

East Coast Flying Boat Expedition 2021


PASPALLEY
— AVIATION —

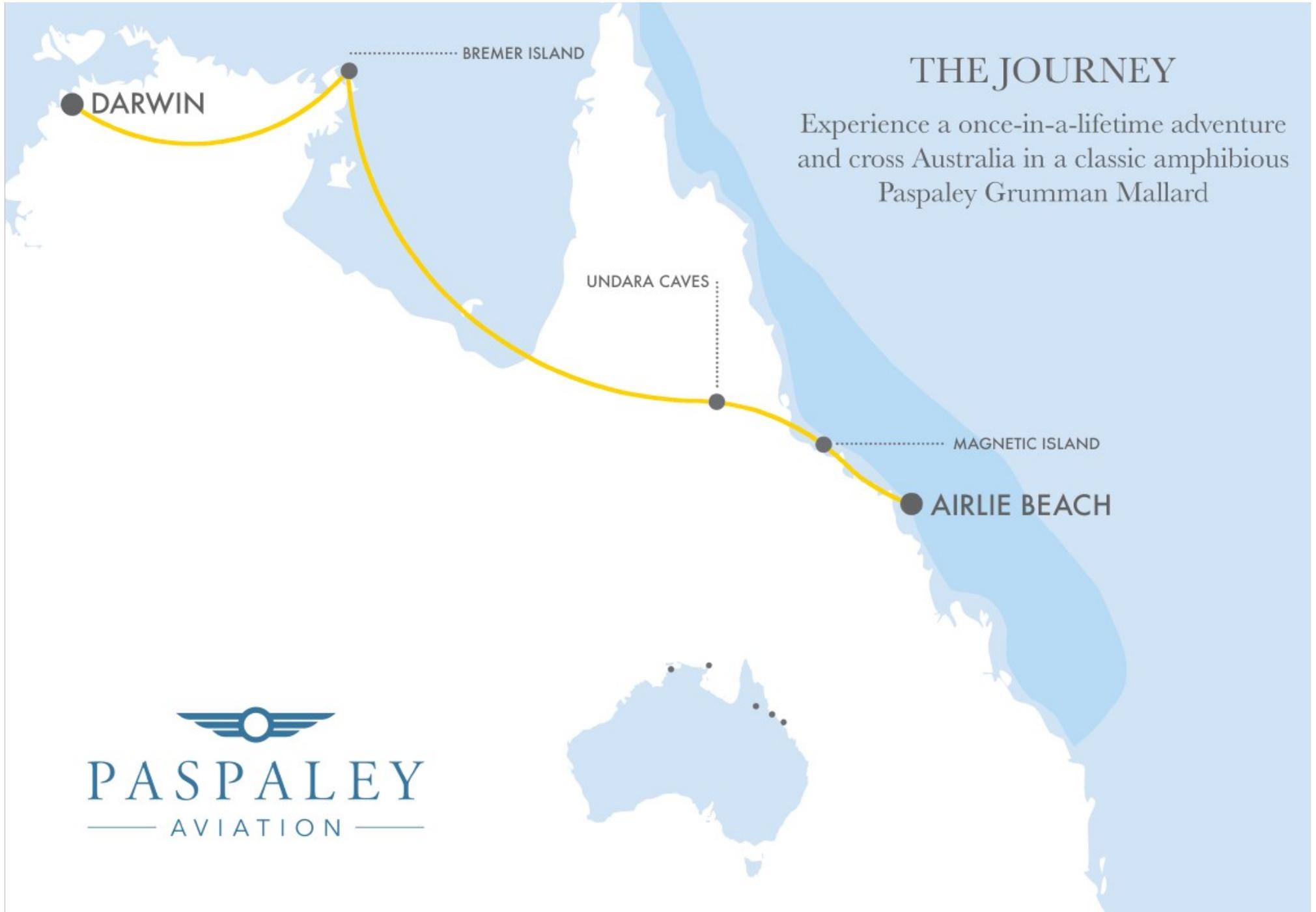


Darwin • Banubanu • Undara • Magnetic Island • Airlie Beach

Darwin 18th April - Airlie Beach 22nd April

THE JOURNEY

Experience a once-in-a-lifetime adventure and cross Australia in a classic amphibious Paspaley Grumman Mallard




PASPALEY
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DAY 1

Arrival into Darwin...

