

# 2020

## HARVARD ALUMNI TRAVELS

DISCOVER • LEARN • CONNECT • EXPLORE



### OMAN AND THE GULF STATES

Aboard *Crystal Esprit*

January 2–12, 2020

With Erez Manela, Professor of History





*Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Muscat*

**In the Persian Gulf states**, old and new co-exist in innovative and intriguing ways. During this exploration of Dubai, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, and Oman aboard the all-suite *Crystal Esprit*, visit the mosques, *souqs*, educational institutions, and museums that reflect a fascinating juxtaposition of past and present that is unique to the Islamic world.

Begin your exploration among the dazzling skyscrapers of Dubai, home to some of the most stunning architectural efforts of the 20th and 21st centuries. Embark the luxurious *Crystal Esprit* and cruise to Qatar, where visits to the old *souq* and the new Education City illustrate dramatic change that has come to the Gulf States. In the emirate of Abu Dhabi, museums, mosques, and Masdar City amaze with both their sheer grandeur and minute detail. Cruise through the fjord-like waterways of Oman's Musandam Peninsula and visit some of Muscat's culturally unique museums, mosques, and markets. For further exploration, optional extensions in Dubai and Oman's interior are also available.

### Activity Level 3:

#### **A LITTLE MORE TO IT**

This is a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Participants must be physically fit, active, and in good health. Daily programs involve walking one to two miles—through city centers, historic sites, and in museums, where there may also be extended periods of standing. Participants will encounter uneven terrain, including dirt and cobblestoned paths, and must be able to walk at least 20 minutes up and down hills without stopping. Participants must be able to stand outside for up to two hours with limited shade and no available seating.

**TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT [ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL](http://ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL)**

## Harvard Study Leader



**Erez Manela** is a professor of history at Harvard University, where he teaches the history of the United States in the world and modern

international history. He also serves as director of graduate programs at Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and as co-chair of the Harvard International and Global History Seminar (HIGHS). In addition, he co-edits a book series on global and international history at Cambridge University Press. Professor Manela has longstanding interests in the conceptual, methodological, and historiographical questions related to international history.

His ongoing research into the World Health Organization's Smallpox Eradication Program (1965–1980) seeks to cast new light on important aspects of post-WWII international history, including superpower relations, the evolution of international development, and the role of international organizations. Another current line of his research takes a fresh look at U.S. visions for international order during World War II, particularly with regard to Asia.



