



## SEYCHELLES, MADAGASCAR & REUNION, FROM SEYCHELLES TO MAURITIUS

This 15-night voyage combines an extensive exploration of three frontier islands that stand at the confluence of Africa, Europe, and Asia – the northern coastline of Madagascar, the isolated island of Reunion, and the remote atolls of the southern Seychelles. Spend two days at Aldabra Atoll, the world's second-largest coral atoll, home to the largest colony of wild giant tortoises. Venture onto the shores of Madagascar, famed for the diversity of its rare wildlife and landscape, with 90% of Madagascar's species found nowhere else on Earth. Visit Masaola National Park and Nosy Mangabe to spot lemurs in their natural habitats. Visit the ylang-ylang, coffee, pepper, and vanilla plantations at Nosy Be. Discover the small coastal island of Île Sainte-Marie and its fascinating pirate history. Finally, spend two days exploring the volcanic cirques and savouring Creole cuisine in Réunion before arriving at Port Louis, Mauritius.



### ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: MAHÉ, SEYCHELLES

Board Coral Geographer at Port Victoria, Mahe Seychelles at 2:00pm for a 4:00pm departure. We set sail overnight for Desroches, while you meet and mingle with your fellow guests.

#### POIVRE ISLAND, SEYCHELLES

Named in 1771 after Pierre Poivre, the governor of Reunion, Poivre is a small island atoll home to a handful of caretakers and conservationists. Poivre Island has had a grandiose history, which is seen in the ruined buildings standing amongst the modern homes. Once used for farming vanilla, nuts, maize and livestock, the island is an important breeding area for turtles as well as supporting numerous birds such as blue herons, Chinese herons, whimbrels, noddies, and greater frigatebirds. Here we will enjoy a day of snorkelling in the beautiful lagoon surrounding the island. Swim with turtles and schools of fish or spend time birdwatching on the peaceful island.

#### ALPHONSE ISLANDS



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Today, if conditions allow, we will experience the reefs at the Alphonse Islands. The three pristine islands of Alphonse, St. François and Bijoutier boast miles of spectacular beaches, and lagoons brimming with marine life and brilliant coral. They are considered to be some of the most spectacular islands in Seychelles.

### [FARQUHAR GROUP](#)

An Important Bird Area, the Farquhar Group provides incredible birdwatching. Green sea turtles and Hawksbill Turtles nest around the edges of the lagoon and snorkelling or nature walks are the order of the day, should conditions allow.

### [COSMOLEDO & PICARD ISLANDS, ALDABRA GROUP, SEYCHELLES](#)

Considered to be the second-largest coral atoll in the world, Aldabra Atoll is UNESCO World Heritage protected and due to its isolation, has remained untouched by human intervention. It is home to an estimated 152,000 giant tortoises and abounds with other marine and birdlife. With two days in the Aldabra Group, we have flexibility in our exploration and will adapt to prevailing conditions, spending our time walking in nature, spotting wildlife, snorkelling, or relaxing on one of the many beaches.

### [ASSUMPTION ISLAND, SEYCHELLES](#)

Arrive at Assumption Island, in the Outer Islands of Seychelles. This single coral island has a history of plantation and mining, leaving exposed rock and caves, with low growing vegetation. The 5km long white beach is a lovely base for snorkelling and Scuba diving, should conditions allow.

### [NOSY BE, MADAGASCAR](#)

Nosy Be means Big Island is Malagasy. This is one of the primary locations in Madagascar for travellers, but still sleepy enough to intrigue, and we have no shortage of options for our visit. Guests may choose between the below options: 1\ A tour of Nosy Be takes us to the Ylang Ylang distillery, where essential oils are made from the star-shaped flowers of the *Cananga odorata* genuina plant. Further on, a private park is home to lemurs, chameleons and tortoises, along with a plantation of tropical delights such as ylang ylang, coffee, pepper, and vanilla. The colonial buildings and colourful bazaar or grand marché main market of Hell-ville are next. Easy to stroll through, the city provides a glimpse of real Madagascan life. On a drive north to Mount Passot, we will see 7 of the 11 volcanic lakes on the island, before enjoying a splendid view over Nosy Be, the Radama and Mitsio Islands. 2\ An option for our time here is a trip to Nosy Tanikely, which is famous for its marine reserves teeming with spotted stingrays, turtles, puffer fish, grouper, and angelfish. Nosy Komba also tempts a visit. This volcanic island just southeast of Nosy Be is known for the 'lemur's garden' where black lemurs congregate.

