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Ship Collection

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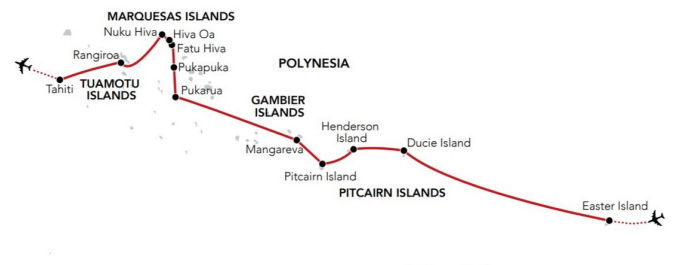


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## IN THE WAKE OF THE BOUNTY 2020 (ISLAND SKY)

Join us in paradise on a leisurely passage through the South Seas to an area long associated with Captain Cook, Captain Bligh and the Bounty, and Gauguin. We can promise you an unforgettable voyage to a corner of the world which has lured adventurers and romantics alike ever since Magellan first sailed to these waters in 1521. Our expedition begins on Easter Island, which, lying some 2300 miles off the coast of Chile is blessed with an extraordinary collection of remarkable archaeological sites which we will explore before setting sail aboard the MS Island Sky for our exploration of the South Pacific's islands and atolls. From coral reefs teeming with life to powerful legends that shaped history, each island is unique, each culture distinct. On the more remote islands, villages are still composed of thatched houses, set amongst the shade of the breadfruit and coconut trees. Many islands are important nesting grounds for seabirds and sea turtles and the lagoons everywhere are breeding grounds for countless species of fish. With our fleet of Zodiac landing craft we will explore inlets, bird sanctuaries and land in otherwise inaccessible places accompanied by an expert expedition team including naturalists, marine biologists and ornithologists who will share their knowledge and enthusiasm during forays ashore and whilst on board.



### ITINERARY

Day 1 - Santiago.

Arrive this morning and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. Enjoy the afternoon and evening at leisure to relax and enjoy the hotel facilities or explore the city independently.

Day 2 - Santiago to Easter Island.

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Easter Island. This afternoon we explore Rano Kau, the second oldest volcano on the island. Its huge Caldera (1.5 kilometres at its base) contains one of the island's three fresh water lakes. From the look-out at the rim of Rano Kau we continue on to the ceremonial village of Orongo, best known for

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the birdman cult ceremonies. The site was restored in 1974 and within the village you will see 47 restored houses. Continue to Ahu Tahai, another restored ceremonial site and one of the oldest, dating back to the 6th century. This afternoon we will transfer to the MS Island Sky for embarkation and enjoy welcome dinner and drinks on board tonight.

#### Day 3 - Easter Island.

Today we enjoy a full day tour, visiting many of the different areas where moais (statues) can be found. We will see the volcano of Rano Raraku, the site where 95% of all moais were carved and today you will find nearly 400 statues in various stages of completion. A hike to the top of the volcano's crater will not only reveal many statues but also a beautiful fresh water lake. We continue our exploration of the island with Ahu Tongariki, the largest ceremonial site in Polynesia restored in 1996 and Ahu Akivi where we find 7 maori built around 1460B.C and which face out to sea. Lunch will be a specially arranged barbecue on Anakena beach, home of Easter Island's ancient paramount chiefs and one of the prettiest coves in the South Pacific. We sail during dinner to start our epic journey across the South Pacific.

#### Days 4 & 5 - At sea.

We have two days to spend relaxing on deck and listening to the lectures from our onboard experts.

#### Day 6 - Ducie Island, Pitcairn Islands.

After a morning at sea we will experience expedition cruising at its finest as we hope to land on one of wildlife sanctuaries. A remote coral atoll with good snorkelling and birding, Ducie Island is so remote that no threats to its native wildlife exist, and it is one of the rare places in the world where wildlife is relatively

unaffected by man's presence. Our expedition team will lead a series of walks on the island.

#### Day 7 - Henderson Island.

We arrive at Henderson Island at lunchtime and will look for a suitable landing place. This upraised former coral atoll has fascinating eroded rock formations, with giant blowholes flinging up tremendous sea spray. Very rare birds inhabit the island, including the Henderson Island rail and Stephen's Lori. Numerous underwater ravines and crevices support a great diversity of fish whilst walks on the island or along the beach will come across coconut crabs.

