

The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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ALDABRA AND SEYCHELLES OUTLYING ISLANDS WILDLIFE CRUISE

Join an unforgettable 14-night expedition through the Amirantes and Outer Islands--culminating in the legendary Aldabra Atoll--aboard the MY Basilisk as one of very few people who ever make it to the outstanding atoll. Home to around 100,000 Giant Tortoises, Aldabra also shelters rare plants, birds, and one of the world's key nesting grounds for endangered Green Turtles. Bird highlights include the flightless Aldabra Rail, Frigatebirds, and several endemics like the Aldabra Drongo and Fody. Day 1 - Embark MY Basilisk by 10:00 in Mahe Day 2 - Amirantes - Desroches Island Day 3 - Amirantes - Alphonse Group Day 4 - Amirantes - Alphonse Island Day 5 - At sea: crossing southwest to the Aldabra Group Day 6 - Aldabra Group - Cosmoledo Atoll Day 7 - Aldabra Group - Cosmoledo Atoll Day 8 - Aldabra Group - Aldabra Atoll Day 9 - Aldabra Group - Aldabra Atoll Day 10 - Aldabra Group - Assumption Day 11 - Aldabra Group - Astove Day 12 - At sea: crossing northeast to the Alphonse Group Day 13 - Alphonse Group - Bijoutier Day 14 - Amirantes - St. Joseph Day 15 - Return to Eden Marina, disembarking around. 15:00 This trip is very much of an expedition nature, although we are advertising a program, it is not unusual to have changes. The above itinerary may change due to weather conditions and the captain's discretion.



ITINERARY

Day 1. Embark Mahe

Embark on MY Basilisk at 10:00 AM from our Mahe base. After a welcome and cruise briefing, we set course around midday for the Amirantes, beginning our expedition with the beautiful Desroches Island.

Day 2 Desroches Island

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The Amirantes is a linear chain of coral islands and atolls lying west of the granitic Seychelles. Desroches, the largest and closest to Mahe, stretches 6 km long and 1.5 km wide, hidden beneath swaying coconut palms and lush endemic vegetation. The island is encircled by 14 km of pristine white sand beaches, kissed by crystal-clear turquoise waters.

Days 3-4. Alphonse Group & Alphonse Island

The Alphonse Group comprises two neighbouring atolls--Alphonse and St. François, the latter home to the islands of St. François and Bijoutier. Among the most stunning in Seychelles, Alphonse is arrowhead-shaped, with white surf trailing behind like a wake.

Once a thriving coconut plantation producing 100,000 coconuts a month, the island is now peacefully abandoned and reclaimed by nature.

Day 5. At sea

As we make our crossing from the Alphonse Group toward Aldabra, we'll be on the lookout for marine mammals, including various species of whales and dolphins. In the evening, join us for a fascinating lecture on the natural history of the Seychelles.

Day 6 & 7. Cosmoledo Atoll

A visit to Cosmoledo rivals that of Aldabra, yet in many ways it surpasses it in sheer remoteness and isolation. Wild, untouched, and uninhabited, Cosmoledo remains one of the least visited corners of the Seychelles--and the world.

Home to bird species not found on Aldabra, including vast colonies with Seychelles' largest populations of Red-footed Boobies, Masked Boobies, and Sooty Terns. A unique race of

Madagascar White-eye is found only here. It is also the last breeding site in Seychelles for the Brown Booby, extinct elsewhere in the islands.

Snorkeling is excellent, with rich marine life and coral reefs that have survived more intact than almost anywhere else in the western Indian Ocean. The shallow lagoon near the main island is full of turtles, including hatchlings. We expect to arrive in the afternoon, with a visit to the abandoned settlement.

Days 8-9 Aldabra Atoll

Often called the Crown Jewel of Seychelles, Aldabra is the world's largest raised coral atoll and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Covering 150 sq km, it has no permanent population aside from the research team on Picard Island.

Home to around 100,000 Giant Tortoises, Aldabra also shelters rare plants, birds, and one of the world's key nesting grounds for endangered Green Turtles. Bird highlights include the flightless Aldabra Rail, Frigatebirds, and several endemics like the Aldabra Drongo and Fody.

We visit the research station and old settlement, cruise the West and Main Channels, and snorkel at sites like Passe Dubois and Anse Var. Snorkeling through the mangrove forests offers a unique opportunity to visit the home to a plethora of marine life.

Dugong

Recent Dugong sightings hint at a possible return of this elusive marine mammal to Seychelles waters

Day 10. Assumption

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Assumption Island is home to a stunning arc of coral sand and vibrant offshore waters, here you can explore colorful reefs teeming with snappers, butterflyfish, and angelfish. Though its seabird colonies were impacted by early 20th-century guano mining, the island's vegetation is now gradually recovering. Today, construction on a new hotel development is taking place on the island, bringing with it funds for future conservation programs.

