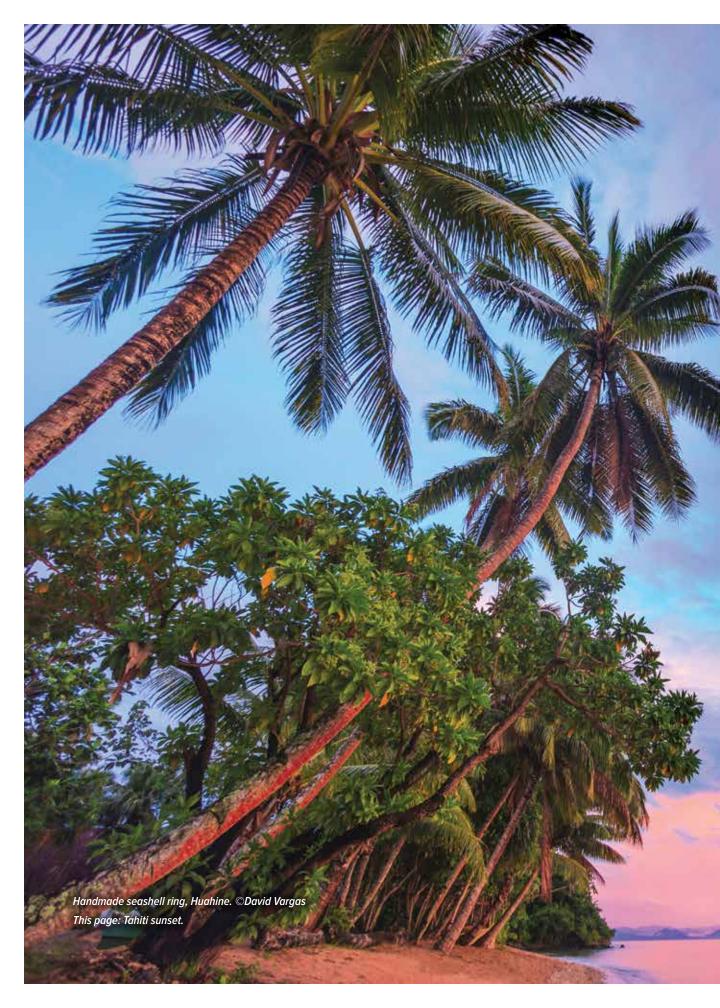
EPIC POLYNESIA COOK ISLANDS TO FIJI



ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION*TWO DEPARTURES IN MAY 2018







"The first experience can never be repeated.
The first love, the first sunrise, the first South Sea island, are memories apart and touched a virginity of sense."

- Robert Louis Stevenson, In the South Seas

Few people are unmoved by the idea of the South Pacific, but it's the romantics who choose to go there. And for a romantic, eager for their first time, this is the ideal itinerary, containing as it does those destinations that fire the South Sea traveler's imagination, including Samoa, where Robert Louis Stevenson made his final home.











Flags of the regions: Fiji, Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Wallis & Futuna.

MANY EXTRAORDINA RARITIES IN ONE VOY

Life, and travel, afford few opportunities like this: to visit five of the premier South Pacific destinations (Territories or nations? Learn which is correct and why): French Polynesia, the Cook Islands, Samoa, Fiji, plus the rarest of them all—Wallis & Futuna. We've featured some of the highlights of this extraordinary voyage below. And there's more—terrific company. See who's traveling with you, and what they will contribute to your memorable adventure, on page 5.



WALLIS & FUTUNA While our expedition team frowns at the notion of 'country-collecting,' they admit that visiting here earns you bragging rights, and interesting cocktail chat. According to a statistic we read, Wallis & Futuna has the fewest number of English-speaking tourists per population in the world: 50 per 12,000. These two tiny and fascinating island cultures—Tongan and Samoan respectively—are united under French governance. They are anomalies in the Polynesian cultural landscape: 99% Roman Catholic, with



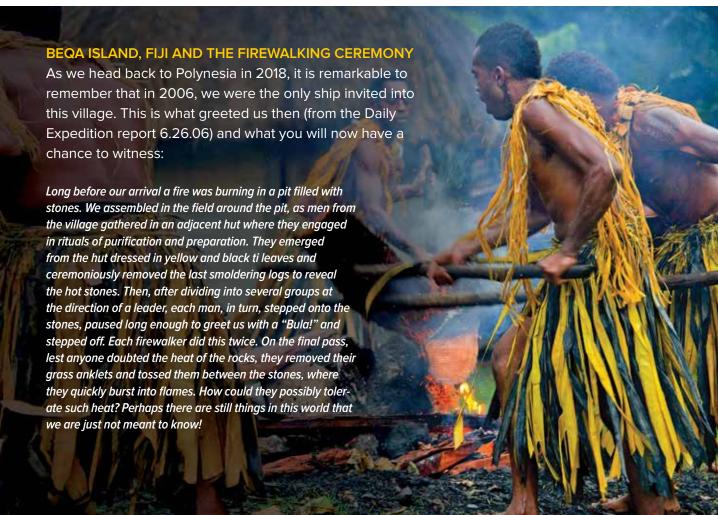
Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption, Mata-Utu, Wallis & Futuna.

some of the most beautiful churches ever (think: shells). Gentle, unpretentious people, and—baquettes! A rarity for even the savviest of travelers.

RY EXPERIENCES & AGE

MARAE TAPUTAPUATEA, RECENTLY DESIGNATED UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE. Built from stacked basalt blocks, *marae* are religious sites, the Polynesian equivalent of temples—places of worship, burial and human sacrifice. It is one of the most important cultural sites in French Polynesia, with temples dating from the 14th to the 18th century. It was the center of spiritual power in Polynesia; any *marae* constructed on other islands had to incorporate stones from this site as a symbol of allegiance and spiritual lineage. This well-preserved complex—it has been extensively restored—is an imposing site, and another rare opportunity to add to your personal store of knowledge of the world's most important sacred sites.





Epic Polynesia: Cook Islands to Fiji

17 DAYS/14 NIGHTS-ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

PRICES FROM: \$15,680 TO \$33,440

DAY 1: DEPART U.S.

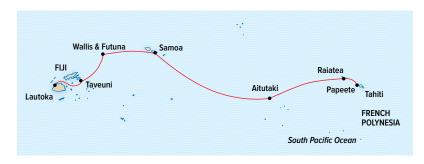
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Tahiti.

