

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION'S TRAVEL PROGRAM



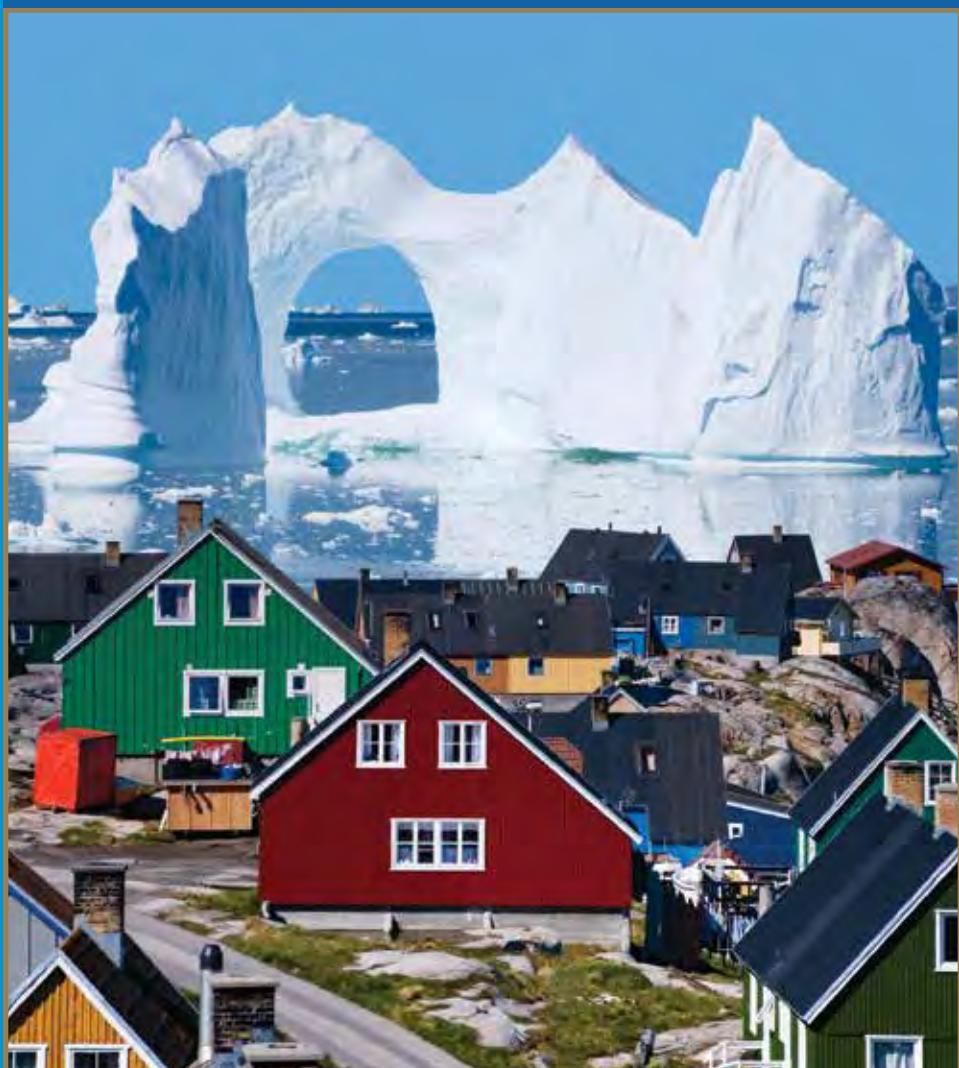
Smithsonian JOURNEYS

IN THE WAKE OF THE VIKINGS

ICELAND TO GREENLAND AND THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

ABOARD THE FIVE-STAR M.S. L' AUSTRAL

AUGUST 2-14, 2014



INSPIRING GENERATIONS *through* KNOWLEDGE AND DISCOVERY

Early Booking Savings

Reserve by March 21, 2014 ■ Save \$2,000 Per Couple
SMITHSONIANJOURNEYS.ORG ■ 1-877-338-8687

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Come with us to the very edge of civilization, where night and day meld under the midnight sun. Join this rare opportunity to cruise from Reykjavik, Iceland, along Greenland's coast and into its breathtaking western fjords. Here, rugged, beautiful and everchanging landscapes serve as a testament to the powerful forces that shape our planet.

Retrace the sea lanes traveled by Viking and Norse explorers on this extraordinary Five-Star, ice-class, small-ship cruise aboard the M.S. L'AUSTRAL, featuring private balconies in 95 percent of Staterooms.

