

PULL-OUT VOYAGE MAP INSIDE

WEST AFRICAN ODYSSEY

EXPLORING FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO MOROCCO

ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER* | MARCH 2012



Lindblad
Expeditions



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC™

As astonishing as National Geographic Magazine.
As exhilarating as National Geographic Channel:

**A Lindblad-National Geographic expedition —
an epic West African odyssey.**

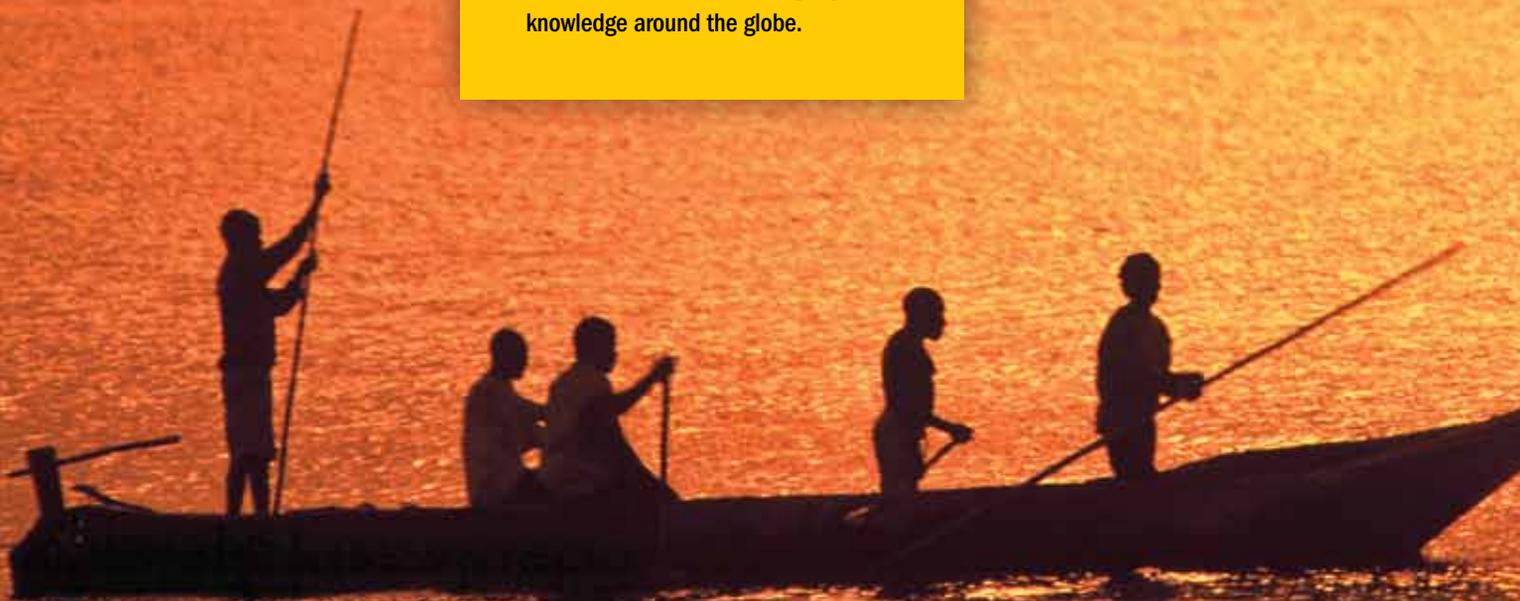


Lindblad
Expeditions



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC™

Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic have joined forces to further inspire the world through expedition travel. Our collaboration in exploration, research, technology and conservation will provide extraordinary travel experiences and disseminate geographic knowledge around the globe.



Dear Traveler,

Few people in the world have embarked on a journey as intrepid as our new West African Odyssey. When completed, travelers on our voyage will have explored 17 countries in depth. The scope of the voyage is so immense you'll need at least 15 blank passport pages to accommodate the documentation. Some people dream their entire lives of filling a passport – and here we'll do it in one sweeping journey.

Africa is a place that pulls at our imaginations. It's a rich history of remarkable indigenous cultures, traders and exploratory expeditions to the so-called Dark Continent. And its political landscape forms an important part of current events. We'll experience the culture, nature, landscapes and history of these West African countries, and we'll also pay heed to some of the more recent political developments, many of them quite hopeful.

We'll meet with diplomats and local residents who are working to better their respective regions, offering insight aboard ship and on land. This is an insider's perspective on West Africa.

And we'll explore in top company. Among our multi-talented staff members is Naturalist Tom Ritchie. Tom is a veteran of Lindblad Expeditions in Africa – he was aboard *Lindblad Explorer* for her maiden voyage along the coast of West Africa in 1984, and is eager to return. Also joining us is National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Wade Davis, an anthropologist and expert on Africa and its cultures, as well as the intriguing rituals of some of the remote villages.

Traveling on *National Geographic Explorer* in Africa has many advantages. There's no need to book flights among regional airports or tow luggage around while trying to find your hotel. It is hassle free. And *Explorer* is a moving window on the world outside, designed to connect you – through her expansively glass-windowed public spaces and balconied cabins – to the beauty of the West African seaboard.

This is much more than a journey along the coast of an entire continent. It is a voyage through history, from the earliest humans to modern politics. It will prove to be a most engaging and intriguing journey. I hope you'll join us.

Best regards,



Sven-Olof Lindblad

WEST AFRICAN ODYSSEY: EXPLORING FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO MOROCCO

ITINERARY: 37 DAYS/35 NIGHTS – ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER

DEPARTURE: March 23, 2012

Unprecedented in scope, dramatic in ambition – a sweeping voyage encompassing the west coast of Africa

Explore 17 countries on the west coast of Africa, from the southernmost end of the continent at Cape Town all the way to Morocco, close to the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea.