DAY 2: PAPEETE, FRENCH POLYNESIA/EMBARK

Arrive in Papeete, Tahiti early this morning, check in to dayrooms and take a brief tour before embarking *National Geographic Orion*. (L,D)

DAYS 3-5: TAHAA/RAIATEA/ AT SEA

Encircled by a single fringing reef, and sharing a common lagoon, Raiatea and Tahaa are islands well worth exploring. Acclimate to Polynesia's slower pace with a day of snorkeling, kayaking, paddleboarding and beach exploration at Tahaa. One of the most important cultural sites in the Polynesian world, Marae Taputapuatea was a center for Polynesian seafarers and the location from which they set out for Rapa Nui (Easter Island), Hawaii and New Zealand. Spend the morning exploring this site on Raiatea, then refresh yourself with a swim in warm turquoise seas. (B,L,D)



DAYS 6-8: AITUTAKI, COOK ISLANDS/AT SEA

Known for its turquoise central lagoon, Aitutaki has been described as the perfect South Pacific island. Board Zodiacs to enter the lagoon via the pass on the western side of this "almost atoll." Once ashore, you'll step over sacred welcome stones to be greeted with a traditional Polynesian welcome. Explore the lagoon, walk palm-fringed beaches and finish with a swim in the warm, clear lagoon. Or, meet the friendly residents and experience traditional Polynesian food, culture and hospitality on a visit to an interior village. Then enjoy life aboard National Geographic Orion as we spend two days sailing west toward Samoa. (B,L,D)

DAYS 9 AND 10: SAMOA

With its spectacular beaches and aqua lagoons, hidden waterfalls and lavasculpted landscapes, Samoa captures the essence of the South Pacific. During our time on these islands, hike through rain forests vibrant with flowers and birds, take a dip in a swimming hole, go snorkeling or diving on the reef, and soak up the languid rhythms of island life that drew Robert Louis Stevenson to these shores. (B,L,D)

DAYS 11 AND 12: EXPLORING WALLIS AND FUTUNA

Another of France's South Pacific territories, the tiny island nation of Wallis and Futuna lies between Samoa and Fiji. Be on deck just after sunrise, as *National Geographic Orion* navigates the channel into the lagoon at Wallis Island, where we'll anchor for the day. Visit the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption, Mata-Utu, a stunning edifice built of blue volcanic stone chiseled and trimmed by hand, or the Church of St. Joseph, with its colorfully decorated interior. Later, snorkel, kayak or stand-up paddleboard from one of the tiny islets offshore. (B,L,D)

DAYS 13-15: EXPLORING FIJI

Enter the island nation of Fiji with a stop at Taveuni, where you'll experience warm Fijian welcomes at the village of Waitabu and snorkel in one of the Pacific's most successful community marine parks. Explore the waterfalls of nearby Bouma National Heritage Park, and dive nearby





reefs. Witness a dramatic firewalking ceremony, at Bega Island. (B,L,D)

DAYS 16 AND 17: LAUTOKA/ DISEMBARK/U.S.

Disembark in Lautoka this morning.

Take a tour of western Viti Levu Island then transfer to the international airport at Nadi for an overnight flight home, or choose to extend your stay and check in to our hotel. (DAY 16: B,L)

EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2018 May 10; May 24* *This voyage travels in reverse from Lautoka to Papeete.

SPECIAL OFFERS:

- Book by Mar 31, 2018 and receive complimentary round-trip economy airfare between Los Angeles/ Papeete and Nadi/Los Angeles. Alternatively, receive \$1,200 savings and use it towards purchase of Business Class flights. Plus, we cover you bar tab and tips for the crew.
- SAVE 10% when you book two or more South Pacific voyages aboard National Geographic Orion in addition to \$1,200 savings.

COSTS:

Category 1	\$15,680
Category 2	\$18,670
Category 3	\$21,990
Category 4	\$23,990
Category 5	\$28,940
Category 6	\$33,440
Category 1 Solo	\$23,520
Category 3 Solo	\$32,990

Free air is based on round-trip economy group flights. See *Orion* catalog for ship details and other terms and conditions.

TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE

JACOB EDGAR: Ethnomusicologist

An ethnomusicologist, and global explorer, Jacob has traveled to hundreds of the world's greatest international music festivals, and performance venues in search of exceptional musical talents. Since 2012, Jacob has curated musical encounters and performances for our West Africa, Iceland, South America, Patagonia, and Europe expeditions. He has developed an exceptional Polynesian music season for us—including Opetai Foa'i and his wife Julie aboard as Guest Musicians and Cultural Specialists.

May 10 & May 24, 2018.



"Music will not just be entertainment for us; it will be a gateway into the cultures we'll be encountering. Music offers something no other art form does: music gives you a window into the history, the ways, the very soul of the country..."



OPETAIA FOA'I, JULIE FOA'I: Musicians, Cultural Specialists

Born in Samoa, and raised in New Zealand, Opetaia Foa'i is the creator, composer and front-man of Te Vaka. Over the last 20 plus years he has released 9 albums of original music. He has toured with Te Vaka (talented musicians and

dancers from across the South Pacific), to over 40 countries around the world telling the stories and sharing the culture of the South Pacific. With the release of the acclaimed Disney animation, *Moana*, Te Vaka's music is reaching a huge global audience. Opetaia shares co-writing credit with Lin-Manuel Miranda and Mark Mancina for the Oscar-nominated *Moana* soundtrack. And he performs vocals on a key song, "I Know the Way." His wife Julie accompanies him as a cultural specialist, contributing insight and sharing the adventure. May 10 & May 24, 2018.

DR. JOE MACINNIS: Renowned Explorer

The first person to explore the ocean beneath the North Pole, Joe's teams built the first undersea polar station and discovered the world's northernmost known shipwreck. **May 10, 2018**





VALERIE TAYLOR: Dive Legend

Pioneering undersea photographer and filmmaker, and National Geographic cover subject. Valerie, and her husband Ron Taylor, gained fame in the early days of scuba diving for their breathtaking live footage of sharks, particularly great whites. May 24, 2018



The National Geographic Photographers aboard these voyages are SISSE BRIMBERG, May 10; MICHAEL MELFORD, May 24.



For more information on each, please visit expeditions.com/bio

Photo Credits: Sisse Brimberg & Cotton Coulson, David Cothran, John Warburton-Lee, Michael Melford, John De Mello, Michael S Nolan, Michael Runkel, Rikki Swenson, David Vargas.

FROM THE BRIDGE:

"I have very fond memories of Wallis & Futuna and am so happy to return with the National Geographic Orion, after an absence of almost 20 years.

Entering the lagoon of Wallis and finding the little passage near Île Fenua Fou through the fringing reef is a memorable experience for every keen navigator, as is negotiating the natural channels of the eastern lagoon to find our anchorage off Matã'utu.

Futuna, some 140 miles to the east is geologically younger. The old, densely vegetated towering volcano has not sunk back into the Earth's crust enough to detach from the surrounding coral reef and form a lagoon between island and reef. Protected from the prevailing trade winds and the associated swell, we tuck ourselves into a small anchorage off the villages of Nuku and Leava on the west side of the island.

Here we can savor the authentic, laid-back Polynesian lifestyle, with an economy still driven by farming and fishing, not tourism. We shall carry away great memories—and perhaps, some wonderful art: the island's timeless tapa cloth."

—Captain Oliver Kreuss

Join the captain and the officers on the bridge to watch the ship enter the pass at Wallis, or any time during the voyage to see the calm business of navigation unfold, and to spot sea birds and marine mammals with the naturalists stationed there every day *Orion* is underway.



