

# Christmas Island **EXPLORE** — PACKAGES —



*Experience the full brunt of the Indian Ocean as it forces its way up through the caverns or take a board walk through the jungle and visit isolated beaches with rock pools.*

*Witness endemic species in their natural habitat on your way to a refreshing waterfall...*

*Explore the wonders Christmas Island has to offer!*

*Red Crab Migration*

*Rain Forrest*

*Fresh Water Mangrove*

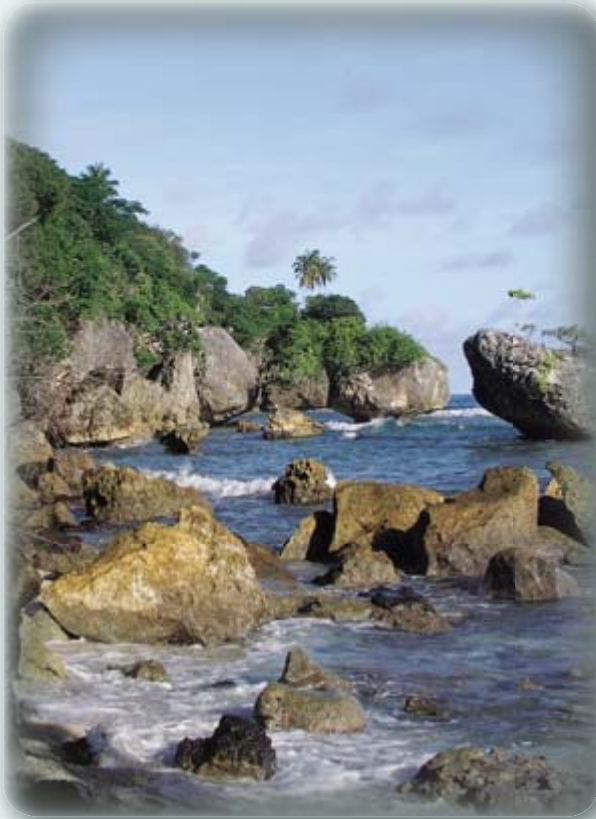
*Bird Watching*

*4WD Discovery*

*Endemic Species*

# EXPERIENCE THE ULTIMATE EXPLORATION!

Located in the Indian Ocean, Christmas Island was once a living volcano under the sea floor and has been described as "The Galapagos of the Indian Ocean". The island is surrounded by a rugged coast that is covered with a rich jungle environment and is home to many endemic species. Due to its location 1300km south of Singapore and 2600km north west of Perth, it has a tropical climate with temperatures ranging from 20-30°C, similar to that of its closest neighbour, the Cocos Keeling Islands. Being widely known for the annual Red Crab migration, the island has a wide variety of sightseeing options and can truly offer visitors a range of activities to provide you with the holiday experience you have been waiting for!



As the national park consumes 63% of the rain forest eco system from the 135 square kilometre island, ensures plenty of room to explore this protected habitat. With several sealed and unsealed tracks to explore, including old rail way tracks, 4WDing is an absolute must if you want to see the sights of offer.

After a relatively easy picturesque journey via 4WD, **The Dales**, a region to the west, consists of streams, waterfall, mangrove swamps and abundant wild life. Take note of the hard work of the local crabs as they eat away all remnants of leaves, producing an amazingly clean floor and the southwest of the island takes the full brunt of the Indian Ocean as it forces its way up through the caverns underneath the island, producing a spectacular sight, the **Blow Holes**.

The annual **Red Crab Migration** is linked with the timing of the first rains, the cycle of the moon and the ocean's tide, generally between late October and November. At this time, adult crabs migrate from their homes in the jungle floor and travel along particular migratory pathways to the coast. Female crabs will culminate at the waters edge and release their larvae into the ocean. Depending on the ocean's swell and tides, baby crabs arrive back on land usually in late December and January. Often every 5 years the numbers of returning babies is enormous. Imagine sighting this moving carpet for yourself!

Christmas Island has a number of endemic species including endemic **Flying Foxes** and **Bird Watching** is becoming many tourists main attraction. With yearly studies and intensive programs in the tracking and banding of seabirds, in particular the endemic Abbott's Booby, along with Red footed and Brown Boobies. Other popular sightings will include the Frigate, Golden Bosun, Christmas Island Imperial Pigeon, Emerald Dove, Christmas Island Hawk Owl and the Christmas Island Goshawks. Witness these amazing birds while soaring in the skies above or nesting in trees and scrubs.

Christmas Island offers visitors a variety of sightseeing options including jungle walks, board walks, look outs and viewing platforms. To assist in your own safety, Island Explorer Holidays recommends extreme caution, especially for inexperienced drivers, on all of Christmas Island's roads and suggests visitors advise the National Parks office, tourism centre or hotel reception of your intended destination prior to exploring the many sights or to book guided tours.



## Island Explorer Holidays specialise in EXPLORE package holidays to Christmas and the Cocos Islands!

Further detailed information on points of interest, specific attractions, accommodation, diving and touring options can be found on our web site: [www.islandexplorer.com.au](http://www.islandexplorer.com.au)

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