction of human figures in the world on Jar Island
- Explore pristine mangrove environments and spot crocodiles
- Get up close to King George twin falls
- Discover ancient landscapes and rock art in the Northern Territory and the Kimberley
- Witness spectacular outback landscapes as you travel on The Ghan Expedition
- Visit the impressive natural wonder of Nitmiluk Gorge

Please note, itineraries are subject to change.

DAY 1 – BOARD THE INDIAN PACIFIC IN SYDNEY

Your adventure begins at Sydney's Central Station, where the iconic Indian Pacific waits to carry you across the continent. As the train eases away from the platform and city skylines fall away, you'll soon be surrounded by the soaring sandstone cliffs and deep valleys of the Blue Mountains. Settle into your cabin or join fellow travellers in the lounge for a drink as the journey unfolds.

This evening, take your seat in the dining car for your first regionally inspired dinner, thoughtfully paired with fine Australian wines and beverages. Afterward, return to the lounge for a nightcap or retreat to your cabin as the train rolls westward. (D)

OVERNIGHT: 3 nights Indian Pacific

DAY 2 – INDIAN PACIFIC, BROKEN HILL AND ADELAIDE

Your morning begins in Broken Hill, the fabled Silver City. Step off the train for your first Off Train Experience – explore the outback towns mining legacy, taking time to reflect at the Miners' Memorial, or for those interested in the curiosities of Broken Hill, join Shelita Buffet, Broken Hill's famous Drag Queen for a morning of fun, creativity and food. Refreshments are included before reboarding the Indian Pacific.

Back on board, enjoy breakfast and lunch as the train sweeps past the southern tip of the Flinders Ranges, South Australia. By late afternoon, you'll arrive in Adelaide for a choice of curated experiences. Savour McLaren Vale wines before dining at the cliffside Star of Greece, or sample gin and cheese in the Adelaide Hills followed by a feast at Haus, a German restaurant showcasing the best of local produce. In the city,



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Icons of Adelaide includes a behind-the-scenes tour and tasting at Coopers Brewery, a scenic drive, and a teppanyaki dinner at Shiki capped by a twilight stroll to Adelaide Oval. Alternatively, take a guided tour of the Adelaide Central Market, finishing with an exclusive sit-down dinner, in the markets and all to yourself.

After a memorable evening, return to the train to continue your westward journey. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 – INDIAN PACIFIC, NULLARBOR PLAIN

Today is all about the vast, unforgettable views of the Nullarbor Plain. You'll journey across this legendary expanse on the world's longest stretch of straight railway track, with endless horizons unfolding outside your window. Along the way, the train pauses at Cook – once a bustling railway town, now a near-ghost outpost with stories etched into its weathered buildings.

By evening, you'll reach Rawlinna, on the edge of Australia's largest sheep station. Here, the outback comes alive as you dine beneath a canopy of stars at a spectacular signature long-table dinner (Sept–May). In the cooler months, gather around a roaring bonfire with drinks and canapés, soaking up the atmosphere of this remarkable setting. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 – INDIAN PACIFIC, PERTH

Wake to the soft light over Western Australia's Avon Valley, its rolling green hills a fitting finale to your transcontinental adventure. Savour a leisurely brunch on board as the train makes its final approach into Perth. Soon, you'll step off the Indian Pacific, farewelling fellow travellers and crew before transferring to your overnight accommodation. (B)

OVERNIGHT: 1 night Pan Pacific Perth

DAY 5 – BOARD LE SOLEAL IN FREMANTLE

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and spend the morning in Perth. This afternoon, transfer from your hotel to the Port of Fremantle to board Le Soleal for your West Coast Odyssey cruising adventure. Settle into your cabin, make yourself comfortable, enjoy dinner and perhaps have a nightcap. (B,D)

OVERNIGHT: 20 nights Le Soleal

DAY 6 – JURIE BAY MARINE PARK

Jurie Bay Marine Park located 150 kilometres north of Perth, was named by Captain Nicolas Baudin aboard the Géographe in honour of the French naval administrator

Charles Marie Vicomte Jurien. The marine park surrounds dozens of ecologically important islands that contain rare and endangered animals found nowhere else in the world. The marine park and its immediate surrounds is the only major breeding area for Australian sea lions along the western coast of Australia. It is also a primary breeding ground for seabirds and is populated with a mix of temperate and tropical plants and animals, courtesy of the Leeuwin Current. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 – ABROLHOS ISLANDS MARINE PARK