ENJOY FREE INTERNATIONAL AIR

Los Angeles/Papeete and Nadi/Los Angeles
Or \$1,200 savings





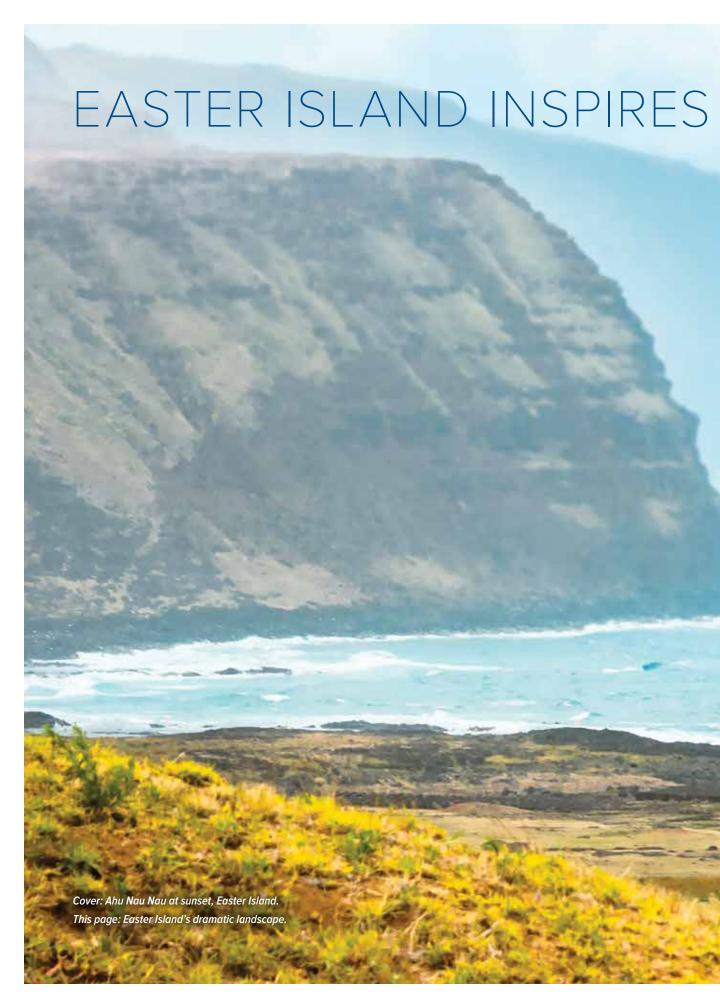
TALES OF THE PACIFIC EASTER ISLAND TO TAHITI



ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION
DEPARTURES IN MARCH & AUGUST 2018





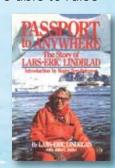


STORIES, HERE IS OURS

"Figueroa had arranged with Chilean officials that the road would not be built closer than a hundred feet to the priceless ahus along the shore. There were at least 450 of these, mostly overlooking the sea. What lay near or under them had never been fully explored. We suddenly came on the road under construction and found that the workers were scraping up archaeological debris as a foundation for the road. Bill Mulloy and Figueroa went into shock. I joined them in dismay... Because of the pricelessness of the threatened sites...we sent a message to Chile's President Frei, telling him of the crisis and imploring him to take fast action... Fortunately, he proclaimed an immediate moratorium and the road building was stopped.

[Later] I decided to turn all the profits from our Easter island operation over to the project to restore the monuments on the island. Several Lindblad clients contributed on their own. Eventually, we were able to raise

\$500,000... With the Chilean government contributing to the fund, it became possible to make an archeological inventory of the treasures, and bring many of the major sites back to their original condition. My conviction is that intelligent tourism can preserve the past by this kind of restoration, so that instead of damaging a historical site, tourism can enrich it."



-FROM PASSPORT TO ANYWHERE: THE STORY OF LARS-ERIC LINDBLAD,
BY LARS-ERIC LINDBLAD WITH JOHN G. FULLER, 1983











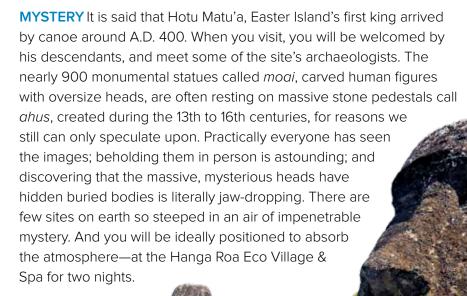




Flags of the regions: Chile, Easter Island, Pitcairn Island, Gambier Islands, French Polynesia, Tuamotu Archipelago.

MORE THAN DESTINATI LEGENDARY LOCATION

If your only experience of the deep mystery of Easter Island is a National Geographic article, or a TV documentary, then you owe yourself the opportunity to experience it—live. To come upon the silent sentinels of the moai, and be transfixed with wonder. This experience, plus a UNESCO World Heritage site, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, the mantle of H.M.S. Bounty history, and the dark glamour of black pearls make this voyage the stuff of legends. And on page 5 discover who's traveling with you to add flavor to the voyage.



ONS, S TO DISCOVER

THE SELDOM-SEEN As National Geographic Orion heads through French Polynesia to the well-known Society Islands, she makes calculated stops, not where the cruise ships go to shop, but at locations such as UNESCO World Heritage site, Henderson Island, and Ducie Island, both part of the Pitcairn Islands Marine Reserve, the world's largest, established by the British government in 2015. Navigating the reefs and islets of the Tuamotu Archipelago, she'll drop Zodiacs off Tahanea, an uninhabited atoll that could turn even the most pragmatic soul into a South Seas island dreamer. And Fakarava, a large atoll and part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, where there are pristine beaches to comb, protected reefs to snorkel, and a world-class current to drift-dive into the lagoon.

HISTORY Captain Bligh, Fletcher Christian—who was right and who was wronged? The current 'reading' of the famous



Mutiny on the Bounty event tends toward a sympathetic portrait of Bligh and a more critical one of Christian. Contemplate your perspective on the notions of mutiny, loyalty and the discipline breakdown the siren song of the South Seas might enable—as you meet the descendants of the mutineers on Pitcairn Island. And at Mangareva, consider the black pearl

trade—its history, routes, current and former economics, and the impressive divers who mined this evocative sea treasure.



FIND THE COMPLETE ITINERARY ON PAGES 4-5—SEE THE OTHER EXPERIENCES THAT LINK THESE FEATURED HIGHLIGHTS INTO A COHESIVE NARRATIVE FOR YOU.

Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific

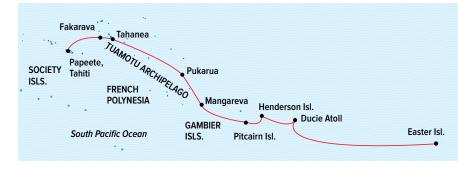
20 DAYS/17 NIGHTS-ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

PRICES FROM: 2018: \$17,990 TO \$37,990. Call for 2019 pricing.