Accompanying you on the cruise and providing a series of lectures are Smithsonian Study Leader Dr. James Zimbelman and Harvard Study Leader Dr. James McCarthy. In addition, an expedition team of expert naturalists will guide you on excursions aboard sturdy Zodiac craft to explore the intricate ecosystems and marvelous nuances of wildlife found ashore.

Discover worlds with deep links to their ancient cultures and lands, yet poised to make the most of modern innovations—simply unlike any other place on earth. See extraordinary terrain, remote areas and small ports inaccessible to larger vessels and rarely visited by even the most experienced travelers. Learn more about the first Norse settlers and their distinct traditions, great medieval sagas, and native Inuit life as it has existed for centuries.

This once-in-a-lifetime program is an excellent value and features Five-Star ship accommodations with meals, an excursion in each port of call and Zodiac landings, weather permitting.

ENRICHMENT LECTURERS



DR. JAMES R. ZIMBELMAN is a geologist with Smithsonian's Center for Earth and Planetary Studies, National Air and Space Museum, a position

he has held since 1988. He has visited Iceland many times for both research purposes (studying lava flows and sand deposits) and as a Study Leader on Smithsonian trips. His research interests include analysis of high resolution imaging data of Mars, geologic mapping of Mars and Venus, studies of lava flow emplacement on planetary surfaces, and sand transport processes on Earth and Mars. Prior to his work with Smithsonian, he was a staff scientist for the Lunar and Planetary Institute in Houston, Texas. Dr. Zimbelman received his M.S. in geophysics at the University of California at Los Angeles and his Ph.D. in geology from Arizona State University. He has accompanied travelers on South America voyages and trips to Iceland.

Amongst several other universities joining this program is Harvard University. Their lecturer for this program is **DR. JAMES J. MCCARTHY**, the Agassiz Professor of Oceanography at Harvard University.

BOOK NOW TO SAVE \$2,000 PER COUPLE!

Toll-free 1-877-338-8687

SmithsonianJourneys.org/iceland-greenland





LIFE ON THE FRINGES OF THE POLAR ICE CAP

Despite Greenland's remote and harsh geography, there has been continuous life on the fringes of the polar ice cap since migrating clans crossed the Davis Strait from the American continent more than 5,000 years ago.

Norse colonies established the first European links in A.D. 985 until disappearing in the 15th century. A flourishing whaling industry in the 16th century brought frequent mariners to the shores of Greenland, and a permanent link was established by the settlement of the Danish-Norwegian priest Hans Egede in 1721, forming the basis of Danish sovereignty for almost 300 years. The encroaching ice cap limited hospitable living conditions inland, but communities for commercial fishing sprang up along the coasts. In 1951, an American military base was established at Thule to help protect Greenland following the German occupation of Denmark during World War II. Today, Greenland's inhabitants are mostly a hardy mix of Inuits who lead a subsistence lifestyle and scientists conducting major research on the flow of seawater through the world's oceans and its dramatic effects on climate.

U.S.

Saturday, August 2

Depart from the U.S.

Reykjavik, Iceland

Sunday, August 3

This morning, arrive in **Reykjavik**, the world's northernmost capital, inhabited by one-half of the country's total population of 300,000. After breakfast, see the Olympic-sized geothermal pool and, on a guided tour of the National Museum, learn more about Iceland's cultural heritage from its pioneering settlement in A.D. 874 to the present. Continue to the charming old city before transferring to the M.S. L'Austral. (B,D)