Your Paspaley Host will be waiting for you at the airport, ready to welcome you to the Top End, a land where the outback meets the tropics.

On your Flying Boat Expedition you will discover a region full of remarkable coastline and beautiful waterways, a land full of remote exquisiteness and ancient cultures.

We will begin our experience with welcome drinks and dinner at a special location on the Darwin waterfront, highlighting the best the Northern Territory has to offer.

Overnight in Darwin.



DAY 2

Board the magnificent classic G-73AT Grumman Mallard for your two hour scenic flight to the East Coast of Arnhem Land. Take in the beautiful city skyline of Darwin as you soar across the Top End. Your flight will take you over the magnificent Kakadu, the largest National Park in Australia. See the roaring Jim Jim falls at the best time of the year and soak in the vast wetlands that are home to more than one third of all of Australia's bird species.

Experience your first water landing in the Grumman Mallard when we touch down outside the beautiful Banubanu Resort on Bremer Island.

After checking in to our spectacular beachfront bungalows, we dive into culture with a special introduction to the customs and traditions of the Yolngu people.

For the afternoon, refresh in the infinity pool or kick back on the deck soaking in the view. For the evening, we are treated to a very special gourmet dining experience with views from the elevated restaurant over the azure blue waters of the island's Western Cove.

Overnight at BanuBanu Beach Resort.



DAY 3

Enjoy a beautiful breakfast overlooking the picturesque rugged landscape.

The Grumman Mallard will collect guests from the shores of the Banubanu Resort, where you will fly along the rugged remote North Australian Coast. Your pilots will guide your flight over Groote and Wellesley Islands to the breathtaking crater systems that surround Undara.

‘Undara’ is an Aboriginal word meaning ‘longway’ and Undara is renowned as being the longest lava tube system in the world. About 190,000 years ago a large volcano erupted violently, spewing molten lava over the surrounding landscape. The lava flowed rapidly down a dry riverbed. The top, outer layer cooled and formed a crust, while the molten lava below drained outwards, leaving behind a series of hollow tubes. Spend the afternoon exploring the rainforests that grow through the tubes and the wildlife that shelter in them.

Enjoy a big sky sunset with sparkling wine and cheese while your Savannah Guide unlocks the secrets of this timeless land. Then on dusk we enter the lava tubes for an evening experience you’ll never forget.

Beautifully restored railway carriages, set along an original teamsters coach road is our accommodation for the night.

Overnight at Undara.



DAY 4

Begin the day by devouring a bush breakfast at The Ringers Camp while listening to a chorus of bird calls before departing in the Grumman Mallard for the coast of Queensland.

Beautiful palm fringed sandy beaches, huge granite boulders, hoop pines and stunning fringing coral reef welcome us to Magnetic Island. An island filled with adventurous hiking, impressive snorkelling and endless sunshine becomes our next stop.

Glimpse the inner Great Barrier Reef around Magnetic Island before landing on the water in magnificent Horseshoe Bay.

Be whisked away for the afternoon onboard Pilgrim Sailing, a beautiful luxury 58-foot classic yacht. We will visit a secluded bay on Magnetic Island where we can relax and enjoy the beach and swim before sitting down to a gourmet lunch of locally caught seafood and antipasto.

Settle in for a special dinner experience at The Boardwalk Restaurant overlooking the sparkling marina.

Overnight on Magnetic Island.



DAY 5

Begin the final leg of the East Coast adventure by departing Magnetic Island from the water in Horseshoe Bay. Soak in the expansive Great Barrier Reef Views on the flight from Magnetic Island to Whitehaven Beach. We soar over Hook Reef and Hardy Lagoon, arguably the most spectacular section of the Great Barrier Reef system.