The Abrolhos Islands Marine Park consists of three main clusters of islands that stretch from north to south across 100 kilometres of ocean, and includes the Wallabi, Easter and Pelsaert Groups. Established as a marine park in 1983, the waters of the Abrolhos are famous for colourful coral, crystal clear waters and large breeding colonies of seabirds. Here, the southward flowing Leeuwin current has created a meeting place for tropical and temperate sea life. In July 2019 the Islands were declared a national park for their ecological and historical significance. You will have the opportunity to explore East Wallabi Island and its fringing reefs. (B,L,D)

DAY 8 – SHARK BAY WORLD HERITAGE AREA

With its white, sandy beaches, turquoise waters, rust-red sand dunes and abundant wildlife, Shark Bay became Western Australia's first World Heritage listed area in 1991. The colourful and diverse landscapes, rare fauna and flora and world class examples of Earth's ecological processes are what qualify Shark Bay for World Heritage listing – making it a truly remarkable place. You will have the opportunity to sail past the location of the first recorded European landing on Australia's west coast at Cape Inscription where in 1616 Dirk Hartog left evidence of his landing in the form of a pewter plate inscribed with details of his journey. (B,L,D)

DAY 9 – CAPE PERON

Cape Peron, named in honour of the French explorer François Péron, is a wild and isolated spot in the middle of Australia's Shark Bay, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Here the turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean contrast with endless white sandy beaches and ochre cliffs tinged with the red sand of the surrounding deserts. You can set out to discover the astonishingly rich underwater wildlife, including stromatolites: the oldest known life forms on the planet. You will be amazed by the unspoilt beauty of this nature. (B,L,D)

DAY 10 – NINGALOO COAST WORLD HERITAGE AREA

The Ningaloo Coast Marine Park is a place of spectacular contrast between lush and colourful scenery beneath the

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surface of the Indian Ocean and the rugged, arid landscape of Cape Range National Park. (B,L,D)

DAY 11 – NINGALOO COAST WORLD HERITAGE AREA

We will have the opportunity to swim and snorkel on the largest fringing coral reef in Australia and the only large reef in the world found so close to a continental land mass, making it an easy snorkel from shore. (B,L,D)

DAY 12 – MONTEBELLO ISLANDS

Located off the Pilbara Coast 120km west of Dampier, the Montebello Islands Marine Park covers more than 58,000 hectares of ocean and over 250 low-lying limestone islands and islets. The flat limestone islands range in size from Hermite, the largest, at about 1,000 ha, to several small islets and rocks of less than one hectare. They are the remnants of an old coastal landform and have been separated from the mainland for more than 8,000 years. They were named by the French navigator Nicolas Baudin in 1801 after the battle of Montebello. The area is rich in natural marine diversity and human history. They achieved international notoriety in 1952 when the British, in an operation code named Hurricane, detonated an atomic weapon in a bay off Trimouille island. Two further atomic tests were carried out in May and June of 1956 on Alpha and Trimouille Islands. You will have the opportunity to explore the marine park with our fleet of Zodiacs®. (B,L,D)

DAY 13 – BURRUP PENINSULA

Murujuga National Park and the islands of the Dampier Archipelago showcase what is thought to be the highest concentration of rock engravings of any known site in the world. Aboriginal people have been living there for more than 50,000 years and the petroglyphs (rock engravings) have been estimated to be as old as 40,000 years. The petroglyphs are diverse, depicting a record of what was meaningful to the Aboriginal people of the Pilbara and beyond. The sacred rock art's traditional custodians are the Ngarluma-Yindjibarndi, the Yaburara-Mardudhunera and the Woon-goo-tt-oo and you will have the opportunity to visit Deep Gorge with a traditional custodian guide and marvel at the petroglyphs up close. (B,L,D)

DAY 14 – LE SOLEAL AT SEA

During your journey at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This journey without

a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. (B,L,D)

DAY 15 – BROOME

Located in the northwest of the Kimberley region and in the far north of Western Australia, the town of Broome is reputed for its history and its glorious pearling era. The fascinating Chinatown district, which is the historic city centre, and the famous Japanese Cemetery, dates back to 1896, and has a past marked by the immigration of numerous Chinese and Japanese workers, attracted by the prosperous pearl industry at the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century. Today you will have time to explore Broome at your leisure before returning to Le Soleal. (B,L,D)

