ACROSS THE BERING SEA: FROM KATMAI TO KAMCHATKA

22 Days | Nat Geo Orion | 102 Guests | Expeditions in: Jun/Jul | From $27,140 to $52,490

Covering more than 3,800 nautical miles, and nearly circumnavigating the Bering Sea, this wide-ranging voyage explores one of the most rugged and wildlife-rich regions of the planet. Spot coastal brown bears from Katmai National Park to the Kamchatka Peninsula, search for Steller’s sea eagles along the scenically stunning Zhupanova River and be awed by the abundance and variety of marine mammals and seabirds from the Aleutians to the Commander Islands.

DAY 1: Anchorage/Seward/Embark
Arrive in Anchorage and transfer to Seward, Alaska to embark National Geographic Orion in the late afternoon. (D)

DAY 2-3: Katmai National Park
Spend two days exploring the shorelines and waters of coastal Katmai National Park & Preserve, observing and photographing its abundant brown bear population. Explore Geographic or Hidden Harbors and Kukak Bay by ship, Zodiac, or, conditions permitting, kayak. (B,L,D Daily)

DAY 4-5: At Sea/Unalaska
Watch from deck as Orion transits Baby Pass en route to the Baby Islands, just to the east of Unalaska. Dynamic tides here offer exciting potential to spot sea otters and fur seals, as well as rare seabirds. Arrive at Dutch Harbor, site of a fierce WWII battle and now one of the world’s most important fishing ports. (B,L,D Daily)

DAY 6-10: Exploring the Aleutian Islands
These rugged and remote volcanic islands, which separate the North Pacific from the Bering Sea, support vast colonies of seabirds, and marine mammals such as northern fur seals, Steller sea lions, and a variety of whales. WWII history buffs will recognize names like Attu and Kiska, islands we’ll explore during these days. (B,L,D Daily)

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DAY 11: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, Russian Federation
After crossing the international date line, sail into the protected waters of Avacha Bay, and dock at Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, the gateway to Kamchatka. Be on deck for the approach, as Koryaksky, Avachinsky, and Kozelsky volcanoes provide a stunning backdrop to this port city. (B,L,D)

DAY 12: Zhupanova River
This 100-mile long immaculate waterway in Kamchatka is teeming with enormous rainbow trout, salmon and char. Explore the lower river by Zodiac, in search of one of the world’s largest raptors, plus numerous wading birds, other waterfowl, and spotted seals hauled out on sandbars. (B,L,D)

DAY 13-14: Commander Islands
Watch for whales, large rafts of sea otters, and countless nesting seabirds who inhabit the rich waters surrounding the Commander Islands. On land, visit the gravesite of Danish explorer Vitus Bering. Weather permitting, take Zodiacs to the fur seal rookery at Cape Severo-Zapadnyi. (B,L,D Daily)

DAY 15-19: Exploring the Koryak and Chukotka Coasts
There’s much to explore as we make our way up the seldom-visited east coasts of Kamchatka and Chukotka, in far eastern Siberia. Hike from one bay to the next, surrounded by volcanic mountains and tundra plants. Photograph brown bears, walruses feeding, and three species of seals in rookeries onshore. Learn about Koryak reindeer-herding culture in either Tymlat or Ossora village. (B,L,D Daily)

DAY 20: Provideniya
At the western limit of the rich transboundary area known as Beringia, Provideniya is often called “The Gateway to the Arctic”. It’s also the administrative center where we will conduct our outbound clearance from Russia. Visit the excellent museum, and witness a traditional Yupik dance performance. (B,L,D)

DAY 21: At Sea, Crossing the Bering Strait
Spend the final day at sea, crossing one of the most iconic bodies of water on the planet. Linger on deck with binoculars in hand—the chances are high to spot whales and rare seabirds. (B,L,D)

DAY 22: Nome/Disembark/Anchorange/Home
Arrive in Nome this morning, transfer to the airport for flights to Anchorage and onward. (B)

2020 Departure Dates:
14 Jun
17 Jul

Important Flight Information
Please check departure and arrival times prior to booking flights.

Advance Payment:
$3,000

Cost Includes:
Accommodations; meals indicated; alcoholic beverages (except premium brands); excursions; services of Lindblad Expeditions’ Leader, Naturalist staff and expert guides; use of kayaks; entrance fees; all port charges and service taxes; gratuities to ship’s crew.

Cost Not Included:
Air transportation; personal items such as emails, laundry, voyage DVD etc.

Special Offers
FREE BAR TAB & CREW TIPS INCLUDED
Travel aboard any National Geographic Orion departure and we will cover your bar tab and all tips for the crew.

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