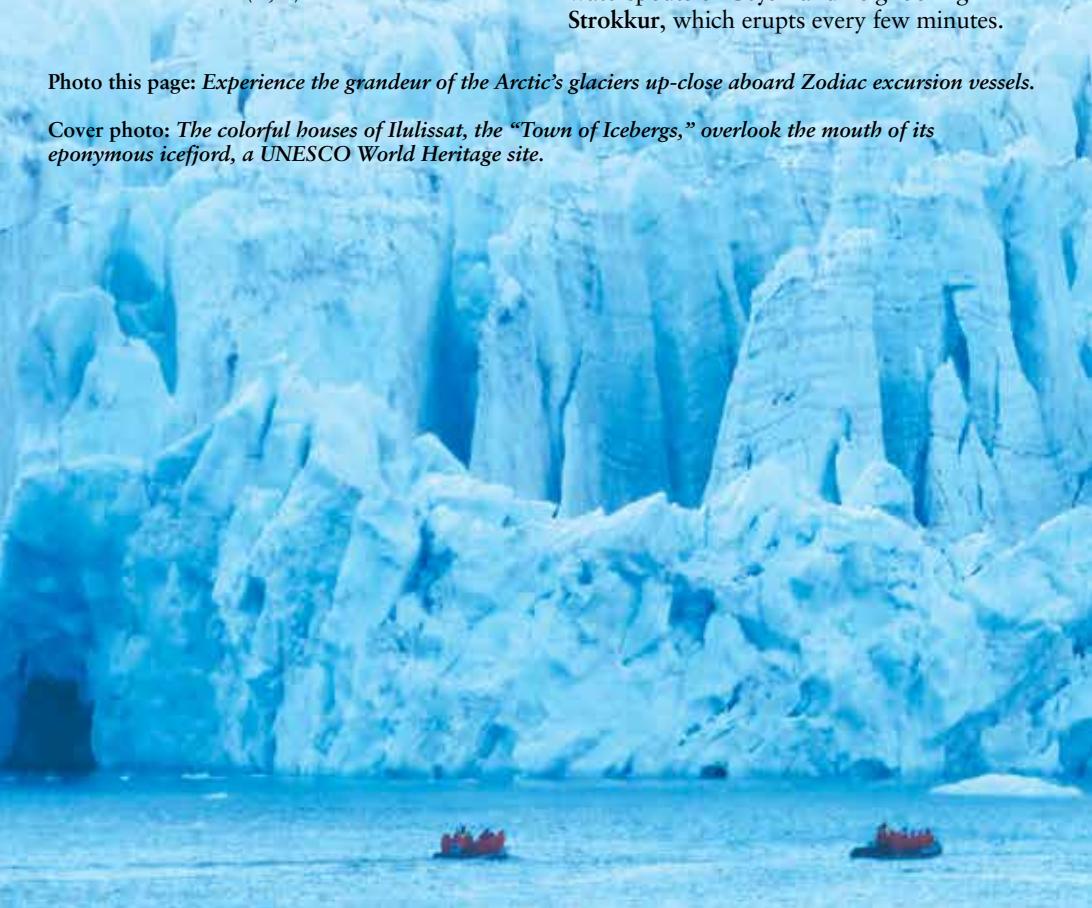
Reykjavik

Monday, August 4

Visit the three most remarkable landmarks of south Iceland's "Golden Circle." **Thingvellir National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is where settlers founded arguably the world's oldest parliament in A.D. 930. Then, observe the sheer force of **Gullfoss**, "the Golden Falls," and listen to the din of the magnificent 105-foot double cascade of crystal-clear glacial waters. Stroll through the dramatic rift valley where the Eurasian and North American continental plates are pulling apart and view the vast lava plain blooming with flowers. Visit the famous geothermal waterspouts of **Geysir** and neighboring **Strokkur**, which erupts every few minutes.

Photo this page: *Experience the grandeur of the Arctic's glaciers up-close aboard Zodiac excursion vessels.*

Cover photo: *The colorful houses of Ilulissat, the "Town of Icebergs," overlook the mouth of its eponymous icefjord, a UNESCO World Heritage site.*





Experience the extraordinary icescapes with your knowledgeable expedition



Today, as they have for centuries, fishing vessels ply the waters around Iceland and Greenland.

Stop at the Hellisheidi Geothermal Power Plant to learn more about this natural resource providing low-cost heat and hot water.

Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening. (B,L,R,D)

Cruising the Denmark Strait Tuesday, August 5

Sail across the Denmark Strait, where the cold East Greenland Current carries icebergs out of the Arctic into the Atlantic Ocean, lowering the salinity of the water to sustain important fishing grounds. Watch for white-beaked dolphins, humpback, and minke whales and a fascinating array of sea birds from

Reykjavik's tree-lined streets and spacious city squares contrast dramatically with the island's rugged landscape.



gannets, guillemots, and fulmars to kittiwakes and razorbills. Throughout the cruise, your onboard expedition team will present insightful lectures about Greenland's heritage, wildlife, and geography. (B,L,R,D)

Cruising Greenland Wednesday, August 6, to Tuesday, August 12

Mysterious Greenland, the world's largest island and one of the world's last true wildernesses, is nearly covered by an ice cap that holds 10 percent of the world's fresh water reserves. Crystal-blue glaciers wind down from the craggy slopes into the stunning ice-filled bays. The many forms of the giant tabular icebergs become living art, dazzling in the light and mysterious in the fog. Western Greenland features some of the most pristine and gorgeous scenery on Earth, and its dramatic fjords and soaring peaks have been described as a dream landscape. It was here that the Inuit people, nomadic hunters of Siberian descent who settled here 5,000 years ago, scraped out an existence for themselves on the wild lands between the sea and the glaciers. The Inuits still form the largest part of Greenland's population and live a very traditional way of life, including fishing by kayak and hunting by dogsled.