DAY 16 – LACEPEDE ISLANDS

The Lacepede Islands are Western Australia's most important breeding habitat for Green Turtles and have been named by BirdLife International as an Important Bird Area (IBA). The breeding colony of Brown Boobies is possibly the largest in the world and up to 20,000 Roseate Terns have also been recorded here, amongst the plethora of other birdlife. Join your Expedition Team for a guided Zodiac tour to view the prolific wildlife. (B,L,D)

DAY 17 – COLLIER BAY AND HORIZONTAL FALLS

Lying to the east of the Buccaneer Archipelago, the ancient landscapes of Collier Bay have been shaped by massive tidal movements, creating a photographer's paradise. With a tidal range exceeding 14 metres, this movement of water creates a unique phenomenon. Nestled in the centre of the bay is Montgomery Reef, the world's largest inshore reef system. As the tide falls a raging torrent of water cascades off the top of the reef, creating turbulent 'rivers' and mini waterfalls. (B,L,D)

DAY 18 – COLLIER BAY AND HORIZONTAL FALLS

Nestled at the southern end of Buccaneer Archipelago is Talbot Bay, home to the world's only 'Horizontal Falls' and described by Sir David Attenborough as "one of the greatest wonders of the natural world." Hidden in the many caves and grottos of this ancient landscape are a multitude of ancient rock art galleries. Activities here will be determined by the weather and tide conditions. (B,L,D)



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DAY 19 – CAREENING BAY

Careening Bay was named by Lieutenant Phillip Parker King after his ship, the HMC Mermaid, was careened there during his third voyage of discovery in 1820. At high tide, on a warm September afternoon, King ran the leaking HMC Mermaid onto the sands. As the crew worked hard to re-float the vessel, the ship's carpenter carved the name of the vessel and the year into a conspicuous boob tree. The boob tree is now three metres wide and National Heritage listed. (B,L,D)

DAY 20 – HUNTER RIVER

Arguably one of the most scenic parts of the Kimberley coast, Prince Frederick Harbour and the Hunter River are lined with pockets of ancient rainforest, pristine mangroves, and mosaic sandstone cliffs. The sandstone escarpment at the river mouth, known as "Kampamantiya" rises over 200 metres high before giving way to extensive mud banks and mangrove forests home to numerous bird species and the saltwater crocodile. The Expedition Team will share their knowledge as you explore by Zodiac, keeping a lookout for wildlife. You will also have the opportunity to reach the Mitchell Falls by helicopter from Naturalist Island beach (additional cost). (B,L,D)

DAY 21 – SWIFT BAY

The Bonaparte Archipelago consists of a rugged maze of islands stretching almost 150 kilometres along Western Australia's coast. Its remote location has ensured it remains a remarkably pristine location to explore and experience. The 'T' shaped bay is composed of heavily fractured sandstone providing an abundance of rock shelters. On the walls of these shelters are examples of Wandjina and Gwion Gwion style rock art. Join your Expedition Team ashore for a guided walk to a number of rock art galleries depicting these unique rock art styles. (B,L,D)

DAY 22 – VANSITTART BAY

Jar Island contains ancient rock art galleries depicting the Gwion Gwion style unique to the Kimberley region. Gwion Gwion art may extend back to over 30,000 years before our time and represents the first wave of seagoing colonisers of the Australian continent. As it is, these are the oldest detailed depictions of human figures in the world. Join your Expedition Team ashore for a short walk, past some fascinating rock formations, to the site of the Gwion Gwion art galleries. (B,L,D)

DAY 23 – KING GEORGE RIVER

The journey up the King George River is nothing short of breathtaking. The 80-metre-high sides of the gorge display varying degrees of weathering of the ancient Warton sandstone. The colours and textures change with the light creating a continually changing vista that is simply stunning. The journey culminates at the King George twin falls, the highest single drop falls in the whole of the Kimberley. Your Expedition Team will escort you to the foot of the twin falls and explain the stunning geological formations of the canyon. (B,L,D)

DAY 24 – LE SOLEAL AT SEA

Enjoy a leisurely day at sea to take advantage of the luxurious onboard services or sip a cool drink by the pool. Your expedition team will offer an enrichment programme focusing on Australian history, flora, and fauna. Enjoy some down time on the deck, relax in the sauna, or sample culinary specialties prepared by the Chef and Galley Team. Lovers of the open sea can visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. (B,L,D)

