

2020

HARVARD ALUMNI TRAVELS

DISCOVER • LEARN • CONNECT • EXPLORE



MADAGASCAR TO MAURITIUS

Islands of the Indian Ocean aboard *MS Serenissima*
January 15–31, 2020

With **PETER W. GALBRAITH**, Former U.S. Ambassador to Croatia





See lemurs up close in their natural habitat.

This is an extraordinary cruise for those who love the natural world and all its wonders. The star is Madagascar, a thousand-mile island boasting an impressive variety of spectacular landscapes from pristine coral reefs and coastal mangroves to virgin rain forests and native groves of Baobab trees. Geographically isolated for millions of years, nearly all of Madagascar's intriguing animals and plants are found nowhere else on Earth, including nearly 100 varieties of lemurs. Madagascar's people are also unique, having descended from Malay-Polynesian mariners, slaves from Africa, as well as traders from Arabia, India, and Portugal.

To maximize the time in Madagascar, this expedition begins with a private charter flight from Johannesburg to Toliara, Madagascar, thus avoiding the 2-day crossing of the rough Mozambique Channel by ship. Led by a team of expert naturalists, enjoy the luxury of having eleven days to explore Madagascar's numerous marine reserves and national parks from the comfort of the newly refurbished 95-passenger *MS Serenissima*. Then, leaving the wonders of Madagascar behind, arrive at Réunion Island, a paradisiacal French outpost, to explore its white-sand beaches, spectacular dormant volcanoes, and vibrant Creole character. Disembark on the island of Mauritius, the perfect ending to our voyage, taking in this island's cultural riches and geologic wonders before flying back to the U.S. Optional pre and post-cruise extensions are also available, including a safari near Kruger National Park in South Africa, and the opportunity to lengthen your stay on Mauritius.

Activity Level 3: 

A LITTLE MORE TO IT This is a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily excursions may involve up to one mile of walking at a time, navigating uneven terrain, and standing for up to two hours at museums or other sites. In some instances, elevators are unavailable, and stairs may not have handrails.

TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL

Harvard Study Leader



Peter W. Galbraith,

AB '73, KSG '78 served as the first US Ambassador to Croatia and has

held senior positions in the US Government and the United Nations. Galbraith was actively involved in the Croatia and Bosnia peace processes. Currently, he is the Senior Diplomatic Fellow at the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation where his work focuses on Iraq, the greater Middle East, and conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction, specifically in the Balkans, Indonesia, Iraq, India/Pakistan, and Southeast Asia.

ADDITIONAL STUDY LEADER



Dr. Ian Tattersall

is currently curator emeritus in the Division of Anthropology of the American

Museum of Natural History in New York City. He has carried out both primatological and paleontological fieldwork in countries as diverse as Madagascar, Vietnam, Suriname, Yemen, and Mauritius. Trained in archaeology and anthropology at the University of Cambridge, and in geology and vertebrate paleontology at Yale University, Ian has concentrated his research since the 1960s in three main areas: the analysis of the human fossil record and its integration with evolutionary theory, the origin of human cognition, and the study of the ecology and systematics of the lemurs of Madagascar.



Red Tsingy sandstone formations in Diego Suarez.

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
Jeremiah 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
Jeffrey 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 *Origen*
DEC 28 2019–JAN 6, 2020
Daniel Lieberman

Oman and the Gulf States
JAN 2–12, 2020
Erez Manela

**Discover Tasmania: Tasmania by
Land and Sea on *Coral Discoverer***
JAN 8–22, 2020
Andrew Berry

**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



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H | B | S ALUMNI TRAVEL

HMSC
HARVARD MUSEUMS OF
SCIENCE & CULTURE



Masoala National Park



Schedule by Day

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

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY,
JANUARY 15 & 16, 2020

Home / Johannesburg, South Africa

Depart home on international overnight flights to Johannesburg, South Africa. Meet your fellow travelers at a welcome reception this evening. *54 on Bath Hotel* (R)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

Toliara, Madagascar

This morning board a charter flight to Toliara, Madagascar. After arrival, explore the Arboretum d'Antsokay and learn about its fantastic collection of 500+ species of endemic plants. Board the *MS Serenissima* this afternoon and enjoy the Captain's welcome evening. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,R,D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

Toliara

Visit the curious spiny forest region, a unique ecosystem which only exists in the southern part of Madagascar, and see the spectacular baobab trees at Reniala Private Reserve. The reserve is a paradise for birds and home to the grey mouse lemur, radiated tortoise, and warty chameleon. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

Morondava

After breakfast depart to see the Avenue of Baobabs, an

extraordinary stand of the iconic massive trees, followed by free time in Morondava market. Or, visit Kirindy Forest Reserve, home to the greatest density and diversity of primates in the world as well as dozens of amphibian and primate species. Look for eight lemur species, the narrow-striped mongoose, the cat-like fossa, and the smallest known primate, the giant jumping rat. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

At Sea

Enjoy a full day at sea and the continuation of the educational program as the *MS Serenissima* cruises along the west coast of Madagascar. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

Mahajanga

Drive to Ankarafantsika National Park, a vast reserve boasting a dense diversity of flora and fauna, for guided walks in search of wildlife. One of Madagascar's finest parks for birdwatching, look for 129 identified species, including Van Dam's vanga. Learn about the medicinal plants and flowers used by the locals for centuries, try to spot tiny mouse lemurs, and visit the Durrell Breeding Program, established to protect the highly endangered ploughshare tortoise. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

Nosy Tanikely

After a morning of cruising, arrive at Nosy Tanikely marine reserve for an afternoon of

snorkeling. Recognized for its remarkable marine biodiversity, the reserve offers some of the best snorkeling in the area, with a spectacular coral reef teeming with colorful fish and other sea creatures.

