



SEE WHAT OTHERS DON'T

Explore a continent of discovery

Expedition Cruises
of the African Coast

2024

[SWANHELLENIC.COM](https://www.swanhellenic.com)

See what others don't

Some people see things as they are, others look further. Let us take you on a journey, that will change the way you see the world. Sail to some of the most incredible, remote destinations on the planet. When you travel with us, the wonders of the world take on a richer hue.

Over 70 years of cruise expertise

That's how long we've been navigating the world's waters. Swan Hellenic is built on a passion for exploration, a reputation for safety and professionalism of the highest standard.

Boutique ships

Just you and nature, that's how you'll feel on our 5 star contemporary Scandinavian inspired ships. With open-plan design, panoramic views and a focus on wellness, they're the perfect place to relax, recharge and explore.

Intuitive service

When it comes to anticipating your needs, no request is too big or too small. To us, personal and unobtrusive service means everything from making sure you're fully equipped for an Arctic excursion to remembering your favourite gin serve when it comes to pre-dinner drinks.

Enriching cultural expeditions

Once, we travelled to educate – professors, scientists, researchers. Over the years, we've developed a deep knowledge of the world. Today, we use this knowledge to create immersive cultural experiences that take you to the heart of a place.

Traditional dressed man, Bijagos Archipelago

A culture of care for people and planet

Swan Hellenic has always been passionate about our planet's rich environmental and cultural heritage. It's in our name and nature, and it's what inspires us to experience the world's wild unspoilt places and explore its rich and diverse cultures, ancient sites and civilisations.

Traditional dressed people, Sierra Leone



Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Dynamically inclusive companies and societies are key to sustainable development. As the pioneer of cultural expedition cruising, we welcome adventurers of every age, gender, orientation, nationality and interest to explore worldwide. We promote gender equity and women and girls' empowerment worldwide, and have strong internal policies that ensure our employees enjoy equal opportunities of employment and professional development, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, age, sexual orientation, functional ability and political view.

Proud member of



Our focus areas

Swan Hellenic's sustainability policies are fully compliant with and exceed the cruise industry global standards governing its safety, environmental and labour aspects. In line with the UN sustainable development goals, we are focusing on the following 6 key areas.

Responsible Cruising

We are committed to preserving the beauty of the world we explore for future generations, taking urgent and innovative concrete action to reduce our environmental footprint.

Climate Action

Exploring the globe, we constantly encounter dramatic evidence of global warming and climate change. This strengthens our resolve to take urgent action - within our organisation and in the destinations we travel to - to combat their causes and mitigate their effects.

Life in the Water

With our strong seafaring heritage, we are committed to the responsible use of marine resources for sustainable development. This is vital in promoting and conserving the health and biodiversity of the Earth's waters.

Legacies of the Land

We strive to preserve the natural and cultural landmarks that our expedition cruises explore, promoting and advancing the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and historic sites for future generations.

Thriving Communities

We build strong connections with the communities that host our cultural expedition cruises, respecting their cultural and environmental integrity, while partnering with them to generate positive impacts.

Quality Education

Education and research empower human potential. Proud of our roots in British academia, we work to support regional research initiatives, ensuring access to inclusive and equitable education and providing lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Never repeated. Always exceptional.

Every Swan Hellenic sailing is an experience unto itself. Although we have an expertly designed programme for each cruise, we are always open to the unexpected. And the unexpected usually finds us.

Whether that's a migrating pod of whales feeding in an inlet that takes us slightly off course, a hungry polar bear devouring his first meal of the season on a lonely iceberg or an impromptu village celebration; these are the stories that are retold for generations.

You can also design your own bespoke cultural expedition cruise with our Grand Voyages. Combine two or more of our cruise itineraries and see the world your way. Our elegant staterooms have plenty of storage – ideal for longer trips. Embark on the voyage of a lifetime and experience the wonders of our planet on your own unique journey.



Aerial view, Walvis Bay, Namibia

Exploring with head and heart

Swan Hellenic pioneered cultural expedition cruising in 1954, when we accompanied members of the Hellenic Society around the famous sites of ancient Greece in the company of eminent classicists.

Voodoo ceremonies, Togo



Explore

Every Swan Hellenic cruise is the same today as it always was, combining geographical exploration with cultural and scientific discovery. We don't just take you to explore the most extraordinary places on earth. We bring you the company of like-minded people and renowned experts, who offer eye-opening lectures and are on hand for informal questions and discussion throughout your cruise.

Experience

So when you choose Swan Hellenic to see what others don't – you can be sure you'll do so with a full perspective and real insight into the history, cultures, wildlife, flora, geology and geography of the place. Briefings before each disembarkation and recaps afterwards supplement our lectures and talks, stimulating a relaxed social environment that encourages the sharing of experiences.



Enrich

At the same time, every Swan Hellenic cruise is also full of opportunities for you to develop your creative passions, with professionals on board to support you in photography and more. A library completes the picture, with a multitude of books on every subject, for you to take your interests to another level.

It's the depth of these other dimensions that's unique to Swan Hellenic, making us the first choice of adventurous minds worldwide.

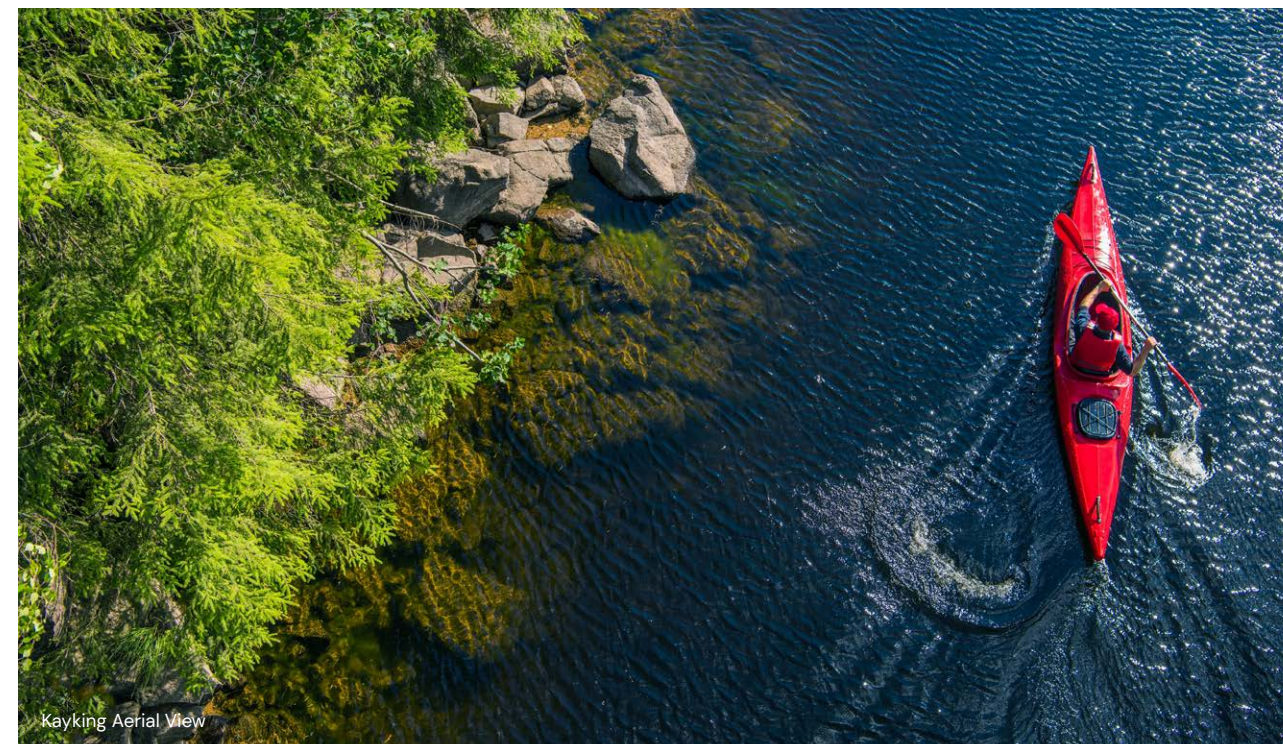
Learn from the best

Renowned in their respective fields, our onboard experts have unparalleled knowledge of the regions we visit.

From historians to naturalists, meteorologists to ornithologists, our friendly experts will offer you incredible insight into the wildlife, history and geology of the places we visit. Tap into their expertise via our extensive lecture programme, or feel free to interact with them throughout your trip. On board our boutique ship, you're likely to grab a coffee with an expert, birdwatch on the deck alongside an accomplished ornithologist, or chat with them over dinner — they're more than happy to share their knowledge with you!



Jeep tour, Gabon



Kayaking Aerial View



Botanists

Identify plant life at sea and on land with our expert botanists, and get insights into our ecosystems and climate.



Geologists

Everyone loves a beautiful landscape. But understanding its geology and how it was formed will change your perspective forever.



Photographers

Chat to our expert photographers and learn how to best capture movement and light in the extraordinary destinations we visit.



Historians

Our historians will enrich your expedition experience with incredible stories and unmatched knowledge of the places we visit.



Ornithologists

Will you be lucky enough to spot a snow petrel? Learn from our ornithologists and be inspired to identify the incredible birds you'll see.



Marine Biologists

As you encounter whales, dolphins and other marine species, you can consult our marine biologists for fascinating anecdotes.



Expedition Leaders

In charge of your excursions, these leaders will make sure you get the best opportunities to experience amazing wildlife and landscapes.



Activity Leaders

From kayaking excursions to hiking trips, you can count on our experienced activity leaders to guide you to remote, inaccessible destinations.



Naturalists

Charles Darwin may not be on board, but our experts will give you a new understanding of organisms, habitats and the natural world.



Endless ways to spend your day

There's no such thing as a typical day with Swan Hellenic. We bring you endless possibilities to tailor every moment to your interests and mood, so you'll always have your dream day on board.

Plan your perfect day

6am

Waking comfortably refreshed in your stateroom, early risers can join the team on deck for an early morning breakfast. Breathe in the invigorating ocean air as you sip your fresh tea or coffee. What a wonderful way to prepare for the day's adventures exploring a treasure trove of fascinating cultures and spellbinding landscapes.



