


TROPICAL EXPEDITIONS

EASTER ISLAND
& BEYOND

THE MARQUESAS

THE SOCIETY
& TUAMOTU
ISLANDS + MORE

AN EPIC TAHITI
TO HAWAII VIA
THE MARQUESAS

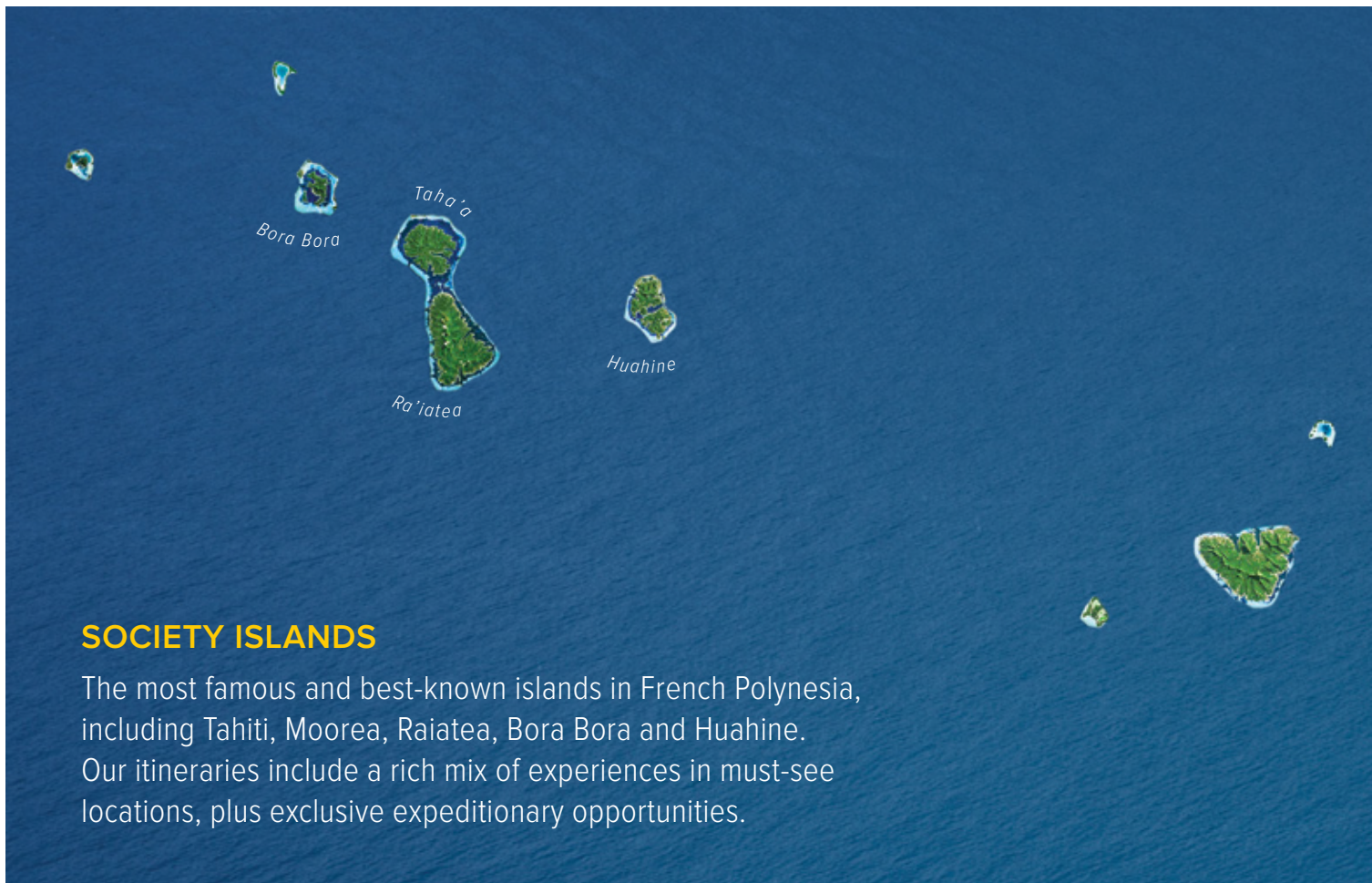


“If you were to look at the Pacific Ocean from space, you might notice that you would not be able to see both sides of it at the same time. This is because at its widest, the Pacific is nearly 180 degrees across—more than twelve thousand miles, or almost half the circumference of the earth. North to south, from the Aleutian Islands to the Antarctic, it stretches another ten thousand miles... so big that you could fit all the landmasses of earth inside it and there would still be room for another continent as large as North and South America combined. It is not simply the largest body of water on the planet—it is the largest single feature. For most of human history, no one could have known any of this... For tens of thousands of years, long after humans had colonized its edges, the middle of the Pacific Ocean remained beyond the reach of man.

Then, about four thousand years ago, a new group of migrants appeared in the western Pacific... the first to leave behind the chains of intervisible islands and sail out into the open ocean. They were perhaps the closest thing to a sea people the world has known.”

— CHRISTINA THOMPSON,
*Sea People: The Puzzle of
Polynesia*, Harper Collins, 2019

Cover photo: Paddleboarding at Fatu Hiva, Marquesas. ©Ralph Lee Hopkins



SOCIETY ISLANDS

The most famous and best-known islands in French Polynesia, including Tahiti, Moorea, Raiatea, Bora Bora and Huahine. Our itineraries include a rich mix of experiences in must-see locations, plus exclusive expeditionary opportunities.



TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO

A chain of almost 80 islands and atolls forming the largest atoll archipelago in the world. In the southern Pacific Ocean section of Polynesia, it stretches from the northwest to the southeast over an area roughly the size of Western Europe.



Tahiti



Nuku Hiva

Hiva Oa

Fatu Hiva

MARQUESAS ISLANDS

A group of stunning volcanic islands, among the world's most remote, created by the Marquesas hotspot that underlies the Pacific Plate. 'High islands,' they each feature mountain ridges marked by impressive and distinctive granite spires.



Rapa Nui



EASTER ISLAND

A Chilean island at the southeasternmost point of the Polynesian Triangle. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Easter Island is most famous for its nearly 1,000 extant monumental statues, called *moai*, created by the early Rapa Nui people.



Pitcairn Island

On a Mission to Discover the Uncharted Wonders

In 2017 we made a much-anticipated return to the South Pacific. These voyages were in no way intended to be ordinary cruise-like sojourns, but rather genuine expeditions. We approached Polynesia the way we would an expedition into the ice—armed with charts, Google Earth, drones, and expert advice from bona fide explorers. On a mission to discover the uncharted wonders within these vast waters, and with full freedom to roam, we sought to provide our guests with the exhilaration of discovering a remarkable, little-known culture, and seldom-seen natural wonders on land and sea. Over our seasons in Polynesia, we have amassed a trove of learning and experiences. Join us this season and our teams, avid to return, will share with you one of the rarest things possible today: the thrill of feeling you've found an uncharted, innocent world.

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PITCAIRN ISLANDS

A British Overseas Territory in the South Pacific, among the world's most remote inhabited places. National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence, Enric Sala, famously lamented that it takes longer to reach Pitcairn than it does to get to the moon. It's just been named the world's eighth Dark Sky Sanctuary, the highest possible accreditation for an astronomical reserve.