#### Days 8 & 9 - Pitcairn Islands.

We arrive this morning on the island of Pitcairn, famous as the final destination of the Bounty in the late 18th century. Meet the Anglo-Tahitian descendants of the mutineers of the Bounty, who arrived here 200 years ago and see the ship's anchor outside the courthouse. We will have time to explore this inspiring island setting and visit with islanders who display memorable stamps and handicrafts. We will have a Pitcairn welcome in the Town Hall before exploring the capital of Adamstown. We will set up a number of walks with our expedition staff to explore the highlights of the island. We will stay overnight or if weather permits will sail to Oeno Atol, three uninhabited islands situated around 75 nautical miles from Pitcairn, and spend a morning. It is an important bird area due to the colony of 12,500 pairs of Murphys petrels that nest here alongside sooty tern and brown noddy. Please note that access to the Pitcairn Islands is very weather dependent.

#### Day 10 - Mangareva, Gambier Islands.



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Mountainous Mangareva is capital of the Gambier group of islands and home to the remarkable St Michael's cathedral with a stunning mother-of-pearl altar. On a full day call, we will have the chance to join an island nature walks, take a hike up the 440 metre Mount Duff, named after the first European vessel to visit the island in 1797, or you can simply wander around the small village. If weather permits we may also set up a snorkelling platform on the surrounding coral reef.

#### Day 11 - Expedition Day.

As we make our way towards the Tuamotu Islands we will pass by the Acteon Group of islands. These remote, uninhabited atolls were named after the HMS Acteon who sighted the islands in 1837. Landing on the islands is very weather dependent but we hope that we can spend time on Tenararo which, whilst small, is an important habitat for Tuamotu sandpipers, curlews and Murphy's petrel which are not threatened by predators. We may also have the chance to snorkel or swim from the beach.

#### Day 12 - Pukarua, Tuamotu Islands.

Located on the outer fringes of French Polynesia, Pukarua faces thousands of miles of open ocean. Onshore, its small population lives in a spirit of cooperation and friendship, living largely on coconuts and the bounty of the sea. As we visit this small community, we will be enthusiastically greeted with genuine friendliness and lively music. We will have the chance to walk through the village or enjoy a swim in the lagoon before sailing at lunch time and continuing our cruise westward.

#### Day 13 - Pukapuka.

This morning we visit Pukapuka. To honour you and fellow guests, the islanders proudly decorate their tidy village with green palm fronds and flowers, and welcome you with a fragrant

flower lei and entrancing dances. Sample traditional coconut treats and watch a demonstration of how copra – the dried meat of the coconut – is prepared for its various uses. Travel to the centre of the island past coconut plantations to swim in the turquoise waters of the inner lagoon.

#### Day 14 - Fatu Hiva, Marquesas Islands.

After a morning at sea we arrive in the Marquesas Islands, far removed from the rest of the South Pacific in everything from language and culture to geology. With a landscape of spectacular pinnacles towering over the cobalt Bay of Virgins, Fatu Hiva is one of the most floral and pristine islands. Villagers will perform their traditional dances and demonstrate their handicrafts of wood carvings and tapa making. Afterwards our expedition team will run a series of nature walks either climbing to the view point, searching for birds with our ornithologist or a nature walk to the waterfall. Meanwhile a snorkel platform will be set up for those who wish to swim.

#### Day 15 - Hiva Oa.

At first light we arrive at volcanic Hiva Oa. We will anchor off Atohuna where if we are lucky we may find mantarays before ashore. Our morning will be dedicated to Gauguin, the iconic artist of the South Pacific. We will visit his museum and make a pilgrimage to his final resting place, soaking up the landscape that inspired him to leave it all behind and go native. This afternoon we reposition the ship to Puamau and visit the Oipona me'ae temple, one of the best preserved archaeological sites in French Polynesia and home to the eight foot tall Tiki Takali. On our return to the ship you may wish to enjoy a swim from the beach.

