



## The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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## MEDITERRANEAN ISLES: SARDINIA, CORSICA, AND MENORCA

Azure, cerulean, ultramarine. For ages poets and storytellers have tried to describe the Mediterranean's unique blue beauty. You'll find your own vocabulary as you sail the North coast of Serra Tramuntana and visit Majorca's spectacular Cap Formentor. But this voyage offers much more than stunning scenery. Enjoy a lively Barcelona evening; actively experience the megalithic masterpieces of Torralba den Salord on Menorca; climb into Neptune's Grotto and drink in the intoxicating nightlife of Sardinia; walk Bonifacio's medieval streets, hike to the Pertusato Lighthouse; Zodiac to the Scandola Nature Reserve, and experience the lush farm-to-table diversity of Provence.

### DAY 1: Barcelona, Spain/Embark

Embark the National Geographic Orion and enjoy lunch aboard. Head out for a leisurely afternoon walk around this creative city, and learn about the energetic musical mixtures and sounds of rumba catalana that originate from here. (L,D)

### DAY 2: Puerto de Pollensa, Mallorca/Ciudadela, Menorca

Sail along the stunning North coast of Serra Tramuntana in the early morning. Stop in the harbor town of Puerto de Pollensa and board Zodiacs to explore Cap Formentor, a peninsula lined by dramatic, soaring cliffs. Find a secluded beach and go for a swim or follow a trail to the cliff-top lighthouse for spectacular views. We sail for Menorca this afternoon and enjoy a sunset dinner on deck while anchored in the lovely harbor of Ciudadela. (B, L, D)

### DAY 3: Ciudadela/Mahon

The Vandals, the Moors, and the British Empire have ruled over this stunning little island, and prehistoric civilizations left intriguing rock mounds and megalithic monuments that date back some 4,000 years. Explore this history in Ciudadela this morning and then travel overland to Mahon to discover the Bronze Age village of Torralba d'en Salord. Meet the National Geographic Orion at the port in Mahon and sail east. (B, L, D)

### DAY 4: Alghero, Sardinia, Italy

Arrive in Alghero, Sardinia mid-day after sailing through the night. Take Zodiacs to Neptune's Grotto and explore the striking coastline. You will come to know this Italian Mediterranean island by experiencing its fascinating history, wines, music and

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cuisine. (B,L,D)

### DAY 5: Bonifacio, Corsica, France

Witness our spectacular entrance into Bonifacios natural harbor at sunrise. On a walking tour of the hilltop town, venture into an impressive 12th-century citadel and walk along medieval streets lined with art galleries, shops, and cafes. This afternoon, hike to the Pertusato Lighthouse, go bird-watching, or simply relax on the small beach. In the evening, enjoy a traditional Corsican dinner ashore. (B, L, D)

### DAY 6: Gulf of Porto, Corsica

Wake up in the beautiful waterfront harbor of Porto. You will spend the morning taking in the natural bounty of the sea and land-protected Scandola Nature Reserve by Zodiac, an area that the National Geographic Pristine Seas team set out to assess in 2010 with Pierre-Yves Cousteau aboard Jacques Cousteaus historic Alcyone. A visit to the stunning calanque rock and inlet formations offer wonderful photo opportunities. Stroll through the charming Corsican village of Piana before having lunch here. Head back to the ship in the afternoon and enjoy life aboard National Geographic Orion. Dine at sunset as the ship sails north along the coast of Corsica. (B,L,D)

### DAY 7: Toulon, France

Upon arriving in Toulon, explore the outskirts of the city and spend an afternoon catching a glimpse of everyday life in Frances famed Provence region. Visit a family-owned, organic chicken farm, and a stop at a Provencal winery. Experience the sights, sounds and tastes of the agricultural diversity this region has to offer. (B,L,D)

### DAY 8: Monaco/Disembark

Wake up in Monaco and have breakfast aboard the ship. Disembark and head to the airport for your flight home, or remain in Monaco for an added stay. (B)

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## YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

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

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



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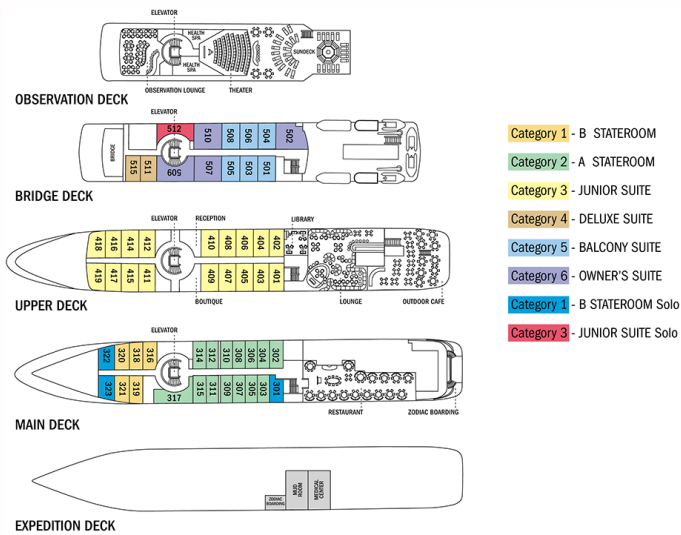
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP





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## PRICING

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