EASTER ISLAND TO TAHITI

MARCH 28, 2020 DEPARTURE

In which we make for one of the more resonant enigmas in world culture, experience the planet's richest seas & darkest skies at Pitcairn, and visit the Gambier Islands

[Editor's note] We found a fascinating article in the December, 1921 National Geographic Magazine on the Routledge Expedition to Easter Island, and were struck by the contrast between the site then, and the remarkable restoration our guests see on Lindblad-National Geographic expeditions now.

“The great works are in ruins; of many, comparatively little remains; but the impression infinitely exceeded anything which had been anticipated, and every day as the power to see increased, brought with it a greater sense of wonder and marvel. ‘If we were to tell people at home these things,’



said our sailing master, after being shown the prostrate images on the great burial place of Tongariki, ‘they would not believe us!.. The only piece of a statue which still remains on its bed-plate is the fragment at Tongariki. In the best preserved specimens the figures lie on their faces like rows of huge ninepins. Some are intact, but many are broken, the

cleavage having generally occurred when the falling image has come in contact with the containing wall at the lower level. No one living remembers a statue standing on an *ahu*, and legend, though not of a very impressive character, has already arisen to account for the fall of some of them...”

– Mrs. Scoresby Routledge

Left: The statues at Ahu Tongariki, Easter Island. Far more than one of the planet's best photo ops, this iconic UNESCO World Heritage site is the locus for jaw-dropping majesty and mystery, and the ideal illustration of the capacity of committed archaeologists to resurrect. In our visits, we learn directly from Director Claudio Cristino, how the fifteen moai, dismembered and scattered by a devastating tsunami in 1960, were exactly, even lovingly, restored by his team in the 1990s.



“For thousands of years, ancient Polynesian navigators managed voyages crossing vast sections of the Pacific Ocean from one island to another. The settlement in these islands of the Pacific Ocean was a deliberate and systematic process, not an accident. The Polynesians were constantly looking for new bits of land to spread their culture, reaching to distant places as Hawai’i, Easter Island, and New Zealand.”



– ALEX SEARLE,
Cultural Specialist



Flower leis are a constant emblem of welcome in Polynesia.



Thousands of horses roam free on Easter Island, also known as Rapa Nui.



The modern outrigger canoes celebrate the renaissance of Polynesian heritage.

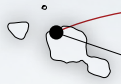


Emblematic White Fairy tern. Photo captured at Ducie Island in the Pitcairns.



Great stone heads on the slopes of Rano Raraku, which was the quarry for all the carved heads, or moai, on Easter Island, Chile.

Society Islands



CAPITAL OF PARADISE
See how people live
in the city of **Papeete**,
capital of French
Polynesia.

Tuamotu Archipelago

EXPEDITION MODE

Land Zodiacs at the
uninhabited atoll of **Tahanea**
that has existed largely
untouched by the outside world
and experience a wildness
rarely seen by humans.

ITINERARY:

EASTER ISLAND TO TAHITI: TALES OF THE PACIFIC

**20 DAYS/17 NIGHTS—ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION
PRICING FROM \$19,520**

(SEE PAGE 35 FOR DETAILS)

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- Mar. 28–Apr. 1: U.S. / Santiago, Chile / Easter Island / Embark
- Apr. 2–6: At Sea / Pitcairn Islands
- Apr. 7 & 8: At Sea / Mangareva, French Polynesia
- Apr. 9–14: At Sea / Tuamotu Archipelago
- Apr. 15 & 16: Papeete / Disembark / U.S.

SPECIAL OFFER

FREE ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE
from Los Angeles to Papeete. Plus, we will cover your
bar tab and tips for the crew. See page 36 for details.

▶ Visit expeditions.com/talesofthepacific for a complete day-by-day itinerary. Or call to speak with an Expedition Specialist.



DAZZLING UNDERSEA

Sail into **Mangareva's** stunning lagoon and discover a vibrant undersea of pristine reefs teeming with life.

Pitcairn Island

SENTINELS OF A LOST LAND

Examine **Easter Island's** legendary *moai*, colossal statues of a long-lost culture, and learn the theories of the island from archaeologists.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

Range over 2,650 nautical miles to the farthest reaches of Oceania • Get prepped with lectures on the history, construction, and restoration of the *moai* statues • Visit the key sites on Rapa Nui, one of Earth's most enduring cultural mysteries • Witness the sun rise at stunning Ahu Tongariki • Linger at the impressive Rano Raraku quarry • Have a private session with world-class archaeologists • Enjoy a BBQ on the beach before we head for the legendary Pitcairn Island group • Dive or snorkel the protected waters of a pristine marine reserve • Possibly score a landing on famously hard-to-reach Henderson or Ducie islands • Watch the ship navigate the protective barrier reef of Mangareva in the Gambier Islands • See Rikitea's unique quarried coral cathedral and much more • Snorkel, kayak or follow a trail inland through a beautiful mixed forest of coconut palms, hibiscus, pandanus and casuarina trees • Explore the quintessential Tuamotu Islands • Visit a village where no ship has stopped in over a decade, or enter a pristine lagoon to snorkel, swim, kayak, stand-up paddleboard and wander in desert isle bliss • Travel in the knowledgeable company of your expedition team • Go home with a trove of better-than-ever photos





TAHITI TO THE MARQUESAS

APRIL 21, 2020 DEPARTURE

In which we head to the eastern edge of the Polynesian Triangle, discover a spectacular group of lush, largely untouristed “high islands,” receive warm welcomes & explore

[Editor's note] In 2017 our creative director, Christine Bastoni, won an expedition at the Lindblad holiday party. And of all the possible destinations, she chose the Azure Seas from Tahiti to the Marquesas voyage. We asked her why:

“A combination of curiosity and trust, I think. I knew little about Polynesia, less about the Marquesas, but I knew Gauguin, and trusted our expedition development team for interest- ingness. Three friends signed on to join me, and to prep we read Herman Melville’s *Typee*, and *Come On Shore And We Will Kill and Eat You All*, by Christina Thompson, the slated Guest Speaker. The trip began with a progres- sion through the Tuamotu Islands, accumulating an understanding of Polynesian culture and an ecstatic sense of the natural history—the vivid marine life we saw snorkeling in Fakarava; the endemic birds; the fascinating geology behind atolls, *motus*; and eventually, the Marquesas. I

can’t say enough about the drama of arrival at this series of ever-lovelier islands; and being greeted by warm people, so artful at welcome. Hiking to a waterfall, gasping at the beauty. The ethereal hymn-singing. Marveling at nature’s gardening, the women’s skill at perfume, the master carvers. Snorkeling. (Manta rays!) The fruit! (Marquesan mangoes are the best!) Feeling the *mana* in sacred spaces, being there with Heidi Baumgartner-Lesage, one of the original archaeologists to work the site, and getting close to ancient petroglyphs without being shooed off by guards. Then, discovering Makatea’s haunting landscape; and an exhila- rating cave swim. In short: a magically innocent travel experience; as close as I will ever get to the pioneering Lars-Eric Lindblad era. Aboard the supremely gracious *National Geographic Orion*. Capped off by a side adventure on Mo’orea. (ATVs, the French Yacht Club for lunch!) I can’t recommend it more highly.”

Left: Marquesan tattoos are among the most artistic in the world; Right: guests enjoying a refreshing waterfall at the end of a hike.





Manta rays, Marquesas.



Cultural Dancers at Fatu Hiva, Marquesas.



Petroglyphs carved in to basalt on sacred ground at Hatiheu, Nuku Hiva, Marquesas.

