



New Zealand's Ultimate Luxury Expedition Cruise Returns

Auckland, New Zealand (August 2007).

Australia and the South Pacific's leading small-ship cruise line, Coral Princess Cruises, has announced the return of their luxurious Oceanic Discoverer to New Zealand waters in December, offering the ultimate summer holiday with a series of five and 12-night luxury voyages exploring the coastline of New Zealand in style.

Offering expedition style cruising pioneered by Coral Princess, Oceanic Discoverer takes guests to sea and landscapes internationally recognised as irreplaceable sources of life and inspiration. Guests will discover active volcanoes, ancient native forests, prehistoric glaciers, snow-covered Alps and remote island sanctuaries that will capture their imagination and hearts.

During both cruises, guests will also have the chance to enjoy guided walks and lectures from expert naturalists, and explore New Zealand's secret alcoves on the Oceanic Discoverer's purpose-built excursion vessel, 'Xplorer', and its fleet of inflatable Zodiacs.

Oceanic Discoverer's New Zealand cruise itineraries are:

- **A 12-night Auckland to Milford Sound Cruise.** From Auckland, this 12-night itinerary follows the North and South Island's east coast: White Island, Gisborne, Napier, Marlborough Sounds, Kaikoura, Akaroa, Dunedin, Stewart Island, Dusky Fiord, Doubtful Fiord and Milford Sound. Highlights include whale-watching off the Kaikoura coastline, photographing birdlife in exotic mainland colonies, and exploring the remote tranquility of the deep Fiordland waterways in the South Island.
- **A 5-night Auckland to Paihia, the Bay of Islands Cruise.** From Auckland, this 5-night itinerary explores the north coast of New Zealand's North Island: Tiri Tiri Matangi Island, Great Barrier Island, Whangaroa Harbour, The Bay of Islands and Paihia. Highlights of this voyage include a visit to one of only two scientific reserves in New Zealand on Tiri Tiri Matangi Island, and experiencing the sub-tropical aquatic wonderland, the Bay of Islands.

Accommodating just 72 guests, Oceanic Discoverer is large enough to provide all the comfort and facilities of larger cruise ships, yet small enough to enable access to reef and island sites inaccessible to other vessels. On board facilities include a large sundeck and spa pool, reference library, lecture lounge, two cocktail bars, a gift shop and dive shop.

For more information or graphics contact Karine Thomas on 64 9 307 3633 or email karine@navigateoceania.com.

- ENDS -

Editors Notes:

- Cruise price starts at AUS\$7190 for the 12 night Auckland to Milford Sound cruise, and AUS\$2990 for the Auckland to Bay of Islands cruise. All prices include GST.
- Coral Princess Cruises is Australia and the South Pacific's leading small-ship cruise company offering itineraries to the Great Barrier Reef, Kimberley, Papua New Guinea, Melanesia, Vanuatu New Zealand, and Australian Outback.
- Coral Princess Cruises pioneered the concept of small-ship expedition cruising, and is Australia's longest established and most awarded adventure cruise operator. This family-owned company started operating the Great Barrier Reef cruises in 1984, and introduced the Kimberley Cruise program in 1996. A Coral Princess Cruise is an experience that you will never forget, now with three expedition ships: Coral Princess, Coral Princess II and the state-of-the art Oceanic Discoverer.
- **Oceanic Discoverer is a member of Navigate Oceania**, a new collection of 25 inspired destinations and unique experiences from New Zealand's best boutique hotels and luxury lodges, an exclusive private island, villas, spa destinations, a luxury expedition-style cruise, and a private motor yacht. Our members are: Doubtless Bay Villas, Cable Bay; Cavalli Island Retreat and Spa, Cavalli Islands; Paihia Beach Resort and Spa, Bay of Islands; Bay of Island Lodge, Bay of Islands; Oceanic Discoverer; Mission Hills, Bay of Islands; Waipoua Lodge, Waipoua Forest; The Boatshed, Waiheke Island; Stafford Villa, Auckland; Cotter House, Auckland; Seafields, Whitford; Maungatautari Lodge, Cambridge; Hamurana Country Estate, Rotorua; Kawaha Point Lodge, Rotorua; Treetops Lodge & Wilderness Estate, Rotorua; Chalet Eiger, Lake Taupo; Greenhill the Lodge, Hawkes Bay; Wharekauhau Country Estate, Martinborough; The Bolton Hotel, Wellington; Ohtel, Wellington; Claremont Country Estate, Canterbury; Huntley House, Christchurch; Elm Tree House, Christchurch; Wapiti Park Homestead, West Coast; Matakauri, Queenstown; Takaro Spa Retreat, Te Anau. For more information on our experiences, visit www.navigateoceania.com.