

# THE CALL OF THE WILD: SUMMER ON THE ALASKAN COAST

Vancouver • 12-night expedition cruise with Inside Passage, Misty Fjords National Monument, Wrangell, Tracy and Endicott Arm Fjords, Petersburg, Haines, William Henry Bay, Sitka, Icy Bay, Cordova,\* College Fjord/Prince William Sound, Seward • Anchorage

The U.S.'s largest and most enigmatic state finally gets its due on this debut expedition cruise, which brings you to Alaska during the desirable summertime. You'll also visit during the peak of Alaska's salmon running season while enjoying balmy temperatures perfect for experiencing a melting pot of cultures and rugged landscapes, from rainforests to crystalline waterfalls to awe-inspiring fjords. What's more, you'll explore Petersburg's Norwegian flourishes and learn about the indigenous communities of Sitka and Wrangell. Along the way, photograph glaciers, mountains, and wildlife — including bears, whales, moose, and more! — as you immerse yourself in the natural extremes of this unique American outpost.

Your 12-night voyage from Anchorage to Vancouver takes place on the m/s Roald Amundsen, a luxurious "floating university" staffed with an Expedition Team of handpicked experts in geology, photography, biology, and more, who will amplify your adventures with their regional knowledge, scientific expertise, and friendly insight. While other travel companies offer shorter itineraries and visit less ports, Vantage offers you a true expedition along Alaska's wild coastline on the industry's finest expedition vessel and an array of Cultural Discoveries that will reveal the state's fascinating multicultural heritage.

With "north to the future" as its motto, Alaska was admitted to the union in 1959, and on this unforgettable expedition, you'll see why this state remains a land of promise.

# **JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **INSIDE PASSAGE**



Cruise the Inside Passage, a scenic stretch of British Columbia's coastline home to dolphins, orcas, whales, and more!

#### WILDLIFE VIEWING



From moose and caribou to bald eagles and humpbacks, discover the breadth and bounty of Alaskan wildlife

#### **ICY BAY**



Explore the spectacular glacial scenery at Icy Bay and, weather depending, the 8-mile-wide Guyot Glacier

#### **SITKA**



Discover the lasting impact of Tlingit, Russian, and American settlers on Sitka, nestled on Baranof Island

#### TRACY & ENDICOTT ARM FJORDS



Discover the lush greenery, steep valleys, ice floes, and wildlife along these awe-inspiring fjords

#### **PETERSBURG**



Go inside Alaska's "Little Norway" and uncover its Norwegian roots

#### WRANGELL



Uncover some of the best surviving examples of Native American petroglyphs

#### PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND



Visit Prince William Sound, which was formed during the past 100 years with the retreat of three prominent glaciers

#### WILLIAM HENRY BAY



Head into the Chilkat mountain range to explore William Henry Bay's old growth forest, home to plentiful wildlife

#### **SEWARD & ANCHORAGE**



Tour the scenic fishing town of Seward and visit the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center before heading to Anchorage

# YOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Purchase your airfare from Vantage and airport transfers, fuel surcharges, and government taxes and fees are included
- Cruise aboard the m/s Roald Amundsen, a stateof-the-art hybrid Hurtigruten expedition vessel, and a "floating university" featuring an onboard science center
- Accommodations: 14 nights, including 1 night at the Marriott Vancouver Pinnacle Downtown (or similar), 1 night at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel & Spa (or similar), and 12 nights aboard the m/s Roald Amundsen
- Up to 13 included features and Cultural
   Discoveries a value of \$1,400 per person!
- 40 meals: 14 breakfasts, 12 lunches, and 14 dinners
- The services of a Vantage Adventure Leader and Hurtigruten Expedition Leader, plus shipboard

- commentary, regional experts, and motorcoach/bus for excursions
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers now included!
- All transportation on tour
- All transfers and baggage handling (where permitted) when you purchase your international airfare from Vantage
- Vantage 5% Travel Reward, received upon your return, to use toward your next Vantage Adventure or Vantage Memorable Journey®

# SPECIAL INTEREST



#### **ACTIVE HIGHLIGHTS**

- Join the Expedition Team for an array of optional hikes, trekking and kayaking adventures, and more!
- Explore select destinations by nimble Zodiac boats