7am

Early risers have the time to take a fitness class or workout in our gym. Refuel with a light continental or substantial cooked breakfast – a perfect foundation for the action-packed day ahead.



8am

Prepare yourself for today's shore excursion as we disembark at one of our remote, off-the-beaten-track ports, many of which are only accessible to smaller cruise ships. Our expert-led cultural expedition tours will immerse you in the planet's most remote communities and oldest natural landscapes – get ready to experience sights, sounds and flavours that go beyond the imagination.

12pm

Back on board, you'll have the time to share experiences over lunch, whether snacking in the Club Lounge or savouring something a little more substantial in the Swan Restaurant or Pool Bar & Grill.



2pm

There may be time after lunch for another shore excursion at our current port of call. Delve into local culture, uncover some of the most biodiverse regions on Earth or listen to the extraordinary tales of the explorers that sailed these seas long ago.

4pm

Indulge in our High Seas High Tea or retreat to the comfort of your stateroom for a movie on your flatscreen TV. Sweat it out in our stunning panoramic sauna, take a dip in the pool, take a mindfulness class, or pop to the salon for a relaxing treatment.



6.30pm

Each evening a member of our expert team or a guest lecturer will talk you through the day's highlights. We will then discuss the shore excursion plans for the following day.

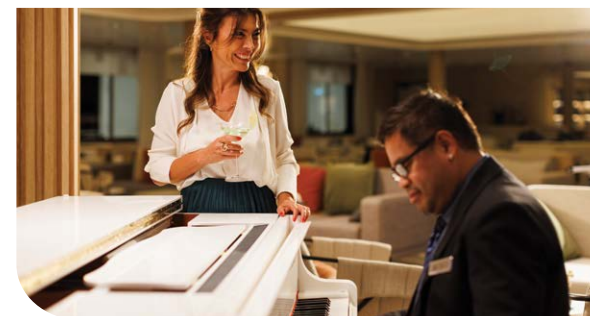
7pm

Time to enjoy the pleasures of elegant dining where our chefs have prepared international delights along with wines chosen by our sommelier.



9.30pm

End a perfect day with your favourite drink and a wonderful piano performance. Or head out to the deck for some stargazing under the clear night sky.



All-inclusive experience

We've taken care of the finer details, allowing you to focus your full attention on your cultural expedition cruise experience. Our cruise fares are all-inclusive, so there are no surprise extras or unexpected gratuity bills. Relax in the full knowledge that all you have to do is have a wonderful time.

- Group transfer from the airport to the hotel the day before embarkation, from the hotel to the cruise port on embarkation day and from the cruise port to the airport on disembarkation day
- One night pre-cruise accommodation with breakfast in a 4/5-star hotel or onboard
- All meals onboard
- Onboard accommodation in a stateroom selected category
- 24-hour room service
- Coffee, tea, soft drinks and selected alcoholic beverages available 24-hours per day
- Lecture programmes by our experienced guest speakers
- One selected shore excursion per port of call
- Standard WiFi
- Onboard gratuities & port taxes
- Selected expedition activities led by our expedition team

Enhance your experience

You also have the option of adding some extra special services to your cultural cruise experience (additional charges apply):

- Air fares (unless otherwise stated)
- Travel insurance
- Optional land programmes and hotel accommodation pre or post cruise
- Premium and private shore excursions
- Kayak and private Zodiac tours in the expedition areas
- Premium alcoholic beverages
- Spa & beauty treatments
- Laundry services
- Retail shop purchases
- Quick turnaround laundry service, allowing you to travel as light as you like

Experience the unforgettable African coast

A land of fascinating cultures, extraordinary wildlife and spellbinding landscapes, it's no surprise that this enchanting continent has been attracting curious adventurers for centuries. The birthplace of humankind, Africa is home to over 50 unique and diverse countries, enduring traditions, age-old rites and an undeniably rich cultural heritage.

The majesty of Africa's astounding natural beauty is unparalleled. From lush rainforests, and sub-Saharan savannahs, to glorious tropical coastlines and endless rippling deserts. Whether you're exploring one of its bustling cities, snorkelling in crystal clear waters, watching roaming wildlife on safari or investigating the ancient worlds of Egypt and Petra, no matter where you are in Africa, unforgettable adventures await.

Cruises of the African coast

Itinerary	From→To	Ship	Nights	Departure
Coastal Treasures of Southwest Africa	Cape Town → Luanda	SH Vega	10	25 Mar 2024
Unspoilt Wilds of Southwest Africa	Luanda → Accra	SH Vega	13	4 Apr 2024
Cultural Crucibles of West Africa	Accra → Dakar	SH Vega	13	17 Apr 2024
Pristine Islands of West Africa	Dakar → Dakar	SH Vega	8	30 April 2024
Mysteries of Carthage and the Moors	Lisbon → Palermo	SH Diana	10	10 Aug 2024
Paradise Isles of the Indian Ocean	Port Victoria → Mombasa	SH Diana	11	16 Oct 2024
Madagascar and its Eastern Islands	Mombasa → Maputo	SH Diana	11	26 Oct 2024
Extraordinary Southern Africa	Maputo → Cape Town	SH Diana	7	6 Nov 2024

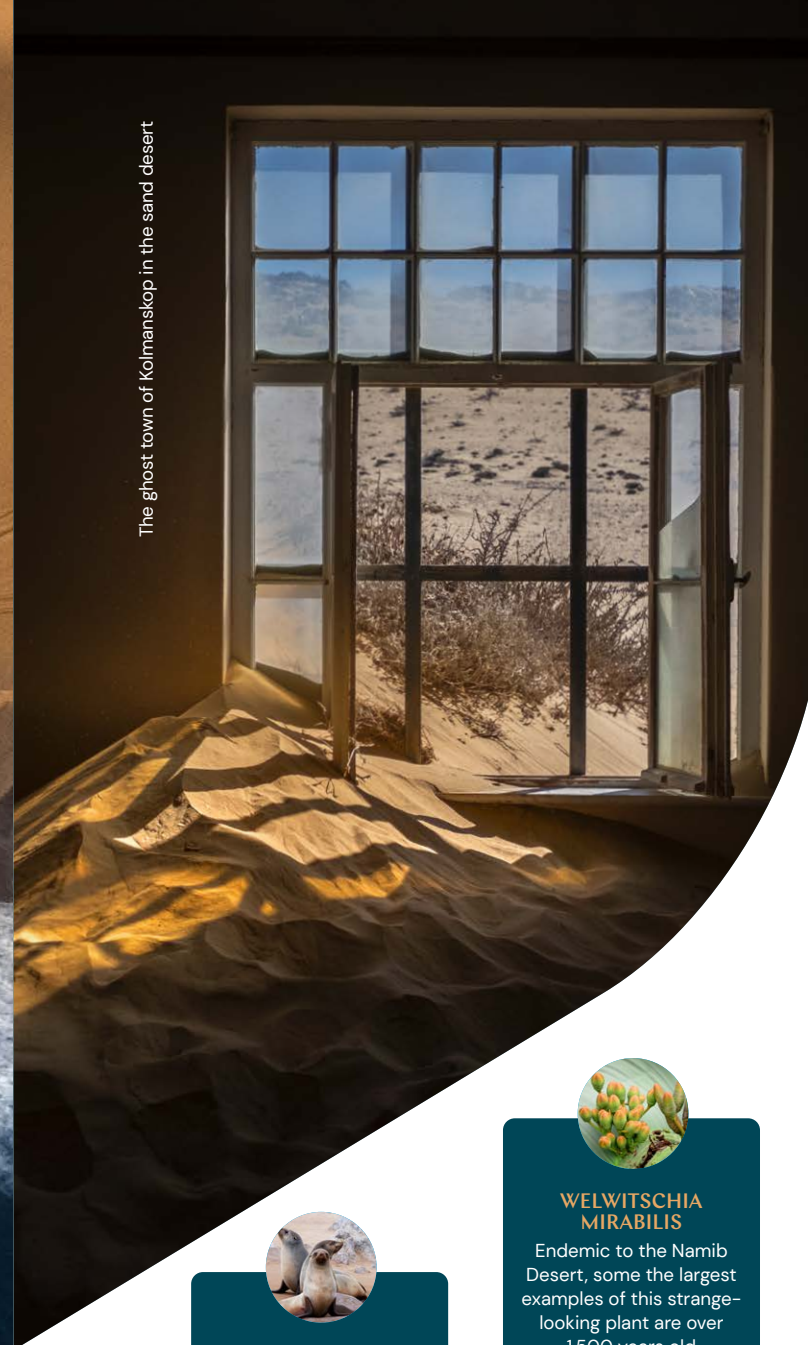
Coastal Treasures of Southwest Africa

25 Mar - 4 Apr 2024 SH Vega
Cape Town - Luanda 10 nights

Witness one of the world's most spectacular coastlines as you cruise from South Africa to Angola. Starting in the culture-packed city of Cape Town, your unforgettable 10-night expedition will sail along the wonderful west coast of Africa. Explore the Atlantic coastline of Namibia, the driest country in sub-Saharan Africa, and one of the only places on Earth where the desert comes right to the ocean's edge. Then sail on to Angola with its lush landscapes and unspoilt shores, brimming with wildlife, including flamingos, pelicans, whales and dolphins. Your journey ends in Angola's colourful capital, the Portuguese-influenced city of Luanda, rich in history and natural beauty.

Aerial view between ocean and desert, Walvis Bay, Namibia

The ghost town of Kolmanskop in the sand desert



SEAL THE DEAL

Namibia's Pelican Point is home to an array of wildlife, including a colony of thousands of Cape fur seals



WELWITSCHIA MIRABILIS

Endemic to the Namib Desert, some the largest examples of this strange-looking plant are over 1,500 years old

Day	Visiting
1-2	Cape Town
3	At Sea
4	Luderitz
5-7	Walvis Bay
8	At Sea
9	Namibe, Angola
10	At Sea
11	Luanda

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com

→ Starting from € 14,029 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy



5 Unmissables

- Soak up sensational panoramic views from Cape Town's iconic Table Mountain. This World Heritage site is home to an exceptional variety of wild flowers and plant life.
- Experience extreme ecosystems as you explore the natural beauty of the Namib desert, home to sweeping dunes and stunning coastlines.
- Immerse yourself in West African-German history and architecture with a visit to Goerke House. Built in 1910, this extravagant mansion overlooks the harbour town of Lüderitz.
- Embrace the eeriness of the Kolmanskop ghost town, a place slowly being reclaimed by the sandy desert that surrounds it.
- Explore Luanda's old town and discover centuries of Portuguese influence with trips to the baroque Sé Cathedral, Iron Palace, and the impressive 15th century Fortress of São Miguel.