MAR. 23: DEPART U.S./FLY OVERNIGHT TO CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

MAR. 24: CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Arrive in beautiful Cape Town, celebrated for its great seaside location. Check in to the Table Bay Hotel, on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, with the rest of the day free to explore. This evening, we gather for a welcome dinner. (D)

MAR. 25: CAPE TOWN/EMBARK SHIP

For a spectacular view of Cape Town, take a cable car to the top of the city's landmark, flat-topped Table Mountain (weather permitting). Then visit Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden, known for its remarkable collection of Cape flora. Embark *National Geographic Explorer*. (B,L,D)

MAR. 26: AT SEA (B,L,D)

MAR. 27: LÜDERITZ, NAMIBIA

See the former diamond mining community of Kolmanskop, now a “ghost town” fighting a constant battle with the sand dunes of the Namib Desert, and explore nearby Lüderitz. (B,L,D)

MAR. 28-29: WALVIS BAY & SWAKOPMUND

Among the variety of excursions that awaits us: seeing the unique plants and landscapes of the Namib Desert, a cruise on Walvis Bay for its dolphins and outstanding birdlife, a visit to the town of Swakopmund, with its German architecture, and a bush dinner out in the desert. (B,L,D)

MAR. 30-31: AT SEA (B,L,D)



APR. 1: LOBITO & BENGUELA, ANGOLA

Visit the picturesque town of Benguela, with pastel-colored Art Deco colonial buildings and a lovely setting. (B,L,D)

APR. 2: LUANDA

Explore the Angolan capital of Luanda, or venture to Kissama National Park in search of wildlife. (B,L,D)

APR. 3: POINTE NOIRE, CONGO

Ponte Noire, the Republic of Congo's economic capital, is our base today. The Tchimpounga chimpanzee sanctuary (if it's open) is our first stop. Next venture to the impressive Diosso Gorge, with its red rock cliffs, and the simple Ma-Loango Regional Museum, set in the house where some of the latter-day rulers of the Kingdom of Loango lived in the 16th through 19th centuries. Back in Pointe Noire, visit the market, which even by West Africa's standards is lively and colorful, and see the colonial-era railway station. (B,L,D)

APR. 4: AT SEA (B,L,D)



Traditional batik artwork.

"I couldn't be more excited to return to Africa aboard National Geographic Explorer. A voyage along this coast is like sailing through history. And we'll explore dramatic landscapes along the way – the fynbos of South Africa's Western Cape, the stark deserts of Namibia, the coastal savannas that stretch along the shores of Congo and Gabon, the forests of Cameroon, and the volcanic archipelago of São Tomé & Príncipe." – Tom Ritchie, Naturalist



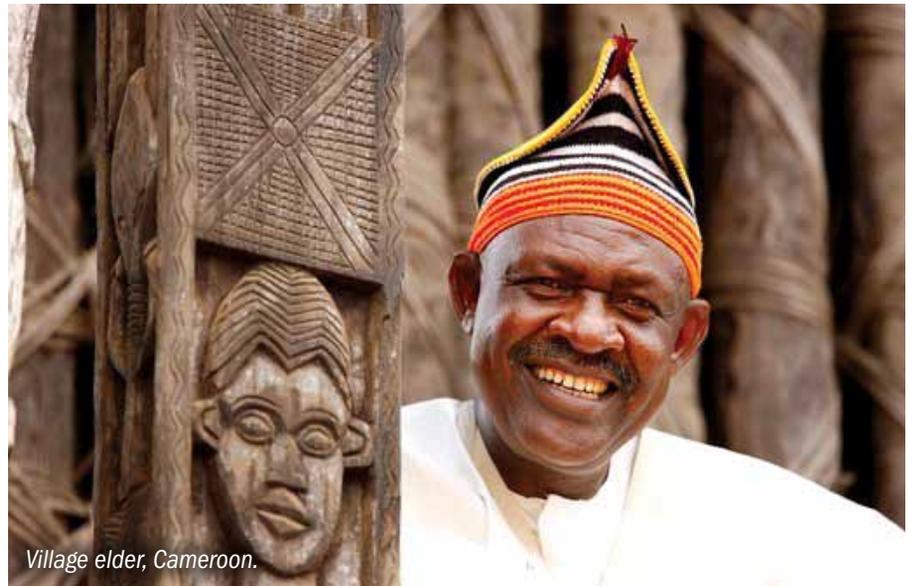
Colorful little bee-eaters sit seven in a row.

Experience West Africa's web of cultural diversity & be inspired by the spirit of its people

Stroll local markets that pulse with vibrant colors, commerce and voodoo relics. Meet with a chief in his local village, and rely on the guidance of nomads whose ancestors charted these villages. Chat with a fisherman under palm trees. Dance to the rhythms of West African drummers, and feel the vibrant music and art of these distinct countries.

APR. 5: LIBREVILLE, GABON

Cosmopolitan Libreville is developing rapidly, and today we have several options. Explore Libreville, seeing the Baraka Mission, founded in 1842 by American Presbyterians, the National Museum and the cathedral of St. Michel de Nkembo, whose pillars are elaborately carved with biblical scenes. We plan to visit the new U.S. embassy for insight into the lives of the diplomats here. Or opt to visit a wilderness area for views of the mangroves, birdwatching and swimming. (B,L,D)



Village elder, Cameroon.

APR. 6: SÃO TOMÉ, SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE

São Tomé is the capital of the archipelago nation of São Tomé and Príncipe – once an important entrepot for the slave trade, but today a friendly place, whose Portuguese colonial history is apparent. Opt to explore the capital city; or travel above town to see picturesque waterfalls; or venture along the scenic east coast to see plantations, view a blowhole, have lunch at a plantation house, and go for a swim. We also plan to visit the Voice of America's transmitting facility here. (B,L,D)

APR. 7: PRÍNCIPE

The small island of Príncipe is the definition of a tropical paradise – a green locale with spectacular beaches and forests that harbor a number of bird species unique to here. We'll swim, snorkel, kayak, birdwatch and visit the tiny, sleepy capital, Santo Antonio (perhaps the world's smallest capital city.) (B,L,D)

“An old man in Benin once told me that Europeans go to church and speak about God, whereas in Africa men and women dance in the temple and become God. Indeed people throughout Benin and Togo move in and out of their spiritual realm with an ease and impunity that astonishes the ethnographic observer. This is the essence of West African religious practice. Spirit possession, which is not some sign of psychic disturbance but is rather for the African the hand of divine grace.”

– Wade Davis, Anthropologist



APR. 8: KRIBI, CAMEROON

Back on the African mainland, the pleasant town of Kribi is lined with golden-sand beaches. We'll be poled in *pirogues* (dugout canoes) up the Lobé River to visit the small village of the Bagyeli "pygmy" people, learn how they live, and have a chance to talk with them, with our guides providing interpretation. At the mouth of the river, we'll see the waterfalls, then visit a primary school. (B,L,D)

APR. 9: LIMBÉ

With a backdrop of volcanic hills and palm and banana plantations, we'll drive beneath imposing Mt. Cameroon to visit a tea plantation and learn how tea is harvested. Next we visit the Limbé Wildlife Centre,

a research facility that houses and rehabilitates large numbers of gorillas and chimpanzees, and walk through the Botanic Gardens, also an excellent birding locale. Weather permitting, the truly fit can opt to hike along the steep lower reaches of Mt. Cameroon. (B,L,D)

APR. 10: AT SEA (B,L,D)

Top: Senegalese women alongside brightly painted fishing boats as they await the day's catch. Right: Colorful fabric and cowrie shells are typical West African adornments.



