PANAMA & COLOMBIA:
EXPLORING THE CARIBBEAN COAST
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC QUEST
OCTOBER 17-24, 2020

$450 AIR CREDIT
BOOK BY JULY 31, 2020
That’s the exhilaration of discovery.
DEAR OBERLIN TRAVELERS,

Few travelers have explored the marvel of the Panama Canal in its entirety, taking in rich green shores by day and watching light-dotted ships sail through the night. On the 50-cabin National Geographic Quest, you’ll not only transit the canal, you’ll explore beyond it, to discover the Caribbean coasts of Panama and Colombia over the course of eight days.

You’ll discover these two countries as an active explorer, not a tourist. You’ll learn the history of the canal, one of the seven wonders of the modern world. The canal bisects a wealth of natural treasures: the tropical paradise of Panama, and the vibrant natural and cultural history of Colombia. As you alight on the shores of Portobelo or cruise by boat through the backwaters of Cispatá Bay, watch in awe as a kaleidoscope of parrots fly overhead while wading birds hunt the mangrove-lined channels. You’ll journey deep into secluded islands and riverside towns, where you’ll meet fascinating local populations as they preserve and celebrate Colombia’s legendary beauty.

The National Geographic Quest is outfitted with Zodiacs, kayaks, snorkeling gear, and stand-up paddleboards, offering you myriad delightful ways to witness the Caribbean’s marine life. The ship’s expedition team of naturalists will ensure you don’t miss the plethora of mammals, birds, and insects hidden in the dense forest canopy, while the certified photo instructor will help you capture your best shots ever.

Few have gone where you will go and explored the abundance of this Caribbean coast the way you will on this expedition. I hope you will join us October 17-24, 2020. You will be joined by Jacob Edgar, ethnomusicologist and fellow Oberlin alum on this voyage. To make your reservation, please return the enclosed reservation form or call 440-775-8692.

Sincerely,

Emily Cole
Director, Alumni Engagement

SPECIAL AIRFARE SAVINGS:
Book by July 31, 2020 and receive a $450 air credit. See page 12.

Discover the rhythms of Panama and Colombia with live performances by leading musicians—curated by onboard ethnomusicologist Jacob Edgar. Jacob ’92 is a Lindblad Expeditions ethnomusicologist, world music tastemaker, and global explorer with an insatiable curiosity for the diverse ways in which people express themselves through music. Jacob’s adventures have taken him to dozens of countries, and hundreds of the world’s greatest international music festivals, showcases, and performance venues in search of exceptional musical talents.

While at Oberlin, he was a double major in history and Latin American studies, and conducted field research on music and society in Central America. He was awarded the Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities and graduated from UCLA in 1994 with a master’s degree in ethnomusicology.

He has been a professional trumpet player, the Label Director for Tinder Records, and he’s written for The Beat, Global Rhythm magazine, and the LA Times Book Review as well as hosted the radio program “Uncompass” on the San Francisco radio station KALW. Jacob lives in Charlotte, Vermont with his wife Deirdre and daughters Simone and Schuyler.
COLOMBIA: NATURE & AUTHENTIC CULTURE

Our journey through the remote wilderness and heritage-rich coastal cities of Colombia will both open your eyes to the past and enhance the present. Near the little-explored coastal community of Necoclí, we begin with Zodiac excursions into the secluded coastal lagoons. Keep your eyes peeled for wildlife and listen in delight to the chipper racket of scarlet macaws, parrots, and collared aracari. In Tuchín, observe the making of the sombrero vueltiao, a hat considered the national symbol of Colombia. Feast your eyes on the eclectic Santa Cruz de Lorica, an idyllic riverside gem with Belgian, English, French, Syrian, and Lebanese influences. Visit Santa Cruz del Islote—one of the most densely populated islands on Earth—and chat with local residents.

In addition to the treasures above ground, you’ll discover vibrant marine life beneath the Caribbean ripples. Search for wildlife in the hidden coves of rarely visited Cispatá Bay on an evening cruise. The mystery, history, and lively mosaic of the Caribbean is sure to leave you wanting more.