Please note that the ship's cruising pattern and destinations are dependent on weather, ice, and sea conditions and are subject to change.

Cruise the waters of **Cape Farewell**, the southernmost extent of Greenland, flanked by the North Atlantic Ocean and the Labrador Sea. Viking explorers and Norse fisherman pursuing a better quality of life plied these waters centuries ago. Early Icelandic sagas describe how Vikings Leif Erikson, son of Erik the Red, and Bjarni Herjólfsson sailed west intending to reach Greenland but were blown off course at Cape Farewell and accidentally discovered what is now Newfoundland.

Cruise through breathtaking **Prins Christian Sund**. Accessible only by small ship, this 55-mile passage from east to



ape up-close
on team.



Calving glaciers produce icebergs of all shapes and sizes, creating nature's own floating sculpture garden along the coast of Greenland.



Be on deck to look for Arctic marine life like these harp seals resting on the ice.

west is a wondrous landscape of steep fjords, gleaming glaciers, and cascading waterfalls.

Explore the western coast of Greenland and its seemingly endless inlets and ice floes and watch for its unique marine wildlife.

Stop in the old Norse settlement of **Narsaq**. Then visit **Nuuk**, Greenland's capital and one of the largest towns in the Arctic region with a population of 13,500. Located at the mouth of one of the largest fjords in the world and accessible only by sea or air, Nuuk has been populated since it was settled at the end of the 10th century by Erik the Red, the exiled Norse Chief. It was inhabited by the Norse for nearly 500 years until their settlements gradually disappeared, perhaps due to decreasing trade opportunities, temperatures and soil quality. Tour the National Museum, showcasing the lives of

The ruins of Hvalsø Church are the best-preserved remnants of Greenland's Norse heritage.



Inuit hunters and fishermen, and visit the old colonial town center.

Gain insight into the lives of French Polar Expeditions' anthropological and geographic explorers of the 1950s at the **Paul Emile Victor Base, Eqi Glacier**. Admire the 300-foot-high glacier, which flows directly into the cold Arctic waters. On a mild hike above the bay, enjoy a panoramic view of one of the Arctic's most spectacular sites, looking out toward Eqi Glacier and the immense polar ice cap. Here, the silence is broken only by the roaring and cracking of the ice as it moves.

Board small boats for an unforgettable coastal tour of **Ilulissat**. Enjoy the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to navigate around the towering icebergs that have calved from the glacier in the **Ilulissat Icefjord**, a UNESCO World Heritage site that stretches from the Greenland ice sheet to **Disko Bay**. You can take an optional excursion on a helicopter to see the icefjord and ice cap from a spectacular aerial perspective.

Join your traveling companions for the Captain's Farewell Reception. (7B,7L,1R,7D)

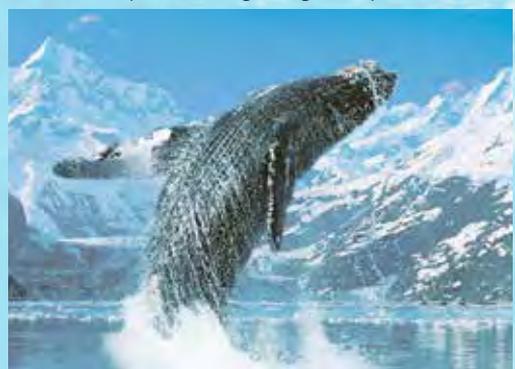
Kangerlussuaq/ Reykjavik, Iceland Wednesday, August 13

Disembark in Kangerlussuaq, a former American Air Force base during the Cold War, before flying to Reykjavik to overnight in a four-star hotel. (B)

Reykjavik/Depart for U.S. Thursday, August 14

Following breakfast in the hotel, transfer to the airport and return to the U.S. (B)

Enjoy this rare opportunity to watch for humpback whales, one of the elusive gentle giants of the Arctic.