Encounter West Africa's powerful, far-reaching history

Explore cherished UNESCO sites, forts, castles, ancient tombs and powerful reminders of Africa's slave trade. Voyage through history — explore great kingdoms, the tragic slave trade, the colonial past, liberation movements and post-independence developments. And interact with inspiring Africans, local officials and diplomats working to develop their countries.

APR. 11: COTONOU, BENIN

Begin at the town of Ouidah, a center for the animist “voodoo” religion practiced here. Visit the tranquil Sacred Forest to see statues of the deities, and continue to the Portuguese fort, now a museum devoted to the slave trade which once flourished here. After lunch, take motorized pirogues across Lake Nokoué to the village of Ganvié, built on stilts in the middle of the lake. See how the villagers make their living by fishing, and visit the markets. (B,L,D)

APR. 12: LOMÉ, TOGO

This region is home to the Ewe people, whose traditions include a profound veneration for their ancestors and also weaving the renowned kente cloth. Visit an Ewe village, meeting the chief and local residents, stop at a school and stroll around to get a good sense of life here. We'll also explore Lomé, seeing the Museum of the Gulf of Guinea and the artisans' market. (B,L,D)

APR. 13: ACCRA, GHANA

Bustling Accra is Ghana's capital. Begin at the fine National Museum, and the mausoleum of Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first president. Some Ghanaians choose to be buried in colorful caskets that reflect their occupations or passions, and we'll visit a workshop where brightly painted caskets may include giant fish, beer bottles, cars and more. Stop at a gallery to view traditional and contemporary art. Or visit the Shai Hills Reserve in search of baboons, kob and birdlife, and the Aburi Hills Botanic Garden. Later, we plan to welcome a Ghanaian notable aboard for dinner and conversation. (B,L,D)

APR. 14: CAPE COAST, GHANA

Arrive at the town of Takoradi and explore Cape Coast Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, from where thousands of slaves were dispatched through the haunting “Door of No Return.” Nearby, scores of fishing boats come and go, and we see fishermen working on their boats and nets. You can choose also to visit Kakum National Park, whose canopy walkway, suspended high over the rain forest, offers a birds-eye view. (B,L,D)

APR. 15-16: AT SEA (B,L,D)





Woman looking at fresco, Dakar.

APR. 17: MONROVIA, LIBERIA

Liberia has made remarkable strides in rebuilding since its civil war ended in 2005, and an upbeat, optimistic spirit pervades the country. Meet with local officials to hear about the important work that is taking place and explore Monrovia, seeing the National Museum; a school; Liberia's oldest church (built in 1839); and enjoy great views from the top of Ducor Hill. Or, you can be paddled along a river to enjoy the mangroves and local communities. (B,L,D)

APR. 18: FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

Sierra Leone is also rebuilding rapidly since the end of its civil war, and this friendly country possesses an exuberant spirit. Explore Freetown, seeing the massive cotton tree that is Freetown's symbol, and the National Museum. Visit the Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary. Or swim and snorkel from the picture-postcard beaches. (B,L,D)

APR. 19: AT SEA (B,L,D)



“Quite possibly the key to understanding the Atlantic history that is our own: for there are today two Africas and two Europes on either side of that wide ocean, a unique phenomenon in human history. Millions of Africans and Europeans journeyed westward over several centuries, including at least eleven million black Africans, forcibly removed from their continent of birth to labor in the plantations that Europeans were establishing in Brazil, the West Indies and the North American colonies.”

– David Barnes, Historian

Shown left:

“Dungeon-like slave quarters remind visitors of a dark history when ships hauled human cargo from the Island of Gorée, off Senegal.”

– Saving Places, National Geographic – Oct. 2002

West Africa's natural riches alone would make multiple visits worthwhile

Shoot photos of the Namib Desert, a magical landscape that ranges in color from pink to vivid orange. Encounter the endemic birdlife of São Tomé and Príncipe, the monkeys and wildlife of Abuko Nature Centre in The Gambia, and the wind-sculpted dunes of the Sahara. Stroll the volcanic lava formations of El Hierro in the Canary Islands. Treat your senses: hear a chorus of singing birds, feel the rain forest on your skin on a forest hike, and relax at a paradisiacal lagoon.



“An abundance of beautiful ferns and orchids makes the São Tomé and Príncipe moist lowland forests a treat to the senses. Colorful butterflies fill the skies, and the forests are bustling with a noisy chorus of endemic birds. The long, woven nests of giant sunbirds dangle from the ends of tree branches.”

—National Geographic

APR. 20: BANJUL, THE GAMBIA

The country of Gambia straddles the Gambia River, and we make landfall at the capital of Banjul. Today we explore the important Abuko Nature Center, known for its birdlife and monkeys; take a boat among the mangroves of the Tanbi Wetlands to look for water birds; visit the National Museum; and see a lively local market where batik and tie-dyed clothing is made. We also hope to arrange a visit to the ship by an American official to talk about current issues in the region. (B,L,D)

APR. 21: GORÉE ISLAND/DAKAR, SENEGAL

Now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Gorée Island was once a notorious hub for the slave trade, and you'll see the quarters where slaves were held in terrible conditions. We explore Dakar, seeing the presidential palace, cathedral and the vibrant markets. This evening, visit a local club for great Senegalese music. (B,L,D)



APR. 22-23: AT SEA (B,L,D)

APR. 24: DAKHLA, WESTERN SAHARA

At tranquil Dakhla, the Sahara meets the sea. Venture into the desert to the White Dune, swim in the lagoon, look for flamingoes, and enjoy a local lunch, with lively folkloric entertainment, in a tent set up especially for the occasion. (B,L,D)