DAYS 1-5: U.S/SANTIAGO, CHILE/ EASTER ISLAND/EMBARK

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Santiago, Chile. Upon arrival, transfer to the Ritz Carlton in central Santiago then join your Lindblad staff this evening for a Welcome Reception. Early the next morning, fly to Easter Island where you will check into the Hanga Roa Eco Village & Spa for two nights. Explore volcanic calderas, jagged lava fields, and sweeping grasslands to discover the colossal *moai* statues, the astonishing legacy of a long-lost culture. Join archaeologists to examine these statues and discuss their meaning and creation; visit burial sites,





quarries, and intricately carved ceremonial altars. Embark *National Geographic Orion*. (DAY 2: B; DAYS 3-5: B,L,D)

DAYS 6-10: AT SEA/PITCAIRN ISLANDS

Set sail from Easter Island on our journey west, listening to talks by our experts as we sail for two days. We begin our exploration in Ducie Atoll, where we spend time watching for frigatebirds and boobies and snorkeling or diving among spectacular reefs. Our next stop is the UNESCO World Heritage site of Henderson Island, an uplifted atoll that is uninhabited and virtually untouched by humans. On hikes and Zodiac excursions, discover the island's four endemic

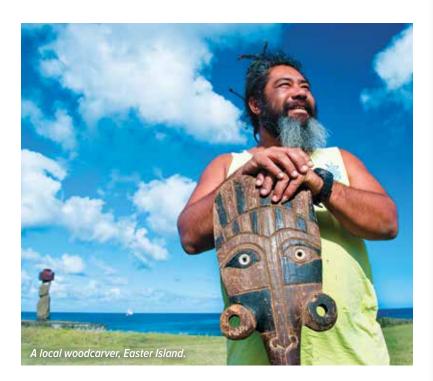
bird species, rich flora and fauna, and fascinating geology.

Many of the mutineers of the legendary *Bounty* made their home on Pitcairn Island in the late 18th century, and about 50 of their descendants still live here today. Meet the residents and hear a few words of the unusual Pitkern dialect—a combination of English "sailor speak" and Polynesian phrases. Visit the gravesite of the last surviving *Bounty* mutineer, John Adams, and see the *Bounty*'s anchor, which was salvaged in 1957. (B,L,D)

DAYS 11 AND 12: AT SEA/

MANGAREVA, FRENCH POLYNESIA Spend a day at sea scanning the horizon





with our naturalists, or relaxing on deck with a good book. We then arrive at Mangareva, the largest of the Gambier Islands, and famous for its black pearls. Venture underwater to snorkel or dive, meet islanders to learn about their culture and the missionaries who made their home here, and go on a hike with our naturalists. (B,L,D)

DAYS 13-18: AT SEA/TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO

We begin our exploration of the "Dangerous Archipelago" in Pukarua, where we'll be greeted by traditional dancers. Navigate reefs and islets during a day at sea and then in true expedition mode, explore one of the uninhabited atolls such as Tahanea. After a festive welcome with traditional dancers in Fakarava, one of the largest atolls in French Polynesia and part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, learn about the island's pearl industry, and walk its pristine beaches. Snorkel the protected reefs or ride the current into the lagoon on a world famous drift dive. (B,L,D)

DAYS 19 AND 20: PAPEETE/

DISEMBARK/U.S. Arrive in Papeete, Fro

Arrive in Papeete, French Polynesia and take a tour of Tahiti before your overnight flight home. (DAY 19: B,L)

EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2018 Mar. 26; Aug. 30*
2019 Mar. 26; Oct.6*
*These voyages travel in reverse.
Aug. 30 and Oct. 6 departures are
19 days. See website for details.

SPECIAL OFFERS:

- Book by Mar 31, 2018 and receive complimentary round-trip economy airfare between Los Angeles/ Santiago and Papeete/Los Angeles. Alternatively, receive \$1,200 savings and use it towards purchase of Business Class flights. Plus, we cover you bar tab and tips for the crew.
- SAVE 10% when you book two or more South Pacific voyages aboard National Geographic Orion in addition to \$1,200 savings.

2018 COSTS:

Category 1	\$17,990
Category 2	\$21,350
Category 3	\$25,370
Category 4	\$27,490
Category 5	\$32,820
Category 6	\$37,970
Category 1 Solo	\$26,990
Category 3 Solo	\$37,990

Call for 2019 pricing. Free air is based on roundtrip economy group flights. See *Orion* catalog for ship details and other terms and conditions.

ADDING EXTRA LAYERS OF INSIGHT TO ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE

JON BOWERMASTER: Author & Filmmaker

A six-time grantee of the National Geographic Expeditions Council, an award-winning writer and author of 11 books, Jon is also writer, director



and producer of 20 documentary films, most recently, Dear President Obama: The Clean Energy Revolution Is Now, produced with and narrated by actor/ advocate Mark Ruffalo, and Antarctica 3D: On the Edge, narrated by Tilda Swinton. His current film projects include The Ghost Fleet, which looks at the global issue of fishing slaves, a six-part series for Vice.com called Clean Water Wars and the web series, The Hudson, A River at Risk. Jon is president of One Ocean Media Foundation, chairman of the advisory board of Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation and a board member of Ruffalo's Water Defense. Jon will join us on the Aug. 30 2018 departure.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

The National Geographic Photographers aboard these voyages are JEFF MAURITZEN, March 26, 2018; and SUSAN SEUBERT, August 30, 2018. Learn more at expeditions.com/bio





Photo Credits: Bjoern Backe, Chad Ehlers, Grigory Fedyukovich, Bob Krist, Jeff Mauritzen Vincent Truchet.

"You might think it's a challenge to find new places in an already well-mapped world, but if you look through the lens of expedition travel, there's lots and lots of virgin territory to still discover. This is why we've committed the National Geographic Orion to Polynesia in 2018. This is a new frontier, where Polynesian navigators, centuries ago, accomplished the equivalent of the moon landing. Where some of the last intact coral reefs can show snorkelers and divers what a thriving ocean looks like. And where ancient mysteries still live on. Join us, I promise it will be amazing!"

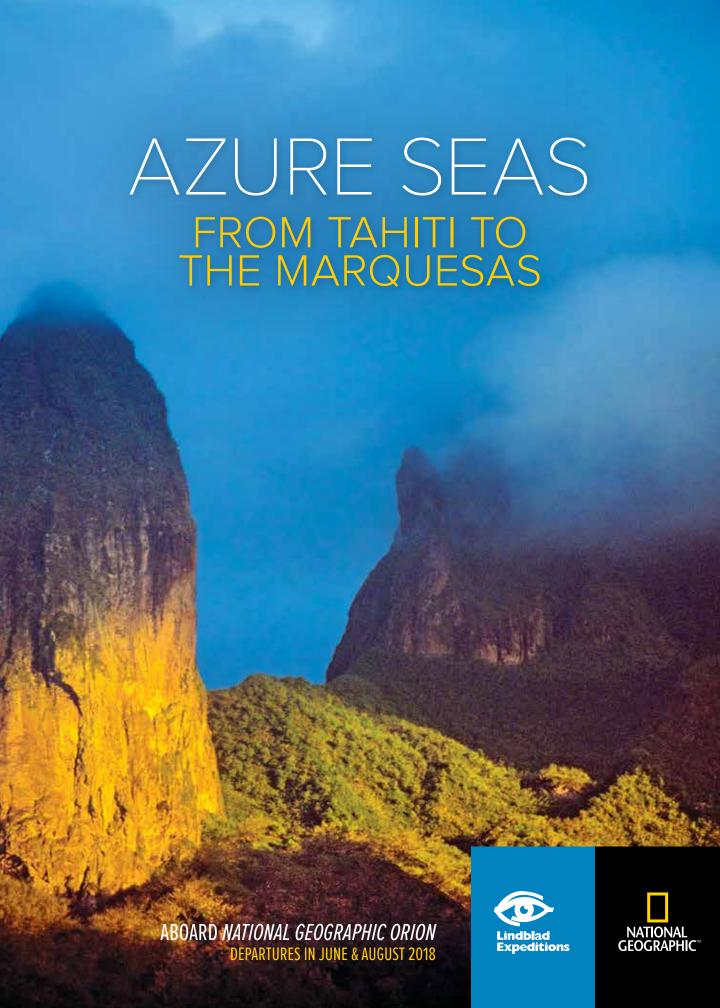
—Sven Lindblad, Founder & CEO, Lindblad Expeditions



Or \$1,200 savings









MYSTERIOUS OF ISLANDS

Of all the archipelagoes in Polynesia, the one I most wanted to see for myself was the Marquesas. Robert Louis Stevenson described his first sight: "They stood there, in the sparkling brightness of the morning, the fit signboard of a world of wonders."

