STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

A VOYAGE TO THE OUTBACK

AUSTRALIA'S KIMBERLEY

A VOYAGE TO THE OUTBACK

April 22 to May 6, 2016

a program of the stanford alumni association
Tucked away in the northernmost part of Western Australia, the Kimberley is one of the most far-flung and captivating regions on earth. Cruising aboard the Oceanic Discoverer, enjoy striking scenery and unusual wildlife as we explore the region’s hidden treasures by boat, Zodiac and helicopter. We’ll gawk at ancient aboriginal cave paintings in what is one of the earliest-settled regions of Australia, swim in pools formed by cascading waterfalls that drop into deep gorges, search for wildlife in a vast nature reserve, walk through a forest of bizarre boab trees and photograph the sublimely beautiful isles of the Buccaneer Archipelago. This is one of the last truly remote places on the planet. Come join us while it still is!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

FLY via helicopter to explore the dramatic gorges of Mitchell Plateau and swim in the crystal-clear pools above Mitchell Falls.

DISCOVER Australia’s unique wildlife—rock wallabies, green sea turtles and mighty saltwater crocodiles.

STEP ashore on the Tiwi Islands for a guided bush walk that reveals the cultural traditions of the Tiwi people, and examine high-quality crafts at the local arts center.

VIEW beautifully preserved, eons-old aboriginal paintings on the walls of caves on Bigge Island.

COVER: DAWN IN BROOME
HUNTER FRASER, an assistant professor of biology at Stanford, first became interested in evolutionary biology on a family trip to the Galápagos as a teenager. His interest in the subject was cemented after a summer at Stanford doing research. His research today focuses on how changes in the DNA sequences of genomes translate into changes in observable traits, combining computational and experimental approaches in species ranging from yeast to humans. Professor Fraser says, “In the 150-plus years since Darwin published his theory of natural selection, there are still so many major unanswered questions; it’s exciting that we now have the ability to answer these.” About visiting the Kimberley region, he says, “I love traveling to parts of the world that are still pristine and relatively untouched. It reminds me of just how beautiful nature can be.” Some of the topics Professor Fraser looks forward to discussing with us on this program include evolution, flora and fauna unique to Australia and the mapping of the uncharted Australian coast around 1840 on the HMS Beagle’s third voyage.

— Faculty member, Stanford biology department, since 2009
— Recipient of the Belling Prize in Genetics, UC-Berkeley
— Recipient of several fellowships, including a Merck/MIT computational systems biology initiative postdoctoral fellowship, a Frederick E. Terman fellowship and an Alfred P. Sloan fellowship
— BS, biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
— PhD, molecular and cell biology, UC-Berkeley

ANNE, MA ’61, AND BILL MILLS, AUSTRALIA AIR EXPEDITION, 2007

“...the friendly nature and good humor of the Australian people we met.”

Reservation Form
Australia’s Kimberley
April 22 to May 6, 2016

I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them. Signature _________________________________________________________

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☐ I wish to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with __________________________

OR ☐ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

Category Preference: Bed Preference

| 1st choice: _______________________ | Twin Beds | King Bed |
| 2nd choice: _______________________ | Twin Beds | King Bed |

Here is my deposit of $________ ($1,000 per person) for ______ space(s), plus $________ ($200 per person) for the optional pre-trip extension.

☐ Enclosed is my check (make payable to Stanford Alumni Association) OR
☐ Charge my deposit to my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD # ___________________________ EXPIRES ____________

AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE ___________________________ DATE ____________

Mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?kimberley2016. Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.
Based on the expeditionary nature of this trip, there may be ongoing enhancements to this itinerary.

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, APRIL 22 TO 24
U.S. / BROOME, AUSTRALIA
Depart from the U.S. for Broome, losing a day crossing the international date line. Arrive on Sunday in Broome, the largest city (population: 14,436) in the Kimberley, Western Australia’s northernmost region. After an afternoon at leisure, gather this evening for a welcome reception and dinner, CABLE BEACH CLUB RESORT (4/24: D)