APR. 25: EL HIERRO, CANARY ISLANDS

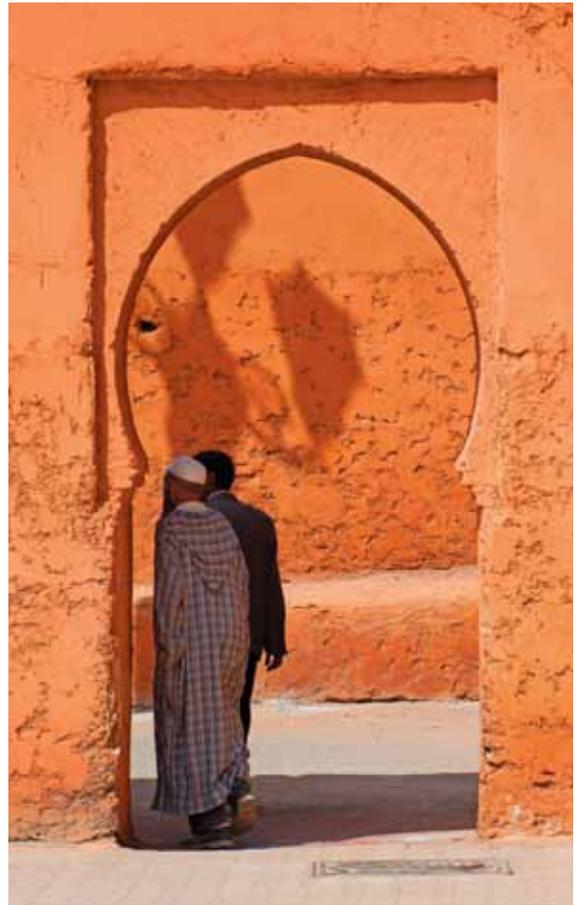
El Hierro is a hidden gem, a natural paradise boasting lush vegetation, unique wildlife, breathtaking hiking trails, and stunning lava formations. Each corner of the island reveals something spectacular, whether strolling through a small village or taking in the view atop the towering sea cliffs. (B,L,D)

APR. 26: AT SEA (B,L,D)

**APR. 27: DISEMBARK AGADIR/MARRAKECH, MOROCCO/
SOFITEL**

Disembark in the white-washed Moroccan seaside city of Agadir, and drive to Marrakech for a spectacular end to our journey. Visit the Koutoubia mosque and the extraordinary Jemaa el Fna square – a human carnival with magicians, snake charmers, acrobats, water sellers, and food stalls. Enjoy a festive farewell dinner and stay at the fine Sofitel. (B,L,D)

APR. 28: MARRAKECH/FLY TO U.S. (B)



Top: Lesser flamingoes feeding. Above: Marrakech city walls. Opposite: Baobab trees at sunset.

SOUTH AFRICA'S CAPE TOWN & THE CAPE REGION

OPTIONAL PRE-VOYAGE EXTENSION

2 DAYS/2 NIGHTS

2012 PRICES*: \$1,590 per person double occupancy; \$2,210 sole occupancy

*To be added to the voyage cost. Ask for full details. This extension takes place before "West African Odyssey."

Adds 2 days/2 nights to the voyage.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ EXPERIENCE THE GREAT SEASIDE CITY OF CAPE TOWN.
- ▶ EXPLORE THE WINELANDS AREA & THE HISTORIC CAPE DUTCH ARCHITECTURE.
- ▶ VIEW A MIX OF WILDLIFE, INCLUDING A COLONY OF AFRICAN PENGUINS.

MAR. 21: U.S./FLY OVERNIGHT TO CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.

MAR. 22: CAPE TOWN

Arrive in Cape Town and transfer to the outstanding Table Bay Hotel, located on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. With a beautiful seaside location, many shops and restaurants and Table Bay as a backdrop, the hotel's setting is ideal. The remainder of the day is at leisure.



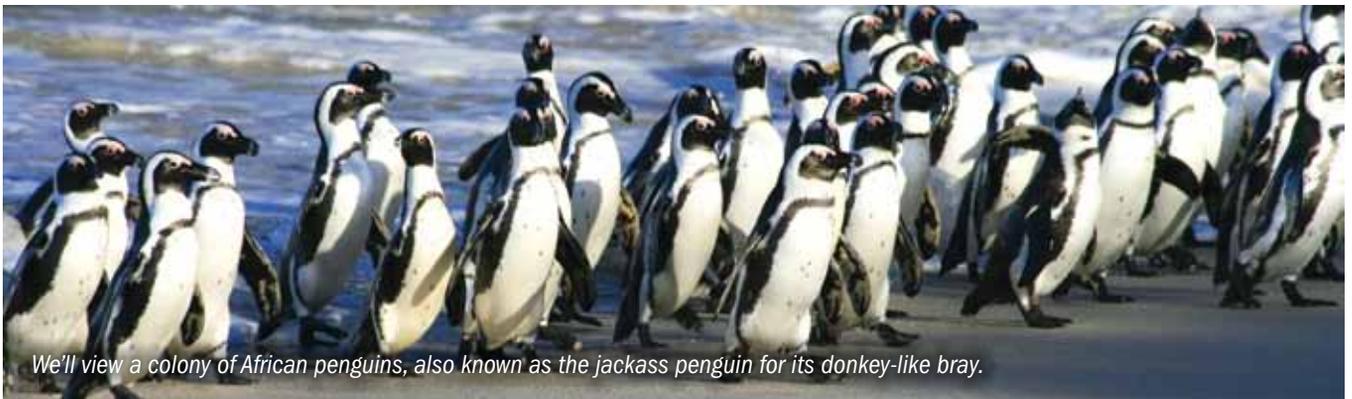
MAR. 23: CAPE POINT/CAPE TOWN

Travel down the Atlantic coast to explore the Cape Peninsula and Cape Point. Take the funicular or walk up to the lighthouse for great views. Visit the Cape of Good Hope before continuing up the False Bay side of the Peninsula,

with possible sightings of baboon troops. Stop to view the African penguin colony at Boulders Beach. Travel through Simon's Town, Kalk Bay (with art and antique shops), and historic Muizenberg. Return to the Table Bay Hotel. (B,L)

MAR. 24: WINELANDS/CAPE TOWN

The storied Cape Winelands region is known for its beauty, architecture, history and cultural diversity, and especially for the outstanding wines. Stop for a cellar tour and wine tasting at the prestigious Vergelegen wine estate, with a landmark manor house dating to 1700. Continue to Franschhoek for lunch, traveling through the well-preserved town of Stellenbosch. At Cabriere, overlooking the picturesque Franschhoek Valley, we enjoy a Cap Classique and an entertaining "sabrage" (the opening of a bottle using a saber!) There's time to explore Franschhoek, with its shops and galleries, before returning to Cape Town via the Drakenstein prison, Nelson Mandela's last prison stop, and the Paarl wine area. This evening, we join the rest of our group for a welcome dinner at the hotel. (B,L,D)



We'll view a colony of African penguins, also known as the jackass penguin for its donkey-like bray.

