

The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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BERING SEA WILDERNESS: PRIBILOFS, KATMAI, AND KODIAK

Traverse the depth and breadth of the iconic Bering Strait and venture deep into the two distinct worlds it joins. Encounter the rich culture of Provideniya, “the Gateway to the Arctic,” before exploring the Pribilof Islands, a naturalist’s paradise sometimes referred to as “the Galápagos of the North.” From those lively breeding grounds continue on to explore the dynamic history, culture, and natural wonders of the remote islands along Alaska’s rugged coast. A visit to Katmai National Park, one of the premier brown bear viewing areas in the world and a unique petrified forest round out this immersive Arctic travel expedition.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: Anchorage/Nome/Embark

Fly to Nome via Anchorage. Embark National Geographic Orion in the afternoon.

DAY 2: At Sea/Crossing the Bering Strait

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Spend the first day at sea crossing one of the most iconic bodies of water on the planet. If conditions permit, we may stop at the very remote Little Diomed Island, in the center of the Strait.

DAY 3: Provideniya, Russian Federation

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.

DAY 4-6: At Sea/Pribilof Islands

A naturalist’s paradise, the Pribilof Islands welcome three million seabirds and a million marine mammals each summer as they arrive to breed. Go ashore at St. Paul to explore on land, at St. George go by Zodiac to view puffins, kittiwakes and red-faced cormorants, as well as a northern fur seal rookery.

DAY 7-8: Unalaska/Alaska Peninsula

This morning, arrive at Dutch Harbor, site of a fierce WWII battle and now one of the world’s most important fishing ports. Continue to the Baby Islands, just east of Unalaska, where dynamic tides offer exciting potential to spot sea otters and fur seals, as well as rare seabirds, both from the ship’s deck and from Zodiacs. Continue along the eastern shore of the Alaska Peninsula, with time for exploration and wildlife watching.

DAY 9: Shumagin Islands

Go ashore on Unga Island to explore a unique petrified forest of sequoia or metasequoia trees that were buried in a volcanic mudslide nearly 25 million years ago. These fascinating and colorful stumps and logs have washed out of the sediment at

the rocky shoreline, with some only visible at low tide.

DAY 10: Katmai National Park

Spend today exploring the shorelines and waters of coastal Katmai National Park & Preserve, known for its abundant brown bear population, this area provides countless opportunities to watch and photograph bears digging for clams at low tide, or fishing for salmon in the creeks.

DAY 11: Kodiak Island

The second largest island in the U.S., Kodiak is best known for its brown bears and its fishing industry. Less well known is its unique mix of Native Alutiiq and Russian-American history. Join your Undersea Specialist for a “dock walk” among the commercial fishing boats in Kodiak’s inner harbor. Photograph the beautiful Holy Resurrection Church on a photo walk, or peruse native art and artifacts at the Alutiiq Museum. Later, explore one of the island’s outer bays by Zodiac.

DAY 12: Exploring the Kenai Peninsula

Nearly 40 glaciers flow out of the Kenai’s Harding Icefield, so the opportunities for exploration abound. Cruise one of the ice-scoured fjords to the face of a tidewater glacier, while searching for mountain goats and other wildlife along the way.

DAY 13: Seward/Disembark/Anchorage/Home

Arrive in Seward this morning, transfer to the airport in Anchorage for flights home or onward.

Please Note:

All day-by-day breakdowns are a sampling of the places we intend to visit, conditions permitting.

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YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

YOUR SHIP:	National Geographic Orion
VESSEL TYPE:	Luxury Expedition
LENGTH:	103 metres
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	102 (in 53 cabins)
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	2003 / Refurbished 2014

Engineered for maximum comfort and safety, _Orion_ is equipped with the latest technology including large retractable stabilizers, sonar, radar, and an ice-strengthened hull. A shallow draft plus bow and stern thrusters provide the convenience of being able to maneuver close to shore. 14 Zodiacs ensure quick disembarkation and offer the ideal transport for up-close exploration. _National Geographic Orion_ meets strict specifications for environmental protection and the on board waste management systems meet the stringent Antarctic operational standards enabling us to travel to the most pristine environments. A host of advanced design features and technology ensures sustainable marine environmental practices. _National Geographic Orion_ accommodates 102 guests in 53 cabins, including several with balconies. She is spacious and modern, with a variety of public rooms that offer panoramic views of the passing landscape. Friendly and informal, _Orion_ fosters a welcoming atmosphere where like-minded guests share in exceptional experiences and enrichment. Her public rooms include a dramatic window-lined main lounge, as well as an observation lounge and library perched at the very top of the ship, with plentiful observation decks. The spacious lounge is

the heart of our expedition community, and is suited for spirited cocktail hours, informative presentations and our nightly tradition of Recap. In addition, a dedicated theater provides a unique setting for specialist presentations or films and slideshows. Both the main dining room and outside buffet easily accommodate all guests at once for open seating dining. On selected nights, weather permitting, our dining room menu is also available on the outside deck. While _Orion_ interiors are elegant, life aboard is always casual, with no need for formal clothing. And you'll find shipboard services like laundry, in-room cabled internet, and public-area wifi make packing and traveling more



convenient.

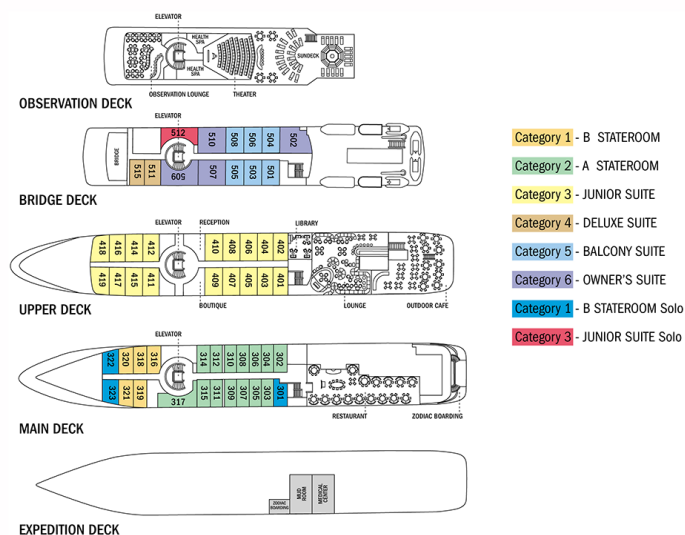
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP



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PRICING



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