FIVE-STAR, ICE-CLASS M.S. L'AUSTRAL

State-of-the-Art Design

The highly acclaimed M.S. L'AUSTRAL, launched in 2011, represents the newest generation of **Five-Star small ships**, featuring only 120 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

Spacious 100% Ocean-View Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies

Each large, air-conditioned **deluxe Stateroom** and **Suite** (200 to 484 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower and luxurious **Five-Star hotel amenities**. Most accommodations have two twin beds that convert to one queen bed, individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, minibar, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes, and slippers.

Chic and Casual Dining

International and regional cuisine are served in the stylish, spacious Le Coromandel dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual indoor-outdoor Le Rodrigues Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Continental and buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea, and a four-course dinner are served daily. Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.

Spacious Public Areas/ World-Class Service and Facilities

Inviting and spacious public areas accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge, nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge, and lectures, cultural performances, and film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, and two elevators. The infirmary is staffed with a doctor and nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

Respect for the Environment

The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet, and comfortable voyage by minimizing vibration and engine noise. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious "Clean Ship" rating, an extreme rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has 10 Zodiacs.



Stateroom with Balcony



Dining Room



Lounge



Forward Observation Deck

What is Included

- ◆ Ten-night cruise aboard the Five-Star, ice-class M.S. L'AUSTRAL
- ◆ One night in a centrally located, four-star hotel in Reykjavik
- ◆ Expertise of Study Leaders, Travel Directors, expedition team of naturalists and local guides throughout the tour
- ◆ All accommodations (based on double occupancy)
- ◆ Meals including special Welcome and Farewell Receptions and private reception, as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ All sightseeing and visits as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ Pre-tour information including a reading list
- ◆ Gratuities to guides and drivers
- ◆ All on-tour transportation unless otherwise noted
- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for all participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s)
- ◆ Emergency evacuation insurance (up to \$50,000) and access to emergency assistance service

What is Not Included

- ◆ Taxes and passport fees
- ◆ Personal items such as wines, liquors, à la carte orders, meals other than specified.
- ◆ Gratuities to ship staff, naturalists and hotel staff
- ◆ Optional excursions available at additional cost
- ◆ Expenses incurred by our tour operators in making travel arrangements in conjunction with the tour
- ◆ Airfare and air and departure taxes
- ◆ Other items not specifically mentioned as included

On The Web ▶

**SmithsonianJourneys.org/
iceland-greenland**

Go online to find a photo slide show and reading list for *In the Wake of the Vikings*.

Also, go to our website for full Terms & Conditions for this tour.

Your Expedition Team

The expedition team aboard the M.S. L'AUSTRAL are seasoned experts and naturalists who have studied and traveled extensively in the most remote regions of the world. Their expertise spans marine biology, ornithology, ecology, environmental education, history and photography. The team's collaborative efforts, experience, enthusiasm for sharing their knowledge and a particular interest in the world's ecosystems make them exceptionally well-suited to lead your expedition from Iceland to Greenland.