SOUTH AFRICA'S MALA MALA RESERVE

OPTIONAL PRE-VOYAGE EXTENSION

4 DAYS/4 NIGHTS

2012 PRICES*: \$5,390 per person double occupancy; \$6,590 sole occupancy.

*To be added to the voyage cost. International airfares are not included; internal flights round-trip Cape Town/Mala Mala are included. Ask for full details. This extension takes place before "West African Odyssey." Adds 4 days/4 nights to the voyage.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ SEE LION, LEOPARD, CHEETAH, ZEBRA, WILDEBEEST, RHINO AND ELEPHANT.
- ▶ EXPERIENCE EXCELLENT BIRDWATCHING, WITH OVER 300 SPECIES RECORDED.
- ▶ STAY AT THE EXCLUSIVE MALA MALA MAIN CAMP WITH SPACIOUS AND EXQUISITELY APPOINTED ROOMS.

MAR. 19: U.S./FLY OVERNIGHT TO JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA.

MAR. 20: JOHANNESBURG/OVERNIGHT HOTEL

Arrive in Johannesburg and make your way to the Inter-Continental Johannesburg O.R. Tambo Airport Hotel, located across from the international arrivals hall. The rest of the day is free to relax.

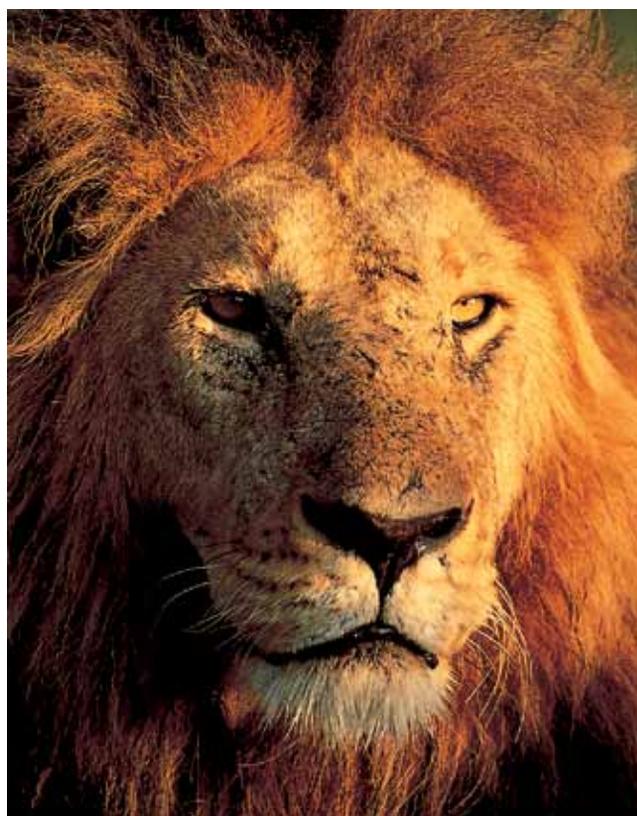
MAR. 21: CAPE TOWN/MALA MALA

Take a private charter flight in a classic DC-3, flying over the Drakensberg Mountains to Mala Mala. Transfer to Mala Mala Main Camp, and go on your first game-viewing excursion. (B,L,D)

MAR. 22-23: MALA MALA

Spend these days in search of wildlife, traveling in open four-wheel drive vehicles, for great views of the game and the landscape. As Mala Mala is a private reserve, you can also go on a night-time game viewing drive in search of nocturnal animals such as civets, genets, and aardvarks, along with game such as lions and leopards which may be active in the evening hours. If you wish, you may also take a walking safari in the company of a ranger.

Your exclusive accommodations at Mala Mala Main Camp consist of spacious and exquisitely appointed rooms, each with two bathrooms, climate controls and a private viewing area. The camp has a swimming pool and an outstanding



location along the Sand River. Dinners are usually outdoors in the enclosed "boma" area, by the campfire. (B,L,D)

MAR. 24: JOHANNESBURG/CAPE TOWN

Take a scheduled flight to Johannesburg and connect with a flight to Cape Town. Transfer to the Table Bay Hotel for check-in. This evening, join the rest of the group for dinner. (B,D)

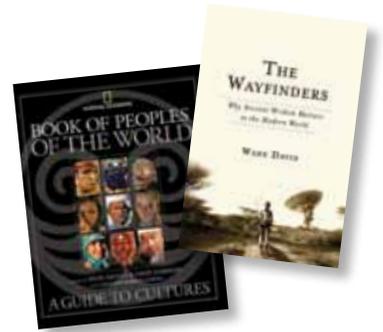


Explore with Global Luminaries

WADE DAVIS

Anthropologist and Ethnobotanist
Wade Davis is a National Geographic

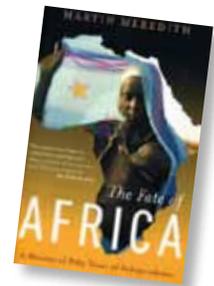
Explorer-in-Residence and an honorary member of The Explorers Club. He has been described as “a rare combination of scientist, scholar, poet, and passionate defender of all of life’s diversity.” Wade has written 12 books, including *Book of Peoples of the World*, *Light at the Edge of the World*, *The Wayfinders* and *The Serpent and the Rainbow*, an international best-seller that appeared in ten languages and was later released as a motion picture. He spearheaded National Geographic’s Cultures on the Edge program, highlighting vanishing cultures around the world, and his numerous film credits include the award-winning National Geographic Channel series *Light at the Edge of the World*. Wade will join us for the first two weeks of the voyage.



MARTIN MEREDITH

Martin Meredith is a Journalist, Biographer and Historian who has covered many aspects of current African Affairs. He has spent much of his life writing about Africa: first as a foreign correspondent for the *London Observer* and *Sunday Times*, then as a research fellow at St. Antony’s College, Oxford, and now as an independent author and commentator. He is

the author of *Nelson Mandela: A Biography*, as well as *Diamonds, Gold and War*, *The State of Africa: A History of Fifty Years of Independence*, *In the Name of Apartheid: South Africa’s New Era*, and *The First Dance of Freedom*, among many others. Martin will join the second half of our voyage.



