Cruise Details

Name:	The Ghan, Kakadu, Raja Ampat & Papua New Guinea - Cruise & Land Journey
Reference:	SCENICOOA9041028-1
Operator:	Scenic Ocean Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Ultra Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Eclipse II
Regions:	Australia & New Zealand
Departs On:	04 Oct 28
Departs From:	Adelaide, South Australia
Arrives On:	29 Oct 28
Arrives At:	Cairns, Queensland
Cruise Nights:	25
Total Vacation Days:	26

Itinerary

Day 1: Adelaide, South Australia (Australia)

Welcome to Adelaide. Transfer to The Ghan and embrace the rhythm of life on the rails as the countryside unfolds beyond your window, offering a glimpse of the experience ahead. By early evening, you'll arrive at Long Plains, where you'll disembark for a memorable dinner in one of South Australia's renowned wine regions, featuring exquisite local produce and fine wines. As the sun sets over the vineyards, raise a glass to the journey that lies before you. Return to the train for a restful night on the train as The Ghan makes its way north. Please book your flight to arrive into Adelaide prior to 08:00 AM.

Arrives On: 04 Oct 28

Day 2: Port information not found

Wake to the shifting landscapes of South Australia as The Ghan rolls into Port Augusta, the gateway to the outback. After breakfast, step off the train for a full day exploring the spectacular Flinders Ranges, an ancient land of rugged mountains, dramatic gorges and red rock formations shaped over millions of years. Your Off Train Experience reveals sweeping lookouts, fascinating geological stories and encounters with native wildlife that capture the essence of the Australian outback. As the day ends, rejoin The Ghan and unwind over dinner, sharing stories of your adventure while the train continues its journey north.

Arrives On: 05 Oct 28

Day 3: Port information not found

Wake to a spectacular outback sunrise as your train pulls into Marla, a remote desert outpost near the Northern Territory border and gateway to the legendary Oodnadatta Track. Step onto the red earth, warming your hands by the bonfire as the cool morning air and vast, silent landscape create an unforgettable start to the day. Reboard and settle in for a leisurely brunch as the sweeping desert vistas roll by en route to Alice Springs. Here, a curated selection of Off Train Experiences awaits. Ride off-road bikes across ochre-toned country, discover the town’s key sights on the A Town Called Alice tour, or immerse yourself in local culture at Standley Chasm. Nature enthusiasts can visit the Desert Park to meet the region’s unique wildlife or venture to Simpsons Gap to admire its dramatic gorge and ghost gums. For a breathtaking aerial perspective, you may choose to upgrade to a helicopter flight, revealing the sheer scale and grandeur of Central Australia. Return to your cabin in the late afternoon with time to refresh before another evening of fine dining and gracious service on board, as the stars emerge over the outback.

Arrives On: 06 Oct 28

Day 4: Port information not found

Begin your final day on The Ghan in the tropical north, where rugged escarpments and swift, shimmering waterways signal your arrival in Katherine. Here you’ll discover one of the Top End’s greatest natural wonders on a serene cruise through majestic Nitmiluk Gorge, drifting between towering sandstone walls as your guide shares the deep cultural significance of this remarkable place to the Jawoyn people.

If you prefer to stay on land, step into the everyday life of those who call the outback home at the Katherine Outback Experience, or delve underground into the Cutta Cutta Caves, a fascinating limestone world rich in native wildlife, Indigenous stories and European history. For an unforgettable aerial view, you may choose to upgrade to a helicopter flight and admire the full scale and grandeur of Nitmiluk from above.

After your chosen adventure, rejoin the train and settle in for the final leg of your journey to Darwin, watching as the Top End landscape unfurls outside your window. Arrive in the tropical capital where your memorable rail journey through the heart of Australia comes to a graceful

close.

Check into the Hilton Darwin for an overnight stay.

Arrives On: 07 Oct 28

Day 4: Darwin, Northern Territory (Australia)

Arrives On: 07 Oct 28

Day 5: Darwin, Northern Territory (Australia)

After breakfast, travel south to the charming township of Batchelor, gateway to the lush Litchfield National Park. Soak in sweeping views of Florence Falls from the lookout, where twin cascades tumble into a tranquil plunge pool below.

Continue to Wangi Falls, a tropical oasis framed by monsoon rainforest. Here you can take a refreshing swim in the crystal-clear water and savour a leisurely light lunch in a serene setting.