Accidentally discovered as early as 1595 by Spanish and Portuguese explorers, the Marquesas were then lost to the European world for nearly two hundred years. They were relocated in the late eighteenth century by Captain Cook, and became one of best known whaling ports of the early nineteenth century.

In the early 1920s, the anthropologist Edward S. C. Handy and his wife, Willowdean, spent nine months in the Marquesas as part of the Bayard Dominick Expedition. They were there to report on Marquesan

culture—everything from boat-building, bird-catching, stonework, fishing, festivals, sickness, politics, religion, and sports. But while Edward was busy, Willowdean was making enquiries of her own, specifically into tattooing. Although by this time,



Hawaii's Bishop Museum sponsored a 1920s expedition to preserve what was left of the islanders' vanishing world. Willowdean Chatterson Handy's autobiography provides details of her life among the Marquesans.

Marquesans were no longer practicing the art for which, in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries they had become justly famous, Willowdean was able to find people who still bore traditional tattoos, and in 1922 she published a little monograph filled with meticulous drawings of exquisite Marquesan designs.

For those who know Polynesia—for Stevenson and Paul Gaugin (who is buried on Hiva Oa), and the adventurer Thor Heyerdahl—the Marquesas have always been among the most alluring and mysterious of islands, hard to get to but unforgettable.

-CHRISTINA THOMPSON

Christina, an author, editor and knowledgeable South Pacific historian, joins us as cultural specialist on the June 21, 2018 departure. Learn more about her on page 7. And find her bio on expeditions.com/experts.







Flags of the regions: French Polynesia, Tuamotu Archipelago, Marquesas.

HIVA OA, NUKU HIVA: EXOTIC PLACES ON E

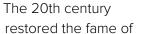
"How interesting the circumstances under which they were discovered! In the watery path of Mendaña, cruising in quest of some region of gold, these isles had sprung up like a scene of enchantment, and for a moment the Spaniard believed his bright dream was realized. In honor of the Marquess de Mendoza, then viceroy of Peru—under whose auspices the navigator sailed—he bestowed upon them the name which denoted the rank of his patron, and gave the world on his return a vague and magnificent account of their beauty.

- Herman Melville, Typee: A Peep At Polynesian Life

HISTORY Among the first islands to be settled by the ancient Polynesians, the Marquesas constituted the jumping off point for the colonization of the entire Polynesian triangle—from Hawaii to Easter Island and New Zealand—sometime between pre-history and between AD 900 and 1100—an achievement by the early Polynesian explorers equivalent to the moon landing. Learn about

the successive waves of European explorers—from Mendaña in 1595,

to Cook in 1774, to Dupetit-Thouars who claimed the islands for France in 1842 and the resulting collapse of Marquesan society upon contact with Western influences.



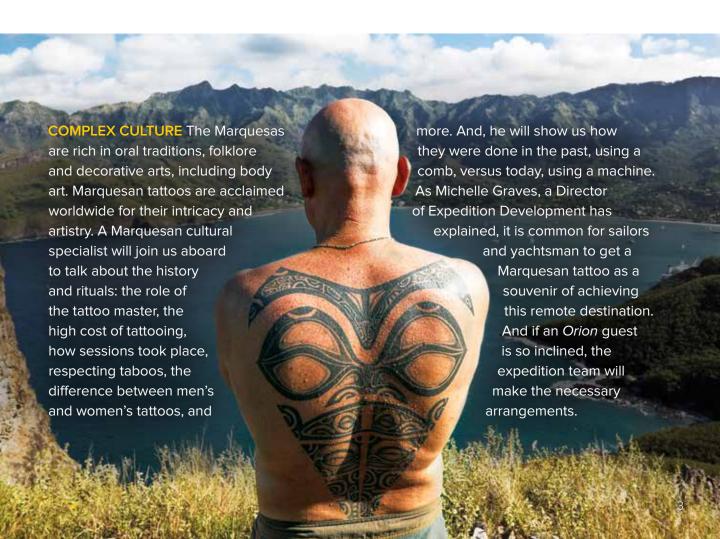


the Marquesas—Paul Gauguin and Jacques Brel lived, and are buried, on Hiva Oa. And it brought archeologists and other scientists in to uncover the remarkable culture eclipsed only a short time ago. Encountering the interesting, independent people of the islands, and seeing the sacred *tiki* statues at the vast *lipona* site will make an indelible impression on you.

AMONG THE MOST ARTH

NATURAL HISTORY A surrounding cobalt sea. Spired volcanic peaks. Deep ravines and impenetrable valleys. Majestic waterfalls. Secretive bays. And vast lush emerald forests. With the topography of a fairy tale, the Marquesas' extraordinary natural beauty is a waking dream for any eco-minded traveler. Hiking, birding, snorkeling, the chance to spot melon-headed whales, star-gazing and more, make each day in this group of islands utterly without precedent, or equal, for even the savviest of travelers.





Azure Seas From Tahiti to the Marquesas

17 DAYS/14 NIGHTS-ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

PRICES FROM: 2018: \$15,680 TO \$33,440. Call for 2019 pricing.

DAY 1: DEPART U.S.

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Tahiti.

DAY 2: PAPEETE, FRENCH POLYNESIA/EMBARK

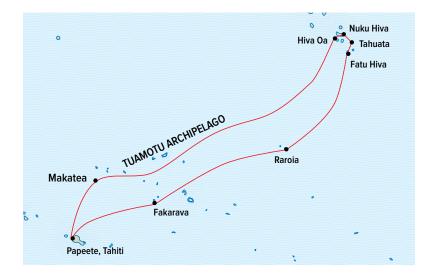
Arrive in Papeete, early this morning, check in to dayrooms at the InterContinental Tahiti, and take a brief tour before embarking *National Geographic Orion*. (L,D)

DAYS 3-5: AT SEA/TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO

We begin our exploration of the "Dangerous Archipelago" at Fakarava, one of the largest atolls in French Polynesia and part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. After a festive welcome with traditional dancers, learn about the island's pearl industry, and walk its pristine beaches. Snorkel the protected reefs or ride the current into the lagoon on a world famous drift dive. Continue to Raroia, one of the easternmost atolls in this chain, and the site where Thor Heyerdahl's famous *Kon-Tiki* raft made landfall in 1947. (B,L,D)

DAYS 6 AND 7: AT SEA/NUKU HIVA. MARQUESAS

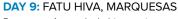
A day at sea brings us to one of the most remote island groups on earth, the Marquesas Islands. We begin our exploration of this archipelago at Hatiheu Bay, on the north shore of Nuku Hiva Island.