#### **ART & CULTURE HIGHLIGHTS**

- Uncover Norwegian heritage in Petersburg
- Discover the Tlingit culture in many towns, including Wrangell,
   Sitka, and Haines
- Explore Russian influence in Sitka
- Discover the Gold Rush town of Haines
- View vast collections of Tlingit totem poles in several sites!



as "the golden hour"

#### PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

- Join your Adventure Leader for an introductory photo lecture, including information on camera adjustments, tips, and tricks
- Use a telephoto lens (180mm or longer) for wildlife photography
- Eagles and birdwatchers: Bring a 300mm lens or more!
- Use a polarizing filter to make colors more vibrant
- Shooting just before sunrise or after sunset can result in some magical shots. This timeframe is known amongst photographers

NATURE HIGHLIGHTS From fjords to glaciers, Alaska offers some of the most remarkable natural panoramas in North America. For those who can't make it to Antarctica, Alaska might be the next best thing.



- Explore the waterfalls and rainforests of Misty Fjords National Monument from the coastline
- Cruise through the Tracy Arm and Endicott Arm fjords
- Explore the 8-mile-wide Guyot Glacier (depending on weather)
- Discover Alaska's myriad wildlife, from land to sea, including black bears, brown bears, caribou, moose, whales, orcas, dolphins, and more!



SOLO TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS Your solo-friendly small ship cruise has been enhanced with special features catering to independent travelers, including:

- A lively social media night and musical performances most nights
- Solo-friendly social activities, including a Solo Connection mixer
- Onboard entertainment, lectures, and cooking demonstrations



#### CONCIERGE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Prior to your expedition cruise, our complimentary Concierge service will be available to help you customize your journey. Here are just a few services your Concierge can provide:

 Do you have a special birthday, anniversary, family reunion or other important event you want to celebrate on board? Let your Concierge know and he or she can make all the special arrangements, whether it's a private reception in your suite, a

gathering in the lounge, and more

- Restaurant reservations. Just notify your Concierge of your interests, and he or she will be happy to make recommendations, and will call ahead to reserve your table
- Special excursions. Would you like a limo to take you for a special night in the city? Perhaps you'd like to look up long-lost relatives. Your Concierge is here to help!
- Extend your stay! Your Concierge can help modify your hotel reservations and flights if you decide to stay on
- Tickets to local concerts, exhibits, theater, sporting events, and more

Take advantage of this free, start-to-finish service by making your requests prior to your journey or during your journey. We are one of the only companies to offer this level of service! Call 1-888-982-6824 or email

Concierge@vantagetravel.com to speak to a Concierge today, or simply log into My Portfolio up to two weeks prior to departure. During your journey, your onboard Destination Manager can assist with any special requests such as spa reservations, hotel reservations, and more.		

# VANCOUVER TO ANCHORAGE

DAY 1:	Board an overnight flight to Amman, Jordan
DAY 2:	Amman arrival
	InterContinental Amman or similar
DAY 3:	Exploring Amman InterContinental Amman or similar
DAY 4:	Journey to the Lost City of Petra, and embark the Ocean Odyssey  Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 5:	Dramatic landscapes and religious heritage of Sharm El Sheikh  Ocean Odyssey >
DAYS 6-7:	Crossing the Suez Canal
	Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 9:	Explore Ashdod at your leisure
	Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 8:	Uncover a biblical past from Haifa
	Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 10:	Witnessing the history and traditions of Cyprus with your choice of tours  Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 11:	
DAY II.	Relax on board with a day at sea  Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 12:	Rhodes, island of the Knights of St. John
D 4) / 4 0	Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 13:	The rich biblical past of Ephesus  Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 14:	Breathtaking Mykonos
DAT 14.	Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 15:	Be dazzled by Santorini and visit the archaeological site Akrotiri
	Ocean Odyssey >
DAY 16:	Classical wonders of Athens Divani Caravel Hotel or similar

DAY 17:	Peel back the rich layers of Athens on your own
	Divani Caravel Hotel or similar
DAY 18:	Return home





DAY 1: Board an overnight flight to Amman, Jordan

Today you'll board an overnight flight to Amman. Or, depart earlier for your pre-trip extension to Jordan and the Dead Sea.

