



# Isles, Atolls, and Pristine Corals: Southern Line Islands

10 Days | National Geographic Orion | 102 Guests | Expeditions in: Apr/May/June/July/Aug | \$7,690 to \$16,840



Discover that the idealized notion of tropical paradise is alive and well—as are some of the world’s best dive and snorkel sites—on an expedition from Rangiroa’s sparkling lagoon to the verdant peaks of Tahiti’s neighbor, Moorea. This compact voyage maximizes your time in some of the most vibrant undersea sites in the world. Plus, there’s time to stroll pristine beaches, kayak peaceful coves, and experience true Polynesian hospitality. Dive or snorkel in the Southern Line Islands and see diverse coral, clouds of tropical fish, and healthy predator populations. It is one of the healthiest reef systems in the world and a rare place virtually unmarred by the touch of humans, which is why it was identified by the National Geographic Pristine Seas project as one of the few places researchers can study to see how reefs and undersea ecosystems looked before humans.



## DAY 1: DEPART U.S.

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Tahiti.



## DAY 2: PAPEETE/RANGIROA/EMBARK

Arrive Papeete, Tahiti early this morning and take a short, very scenic flight to the nearby atoll of Rangiroa. After a brief tour of the island, embark *National Geographic Orion* this afternoon. Settle in to your cabin, or linger on deck to take in the view of the island’s turquoise lagoon as you’re fanned by tropical ocean breezes. Just before sunset, watch from on deck as we navigate the narrow Passe de Tiputa and exit the lagoon to the north. (L,D)

## DAY 3-5: AT SEA/SOUTHERN LINE ISLANDS, KIRIBATI

A day at sea brings us to the far-flung Southern Line Islands, where you’ll snorkel or dive some of the most remote and pristine coral reefs on Earth. Marine Ecologist and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Enric Sala researched these islands as part of the Pristine Seas project and identified them as one of the last healthy, undisturbed places in the ocean. You’ll spend three full days exploring seldom-visited atolls such as Caroline Island, also known as Millennium Atoll after creative realignment of the international date line made it one of the first places on earth to welcome the year 2000. (B,L,D)



#### DAY 6 & 7: SOUTHERN LINE ISLANDS/AT SEA

For our final day in Kiribati, you'll navigate the intricate channels of the lagoons by Zodiac or, possibly, kayak, see nesting boobies and tropic birds on shore, and snorkel above beds of giant clams. Stroll along pristine white sand beaches, or meander through palm groves with your naturalists as they search for endangered coconut crabs, the largest land-dwelling invertebrates in the world. Bring binoculars and join your naturalists on deck for a day at sea, as they search for marine mammals and seabirds. Photographers will want to try and capture the perfect image of a flying fish skimming above an azure sea. (B,L,D)



#### DAY 8: MOOREA, FRENCH POLYNESIA

Approach the verdant island of Moorea this morning, and anchor for the day in Opunohu Bay on the island's north shore. Spend the day hiking tropical forest trails or exploring ancient Polynesian sacred sites with an archaeologist. Take in the view of both Opunohu and Cook's bays from the island's famous Belvedere, then stop at the Lycée Agricole d'Opunohu to sample locally produced jam and sorbet. (B,L,D)



#### DAY 9 & 10: PAPEETE/DISEMBARK/HOME

Disembark in Papeete this morning and tour Tahiti before overnight flight home.

#### 2018 DEPARTURE DATES:

Apr 19  
May 3  
Jun 14  
Jul 12, Jul 26  
Aug 9

**Important Flight Information:** Please confirm arrival and departure dates prior to booking flights.

#### Advance Payment: \$1,000

**Sample Airfares:** Round-trip Los Angeles/Papeete: Economy from \$1,500. Internal airfare from \$250. Airfares are subject to change.

**Cost Includes:** The rates include accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary or similar; all meals indicated; alcoholic beverages (except premium brands) aboard ship; all shore excursions and sightseeing; entrance fees, transfers to and from group flights; local transportation to/from sites of interest; use of kayaks, snorkeling gear, scuba gear, and stand-up paddleboards; taxes, port charges and service charges; services of the ship's physician; Lindblad Expeditions' Leader, naturalist staff and expert guides; gratuities to local guides and ship's crew. **Not Included:** Airfare (unless indicated as included); charter airfare; travel protection plan; scuba diving fees; passport, visa or immigration fees; personal items such as email, laundry, voyage DVD etc.

#### SPECIAL OFFERS:

**FREE AIRFARE:** Book by Jul. 31, 2017 for free round-trip air between Los Angeles and Papeete. Free air is based on round-trip, economy group flights from Los Angeles to Papeete and must be ticketed by Lindblad Expeditions. New bookings only. Call for details.