Extraordinary Encounters

Explore the extraordinary Namibe Partial Reserve and discover the flora and fauna that have adapted to desert life in this harsh environment. Observe black rhinos, oryx, elephants, ostrich, wildebeest, flamingos and fur seal colonies all thriving in this incredible corner of the Namib Desert. One of the world's oldest and most unusual plants also lives here – the rare Welwitschia Mirabilis, with some specimens thought to be between 1,000 –1,500 years old.



Flamingo in Swakopmund, Namibia



Kwanza River Angola

Live it!

Kolmanskop Ghost Town Walking Tour Luderitz | Namibia

Explore the forgotten streets and homes of Kolmanskop, a former diamond mining town. Once buzzing with prosperity, most of the town has now been consumed by the Namib Desert.

Included

Dinner in the Dunes Swakop River Canyon | Walvis Bay

Travel to the Swakop River Canyon for an unforgettable evening under the stars. Strange rock formations and dry riverbeds mingle with tables draped in linen, subtle lighting, and candles reflecting off canyon walls to create a relaxed dinner venue under uninterrupted desert skies. Entertainment options include a marimba band, fire spinners and more.

Included

Stepping Out 
Zodiac

Unspoilt Wilds of Southwest Africa

📅 4 - 17 Apr 2024 🌤️ SH Vega
📍 Luanda - Accra 🗓️ 13 nights

This incredible 13-nights expedition cruise from Angola to Ghana will reveal the diversity of this vast continent. Explore pristine, biodiverse shorelines, harbouring volcanic islands, rainforests, mangrove forests, and dazzling lagoons and beaches. Experience elephants, leopards, hippos, and chimpanzees in their natural habitats. Then encounter unique customs and landscapes, as you voyage through some of the least-visited parts of Africa.

São Tomé and Príncipe



African Traditional Wooden Masks



TU PARLES FRANÇAIS?
Africa is home to the largest number of French speakers in the world, with 120 million speakers across the continent



NATURE'S BOUNTY
Sparsely populated Bom Bom Island - a tiny speck just off Príncipe - is home to dense forests, pristine beaches and rich biodiversity



Day	Visiting
1	Luanda
2	At Sea
3-5	Pointe-Noire
6	At Sea
7-8	Port-Gentil
9	Sao Tome, Sao Tome Island
10	Santo Antonio, Principe Island
11	At Sea
12	Cotonou
13	Lome, Togo
14	Tema (Accra), Ghana

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com

→ Starting from € 17,801 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy



5 Unmissables

- 🌿 Visit Gabon's South Loango National Park, famous for its beachcomber forest elephants and surfing hippos. Explore this pristine ecosystem with its mangrove forests, sublime waterways, and vast savannahs.
- 🌿 Explore the expansive Grand Marché in Togo's capital city of Lomé and get to know the Congolese locals. People come from miles around to sample this colourful market's traditional cuisine.
- 🌿 Visit the São Tomé Peak, a majestic volcanic tower rising 2,024m above sea level. Coffee and cocoa plantations cover the lower slopes, with trees swathed in orchids, lichens, and other epiphytes found higher up.
- 🌿 Observe the vibrant West African Voodoo culture with a visit to Lomé's Akodessawa Voodoo Market. One of West Africa's official religions, Voodoo, is shrouded in ancient tradition and mystery.
- 🌿 Spend the day learning about the Republic of Congo's incredible natural history and conservation efforts at the biodiverse Conkouati Reserve.

Extraordinary Encounters

Gabon's South Loango National Park is also known as 'Africa's last Eden', and you'll soon understand why when you get here. In addition to the elephants, buffalo and chimpanzees that live here, Loango National Park is one of the few places where it's possible to see habituated lowland gorillas.

The gorillas' movements are unpredictable, and it can take several hours of hiking through mud, small streams, and swamps to find them – what an adventure!

Portrait shot of a big gorilla in Congo Reserve

Women boating on the lagoon of the stilt village Ganvie

Live it!

Ganvie Village Ganvie | Cotonou

Experience Ganvie, the largest African village on stilts. Take in the Tofinou's bamboo huts built in the middle of Lake Nokwe, then watch an Egun mask procession, featuring colourful cloth masks that represent spirits.
Included

Nature of Sao Tome São Tomé e Príncipe | Guinea

Journey to the centre of the island and learn about the historical events that took place at Santíssima Trindade church. Then explore the island's nature with a trip to Bom Sucesso's Botanical Garden, home to over 400 species of endemic flora.
Optional

Stepping Out



Cultural Crucibles of West Africa

17 - 30 Apr 2024 SH Vega
 Accra - Dakar 13 nights

Sail from Ghana to Senegal on an unforgettable voyage. Immerse yourself in vibrant cultures, fascinating history, and breathtaking wildlife as you cruise along the West African coast. Set off from Tema, with its busy streets and complex past, and visit colourful cities, including Takoradi – with its famous bustling Market Circle – and Freetown, home to the Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary. Next, you'll never forget exploring the awe-inspiring archipelago of the Bijagos Islands with its traditional culture unchanged by outside influences, lush mangroves and wooded savannahs. Your 5-star boutique ship sails on to beautiful Banjul before reaching the end of your cruise, Senegal's capital, Dakar, a destination packed with cultural delights.

Abandoned buildings, Ivory Coast



Young traditional dancer, Sierra Leone

5 Unmissables

- Explore Accra and sample delicious local dishes, such as tangy jollof rice, waakye (rice and beans) and ga kenkey (sour dumplings).
- Visit Africa's largest market circle, Takoradi Market, and shop with locals in a lively marketplace steeped in over 100 years of history.
- Discover the beautiful beaches and crystal-clear waters alongside age-old traditions on the Bijagos archipelago. These sparsely populated islands' people and culture have remained unchanged for centuries.
- Uncover the heart of Banjul, Gambia's capital, at the vibrant Albert Market, renowned for its dazzling selection of fabrics, including exquisite batiks that showcase the essence of Gambian artistry.
- Wander around the colonial-era building-lined streets of the charming town of Grand-Bassam, the former capital of French West Africa and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day	Visiting
1	Tema (Accra), Ghana
2	Cape Coast (Fort William)
2	Elmina Point
2-3	Takoradi
4	Abidjan
5	At Sea
6	Monrovia
7	At Sea
8	Freetown
9	At Sea
10	Bijagos Archipelago, Bolama
10	Bijagos Archipelago, Canhabaque Island
11	Bijagos Archipelago, Orango Island
12	Banjul
13	Dakar
14	Dakar

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com



SPECIAL SANCTUARY
 Stop by Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, near Sierra Leone's capital, Freetown, to visit rescued primates in a rainforest



LIVING HISTORY
 Traditional fishing practices are still a way of life in the Bijagos archipelago, offering an insight into West Africa's cultural past

→ Starting from € 17,801 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy





Rare saltwater hippo, Orango Island

Extraordinary Encounters



Guinea-Bissau's remote Bijagos archipelago is a protected biosphere reserve and one of the few places to see rare saltwater hippos and endangered western chimpanzees. During the day, you'll find the hippos submerged in swampy lagoons. Later in the day, these incredible animals relocate to the beach to bathe in the salt water.



Elmina Castle, Ghana

Live it!

Elmina Slave Castle Elmina Point | Ghana

Travel to the fishing port of Elmina to explore the historic castles and dungeons – the ancient buildings tell the tales of the region's gold, ivory and slave trading past. Discover Elmina Castle, the oldest and largest European build-ing in Africa, which is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Then investigate Elmina's old town with its atmospheric alleys and fascinating Posuban – shrines to ancient Asafo warriors.

Included

Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary Freetown | Sierra Leone

Founded in 1995 by conservationists Bala and Sharmila Amarasekaran, the sanctuary is a safe haven for over 100 rescued chimpanzees. This is a rare chance to learn about the lives of chimps, and witness our closest evolutionary ancestor up close.

Optional

Stepping Out 
Zodiac

Pristine Islands of West Africa

30 Apr - 8 May 2024 SH Vega

Dakar - Dakar 8 nights

Explore the remote beauty of the Bijagós islands on a captivating cruise. Your boutique, 5-star ship leaves from Senegal's lively capital, Dakar, and takes you to some of the least-visited islands in West Africa. This tropical world has deserted beaches, ancient traditions and unique wildlife. You'll never forget your time in this exceptional archipelago – all 88 islands are a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Discover Bolama's decaying colonial buildings and the elaborate rituals of Canhabaque. Walk through Orango National Park's wooded savannah and relax on the pristine beaches of Meio and Kere Islands before returning to Dakar, our last stop on this once-in-a-lifetime voyage.

Aerial view Bijagos Archipelago, Guinea Bissau



3 Unmissables

Encounter the rare and gentle saltwater hippos, also known as African manatees, in the mangrove-lined waterways on Orango Island.

Experience the vibrant Kumpo dance, a powerful tradition of the Bijagós people, with intricate footwork, dynamic movements and rhythmic drumming in Canhabaque Island's villages.