#### DAY 2: Amman arrival

Welcome to Amman, known as Jordan's "White City" for the hypnotic hue of its cityscape. If you purchased your airfare from Vantage, a representative will meet you at the airport and assist with the transfer to your hotel. You arrive this evening; depending on your arrival time, join

a late dinner at the hotel with fellow travelers.

Included meals: Dinner
InterContinental Amman or similar

**DAY 3:** Exploring Amman

This morning, join a Welcome Briefing that will explain procedures and other logistical information on your journey. Then, get acquainted with this multifaceted Arab metropolis during a guided tour. Amman was originally built across seven hills but today spreads out over 19, creating an undulating city canvas. Throughout your tour, the impressive Jebel Amman Citadel watches over you from its hilltop perch as the hauntingly beautiful call to prayer echoes off ancient buildings. After an included lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy the afternoon to explore on your own, perhaps discovering the bustling Al Balad downtown area surrounding the splendid King Hussein Mosque. This evening, join your fellow guests for a special Welcome Dinner at the hotel.

#### Included Feature:

• Half-day Amman city tour Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner InterContinental Amman or similar

DAY 4: Journey to the Lost City of Petra, and embark the Ocean Odyssey

Today, you'll set out for Aqaba, where your 5-star ship will berth. But first, enjoy a taste of Jordan with lunch at a local restaurant. Then, visit one of the world's most magnificent archaeological treasures — awe-inspiring Petra. Dating back to approximately 300 BC, this prehistoric city was carved into the pink sandstone cliffs of Jordan's southwestern desert by the ancient Nabataean people. As you explore Petra's Great Temple and tombs, you will listen to some of this magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Site's long and intriguing history.

Afterwards, continue to Aqaba, Jordan's only coastal city, to embark the Ocean Odyssey. Get settled in your cabin and take a walk through the ship, checking out the luxurious amenities offered, then gather for a port talk to hear about tomorrow's exciting destination. In the elegant dining room, savor a special Captain's Welcome Dinner, giving you just a glimpse of the curated fine dining you'll experience throughout your journey. The ship leaves port later in the evening.

**Included Feature:** 

• Guided tour of Petra Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

DAY 5: Dramatic landscapes and religious heritage of Sharm El Sheikh

Catch the sunrise from the ship's multilevel observation lounge before enjoying breakfast on board as the Ocean Odyssey arrives in Egypt. Situated near the tip of the Sinai Peninsula,

Sharm El Sheikh is a seaside desert oasis for Egyptians and travelers alike. Its waters are renowned for their diverse marine life and crystalline visibility. Jacques Cousteau called it a "corridor of marvels" and, depending on conditions and timing, you may have time to take out one of the ship's kayaks or snorkeling equipment and see this underwater world for yourself. But first, you can join an included morning tour. Visit the magnificent Mustafa Sheikh Mosque with its soaring minarets flanking an impressive dome and marble façade. Marvel at the biblical artwork of the Coptic Orthodox Church, spiritual home to the largest Christian denomination in Egypt. After a stop at Soho Square, Sharm's modern entertainment and shopping complex, and a perusal of the vibrant, energetic market, return to the ship in time for lunch.

Your afternoon is at leisure in Sharm El Sheikh, or perhaps you'll explore the spectacular coral reef and colorful fish here. If you're looking for something more adventurous, your onboard Destination Manager can help you set up an excursion. A port talk lets you know what to expect during our upcoming crossing of the astonishing Suez Canal.

#### **Included Feature:**

· Guided tour of Sharm El Sheikh

#### **Cultural Discovery:**

Onboard lecture

Scenic Sailing:

 Enjoy the stunning sight of the Red Sea lapping against shores of desert sand as you depart Sharm El Sheikh and circle the Sinai Peninsula

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

#### DAYS 6-7: Crossing the Suez Canal

Prepare yourself for today's travel milestone, and settle in on the sun deck as you traverse the Suez Canal to the Mediterranean Sea.

While at sea, an onboard lecturer will offer poignant lectures on the Suez Canal and the history of the region. You'll also listen to an onboard musician.

These two days provide the perfect opportunity to savor the easy pace and camaraderie that small ship cruising affords. Bring binoculars for a closer view of the desert hills and sands unfolding all around while our inviting lounge area and elegant common spaces offer ideal settings to get to know your fellow adventurers. A port talk will give you a glimpse of what's ahead once you reach the Mediterranean.