PANAMA: A PROUD PEOPLE, A STORIED PAST

In the San Blas Islands on Panama’s Caribbean coast, encounter the powerful heritage of the indigenous Guna people. Learn about mola, the legendary handmade textiles bursting with color, and their roots in female body painting.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Church on the main plaza in Santa Cruz de Lorica in Cordoba, Colombia; red howler monkey; traditional Guna people living on Tigre Island; Guna Yala Islands, Panama; fiery-throated hummingbird.
PANAMA: A TROPICAL LAND & SEA SANCTUARY

Panama’s lush wildness rivals that of Colombia and there are more discoveries to make along the Caribbean coast on land and under the sea. Hike into the jungles of Portobelo in search of mantled howler monkeys and toucans, and head underwater to encounter the abundant marine life beneath the Guna Yala archipelago. Choose to kayak, snorkel, or paddleboard off the island’s coast, soaking up the vibrant undersea world of the Caribbean.

AN EXTRAORDINARY PANAMA CANAL TRANSIT

The Panama Canal offers a perfect contrast to the natural beauty of the region—a man-made technological marvel that is both historic and the future of global shipping. Crossing the canal by ship is a life-list must—and your transit aboard the National Geographic Quest offers the best possible experience. The National Geographic Quest completes the transit over two eventful days, enabling you to see the canal by day and night. Enjoy the privilege of visiting Barro Colorado Nature Monument, home to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. Whether it’s on your bucket list, or simply a bonus on your Panama and Colombia expedition, you will remember your canal transit forever.
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC QUEST: THE PERFECT PLATFORM FOR EXPLORING

The 50-cabin National Geographic Quest is your front-row seat on the legendary diversity of Colombia and an unforgettable Panama Canal transit. Along with top amenities and comfortable interiors, and bow and deck specs designed for easy access to the world outdoors, she also offers a variety of enhancements that make her one of the top expedition vessels out there. National Geographic Quest carries a fleet of customized Zodiacs that let you explore remote, jungle-framed beaches. Kayaks enable you to experience wilderness personally at water level, as you paddle along mangrove channels. Snorkeling equipment, a hydrophone, an ROV (remotely operated vehicle), a splash-cam, and underwater video camera let you see the underwater life you’d otherwise miss. And now a fleet of stand-up paddleboards allows you to experience Colombia and Panama in a whole new way.

AT YOUR SERVICE: AN A+ EXPEDITION TEAM

You are accompanied by an expert team of naturalists who know every aspect of this region, so you’ll see, do, and learn more. You can gravitate to those whose interests—birds, plants, photography, and more—mirror yours. Or sample and benefit from a great variety of expertise and engaging personalities. Plus, enjoy perfectly sized groups on activities and personal attention; you’re never lost in a crowd.

A certified photo instructor is also on board to assist you with camera settings, composition basics, and useful tips. Because he or she is also a naturalist, you learn about the wildlife so you can anticipate behaviors that make for great photos. So whether you’re a smartphone, point and shoot, or DSLR user, count on returning home with new skills and your best photos ever.
Immerse yourself in natural and cultural wonders along the Caribbean coast of Panama and Colombia on a voyage aboard the National Geographic Quest. Venture into the lush jungles of Portobelo; spot brightly colored toucans, macaws, and monkeys; and observe the making of the sombrero vueltiao. A highlight of your voyage will be a transit of the legendary Panama Canal.

**DAY 1: HOME/CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA/EMBARK**
Upon arrival in Cartagena, embark the National Geographic Quest to begin the expedition. (D)

