

Fishing Monthly

Corporate Fishing Charters

NEW CORPORATE CRUISER

“ORIENTAL QUEEN I”



Upcoming trips available:

- 2-8 June 2005
Munupi Wilderness Lodge (2)
- 17 June Top of the Bay Fishing Trip (St Kilda)
- 19-26 August 2005
Savusavu Friendly Tournament (5)
- 18-25 September 2005
Bendoroda Wilderness Lodge (2)

Welcome to the “Oriental Queen,” this is one boat that suits all occasions and has options to suit almost any preference! The boat can take up to 60 passengers comfortably for a cocktail affair and 30 for a sit down meal. It offers standing space on the top deck which gives you an open air 360 degree view of your surrounds and also the spacious back deck. Or for those who wish to be inside, there is ample room with seating.

The Oriental Queen is chartered on request with a skipper and crew provided. Catering is available on board at an additional premium but the investment is well worth while for the spectacular views whilst cruising Melbourne’s famous Yarra River!

You board the vessel from Melbourne’s Docklands and enjoy the 4 hours standard cruising time. This is perfect for most any occasion but some groups who would ideally suit this kind of vessel are; Corporate Groups - for events such as conferences, research groups, product launches or client entertaining; Social Groups celebrating events such as hens nights, birthdays, anniversaries, morning teas or any other occasion you would like to make that little bit unique; and Sporting Groups - for presentation evenings, award ceremonies or social gatherings. This is definitely a unique vessel in Melbourne and it has been traditionally maintained to keep that *oriental* feel about it for all to experience!

Professional catering companies are brought aboard to cater for your group and they can put on a 3 course meal or just cocktail foods for the more informal gatherings. The cost of hiring the boat begins at \$2260 for 4 hours and will vary depending on what options you chose to utilize within your private charter.

So start thinking about your staff Christmas parties, birthdays and social gatherings and advise us of your dates as soon as possible because this one will definitely book out quickly!



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Experience the Mountain Top Experience!

Mountain Top Experience will provide you with the adventures of a lifetime in the Gippsland area of Victoria. This is a sensational way to tour the roots of Victoria with experienced professionals to take care of all the tricky parts for you! There are so many choices to make on which tour to take, what to explore and do you want to

rent a 4WD for you and your family or would you prefer to be a passenger? These are the kind of ‘hard’ decisions that keep many people from an experience they will truly never forget!

Keeping with the new eco tour options on the Corporate Fishing Charters menu, we are able to offer these

wonderful tours to you at very reasonable prices with meals and camping equipment included on overnight/extended tours. Tours are for 4 people.

Some of the places explored include: Walhalla’s Copper Mine, Gippsland’s Ghost Towns, mountain stream fly fishing and many more.



Peter Potter holding his catch on board with the Barra Base!

CFC's New Barra Base!

We have discovered a fishing lodge in Darwin that is perfect for the whole family! The Barra Base is a bed & breakfast/fishing lodge that can accommodate corporate groups, families or just fishermen.

Heather and Alan have been operating a little under a year and have a fantastic outlook. Our first clients to fish with them have given them a rave review for service and ability. And the best thing is that this is an affordable destination situated just out of Darwin and even if not for fishing it is just some nice affordable accommodation.

On the fishing side of things, they specialize in 2-7 day fishing safaris for Barramundi, Jewfish, Snapper and surface Pelagics throughout the entire year; the gear used is Silstar & Ugly Stik boat rods with Shimano, Tidewater and Penn Reels aboard their 6.8 metre custom built guide boat which is licensed to carry up to 5 passengers and a guide.

You have the option of a stay and fish package or just a day trip out of Darwin and both are definitely worth while. Prices start from \$280pp for a daily fishing trip including transfers from

anywhere within Darwin & Outer Darwin region, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea as well as soft drinks and chilled water on board. All gear is supplied on a replace if lost basis.

Remote fishing safaris are also offered at \$435 per person per day including all mentioned previously plus accommodation at their bed and breakfast or the remote location.

These guys are worth a try and at these kind of prices it won't take long to book out so get in quick before they are discovered by all!