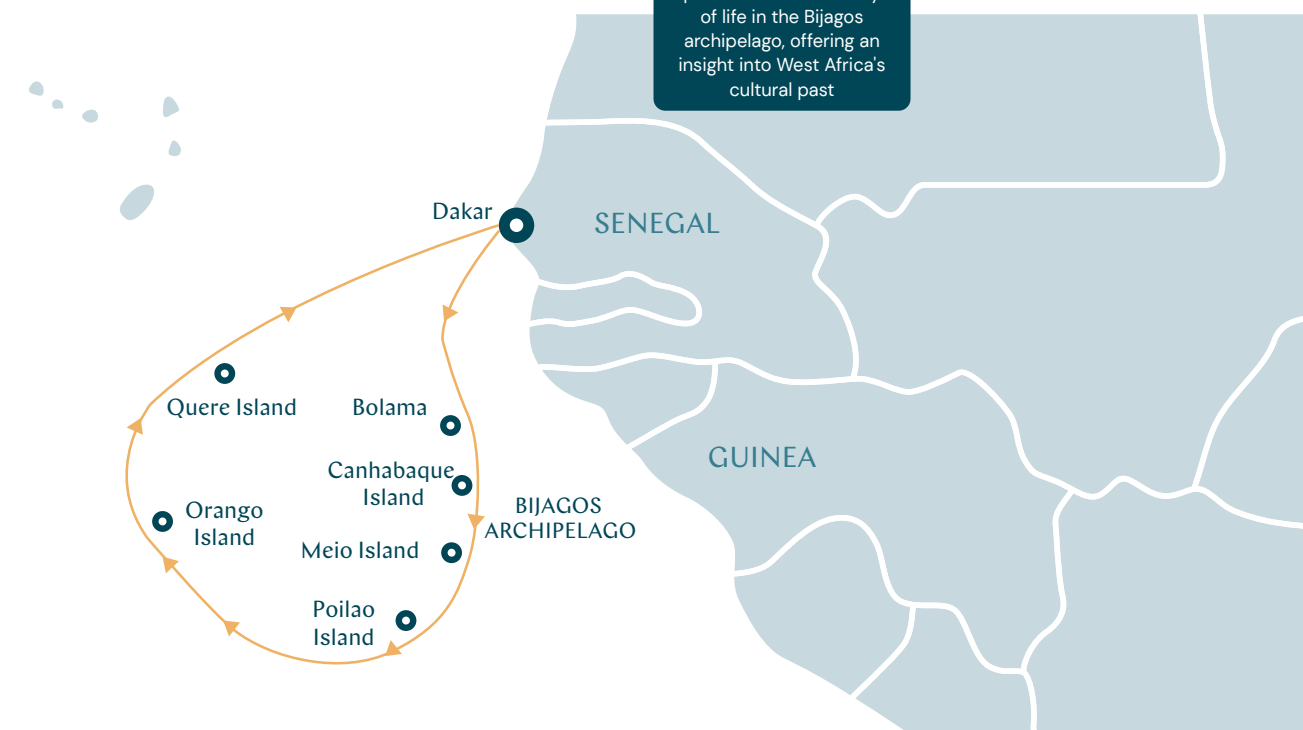
Take to the zodiacs and explore Bolama Island, once the capital of Portuguese Guinea, now an eerie ghost town with remnants of its colonial grandeur.

Day	Visiting
1	Dakar
2	At Sea
3-7	Bijagos Archipelago
8	Dakar
9	Dakar

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com



LIVING HISTORY
Traditional fishing practices are still a way of life in the Bijagos archipelago, offering an insight into West Africa's cultural past



→ Starting from € 11,515 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy



Extraordinary Encounters

Green sea turtles are gentle creatures found in tropical and subtropical waters worldwide. They inhabit coastal areas, coral reefs and seagrass beds, playing a vital role in maintaining seagrass ecosystems.

The island of Poilao, a captivating destination within the Bijagós archipelago, is renowned as a haven for green sea turtles. While not considered extremely rare, green sea turtles are classified as an endangered species. Poilao's preservation efforts ensure the continued survival of these remarkable creatures.

Marvel at their graceful presence in the crystal-clear waters and witness the nesting sites where female green sea turtles return to their birth beaches to delicately lay their eggs. They dig nests in the sand and lay a clutch of around 100 to 200 eggs, which incubate for approximately 60 days, with hatching babies making their way to the ocean.



Newly hatched green turtle specimens walk towards the sea in the Poilao Marine National Park



Traditional dressed man, Bijagos Archipelago

Live it!

Zodiac cruising around the islands Bijagos Archipelago | Guinea Bissau

Immerse yourself in the unparalleled beauty of the Bijago Archipelago as our expert expedition team guides you on a remarkable journey from the water.

Our Zodiac boats grant exclusive access to remote landing sites and narrow passages, unveiling hidden wonders beyond the reach of traditional cruise ships.

At Swan Hellenic, our unforgettable shore excursions allow you to fully embrace the remarkable beauty of this archipelago. Explore exclusively by Zodiac, accompanied by our exceptional expedition team, and prepare for a truly immersive experience that brings the essence of expedition cruising to life.

Included

Stepping Out 
Zodiac

Mysteries of Carthage and the Moors

📅 10 - 20 Aug 2024 🏠 SH Diana
📍 Lisbon - Palermo 🗓️ 10 nights

Embark on a captivating 10-night historical odyssey, tracing the Roman heritage of coastal gems in Portugal, Spain, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Italy. Departing from the culturally rich city of Lisbon, this specially curated voyage allows ample time to explore remarkable Roman sites in Spain and along the North African coast, such as the ancient city of Carthage in Tunisia, a powerful rival to Rome itself; Tipaza, Algeria, known for its impressive ruins including a Roman theatre and basilica; and Cotta in Morocco. Unravel the intricate history and immerse yourself in the grandeur of the Roman Empire throughout the Mediterranean region. Conclude this enriching journey in Palermo, Sicily, following in the footsteps of ancient Romans along the picturesque Mediterranean coast.

Chefchaouen, Morocco



Snacks with cod fish in tapas bar in Seville

5 Unmissables

🏰 Get lost in the whitewashed, winding alleyways of the Kasbah medina in Algiers as you soak up the city's historic architecture.

🏰 Visit Cape St. Vincent, a breathtaking headland on the southwest coast of Portugal. This special place has been revered since Phoenician times and is steeped in military history. Today the area is protected as part of the Southwest Alentejo and Vicentine Coast Natural Park, where rare bird species and unique flora thrive.

🏰 Feast on history and tapas in the Andalusian capital of Seville. Then explore the birthplace of flamenco in the courtyards of the riverside district of Triana.

🏰 Venture into the past with a trip to Carthage Archaeological Park. Dating back to 900 BCE, this fascinating archaeological site preserves artefacts of ancient civilisations and great trading empires.

🏰 The vibrant international melting pot of Tangier is a gateway to northern Africa and Morocco. Visit the Kasbah Museum of Mediterranean Cultures, housed in the former sultan's palace of Dar El Makhzen, to discover the history of this amazing area.

Day	Visiting
1	Lisbon
2	Portimao
3-4	Seville
5	Tangier
6	Oran
7	Algiers
8	Bejaia
9	Annaba
10	La Goulette
11	Palermo

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com



TIPAZA

Immerse yourself in Tipaza's Roman heritage with its semi-circular theatre and 4th-century AD basilica, beautifully framed by the azure Mediterranean Sea.



→ Starting from € 8,886 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy





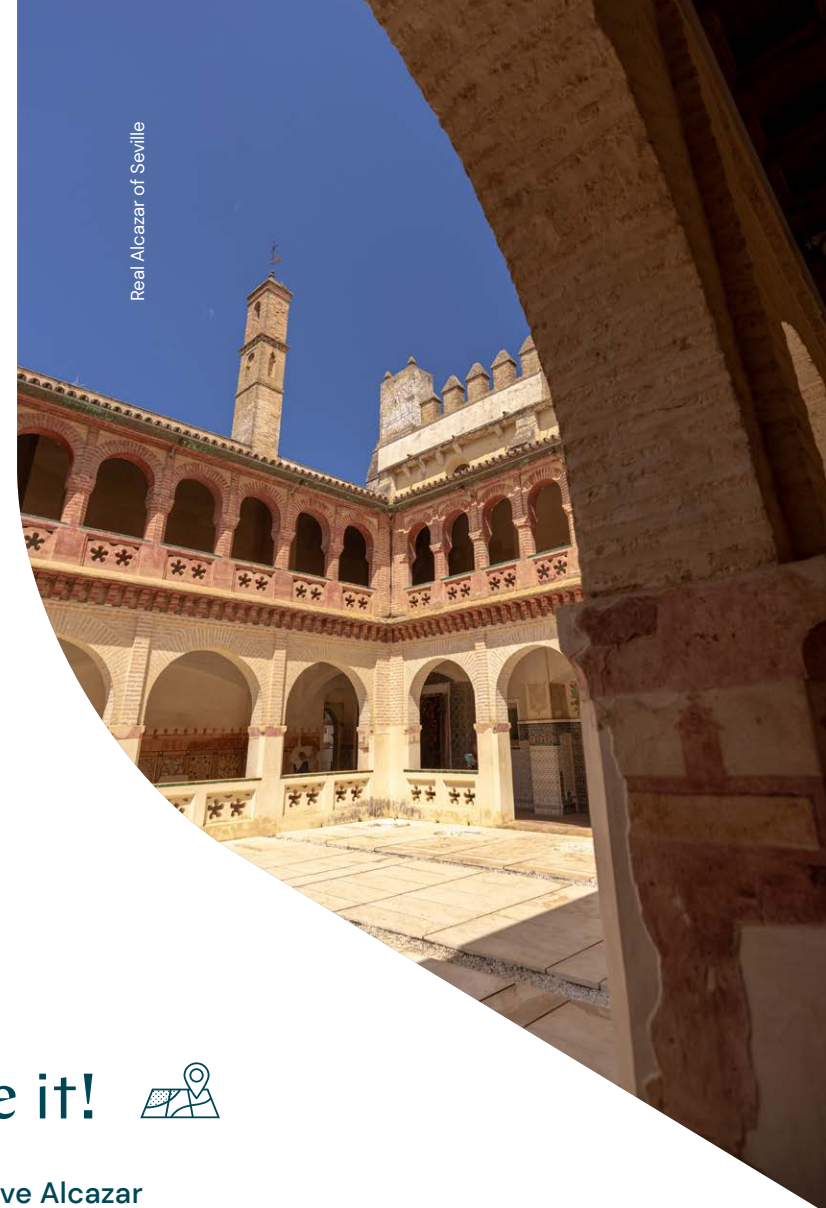
Barbary macaque, Algeria

Extraordinary Encounters



A visit to Gouraya National Park in Algeria's Bejaia Province offers a rare chance to see the Barbary macaque in its natural environment.