In the afternoon, cross the Adelaide River as the landscape opens into one of Australia's great wilderness regions: Kakadu National Park. Dual-listed by UNESCO for both its natural beauty and cultural significance, this remarkable destination promises ancient landscapes, rich Indigenous heritage and unforgettable sunset vistas.

Arrives On: 08 Oct 28

Day 5: Kakadu National Park, Northern Territory (Australia)

Arrives On: 08 Oct 28

Day 6: Kakadu National Park, Northern Territory (Australia)

Begin the day with an unforgettable 60-minute sightseeing flight over Kakadu, soaring above rugged sandstone escarpments, vast floodplains and winding rivers that showcase the sheer scale and beauty of this ancient landscape. From the air, the patterns of wetlands and rock country unfold beneath you in a breathtaking tapestry of colour and texture.

Later, venture to the East Alligator River for a deeply enriching cultural cruise hosted by local Indigenous guides, who share stories, traditions and insights into caring for Country. Continue on to Ubirr, home to one of Australia's most renowned rock art sites, where two gentle walking options reveal remarkable Aboriginal artworks that date back thousands of years.

As the afternoon light softens, make your way back to your hotel to relax and refresh before dinner, with time to savour the day's experiences and lingering views of Kakadu's timeless horizons.

Arrives On: 09 Oct 28

Day 7: Kakadu National Park, Northern Territory (Australia)

Welcome back to Darwin which is distinguished by its relaxed lifestyle and proximity to the Northern Territory’s abundance of natural wonders. Crocodiles, culture and colourful characters abound as you explore the northernmost capital in Australia. Tonight, enjoy the first of two nights at your hotel, located in the city’s most vibrant precinct.

Arrives On: 10 Oct 28

Day 7: Darwin, Northern Territory (Australia)

Arrives On: 10 Oct 28

Day 8: Darwin, Northern Territory (Australia)

Scenic Freechoice:
Today, expand your visit with your choice of a range of illuminating activities.

Jumping Crocs and Nature Adventure: Experience these reptiles in the wild on the beautiful Adelaide River, where crocs leap out of the water pursuing their prey. Your tour also includes a visit to Fogg Dam, a wetlands nature reserve teeming with wading birds and other unique wildlife. The wetlands of the Top End are of great international importance on account of their accessibility, splendour and cultural significance.

Litchfield National Park: Litchfield National Park abounds with permanent spring-fed waterfalls, remnant monsoon vine forests, unusual rock formations and interesting scenery. An hour easily becomes a day relaxing in this wonderful park, which reveals its considerable wonders the further you explore.

WWII Bombing of Darwin Tour: Learn about the history and significance of the Pacific Campaign of WWII, the largest attacks ever launched against Australia. Visit landmarks, view relics of the war and take a cruise on Darwin Harbour in this informative guided tour, which outlines the shocking extent of the damage suffered by the city during the war.

Darwin City Sights – Hop-on-Hop-off Tour: The perfect introduction to the Top End city of Darwin. Take in all of Darwin’s main historical and cultural attractions with an opportunity to stop and visit during the tour.

Arrives On: 11 Oct 28

Day 9: Darwin, Northern Territory (Australia)

This morning, your land journey through Australia’s Top End comes to an end in Darwin, a tropical city shaped by its harbourfront setting, multicultural character and easy-going pace. This afternoon, step on board Scenic Eclipse II, where the Captain and crew welcome you as you begin the next stage of your journey by sea. Settle into your spacious suite, meet your butler and take time to explore the lounges, bars and dining venues that will be your home in the days ahead. As evening approaches, you may choose to join fellow guests on deck or in one of the ship’s relaxed spaces as your voyage towards Indonesia and Papua New Guinea begins.

Arrives On: 12 Oct 28

Day 11: Kai Islands (Indonesia)

There are thousands of beaches in Indonesia yet the ones you'll see today might be the country's most beautiful. The Kai Islands are part of the Maluku Province and are made entirely of white sand and coral. Powdery soft beaches are lapped by the strikingly blue waters of the Banda Sea and fringed with lush rows of palm trees. Despite their jaw-dropping beauty, these islands remain far off the tourist trail, and you'll be unlikely to see another visitor.
Scenic Discovery:
Subject to weather conditions and local permits, today may offer time to enjoy the beach, take a refreshing swim, or snorkel in the surrounding waters alongside your Discovery Team.