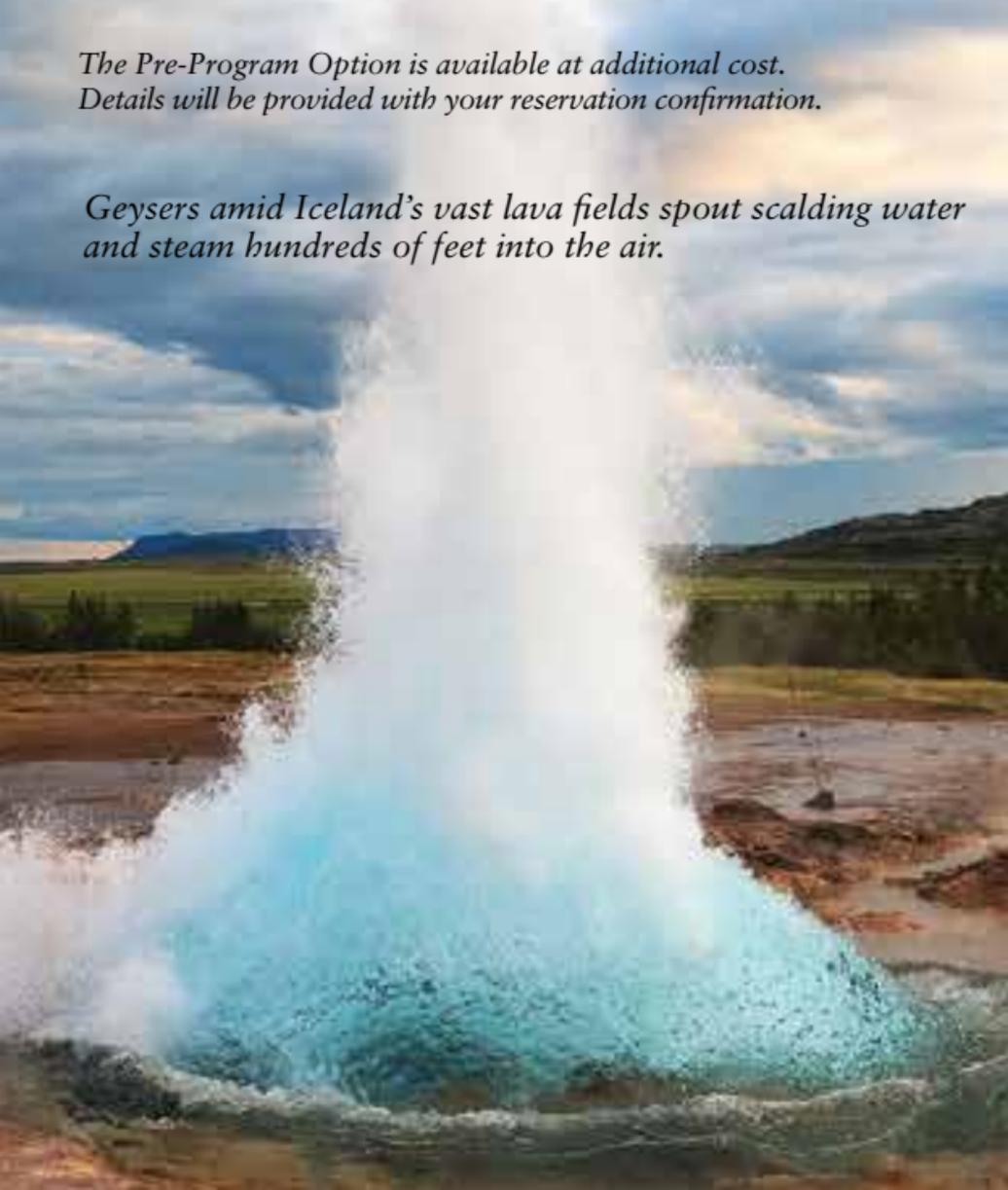
Iceland Pre-Program Option

Iceland is an island of unparalleled geological riches and home to some of the most diverse phenomena on Earth—4500 square miles of glaciers, 30 active volcanoes, 10,000 waterfalls, 800 hot springs. Born by the monumental forces unleashed in the movement of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, and at the same time carved out by majestic, slow-moving glaciers, the land is a combination of intense energy and total calm. The country of Iceland as we know it continues to take shape, yet parts have hardly changed since the first Viking settlers saw it more than 1100 years ago.

The Reykjavik area coastline is characterized by rugged peninsulas, coves, straits and islands, but the world's northernmost capital of a sovereign state, said to have been established around A.D. 870, is a technologically advanced center that dominates the culture, economy, government, finances and industry of the country. Perched along the cold waters of the North Atlantic Ocean, Reykjavik is the perfect gateway to Iceland and Greenland. Enjoy breakfast at the famous Blue Lagoon with time to rejuvenate in its famous geothermal seawater, and an included excursion featuring sites important to Iceland's history and renowned sagas. Accommodations for one night are in the four-star HOTEL BORG.

The Pre-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Geysers amid Iceland's vast lava fields spout scalding water and steam hundreds of feet into the air.