MS Serenissima (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

Nosy Hara National Park

Nosy Hara means 'mountainous island' in Malagasy and is considered one of the last true paradises of Madagascar. The island offers a stunning bay, sandy beaches, and the unique, sharply eroded limestone spikes known as Tsingy formations. Hike the low circular path on the island or choose the steeper path to a sweeping viewpoint. Enjoy time in the afternoon to relax on Nosy Hara's beautiful beaches. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

Diego Suarez

Round Madagascar's northernmost point and cruise into Diego Suarez's stunning natural harbor to discover the town on a guided tour. Later, climb aboard a 4x4 vehicle to drive to Amber Mountain National Park for tropical rainforest walks. See lush flora and waterfalls, look for the common crowned lemur, spot volcanic lakes, and count more than 40 varieties of butterfly. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Nosy Mangabe

After a morning of cruising and lectures, spend the afternoon



Sunset on Nosy Tanikely



Giant Aldabra tortoise

exploring Nosy Mangabe, a small island reserve of virgin rainforest, and home to a unique nocturnal lemur called the aye-aye. Take the Zodiacs ashore for nature walks and hopefully spot black and white ruffed lemurs, colorful paradise flycatchers, and many other types of wildlife.

MS Serenissima (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Masoala National Park

Explore Masoala National Park's coastal rainforest, dense marshes, and stands of mangrove. Search for a variety of colorful chameleons, geckos, and of course lemurs, including the red-ruffed lemur native to this area. Stop at Ambodiforaha village to meet with locals and shop in the market.

MS Serenissima (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

Ile Sainte-Marie / Nosy Nato

Enjoy a full day on Ile Sainte-Marie, a lush tropical island dotted with thatched villages. Visit the oldest church in Madagascar and the vibrant market in the capital of the island, Ambodifotatra. Continue to Nosy Nato, a small island south of Ile Sainte-Marie, with curving white beaches and overhanging palms, for nature walks and snorkeling.

MS Serenissima (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

At Sea

During a final full day at sea, enjoy the conclusion of the lecture program and the onboard

amenities en route to Réunion Island, a rainforested outpost hundreds of miles into the Indian Ocean. *MS Serenissima* (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

Port Est, Réunion Island

Visit Réunion Island's central highlands, a spectacular rugged landscape of active, dormant, extinct, and collapsed volcanoes, where mountain peaks tower to over 10,000 feet above sea level. See picturesque villages that dot the lush and verdant landscape and learn about vanilla production at a small family run plantation. Enjoy the Captain's farewell reception and dinner this evening on board *Serenissima* before crossing to the neighboring island of Mauritius.

MS Serenissima (B,L,R,D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

Port Louis, Mauritius

Disembark the ship this morning and discover the unique history of Port Louis and Mauritius at the La Citadel Fort and Apravasi Ghat, the immigration depot where modern indentured labor diaspora began. Explore Chamarel, an eye-catching region of tropical flora, hidden waterfalls, and undulating sand dunes displaying an array of colors. Visit Bois Cheri tea plantation for a refreshing cup of tea before departing for the airport for flights home. (B,L)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

Aloft / Home

Arrive in the U.S.

Optional Pre-Cruise Extensions

JANUARY 12–16

Begin your journey with an earlier arrival in South Africa and a choice of two amazing experiences:

Greater Kruger National Park

A memorable stay at Ngala Game Reserve, adjacent to Kruger National Park in South Africa, to search for the "Big Five" and other wildlife on game drives aboard open-top safari vehicles.

Cradle of Humankind

A visit to the Sterkfontein Caves and Maropeng Visitor Center in the UNESCO-listed Cradle of Humankind anthropological site near Johannesburg, joined by Dr. Ian Tattersall.

Optional Post-Cruise Extension

JANUARY 30–FEBRUARY 2

Mauritius

Extend your stay for further exploration of the lush rainforests and white sand beaches of Mauritius. During your three day stay, discover Île aux Aigrettes, one of the last sanctuaries for rare Mauritian wildlife, including the giant alibaba tortoise and the ornate day gecko. Also learn about the island's long colonial history and enjoy snorkeling in the crystal blue water.

Additional details and pricing for the optional extensions will be sent to confirmed participants.