MEMBERS SPECIAL

Half Price Boat Show Tickets
Available Now!

Adults Normally \$15
CFCFC Members \$7.50

Melbourne Boat Show 30th June-4th July 05

Well... Believe it or not the Melbourne Boat Show is just around the corner and we have a fantastic stand planned and are hearing some great things about this year's line up!

This year our stand will be featuring some great information sources as we will have assistance from many of the South Pacific visitors bureaus including: Fiji, The Cook Islands and Tonga as well as our resident fishing experts for advice all round!

Although we have many helpful friends and clients, we are always in need of assistance at shows of this proportion so if you think you have some great experiences to offer or just love your fishing and would like a free days entry to the show, why not be a part of the CFC stand? We welcome any of our regulars/members to join us for a day!

The Melbourne Boat Show is great fun and quite often supplies us with some great

opportunities to send our clients to some fantastically exotic destinations. This year we will be launching 2 new Australian destinations, some new Fijian destinations and our latest product - Eco Tours - to our clientele via the boat show and look forward to a positive response!

It is shaping up to be a great 5 days... We look forward to seeing and meeting many of you there! For ticket enquiries, please contact us on (03) 9807 6622.



A great day out on the bay with the boys!

Top of the Bay Winter Specials

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

24th June - 11th July
16th Sept - 3rd Oct

Mum/Dad pay full price and child under 12 years comes for free.

(Excludes Weekends & Public Holidays)

INTERSTATE AFL SUPPORTERS

When in Melbourne to watch your interstate footy team, just mention your team name and the fixture and we will get you out for \$50pp and a 6 pack of your favorite beer

(Minimum booking 6 persons with lunch included)

MELBOURNE BOAT SHOW SPECIAL

Between 30th June and 4th July all trips are \$50pp including recreational fishing licenses - \$25 for kids.

Conditions: All trips subject to availability, minimum of 6 pax to go out, school holiday special required 1 paying adult to 1 child, all specials are strictly cash payments only.

Our Adventure in Paradise

Fiji is definitely one of the friendliest nations in the South Pacific and I have recently been lucky enough to experience this incredible warmth first hand whilst on an educational tour of the Coral Coast.

We departed at 2325 on Friday evening to a pretty restless flight from Melbourne to Nadi, but none the less, we arrived in Fiji at 0600 to a beautiful 24 degrees. We had a while to wait until we were picked up by Captain Cook Cruises so we sat outside the airport in the sunshine and were absolutely amazed that every person who walked past greeted these 2 young travellers with a friendly 'Bula.' Needless to say, we Melbourneites were absolutely amazed already!

We were transferred to Denaru Marina where we boarded the Ra Marama for a day cruise to Tivua Island. Our day was full of snorkelling, swimming and canoeing on this solitary island in the Pacific Ocean. We boarded the MV Reef Escape later that day and were ushered to our stateroom with floor to ceiling windows to display the amazing views to come on our 3 day tour of the Mamanuca and Southern Yasawa Islands. Everything aboard the Reef Escape was perfect; the views, the village tours, the crew and the serenity. I highly recommend a Captain Cook Cruise for anyone wanting to relax in a tropical paradise, and the beauty of it is that you can do as much or as little as you like!

After 3 full days aboard the Reef Escape we were very sad to leave on Tuesday morning (plus there was a rather large farewell for us youngens and the crew the night before!). The crew farewelled us with the traditional Fijian farewell song 'Isa Lei' and a few tears were shed as we left our new friends for our next adventure.

We were picked up by Skydive Fiji for the adventure of a lifetime... Jumping out of a plane at 12000ft. Stupid though it seems, it was the most incredible rush you could ever have! We were introduced to our tandem guides Paul & Pierre and suited up at their office in Nadi and then we all jumped in the car to head out to the airport. With video cameras in our faces we tried to hide the desperate fear that kept getting stronger as we climbed further into the sky. When we reached 12000ft Pierre did the craziest thing you

can do... he opened the door of the plane! I sat paralyzed with fear as I watched Jackie roll out of the plane and first thing in my mind was 'Oh shit! What the hell am I doing!' We made our way to the door of the plane and I did the worst thing possible... I looked down! Now I was terrified! Thankfully I had very little time to think before I too was plummeting towards the ground at an astounding 200km per hour!

