



P&O Showcases the Best of the South Pacific in 2019 Winter Program

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P&O Cruises has showcased the very best of the South Pacific in its new 2019 winter program on sale now signalling its continuing leadership in offering more South Pacific destinations than any other cruise line.

The hidden gems of the South Pacific feature in 43 separate cruises departing from either Sydney or Brisbane, with Pacific Explorer continuing to sail year-round from her home port of Sydney between May and October 2019 with a mix of eight to 16-night South Pacific cruises.

The launch coincides with a new marketing campaign featuring a series of TVCs showing Australians why a P&O cruise is the most effortless way to explore the South Pacific, providing travellers with access to many unique destinations that can be otherwise difficult to reach.

Included are unique and remote destinations such as the untouched Conflict Islands comprised of 21 small pristine, uninhabited islands in an atoll spanning 375 hectares in the Coral Sea, in south east Papua New Guinea. Previously only accessible by helicopter or a boat ride, P&O were the first to cruise to the destination in 2016.

President of P&O Cruises and Carnival Australia, Sture Myrmell, said the 2019 winter program continued the cruise line's commitment to being the best way to cruise the South Pacific.

"P&O Cruises have been pioneering cruising to the South Pacific for 85 years since we first began cruising to the area in 1932, and today, we continue to help our guests uncover some of the most extraordinary places on Earth, which are virtually impossible to access by land," Mr Myrmell said.

"The 2019 winter program has been assembled with this in mind, delivering itineraries and destinations that give our guests access to the very best of the South Pacific in effortless fashion, combined with the convenience of more home ports than any other cruise line."

Other highlights in the 2019 winter program include the return of Main Event cruising to the hottest dates in the calendar. Culture lovers can immerse themselves in Tasmania's Dark Mofo festival, celebrating winter and the longest night of the year with food, music, art, film, lights and more. A sixnight Dark Mofo cruise onboard Pacific Explorer will depart Sydney in June, with two nights in Hobart to enjoy everything on offer.

The Melbourne Cup cruise has three sailings in 2019, taking 6,000 visitors to the race that stops the nation with two Sydney departures and one from Brisbane.

A new addition to the 2018 itinerary that will give Aussie cruisers a reason to laugh out loud is a first-of-its-kind Comedy Festival at Sea on Pacific Explorer departing in June for 4-nights to Moreton Island. Household names such as Jimeoin, Matt Okine and the Scared Weird Little Guys are on the bill with 36 shows to be delivered by 14 comics.

The Sunshine State continues to appeal to cruisegoers with Pacific Aria sailing alongside Pacific Dawn year-round from Brisbane, with both ships offering the ever popular seven-night Pacific Island Hopper or Barrier Reef Discovery cruises departing on either a Friday or Saturday. Overall, Queensland boasts 45 voyages in the new program, departing from either Sydney or Brisbane to a wide array of popular destinations along the sunny coastline.

In line with Australia's growing love for weekend getaways, the program features more short breaks than any other cruise line with 51 Sea Breaks ranging from two to four-night sailings, including 17 fournight Moreton Island cruises from Sydney and 27 three-night round-trip Sea Break cruises from Sydney or Brisbane.

Guests can also enjoy the convenience that P&O Cruises offer with more Australian home ports than any other cruise line, with round-trip itineraries from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Cairns ensuring a great cruise holiday is always within reach.

Pacific Eden will join Pacific Explorer sailing from Sydney between April and October 2019.

The P&O Cruises 2019 winter program is on sale now.

For more information, visit pocruises.com.au, call 13 24 94 or see a licensed travel agent.

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