During your cruising, take advantage of your ship's many amenities, and see how days on board can be just as exciting as days offshore. Perhaps enjoy a spa treatment, curl up with a book on deck, or pop into the boutique for any items you may need. Your meals will bring a taste of Egypt to your experience.

#### **Cultural Discoveries:**

- 2 onboard lectures, part of the Vantage Lecture Series
- 2 onboard musical performances Scenic Sailing:
- In between your informative onboard lectures, join your fellow adventures at the inviting lounge areas and use your included binoculars to get a closer view of the desert hills and sands unfolding all around

Onboard Enhancement: Customize your journey

when you add an optional onboard experience. Enhance your time on board with one of our Vantage-exclusive activities, including wine and whiskey tastings, a multicourse Chef's Table Dinner, or an exclusive wine-pairing dinner.

Learn more

Included Meals: 2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners Ocean Odyssey >

DAY 9: Explore Ashdod at your leisure

Arrive in Ashdod, one of the oldest cities in the world, this morning. Then, choose your Israel experience during one of our included tours, ideal for travelers who have visited Israel before and may be looking for new opportunities. Join a full-day tour to Jerusalem, starting at the Mount of Olives so you can take in the ancient city from a breathtaking viewpoint. Proceed to the Gardens of Gethsemane, where Jesus and his disciples slept the night before his crucifixion and whose olive trees may date back as far as Christ. After stopping to see the Church of all Nations, enter the UNESCO-listed Old City for an unforgettable walking tour that includes the Western Wall. After lunch, browse the Arab Bazaar, then follow the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, site of Jesus' tomb.

Alternately, choose to spend the day on a full-day tour to Masada and the Dead Sea, with an included lunch. Begin at the famed desert fortress where a band of Jewish rebels chose the ultimate act of resistance against a siege by Roman soldiers. A short cable car ride to the top will show you the full scope of the desert and Dead Sea below. Then head down to its famously curative salt waters, where you can test how buoyant they really are. (Don't forget your swimsuit!)

Enjoy a pre-dinner and port talk that will fill you on what's happening tomorrow.

#### **Included Feature:**

 Full-day excursion to Jerusalem or to Masada and the Dead Sea Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

DAY 8: Uncover a biblical past from Haifa

Arrive in Haifa this morning, the picturesque northern Israeli port in the shadow of Mt. Carmel. Today's full-day tour features many places from the life of Jesus. First head to Nazareth, where Jesus lived with Mary and Joseph after his birth. Marvel at the mosaic-filled Basilica of the Annunciation. Next, view the Wedding Church where Jesus turned water to wine. In the ancient fishing village of Capernaum, see the ancient synagogue where Jesus used to teach. After a local St. Peter's fish lunch, embark a boat to cross the legendary Sea of Galilee, believed to be where Jesus walked on water. Then visit Tabgha, site of the miracle of the fishes, and the Mount of the Beatitudes, topped by the stunning church with its octagonal dome representing the 8 Beatitudes.

Today's port talk prepares you for the next unforgettable stop, Ashdod.

#### **Included Features:**

- Full-day Galilee excursion
- Visit Tabgha and the Mount of the Beatitudes Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

DAY 10: Witnessing the history and traditions of Cyprus with your choice of tours

After breakfast, you'll arrive in Cyprus. The people of this island country enjoy a warm

Mediterranean climate, dramatic coastal vistas, the pine-wooded Troodos Mountains, and some of the finest ancient mosaics in the world. You will join them today as you choose from two included afternoon tours.

During a half-day tour to Paphos, a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its natural and cultural treasures, stop to view Aphrodite's Rock, said to be the spot from where the goddess of love and beauty rose from the sea. Visit the Chrysopolitissa Church, built on the remains of a Byzantine basilica, and St. Paul's Pillar. At the Paphos Archaeological Park, view the remarkably preserved floor mosaics at the Houses of Dionysos, Aion, and Theseus. Enjoy free time to take in the relaxed atmosphere at the Harbor of Paphos.

Or, you may choose a half-day tour to the UNESCO-listed traditional village of Choirokoitia, where our local friend Petros reveals the secrets behind making Halloumi and Anari cheeses at his home. Settle in for a visit and delightful tasting of farm-fresh cheeses with honey, olives, home-baked bread, and salad. Petros will also show you how he weaves the island's distinctive baskets. After a walk around the village, enjoy a scenic coastal drive back to the ship.