Visit ancient petroglyphs and witness a spectacular dance performance at a Marquesan *me'ae*, or hike up the valley with the naturalists and local guides in search of rare birds and spectacular views. Later, sample local foods in the village, and peruse unique arts and crafts. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: HIVA OA, MARQUESAS

At Hiva Oa, go ashore at the village of Puamau to visit the stunning Marquesan *me'ae lipona*, and photograph one of the largest *tikis* in Polynesia. Stop for a fresh-baked French baguette before a short visit to Calvary Cemetery and the gravesites of French artists Paul Gauguin and Jacques Brel. (B,L,D)



Be sure you're on deck this morning to photograph the volcanic pillars of Hanavave Bay, as *Orion* approaches one of the most storied shorelines in the entire Pacific. Visit a remote village where you'll see displays of uniquely Marquesan arts and crafts. Choose a challenging hike to a remote waterfall, or take Zodiacs to the next bay where local transport takes you on a birdwatching foray deep into the Omoa Valley. (B.L.D)

DAYS 10-12: EXPLORING THE MARQUESAS ISLANDS/AT SEA

Our last two days in the Marquesas are open for exploration. Scuba dive with manta rays, search for rare cetaceans with your naturalists and marvel at the rugged volcanic silhouettes of these legendary islands from the Zodiacs and kayaks. (B,L,D)

DAYS 13 AND 14: TUAMOTU

ARCHIPELAGO

We let nature be our guide for these days, as we explore some of the more than 80 islands and atolls that make up this seldom-visited archipelago. Snorkel or dive stunning healthy reefs, kayak and stand-up paddleboard on turquoise lagoons, and walk pristine beaches beneath coconut palms. (B,L,D)





DAY 15: MAKATEA

An uplifted coral atoll, the island of Makatea is one of the most unique landforms in the Pacific. Spend the day exploring limestone caves and grottos with your expedition team and local guides, or search for endemic fruit doves and myriad seabirds, then snorkel and dive among colorful fish on the nearby reef. (B,L,D)

DAYS 16 AND 17: DISEMBARK/ PAPEETE/U.S.

Disembark in Papeete this morning and tour Tahiti before overnight flight home. (DAY 16: B,L)

EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2018 Jun. 21; Aug. 16; 2019 Apr. 25

SPECIAL OFFERS:

- Book by Mar 31, 2018 and receive complimentary round-trip economy airfare between Los Angeles and Papeete. Alternatively, receive \$1,200 savings and use it towards purchase of Business Class flights. Plus, we cover you bar tab and tips for the crew.
- SAVE 10% when you book two or more South Pacific voyages aboard National Geographic Orion in addition to \$1,200 savings.

2018 COSTS:

Category 1	\$15,680
Category 2	\$18,670
Category 3	\$21,990
Category 4	\$23,990
Category 5	\$28,940
Category 6	\$33,440
Category 1 Solo	\$23,520
Category 3 Solo	\$32,990

Call for 2019 pricing. Free air is based on roundtrip economy group flights. See *Orion* catalog for ship details and other terms and conditions.

IMMERSE IN THE CULTURE OF THE MARQUESAS

TUA PITTMAN: Master Navigator

In 1992, the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands sent out a challenge to all the voyaging canoes in the region to sail to Rarotonga for the Pacific Arts Festival using non-instrument navigation. Accepting the challenge, the Polynesian Voyaging Society from Hawaii said they would come under one condition,



that Cook Island voyagers must learn to navigate their own canoe. On his second trip to Aitutaki onboard *Hokulea*, Society navigator, Mau, handpicked Tua to join Nainoa Thompson and six of his fellow countrymen to learn this ancient tradition. Two decades later and thousands of miles of voyaging, Tua was bestowed the title of PWO or master navigator by Mau Pialug in Micronesia in 2008. As a thank you to Nainoa and Mau, Tua made a lifelong promise to teach others and continue to nurture this tradition. In the Polynesian voyaging tradition, a navigator has to memorize up to 200 stars in the sky, differences in constellations, and understand where they are rising from on the star compass. Traveling with Tua aboard *Orion* will transform your experience of traveling by ship. **Aug. 16, 2018** departure.



CHRISTINA THOMPSON: Cultural Specialist

Christina Thompson is the editor of *Harvard Review* and the author of a memoir set in New Zealand, *Come on Shore and We Will Kill and Eat You All*. Her new book, *Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia*, will be published in 2018. Jun. 21, 2018 departure.

HEIDY BAUMGARTNER-LESAGE: Cultural Specialist

Originally from Lucerne, Switzerland, archaeological restorer and conservator Heidy has lived in Tahiti since 1986, working with the local Department of Archaeology in excavations throughout French Polynesia and as a freelance tour guide and lecturer. She is the co-author of the travel guide *Mave Mai, The Marquesas Islands.* Jun. 21 & Aug. 16, 2018 departures.



MARQUESAN TATTOO ARTIST: Cultural Specialist

Polynesian tattooing has been an important cultural element for centuries: a way to tell stories about the owners, or to provide strength, protection or powers drawn from depicted creatures. And Marquesan tattoos are acclaimed worldwide for their intricacy and artistry. Our cultural specialist will join us aboard to talk about the historical significance, and reveal how sessions took place, and more. And, he will show us how they were done in the past, using a comb, and today, using a machine. As we go to press, the actual artist is still to be determined; further details to come. Jun. 21 & Aug. 16, 2018 departures.



The National Geographic Photographers aboard these voyages are **JASON EDWARDS**, **Jun. 21** & Aug. 16, 2018; and **RALPH LEE HOPKINS**,

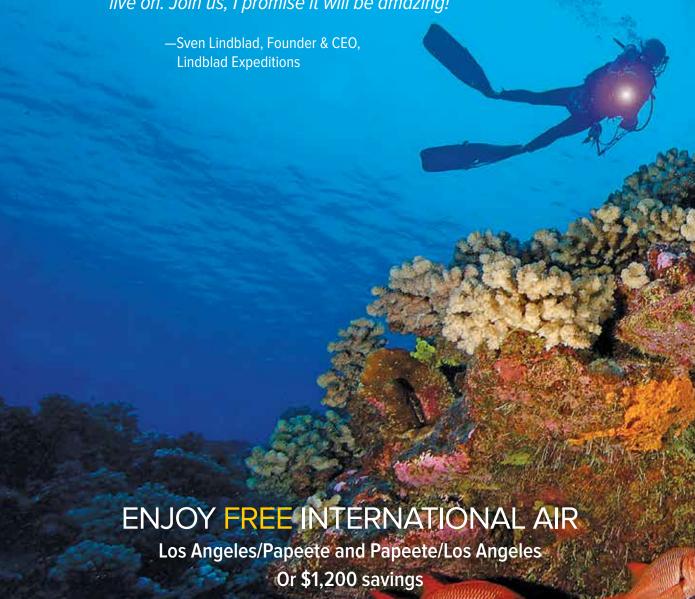




Aug. 16, 2018. For more information on each, please visit expeditions.com/bio

Photo Credits: Gary Blake, Luis Davilla, Soren Egeberg, Peter Horree, Rodger Klein, Tim Laman, Tim Marcus, Michael Melford, Phil Shermeister, Mick Viet.