**DAY 2: SANTA CRUZ DEL ISLOTE/SAN BERNARDO ARCHIPELAGO/ TUCHÍN/SAN ANTERO**
Wander through Santa Cruz del Islote, the size of two soccer fields, making it one of the most densely populated islands on Earth. Later, the ship cruises into the San Bernardo archipelago, calling at San Antero. After lunch, visit Tuchín, an indigenous village celebrated as the birthplace of the sombrero vueltiao, the hat considered a national symbol of Colombia. Observe vueltiao makers at work, and then meet with the local Zenú community, known for their ingenious irrigation systems. Anchor tonight in San Antero. (B,L,D)
DAY 3: SANTA CRUZ DE LORICA/ CISPATÁ BAY
Drive inland to Santa Cruz de Lorica, a charming riverside town with French, Belgian, English, Syrian, and Lebanese influences in its historic architecture and central square. After lunch, embark on a late afternoon cruise in the rarely explored Cispatá Bay, timed for optimum wildlife spotting, as native creatures emerge from their mid-day rest. This evening National Geographic Quest continues the journey along the Colombian coastline. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: NECOCLÍ
Discover the little-explored coastal community in and around Necoclí. Take Zodiacs into protected, mangrove-lined lagoons as you watch out for an array of bird species like great and snowy egrets, and Amazon and green kingfishers. Later, visit a local cocoa farm, where residents strive to incorporate the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals into their agricultural community. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: GUNA YALA, PANAMA
Wake up amid the Panamanian archipelago of Guna Yala, a constellation of 368 tiny, white-sand isles off the northeast coast of Panama. Meet the indigenous Guna people and spend the morning among the thatched huts of an island village, learning about Guna culture and handicrafts. Marvel at the intricate designs of handmade textiles called molas. In the afternoon, explore the vibrant marine world around the islands by snorkel, kayak, and stand-up paddleboard. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: PORTOBELO
Arrive along Panama’s Caribbean coast and step ashore in the historic town of Portobelo, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Here, numerous walled forts are prominently perched along the coastline, recalling the times when Portobelo was a major Spanish colonial trading center. Opt to hike into lush jungles in search of mantled howler monkeys, toucans, and parrots. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: GATÚN LAKE
By special permission, the ship anchors overnight in Gatún Lake, a vast artificial lake that forms a major part of the Panama Canal. In the morning, visit the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and learn about the Barro Colorado Nature Monument, one of the most studied areas of tropical forest on the planet. Choose to hike into the jungles of the island or navigate the surrounding waters by Zodiac. Or, opt to take a boat ride to the mouth of the Chagres River to explore the Panama Rainforest Discovery Center. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: BALBOA/DISEMBARK/PANAMA CITY/HOME
Upon arrival at the port in Balboa, disembark the ship and transfer to the airport in Panama City for flights home. (B)
**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC QUEST**

**CAPACITY:** 50 cabins accommodating 100 guests.

**REGISTRY:** United States. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 238 feet.

*National Geographic Quest* (launched in 2017) is designed with over 50 years of expedition heritage and built in the U.S.A. She sets a new standard in exploration comfort and style.

**PUBLIC AREAS:** Global gallery; fitness center; LEXspa; lounge with full service bar and facilities for films and presentations; observation deck; mudroom with lockers for expedition gear, and a partially covered sundeck with chairs and tables. The “open Bridge” provides guests an opportunity to meet the officers and captain and learn about navigation.

**MEALS:** Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Breakfast is a wide-selection buffet and lunch is often served family-style. Cuisine is fresh, sustainable, and accented with regional flair.

**CABINS:** All cabins face outside with windows or portholes, private facilities, and climate controls. Category 4 cabins have step-out balconies.

**EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT:** A fleet of 8 Zodiacs and 24 kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, snorkeling equipment; ROV (remotely operated vehicle); hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, and video microscope.

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Guest Wi-Fi access, elevator, certified photo instructor, undersea specialist, video chronicler, and ship’s doctor.

**WELLNESS:** The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features a gym with an elliptical machine, treadmill, exercycles, handweights, and resistance bands. Treatments in the LEXspa are available by appointment.