The Barbary macaque is the only macaque species that live outside Asia, and the only primate species found north of the Sahara. The survival of the Barbary macaque is under threat, and there are now fewer in the wild than lowland gorillas. Gouraya National Park offers a sanctuary for these animals and a unique opportunity to learn more about this fascinating primate.



Real Alcazar of Seville

Live it!

Exclusive Alcazar Seville | Spain

Explore the Real Alcazar of Seville, the oldest palace in Europe, on an exclusive evening visit. This Spanish cultural treasure still serves as one of the residences of Spain's King, Felipe VI, and is thought to be one of the best-preserved examples of Moorish architecture in the country. Guided by a knowledgeable expert, you'll discover the secrets and breathtaking beauty of this 14th century structure on your unforgettable private visit.

Included

The Roman Ruins of Djemila Djemila | Algeria

After a scenic coach ride, you'll head to Djemila's vast Roman ruins. Known for their sheer size, impressive mosaics and imposing buildings, these magnificently preserved Roman remains date back to the 1st century CE. Your guide will walk you through this once buzzing Roman city on a fascinating historical tour, taking in the Arch of Caracalla, the Forum, the Basilica, and much more.

Optional

Paradise Islands of the Indian Ocean

📅 16 Oct – 26 Oct 2024 🏠 SH Diana
📍 Port Victoria – Mombasa 🗓️ 10 nights

Experience a slice of tropical paradise far from the crowds on this beautiful 11-night voyage. You'll explore a handful of the remote 115 islands that make up this Indian Ocean archipelago, before heading to Tanzania and Kenya. Discover Mombasa, known for their rich cultures and pungent spices. Embrace pure joy as you dive, snorkel and even surf in these waters filled with colourful fish. Then head on land to encounter nesting turtles, giant tortoises, pink flamingos and red fodies in their natural habitat.

White sand beach of Pemba Island, Zanzibar



Zanzibar's spice market

5 Unmissables

🌊 Visit the spectacular Aldabra Atoll. This fascinating World Heritage Site is one of the world's largest coral atolls, consisting of four large coral islands, enclosing a shallow tropical lagoon, and surrounded by a reef.

🌊 Discover the tranquil beauty of Pemba Island. Cloaked in lush vegetation, this hilly island is famed for its extensive clove farms, peaceful islets and white-sand beaches. Pemba's biodiverse forests are a haven for grazing blue duiker, and the Pemba flying fox, identifiable by its distinctive rusty-red fur and large wingspan.

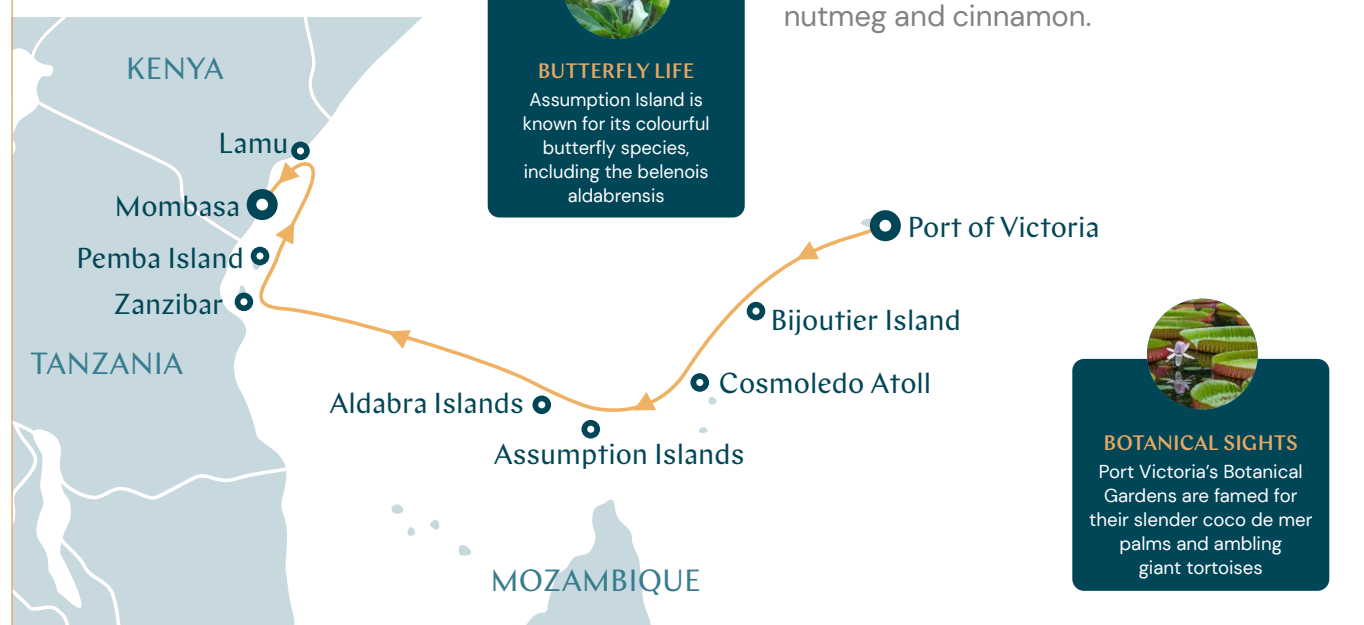
🌊 Lose yourself in the history of Zanzibar's Stone Town. This World Heritage Site is a labyrinth of winding alleys, bustling marketplaces, and breathtaking mosques and grand Arab residences.

🌊 Visit the World Heritage-listed Lamu Old Town. The history of this fascinating town dates back to the 12th century, and it was once an important trading centre. Marvel at how well the mangrove timber and coral stone have been preserved, and appreciate the elaborately carved wooden doors.

🌊 Take in the aromas of Zanzibar's market stalls heaped with locally grown spices like nutmeg and cinnamon.

Day	Visiting
1	Port Victoria, Mahe Island
2	Bijoutier Island
3	Farquhar Atoll
4	Cosmoledo Atoll
5-6	Aldabra Island
6	Assumption Island
7	At Sea
8	Zanzibar
9	Pemba Island
10	Lamu
11	Mombasa

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com



→ Starting from € 10,143 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy

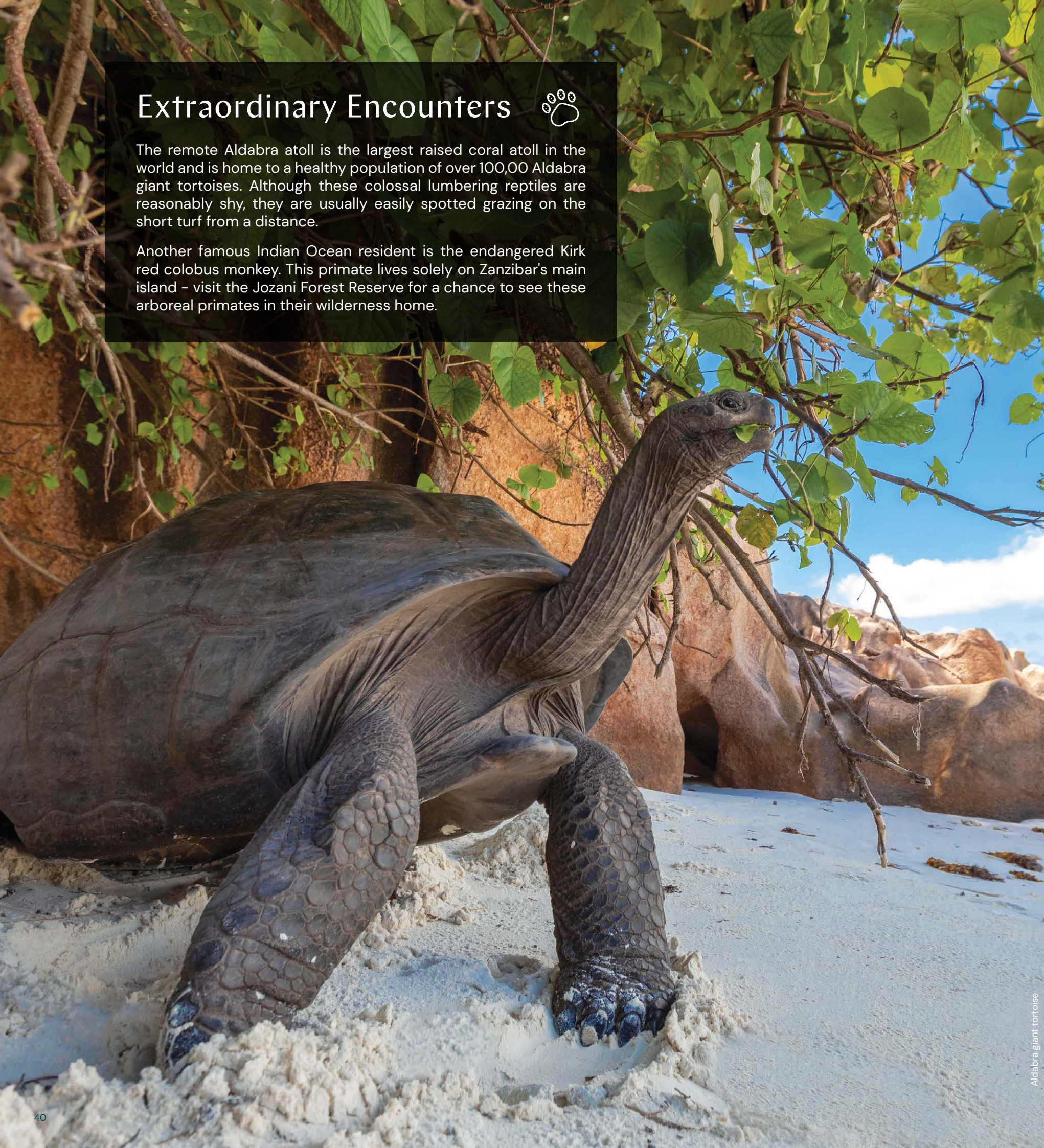


Extraordinary Encounters



The remote Aldabra atoll is the largest raised coral atoll in the world and is home to a healthy population of over 100,000 Aldabra giant tortoises. Although these colossal lumbering reptiles are reasonably shy, they are usually easily spotted grazing on the short turf from a distance.