DAILY EXPEDITION REPORT | WEST SAHARA, APRIL 16, 2011.

Sand! Yes, it is what most of us think of when you hear the word Sahara. This massive desert, the largest of all. Stretching from west to east as a band across Africa. A barrier to many things, including animal species and human migrations. A stunning landscape, incredibly harsh at times, but beautiful. The many shapes of the dunes; here, reaching down to the cobalt sea. This sea, rich with fiddler crabs and flamingoes, such a contrast to the sparse desert life visible to us. — Mike Greenfelder, Photo Staff

» TO VIEW THE VIDEO GO TO
WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM/SAHARA

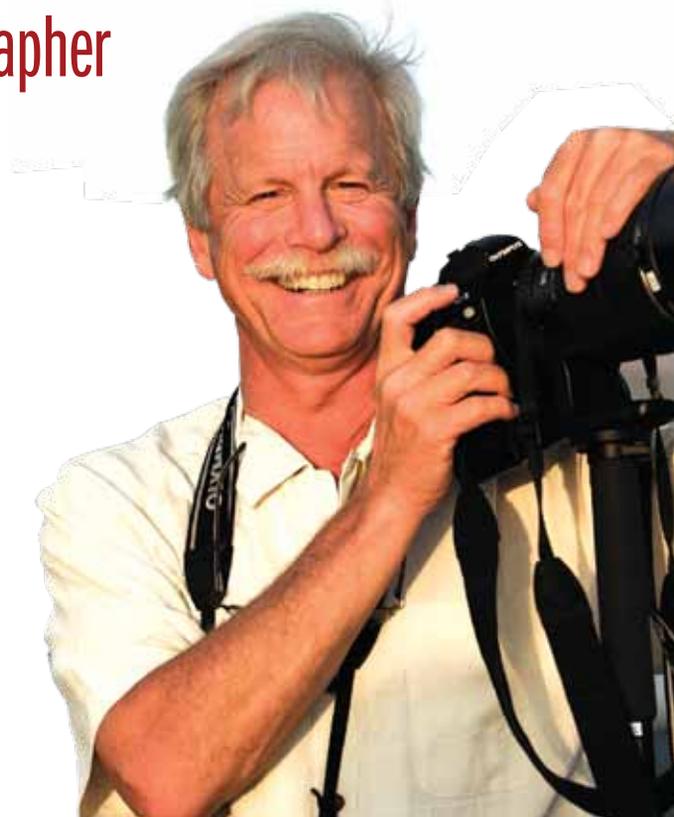


BREAKING NEWS: AS WE GO TO PRESS, AN EXPERT MUSICOLOGIST IS CURATING A UNIQUE PORTAL TO THE CONTINENT'S CULTURE AND HISTORY FOR YOU – THROUGH WEST AFRICA'S GREATEST MUSICIANS AND DIVERSE MUSIC, BOTH TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY. WONDERFUL LISTENING AND DETAILS TO COME!

National Geographic Photographer

JAY DICKMAN

Pulitzer Prize-winning National Geographic photographer Jay Dickman has worked in photojournalism for over 30 years, photographing events as diverse as the war in El Salvador, national political conventions, six Super Bowls, and the 40th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. He's spent three months living in a stone-age village in Papua New Guinea, spent a week under the Arctic ice in a nuclear attack sub (both of these for National Geographic), and sunk on a boat on the Amazon. He has published five books as well as numerous magazine articles. Jay will join us for the entire voyage.



Explore West Africa with the best expedition team



Lisa Trotter

*“I am very excited to return to West Africa with this superb Expedition Team. Just this last April, aboard National Geographic Explorer, I traveled with Naturalist Extraordinaire **Tom Ritchie**. While the rest of us were having a decadent lunch under a tent in the Western Sahara, it was not surprising that Tom was off finding human archaeological remnants and fossils in the sand! Tom was also on board the*

Lindblad Explorer for the original Lindblad West Africa voyage in 1984.

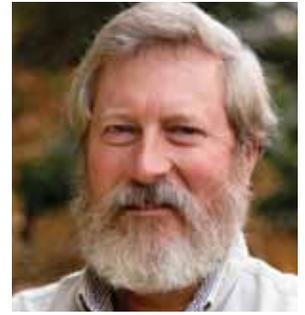
***Dennis Cornejo** is another veteran of African exploration, having traveled extensively throughout the continent. Whether it is underwater or on land, Dennis’s extensive knowledge of plant and animal life will enrich your voyage.*

*Historian **David Barnes** and Oceanographer Jim Kelley are perennial guest favorites along with **Jack** and **Rikki Swenson**, who have been photographing Africa for years. Then there is **Richard White** – with eyes like a hawk, he has been avidly birding since he was a small child and is now an ornithology expert all over the world. Even if you have never considered yourself a birder before, everyone is susceptible to Richard’s enthusiasm, whether looking at the most common of sparrow or magnificently colored kingfisher.*

*I’ve been traveling for years with National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence **Wade Davis**, who loves engaging with our guests while sharing his experiences and perspectives of African cultures. National Geographic Photographer **Jay Dickman** is extremely creative in seeing – and sharing – ideas for portraying his subjects in a different light.*

These amazing people are just a small sample of our team, and I hope you’ll come along and join all of us aboard the National Geographic Explorer in March. With these experts, combined with your enthusiasm and curiosity, we are all guaranteed to have a fascinating adventure.”

— Lisa Trotter, Expedition Leader



From top: Tom Ritchie, Rikki and Jack Swenson, Richard White



» FOR A FULL STAFF ROSTER AND BIOS, GO TO
WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM/EXPERTS



Voyage in comfort aboard *National Geographic Explorer*

National Geographic Explorer provides a welcoming home in faraway lands. Decorated in relaxing earth tones, her 81 cabins, including 4 suites with balconies, 9 cabins with balconies, and 14 solo cabins are inviting and rewarding – with deluxe bedding, our signature feather duvets and thick terry robes. All cabins feature flat screen TVs with movie programming, as well as channels broadcasting the live feed from our remote-controlled crow’s nest camera, and our electronic chart system. And all cabins are equipped with Ethernet connections, plugs for laptops and phone or camera chargers.

