MYTHICAL SITES & ISLANDS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA
BALI (BENOA) TO PHUKET
ON LE LAPÉROUSE
FEB 6–25, 2025
PROGRAM SCHEDULE

From Bali to Phuket, immerse yourself in a diversity of landscapes from legendary cities to jungle, volcanic mountains, and white sandy beaches.

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS: Bali, Indonesia / Ubud / Benoa / Probolinggo / Surabaya / Semarang / Parai Beach / Singapore / Malacca / Penang / Langkawi / Ko Rok Nok Island / Phang Nga / Phuket

SCHEDULE BY DAY
B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner

THUR, FEB 6–FRI, FEB 7
INDEPENDENT FLIGHTS TO BALI

The program begins on Saturday, February 8 in Bali. Most flight options from both the US East and West coasts will require two calendar days to travel to Bali. Consequently, guests should plan to depart on Feb 6 to ensure arrival on Feb 8.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
ARRIVE BALI, INDONESIA

Arrive at the airport in Denpasar, Bali, where you will be met and transferred to the Maya Ubud Resort and Spa (or similar), your home for the next two nights.

The balance of the day is at leisure.

Overnight: Maya Ubud Resort and Spa

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10
BALI / EMBARKATION

This morning, drive to Cangi Village to visit an elementary school, a community bank, and the village health center, allowing for interactions with students, teachers, and residents of this communally governed village.

After lunch at a local restaurant in Ubud, travel to the small village of Batuan to explore a compound of traditional Bali houses, before transferring to Benoa Harbor to embark Le Lapérouse in the late afternoon.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
AT SEA
Today is devoted to relaxing, attending lectures, and sampling the many amenities available aboard the ship, as Le Lapérouse cruises toward Java.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
PROBOLINGGO, JAVA
The port city of Probolinggo on the southern shore of the Java Sea, about 50 miles south of Surabaya, is your gateway to Mount Bromo, an active volcano in the middle of a protected nature reserve on a vast plain called the “Sea of Sand”.

Drive to a staging area near the volcano, from where 4-wheel-drive vehicles transport you to Seruni Point for panoramic views of Mount Bromo and the surrounding landscape.

Then, crossing the sea of sand on ponies, climb to the edge of the massive crater that surrounds the volcano for even more stunning views.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13
SURABAYA
From Surabaya, a dynamic modern city proud of its role in launching the fight for Indonesian independence in 1945, travel to the interior to explore the archaeological site of Trowulan.

The capital city of the Majapahit kingdom from the 13th to the 15th centuries CE, Trowulan is a sprawling site with temples and administrative buildings scattered among the rice paddies.

The nearby museum, opened in 1987, provides an excellent introduction to the art and culture of this hybrid Hindu-Buddhist civilization.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

FRI, FEB 14–SAT, FEB 15
SEMARANG
During two days in Semarang, experience the variety of cultural influences that have shaped this cosmopolitan port town, visiting the Sam Poo Kong temple in the heart of Semarang's Chinatown, traveling to the hills in the interior to sample Javanese coffee, tea, and traditional rice cakes, and shopping for batik and local handicrafts from the multicultural vendors in Johar Market.

The highlight of your time here will be the journey through lush vegetation to central Java and the incredible UNESCO World Heritage site of Borobudur. The construction of this massive complex, the world's largest Buddhist monument, took nearly 80 years (778–856 CE), only to be abandoned a little more than a century after its completion. Borobudur was subsequently buried in volcanic ash and rediscovered only in 1814. Painstakingly excavated and restored, it is now a testament to the sophisticated ancient culture that built it.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16
AT SEA

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17
PARAI BEACH
Today is your opportunity to soak up some sun, swim and snorkel in the turquoise waters, and generally relax and enjoy this tropical Eden.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18
SINGAPORE
Arrive in Singapore at midday and disembark for a tour introducing the amazing ethnic and religious diversity of this bustling multicultural city.
Visit a variety of communities and their monuments, including the Kampong Glam neighborhood and Masjid Sultan Mosque, heart of Singapore’s Muslim community; Little India’s restaurants and spice and flower vendors; and Thian Hock Keng, a temple dedicated to the Chinese sea goddess, Mazu.