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Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITINERARY</th>
<th>CAT. 1</th>
<th>CAT. 2</th>
<th>CAT. 3</th>
<th>CAT. 4</th>
<th>CAT. 5 SUITE</th>
<th>CAT. 1 SOLO</th>
<th>CAT. 2 SOLO</th>
<th>ADVANCE PAYMENT</th>
<th>SAMPLE AIRFARES</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Panama &amp; Colombia: Exploring the Caribbean Coast</td>
<td>$5,990</td>
<td>$6,830</td>
<td>$7,430</td>
<td>$8,390</td>
<td>$9,340</td>
<td>$8,980</td>
<td>$10,250</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>Miami/Cartagena/Panama City/Miami: Economy from $425; Business from $1,300. Subject to change.</td>
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</table>
**CATEGORY 1:** Main Deck #301-306
Cabins feature two lower single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, and two portholes.

**CATEGORY 2:** Main Deck #307-315
Cabins feature two lower single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, and two portholes.

**CATEGORY 3:** Upper Deck #201-206
Cabins feature two lower single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, and two large view windows.

**CATEGORY 4:** Upper Deck #207-229
Cabins feature two lower single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, sliding glass door, and small, private balcony.

**CATEGORY 5 (SUITE):** Observation Deck #101-108
Cabins feature two lower single beds that can convert to a Queen, large view windows, an expanded bathroom, writing desk, ample storage space, and a convertible sofa bed to accommodate a third person.

**NOTE:** Solo Occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third person rates are available in Category 5 cabins at one half the double occupancy rate.

**Connecting Cabins via internal doorway access:** Main Deck: #312-314, #311-315, #306-308, #305-307; Upper Deck: #224-226, #225-227

Clockwise from top left: The casual dining room with its expansive windows; Category 4 cabin with lower single beds (which can be converted to a Queen) and a private step-out balcony; the sundeck is a perfect place to relax and observe the scenery; Category 5 cabin is the most spacious aboard.
SPECIAL OFFERS

SAVINGS: Book by July 31, 2020 to receive a $450 air credit. (Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers or extensions). Call for details.

BRING THE KIDS: Sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. Take $500 off the double occupancy price for each person under 18.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

CANCELLATION POLICY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start</th>
<th>Per Person Cancellation Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120 or more days</td>
<td>$350</td>
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<td>119–90 days</td>
<td>Advance payment cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>89–60 days</td>
<td>25% of trip cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>59–45 days</td>
<td>50% of trip cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>44–0 days</td>
<td>No refund</td>
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We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.

PHOTO CREDITS: Willy Alfaro, Alexandra C. Daley-Clark, Eric Guth, Ralph Lee Hopkins, Sven-Olof Lindblad, Nancy Nehring, Floriano Rescigno, Marco Ricca, Kelvin Rumsby, Gary Tognoni, David Vargas.
RESERVATION FORM:
PANAMA & COLOMBIA:
EXPLORING THE CARIBBEAN COAST
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC QUEST—OCTOBER 17-24, 2020

Please reserve ____________ place(s).

Name 1:_________________________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)
Name 1:____________________________________Date of Birth: _______________________
(Preferred name for name badge)
Name 2: ________________________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)
Name 2: ___________________________________Date of Birth: _______________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: ________________________________________________________________
City:_____________________________________ State: __________________Zip: _________

Home Phone: __________________ Business Phone: ___________________________
Cell Phone: ___________________________Fax: ___________________________
Email: _______________________________________________________________________

Accommodations: □ Double  □ Single □ Twin share w/friend
□ Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:
1st choice: __________________________ 2nd choice: _____________________________

□ Enclosed is my advance payment of $ _______________________ (US$750 per person).
Check made payable to Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.

□ Charge my advance payment of $ ____________________________ (US$750 per person) to my □ Visa □ MasterCard □ American Express □ Discover.

Account Number: ____________________________________ Expires: ___________________
Cardholder Signature: _____________________________________ Date: __________________
EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

» Explore the fascinating lock system of the Panama Canal and navigate the waters of the man-made Gatún Lake.

» Stroll through the vibrant villages, pristine beaches, and wildlife-rich jungles of Colombia.

» Visit Tuchín, the birthplace of the sombrero vueltiao, a type of hat considered a national symbol of Colombia.

» Wander through the motor-free streets and bustling docks of Santa Cruz del Islote, one of the most densely populated islands on Earth.

» Travel with expert naturalists and photography pros aboard the 50-cabin National Geographic Quest.