AZURE SEAS FROM TAHITI TO THE MARQUESAS



“It’s so remote that basically no other researchers or dive tourists ever have the chance to go, so Lindblad being there is a HUGE benefit to understanding more about manta rays—through Citizen Science. Just from my dive footage alone, we identified 22 different individuals, of both species, sexes, multiple sizes and behaviors—and that wasn’t half of it! The encounters we had were incredible and I can’t wait to see what we find next season.”



– MAYA SANTANGELO,
Divemaster
See more from Maya, page 15.

Trace the coast of iconic Hanavave Bay, Fatu Hiva on a Zodiac cruise, in a kayak or on a stand-up paddleboard.



The dance performances we’ve experienced on our visits to the Marquesas are extraordinary for their authenticity, as well as their artistry.

ITINERARY:

AZURE SEAS FROM TAHITI TO THE MARQUESAS

17 DAYS/14 NIGHTS—ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION*
PRICING FROM \$16,720

(SEE PAGE 35 FOR DETAILS)

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Apr. 21:	Depart U.S.
Apr. 22:	Papeete, French Polynesia / Embark
Apr. 23-25:	At Sea / Tuamotu Archipelago
Apr. 26 & 27:	At Sea / Nuku Hiva, Marquesas
Apr. 28:	Hiva Oa, Marquesas
Apr. 29:	Fatu Hiva, Marquesas
Apr. 30-May 2:	Exploring the Marquesas Islands / At Sea
May 3 & 4:	Tuamotu Archipelago
May 5:	Makatea
May 6 & 7:	Disembark / Papeete / U.S.

SPECIAL OFFER

FREE ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE from Los Angeles to Papeete. Plus, we will cover your bar tab and tips for the crew. See page 36 for details.

▶ Visit [expeditions.com/marquesas](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/expeditions/marquesas) for a complete day-by-day itinerary. Or call to speak with an Expedition Specialist.

RUINS UNDER, GARDEN OVER

Experience a near-mystic swim on **Makatea**. See its history under the lush overgrowth. Spot rare endemic dove.

BLUE LAGOON, WARM WELCOMES

Dive or snorkel the stunning reefs of **Fakarava**, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Explore quaint villages, on foot or on bikes. Look for the rare Tuamotu sandpiper.

URBANE URBANITY

Glimpse the melange of French-inflected Polynesian life in **Papeete**, Tahiti, the capital, before boarding *National Geographic Orion* to paradise.



Marquesas Islands

ANCIENT AND ALIVE

Discover the ancient petroglyphs of **Nuku Hiva** and get a modern welcome performance with roots in the island's history.

PAST IS PRESENT

Explore a village and archaeological site on **Hiva Oa** with the largest tikis in Polynesia. Visit Gauguin's grave and Jacques Brel's museum.

INTO THE MYSTIC

The green-draped volcanic pillars of **Fatu Hiva's** shoreline and Hanavave Bay are legendary. Hike high to a hidden waterfall.

KON-TIKI VERSUS HISTORY

Visit **Raroia**, where Thor Heyerdahl's famous Kon-Tiki raft made landfall, and learn the history behind theories of Polynesian exploration.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Range over 2,241 nautical miles
- Visit 14 or more diverse islands, including untouched *motus*
- Observe 45 species of birds
- Learn about the truly fascinating geology of these islands
- Snorkel/dive nearly every day
- Spot black-tipped reef and other sharks in these healthy reefs
- Spot mantas from Zodiacs or while snorkeling
- Experience a drift snorkel
- Visit enchanting communities
- Explore a preserved *marae* with an onboard expert; see commanding ancient *tikis* and petroglyphs
- Be consistently welcomed with fragrant leis, fresh fruit and genuine smiles
- Receive exclusive traditional dance and music performances
- Visit a museum dedicated to award-winning traditional Marquesan carving
- Have opportunities to purchase top-quality carvings
- Choose activities from challenging hikes to a waterfall to leisurely strolls in charming villages, plus kayaking and paddleboarding
- Truck or walk up Makatea's steep ascent, descend into the grotto for a cooling freshwater swim
- Enjoy the optimal indoor-outdoor French Polynesian lifestyle aboard *National Geographic Orion*
- Travel with a team of cultural experts and naturalists
- Go where few can or have



THE SOCIETY ISLANDS TO TUAMOTU

APRIL 14, MAY 5 & 12, 2020 DEPARTURES

In which we explore the islands & undersea of stunning archipelagos, navigate the pass into the vast lagoon at Rangiroa & visit a World Heritage Site marae

[Editor's note] Maya Santangelo, divemaster aboard these expeditions, explored Polynesia's twin dimensions—above and below—with us last season. Here's why she's returning:

“We all explore for different reasons. For the love of nature, to be immersed in a new culture, to wander off the map, to hear the music. The undeniable fact is that French Polynesia has it all, and so much more. In the Society Islands, jagged mountains rise from lush, radiating valleys. In the Tuamotus, turquoise waters lap at the coralline shores formed over millions of years of complex geology. But the magic of Polynesia does not end where its land meets the sea. With over 100 widespread islands, this region is unbelievably rich in natural history and culture

intimately linked with the ocean. These waters are home to a tremendous array of living organisms that provide foundation for some of the most diverse, fragile, important, yet often overlooked ecosystems on earth. Here we have the unique opportunity to discover the full story of this tropical realm by exploring the underwater world firsthand. Below the surface, marvel at healthy ecosystems where top predators are thriving and protected. Hear the bustling life on the reef. Wonder at the individual coral polyps that make up the largest chain of atolls in the world. Lock eyes with the smartest fish in the sea. Contribute to scientific research by simply taking a photo. French Polynesia is a paradise certainly not lost! It will leave an impact lasting long after you return home.”

Left: Aerial view of Bora Bora; Right: Discover the vibrant undersea and spot fish like these butterfly fish on a snorkel or dive.



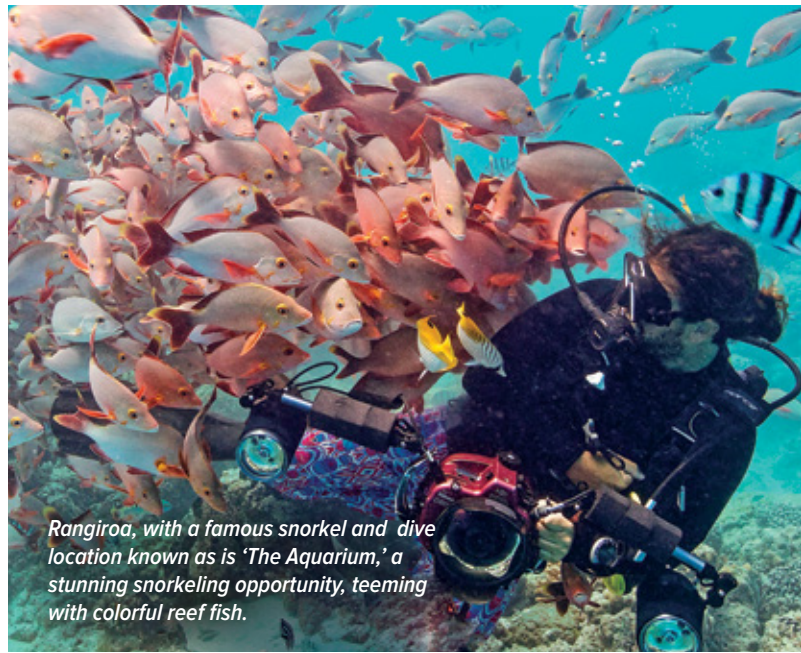


Raiatea, the “Sacred Island” that is home to one of Polynesia’s most important cultural sites, Marae Taputapuātea.

