

19 DAYS LUXURY MELANESIA CRUISE - LAUTOKA TO APRA

Sail on a remote Pacific odyssey, from Fiji through Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands into Micronesia, experiencing ceremonial welcomes and setting foot on rarely visited islands. Witness the daring land-divers of Pentecost, reach the world's largest saltwater lagoon, and discover Papua New Guinea's remote caldera islands. Voyage further into the heart of Micronesia, where secluded atolls, thriving reefs, and crystal-clear shallows are strewn with WWII wrecks.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Lautoka, Fiji

It doesn't get much sweeter than arriving on the sun-soaked shores of the Sugar City. Fiji's second-biggest settlement opens up a world of blissful beaches and turquoise seascapes, while its dense jungle lures the adventurous deep into its embrace. Step ashore where the first Fijians landed, and you'll understand instantly why they chose to make this island paradise their heavenly home. Experience rich Fijian life, and see dramatic



displays like warrior dances, and remarkable local practices like firewalks, which kick up burning embers into the night's sky. Legend says the city took its name after two chiefs faced each other in a duel. A spear pierced one of the chiefs, leading to the shout of 'lau-toka!' or 'spear hit!' Sugar is Lautoka's main trade, but its botanical gardens are a sweet insight into the tropical plant life that thrives here - from pearl white lilies to tall, fragrant orchids. Explore temples, charming cafes, and mills - or barter for some of the juiciest mangoes you'll ever taste at the city's lively market. You'll only be able to resist the beaches for so long, and it doesn't get much more stunning than the Blue Lagoon - a heavenly blend of woven-together turquoise shades. Remote, wild, and unspoiled, these are some of the best tropical beaches in the world. There's more rejuvenating relaxation at the mineral-rich mud pools and spas, fueled by the volcanic activity below. Savala Island is a teardrop of sand offshore and another beautiful place to wander with the soft powder between your toes - along sandy spits that peter out into the water. Or swim and snorkel among its envied reefs, thronging with fish life.

Day 2 - Day at sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind, and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale-watching, catching up on your reading, or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shoreside.

Day 3 - Ambrym Island, Vanuatu

Unlike Espiritu Santo, with its raised coral reefs and white sand, Ambrym is a volcanically active island with dark sand beaches. Ambrym is known as the island of magic and is the source of five local languages that all evolved on Ambrym. This handful of languages contributes to the well over 100 languages of Vanuatu. Some of Ambrym's magic takes place in the lush greenery of the local community of Ranon. Here the people perform a very special and traditional "Rom" dance. Participants prepare their masks and costumes in secrecy and the dance is reserved for special occasions.

Day 4 - Pentecost Island, Vanuatu

Pentecost Island is a lush mountainous, tropical island stretching over 37 miles from north to south. It was named after the day on which the first European, Louis Antoine de Bougainville, sighted it on 22 May 1768. There are no towns on Pentecost - most of the islanders live in small villages and grow their own food in small gardens. Local traditions are strong, including the age-old ritual of land diving. This unique ritual was first given international exposure by David Attenborough in 1960. Later, in the 1980s, New Zealander AJ Hackett used the idea to invent bungee jumping. Every harvest season from April to June, the people of southern Pentecost construct the towers around a lopped tree, using saplings and branches held together with forest vines. It can take up to five weeks to complete. Each young man who jumps must carefully select his own liana vine. Men and boys as young as seven jump from platforms at different heights (between 30 and 90 feet) with only those vines attached to their ankles. The intention is to touch the ground with their heads or shoulders. This ceremony is believed to ensure a good yam harvest. It is also a fertility rite for men.

Day 5 - Day at sea

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Day 6 - Santa Ana, Solomon Islands

Port Mary is the name of the bay adjacent to Ghupuna, the main village in Santa Ana. A bright white sand beach with huge shade-giving trees runs along the shoreline in front of the tidy village. The houses here are made with local materials and most are built on stilts. Islanders generally welcome visitors with traditional songs and dances performed by members of the three different villages in Santa Ana. Some local people will also set up stands offering souvenirs for purchase. The Solomons are best known for strings of traditional shell money and elegant carvings based on local stories and legends.