DAY 25 – DARWIN

Darwin is the capital city of the Northern Territory and a melting pot of people and cultures that prides itself on its friendly, laid-back lifestyle. Early this morning, Le Soleal or Le Jacques Cartier will dock in the Port of Darwin where you will disembark and be transferred to your hotel. The day is yours to enjoy at leisure. Discover the town's history through its emblematic buildings, such as the new Parliament House opened in 1994, a magnificent example of tropical architecture, or Admiralty House, a tropical-style home elevated on stilts that has survived two cyclones and numerous air raids. (B)

OVERNIGHT: 4 nights Hilton Darwin

DAY 26 – DARWIN

Further explore Darwin city at your own pace, taking in the relaxed lifestyle of the Northern Territory. Perhaps take a stroll along the Waterfront Precinct or visit the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens. (B)



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DAY 27 – DARWIN

There is much to see and do in and around Darwin. Why not consider an optional tour (additional expense) to Litchfield National Park or a visit to the Jumping Crocodiles. (B)

DAY 28 – DARWIN

Enjoy your last day in Darwin, relax by the pool in the comfort of your hotel or explore any of those last minute sights. Take a stroll to Stokes Hill Wharf and visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service or stroll along Mitchell Street to Crocosaurus Cove – the choice is yours. (B)

DAY 29 – BOARD THE GHAN EXPEDITION IN DARWIN

Celebrate the beginning of your journey with a welcome drink and light refreshments and pause for a photo with The Ghan's iconic red locomotive before stepping on board. Settle into your home for the next few days, enjoying the comforts of your cabin, or mingle with fellow travellers in the Outback Explorer Lounge. As The Ghan begins to travel south, a chef-prepared lunch awaits before your Off Train Experience in Katherine.

Here you'll choose how to explore this remarkable region. Cruise through the towering sandstone cliffs and dramatic beauty of Nitmiluk Gorge and uncover its deep cultural significance. Alternatively, step into the Katherine Outback Experience for an authentic glimpse into the lives of those who call the outback home. Or venture underground at the Cutta Cutta Caves, where fascinating limestone formations, native wildlife and stories of Indigenous culture are waiting to be shared. For a different perspective, upgrade to a helicopter flight and take in the scale of Nitmiluk from above. (B,L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 3 nights The Ghan Expedition

DAY 30 – THE GHAN EXPEDITION, ALICE SPRINGS

Wake to the wide-open skies of the outback as The Ghan draws closer to the iconic town of Alice Springs. After a hearty breakfast on board, step into the heart of Central Australia with a choice of Off Train Experiences designed to suit every traveller.

Take to the red dirt on an off-road e-bike adventure, join the A Town Called Alice tour to uncover the town's major landmarks, or immerse yourself in culture with a guided journey through Standley Chasm and Simpsons Gap. Here, sheer rock walls blaze red in the sunlight and ancient landscapes hold deep spiritual significance for the Arrernte

people. Wildlife lovers can meet desert creatures at Alice Springs Desert Park, while those seeking a grander perspective can opt for a scenic flight over Uluru and Kata Tjuta.

As night falls, the hallmark experience of The Ghan Expedition awaits. At the historic Alice Springs Telegraph Station, dine beneath a canopy of stars, surrounded by the red earth of the desert. With white tablecloths, fine food and live entertainment, it's an evening you'll never forget. (B,L,D)

DAY 31 – THE GHAN EXPEDITION, COOBER PEDY

Today brings you to the extraordinary outback town of Coober Pedy, where life is anything but ordinary. Known as the opal capital of the world, this desert settlement hides its treasures both above and below, and more than half the population live underground.

Your adventure begins with a morning stop at the remote outpost of Manguri to take in the sunrise, before continuing on to Coober Pedy for a day of exploration. A highlight is a gourmet lunch enjoyed underground, a dining experience as unique as the town itself. Off Train Experiences include visiting the striking Breakaways, uncovering the town's quirky attractions, or learning the fascinating history of opal mining on the Opal Experience. For an unforgettable view, upgrade to a scenic flight over the Painted Hills and Lake Eyre.

Back on board for your final night, dinner is served in the dining carriage before one last nightcap in the lounge with fellow travellers as The Ghan journeys towards Adelaide. (B,L,D)

DAY 32 – THE GHAN EXPEDITION, ADELAIDE

This morning, you'll see a dramatic change in landscape as the rich ochre tones of the outback make way for the green fields of South Australia. Enjoy a leisurely brunch as you pass through the Flinders Ranges before arriving into Adelaide.

Stepping off the train, you'll carry more than memories of extraordinary landscapes. You'll take with you the stories shared, the connections made, and the sense of wonder that only a journey throughout Australia can bring. (B)