"You might think it's a challenge to find new places in an already well-mapped world, but if you look through the lens of expedition travel, there's lots and lots of virgin territory to still discover. This is why we've committed the National Geographic Orion to Polynesia in 2018. This is a new frontier, where Polynesian navigators, centuries ago, accomplished the equivalent of the moon landing. Where some of the last intact coral reefs can show snorkelers and divers what a thriving ocean looks like. And where ancient mysteries still live on. Join us, I promise it will be amazing!"











ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION















THE PERFECT PLATFORM TO EXPLORE LAND & SEA

National Geographic Orion is uniquely designed and equipped to optimize being in this remote part of the world and discovering its spectacular undersea. Orion is equipped with a fleet of Zodiacs, kayaks and paddleboards for landings, forays, and personal explorations. The upper dive deck is equipped with scuba gear for up to 24 divers, and complete snorkeling gear for all 102 guests aboard—maintained by two dive masters. The rear deck's marina platform makes loading explorers, divers, snorkelers, and gear into Zodiacs efficient and safe. Orion is also equipped with a glass-bottom Zodiac that enables remarkably clear observations of coral gardens and fascinating creatures for those who prefer to stay dry. And because Orion has an undersea specialist on the team and an onboard ROV, count on stunning video presentations that reveal even more fascinating dimensions of the world beneath the ship.

Clockwise from top left: Scuba gear is provided for 24 guests and two divemasters join every voyage; stand-up paddleboards; glass-bottom Zodiac makes the undersea accessible to everyone; kayaks offer ops for personal exploring; our ROV descends to capture undersea footage beyond the depths that divers can reach.

NOTE ON PADDLEBOARDING: Polynesia is a mecca for this sport, and offers much fun no matter what your skill level is. Calm waters in lagoons make for easy learning and improving your paddling mastery. Skilled paddlers can go exploring!

TRAVEL WITH AN A+ EXPEDITION TEAM

The comment cards we receive from guests after every voyage consistently express the same sentiments: "Outstanding expedition staff." Discover the South Pacific with a veteran expedition leader, an assistant expedition leader, and a team of four naturalists/cultural specialists well-versed in the region's flora, fauna, and human history. Two divernasters and an underwater specialist will maximize your time in the incredible undersea, while a National Geographic photographer, a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, and a video chronicler aboard will ensure you go home with amazing shots and a DVD that captures the story of your voyage. Plus, a wellness specialist to help enhance the relaxing and revitalizing benefits of life in the South Pacific.

LEARN MORE AT **EXPEDITIONS.COM/EXPERTBIOS** FOR FULL BIOS ON OUR STAFF



VINCENT TRUCHET









Representing our South Pacific team: Tom Ritchie, naturalist, Aug. 16, Aug. 30; Mike Nolan, naturalist and certified photo instructor, May 24, Jun. 21; Brent Stephenson, expedition leader, Jun. 21; David Cothran, naturalist and certified photo instructor, Mar. 26, May 10; Ian Strachan, naturalist and certified photo instructor. Aug. 16, Aug. 30.

Divemaster and underwater photographer, Vincent accompanied our founder Sven on his recent reconnaissance trip to the islands. Based in French Polynesia since 2010, he's guided more than 5,000 dives at various underwater locations in the Tuamotu Archipelago. His photography has been widely published—one of his shots is featured on a Polynesian postage stamp—helping to create greater appreciation for our oceans and their inhabitants. Vincent and his partner Mélo Veron will manage and guide our guest dive program aboard *National Geographic Orion*.



CAPTURE THE ADVENTURE— TAKE GREAT PHOTOS

National Geographic Orion is the only expedition ship exploring South Pacific with a National Geographic photographer aboard every departure. The work of these photographers has inspired countless professionals and amateurs alike, and they accompany our ships to inspire and assist you. They are flanked by Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructors, naturalists trained by National Geographic photographers, to assist you with your camera settings, the basics of composition, observation, and more to equip you with skills to get your best photos ever.











Traveiing with us in 2018: A) Ralph Lee Hopkins, Aug. 16, Azure Seas from Tahiti to the Marquesas; B) Michael Melford, May 24, Epic Polynesia, Cook Islands to Fiji; C) Susan Seubert, Aug.30, Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific; D) Jeff Mauritzen, Mar. 26, Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific; E) Jason Edwards, Jun. 21, Azure Seas from Tahiti to the Marquesas; F) Sisse Brimberg, May 10, Epic Polynesia, Cook Islands to Fiji.



THE PERFECT SHIP TO DISCOVER POLYNESIA

National Geographic Orion is a beautiful ship, originally purpose-built for luxurious expedition cruising—to adventurous regions such as Antarctica, as well as the temperate and tropical zones of the South Pacific. Spacious and modern, Orion offers panoramic views from her main lounge, observation lounge and library at the top of the ship to maintain a constant visual connection to the wonders outside. The dramatic window-lined main lounge is the site of lively daily Recap sessions, presentations and performances. And her expansive decks offer balmy air and brilliant vistas by day, or the romance of dining under stars at night. And while Orion's interiors are elegant, life aboard is always casual, with no need for formal clothing, and very inclusive, fostering a rewarding esprit de corps.





EXCEPTIONAL DINING

National Geographic Orion has an appetite for dining excellence as well as adventure. Serge Dansereau, the head chef and owner of the Sydney, Australia iconic Bathers' Pavilion Café, is a multi-award winning chef, renowned internationally, and considered "the father of the fresh food movement." The force behind Orion's celebrated menus, he continues to train her kitchen and waitstaff, and his concepts are brought to life daily by the ship's Executive Chef. Count on them to keep your palate engaged with daily diversity and the unexpected delight. Unlike cruise companies which provide a food program across the fleet, our chefs have the freedom to execute Serge's smartly conceived dishes while taking advantage of what's at hand in the local markets or provisioned from a passing fishing boat. That means whenever possible you'll experience the true flavors of the region through the food served aboard. And always dine extraordinarily well.





Polynesian influences infuse the cuisine you'll experience in the South Pacific aboard National Geographic Orion.

French cheeses, freshly baked baguettes and crepes honor the French influence of the islands, while rotis, chutneys and curries reflect the Indian influence found in Fiji. South Pacific cuisine is also long on healthy ingredients—leafy greens, root vegetables, seaweeds, chiles, papaya—and 100 percent of the produce used on board will come straight from the islands. Chef will provision from local markets as well as Lycée Agricole in



Moorea, French Polynesia's only agricultural school, to bring back lemons, vanilla beans, pineapples, among other local fruits, as well as jams and sorbets. Anticipate Polynesian cooking techniques like steamed fish wrapped in coconut or banana leaves, whole slow roasted pig which recreates the traditional underground earth ovens known as umu, lovo or ahima, and dishes like Tahitian poisson cru or Fijian kokoda which take advantage of the high density of Albacore tuna found in the South Pacific. **

—Ana Esteves, Manager Hotel Operations, Lindblad Expeditions

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

CAPACITY: 102 guests in 53 outside cabins. REGISTRY: Bahamas. OVERALL LENGTH: 338 feet.