MONDAY, APRIL 25
BROOME / EMBARK OCEANIC DISCOVERER
Today explore Broome, a popular holiday destination graced with beautiful beaches and a laid-back atmosphere. Take a city tour that reveals to us Broome’s pearling industry history and its multicultural past, or join a birding tour. This afternoon board the Oceanic Discoverer and set sail. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 26
LACEPEDE ISLANDS
Arrive in the Lacepede Islands, a group of four low, sandy islands lying on a coral reef. The islands are an important nesting site for green sea turtles and several species of seabirds including frigatebirds, brown boobies, crested terns, sandpipers and ruddy turnstones. Join our naturalists on nature walks along the long white-sand beaches. Be on deck this evening as the sun sets and the night sky comes alive; far from the city lights, stargazing in the Kimberley is simply spectacular. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, APRIL 27 & 28
BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO / TALBOT BAY / MONTGOMERY REEF / RAFT POINT
Spend two full days exploring the Buccaneer Archipelago, which consists of more than 800 islands. The shorelines of these rarely visited isles are among the most photogenic in the world, made up as they are of mangrove estuaries, secluded bays, untouched beaches, cliffs, headlands, reefs, rugged gorges and whirlpools. This area is known for its extreme tidal conditions, which can be up to 30 feet in places. Our daily activities are planned around the tides—a way of life in the Kimberley. At Talbot Bay visit the Horizontal Waterfalls, one of the region’s most unusual attractions. The falls, created by a phenomenon resulting from the mammoth tides, actually reverse as the tide turns. At Montgomery Reef, view the amazing array of marine life that is exposed at low tide. The reef is home to an incredible number of green sea turtles, and sharks are sometimes spotted in the surrounding waters. At Raft Point, join a bush walk to learn the traditions of the Worrora people and view ancient aboriginal cave paintings of outstanding quality that depict the significance of the marine world to the aboriginal way of life. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 29 & 30
PRINCE REGENT NATURE RESERVE / CAMP CREEK / CAREENING BAY
Today we arrive at the Prince Regent Nature Reserve, one of Australia’s most remote areas. Its rugged sandstone and volcanic landscape helps to protect its scenic grandeur. This is pure wilderness, accessible only by air or boat and visited by few. The area boasts more than half of the mammal and bird species found in the entire Kimberley region and more than 500 species of plants. With our ship at anchor in St. George Basin, board Zodiacs to cruise up the Prince Regent River. With near-vertical cliffs on either side, we make our way to the face of King Cascade, an unusual and picturesque waterfall cascading over terraced rock formations. Tidal conditions permitting, we’ll
also explore nearby Camp Creek in search of local fauna such as estuarine crocodiles, red-tailed black cockatoos and galahs. At Careening Bay visit a large boab tree with the inscription, “H.M.C MERMAID 1820,” still clearly visible. The Mermaid was a British Navy hydrographic survey ship under the command of Lt. Philip Parke King, who stayed at Careening Bay for six weeks while repairing his ship. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

SUNDAY, MAY 1
HUNTER RIVER / MITCHELL FALLS
From Hunter River, fly via helicopter to the Mitchell Plateau to visit Mitchell Falls, a series of waterfalls and pools culminating in a deep gorge that continues on, carving its way through the Outback. Explore the surrounding area on foot and enjoy a refreshing swim in the Falls’ freshwater pools. We can also navigate by Zodiac the small tidal mud flats for crocodiles, estuarine crocodiles, red-tailed black cockatoos and galahs. At Careening Bay visit a large boab tree with the inscription, “H.M.C MERMAID 1820,” still clearly visible. The Mermaid was a British Navy hydrographic survey ship under the command of Lt. Philip Parke King, who stayed at Careening Bay for six weeks while repairing his ship. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

MONDAY, MAY 2
BIGGE ISLAND / LOW ROCKS
A unique experience awaits us on Bigge Island, sacred to aborigines for more than 20,000 years. Well-preserved aboriginal paintings grace the walls of caves, depicting mythical figures and offering visual recordings of the European entrance into the aboriginal way of life. Warabis, or rock wallabies (the smallest of the wallabies), are numerous on this island and can often be seen sprinting from one rock ledge to another. In the afternoon step ashore on a tiny island atoll known as Low Rocks. As our Zodias approach, the skies fill with the flights and sounds of thousands upon thousands of seabirds, including four species of tern, pied cormorants, white-bellied sea eagles and ospreys. The island is also a nesting site for green and flatback turtles and has its own resident saltwater crocodile, often seen patrolling the waters around the island. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MAY 3
KING GEORGE RIVER / KING GEORGE FALLS
Cruise the mighty King George River through a spectacular canyon where vertical cliffs, gorges and mangroves line the river’s shores. Our final destination is King George Falls, a supremely photogenic area of 325-foot cliffs of rust-colored sandstone rising from the tidal waters. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4
TIWI ISLANDS
Permission pending, go ashore on one of the Tiwi Islands where we join local aboriginal guides for a tour of the small community of Nguiu, its museum and the old Mission Precinct. We also have an opportunity to visit the local arts center and to view and purchase high-quality Tiwi crafts, as well as screen-printed fabrics. Gather aboard ship this evening with fellow travelers for a festive farewell reception before dinner. OCEANIC DISCOVERER (B,L,D)

THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
MAY 5 & 6
DARWIN / DISEMBARK / SYDNEY / U.S.
Disembark in Darwin with time for a bit of sightseeing. Transfer to the airport for our independent flight to Sydney, where we have dinner and spend the night. Board independent flights to the U.S. on Friday, arriving back home the same day. STAMFORD PLAZA AIRPORT HOTEL (5/5: B,L,D)

Optional
Pre-voyage
Extension
APRIL 16 TO 25 (10 DAYS)
ARNHEM LAND,
KUNUNURRA AND
BUNGLE BUNGE
After arriving in Darwin, capital city of Australia’s Northern Territory—land of paperbarks, gum trees, wallabies, and crocodiles—fly to Arnhem Land. Here we explore a landscape of rugged ranges fringed by billabongs, flood plains, paperbark swamps and monsoonal rain forests. Fly to Kununurra near Mirima National Park, which features 300-million-year-old sandstone cliffs and is home to a large variety of birds, reptiles, wallabies, bats, dingoes and echidnas. Drive to the Ord River for a cruise through an isolated wilderness to view, amid spectacular scenery, freshwater crocodiles, flying foxes and prolific birdlife, as well as an important breeding ground for waterbirds and large numbers of egrets, spoonbills, herons, ibises, magpie geese and stilts. Finish with a scenic flight over the Bungle Bungle Range, the Ord River, Lake Argyle and the Carr Boyd Range. Additional details will be sent to confirmed participants.
Launched in 2005, the *Oceanic Discoverer* consists of 36 spacious modern staterooms that offer a choice of twin or junior king beds. All staterooms have an ocean view, en suite facilities, settee, large wardrobe, desk, luggage storage and individual air-conditioning controls. Spacious and finely appointed public areas include a reference library, lecture lounge, purser’s desk, large sun deck, spa pool and two bars. The restaurant offers buffet-style breakfast and lunch service and a three-course table d’hôte dinner service. Menus are "modern Australian," with the chefs seeking out the freshest of local ingredients to prepare truly memorable dining experiences; all guests are accommodated at a single seating. The state-of-the-art *Oceanic Discoverer* is equipped with the latest technology, active stabilizers, Wi-Fi access and the Xplorer, the ship’s specially designed aluminum expedition vessel used for the majority of our shore excursions.

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**Program Cost**

Rates per person, based on double or single occupancy, as specified

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*Association nonmembers add $300 per person.
**Single accommodations are limited at this rate. Additional singles may be available at 1.6 times the share rate.

Length: 207 feet
Beam: 43 feet
Draft: 10 feet
Speed: 14 knots
Registry: Australia
DATES
April 22 to May 6, 2016 (15 days)

SIZE
Limited to a total of 68 participants, including travelers from Stanford and Zegrahm Expeditions. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

INCLUDED
2 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations  ■ 10-night cruise aboard the Oceanic Discoverer  ■ 11 breakfasts, 11 lunches and 12 dinners  ■ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions  ■ Gratuities to guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities  ■ All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary  ■ Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days  ■ Port fees and embarkation taxes  ■ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance  ■ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book and travel information  ■ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare, as well as the flight from Darwin to Sydney at the end of the program  ■ Passport and visa fees  ■ Immunization costs  ■ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included  ■ Independent and private transfers  ■ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance  ■ Excess-baggage charges  ■ Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Economy-class airfare from San Francisco to Broome with return from Darwin to Sydney and from Sydney to San Francisco is approximately $2,400 as of April 2015 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.

FUEL COSTS
In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this to be a moderately strenuous program. You will need to climb into and out of Zodiacs for excursions ashore. Ashore, you must be able to walk one to three miles, unaided, on beaches and sometimes over rough terrain, including steep and sandy trails. There will be opportunities for both leisurely strolls and more active hikes. This expedition is timed to take place during the beginning of the dry season, yet occasional showers can be expected. Average daily temperatures will range from the low 80s (°F) to the low 90s, though high humidity can make it seem warmer. Boarding our excursion vessel, the Xplorer, is safe and easy; you simply step aboard the vessel from the ship’s Main Deck and Oceanic Discoverer’s unique hydraulic platform gently lowers the excursion vessel into the water, ensuring that you don’t need to clamber aboard or get your feet wet. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space on this Travel/Study program. A $200-per-person deposit is required to hold space for the optional pre-trip extension. Complete and return the attached reservation form or place your deposit online. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be provided to U.S. residents with their welcome materials. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within a specified window: 14 to 21 days of the date listed on the welcome letter, depending on your destination and state of residence.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. Families and travel companions may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ships ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in April 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
"As with all the many Stanford trips I’ve been on, the professors, staff and traveling companions have contributed to spectacular adventures."

MARTA PERY MACKENZIE, ’59