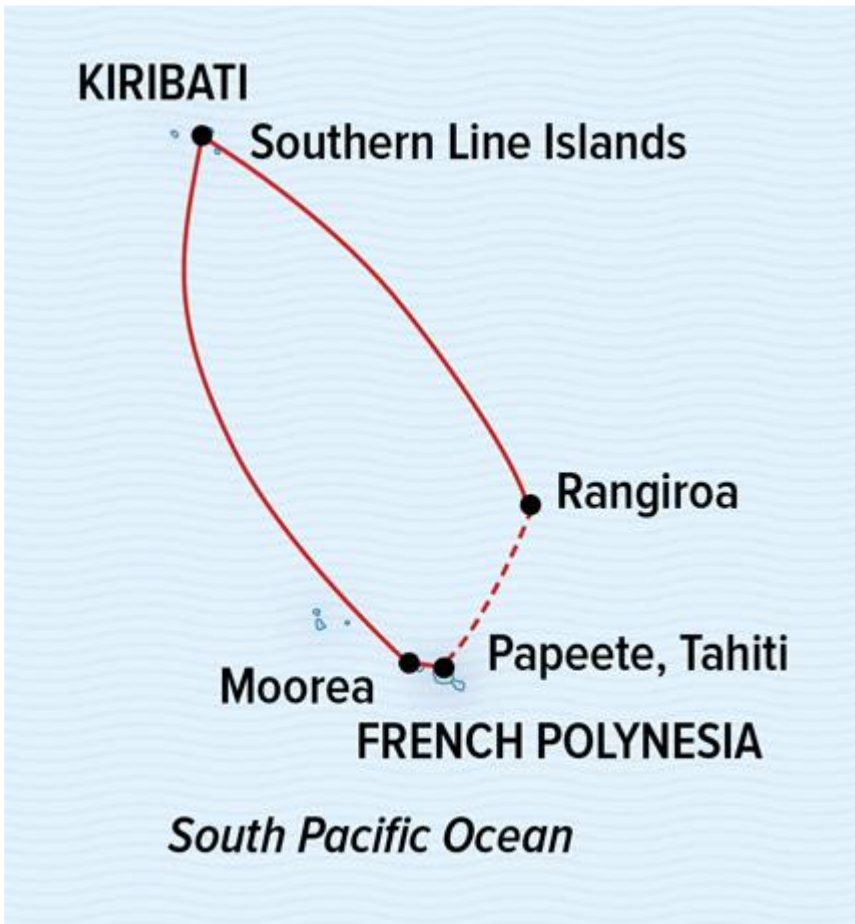
**BOOK 2 OR MORE AND SAVE 10%:** Book two or more South Pacific voyages aboard National Geographic Orion and take 10% off each voyage. Savings is applicable to back-to-back or non-consecutive voyages. \*This savings is available on voyage fare only, and is not valid on airfares or extensions.

#### FREE BAR TAB AND CREW TIPS INCLUDED

**National Geographic Orion**

COST PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY						
	01	02	03	04	05	06
2018	\$ 7,690	\$ 9,380	\$ 10,990	\$ 11,990	\$ 14,520	\$ 16,840

COST PER PERSON SINGLE OCCUPANCY		
	1S	3S
2018	\$ 11,540	\$ 16,490





## National Geographic Orion

The state-of-the-art *National Geographic Orion* is the newest addition to the Lindblad-National Geographic fleet. A fully stabilized, ice-class vessel with an ice reinforced hull, *National Geographic Orion* is at home navigating polar ice as well as small harbors in Australia, Borneo, Indonesia, and the South Pacific.

**CAPACITY:** 102 guests in 53 outside cabins.

**REGISTRY:** Bahamas. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 338 feet.

**PUBLIC AREAS:** Outdoor café, lounge with bar, restaurant, sun deck, reception desk, observation lounge and library, global gallery, marina platform, and mud room. Guests are welcome on the “open bridge” to meet the captain and officers and learn about navigation.

**MEALS:** All meals are served in a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. The cuisine is international with local flair, featuring tastes of the regions we explore. Menus are created by award-winning chef Serge Dansereau of Sydney-based restaurant, The Bathers’ Pavilion.

**CABINS:** All cabins feature ocean views, private facilities, climate controls, internet access for your own laptop, and a flat-screen TV with DVD/CD player. Some cabins have French balconies. Single cabins in Category 1 and Category 3 include #301, 322, 323, and 512.