#### Day 16 - Nuku Hiva.



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Our last day in the Marquesas will be at Nuka Hiva, the largest of the Islands and the island group's economic capital. Today we will immerse ourselves in local culture and geography. Traditional Marquesan dancers welcome us to their village. We will visit the archeological centres at Kamuihei and Hikoku'a and see the temples, petroglyphs and tiki. Meanwhile a series of island walks will investigate the nature of the island whilst there will also be a chance to swim from the beaches. Return to the ship for lunch as we sail this afternoon.

#### Day 17 - At sea.

Spend the day relaxing on board, maybe join the lecture programme or find a spot on deck.

#### Day 18 - Rangiroa, Tuamotu Islands.

As one of the world's largest coral atolls, Rangiroa has a magnificent lagoon surrounded by small islets or motus, stretching as far as the eye can see. Today, a variety of activities await. There will be a chance to tour a black pearl farm, enjoy free time in the enchanting local village of Avatoru or have a last chance to snorkel or swim.

#### Day 19 - Tahiti.

Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your flight back home.

#### Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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## YOUR SHIP: ISLAND SKY

**YOUR SHIP:** Island Sky

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

With a maximum passenger capacity of only 116, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Island Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers- the friendly crew of 75 crew and Scandinavian captains are experienced mariners, having been in service aboard large 2000 plus passenger vessels and who now prefer a less frantic life aboard a small ship. If, like them and us, you prefer a more peaceful life at sea, you will find the MS Island Sky the perfect ship. When choosing the vessel for your next voyage of discovery, you can select a ship with endless entertainment and impersonal service or come with us where peace, high quality service and attention to detail are the order of the day. We promise there will be no organised entertainment, fancy dress, deck games or any of the usual big ship experiences. The atmosphere on board is more akin to a private yacht or country hotel. A little music in the lounge or bar after dinner, guest speakers, informative port briefings from our cruise director and of course good food which may be enjoyed leisurely in the attractive dining room. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well run and exceedingly

comfortable ship. Your Suite Onboard there are 57 exceptionally spacious and well designed suites. All feature a sitting room area and some have private balconies. The feeling of luxury is enhanced by the wood panelling and brass, which predominates throughout the vessel conveying the atmosphere of a private yacht. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and all suites have outside views. Each affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, large wardrobes, dressing table with large mirror and stool and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television with inbuilt DVD player which can also play CDs and a telephone in each suite. Bottled water, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted toiletries and individually controlled air-conditioning and heating. The suites on each deck have their own colour theme. Soft hues and blended tones enhance the traditional maritime style making the passenger accommodation an inviting and relaxing place to be. Your Space The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large lounge where daily briefings and talks will be provided throughout the voyage and an elegant bar where a pianist plays periodically throughout the day. The bar also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. The onboard library is the perfect place to relax with a book and is stocked with reference books pertaining to the places the vessel is visiting along with a selection of games and two computers with internet access. Daily newspapers and magazines are also placed in the library depending on local availability. There is

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also WI-Fi access throughout the vessel. Outside there is a rear sun deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade, a bar and comfortable deck furniture for sun bathing or relaxing with a book. On the top deck there is a Jacuzzi and further observation and sun deck. There is also a small hairdressers on board with appointments made on request. Your Dining Another benefit of a small ship is the quality of the cuisine. With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the galley is able to provide delicious meals. Where possible and when it meets his high standards, the chef will obtain local produce in markets or buy the catch of the day from a passing fishing boat. Such purchases enhance the well stocked larders and bring a local touch to the



varied menus.



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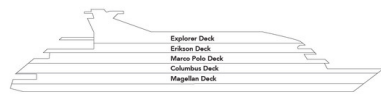
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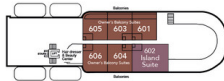
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP



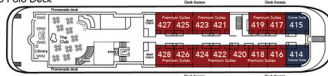
Explorer Deck



Erikson Deck



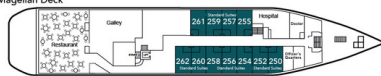
Marco Polo Deck



Columbus Deck



Magellan Deck



- Standard Suites
- Corner Suites with Deck Access
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Island Suite
- Premium Suites with Deck Access



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## PRICING

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