Lunch is back onboard and the rest of your afternoon is at leisure. This evening, learn more about this fascinating island during an onboard lecture. And after our port talk, some Cypriot performers join us on board for a lively folklore show.

#### Included Feature:

• Half-day tour of Phaphos or Choirokoitia

#### **Cultural Discoveries:**

- Onboard lecture
- Evening onboard entertainment: Cypriot folklore show

#### Scenic Sailing:

 You may also wish to relax on the deck and enjoy the view as Limassol's sun-kissed coast appears on the horizon Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

#### DAY 11: Relax on board with a day at sea

Enjoy a day at sea as the Ocean Odyssey makes its way into the fabled waters of the Aegean Sea. Visit the spa, get in a workout at the gym, relax on the sun deck catching up with a great book, and enjoy the fabulous cuisine the chefs are creating just for you!

Today's onboard lecture provides more fascinating context to this legendary part of the Mediterranean. And this evening's port talk previews your next incredible destination — the remarkable island of Rhodes.

#### **Cultural Discovery:**

• Onboard lecture Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

DAY 12: Rhodes, island of the Knights of St. John

Spend this morning exploring Rhodes, Europe's largest inhabited medieval town. See the old port of Mandraki. Traverse the heights of Agios Stefanos, or Monte Smith, for sweeping views. In the Old Town, visit the vast Grand Masters Palace, home to the Knights of St. John crusaders, and stop by the Archaeological Museum, once the Knights' hospital. If you wish, you may linger on your own to explore more of this remarkable enclave of medieval treasures, perhaps strolling the cobbled Street of the

Knights.

Back on board, learn more about the rich history that has shaped the Aegean. And though nothing can prepare you for the breathtaking sights of our next destination, Ephesus, our port talk will try!

#### **Included Feature:**

· Half-day tour of Rhodes

#### **Cultural Discovery:**

 Onboard lecture by local lecturer Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

DAY 13: The rich biblical past of Ephesus

Discover the historical country of Turkey today. Step into the ancient past during a half-day visit to Ephesus, once the most important trading center in the Aegean. These breathtaking ruins are steeped in biblical history, as you will learn during a guided stroll down the Arcadian Way, once lined with colonnaded buildings and adorned with mosaics. Pass the impressive amphitheater and marvel at the towering façade of the Library of Celsus. This third largest library in the ancient world was built to house 12,000 parchment scrolls. You will also view the Temples of Hadrian and Diana before returning to the ship for lunch.

This afternoon you'll enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Kusadasi, which offers great walks, restaurants, and shops.

Back on board, there'll be ample opportunities to immerse yourself in Turkish culture. Get into the rhythms of traditional song and dance during a performance by locals. Gain more insight into the famous flavors of this region when you enjoy a lecture on Turkish cuisine. And savor the

creations of a Turkish master chef, who we have invited into the kitchen to prepare your mouthwatering dinner.

#### Included Feature:

Half-day historical tour of Ephesus

#### **Cultural Discoveries:**

- Onboard lecture
- · Evening onboard entertainment
- Dinner prepared by a Turkish master chef Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

#### **DAY 14:** Breathtaking Mykonos

Mykonos is big on discovery and beauty, and is renowned for its pure-white houses, tidy churches with blue domes, charming windmills, and pristine beaches. See what captivated Jackie Onassis and other celebrity yachters during a driving tour to some of its most stunning beaches — Agios Ioannis, Ornos, Kalafatis, and Agia Anna.

Then, visit the magnificent white-washed village of Ano Mera. After stopping at its unique 1542 Panagia Tourliani Monastery, enjoy a tasty bite and a sip or two of ouzo in the square. A guided walking tour reveals the narrow passages and cobbled lanes of Mykonos before you return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. You can relax in Mykonos on your own, perhaps exploring by bike or arranging a 4x4 rental with your onboard Destination Manager.

Your day is further enlightened by another onboard lecture this afternoon, followed this evening by some fun onboard entertainment.

Today's port talk prepares you for the wonders of Santorini, tomorrow's beguiling destination.