“At Raiatea, National Geographic Orion sailed through the sacred pass, “Te Ava Moa,” to visit one of the most sacred sites in Polynesian culture, Marae Taputapuātea, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It sits in the center of the Polynesian triangle—with Hawai’i to the north; Rapa Nui (Easter Island) to the east; and New Zealand to the west. People would sail from all over Polynesia to make offerings on the marae to show their spiritual kinship with the other islanders. It was also the site of the primary navigation school for all of Polynesia.”



– JIM KELLEY,
Naturalist



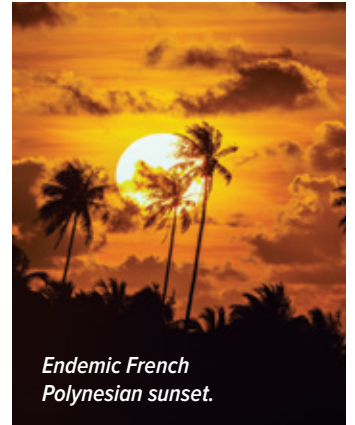
Rangiroa, with a famous snorkel and dive location known as ‘The Aquarium,’ a stunning snorkeling opportunity, teeming with colorful reef fish.



A Polynesian woman with black pearl earrings.



Marae Taputapuatea in Raiatea.



Endemic French Polynesian sunset.



Kayaks offer opportunities for personal exploring.

ITINERARY:

FRENCH POLYNESIA: BEYOND THE POSTCARD

10 DAYS/7 NIGHTS—ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION*
PRICING FROM \$8,360

(SEE PAGE 35 FOR DETAILS)

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- Day 1: Depart U.S.
- Day 2: Papeete, French Polynesia / Embark
- Day 3: Bora Bora, Society Islands
- Day 4: Ra'iatea / Taha'a
- Day 5: Huahine
- Days 6 & 7: Tuamotu Archipelago
- Day 8: Rangiroa
- Days 9 & 10: Rangiroa / Disembark / Papeete / U.S.

SPECIAL OFFER

FREE ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE
from Los Angeles to Papeete. Plus, we will cover your
bar tab and tips for the crew. See page 36 for details.

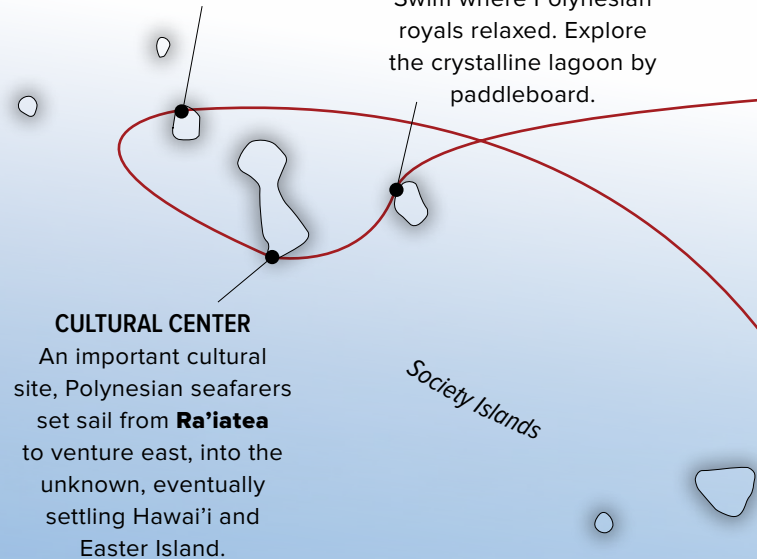
- ▶ Visit [expeditions.com/postcard](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/expeditions.com/postcard) for a complete day-by-day itinerary. Or call to speak with an Expedition Specialist.

ICONIC ISLAND

Explore the famous c
raggy interior of **Bora Bora**
and Mount Otemanu
by 4WD. Snorkel the
thriving outer reef.

SECRET SPA OF ROYALS

See the ancient marae on
off-the-beaten-path **Huahine**.
Swim where Polynesian
royals relaxed. Explore
the crystalline lagoon by
paddleboard.



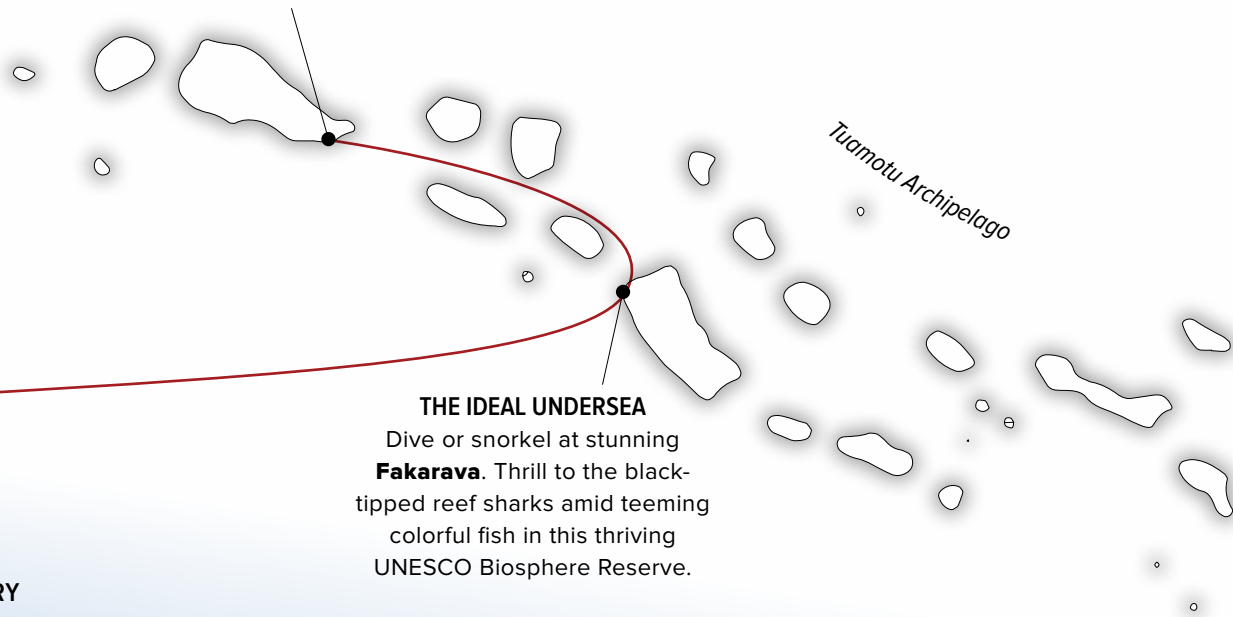
CULTURAL CENTER

An important cultural
site, Polynesian seafarers
set sail from **Ra'iatea**
to venture east, into the
unknown, eventually
settling Hawai'i and
Easter Island.



LOVELY LAGOON

Venture into the second largest lagoon in the world, **Rangiroa**. One of the region's best spots to snorkel or dive among large schools of fish, plus mantas, dolphins and sea turtles.



