

MAKING WAVES

Seabourn christened its newest ship with the guidance of Western Australia's Wunambal Gaambera people.

A time-honored maritime tradition, the role of a ship godparent symbolically bestows good fortune on the vessel and its travelers with a special blessing during the christening ceremony. For Seabourn's newest ship, *Seabourn Pursuit*, it has made a longstanding commitment by naming Western Australia's Wunambal Gaambera people as godparents. This serves as a gesture of stewardship and responsibility toward the environment and the communities that *Seabourn Pursuit* visits, as well as Seabourn's commitment to sustainable tourism.

The Wunambal Gaambera are Aboriginal Australian people who are the Traditional Owners of a region in Western Australia that includes the sea country of Ngula Jar Island (Vansittart Bay), Yirinni (Hunter River), and the freshwater country of Ngauwudu (Mitchell Plateau). As godparents, the Wunambal Gaambera are collaborating with Seabourn to guide its environmental policy and work toward sustainable tourism along Australia's Kimberley Coast. Given their cultural history, deep connection to the land and sea, and proven conservation initiatives, they are a remarkable choice to help protect the region's sacred spaces.

The ship's naming ceremony took place in summer 2024 on Ngula Jar Island. After a cleansing smoke ritual and traditional Junba dance on the beach, the Wunambal Gaambera christened the ship and blessed it for safe passage.

From there, *Seabourn Pursuit* took its inaugural journey through the Kimberley waters. During its maiden voyage, guests experienced incredible views of sandstone peaks, took in curious marine life, and participated in immersive cultural experiences.

As part of the appointment, Seabourn has made a donation to Wunambal Gaambera to assist them as they develop a self-sustaining industry by producing and selling local art and craftwork. Seabourn has also pledged to supply the Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation with pearl shells and other art supplies and tools. — AMY ROBERTS

➔ **Sea Scapes.** Enter **OFFER M28040** on the website found on the back page for ocean-inspired journeys, or call or email us to co-create your next getaway.

Opposite: Western Australia's Hunter River. From top: The cleansing smoke ritual during the Seabourn Pursuit christening on Ngula Jar Island; a waterfall in Mitchell River National Park, in Australia's Kimberley region.



ALL ABOUT *Seabourn Pursuit*

The second purpose-built luxury expedition ship in the Seabourn fleet, *Seabourn Pursuit* is designed to access the most remote regions, including Papua New Guinea, Antarctica, and Patagonia.

Combining cutting-edge technology with luxurious comfort, each of the 132 ocean-front suites feature expansive picture windows, spacious walk-in closets for expedition gear, and large bathrooms with double vanities. The two Owner's Suites are designed with ample living spaces and private verandas to take in the open water. Luxurious onboard expanses include an infinity pool, a state-of-the-art spa, and eight dining experiences, while in the Discovery Center, regionally inspired seminars are led by Seabourn's expedition team of wilderness experts, scientists, historians, and naturalists. Meanwhile, 24 Zodiac boats, eight double sea kayaks, and two custom-built submarines are at the ready, inviting regional discovery and underwater exploration.