### [ANTISIRANANA \(DIEGO SUAREZ\)](#)

Antisiranana, the largest city in northern Madagascar, is a gateway to some of the wonders of this region. The vibrant cultures of Antankarana and Skalava, Indians, Arabs, Creole, Chinese and French combine, surrounded by a beautiful and unusual landscape. Guests have multiple options for exploration here. 1\ A tour to Montagne d'Ambre (Amber Mountain National Park) is one of the most biodiverse places in Madagascar. Here we will enjoy walks and tours in the refreshingly cool mountain air. This is one of the best places to observe chameleons. 2\ We also may tour the city of





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Antisiranana, gaining an insight into the fascinating history, colonial impacts, and local cultures. Shop in the Rue Colbert or visit Ramena Beach. 3\ Another option, for those who are physically fit, is to embark on a journey to Ankarana. This National Park is known for its incredible Tsingy formations, made as limestone is eroded. Visit caves used by the Antankarana people (the people of the tsingy) and learn about their fascinating culture. You may also have the opportunity to hike to a dramatic whirlpool, where the rivers of the region converge.

### NOSY MANGABE & MASOALA NATIONAL PARK, MADAGASCAR

Visit Nosy Mangabe, a 520-hectare island reserve and one of the most diverse areas of virgin rain forest in Madagascar. This island has also been an important research centre since the 1960s, when several aye-ayes and lemurs were released into the forest. Embark on a series of nature walks looking at the varied trees, plants and ferns, and hope to spot chameleon, lizards, and black-and-white ruffed lemur. For the birders we will keep an eye out for Madagascar buzzard, kingfisher and paradise flycatchers. Masoala National Park, Madagascar's largest protected area, is comprised of a combination of coastal rainforest, marshes and mangroves. This afternoon, be lured by the chance to spot red-ruffed lemur, red-fronted brown lemur, and ring-tailed mongoose, as well as a multitude of extraordinary chameleons. A refuge for endangered species such as the Madagascar red owl and Madagascar Serpent eagle, this region provides a variety of walks and hikes for all fitness levels. You may also have the opportunity to swim from the beach and visit the local village.

### NOSY BORAHA (ÎLE SAINTE-MARIE), MADAGASCAR

Île Sainte-Marie, or Nosy Boraha, is an island off the east coast of Madagascar. Its lush vegetation is interspersed with many

small villages, sandy beaches shaded by coconut palms, and its bays and coves are protected by coral reefs. Historically, it was a popular home for pirates, providing a safe haven for more than a thousand pirates at one time. Maps from that era call it 'the island of pirates'. Disembark at Ambodifotatra for a 3 hour walking tour. Walk the botanical trail to the Catholic church, before visiting the colourful fruit and vegetable market, with free time to purchase handicrafts and marvel at the entire sperm whale skeleton on display. In the afternoon, stop at the beautiful island beach for swimming and snorkelling.

### SAINT-DENIS, RÉUNION ISLAND

Known for its dramatic natural wonders, Réunion is formed by a massive submerged volcano. An overseas department of France, the Creole culture is a vibrant combination of French, African, Chinese, Malagasy, and Indian. The island was deserted until the 16th century, and is home to one of the world's most active volcanos, Piton de la Fournaise. A collapsed dormant volcano, Piton des Neiges, creates spectacular canyons and gorges in the northwest of the island. Arrive in Réunion at breakfast, with options to explore. A full day tour visits the huge volcanic amphitheatres known as cirques, with mountains towering overhead, and waterfalls plummeting hundreds of feet. Be surrounded by tropical plantations with spices, vanilla, and fruits. Enjoy the views from Nez des Boeufs and see Piton de la Fournaise. We will enjoy a Creole lunch before visiting a vanilla plantation. Enjoy free time in St Denis in the afternoon. Our second morning in Réunion gives us time to explore the city of St Denis, or perhaps take a helicopter tour over the volcanic Piton des Neiges.