» TO VIEW A VIDEO TOUR OF *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER*,
VISIT WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM/NGEXPLORER



Top left: section of suite with balcony.
Bottom left: the Fitness Center with panoramic views and a classic Swedish sauna make the Wellness Spa at the top of the ship a perfect place to end an active day. Top right: Explorer's Library, brimming with definitive guides, books, novels, and gorgeously illustrated coffee table books, is a comfortable place to read or study a topic.



Left: Hotel Manager Henrik Ahlberg welcomes you. Above: the strikingly plated dishes dazzle daily, with healthy options from wholesome to indulgent.



THE WORLD'S ULTIMATE EXPEDITION SHIP

National Geographic Explorer

CAPACITY: 148 guests in 81 outside cabins.

REGISTRY: Bahamas. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 367 feet.

National Geographic Explorer is a state-of-the-art expedition ship, and the newest addition to the Lindblad fleet. It is a fully stabilized, ice-class 1A vessel, enabling it to navigate remote environments while providing exceptional comfort. It carries 36 kayaks and a fleet of 13 Zodiac landing craft. An Undersea Specialist operates a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and sophisticated undersea video equipment, extending access to the underwater world.

PUBLIC AREAS: Bistro Bar; Chart Room; Restaurant; Global Gallery; Library, Lounge with full service bar and state-of-the-art facilities for films, slideshows and presentations; Mud Room with lockers for expedition gear, and Observation Lounge. Our "Open Bridge" provides guests an opportunity to meet our Officers and Captain and learn about navigation.

MEALS: Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Menu is international.

CABINS: All cabins face outside with windows or portholes, private facilities and climate controls. Some cabins have balconies.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiac landing craft, kayaks, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), hydrophone, SplashCam, underwater video camera, Crow's Nest remote controlled camera, video microscope.

SPECIAL FEATURES: A full-time doctor, Undersea Specialist, LEX Photo Specialist and Video Chronicler, Internet café and laundry.

WELLNESS: The vessel is staffed by a Wellness Specialist and features a glass-enclosed Fitness Center, outdoor stretching area, two LEXspa treatment rooms and Sauna.

CATEGORY 1: Main Deck with one or two Portholes #301-308

CATEGORY 2: Main Deck with Window #317-320, 335-336

CATEGORY 3: Main Deck with Window #313-316, 321-328, 337-340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350

CATEGORY 4: Upper and Veranda Decks with Window #103-104, 107-108, 201-202, 204-207, 210, 212, 217, 226, 228

CATEGORY 5: Upper Deck with Balcony #209, 211, 214, 216, 218, 220-222, 224

CATEGORY 6: Veranda Deck-Suite #101-102; Upper Deck-Suite with Balcony #213

CATEGORY 7: Upper Deck-Suite with Balcony #215, 219, 230

CATEGORY 2 SOLO: Main Deck with Window #309-312, 329-334

CATEGORY 3 SOLO: Upper and Veranda Decks with Window #105-106, 203, 208

CATEGORY 3 TRIPLE: Main Deck with Window #341, 343

SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS: Available in Categories 1 and 2.

NOTE: Cabins #209, 211, 214, 216-218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 303-306 – These cabins have one queen-sized bed. All other double cabins have two lower single beds; some can convert to a queen-sized bed. Note: Sole occupancy cabins available in Categories 2 and 3. Third person rates are available in the designated triple occupancy cabins at one-half the double occupancy rate.

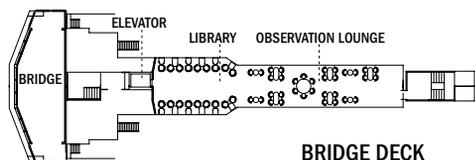
» TO VIEW A VIDEO TOUR OF NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER, VISIT WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM/NGEXPLORER

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo.

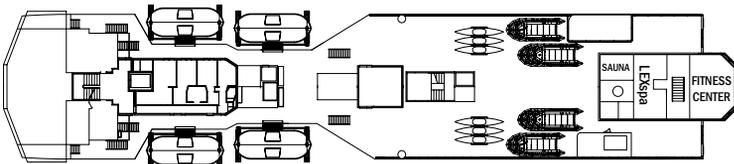
ITINERARY	YEAR	CAT. 1	CAT. 2	CAT. 3	CAT. 4	CAT. 5
West Africa Odyssey	2012	\$28,480	\$29,990	\$31,190	\$33,950	\$38,780



Left to right: Example of a Main Deck cabin with window; Standard bathroom; relaxing on deck.



BRIDGE DECK



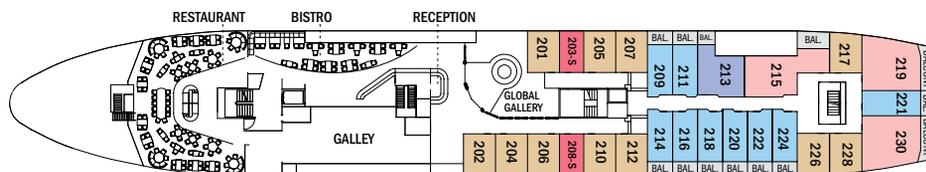
WELLNESS DECK



VERANDA DECK



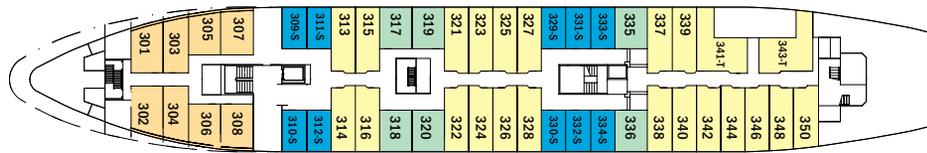
Spacious solo cabins available on all guest decks.



UPPER DECK



Head Waiter Gaylord welcomes you to the Dining Room. Dining is a varied daily experience: completely casual, with no assigned seating for easy mingling. Breakfast and lunch are buffet-style, with an array of options. Dinner is served and always visually pleasing and delicious.



MAIN DECK



B DECK

CAT. 6	CAT. 7	CAT. 2 SOLO	CAT. 3 SOLO	ADVANCE PAYMENT	NOTE
\$45,230	\$51,980	\$37,490	\$38,990	\$3,000	Include two hotels nights. Immigration/visa fees are not included. Sample Airfares: JFK/Cape Town, Marrakech/JFK: Economy from \$1,500; Business from \$11,300.

Take advantage of our special offers

BRINGING A GROUP: For your party of eight people or more, you will each receive 5% off the cost of your expedition. A deposit of 10% of the trip cost is required at the time of reservation, and an additional 25% is required 120 days in advance. Final payment is due 90 days in advance. (Excludes extension and airfare.) Note: If taking advantage of this discount, a variation of the cancellation policy will apply. Please ask upon making your reservation.