## Trip Sampling

### LAND & RAIL

#### VILLAGE LIFE AROUND THE ITALIAN LAKES

SEP 21–29, 2019  
SUE SCHOPF

#### SILK ROAD IN CENTRAL ASIA (THE FIVE 'STANS)

OCT 10–28, 2019  
SUSANNE EBBINGHAUS

#### AN ACTIVE EXPLORATION OF THE AZORES

OCT 11–15, 2019  
JERIMIAH TRIMBLE

#### EXPLORING THE WINE REGIONS OF BORDEAUX & RIOJA

OCT 12–20, 2019  
TOM CONLEY

#### CULTURAL LEGACY OF PITTSBURGH, AMERICA'S STEEL TOWN

OCT 24–28, 2019  
ALICE DELANA

#### BUDAPEST & CENTRAL EUROPE ON THE GOLDEN EAGLE DANUBE EXPRESS

DEC 27, 2019–JAN 5, 2020  
JEFFRY FRIEDEN

#### HBS INCREDIBLE BHUTAN

OCT 5–19, 2020

### CRUISES

#### CRUISING ALASKA'S GLACIERS & THE INSIDE PASSAGE

ON *LE SOLEAL*  
JUL 6–13, 2019  
JAMES ENGELL

#### TRADE ROUTES OF COASTAL IBERIA ON *LE LYRIAL*

OCT 13–21, 2019  
HARVEY V. FINEBERG & MARY WILSON

#### HBS NEW YEAR'S GALÁPAGOS ON *ORIGIN*

DEC 28 2019–JAN 6, 2020  
DANIEL LIEBERMAN

#### DISCOVER TASMANIA: TASMANIA BY LAND AND SEA ON *CORAL DISCOVERER*

JAN 8–22, 2020  
ANDREW BERRY

#### MADAGASCAR TO MAURITIUS: ISLANDS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN ON *SERENISSIMA*

JAN 15–31, 2020  
PETER GALBRAITH

#### NEW ZEALAND BY SEA ON *CALEDONIAN SKY*

JAN 27–FEB 9, 2020

#### JAPAN BY SEA: LAND OF THE RISING SUN ON *CALEDONIAN SKY*

APR 14–28, 2020

#### BERLIN TO BUDAPEST: A SYMPOSIUM ON THE US/EUROPEAN ALLIANCE ON *CRYSTAL MOZART*

AUG 30–SEP 10, 2020

### RIVERS & LAKES

#### EGYPT & THE NILE: A JOURNEY INTO ANTIQUITY ON *SANCTUARY SUN BOAT III*

DEC 26, 2019–JAN 6, 2020  
DAVID AGUILAR

#### ELBE RIVER ON *ELBE PRINCESSE II*

MAR 31–APR 11, 2020  
TOM KELLY

#### QUINTESSENTIAL PERU: LAKE TITICACA, MACHU PICCHU & UPPER AMAZON ON *DELFIN II*

SEP 7–18, 2020  
WERNER SOLLORS

### FAMILY ADVENTURES:

#### TANZANIA FAMILY SAFARI

DEC 22, 2019–JAN 3, 2020

#### NEW YEAR'S IN HAVANA: A FAMILY PROGRAM IN CUBA

DEC 27, 2019–JAN 1, 2020  
GABRIELA SOTO LAVEAGA

#### EGYPT & THE NILE (A FAMILY ADVENTURE) ON *SANCTUARY NILE ADVENTURER*

DEC 27, 2019–JAN 6, 2020  
NOEL MICHELE HOLBROOK

#### GREECE FAMILY ODYSSEY: THE PELOPONNESE ON *RUNNING ON WAVES*

JUN 18–27, 2020  
JAMES SIMPSON

Cover: Sheikh Zayed Mosque, Abu Dhabi.

Back cover: Dhows, Bahrain.

# Schedule by Day

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner, R=Reception)

THURSDAY & FRIDAY,  
JANUARY 2 & 3

## Home / Dubai, UAE

Depart home on an overnight flight to Dubai. Upon arrival on January 3, transfer to the *Crystal Esprit* for embarkation. *Crystal Esprit (Meals Aloft, D)*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

## Dubai

After a welcome orientation and lecture, explore modern Dubai, including the Burj al Arab Hotel, which soars to 1,053 feet above the ground and is located on an artificial island connected to Jumeirah Beach; Ski Dubai, an indoor ski resort complete with ski slopes, toboggan and sled runs, giant snowballs, ice caves, and resident penguins; and Burj Khalifa, at 2,722 feet the tallest artificial structure in the world. From an observation deck on the 124th floor, marvel at the panoramic views over the surrounding city. This evening enjoy a welcome reception and dinner onboard. *Crystal Esprit (B,L,R,D)*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

## Doha, Qatar

Doha is the fast-growing capital of Qatar, and an important Middle Eastern financial center. Explore the Museum of Islamic Art, designed by I.M. Pei and located on the city's Corniche. This architectural gem houses collections of metalwork, ceramics, jewelry, woodwork, textiles, and glass dating from the 1600s to the 1900s. Stroll through Souq Waqif, founded a century ago and noted for offering traditional garments, spices, and handicrafts. Continue to Education City, which covers more than five square miles and houses facilities for pre-school through graduate-level research and education, as well as branches of six U.S. universities and several European educational institutions. Conclude the day at

the Doha Racing and Equestrian Club, where horse racing is serious business and horses, which have played an important role in the history of the Arab world for centuries, live like royalty. *Crystal Esprit (B,L,D)*

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

## Doha

This morning travel over towering sand dunes in four-wheel-drive vehicles to Qatar's magnificent Inland Sea, a shallow tidal lake with a narrow outlet to the sea and shores in both Qatar and Saudi Arabia. After lunch in the desert, return to the ship and depart Qatar. *Crystal Esprit (B,L,D)*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

## Abu Dhabi, UAE

This morning arrive in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE and largest of the seven emirates. Visit the majestic Sheikh Zayed Mosque, a dazzling construction of white marble, gold leaf, semi-precious stones, crystals, and ceramic tiles. Also visit Masdar City, a \$20 billion enterprise showcasing Abu Dhabi's investments in renewable energy and green technology. *Crystal Esprit (B,L,D)*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