Another famous Indian Ocean resident is the endangered Kirk red colobus monkey. This primate lives solely on Zanzibar's main island – visit the Jozani Forest Reserve for a chance to see these arboreal primates in their wilderness home.



Aldabra giant tortoise



Lamu old island in Kenya

Live it!



Lamu Old Town Visit Lamu | Kenya

Explore Lamu Old Town, East Africa's oldest and best-preserved Swahili settlement. Stroll tiny alleyways and discover ornate, well-preserved buildings built from coral stone and mangrove timber. Admire intricately carved wooden doors and arcaded facades, or take a peek into hidden courtyards. Then immerse yourself in Swahili culture with a visit to the town's museum and fort.

Included

Sandbank Dhow Cruise and Snorkel Zanzibar | Tanzania

Embark on a 30-minute scenic cruise to the sandbank in a traditional, hand-built dhow-boat. Then spend the day relaxing in the shade, sunbathing, or swimming and snorkelling at a nearby reef. Refreshments and snacks will be provided, along with a Zanzibar-style seafood-and-beef buffet lunch, followed by coffee served with Amarula liquor.

Optional

Stepping Out

 Zodiac  Snorkelling

Madagascar and its Islands

📅 26 Oct – 6 Nov 2024 🏠 SH Diana
📍 Mombasa – Maputo 🗓️ 11 nights

Our cultural expedition cruise leaves the Kenyan capital of Mombasa and heads via the stunning landscapes of the Seychelles for a voyage discovering the Western Madagascar & Mozambique coasts. Encounter rarely visited beaches, and rainforests and gardens – home to incredible wildlife, from dolphins, whales, turtles and giant tortoises to brightly coloured pink flamingos and rainbow chameleons. Swim in pristine waters, or spend your time on land taking in the aromas of local spices piled high on market stalls. Your voyage finishes in Maputo, the intriguing capital of Mozambique, where you'll feel uplifted by nature in all its splendour.



Aldabra giant tortoise

Day	Visiting
1	Mombasa
2	At Sea
3-4	Aldabra Islands
5	Assumption Island
6	Nosy-Be
7	Mahajanga
8	At Sea
9	Morondava
10	Toliara
11	At Sea
12	Maputo

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com



5 Unmissables

🌿 Explore Madagascar's lush virgin rainforests, packed with species that have evolved in isolation on this biodiverse island. Look out for lemurs, chameleons, and hundreds of species of birds.

🌿 Explore the other-worldly Reniala Nature Reserve. The small 45-hectare reserve was set up by a couple who wanted to preserve southwestern Madagascar's unique flora and fauna.

🌿 Visit the world's largest tortoise colony. Over 100,000 lumbering giant tortoises live on the isolated landscape of the Aldabra Islands. One of the world's largest land tortoises, the Aldabra tortoise can live for up to 150 years.

🌿 Take in the hauntingly beautiful sight of Madagascar's 'Avenue of the Baobabs', a dirt road framed by dozens of ancient trees once part of a rich forest. The trees here are more than 800 years old, with trunks over 50 metres in circumference.

🌿 Discover the extraordinary Ankarafantsika National Park, a vast dry forest area, lakes, canyons and savannas. Ankarafantsika is home to many species, including the rare mongoose lemur.



ECLECTIC CULTURE

Madagascar is home to over 18 different tribes, traditions and cultures, with its people (the Malagasy) originating from Borneo, East Africa, the Middle East and many other parts of the world



NATURAL BEAUTY

Mahajana's Cirque Rouge is a remarkable natural amphitheatre whose crumbling rocks are a blend of red, ochre and pale pink

→ Starting from € 11,012 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy



Traditional fishing pirogues in Anakao, Madagascar



Ring-tailed lemur, Madagascar

Extraordinary Encounters



The flora and fauna of Madagascar have evolved in isolation since it split from the African continent an estimated 160 million years ago. The wildlife here is abundant and unusual in equal measure. Over 90 per cent of the island's mammals exist nowhere else on earth – a true haven for wildlife enthusiasts.

Come face to face with curious ring-tailed lemurs, walk amongst towering baobab trees and look out for the colourful chameleons, experts of disguise. The birdlife on the island is also plentiful, with many endemic species, including the Madagascar bee-eater and the Madagascar pygmy kingfisher. Look out for flocks of colourful vasa parrots in the skies above the forests.

On nearby Aldabra Atoll, observe some of the largest and oldest tortoises in the world. These gentle giants can weigh up to 250 kilograms, grow up to 1.5 metres long, and live up to 150 years old.



Avenue of the Baobabs

Live it!

Avenue of the Baobabs Tour Morondava | Madagascar

Visit the incredible Avenue of the Baobabs in the coastal town of Morondava. These magnificent trees are a point of local pride, but they're also under threat from farming practices. You'll get to take part in reforestation activities with NGO Fanamby, then walk along the Avenue of centuries-old giants, which is said to be the most beautiful road in Madagascar.

Included

Black Lemur Sanctuary Nosy Be | Madagascar

Nosy Komba, the island of lemurs, certainly lives up to its name. This volcanic island lying between Nosy Be and the main island of Madagascar is named after the komba – Malagasi for black lemur or maki macaco – that inhabit its thick forest. Visit the Black Lemur Sanctuary, a small park run by the village to see the playful black lemur.

Optional

Stepping Out

 Zodiac  Snorkelling

Extraordinary Southern Africa

📅 6 – 13 Nov 2024 🏠 SH Diana
📍 Maputo – Cape Town 🗓️ 7 nights

Discover the best of South Africa on an inspiring 7-night expedition along the Indian Ocean. Leaving Mozambique's culture-packed capital city, Maputo, your first venture on South African shores will be to the lively port town of Richards Bay. With wonderful beaches, extensive wetlands and a large lagoon – home to hippos and crocodiles – there's something for everyone to explore. Then it's time to visit big game reserves to spot rhinos, cheetahs and elephants roaming in the wild. Finishing in the cosmopolitan city of Cape Town, this is a transatlantic voyage you'll never forget.



5 Unmissables

- 🚢 Take a traditional dhow ride along the shore and discover the history of these long slim sailing boats.
- 🌿 Stroll through Durban's peaceful Botanical Gardens, famous for its spectacular orchid and palm collections.
- 🦏 Visit Addo Elephant National Park for a guided game drive, which offers thrilling encounters with the world's largest land mammal.
- 🌊 Sail into cosmopolitan Cape Town, set against the dramatic backdrop of Table Mountain. Take in the views of this picturesque coastal city from the vantage point of the bay.
- 🐠 Snorkel through the vibrant waters of Cape Vidal, looking out for the many species of colourful tropical fish and gentle sea turtles.



ON THE RIVER

Built in an old quarry site on the banks of the Umgeni River, Durban's Umgeni River Bird Park is home to around 200 species



GOLDEN MILE

Take a rickshaw ride along Durban's wide seafront promenade, known as the Golden Mile



Day Visiting

- 1 Maputo
- 2 Inhaca Island
- 3 Richards Bay
- 4 Durban
- 5 At Sea
- 6 Port Elizabeth
- 7 Mossel Bay
- 8 Cape Town

Ports, port order and itinerary duration may vary, for the most up-to-date details see swanhellenic.com

→ Starting from € 7,538 per person in double Oceanview Stateroom occupancy



transfer airport/hotel



one night pre-cruise



transfer hotel/port



cruise



transfer port/airport

Extraordinary Encounters



Set in 6,500 hectares of stunning wilderness, Pumba Private Game Reserve is home to some of Africa's most iconic and beloved wildlife. Alongside the 'Big Five' (lions, elephants, leopards, buffalo and rhino), hyena, cheetah, hippo, giraffe, zebra and over 300 bird species can be found here. The reserve is also home to a pride of rare white lions.

In addition to its rich and diverse wildlife, Pumba also boasts a range of stunning landscapes, including savannahs, wetlands, and forests. With its rolling hills, sparkling rivers, and towering mountains, Pumba is a photographer's paradise.

Explore the park in the company of the people who know this land like no one else, the local park rangers. Embark on game drives and guided bushwalks, create memories that will last a lifetime and experience nature in its rawest form.

Elephants, Pumba Private Game Reserve

Live it!

Durban City Tour Durban | KwaZulu-Natal

Take in this sub-tropical city's diverse cultural influences from the comfort of an air-conditioned coach. This half-day tour reveals landmarks and panoramic views, along with a stop to explore Durban Botanical Gardens, and a trip to the Victoria Street Market, to browse aromatic spice stalls, exotic ornaments and wooden carvings.

Included

Pumba Private Game Reserve Visit Port Elizabeth | Makana Municipality

Spend a full day at Pumba Private Game Reserve. The first of the Eastern Cape Game reserves to introduce a white lion breeding program, Pumba offers guests the chance of spotting the Big Five in their natural environment. After refreshments, you'll head out on a game drive with rangers, and experience the thrill of spotting free roaming wildlife in their natural habitat.