Day 7 - Lumalihe Island, Marove Lagoon, Solomon Islands

Marovo Lagoon is one of the world's largest saltwater lagoons. Described by American author James A. Michener as, "one of the seven natural wonders of the world," Marovo is home to a double barrier reef system, and is one of two sites in the Solomon's currently under consideration for UNESCO World Heritage Site status. Residents of Marovo Lagoon make elegant woodcarvings that are often for sale on the shoreline. Marovo is also renowned as one of the best diving and snorkeling spots on the planet.

Day 8 - Day at sea

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Day 9 - Rabaul, Papua New Guinea

If surreal and unique experiences are your thing, then the Papua New Guinean town of Rabaul should tick your travel boxes. Found on the north eastern tip of New Britain Island (the largest island off mainland PNG) Rabaul, the former provincial capital, has quite a remarkable location. The town is inside the flooded caldera of a giant volcano and several sub-vents are still quite active today! The lively city was almost entirely devastated by Mount Tavurvur in 1994, covering the city in ashfall, but thankfully costing no lives. Since then, thanks to Rabaul's deep-water port, commerce has been on the up, and a few shops and hotels have managed to find an audience. However, Rabaul's remote location together with the volcano still being one of the most active and dangerous in Papua New Guinea means tourism is not rife. Rabaul has an impressive WWII history which includes a 300-mile network of tunnels dug by Japanese POWs designed to conceal munitions and stores. After the Pearl Harbor bombings, the Japanese used Rabaul as their South Pacific base for the last four years of WWII, and by 1943 there were about 110,000 Japanese troops based in Rabaul. Post war, the island was returned to Australia, before it was granted independence in 1975. It should be noted that patience is a virtue here. However, that is not all bad. The slow pace of transportation allows travelers to marvel at the quite astonishing landscape.

Day 10 - Garove Island, Papua New Guinea

The volcanic island of Garove is part of the Witu Islands and once had a 5-kilometer-wide (3.1 miles) caldera. The island was historically used to produce copra and cocoa, and in fact, still is

today. Most of the villages are located around the exterior of the volcano. Steep cliffs explain why there is only one area settled on the inside. A promontory at the entrance's southwestern corner is taken up by the school and the catholic church of the village of Widu, the only village inside the caldera.

Day 11 - Day at sea

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Day 12 - Kapingamarangi, Micronesia

Kapingamarangi is a remote and welcoming island where a warm reception is extended by friendly locals upon arrival. The island offers peaceful village walks, guided birding and botany tours with local experts, and ample opportunities for free exploration. After immersing in the island's natural beauty and engaging with its warm community, snorkeling in vibrant coral reefs provides an authentic and memorable island experience.

Day 13 - Nukuoro, Micronesia

Nukuoro is a tranquil island where a warm welcome is extended through a cultural performance upon arrival. Exploring the charming village, enjoying leisurely walks around the community, and joining birding tours led by local ornithologists offer enriching experiences. With opportunities for snorkeling in clear, calm waters, Nukuoro provides an authentic and relaxing escape immersed in its natural beauty and rich local culture.

Day 14 - Day at sea

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Day 15 - Pohnpei, Micronesia

Pohnpei provides a fascinating glimpse into ancient history with its iconic Nan Madol Ruins, a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its mysterious stone city built on coral reefs. Traditional dance often marks the arrival before exploring this remarkable archaeological site, renowned for its impressive stone pillars and enigmatic origins. Surrounded by lush tropical landscapes, Pohnpei seamlessly blends rich cultural heritage with stunning natural beauty, offering an enriching and memorable experience.

Day 16 - Day at sea

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Day 17 - Chuuk Lagoon, Micronesia

Chuuk Lagoon is a world-renowned underwater wonderland, famous for its incredible collection of sunken ships and aircraft from World War II. Enjoy snorkeling at two iconic sites: a Japanese fighter aircraft and a historic battleship wreck, offering a captivating glimpse into history beneath the surface. Surrounded by clear waters and vibrant marine life, Chuuk



Lagoon promises an unforgettable adventure for underwater explorers and history enthusiasts alike.