## Abu Dhabi

Spend the morning at the breathtaking cultural highlights of the newly opened Louvre Abu Dhabi Museum on Saadiyat Island. There are 12 galleries curated masterfully in partnership with the Louvre, Paris. The stunning floating dome of light designed by renowned architect Jean Nouvel is a photographer's delight. Continue to Qasr Al Hosn, the oldest stone building in Abu Dhabi, and experience the history of Abu Dhabi through a series of exhibitions. *Crystal Esprit (B,L,D)*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

## Musandam Peninsula, Oman

The Musandam Peninsula, a region of fjord-like landscapes and traditional small villages,

is one of the Gulf States' last wilderness areas. Board a traditional wooden dhow to access scenic inlets, and snorkel near a coral reef to view butterfly fish, groupers, and even dolphins. *Crystal Esprit (B,L,D)*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

## Muscat

Disembark the *Crystal Esprit* this morning and visit the Bait Adam Museum, whose interactive exhibits on Muscat's history and culture will be explained by the head of the museum. Continue to Muttrah Souk, the oldest market in Oman and an exotic, fragrant treasure chest filled with gold and silver, antiques, frankincense, clothing, toys, and spices. Check into the Al Bustan Palace, a Ritz Carlton hotel overlooking the Gulf of Oman. *Al Bustan Palace Hotel (B,L,D)*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

## Muscat

Begin the day at the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque. The primary place of worship in Oman, it is the only mosque in the country that allows non-Muslims to enter. The main hall, which can accommodate more than 6,000 worshippers, is crowned by an enormous chandelier of Swarovski crystal and delicate gold-plated metalwork. Continue to the Omani Heritage Gallery, a nonprofit that supports Omani artisans working in traditional crafts. The Gallery is a wonderful place to view a wide range of authentic, high-quality products including jewelry, tribal weavings, camel trappings, woven baskets, textiles, and copper and leather articles. End the day's activities at the Bait Al Zubair Museum. Built by Sheikh Al Zubair as a residence in 1914, it was converted into a museum by his son in 1998 to display a comprehensive collection of Omani art and artifacts. Celebrate your journey this evening with a farewell reception and dinner at the hotel. *Al Bustan Palace Hotel (B,L,R,D)*



Burj Al Arab, Dubai and Museum Of Islamic Art, Qatar.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12  
**Muscat / Home**

Transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

Optional Pre-Cruise  
 Extension

JANUARY 1–3, 2020

**Dubai**

Explore “Old Dubai” on this pre-cruise extension. Depart home on January 1 and fly overnight to Dubai, arriving January 2. On January 3, board an abra (water taxi) to cross Dubai Creek and explore the historic Bastakia district. Learn about Dubai’s history at Al-Fahidi Fort and Dubai Museum, and enjoy lunch and a special presentation on Islam at the Sheikh Mohamed Centre for Cultural Understanding. Embark the *Crystal Esprit* in the late afternoon to begin the main tour. *Radisson Blu Deira Creek (1B/1L)*. Rates: \$790 per person, double occupancy; \$990 per person, single occupancy.

Optional Post-Cruise  
 Extension

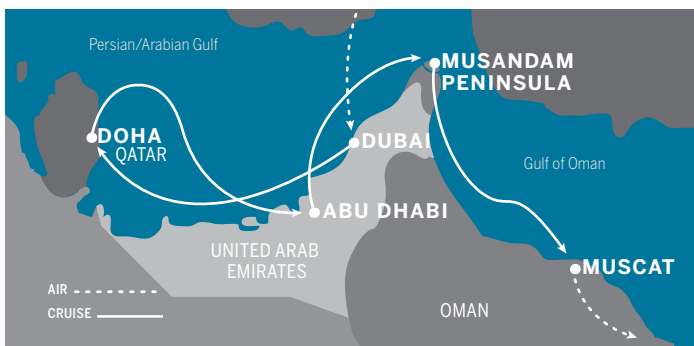
JANUARY 12–15, 2020

**Oman’s Interior**

Explore the Bedouin culture of the desert on this three-night post-cruise extension. Depart Muscat for Oman’s interior to explore forts, date plantations, orchards, and mountain villages from the luxurious Alila Jabal Akhdar Hotel in the awe-inspiring Al Hajar Mountains. Continue to the Desert Nights Camp and meet a Bedouin family at the Wahiba Sands, a vast, undulating red-and-white sea of sand dunes that rise to more than 650 feet high. *Alila Jabal Akhdar Hotel and Desert Nights Camp (4B/3L/3D)*. Rates: \$2,990 per person, double occupancy; \$4,180 per person, single occupancy.