Superior Cabin



Standard Cabin

MS Serenissima

Recently refurbished in 2018, the 95-passenger *MS Serenissima* can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to larger cruise ships. The public areas on board create a relaxed and spacious atmosphere. The Andrea Lounge provides a comfortable venue for lectures and has an elegant bar, and the Harald Jarl Lounge offers a library and computers. Outside decks include a massive observation deck for 360-degree views of the passing scenery, and the all-teak Sun Deck is used for meal service in pleasant weather. Guest accommodations are designed for comfort and convenience. All cabins feature ocean views, en-suite bathrooms, and are equipped with many amenities. The Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in a single seating, with great views through the large picture windows. When possible, local produce is sourced for authentic dining experiences. Complimentary house wines, beer, soft drinks, mineral water, coffee, and tea are included with meals. Wifi is available throughout the vessel.

Program Rates

DECK 3

Standard Cabin
109-144 sq. ft.
portholes
\$12,990 per person, double occupancy

DECK 3

Classic Cabin
152-211 sq. ft.
portholes
\$13,990 per person, double occupancy

DECK 4

Superior Cabin
116-198 sq. ft.
portholes or windows
\$14,990 per person, double occupancy

DECKS 4, 5 & 6

Deluxe Cabin
162-274 sq. ft.
windows
\$15,490 per person, double occupancy

DECK 6

Junior Suite
225-233 sq. ft.
windows
\$16,490 per person, double occupancy

DECK 6

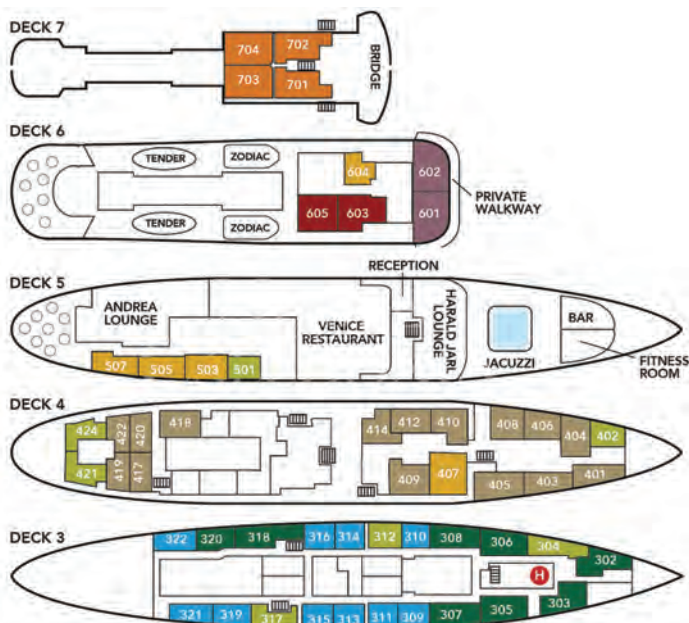
Owner's Suite
244 sq. ft.
windows
\$16,990 per person, double occupancy

DECK 7

Serenissima Suite
273-284 sq. ft.
windows, balcony
\$17,990 per person, double occupancy

DECKS 3, 4 & 5

Standard Single
107-127 sq. ft.
portholes or windows
\$14,490 per person, limited availability



AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Economy-class airfare from New York to Johannesburg and Mauritius to New York is approximately \$1,200 per person as of February 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.

TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL

Terms & Conditions

TOUR COST INCLUSIONS

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary including 13 nights aboard *MS Serenissima* • Charter flight from Johannesburg, South Africa to Toliara, Madagascar • Full program of briefings, lectures and presentations • Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates • Baggage handling • Gratuities to ship staff, porters, wait staff, guides and drivers • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunches and dinners aboard the ship • Bottled water throughout • Professional tour managers • Team of expert naturalists • \$200,000 Emergency Medical Evacuation Insurance

TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Gratuities for non-group services • 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 strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. Daily activities can involve up to two miles of walking, over sometimes rough terrain; Elevators are often unavailable, and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that s/he does not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.

GROUP SIZE This program is limited to 85 participants.

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 17, 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/madagascar-cruise-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.

California Seller of Travel
Program CST #2088800-40

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?

PROGRAM NAME START DATE

FIRST PERSON NAME ON PASSPORT DATE OF BIRTH

EMAIL ADDRESS

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP OR POSTAL CODE

HOME TELEPHONE WORK TELEPHONE

SECOND PERSON NAME ON PASSPORT DATE OF BIRTH

EMAIL ADDRESS

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP OR POSTAL CODE

HOME TELEPHONE WORK TELEPHONE

METHOD OF DEPOSIT

CHECK (please enclose check) MASTERCARD VISA

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE 3-DIGIT SECURITY CODE

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD

I/WE CONFIRM THAT I/WE HAVE READ AND ACCEPT THE GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THIS TOUR, INCLUDING REFUNDS AND CANCELLATIONS AND THE RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE AT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL.

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

ACCOMMODATIONS

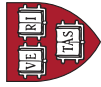
CATEGORY PREFERENCE

DOUBLE ROOM SINGLE ROOM SHARE A ROOM WITH:

ROOMMATE

TRAVEL WITH HARVARD

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