The state-of-the-art *National Geographic Orion* (built in 2004) joined the Lindblad-National Geographic fleet in 2014. A fully stabilized, ice-class vessel with a steel reinforced forward hull, is at home navigating polar ice as well as small harbors in the South Pacific.

PUBLIC AREAS: Outdoor café, lounge with bar, restaurant, sundeck, reception desk, observation lounge and library, global gallery, marina platform, and mudroom. 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.

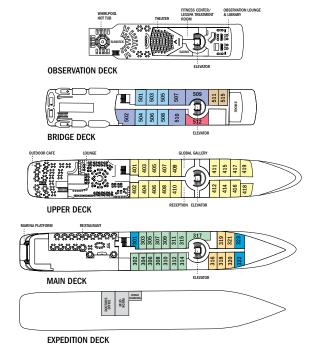
CABINS: All cabins feature ocean views, private facilities, climate controls, and a flat-screen TV with DVD/CD player. Equipped with ethernet and wifi connections and USB ports for mobile devices. Some cabins have French balconies. Single cabins in Category 1 and Category 3 include #301, 322, 323, and 512.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiac landing craft, a fleet of 24 double kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, crow'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 24 guests, glass-bottom Zodiac, and splash-cam.

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

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

Note: Scuba divers must be certified by an internationally recognized dive association prior to the voyage, and certification cards and logbooks must be shown on board. Divers must have logged 25 dives in total and made a dive within the 12 months preceding the voyage. If you have not made an open water dive within the past year, please contact us about a dive refresher course in Tahiti prior to your voyage.



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,

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.

503-506, 508

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: Sole occupancy cabins available in Categories 1 and 3. Shared accommodations available in Categories 1 and 2.

NOTE: Third person rates available at one-half the double



RESERVATION INFO

Costs Include: All accommodations aboard ships or in hotels per itinerary or similar, all meals and beverages, except premium alcohol, aboard ship, meals on land as indicated, air transportation where indicated as included, shore excursions, sightseeing and entrance fees, special access permits, transfers to and from group flights, use of snorkeling equipment and wetsuits, use of kayaks and/or stand-up paddleboards, tips, gratuities to ship's crew, taxes and service charges, services of a ship physician on most voyages, and services of our expedition staff.

Not Included: Air transportation (except where shown as included), extensions, passport, visa, immigration fees, scuba diving, meals not indicated, travel protection plan, items of a personal nature, such as internet access, voyage DVD and laundry.

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.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Reservations: To reserve your place, an advance payment is required at the time of reservation. The per person advance payment amount is \$1,000 or \$2,500 depending on program. Payment is accepted by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or by check.

Receipt of your initial payment indicates your acceptance of our complete Terms and Conditions. We require written notice at the time of reservation for any physical condition, diet, or treatment requiring special attention.

Once your reservation is confirmed, we urge you to use your personalized online account for important information to help you prepare for your voyage. Managing your documents online will facilitate fast and accurate communication, and allow you to provide us with pertinent details we require, in order to complete your reservation. Your online account gives you access to your Expedition Guide, which includes valuable information specific to your voyage. You can also use your online account to make easy payments, view recommended flights and reading material, packing list, and so much more.

Final Payment: Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure.

Payment schedules may vary for Holiday departures and 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 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, damaged or lost luggage, 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.

Smoking Policy: Smoking is allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

Entry and Visa Requirements: All guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country's requirement.

Responsibility and Other Terms & Conditions: Certain other 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 valid as of publication date, and are subject to change. Under normal conditions, the total expedition cost is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, the published price is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event we determine that current costs create an unsustainable financial model, 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 pass on these costs to you, to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide a transparent accounting of the reason for such an increase in costs.

CANCELLATION POLICY	
Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
180 or more days	\$750*
179–120 days	Advance payment cost
119–90 days	25% of total fare
89–60 days	50% of total fare
59–0 days	No Refund

*\$750 will be refunded in the form of a Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate. This cancellation policy applies to expeditions, extensions (with the exception of Denali), as well as all other additional services. The effective date of a cancellation will be the date on which your cancellation notice is received. Any revisions you make within the cancellation penalty period, such as departure date or choice of voyage, are subject to cancellation fees.

Note: Airline cancellation policies vary by carrier, as well as the type of fare used to issue your ticket.

Cancellation policy for certain longer voyages and Holiday departures may vary due to high demand for these voyages. Our group cancellation and Denali cancellation policies are listed in the Terms and Conditions section of our website, or you may call us for details. We stress the importance of purchasing a travel protection plan to protect yourself from fees in the event you need to cancel your reservation.

United States Tour Operators Association \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program



Lindblad Expeditions, as an Active Member of USTOA, is required to post \$1 Million with USTOA to be used to reimburse, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the USTOA \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program, the advance payments of Lindblad Expeditions customers in the unlikely event of Lindblad Expeditions bankruptcy, insolvency or cessation of business. Further, you should understand that the \$1 Million posted by Lindblad Expeditions may be sufficient to provide only a partial recovery of the advance payments received by Lindblad Expeditions. More details of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program may be obtained by writing to USTOA at 345 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1801, New York, New York 10001, or by email to information@ustoa.com or by visiting their website at www.USTOA.com.

We are proud to be a Founding Member of Adventure ADVENTURE Collection—a family of the world's most trusted and experienced active travel companies. Each member COLLECTION

company of Adventure Collection is dedicated to enriching the lives of its quests and to giving back to the areas in which it travels. For more information visit www.AdventureCollection.com.

©2017 Lindblad Expeditions

Lindblad Expeditions and the Eye are the trademarks of Lindblad Expeditions. All rights reserved. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC and the Yellow Border are the trademarks of the National Geographic Society, All rights reserved.

Photo Credits: Sisse Brimberg & Cotton Coulson, David Fleetham, Justin Hofman, Ralph Lee Hopkins, Tim Marcus, Jeff Mauritzen, Michael Melford, Michael S Nolan, Gary D. Paige, Rich Reid, Marco Ricca, Jack Swenson, Rikki Swenson, Craig Wilson.

For Reservations: Contact your travel advisor or Lindblad Expeditions

1.800.EXPEDITION

(1.800.397.3348)

Reservation Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 8pm ET Saturday & Sunday 10am - 5pm ET

Lindblad Expeditions, Inc.,

96 Morton Street, New York, NY 10014 Phone: 212.261.9000 • Fax: 212.265.3770

email: explore@expeditions.com

For additional information and online reservations,

visit us on the Web: www.expeditions.com



"THE DIVING WAS UNBELIEVABLE.

I've never seen so many fish in my life."

-William C.



"This island redefines what **REMOTE REALLY MEANS."**

-Linda R.



 $\ensuremath{\mbox{``}}$ I just find that I'm pinching myself to believe...this, is where we are.

IT'S JUST MAGICAL."

-Marielle T.