Optional

Stepping Out



Zodiac

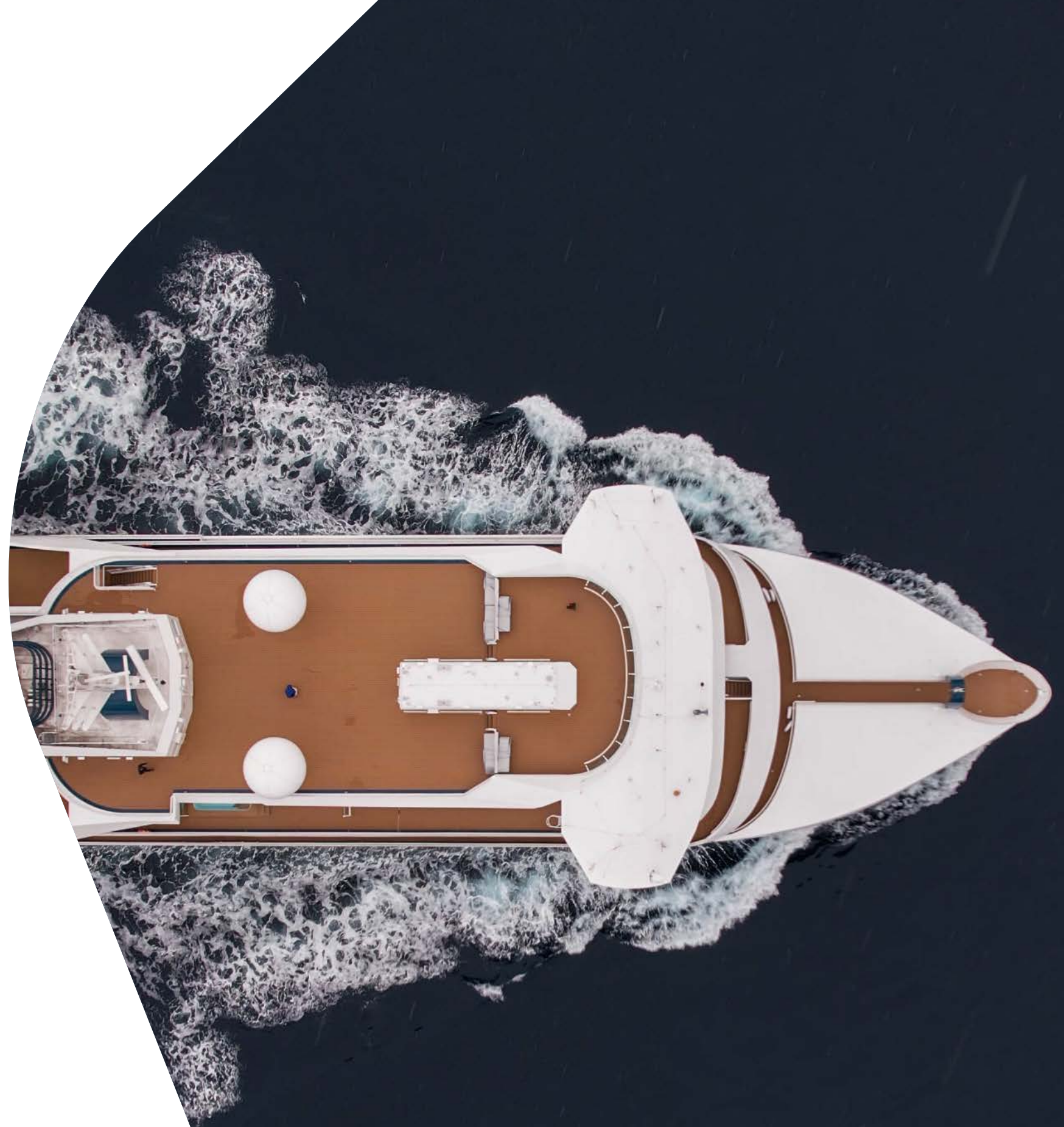


White lions at Pumba Private Game Reserve

A new class of exploration

Immerse yourself in breathtaking panoramic views, elegant interiors, and sophisticated onboard facilities.

Our fleet of 5-star boutique ships — SH Minerva, SH Vega and SH Diana — have taken expedition cruising to new heights. Built in the Helsinki Shipyard in Finland, these ships combine the latest in expedition technology with stylish, sophisticated design. Featuring elegant interiors, wide unobstructed views throughout the ship and dedicated expedition facilities for a remarkable travel experience. Explore off-the-beaten-track destinations in style and comfort as you take in the scenery from a panoramic sauna, warm up in an outdoor hot tub, dine in a world-class restaurant, and unwind in an elegant stateroom. This is boutique cruising at its finest.



SH Vega

Boutique cruising at its finest

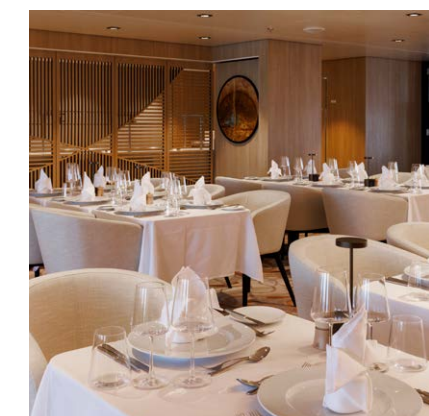
SH Minerva, SH Vega, and SH Diana are sister ships designed to navigate the most inspiring, inaccessible places on earth. All the while offering guests an immersive, 5-star experience.



The interiors are spacious and tasteful, with plush furnishing and floor-to-ceiling windows that give you unobstructed views of some of the most incredible landscapes in the world. On board, savour international cuisine imagined by renowned chefs, unwind in a sophisticated stateroom and make full use of state-of-the-art spa, fitness and expedition facilities.

SH Minerva & SH Vega
 👤 120 crew
 👥 150 guests
 🏠 9 decks

SH Diana
 👤 141 crew
 👥 192 guests
 🏠 9 decks



The Swan Restaurant

As the main venue for breakfast, lunch and dinner, our 152-seat restaurant serves international and local cuisine focussed on quality regional ingredients from the unique destinations we visit.



Club Lounge

Vibrant and welcoming, The Club Lounge acts as a hub, combining 24 hour tapas inspired dining with panoramic views of the ocean glittering below.



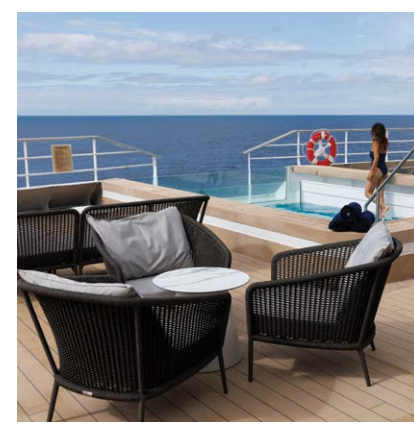
Sauna with a View

Head to Deck 8 for the best views in the world. After a work out in our state-of-the-art gym, relax in our sauna or jacuzzi and take in those breathtaking vistas along the way.



Observation Lounge

After a day of exploration, where better to relax than in the Observation Lounge? Sit back, savour your favourite tittle whilst getting to know your fellow guests.



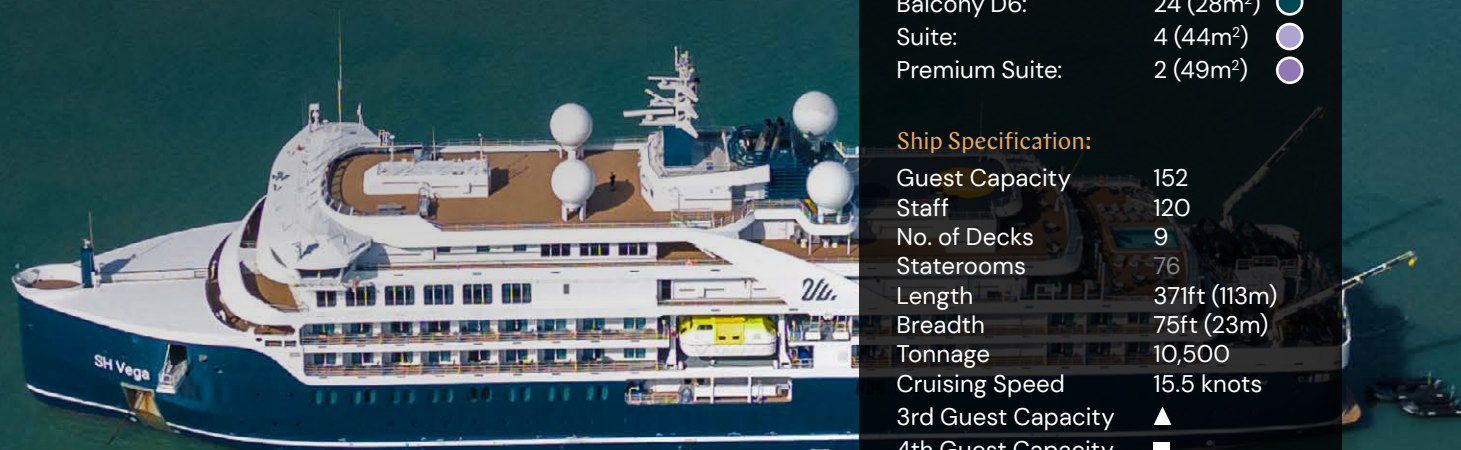
Alfresco Dining & Heated Outdoor Pool

On Deck 7, you'll find a heated outside pool along with pool side seating from where you can enjoy stunning scenery.

Our heated outdoor pool

SH Vega

Our elegant 5-star ships offer a boutique home-from-home. With a chic Scandinavian-inspired design and world-class technology, you'll experience an expedition cruise like no other.