_Le Lapérouse_ remains at the dock overnight.

Overnight on _Le Lapérouse_ (B, L, D)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

**SINGAPORE**

Your second day in Singapore begins with a stroll through Chinatown and a visit to the Singapore City Gallery, where an extraordinary series of interactive exhibits chronicles the city’s remarkable transformation from a modest colonial port under British rule to a first-world metropolis in the space of fifty years.

Enjoy lunch at the world-famous Maxwell Road Hawker Center—a food court featuring healthy and authentic dishes representing every conceivable Asian cuisine.

Before returning to the ship, visit the Singapore Botanic Gardens, founded in the 19th century as a research station to develop useful plants, and one of only three gardens in the world to be honored as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Overnight on _Le Lapérouse_ (B, L, D)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**PENANG (GEORGETOWN)**

The leading British trading post of the Far East in the 19th century, this tiny island has a unique atmosphere of both East and West. Known as the “Pearl of the East” in the past, for its many trades of spice, fabrics, and tin, Penang has become one of the most sought-after destinations in Malaysia. George Town, its capital, is home to an extremely rich historical heritage, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Be sure to visit the Blue Mansion, a real architectural marvel that blends traditional Chinese style with eastern elements.

Overnight on _Le Lapérouse_ (B, L, D)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

**LANGKAWI ISLAND**

Langkawi Island or Pulau Langkawi, also known as the “Malaysian paradise”, is the largest island in the eponymous archipelago. Composed of a group of 104 mostly uninhabited islands sitting atop the Andaman Sea, the archipelago, listed as a UNESCO Global Geopark, is brimming with natural wonders.

Vast beaches of white sand line the contours of this island. Inland, it features jungle-covered hills, picturesque rice fields, ancient rock formations, and spectacular mountain peaks. The island is also home to several factories processing gamat, a sea cucumber used to produce a cream sought after for its medicinal and cosmetic virtues.

Overnight on _Le Lapérouse_ (B, L, D)
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23
KO ROK NOK ISLAND

In the district of Ko Lanta in southern Thailand, Koh Rok Island is comprised of two uninhabited twin islands: Koh Rok Nok and Koh Rok Nai. In the heart of a protected national park, Koh Rok Nok presents authentic scenery with lush vegetation, unusual coral reefs, and surprising cliffs.

Today presents an opportunity for swimming or snorkeling at the island's magnificent, crystal-clear beaches in the east, with an underwater world brimming with myriad, colorful fish.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24
PHANG NGA

North of the island of Phuket, the Phang Nga province in southern Thailand is a protected national park since 1981. It is one of the wildest regions in Thailand, with vast stretches of lush old-growth forest, stunning waterfalls, and sublime fine-sand beaches.

Phang Nga is a province that is rich in traditions and natural beauty. Its bay offers a landscape of limestone karsts that seem to be balancing on the water. It is also home to the island nicknamed “James Bond Island”, as an homage to the film Man with the Golden Gun, and to the island of Panyi, an unusual floating village with over 200 houses built on stilts and connected by wooden walkways.

Overnight on Le Lapérouse (B, L, D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25
PHUKET / DISEMBARKATION / DEPART FOR U.S.

Phuket, the largest island in Thailand, also known as the pearl of the Andaman, has majestic landscapes enhanced by a magnificent color palette. Its lively, eponymous capital abounds with beautiful 19th-century houses, with embellished façades, and with markets where fruits and vegetables rival each other for flavors amidst street food stalls emanating appetizing aromas.

Although Phuket is an appreciated tourist destination, it has still managed to preserve a few pieces of paradise off the beaten track. The charming shores, surrounded by hills with a thick covering of tropical vegetation, and the white sandy beaches make for an idyllic setting, while the underwater life provides a permanent show.

After breakfast aboard, transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)