#### Included Feature:

Half-day Mykonos scenic drive & walking tour

#### **Cultural Discoveries:**

- Onboard lecture by local lecturer
- Evening onboard entertainment Included meals: Breakfast & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

DAY 15: Be dazzled by Santorini and visit the archaeological site Akrotiri

Santorini has been called the most magnificent of the Greek Isles. With its soaring cliffs tumbling into turquoise waters, you're sure to agree. You will tender ashore and take a scenic drive to the ancient site of Akrotiri, a Minoan village frozen in time by the ash of a devastating volcanic eruption. This wonder has been compared to Pompeii both for its fate and for its incredible preservation. Explore its beauty with a guide, then continue to the charming clifftop village of Oia. This vision of whitewashed and pastel houses clinging to dark volcanic rock was once home to wealthy seafarers. Its narrow streets are a paradise for walkers, as you will experience firsthand. Then, move on to Fira, perched high over the Aegean on more cliffs. You many explore here on your own and return to the ship at leisure via a dramatic cable car and your waiting tender.

This afternoon, an onboard lecturer adds more enlightenment to your knowledge of the Aegean. Later, a port talk fills you in on what you can expect from our visit to the Cradle of Civilization — Athens. Savor your final dinner on board, with ample options of locally inspired cuisine.

#### **Included Feature:**

· Half-day tour of Akrotiri and Oia

#### **Cultural Discovery:**

Onboard lecture

Scenic Sailing:

 Savor your final dinner on board, with ample options of locally inspired cuisine and a stunning last view of Santorini as we navigate past sheer cliffs and the volcanic island of Nea Kameni

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner Ocean Odyssey >

#### **DAY 16:** Classical wonders of Athens

Arrive in Piraeus this morning and disembark for a thrilling tour of Athens, the sophisticated capital of Greece where mythology and ancient history come alive. You'll visit the iconic Acropolis. where it was said that Poseidon and Athena fought over who would be patron of the city. This was the architectural pinnacle of Athens, crowned by its breathtaking Parthenon. You'll also visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Parliament House on Constitution Square, the Panathenaic Stadium, and the Presidential Palace. Along the famed Panepistimiou Avenue, pass the Catholic Cathedral, Academy of Athens, the University of Athens, and the National Library. Enjoy lunch on your own, perhaps seeking out a restaurant in the charming Plaka district, nestled at the foot of Acropolis Hill.

The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure.

Remember, you can always contact your

Destination Manager in advance to help you plan
your time in Athens.

#### Included Feature:

 Athens sightseeing and walking tour Included meals: Breakfast Divani Caravel Hotel or similar

DAY 17: Peel back the rich layers of Athens on

#### your own

You'll have a day to explore Athens anyway you see fit — your Vantage Destination Manager can provide plenty of tips and recommendations for what to see, do, and eat!

If you stay in Athens, set out to uncover some of the Cradle of Civilization's lesser known gems. If you're looking for a deal, head over to the Monastiraki flea market, an atmospheric agora of secondhand Athenian treasures. While you're there, seek out a traditional sandal-maker sure to have your size.

Tonight, celebrate your journey during a Farewell Drink and Dinner.

Included meals: Breakfast & dinner Divani Caravel Hotel or similar

#### **DAY 18: Return home**

After breakfast, transfer to the Athens airport for your return flight home, or continue to Istanbul, Constantinople of old, on our optional post-trip extension.

Included meals: Breakfast

Please Note: Ocean cruising is not the same experience as river cruising; as such, you may experience fluctuating tides and weather patterns that may involve some rocking of your vessel. Itineraries will include all activities as planned except in extreme cases that can't be controlled by your shipboard crew. Day-by-day itineraries are preliminary and therefore subject to change. If changes occur while on tour, you will be notified by your Cruise Director or regional expert.