THE IDEAL UNDERSEA

Dive or snorkel at stunning **Fakarava**. Thrill to the black-tipped reef sharks amid teeming colorful fish in this thriving UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

ADAPT FOR RE-ENTRY

The rhythms of city life in Tahiti's capital **Papeete** gently prep you to leave the paradise of French Polynesia.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

Explore Rangiroa's 'aquarium' teeming with pristine coral and vibrant marine life • Observe some of the region's 800 species of fish, plus reef sharks, rays, giant clams and more • Kayak and paddleboard in turquoise waters along idyllic palm-lined shores • Watch the ship navigate Tiputa Pass into the lagoon at Rangiroa, one of the world's largest atolls • Glide over a carpet of vibrant coral on a thrilling drift snorkel • Spot endemic birds like the imperial pigeon and fruit dove • Bike or stroll through the charming flower-filled village on Fakarava • Delve deep into the past at Marae Taputapuatea, one of the most sacred sites in all of Polynesia • Truck or walk up Makatea's steep ascent, then descend into the grotto for the most invigorating freshwater swim • Snorkel, swim or just chill on your own private motu (island) • Visit an over-the-water museum curated with fascinating archeological relics • See the sacred blue-eyed eels of Huahine • Meet welcoming locals at a family-run vanilla plantation • Discover the region's natural and human history alongside your knowledgeable expedition team • Capture the islands' epic scenery with help from a National Geographic photographer





TAHITI TO THE MARQUESAS & BEYOND

MAY 18, 2020 DEPARTURE

In which we pick up the trail of the ancient Polynesia navigators, making our way to the volcanic Marquesas and their series of spectacular arrival vistas & continuing to Hawaii

[Editor's Note] Christina Thompson is the author of the recently published Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia. As the Guest Speaker on this voyage, she is deeply knowledgeable about Polynesia. We asked her why this particular voyage appealed to her:

“When I first set out to write the story of the ancient voyagers of the Pacific, I took a research trip to some of most fascinating and hard-to-get-to places in Polynesia. I wanted to experience an atoll, a ring of coral rock rising out of the sea. I wanted to see an island of uplifted coral, the rarest of Polynesia’s four island types. But, most of all, I wanted to visit the Marquesas, the most brooding and beautiful islands in all of Polynesia. It was a complicated itinerary and I was traveling by plane, which meant that I had access only to islands with

airports. However, being aboard *National Geographic Orion* on the Tahiti to Marquesas expedition, you get to experience all these places: the uplifted coral island of Makatea, the glittering atolls of the Tuamotus, many of them uninhabited, and the high, veiled peaks of the Marquesas. But, best of all, you get the rare privilege of seeing them from sea.

In the ancient myths of the Polynesians, islands would sometimes appear and disappear. They would rise up out of the ocean and navigators spoke of pulling them from the sea. Nothing can surpass the experience of seeing this spectacular region of the world the way it was seen by the first people who made it their home. Feeling the steady southeasterly swell that guided them, seeing the heavens filled with the stars they used to find their way, studying an early morning cloudbank, waiting for an island to emerge.”

Left: The rugged coastline of Nuku Hiva Island, Marquesas; Right: Polynesia stars in the night sky.





Arearea Joyousness 1892, by French artist Paul Gauguin.



Stand-up paddleboarding in the Tuamotus.



Our local guide Frieda (with the tiki known as "Takai'i") at Me'ae I'ipona, Puama'u, Hiva Oa, Marquesas.



Descend from the heat of the forest to the cool crystal-clear waters of a cave swim on Makatea.



Visiting Gauguin's grave site, Hiva Oa, Marquesas.

“The Marquesas Islands have everything we at Lindblad Expeditions appreciate. These lush, mountainous islands are as beautiful as the famous Society Islands but more isolated and pristine, and little changed from the time artist Paul Gauguin first brought the islands to the world’s attention. As an avid collector and owner of a private museum specializing in traditional arts, tools, weapons, and other artifacts, I find the Marquesan artisans have few equals. Their carving techniques and artistic sensibilities with a variety of materials are beautiful and inspiring. It is impossible to resist acquiring some of their art as we travel about the archipelago.”



– TOM RITCHIE,
Expedition Naturalist

ITINERARY:

TAHITI TO THE MARQUESAS: FRENCH POLYNESIAN DISCOVERY

10 DAYS/7 NIGHTS—ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION*

PRICING FROM \$8,360

(SEE PAGE 35 FOR DETAILS)

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

May 18:	Depart U.S.
May 19:	Papeete, French Polynesia
May 20:	Papeete/Embark
May 21:	Makatea
May 22:	Fakarava
May 23:	At Sea
May 24:	Fatu Hiva
May 25:	Hiva Oa
May 26 & 27:	Nuku Hiva/Disembark/Papeete/U.S.

SPECIAL OFFER

FREE ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE from Los Angeles to Papeete or \$1,500 AIR CREDIT if you continue to Hawai'i. Plus, we will cover your bar tab and tips for the crew. See page 36 for details.

- ▶ Visit expeditions.com/shortmarq for a complete day-by-day itinerary. Or call to speak with an Expedition Specialist.

OPTIONAL HAWAII EXTENSION

Join our Captain, officers and master navigator, Tua Pittman, for an informative seven-day journey from Marquesas to Hawai'i—following in the wake of the great Polynesian explorers. Read, relax, unwind as you discover the skills required to master an ocean. And, enjoy a two-day stay on the Big Island with our compliments.

- ▶ Visit expeditions.com/Hawaii or call for details.

RUINS UNDER, GARDEN OVER

Experience a cave swim on **Makatea**. See its history under the lush overgrowth. Spot a rare endemic dove.

Tuamotu Archipelago

AN ECO VICTORY

A UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, **Fakarava's** reefs teem with healthy, colorful sea life. Snorkel. Explore the foreshore, too.

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

See the city side of French Polynesia in Tahiti's capital, **Papeete** before embarking *National Geographic Orion* for a vastly different scene.

FEEL THE DEEP PAST

Discover the ancient petroglyphs of **Nuku Hiva** and get a modern welcome performance with roots in the island's history.