The first 10 seconds were undoubtedly the scariest of my life but after that you relax in the thought that you have a fully qualified professional strapped to your back and you begin to enjoy it. The rest of the 45 second freefall was incredible, the freedom of moving this fast was the closest you can come to flying and the feeling of euphoria has set in now. Once the parachute was pulled, my first words to Paul were "was that 45 seconds?" We drifted towards the ground at a leisurely pace admiring the spectacular views below and it was all I could do to resist the urge to shout out all the adrenalin I had within me! I would highly recommend a jump with Skydive Fiji to any thrill seeker, young or old and I am proud to say that I lived to tell the story!

After our jump and plenty of congratulations we were off to Shangri La's Fijian Resort for a 2 night stay. As we entered the resort we were greeted by 3 young men shouting 'Bula' and some amazing smiles! We checked in and took the rest of the day off, that morning's rush was definitely enough to wear a girl out!

9:00am Wednesday morning we joined a resort educational group and were given the grand tour of this amazing property including the adults only pool and restaurant which looked so peaceful and relaxing! The great thing about the Fijian is that they cater for all kinds of people from singles to couples to families. I realized that it would take a good week just to experience all that the resort has to offer. The rest of our day consisted of a half an hour massage on the beach, closely followed by the thrill of zooming around the resort waters on board a jet ski and wow can those things move!

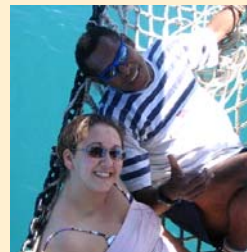
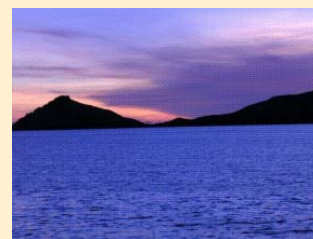
Another quiet night (for those of you who know me, I know this is strange but I was exhausted!) and we were off to Sigatoka.

We checked in at The New Crows Nest, which is a budget/self contained accommodation and again we were warmly welcomed. The 2 days at Crows Nest included much lounging by the pool and drinking at the bar as well as meetings with many of the Coral Coast Resorts such as; The Outrigger on the Lagoon, The Warwick and The Naviti Resorts. By the second night we were bored, so we took an adventure to Pacific Harbour. We were greeted at The Pearl South Pacific Resort by Phillip Rusden (GM) and given an escorted tour of the property, followed by a fine dining evening meal and quite a few drinks! We spent the night in the resorts luxurious guest rooms and left the next morning with a fantastic feeling of relaxation - this resort was the most peaceful yet and offers a great range of adventure activities including fishing, white water rafting, scuba diving and much more!

Our second last day and we are on our way to Sonaisali Island Resort. We arrived at approximately 10am to drop our bags off and we were straight back on the transfer boat to head into Nadi Town to do some serious shopping! The experience of Nadi was mainly that we were both hot and bothered, but how many people can say that after 8 days in a foreign country that they will be recognized by the locals on the street? We can!!! We were invited to head down to the Marina to see all the crew of the MV Reef Escape so we happily obliged. With a couple of offers to stow us away so we wouldn't have to leave we sadly watched the boat leave its dock for the second time on our trip.

Back at Sonaisali we were fascinated by the golf buggies driven around the island by the crew which we eventually got to ride on but first it was into the pool for a swim and a drink at the swim up bar! During our 1 short night with them, we managed to see the whole resort and take a horse riding tour of the island itself which is being developed by the resort at a nice Fijian pace!

And then it was Sunday - our day to come home. We sat amongst the smiling Fijians as we waited to leave the resort with very heavy hearts and we were reading the icy weather in Melbourne, but after a 5 hour flight we were home to our loved ones and a trip has already been planned to head back in early 2006! A trip to remember!!!



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We will put you on the right boat in the right place at the right time to give you a trip you will never forget!