# **ACCOMMODATIONS**



## Ocean Odyssey

The intimate *Ocean Explorer* and *Ocean Odyssey* are the cruise industry's newest and most premier small ships built for global expedition travel, and ready to go to some of the world's most far-reaching destinations. Accommodating just 134 guests, the ship is outfitted with the latest satellite, sustainability, and navigation capabilities, including SOLAS "Safe Return to Port" requirements and ULSTEIN X-BOW® technology, a significant enhancement for smooth sailing in polar seas On all Vantage expedition cruises, education is an essential component of the journey. Enjoy talks from notable scholars, onboard historians who travel alongside you, and handpicked regional experts. On polar expeditions with Vantage, you'll attend lectures, lessons, and activities offered by a 17-member Expedition Team of experts in fields ranging from biology to oceanography. In your downtime, you'll find relaxation and luxury aboard the *Ocean Explorer* and *Ocean Odyssey*. Visit the gym or onboard spa for a facial, massage, even a haircut. Soak in the hot tub after a rewarding day of sightseeing. Enjoy gourmet fare for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus outstanding culinary experiences built into your journey. And because there's no more than 134 fellow travelers on expedition cruises, you'll enjoy small group outings by day and share meals, stories, and fun with new friends by night. These fabulous expedition vessels offer:

- •77 cabins, including a landmark 15 solo cabins
- •30 triple-ready cabins available
- •Vantage offers FREE roommate-matching services if you'd like to be paired while you travel
- •Spacious, all outside-facing cabins
- •134-guest capacity
- Zodiac trips to get as close as possible to nature
- •The latest satellite and navigation capabilities, including ULSTEIN X-BOW® technology
- •Intimate crew-to-passenger ration, plus onboard Destination Manager

•Environmentally friendly standards with reduced emissions into air and sea and lower energy consumption

#### Amenities:

- •A culinary program offering gourmet dining and regional fare, with wine and beer included at dinner
- Hot-rock cooking restaurant
- Multistory lounge and lobby
- Three bars and various lounges
- •Top deck observation deck for gatherings, lecturers, performances, and more
- •Spa, massage, and hair services available at the onboard spa
- •Sauna
- Two hot tubs
- •Fitness center
- •Curated lectures, programs, musical performances, and cultural events
- •Low passenger-to-crew ratio, plus onboard Destination Manager (not available on expeditions)
- •Onboard medical doctor (travelers are responsible for medical fees associated with doctor visit and medications)
- •Gift Shop
- •Library with over 200 titles
- •Separate, intimate dining space for groups or special events (available upon request)
- •Complimentary unlimited WiFi (WiFi on certain segments of trips may not be available)
- •20+ live TV channels featuring popular U.S. news channels, the Food Network, the Travel Channel, and National Geographic
- •Entertainment and video on demand for 250 classic movies



## InterContinental Amman ★★★★

The Deluxe InterContinental Amman enjoys a prime location in the heart of Amman's business and diplomatic area within walking distance of the old city center. Hotel facilities include a wide variety of restaurants and, bars, room service, business services, concierge services, hair salon, shopping arcade, outdoor pool, indoor and outdoor pools, and fitness facility. Guest rooms have airconditioning, cable/satellite TV, phone with voicemail, high-speed Internet access, minibar, coffee-maker, in-room safe, iron and ironing board, and private bathroom.



#### Divani Caravel Hotel ★★★★

A member of the Leading Hotels of the World, the stunning Divani Caravel Hotel offers an unbeatable location just minutes away from Constitution Square in the heart of Athens. Elegant guest rooms reveal modern amenities and classical charm, while the hotel features a variety of restaurants and lounge/bars, a rooftop health club and spa, and an indoor/outdoor swimming pool with amazing views of Athens and the Acropolis.



# Mövenpick Resort & Spa Dead Sea ★★★★

Set on the northern shores of the Dead Sea, the Superior First Class Mövenpick Resort & Spa Dead Sea is located in a traditional village amongst lush gardens. Enjoy guaranteed sea-facing rooms that include self-controlled air-conditioning, satellite TV, minibar, and more. The hotel also features nine restaurants and bars offering a variety of cuisine, as well as a beach lounge infinity pool, an indoor Dead Sea floating pool, tennis courts, and a large fitness room. The state-of-the-art spa offers a wide range of health and beauty therapies.



## The Marmara Taksim ★★★★

This Superior First-Class hotel has a contemporary interior design and is located in the high central point in Istanbul, Taksim Square, with views of Bosphorus or the Golden Horn estuary. Hotel facilities include two restaurants, cafe, room service, business center, currency exchange, concierge services, barber/hair stylist, laundry/dry cleaning service, gift shop, outdoor pool, and health club with spa/massage and hot tub. Guest rooms feature air conditioning, cable/satellite TV, phone with voicemail, high-speed Internet access, minibar, coffee maker, in-room safe, and private bathroom.