LIVING HISTORY

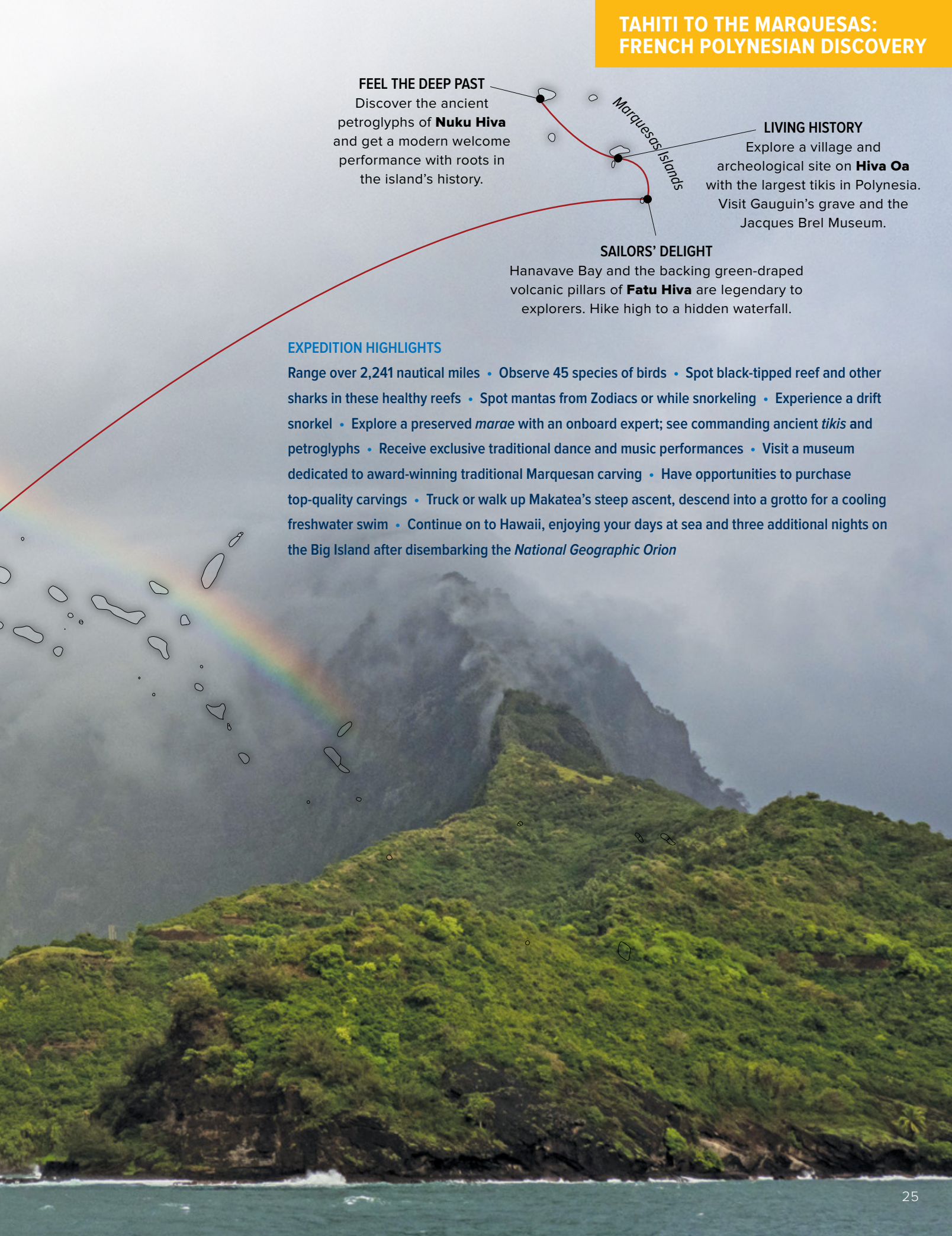
Explore a village and archeological site on **Hiva Oa** with the largest tikis in Polynesia. Visit Gauguin's grave and the Jacques Brel Museum.

SAILORS' DELIGHT

Hanavave Bay and the backing green-draped volcanic pillars of **Fatu Hiva** are legendary to explorers. Hike high to a hidden waterfall.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

Range over 2,241 nautical miles • Observe 45 species of birds • Spot black-tipped reef and other sharks in these healthy reefs • Spot mantas from Zodiacs or while snorkeling • Experience a drift snorkel • Explore a preserved *marae* with an onboard expert; see commanding ancient *tikis* and petroglyphs • Receive exclusive traditional dance and music performances • Visit a museum dedicated to award-winning traditional Marquesan carving • Have opportunities to purchase top-quality carvings • Truck or walk up Makatea's steep ascent, descend into a grotto for a cooling freshwater swim • Continue on to Hawaii, enjoying your days at sea and three additional nights on the Big Island after disembarking the *National Geographic Orion*





EXTENSION

INTERCONTINENTAL MOOREA RESORT & SPA

A DELIGHTFUL 35-MINUTE FERRY RIDE TRANSPORTS YOU FROM THE URBAN PULSE of Papeete to the verdant, and serene, heart of Moorea. Nestled in a tropical sanctuary on the northwestern coast, the elegant InterContinental Moorea Resort & Spa is the ideal spot to shift into a more languid pace post-expedition. Choose from a selection of resort activities (with our compliments). Explore the turquoise lagoon by snorkel, kayak, or traditional outrigger canoe. Refresh with a dip (and a cocktail) in the infinity pools. Observe marine conservation at the Moorea Dolphin Center or Sea Turtle Care Center, both hosted on site. Or indulge in a spa treatment featuring aromatic island flowers.

3 DAYS POST-VOYAGE EXTENSION FROM \$1,410

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1: Disembark/Tahiti/Moorea
Day 2: Moorea
Day 3: Moorea/Tahiti

▶ Visit [expeditions.com/Moorea](https://www.expeditions.com/Moorea) for a detailed day-by-day itinerary.
Or call to speak with an Expedition Specialist.



EXTENSION

THE EPITOME OF FRENCH POLYNESIA LUXE, THE BRANDO

WITH A CULTURAL HERITAGE, AN ECO-CONSCIOUS MISSION, AND A SUPERB QUALITY LEVEL, the Brando more than merits its mystique. Its provenance is romantic: Marlon Brando purchased the small atoll of Tetiaroa in the 1960s, while shooting *Mutiny on the Bounty* and falling in love with his Tahitian costar. Inspired by his original vision, the hotel features one- to three-bedroom villas; two restaurants under the guidance of a Michelin-starred chef; and a spa offering holistic treatments, bordering the pond where Tahitian royalty once gathered to undergo beauty rituals. On his stay, our CEO Sven Lindblad was also impressed with the hotel's reliance on solar energy and coconut oil-powered back-up generators. Choose from a host of island-geared activities such as kayaking, paddleboarding, kite surfing, lectures, natural history walks, and much more.

2-NIGHT MINIMUM POST-VOYAGE EXTENSION ALL INCLUSIVE FROM \$4,575 per villa/night

Our Expedition Specialists can answer any questions about what's included, resort amenities and more. In addition to booking The Brando for you, they can make your transition to or from *National Geographic Orion* seamless. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

▶ Visit expeditions.com/TheBrando for further details.



OUR TROPICAL TEAMS MATCH OUR ICE TEAMS IN ZEAL FOR DISCOVERY

THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST VIE TO RETURN TO POLYNESIA EACH SEASON

to share their exhilarating finds with you. Using all the tools at their disposal, expedition leaders and captains deliver unprecedented experiences: sending Zodiacs through narrow passes into uncharted lagoons to give guests ultimate desert isle fantasies. Or perhaps dropping in to delight villages that had never had a visit from a ship. Our naturalists enable birders to score rare endemic sightings, and snorkelers and divers to enjoy remarkable shark and manta ray encounters on thriving coral reefs. And our superb cultural specialists give every guest the rare opportunity to discover the Polynesian culture and its glorious history. There is nothing déjà vu or rote about these voyages: this is genuine expedition travel.





JACOB EDGAR, Ethnomusicologist

Our Ethnomusicologist, Jacob Edgar, known to many prior guests for his remarkable music curation on our voyages, has produced exclusive Polynesian programs for 2020. To convey his sensibility, and intentions, here's his response to an interviewer's question about his favorite experience to date:

“Upon our arrival, we found all the parishioners waiting for us in the church dressed in their finest Sunday clothes. They began to sing traditional polyphonic Tahitian choir music, which uses unique and incredibly soul stirring harmonies and vocalizations. It resonated through the high ceilings of the cathedral, carrying with it echoes of a pre-Christian culture that had long been lost to the past, yet which lived on almost subversively in the music of a Protestant church. Instantly, all our guests had tears streaming down their faces, as did I. It was one of the most beautiful sounds any of us had ever heard.”



Benefit from Jacob's curation on all voyages. Travel with him on [Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific](#), Mar. 28, 2020.