Arrives On: 14 Oct 28

Day 12: Triton Bay (Indonesia)

Triton Bay is a secluded and richly biodiverse corner of West Papua, renowned for its dramatic limestone karsts, sheltered bays, and thriving marine life. Beneath the surface, vibrant coral reefs support an abundance of tropical fish, with manta rays often seen gliding through these nutrient-rich waters. On land, dense rainforests echo with birdlife, whilst small coastal villages offer insight into traditional ways of life. Together, Triton Bay's striking landscapes and cultural depth create a deeply rewarding and memorable experience.

Arrives On: 15 Oct 28

Day 13: Mommon Peninsula, West Papua (Indonesia)

Located north of Triton Bay, KitiKiti Waterfall is one of West Papua's most dramatic natural features. Cascading directly into the sea, the waterfall is framed by dense tropical forest and dramatic coastal scenery. The cool, freshwaters create an inviting setting, whilst the surrounding reef system supports colourful marine life. This rare meeting of freshwater and ocean offers a peaceful and visually captivating experience in a truly remote environment.

Tonight, explore more of the up to 10 all-inclusive on board culinary experiences, sampling fine French cuisine at Lumière+ or vibrant Asian fusion at Koko's. Alternatively, choose to dine in the comfort of your suite and have your evening nightcap delivered by your butler, choosing from a range of premium wines, beers and spirits.

Arrives On: 16 Oct 28

Day 14: Misool, Raja Ampat (Indonesia)

One of the four largest islands of the group, known collectively as the Four Kings, Misool has a permanent population of around 5,000 scattered around a few villages. It is surrounded by one of the most remarkable reef systems left on earth and is one of the few places where biodiversity is improving, rather than declining. Misool also features intriguing ancient rock art and

limestone caves.

Your Scenic Discovery Yacht will spend the night in the calm waters off Misool Island. Enjoy a leisurely dinner and then head to the Sky Deck for breathtaking stargazing. Scenic Discovery:
Weather and local approvals permitting, there may be opportunities to view striking limestone karst formations, explore trails that give unique birds eye views of the area, and snorkel on the world's most diverse reefs.

Arrives On: 17 Oct 28

Day 15: Kri Island (Indonesia)

Today sail into the otherworldly splendour of the Raja Ampat Islands. With more than 1,500 sparsely populated islands peppered across the ocean north of West Papua, this isolated archipelago is the world's most biodiverse marine region; 75% of the world's known coral species can be found here and the waters are home to more than 1,600 species of fish. Its remote location means Raja Ampat is largely untouched by mass tourism. Scenic Discovery:
Weather and local approvals permitting, there may be an opportunity for a Zodiac wet landing to visit a local village, to witness traditional Raja Ampat drumming, meet community members and gain a glimpse into daily life in this island paradise.

Arrives On: 18 Oct 28

Day 15: Gam Island (Indonesia)

Arrives On: 18 Oct 28

Day 16: Manokwari, Irian Jaya (Indonesia)

Manokwari is a coastal town and the capital of West Papua, set between the Pacific Ocean and forested mountain ranges. It serves as a gateway to some of the region's most important natural areas, including the Arfak Mountains and nearby rainforest reserves known for their exceptional biodiversity. These habitats support a wide variety of endemic species, including Birds-of-Paradise, tree kangaroos, and rare butterflies. The surrounding landscapes of dense jungle, rivers, and hills offer insight into one of Indonesia's most ecologically significant and least explored regions.

Check the daily program on board to find out what the Discovery Team has planned coming up. Enjoy a lecture in the state-of-the-art theatre and gain insights into local culture and nature.

Arrives On: 19 Oct 28

Day 17: Cenderawasih Bay (Indonesia)

Cenderawasih Bay is a vast marine reserve located along the northern coast of West Papua, near the Bird’s Head Peninsula. As Indonesia’s largest national marine park, it is recognised for its remarkable biodiversity and extensive coral reef systems. The bay is one of the few places in the world where whale sharks are known to gather regularly, often around traditional fishing platforms. Alongside these gentle giants, the surrounding waters support a rich variety of tropical fish, reef species, and marine habitats, making this an exceptional location for observing life beneath the surface.

Meet new friends on the terrace of the Azure Bar & Café for a lazy lunch while you share stories. Visit the gelato fridge at the Yacht Club for an afternoon snack and perhaps make a dinner reservation at one of the specialty restaurants to indulge in exquisite cuisine from around the world as you celebrate this wonderful journey.