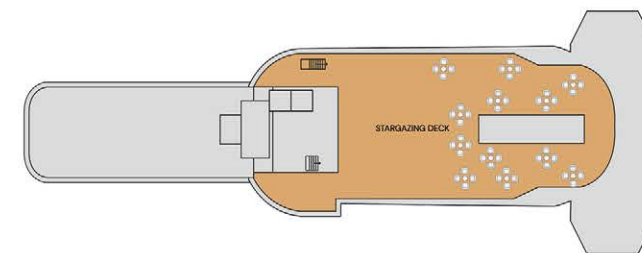


Stateroom Category:

- Oceanview D4: 4 (19m²) ●
- Oceanview M4: 12 (19m²) ●
- Balcony D5: 8 (28m²) ●
- Balcony M5: 22 (28m²) ●
- Balcony D6: 24 (28m²) ●
- Suite: 4 (44m²) ●
- Premium Suite: 2 (49m²) ●

Ship Specification:

- Guest Capacity 152
- Staff 120
- No. of Decks 9
- Staterooms 76
- Length 371ft (113m)
- Breadth 75ft (23m)
- Tonnage 10,500
- Cruising Speed 15.5 knots
- 3rd Guest Capacity ▲
- 4th Guest Capacity ■
- Connecting Staterooms ↔
- Wheelchair Accessible Staterooms ♿ 415
- Propulsion Hybrid Diesel Electric, Polar Class PC5
- Registered Panama
- Lifeboats 2
- Zodiacs 11 MK V, 2 MK VI



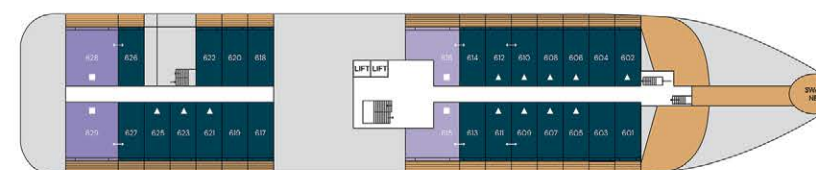
Deck 9
Stargazing Deck



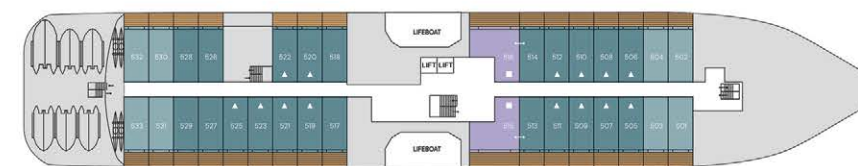
Deck 8
Gym
Sauna
Jacuzzi
Spa
Bridge



Deck 7
Shop
Swimming Pool
Pool Bar & Grill
Club Lounge
Observation Lounge



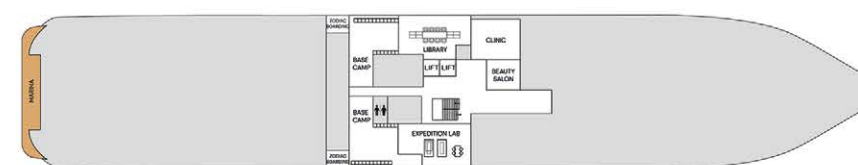
Deck 6
Premium Suites
Suites
Balcony Staterooms D6
Swan's Nest



Deck 5
Balcony Staterooms D5, M5
Suites



Deck 4
Reception
Laundrette
Swan Restaurant
Oceanview Staterooms D4, M4



Deck 3
Clinic
Library
Basecamp
Beauty Salon
Expedition Lab

SH Diana

The largest 5-star ship in our fleet, SH Diana (named after the Roman goddess of light, the moon, hunting and the wilderness) is elegant, spacious and built to explore the Mediterranean's famous sites of antiquity and beyond.



The Swan's Nest, on board SH Diana

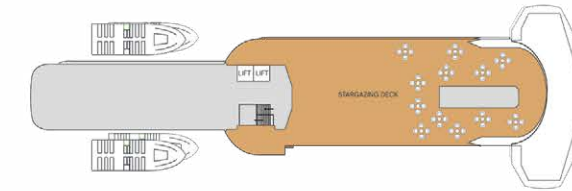
Stateroom Category:

- Oceanview: 20 (20m²) ●
- Balcony: 66 (28m²) ●
- Junior Suite: 4 (35m²) ●
- Suite: 4 (44m²) ●
- Premium Suite: 2 (47m²) ●

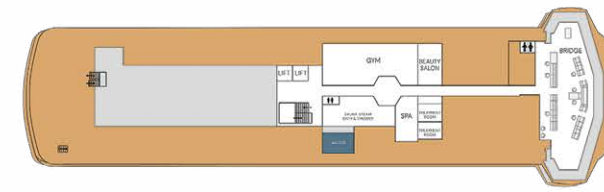
Ship Specification:

- Guest Capacity: 192
- Staff: 141
- No. of Decks: 9
- Staterooms: 96
- Length: 410 ft (125m)
- Breadth: 75 ft (23m)
- Tonnage: 12,100 GRT
- Cruising Speed: 14.5 knots
- Propulsion: Hybrid Diesel Electric, Polar Class PC6
- Registered: Malta
- Lifeboats: 2
- Tender: 2
- Zodiacs: 13 MK V, 2 MK VI

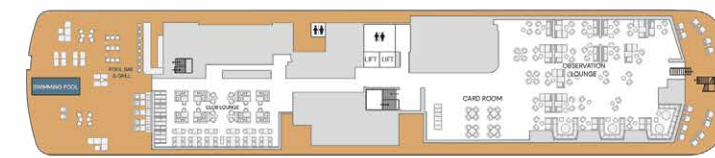
Accessible Staterooms: 419 (Deck 4), 635 (Deck 6)



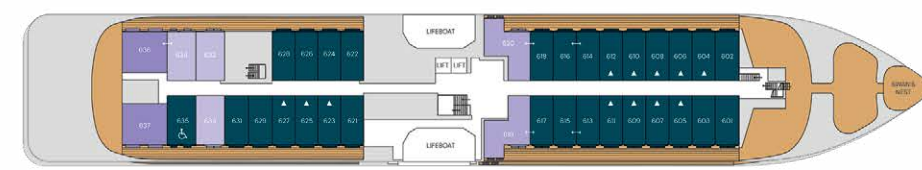
Deck 9
Stargazing Deck



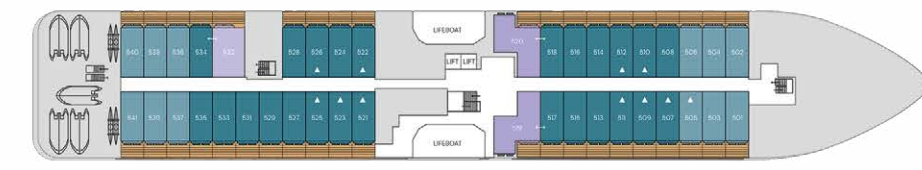
Deck 8
Gym
Sauna
Jacuzzi
Spa
Beauty Salon
Bridge



Deck 7
Swimming Pool
Pool Bar & Grill
Club Lounge
Card Room
Observation Lounge



Deck 6
Premium Suites
Suites
Junior Suites
Balcony Staterooms
Swan's Nest



Deck 5
Balcony Staterooms
Junior Suites
Suites



Deck 4
Swan Restaurant
Reception
Oceanview Staterooms
Launderette



Deck 3
Marina Deck
Zodiac Boarding
Basecamp
Library
Expedition Lab
Clinic
Laundry

Your home away from home

Relax in the understated elegance of your stateroom or suite. A sophisticated blend of muted tones, natural textures and intuitive technology, the Scandi-inspired design seamlessly blends the natural world with 5-star comforts. The variety of lighting options and crackling holographic fire offer the perfect option for cozy evenings, and the floor to ceiling windows and balcony doors ensure that no sunset or surprise sighting goes unmissed.

Your perfect space

Each of our beautifully designed staterooms has everything you need for a pampered stay. Fluffy dressing gowns, spacious dressing and seating areas and ample storage, as well as a well-stocked minibar and a personal safe. The desk in your room is the perfect place to plan the next day's adventures, and you won't miss a wildlife sighting with your Nikon telescope. Glass-enclosed rain showers with luxury personal care products transform your ensuite into a personal spa.



Onboard stateroom suite. Suite sizes and categories vary by ship

Amenities in your cabin

- Welcome Champagne bottle
- Snacks
- Stocked minibar with soft drinks and beer
- Illy Espresso coffee machine with coffee pads
- Tea Kettle and Kusmi tea bags
- TV service
- Free Wi-fi connection, subject to satellite reception
- Hair dryer
- Towels for cabin, swimming pool and gym
- Bathrobe
- Bedroom slippers
- High quality toiletries by Lajatica, custom made for our selection onboard. These include hand soap, shower gel, shampoo, conditioner and body lotion.



Premium Suite
49m² (528ft²) | Sleeps 4

Premium Suites feature a king size bed and separate living room with a soothing, flame-effect fireplace, a luxurious ensuite bathroom with separate bath tub and walk-in shower, a spacious walk-in wardrobe and a 12m² (129ft²) private balcony.



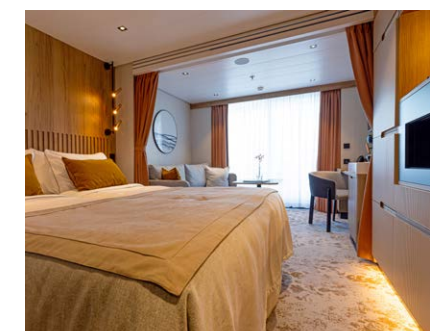
Suite
44m² (474ft²) | Sleeps 4

Suites feature a king size bed and separate living room with a soothing flame-effect fireplace, a luxurious ensuite bathroom with separate bath tub and walk-in shower and a 12m² (129ft²) private balcony.



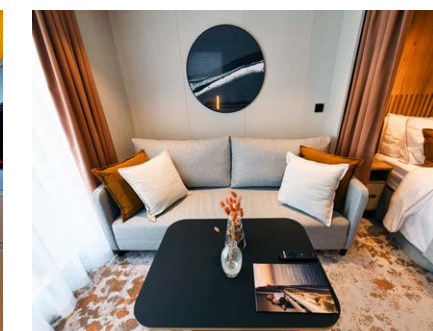
Junior Suite (only on SH Diana)
35m² (377ft²) | Sleeps 2/3

Features a king size bed, separate living room area with homely flame-effect fireplace, private kitchen, luxurious en-suite bathroom and a 7 sq. m private balcony.



Balcony
28m² (302ft²) | Sleeps 2/3

Balcony Staterooms feature two single beds or a double bed bedroom with living room area, a luxurious bathroom and your own private 6m² (65ft²) balcony.



Oceanview
19m² (205ft²) | Sleeps 2

Oceanview Staterooms feature two single beds or a double bed with living room area and a luxurious bathroom.

Book your cultural expedition cruise

Nautical adventurers have been drawn to Africa for millennia and the mysteries of this continent are still attracting explorers today. Visit some of the least-visited parts of Africa as you discover local customs and culture, experience rare, exotic wildlife, and immerse yourself in ancient, natural beauty and exclusive activities.

Join the inquisitive voyagers that came before you and awaken your inner adventurer on a unique expedition along the inspiring African coast.



Thanks for embracing
our travel philosophy