Day 18 - Day at sea

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Day 19 - Apra, Guam

Guam is blessed with spectacular natural beauty and a rich cultural history. Apra Harbor is a deep-water port located on the western side of the island. The island is part of the Mariana Islands and near the Mariana Trench, which is the deepest part of the earth's oceans, and the deepest location of the earth itself. The port serves both as a U.S. naval station and Guam's main commercial port. The harbour, formed by the Orote Peninsula to the south and Cabras Island in the north, is considered to be one of the best natural ports in the Pacific. Guam's unique culture, traditions and heritage have remained intact despite European imperialism, wars and changing foreign governments. Archaeological evidence suggests that the indigenous Chamorros of Indo-Malayan descent migrated from the Southeast Asian islands and settled throughout the Marianas archipelago. Being expert seamen and skilled craftsmen, they flourished and built unique houses and canoes suited to the region. As a matriarchal society and through the prestige of the women, much of the Chamorro culture and traditions were able to survive. Since the 16th century, a wave of foreigners have arrived on Guam's shores, including Ferdinand Magellan in 1521 who remained on the island for three days to restock his small convoy. Americans, Asians, Europeans, Micronesians and other visitors have since left their imprint on the island's pastimes and tastes.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: SILVER CLOUD

YOUR SHIP: **Silver Cloud**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

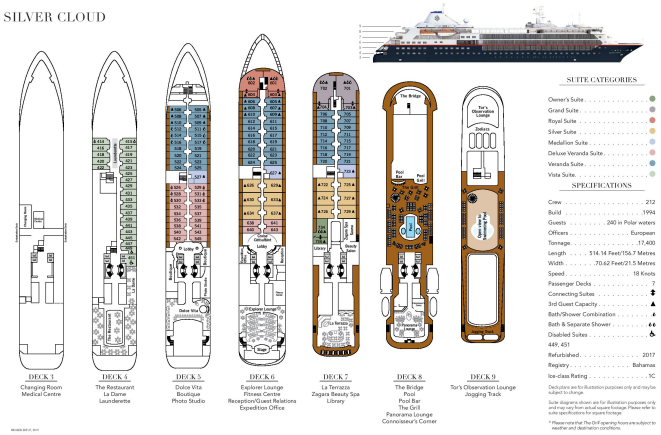
BUILT/REFURBISHED:



With 18-brand new Zodiacs, four superlative restaurants in Antarctica and a pole to pole expedition itinerary, Silver Cloud really does break the ice between expedition and luxury. Spacious yet intimate, designed to cross oceans and yet able to slip up rivers and into hidden harbours with ease, the yacht-like Silver Cloud carries just 296 guests in incomparable comfort and style. Combining spacious ocean-view suites and private verandas with stunning dining and entertainment options, Silver Cloud provides world-class cruise accommodations, service and amenities. After extensive refurbishment, Silver Cloud is the most spacious and comfortable ice class vessel in expedition cruising. Her large suites, her destination itineraries and her unparalleled service make her truly special. Her four dining options will tantalise your taste buds and as 80% of her suites include a veranda, watching a breaching whale or a few cavorting penguins has never been so personal. She carries a limited number of guests in polar waters, meaning that Silver Cloud has the highest space to guest and crew to guest ratios in expedition cruising. With her 18 zodiacs, 10 kayaks, possibilities are almost limitless with ship-wide simultaneous explorations.



INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Grand 1 Bedroom



Grand 2 Bedroom



Medallion



Midship Veranda



Owner 1 Bedroom



Owner 2 Bedroom





Royal 1 Bedroom



Royal 2 Bedroom



Silver



Veranda



Vista





PRICING

14-Apr-2027 to 02-May-2027

Grand 2 Bedroom	£37055 GBP pp
Vista	£12255 GBP pp
Veranda	£13675 GBP pp
Royal 2 Bedroom	£34575 GBP pp
Midship Veranda	£15005 GBP pp
Silver	£21075 GBP pp
Medallion	£19925 GBP pp
Royal 1 Bedroom	£22275 GBP pp
Grand 1 Bedroom	£24755 GBP pp
Owner 1 Bedroom	£27255 GBP pp
Owner 2 Bedroom	£38275 GBP pp