Join our Polynesia teams, including these representatives:

EASTER ISLAND TO TAHITI: TALES OF THE PACIFIC (pages 2-7)

Mike Greenfelder, *Naturalist* – Mar. 28, 2020
Tom Ritchie, *Naturalist* – Mar. 28, 2020
Alex Searle, *Cultural Specialist* – Mar. 28, 2020

AZURE SEAS FROM TAHITI TO THE MARQUESAS (pages 8-13)

Mike Greenfelder, *Naturalist* – Apr. 21, 2020
Heidy Baumgartner-Lesage – Apr. 21, 2020

FRENCH POLYNESIA: BEYOND THE POSTCARD (pages 14-19)

Elise Lockton, *Naturalist* – Apr. 14, 2020
Mike Greenfelder, *Naturalist* – Apr. 14, 2020
Tom Ritchie, *Naturalist* – Apr. 14, 2020
Alex Searle, *Cultural Specialist* – Apr. 14, 2020



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHERS

Travel with a National Geographic Photographer on any *National Geographic Orion* voyage and benefit from their pro knowledge and experience.

EASTER ISLAND TO TAHITI: TALES OF THE PACIFIC (pages 2-7)

Susan Seubert – Mar. 28, 2020

FRENCH POLYNESIA: BEYOND THE POSTCARD (pages 14-19)

Krista Rossow – Apr. 14, 2020
Andy Bardon – May 5 & 12, 2020

TAHITI TO THE MARQUESAS: FRENCH POLYNESIAN DISCOVERY (pages 20-25)

Josh Humbert – Apr. 21, 2020



THE PERFECT SHIP TO EXPLORE ATOLLS,
LAGOONS, ISLANDS & THE UNDERSEA





NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION IS YOUR BASE CAMP FOR SOUTH SEA ADVENTURE, uniquely equipped to get you out there and up close. The upper dive deck holds scuba gear for a number of qualified divers and complete snorkeling gear for all 102 guests aboard—maintained by two divemasters. On the rear deck, a marina platform makes loading divers, snorkelers, and gear into Zodiacs efficient and safe. *National Geographic Orion* is also equipped with an ingenious platform, which allows us to snorkel or swim virtually anywhere, plus a glass-bottom Zodiac, custom-crafted to enable those who prefer to stay dry a remarkably clear view. *National Geographic Orion* is the only expedition ship in the South Pacific with an undersea specialist equipped with undersea video tech and an ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) capable of exploring depths of up to 1,000 feet on board. You'll enjoy vivid HD video and engaging presentations in the comfort of the ship's lounge throughout your voyage.



AN IDYLIC MIX OF BRIGHT & BALMY LIFE ABOARD IS VERY GOOD

WITH ITS WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE, *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION*, accommodating just 102 guests, is a pleasure to travel aboard—especially in Polynesia where open-air decks give every breakfast and lunch a genuine holiday feeling. The social find ample space indoors and out to congregate, while nooks and crannies all over the ship invite the more solitary among us to savor some quiet time. Dinners are served in the dining room and in an inclusive series of ‘invited dinners’, out on deck. Meals feature a Chef’s Tasting menu and a la carte options. Whether it’s for Evening Recap or engaging presentations and performances, the Lounge is the center of expedition life at cocktail hour, tea time and after dinner.







NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

CAPACITY: 102 guests in 53 outside cabins.

REGISTRY: Bahamas. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 338 feet.

The state-of-the-art *National Geographic Orion* is a fully stabilized, ice-class vessel with an ice reinforced hull. *National Geographic Orion* is at home navigating polar ice, as well as island harbors in the South Pacific.

PUBLIC AREAS: Outdoor café, lounge with bar and state-of-the-art facilities, restaurant, sundeck, reception desk, observation lounge and library, global gallery, and marina platform. The whirlpool hot tub doubles as a plunge pool in warm climates. Our “open bridge” allows guests to meet our captain and officers and learn about navigation.

MEALS: All meals are served in a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. The cuisine is international with local flair, featuring tastes of the regions we explore.

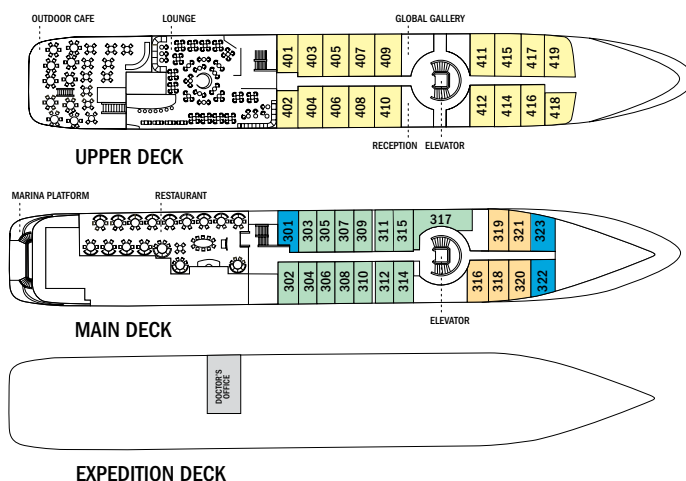
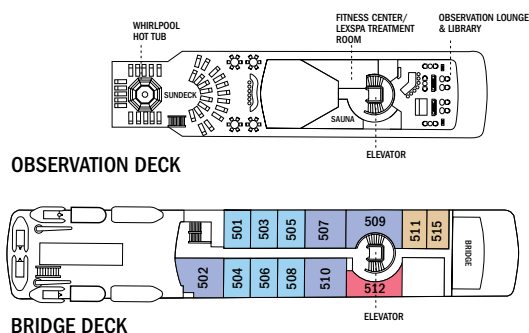
CABINS: All cabins feature ocean views, private facilities, climate controls, and a flat-screen TV. Equipped with Ethernet and Wi-Fi connections and USB ports for mobile

devices. Some cabins have French balconies. Single cabins in Category 1 and Category 3 include #301, 322, 323, and 512.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiac landing craft, a fleet of 24 double kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, crew’s nest camera, hydrophone, underwater video cameras, video microscope, and a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). Plus, there is snorkeling gear for all guests, scuba gear for a number of guests, a glass-bottom Zodiac, and a splash-cam.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Laundry, a full-time doctor, National Geographic photographer and Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, plus an undersea specialist and video chronicler.

WELLNESS: A wellness specialist, fitness center, LEXspa treatment room and sauna are on board.





Left to right: Main lounge; *National Geographic Orion*; our hotel staff will do whatever it takes to ensure your comfort and satisfaction aboard; *National Geographic Orion*'s dining room features no assigned seating for casual, easy mingling; Category 3 suite with window; Category 6 Owner's suite with French balcony.

CATEGORY 1: Main Deck with oval window #316, 318, 319-321

CATEGORY 2: Main Deck with oval window #302-312, 314, 315, 317

CATEGORY 3: Upper Deck—Suite with window #401-412, 414-419

CATEGORY 4: Bridge Deck—Deluxe suite with window #511, 515

CATEGORY 5: Bridge Deck—Suite with French balcony #501, 503-506, 508

CATEGORY 6: Bridge Deck—Owner's suite with French balcony #502, 507, 509*, 510

*Cabin 509 has two windows in lieu of a French balcony.

CATEGORY 1 SOLO: Main Deck with oval window or two portholes #301, 322, 323

CATEGORY 3 SOLO: Bridge Deck—Suite with two windows #512

Note: Solo occupancy cabins available in Categories 1 and 3. Shared accommodations available in Categories 1 and 2. Third person rates available at one-half the double occupancy rate in designated triple occupancy cabins.