### DAY 16: PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS



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This morning, we arrive in Port Louis, Mauritius, to disembark at 8:00am.

**Please Note:**

This itinerary is an indication of the destinations we visit and activities on offer. Throughout the expedition we may make changes to the itinerary as necessary to maximise your expeditionary experience. Allowances may be made for seasonal variations, weather, tidal conditions, and any other event that may affect the operation of the vessel. Coral Expeditions suggests that you do not arrive on the day of embarkation or depart on the day of disembarkation due to any changes that may occur in scheduling.



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## YOUR SHIP: CORAL GEOGRAPHER

**YOUR SHIP:** Coral Geographer

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

As a sister ship to Coral Adventurer, the Coral Geographer will be another authentic expedition ship. Designed as a 'next generation expedition ship', she is small enough to go to untouched places, focusing on bringing small numbers of like-minded guests closer to nature and cultures with personal attention and professional service. Coral Geographer will have 6 bridge deck suites with horizon bathtubs amongst her 60 cabins. The Coral Geographer features the trademark dual 'Xplorer' tenders cradled on a hydraulic platform slung off the back of the ship, enabling guests to go ashore in comfort and ease. The shallow draft of the ship enables us to go closer to shore than larger ships. Together with a renowned expedition team, this ship will offer the most advanced expedition capabilities of any small ship afloat. Comfort State of the art stabilisers will dampen any sea motion, mostly balcony cabins, and interiors designed with the colours and textures of tropical Queensland, the Coral Adventurer is a comfortable ship. She features promenade decks, generous communal areas, a passenger elevator, and an open kitchen where you can observe the chefs whip up small batch cuisine from locally sourced ingredients. Expedition capabilities > Two trademark Xplorer

tenders seat all passengers and facilitate comfortable shore excursions > Six zodiacs for more intrepid exploration > Lecture lounge for daily expedition briefings and expert presentations > Small onboard library featuring books on destinations and wildlife > Shallow draft and advanced navigation and propulsion systems allowing access to locations closed to large cruise ships Marine immersion > Navigator lounge in the bridge > Over 1000 square metres of open deck space including a wrap-around promenade deck with panoramic views > Engine room tours and a high level of crew interaction with guests Food and wine features > Single seating dining with communal table serves buffet breakfast and lunch, and multi-course table d'hôte dinners > Showcase galley with viewing window creating fresh small-batch cuisine featuring Australian and local produce > Multiple indoor and outdoor bars, including our Explorer bar on the sundeck for sunset drinks > Curated wine cellar featuring boutique wines and exceptional vintage Australian reds Guest comfort > All outside-facing guest cabins with en-suite bathrooms; the majority have a private balcony > Active stabilisers to dampen sea motion > Well-equipped gym > Passenger elevator > Wi-Fi available in all



guest areas



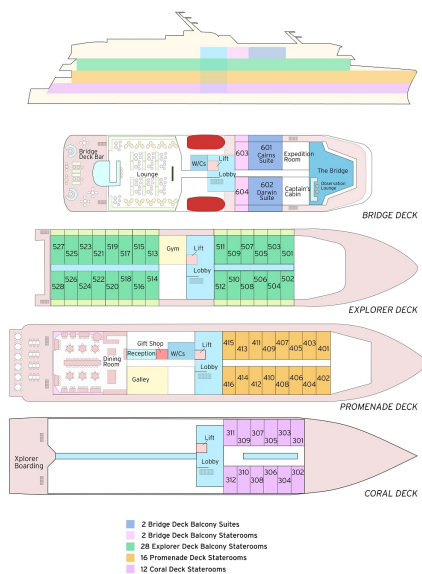
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP



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## PRICING

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