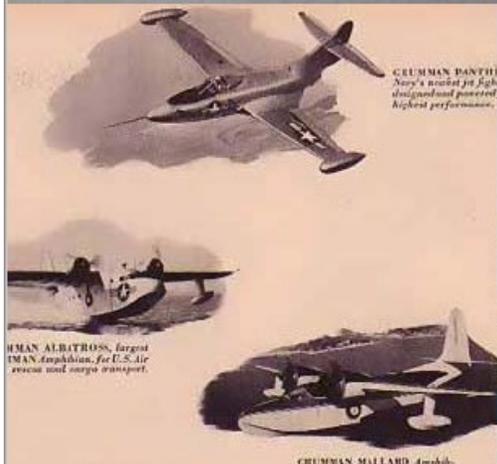
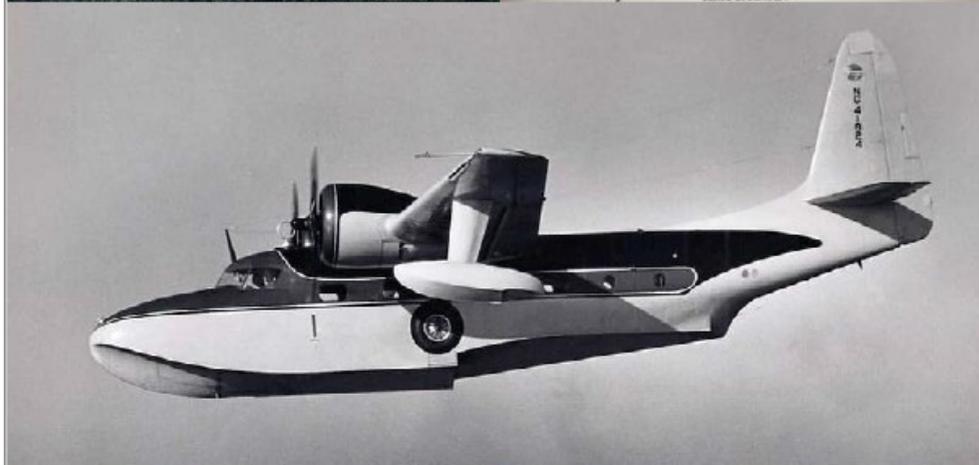
Experience the exhilarating final water landing as we come into land over Hill Inlet in the beautiful azure waters of Whitehaven Beach.

Relax, take a stroll or simply swim in the pristine waters of Whitehaven Beach, where we indulge in a beautiful gourmet picnic on the silica sand.

Enjoy the final scenic views of the Whitsunday Islands as we make our Mallard flight from Whitehaven back to Airlie Beach.

Enjoy an intimate final Safari group dinner on a beautiful pier overlooking the Coral Sea.

Overnight in Airlie Beach.



G-73AT
GRUMMAN MALLARD HISTORY

Originally designed in 1944, Grumman built 59 aircraft between 1946 and 1951. The G-73 was a step up from the smaller Goose and Widgeon aircraft with larger passenger capacity, additional fuel in wing float tanks, a double stepped hull, fully stressed skin and tricycle undercarriage. Although the Mallard was initially expected to serve in small harbour-based airlines, it's major operations extended into the corporate and private sector, providing a level of luxury air travel for those that preferred an amphibious option to their flying destinations.

Powered by the Pratt and Whitney R-1340 radial, the Mallard soon established itself as a reliable, stable, strongly constructed aircraft and was liked by all that flew her. During the 1960's the idea of re-engineering the aircraft produced the modified Frakes G-73T Turbo Mallard, the first aircraft to be upgraded to Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6 engines.

The Mallard's development continued in Australia, when the three Grumman Mallards of Paspaley based in Darwin underwent Paspaley's G-73AT Turbo Mallard conversion and upgrade, which saw a renewing of the airframe life and installation of new engine nacelles housing PT6A-34 turbines, plus the associated engine instrumentation and modernised systems. The new turbine engines also drive 4 blade Hartzell propellers which improve performance of the aircraft both on water and when airborne. Additional modifications are constantly being implemented by Paspaley such as updated avionics and navigation systems.

Original airframe serial numbers J22, J23 and J26 are now registered to Paspaley Pearling Company as VH-PPE, VH-PPI and VH-PPT, all having been constructed in 1947. Paspaley purchased VH-PPT in 1994, which was originally owned by Christian Dior and spent her early days flying around Europe. All three aircraft are now primary utilised for flights throughout the Top End servicing Paspaley Pearling Company's extensive pearling operation.



ADVENTURE AWAITS