Day 11. Astove

Astove's steep coral reef, just 250 meters from shore, is a fantastic snorkeling site, rich with hundreds of fish species, Green Turtles, and shipwreck anchors.

Snorkelling along the drop-off is excellent. On land, you'll find Caspian Terns, shipwreck graves, bleached turtle bones, and abandoned buildings-- including a Moorish-style manager's residence.

Day 12 - 13. Travel to and explore Bijoutier

If you're dreaming of a perfect island, Bijoutier is it: an uninhabited gem crowned with lush green vegetation, surrounded by white sandy shores and vibrant purple reefs set against crystal-clear turquoise waters, perfect for snorkelling with incredible marine life

Day 14 . St Joseph

St Joseph Atoll and D'Arros Island, managed by the Save Our Seas Foundation, include the St Joseph Channel--a hotspot for manta ray aggregations and over 514 fish species. St Joseph is the Amirantes Bank's most vital nursery and a crucial breeding ground for sharks, rays, and turtles.

Day 15. Disembark in Mahe

At approximately 3pm we'll arrive back to Mahe island for you to disembark



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YOUR SHIP: BASILISK

YOUR SHIP:

Basilisk

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Basilisk was built in 2004 by Bon Pelley Enterprises Ltd. of Newfoundland, Canada. Her high-strength marine-grade aluminum structure was designed to resist tough North Atlantic seas. She was first employed as a commercial fishing and scientific research vessel then transformed in 2015-2016 into an expedition yacht at Harbor Grace Shipyards, Newfoundland. Basilisk offers a carefree, relaxed experience in modern, bright spaces for groups interested in exploring the Western Indian Ocean. Her expansive Aft and Fly Decks allow for outdoor dining protected from wind and sun, an early morning check from the Fly Deck for rare species and in the evening, cocktails with fabulous views of exotic sunsets. She is fully equipped for diving, eco-tours, snorkeling and kayaking in the most remote regions. Cabins Basilisk accommodates 6 guests in 3 spacious cabins. The master cabin is located on the main deck and features openable, screened windows. The two guest cabins located in the pontoons mirror one another. All cabins feature modern en-suite glass showers, large windows, high ceilings, ample storage and queen beds with two mattresses. Salon The 25' x 15' (7.6 x 4.6m) Salon with vaulted ceiling and five large windows is bright and airy. On entering from the Aft Deck, a

large seating area is to the right with two big, deep sofas and 3 coffee tables. A wall of bookcases and cabinets features a large TV with CD/DVD player and USB ports. To the left is the dining area with table and seating for six and a buffet cabinet along the wall. To Port and Starboard, staircases lead to the 2 guest cabins below. In short corridor forward is the Guest WC with stone countertop, raised ceramic wash basin and large mirror. Aft main deck Spanning the entire generous width of the vessel, the 1050 sf. / 97.5 m2 main deck is the hub of activity day and night. Designed to accommodate 2 tenders (7.6 and 3.6m) while enroute, it is shaded by a large Sunbrella canopy and protected from strong winds and rain by side hangings. Sunrise breakfasts, talks by marine specialists, al fresco luncheon followed by a game of cards, sunset cocktails, and romantic candlelight dinners all take place around the solid Canadian red maple table which seats eight comfortably. Bridge and fly decks Though not often frequented by guests, the Bridge Deck becomes THE place to watch dolphins gambol at the bow around the wave-piercing pontoons. It is also where ten solar panels provide natural electrical energy stored in BASILISK's house batteries, contributing to a decrease in global CO2 emissions. A large Sunbrella canopy covers the forward half of the Fly Deck where four comfortable fixed seats along the rail offer the perfect perch for sighting whales or watching red-footed boobies zero in on unsuspecting flying fish. Take in a glorious evening sunset or gaze up at brilliant stars, far from disturbing ground light, while cradled in a lounge chair on gently rocking waves. From here, the Captain can also guide Basilisk into port or a berth at the marina, thanks to a remote steering device. Her

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sea-going kayaks are also stored here and it is where the vessel's telecommunications, radar and wind speed devices are located. Ecological Note: Basilisk proudly contributes to cleaner seas through her anaerobic black water treatment plant and grey water holding system. We use eco-friendly soaps and toiletries whenever possible and encourage guests to



do the same.



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INSIDE YOUR SHIP

Cabins



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PRICING

08-Mar-2028 to 22-Mar-2028

Cabins	£12009 GBP pp
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26-Apr-2028 to 10-May-2028

Cabins	£12009 GBP pp
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02-Nov-2028 to 16-Nov-2028

Cabins	£12009 GBP pp
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ADDITIONAL CHARGES:

**Landing and government fees 920
EUR pp**