

**Coral Princess Cruises has extended discounts on its New Caledonian expeditions, offering luxury journeys to the territory's most remote and unspoilt islands.**

Sailing aboard the new Oceanic Princess, the seven-night cruises depart Nouméa in November and December for out-of-the way destinations that no other cruise lines visit.

The Oceanic Princess is an expedition-style cruise ship with just 36 staterooms. It provides all the comfort and facilities of larger cruise ships, but is small enough to reach reef and island sites inaccessible to other vessels.

Its schedule will take in the renowned Isle of Pines, the unspoilt Loyalty Islands group and the isle of Tanna in neighbouring Vanuatu with its active volcano.

New Caledonia Tourism Australian Manager Diane Moynihan said early booking discounts had been extended indefinitely, providing added incentive to explore New Caledonia by sea.

"New Caledonia is already an established cruise destination and a favourite on cruise itineraries from Australia and overseas," Ms Moynihan said. "But now we have an opportunity to provide a fly-cruise experience just 2 1/2 hours from Sydney, and one that reaches destinations that large ships don't visit."

The Oceanic Princess caters for no more than 72 guests and boasts a large sundeck and spa pool, reference library, lecture lounge, two cocktail bars, a boutique and dive shop.

It also has a purpose-built excursion vessel, Xplorer, and fleet of inflatable Zodiacs, allowing passengers a close-up look at the islets, coral reefs and spectacular landscape of New Caledonia.

Guests will be guided by naturalists and experts who will interpret the natural, cultural and historical highlights of New Caledonia.

Seven-night cruises aboard Oceanic Princess depart Nouméa on November 18 and 25 and December 2, 2006. They are available as fly-cruise packages from Air Calédonie Holidays, including return flights, airport transfers and taxes. Prices start from \$3949 per person twin share from Sydney. The same package is available with an additional two nights at the five star Le Meridien Nouméa, priced from \$4354 per person twin share from Sydney or \$4284 from Brisbane.

For full details, conditions and bookings, contact Air Calédonie Holidays on 02 9299 8854 or 1300 88 63 63. For information on New Caledonia see [www.newcaledonia.com.au](http://www.newcaledonia.com.au) or phone New Caledonia Tourism on 1800 673

**New Caledonia Expedition Cruises - With Coral Princess Cruises**

Seven-night cruises aboard Oceanic Princess depart Nouméa on November 18, November 25 and December 2, 2006.

**Day One** – Nouméa to the Isle of Pines (departs 4pm). Sail across the world's largest lagoon to picturesque Prony Bay and onward to the 'Jewel of the Pacific'.

**Day Two** – Isle of Pines. Explore one of the most spectacular islands of the Pacific, famed for its ancient columnar pines, turquoise waters and dramatic limestone outcrops.

**Day Three** – Lifou, Loyalty Islands. Enjoy snorkelling and diving at one of New Caledonia's most unspoilt islands, with its white beaches, sheer cliffs and dense forests.

**Day Four** – Tanna Island, Vanuatu. Leave New Caledonia for a day on the slopes of Mt Yasur, one of the world's most active volcanoes.

**Day Five** – Ouvea, Loyalty Islands. Return to New Caledonia and explore the atoll of Ouvea. Visit the local people in the traditional village of Mouli.

**Day Six** – Canala, La Grande Terre. Back to the New Caledonian mainland where the east coast provides a mountainous contrast to the remote islands.

**Day Seven** – Maré, Loyalty Islands. The most untouched and least visited of the three Loyalty Islands, known for its mystical caves and natural swimming holes.

**Day Eight** – Return to Nouméa (arrive 8am).

For more information see [www.coralprincess.com.au](http://www.coralprincess.com.au) or phone Coral Princess Cruises on 1800 079 545. For information on New Caledonia see [www.newcaledonia.com.au](http://www.newcaledonia.com.au) or phone New Caledonia Tourism on 1800 673 745 745.