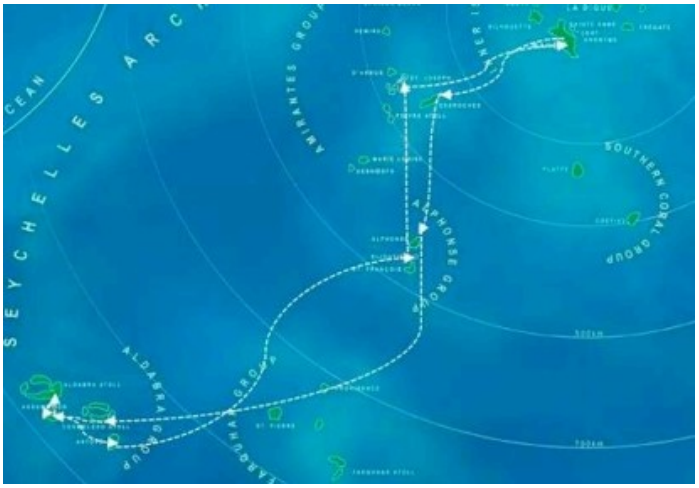


ALDABRA AND SEYCHELLES OUTLYING ISLANDS WILDLIFE CRUISE

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 Another major advantage of Maya's Dugong is her larger capacity, which allows us to operate diving and nature programmes alongside one another. Every expedition will have both a dedicated Divemaster and Naturalist onboard, plus each group having their own tender, thus ensuring that all guests remain fully engaged throughout the trip, whether they are diving or exploring the outer islands above the water. 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 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

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 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 at 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

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



YOUR SHIP: MAYAS DUGONG

YOUR SHIP: **Mayas Dugong**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

The MV Maya's Dugong is a 40-metre expedition vessel unlike any other in Seychelles, and its exceptionally high fuel capacity offers the opportunity for long-distance cruises, while the high standard of its accommodation and facilities give opportunities like no other to experience the wonders of this little known part of the world. This modern motor vessel can be utilized for a variety of different maritime needs - it is both efficient and economical and boasts large deck space and modern equipment to handle a wide range of tasks on the open sea. ## About MV Maya's Dugong Originally built as a research vessel by the Canadian Government in 1966, the Maya's Dugong was completely retro-fitted in the early 2000s as a private yacht, before being overhauled once again in 2009 to accommodate charters and cabin cruise voyages and now has been revamped again in 2026. It now serves as an oceanographic and expedition cruising vessel throughout the Indian Ocean, as ideal platform for discovering the islands' most exclusive and hard-to-reach places. ## Accommodation MV Maya's Dugong boasts 7 spacious airconditioned guest cabins: · 2 Commander cabins on the upper deck, one with double bed and an extra single bed, and one with 2 single beds · 1 Commander cabin on the mid-deck with double bed, · 4 Explorer cabins on the lower deck, one with double bed and an extra single bed, and three with 2 single beds and extra bunk beds. Each cabin features an en-suite bathroom with home style shower, toilet and wash basin. Cabins are cleaned by the hostesses on a daily basis. ## Facilities A number of different areas aboard, from the two-tiered sundeck toward the bow, to the covered back deck and leisure area, ensure ample space for passengers to unwind. Meals can be enjoyed in the air-conditioned dining salon, or 'al fresco' on the back deck's dining table. · Crew: 10 crew members. · Accommodation for up to 14-17 passengers (plus separate crew quarters.) · Fully air-conditioned dining room and saloon with connection points for computers, and outdoor dining & leisure deck. · Diving: PADI-certified for Commercial & Leisure Diving, 18 dive tanks & full sets of dive equipment, 2 dive compressors. Also available aboard: · Flat-screen TV, DVD stereo in the Dining Salon/Lounge · DVD player & Stereo · Games, cards, small library · Laundry Service (extra charge) · Deck showers · Bottled water, soft drinks, beer, wine and spirits are all available





for purchase.



PRICING

01-May-2027 to 15-Jul-2027

Explorer cabin	£12345 GBP pp
Commander Cabins	£13179 GBP pp

03-May-2028 to 17-May-2028

Explorer cabin	£12959 GBP pp
Commander Cabins	£13839 GBP pp

02-May-2029 to 16-May-2029

Commander Cabins	£14535 GBP pp
Explorer cabin	£13609 GBP pp

ADDITIONAL CHARGES: Landing and government fees 998 EUR pp