ITINERARY	YEAR	CAT. 1	CAT. 2	CAT. 3	CAT. 4	CAT. 5	CAT. 6	CAT. 1 SOLO	CAT. 3 SOLO	ADVANCE PAYMENT	NOTE
Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific – Pages 2-7	2020	\$19,520	\$23,090	\$27,560	\$29,870	\$35,670	\$41,270	\$29,280	\$41,360	\$2,500	Includes two hotel nights on Easter Island. Immigration fees are not included. Sample Airfares: Los Angeles/Santiago, Papeete/ Los Angeles: Economy from \$2,200; Business from \$5,000. Santiago/Easter Island from \$680, subject to change.
Azure Seas from Tahiti to the Marquesas – Pages 8-13	2020	\$16,720	\$20,350	\$23,880	\$26,020	\$31,480	\$36,580	\$25,070	\$35,810	\$2,500	Sample Airfares: Round-trip Los Angeles/Papeete: Economy from \$2,000; Business from \$5,000.
French Polynesia: Beyond the Postcard – Pages 14-19	2020	\$8,360	\$10,170	\$11,940	\$13,010	\$15,740	\$18,290	\$12,540	\$17,900	\$1,000	Sample Airfares: Round-trip Los Angeles/ Papeete: Economy from \$2,000; Business from \$5,000. Charter airfare from \$390 (Rangiroa-Papeete), subject to change.
Tahiti to the Marquesas: French Polynesian Discovery – Pages 20-25	2020	\$8,360	\$10,170	\$11,940	\$13,010	\$15,740	\$18,290	\$12,540	\$17,900	\$1,000	Includes two hotel nights on Kona, Hawai'i. Sample Airfares: Los Angeles/Papeete, Kona/Los Angeles: Economy from \$2,400; Business from \$5,200. Please call for airfare from Nuku Hiva to Papeete.

Prices quoted in this brochure are valid as of the time of printing, are subject to modification, and are not guaranteed until booking and required deposit is made. See our website at expeditions.com for the most up-to-date pricing.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR SPECIAL OFFERS

FREE AIR: BOOK BY OCT. 31, 2019: Take advantage of complimentary international air offer when you book select South Pacific itineraries aboard *National Geographic Orion*. If you choose not to book your air with us, the savings can be applied as a reduction to your voyage cost. Free air is based on round-trip group economy flights that must be ticketed by Lindblad Expeditions. In the case that Lindblad's group flights are no longer available at time of booking, we reserve the right to issue a credit. All offers are valid for new bookings only, subject to availability at the time of booking, and may not be combined with other offers or extensions. Call for details.

\$1,500 AIR CREDIT: If you choose to extend your Tahiti to Marquesas: French Polynesian Discovery voyage by continuing with us to Hawaii, you will receive a \$1,500 air credit. Book by Oct. 31, 2019.

SOLO PREMIUM WAIVED: On the Tahiti to the Marquesas: French Polynesian Discovery voyage, the solo premium is waived in solo cabins for travelers who choose to extend their trip to Hawai'i.

THREE COMPLIMENTARY NIGHTS: We've also enhanced your experience with three additional complimentary nights in Kona for guests who choose to extend their trip to Hawai'i on the Tahiti to the Marquesas: French Polynesian Discovery voyage.

BRINGING THE KIDS: We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So take \$500 off for each child under the age of 18.

MULTIPLE VOYAGE SAVINGS: Save 10% when you book two or more voyages in South Pacific and French Polynesia aboard *National Geographic Orion*. You may take these voyages as back-to-back or non-consecutive journeys. This savings is applicable on voyage fares only, and is not valid on extensions or airfare.

BAR TAB AND CREW TIPS: There will be no bar bill on these voyages and we will tip the crew on your behalf.

TRAVELING AS A GROUP: Save 5% when traveling as a group of 8 or more people. Take advantage of these great savings, while enjoying traveling with your friends and family. This savings is applicable to voyage fares only, and is not valid on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies.

COMBINING OFFERS: Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings!



INCLUSIVE PRICING MEANS VALUE + EXPERIENCES

We include just about everything you have the opportunity to do as part of your expedition aboard ship and ashore. The only things not included are those of a personal nature—internet usage, wellness treatments and other specialized arrangements.

ABOARD SHIP

- ✓ All meals, alcoholic beverages (except certain super-premium brands) and non-alcoholic beverages
- ✓ Cappuccinos, lattes & complimentary refillable water bottle
- ✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda
- ✓ Hors d'oeuvres & snacks during recap
- ✓ Sauna & Fitness Center
- ✓ Fully stocked library
- ✓ The guidance and company of our expedition staff
- ✓ Gratuities to ship's crew

ASHORE

- ✓ Meals on land, as indicated in itinerary
- ✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
- ✓ Transfers to and from group flights
- ✓ The expertise of our expedition staff

ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All shore activities
- ✓ Zodiac, kayak and stand-up paddleboard explorations
- ✓ Snorkeling, including wetsuits, masks, fins
- ✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge

RESERVATION INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions: For complete terms and conditions please visit www.expeditions.com/terms

Costs Include: All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary or similar, all meals and beverages aboard ship (excepting certain super-premium brands of alcohol), air transportation where indicated as included, all shore excursions, sightseeing and entrance fees, special access permits, transfers to and from group flights, use of kayaks (where available), tips (including gratuities to ship's crew), taxes and service charges, services of a ship physician, and services of our expedition staff.

Not Included: Air transportation (except where shown as included), extensions, passport, visa, immigration fees, meals not indicated, travel protection plan, items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, internet access, voyage DVD, flightseeing, laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew are at your discretion.

Airfare: For all programs, airfare is an additional cost unless otherwise indicated. Sample airfares are subject to change. We will gladly assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

Reservations: To reserve your place, an advance payment is required at the time of reservation. A per-person deposit begins at \$750 and is dependent upon itinerary.

Final Payment: For expeditions aboard all ships with the exception of *Explorer* and *Orion*, payment is due 90 days prior to departure. For expeditions aboard *Explorer* and *Orion*, payment is due 120 days prior to departure. Payment schedules may vary for certain longer voyages, due to high demand for these voyages. We reserve the right to cancel your reservation if payment has not been received by final payment due date.

Travel Protection Plan: We strongly recommend that you take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, medical assistance, and damaged or lost baggage, and provides medical assistance and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. and Canadian residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date. If you are not satisfied for any reason, you may return your plan within 10 days after purchase. Your premium will be refunded if canceled within 10 days, provided you have not already departed on the trip or filed a claim. When so returned, the coverage under the plan is void from the original date of purchase.

Responsibility and Other Terms & Conditions: Certain provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and the National Geographic Society's liability for loss of property, injury, illness or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure, and are also available on our website at www.expeditions.com/terms, or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Note: Itineraries and prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date and are subject to change. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, our expedition pricing is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event of increases in those costs, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, we reserve the right to adjust the price of your expedition or add a surcharge to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide an explanation of the reason for increase in costs.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellation penalties may apply after payment is received. Please visit www.expeditions.com/terms for complete cancellation policies.

Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

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For Reservations: Contact your travel advisor or Lindblad Expeditions

1.800.EXPEDITION (1.800.397.3348)

Reservation Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 9pm ET


Saturday & Sunday 10am – 5pm ET

Lindblad Expeditions, Inc., 96 Morton Street, New York, NY 10014

Phone: 212.261.9000 • Fax: 212.265.3770

For additional information and online reservations, visit us on the Web: www.expeditions.com

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PAC-069



SPECIAL AIR OFFERS

FREE INTERNATIONAL AIR

See itineraries for details.

SOLO PREMIUM WAIVED

On the [Tahiti to the Marquesas: French Polynesian Discovery](#) voyage, the solo premium is waived for travelers who choose to extend their trip to Hawai'i. See page 36 for details.