Highlights

- See modern architectural marvels, astonishing in their creativity and audacity, from the Burj Khalifa skyscraper to the ecologically sustainable Masdar City
- Behold breathtakingly beautiful mosques that herald the importance of Islam in this part of the world
- Explore unique cultural and historic sites, including Oman’s Heritage Gallery, Abu Dhabi’s Louvre Museum and Qatar’s Education City
- Visit inviting museums and *souqs* showcasing traditional arts & crafts of the Gulf States
- Experience remarkable natural wonders such as Qatar’s spectacular sand dunes and the Musandam Peninsula’s fjord-like waterways

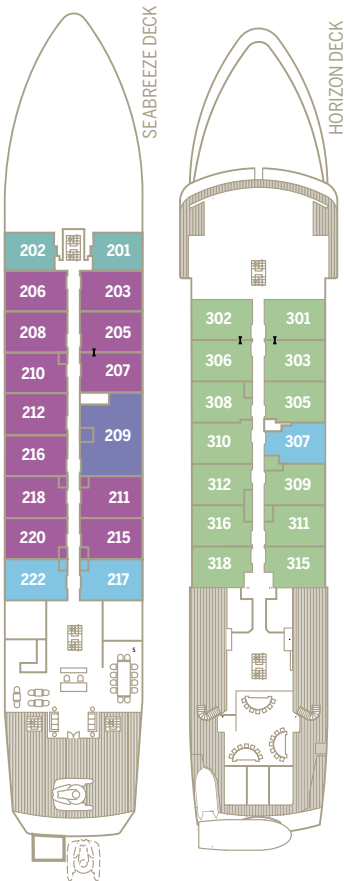




## Crystal Esprit

Launched in 2015, this newly refurbished, 31-stateroom yacht offers an atmosphere of classic elegance mixed with modern comfort, an elegant enclave of gorgeous interiors and inviting social spaces with a staff of 90 catering to just 48 guests. Unhampered by crowds or lines, she's much like a private club with a relaxed and unregimented ambience. The *Crystal Esprit* offers the unique option for luxury travel to small ports, harbors, and islands not accessible to larger cruise ships. Each guest suite features a master bedroom with an ultra-thin high-definition TV with on-demand movies and interactive bedside iPad, full picture windows, seating area, and custom-designed bathroom with high-end finishes and modern technology. Wi-Fi and a private butler are provided for each suite. The ship's four dining options boast Michelin-inspired menus, with included wines, champagne, and spirits, and 24-hour in-suite dining is available. The ship's recreational facilities include a swimming pool, sauna, gym, spa, and a variety of aquatic equipment.

### Program Rates (per person)



CATEGORY	DOUBLE	SINGLE
<b>SUITE S4</b> Seabreeze Deck 223 sq. feet, queen or twin beds, shower	\$12,990	\$19,490
<b>SUITE S3</b> Seabreeze Deck/Horizon Deck 280 sq. feet, king, queen, or twin beds, shower, sofa	\$13,490	\$20,240
<b>SUITE S2</b> Seabreeze Deck 280 sq. feet, king or twin beds, shower, sofa	\$13,990	\$20,990
<b>SUITE S1</b> Horizon Deck 280 sq. feet, king or twin beds, shower, sofa	\$14,990	—
<b>OWNER'S SUITE</b> Seabreeze Deck 515 sq. feet, king bed, separate sitting and dining rooms, jacuzzi tub with separate shower, sofa	\$21,990	—



**AIR ARRANGEMENTS PLEASE NOTE:** U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare from New York to Dubai, with return from Muscat, is approximately \$905 per person as of January 2019 and is subject to change without notice. Valerie Wilson Travel Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

# General Information

## TOUR COST INCLUSIONS

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary including 2 hotel nights and 7 nights aboard *Crystal Esprit* • Full program of briefings, lectures, and presentations • Group airport transfers on group arrival and departure days • Visa fees for Oman, Qatar, and the UAE for U.S. citizens • Port charges • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • Wine, beer, champagne, spirits, soft drinks, or water at lunch and dinner aboard *Crystal Esprit*; wine and beer may be included at some group meals off the ship • Bottled water on motor coaches • Professional tour manager throughout the program • \$200,000 Emergency Medical Evacuation Insurance

## TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses not noted as included • Medical expenses and immunizations • Private airport transfers or transfers on days other than program arrival and departure days • Travel insurance • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess baggage charges • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

**WHAT TO EXPECT** This is a moderately active trip for travelers who are flexible, comfortable traveling with a group, and can handle the vagaries of travel with good humor. Walking for up to one mile unassisted, standing for up to two hours in museums or at other sites, and climbing several flights of stairs, which may not have handrails, are the most strenuous activities. In addition, travelers must be able to board the ship via a metal gangplank with rope handrails and be comfortable with the rolling movement of the ship. Daytime temperatures during the trip will generally average in the mid to high 70s F, with infrequent rain.

**GROUP SIZE** This program is limited to 48 participants, including travelers from Harvard, the Archaeological Institute of America, and The National Trust for Historic Preservation

**RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT** A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. Please either

call us at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806 or fill out and mail or fax the registration form found in this brochure. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Final payment deadline is September 4, 2019, 120 days prior to departure.

**CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS** Notification of cancellation must be received in writing by HAA from the participant. Cancellations within 14 days of booking: full refund; cancellations received up to 120 days prior to departure will be assessed a cancellation fee of \$1,000 per person. Cancellations received within 120 days prior to departure are subject to 100% penalty of all deposits and payments.

**ITINERARY CHANGES** The itinerary contained in this brochure is accurate at the time of printing. We reserve the right to change the program or accommodations as conditions warrant.

**INSURANCE** We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for insurance will be provided by HAA upon confirmation.

**RESPONSIBILITY** Other provisions apply regarding limitations of liability and rights of HAA and the tour operator. The statement of responsibility is available at <http://alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/oman-gulf-states-2020>. If you are not able to access the internet, please call HAA Travels at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806.

**DISCLAIMER** Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented in this publication. Neither HAA nor the tour operator is responsible for errors in or damages resulting from use of the information contained herein. Information contained in this brochure is subject to change.

**QUESTIONS** Please call HAA Travels at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806, email: [haatravels@harvard.edu](mailto:haatravels@harvard.edu).

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**PHOTOS** Man looking over Dubai © Tomas Marek • Sheikh Zayed Mosque © Luciano Mortula • Details Grand Sultan Qaboos Mosque © Zjawol • Burj al Arab © Subbotina • Museum of Islamic Art © Edwardstaines • Dhow in Oman © Dr Ajay Kumar Singh

# Registration Form

**To register**, fill out this form and return to Harvard Alumni Travels with your deposit of \$1,000 per person.

## Please return this form by mail to:

Harvard Alumni Travels  
124 Mount Auburn Street, 6th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02138  
Or by FAX: 617-496-4011

## Please call with any questions:

800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806

## How did you hear about this trip?

## Oman and the Gulf States Aboard *Crystal Esprit*

January 2–12, 2020

FIRST PERSON NAME ON PASSPORT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND PERSON NAME ON PASSPORT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP OR POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

## EXTENSIONS

I/WE WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER FOR THE PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION TO DUBAI, JANUARY 1–3, 2020.

I/WE WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER FOR THE POST-CRUISE EXTENSION TO OMAN'S INTERIOR, JANUARY 12–15, 2020.

## METHOD OF DEPOSIT

CHECK (please enclose check)  MASTERCARD  VISA  AMEX

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

3-DIGIT SECURITY CODE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

I/WE CONFIRM THAT WE HAVE READ AND ACCEPT THE GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THIS TOUR, INCLUDING REFUNDS AND CANCELLATIONS AND THE RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE AT [ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/HAA/TRAVEL](http://ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/HAA/TRAVEL) ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND THE MEMEBERS OF MY PARTY NAMED ABOVE.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## ROOM PREFERENCE

CABIN CATEGORY PREFERENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

1ST CHOICE \_\_\_\_\_

2ND CHOICE \_\_\_\_\_

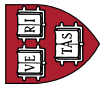
HOTEL ROOM PREFERENCE:

DOUBLE  SINGLE  TRIPLE  SHARE A ROOM WITH: \_\_\_\_\_

ROOMMATE \_\_\_\_\_

# TRAVEL WITH HARVARD

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT [ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL](mailto:ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL) • 800-422-1636 • [HAATRAVELS@HARVARD.EDU](mailto:HAATRAVELS@HARVARD.EDU)



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Alumni Travels

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**Oman and the Gulf States aboard *Crystal Esprit* January 2–12, 2020**