**CATEGORY 1:** Main Deck with oval windows #316, 318, 319-321

**CATEGORY 2:** Main Deck with large oval window #302-312, 314, 315, 317

**CATEGORY 3:** Upper Deck—Suite with window #401-412, 414-419

**CATEGORY 4:** Bridge Deck—Deluxe suite with window #511, 515

**CATEGORY 5:** Bridge Deck—Suite with French balcony #501, 503-506, 508

**EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT:** Zodiac landing craft, a hydrophone, underwater video cameras, a video microscope, and a crow’s nest camera on Kimberley voyages. Plus kayaks, snorkeling gear for all guests, scuba gear for 24 guests, a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), and a glass-bottom Zodiac on all voyages where scuba diving is offered.

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Laundry, a full-time doctor, video chronicler, National Geographic photographer and Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, plus undersea specialists, divemasters, and Global Perspectives guest speakers on select voyages.

**WELLNESS:** A wellness specialist, fitness center, massage/LEXspa treatment room, and sauna are on board. A whirlpool hot tub on the Observation Deck doubles as a plunge pool in warm temperatures.

**CATEGORY 6:** Bridge Deck—Owner’s suite with French balcony #502, 507, 509\*, 510 \*Cabin 509 does not have a French balcony

**CATEGORY 1 SOLO:** Main Deck with oval windows or portholes #301, 322, 323

**CATEGORY 3 SOLO:** Bridge Deck—Suite with window #512

**NOTE:** Sole occupancy cabins available in Categories 1 and 3. Shared accommodations available in Categories 1 and 2.

**NOTE:** Third person rates available at one-half the double occupancy rate in designated triple occupancy cabins.

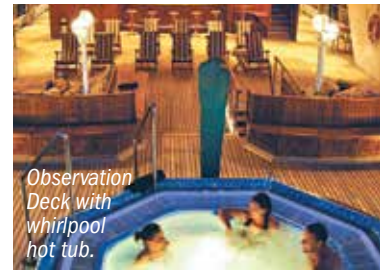
*Note: Scuba divers must be certified by an internationally recognized dive association prior to the voyage, and certification cards and logbooks must be shown on board. Divers must have logged 25 dives in total and made a dive within the 12 months preceding the voyage.*



Category 1 and 2 cabin.



Dining on deck.



Observation Deck with whirlpool hot tub.



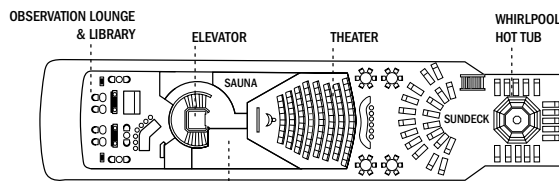
Category 5 suite with French balcony.



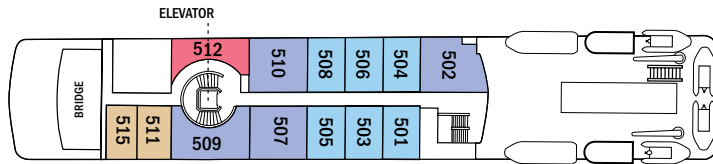
Category 6 owner's suite.



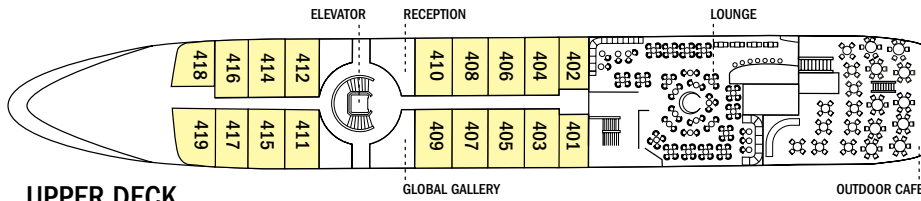
Lounge.



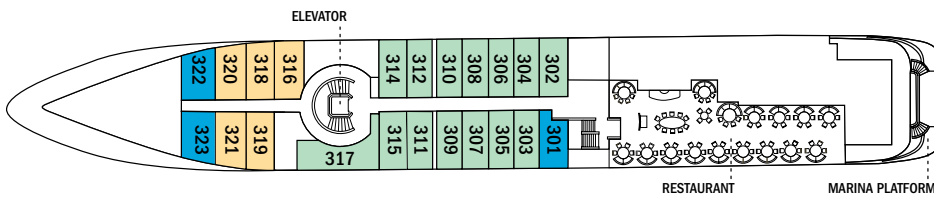
**OBSERVATION DECK**



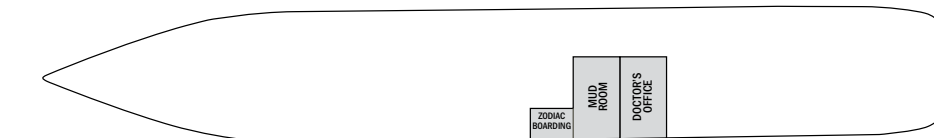
**BRIDGE DECK**



**UPPER DECK**



**MAIN DECK**



**EXPEDITION DECK**