Arrives On: 20 Oct 28

Day 19: Jayapura, Irian Jaya (Indonesia)

Set between forested hills and sheltered bays on the northern coast of New Guinea, Jayapura offers a mix of natural scenery and cultural depth. As the capital of Papua Province, the city reflects both contemporary Indonesian life and longstanding indigenous traditions. Nearby Lake Sentani and the surrounding rainforest regions are known for their rich birdlife and striking landscapes, providing a window into the environmental and cultural diversity of this remote corner of Indonesia.

Arrives On: 22 Oct 28

Day 20: Kopar Village, Sepik River (Papua New Guinea)

A visit to the remote village of Kopar offers insight into the artistic traditions of the Sepik region, where wood carving and handcrafts remain an important part of daily life. A warm local welcome provides an opportunity to learn about community customs and view distinctive artworks shaped by generations of cultural heritage.

Later, as Scenic Eclipse II sails onward, unwind with sunset drinks whilst enjoying views of the active Manam Volcano rising dramatically from the sea, its volcanic silhouette creating a memorable backdrop.

Arrives On: 23 Oct 28

Day 20: Manam Island (Papua New Guinea)

Arrives On: 23 Oct 28

Day 21: Tami Island (Papua New Guinea)

In the heart of the Huon Gulf, the Tami Islands are renowned for their extraordinary woodcarving traditions. Local artisans craft intricate hardwood bowls, often adorned with stylised

spirit faces, a skill carefully preserved and passed down through generations. Visiting the islands offers a rare glimpse into this vibrant cultural heritage, where craftsmanship and community life remain closely intertwined, creating an experience that is both visually striking and culturally enriching.

Arrives On: 24 Oct 28

Day 22: Tufi (Papua New Guinea)

Tufi, often called the “Scandinavia of the tropics,” is known for its fjords, with steep cliffs rising above calm, sheltered waters. The region is also celebrated for its traditional tapa cloth, hand-crafted and intricately decorated by local communities. Surrounded by ancient mangrove forests, Tufi offers one of Papua New Guinea’s most colourful traditional performances, providing a rare opportunity to experience the island’s rich culture and enduring artistic heritage in a remarkable natural setting.

After a day of exploring indulge in an ESPA treatment# at the expansive 550sqm Senses Spa, where signature therapies and restorative rituals await.

Arrives On: 25 Oct 28

Day 23: Alotau (Papua New Guinea)

Situated at the eastern tip of Papua New Guinea, Alotau is framed by lush rainforest, quiet beaches, and colourful coral reefs. The surrounding islands and nearby villages provide opportunities to explore waterfalls, snorkel among vibrant marine life, and discover volcanic landscapes. Rich in both natural beauty and cultural heritage, the area offers insight into the traditions and daily life of local communities, making it a rewarding stop on this remote and scenic region of the country.

Arrives On: 26 Oct 28

Day 24: Doini Island (Papua New Guinea)

Doini Island lies within Papua New Guinea’s Milne Bay Province, a region known for its calm waters, coral-rich seas, and scattered tropical islands. Fringed by quiet beaches and backed by lush vegetation, the island offers a peaceful setting shaped by both natural beauty and a sense of seclusion.

Spend the day taking in the scenery, from the clear coastal waters to the island’s sandy shores, shaded groves, and gentle walking paths. As the day ends, return to Scenic Eclipse II for a relaxed dinner on board, surrounded by the stillness of this remote corner of the South Pacific.

Arrives On: 27 Oct 28

Day 26: Cairns, Queensland (Australia)

Your Discovery Voyage concludes today. Enjoy your final morning in the luxury of Scenic Eclipse II and take the opportunity to reflect on the incredible experiences and remarkable places you have visited. Say farewell to your Captain and crew before disembarking in Cairns. Please book your flight to depart out of Cairns after 12:00 PM. #Spa treatments and services at additional cost. Daily activities may be subject to change; please consult your Daily Wonder for updates.
+All drinks on board, including those stocked in your mini bar, are included, except for a very small number of rare, fine and vintage wines, Champagnes and spirits. Specialty restaurants require a reservation, enquire on board.
^Experiences on board our two helicopters and submersible are at additional cost, subject to regulatory approval, availability, weight restrictions, medical approval and weather conditions.
~Kayak and stand-up paddleboard not available in all locations. Helicopter and submersible not in operation in Indonesia. The itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons. As such Scenic cannot guarantee the voyage will operate unaltered from the itinerary stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.

Arrives On: 29 Oct 28

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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