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

OUR POLICY ON COMBINING OFFERS: If the expedition that interests you provides more than one savings opportunity (e.g. it is eligible for group and Kids savings), we won't make you choose between them — you may combine up to two offers from any of the applicable savings offers, unless indicated otherwise.

WALLET OPTIONAL

Find out what's included on our expeditions, and why that means value to you. We include just about everything you have the opportunity to do as part of your expedition with us aboard ship and ashore:

ABOARD SHIP

- ✓ All meals and non-alcoholic beverages
- ✓ Cappuccinos, lattes & complimentary refillable water bottle
- ✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
- ✓ Hors d'oeuvres & snacks during Lounge Recap
- ✓ Sauna, with complimentary terry robes, towels
- ✓ Fitness Center with towels, water
- ✓ Fully stocked Library
- ✓ The guidance and company of our expedition staff

ASHORE

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

ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All excursions
- ✓ Zodiac explorations
- ✓ Kayaking
- ✓ Lectures & presentations in the Lounge

On a Lindblad expedition you won't miss out on anything because all activities are included — from guided walks to entrance fees to kayaking and the use of our Fitness Center. The only things not included are those of a personal nature, or that interest a limited number of people — alcohol, internet usage, tips to the crew, wellness treatments and other specialized arrangements. The value of what we include, combined with the quality of our service and the excellence of our expedition staff, adds up to considerable value — especially when compared to the impact of add-on charges to “savings” other companies offer. It's why we maintain you could literally go on our voyages without a dollar in your pocket, and have a perfectly excellent experience taking advantage of all that we offer.

JOIN US ONLINE

Our community includes people who've traveled with us and people who want to. It's a great way to get news, updates & tips.



Log on and find us at twitter.com/LindbladExp. Our Twitter name is @LindbladExp, talk to us! And follow Sven @SvenLEX.



Join the lively post stream. Find fresh uploads daily at facebook.com/LindbladExpeditions.



Go to expeditions.com/blog. Bookmark us and visit often for posts and news.



Just search for **Lindblad Expeditions** and find dozens of videos on our channel.

Reservation Information

Costs Include: All accommodations aboard ship, all meals and nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship, meals on land as indicated, shore excursions, sightseeing and entrance fees, special access permits, transfers to and from group flights, use of kayaks, tips (except to ship's crew), taxes and service charges, services of a ship physician and services of our expedition staff.

Not Included: Air transportation, extensions, passport, visa, immigration fees, meals not indicated, baggage/accident/travel protection plan, items of a personal nature, such as alcoholic beverages, e-mail, voyage DVD, laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew 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. There will be a \$50 per person service fee if you elect for Lindblad Expeditions to handle your air arrangements.

Note: Complete pre-journey information, including suggestions on what to bring and recommended reading, will be sent prior to departure.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Reservations: To reserve your place, an advance payment of \$3,000 is required at the time of reservation and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or check.

Final Payment: Due 90 days prior to departure.

Travel Protection Plan: Travel protection and medical insurance are available at extra cost. Ask about our comprehensive guest travel protection plan for a worry-free expedition.

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

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 web site 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. The company reserves the right to impose surcharges based on increases in the company's actual cost of fuel.

CANCELLATION POLICY

For Expeditions 8 Nights or Less

Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
90 or more days	\$150*
89-60 days	Advance payment cost
59-30 days	50% of trip cost
29-0 days	No refund

For Expeditions 9 Nights or More

Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
120 or more days	\$150*
119-90 days	Advance payment cost
89-60 days	25% of trip cost
59-30 days	50% of trip cost
29-0 days	No refund

This policy applies to expeditions. We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan. Cancellation policy may differ for extensions. Please call for details.

**You will be issued a \$150 Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate.*

Note: A variation of this policy applies to a party of eight people or more. Ask for details.

Lindblad Expeditions, as an Active Member of the United States Tour Operators



Association ("USTOA"), is required to post \$1 Million with USTOA to be used to reimburse, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program, the advance payments of Lindblad Expeditions customers in the unlikely event of Lindblad Expeditions bankruptcy, insolvency or cessation of business. Complete details of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program may be obtained by writing to USTOA at 275 Madison Avenue, Suite 2014, NY, NY 10016, or by e-mail to information@ustoa.com or by visiting their website at www.USTOA.com.

Photo Credits: Alamy, Peter Blackwell, Sisse Brimberg & Cotton Coulson, Stewart Cohen, Sylvain Grandadam, Getty/Godong, Godong, Ryan Hill, George Holton, Frans Lanting, Sven-Olof Lindblad, Michael Luppino, Bruno morandi/Getty, Kevin Schafer, Shutterstock, Jack Swenson, Superstock.

Recent Honors and Awards

- > 2010 Travel + Leisure "World's Best" Award for Small-Ship Cruise Lines
 - > 2009 Climate Champion Award bestowed upon Sven Lindblad by Clean Air-Cool Planet
 - > 2005-2009, 1997-2002 Condé Nast Traveler "Gold List."
 - > 2008 National Wildlife Federation honors Lindblad Expeditions for conservation leadership with its Conservation Achievement Award for Corporate Achievement.
 - > 2009 and 2008 Travel + Leisure's "World's Best" award for "Small-Ship Cruise Lines" and "Tour Operators."
 - > 2007 Tourism for Tomorrow "Global Tourism Business Award."
 - > 2007 Seafood Champion Award.
- Go to www.expeditions.com/awards for an extended list.

We are proud to be a Founding Member of Adventure Collection – a family of the world's most trusted and experienced active travel companies. Each member company of Adventure Collection is dedicated to enriching the lives of its guests and to giving back to the areas in which it travels. For more information visit www.AdventureCollection.com.

©2011 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.

For Reservations: Contact your travel agent 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

e.mail: explore@expeditions.com

For additional information and

online reservations, visit us on the

Web: www.expeditions.com



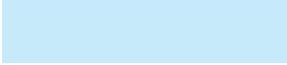
96 Morton Street
New York, NY 10014

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LINDBLAD
EXPEDITIONS

Account Number:



Expedition Code:



♻️ Printed on 20% recycled content paper with soy-based inks.
We recommend that you pass this along for others to enjoy or recycle.

AFR-072

1.800.EXPEDITION | WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM