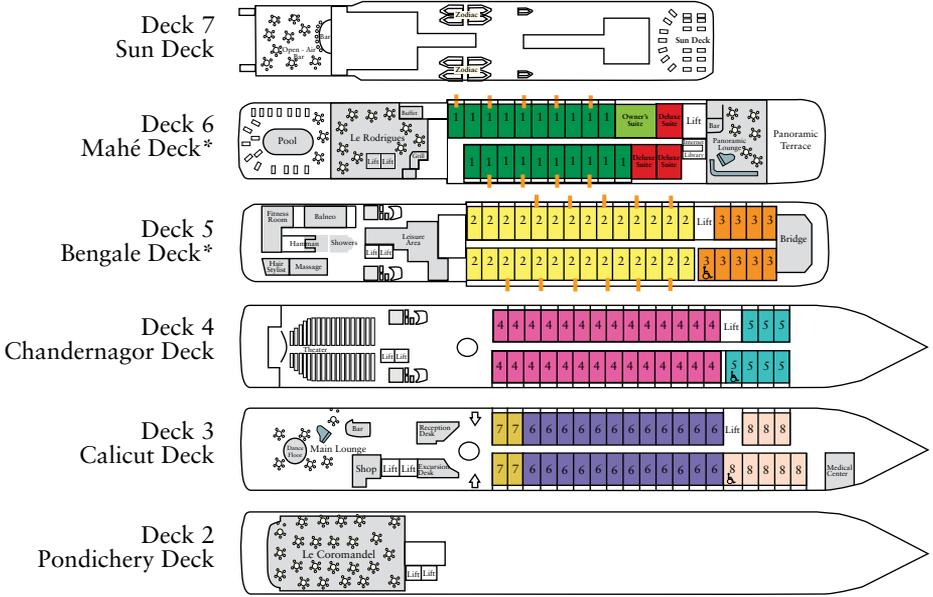
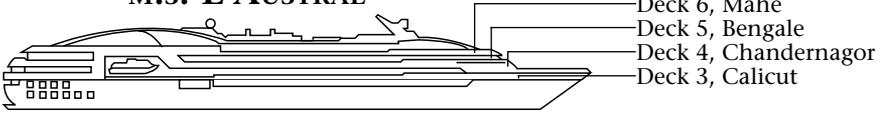


The Smithsonian Difference

TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH A NAME YOU CAN TRUST

- **Smithsonian Experts**—These inspiring scholars bring our destinations to life.
- **Small Groups**—Forge lasting friendships with like-minded travelers.
- **Stress-Free**—Our first-rate staff meticulously manages every aspect of each trip to ensure the highest quality.
- **Local Culture**—Enjoy authentic cuisine and travel in comfort and style, from unique lodgings in far-flung regions to charming hotels in well-traveled places.
- **The Extras**—Discover real value when you add up the experts, meals, and little luxuries we include as a matter of course.

M.S. L'AUSTRAL



*Prestige Suites I and II, capacities to be advised.
 ■ Indicates one fixed Queen bed

LAND/CRUISE TARIFF (per person, based on double occupancy)

Stateroom Category*	Description- Staterooms range from 200 to 484 sq. ft. and most have two twin beds that convert to make one queen bed. All feature a private bathroom with shower and individual climate control.	Early Booking Price through March 21, 2014	Regular Price after March 21, 2014
8	Ocean-view, one large window. Deck 3, Calicut, forward. (limited availability)	\$7,995	\$8,995
7	Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 3, Calicut, aft. (limited availability)	\$8,995	\$9,995
6	Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 3, Calicut, midship.	\$9,595	\$10,595
5	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 4, Chandernagor, forward.	\$9,995	\$10,995
4	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 4, Chandernagor, midship.	\$10,495	\$11,495
3	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 5, Bengale, forward.	\$10,795	\$11,795
2	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 5, Bengale, midship.	\$10,995	\$11,995
1	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 6, Mahé.	\$11,995	\$12,995
Deluxe Suite	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, Mahé. (limited availability)	\$14,995	\$15,995
Prestige Suite II	Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, two bathrooms, large sitting area with sofa, two closets, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 5, Bengale. (limited availability)	\$16,695	\$17,695
Prestige Suite I	Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, two bathrooms, large sitting area with sofa, two closets, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 6, Mahé. (limited availability)	\$17,195	\$18,195

- ◆ An Owner's Suite (Deck 6, Mahé) is available upon request at a cost to be advised, on a first-come first-served basis.
- ◆ Singles are available in category 6 at \$17,195 and in category 4 at \$18,295 on or before March 21, 2014. Add \$1000 for reservations made after March 21, 2014.
- ◆ Taxes are an additional \$699 per person and are subject to change.
- ◆ Airfare from Kangerlussuaq to Reykjavik (internal program air) is \$675 per person additional and subject to change.

*M.S. L'AUSTRAL has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

**BOOK EARLY
AND SAVE \$2,000
PER COUPLE!**



**Smithsonian
JOURNEYS**

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In the Wake of the Vikings Iceland to Greenland and the Arctic Circle

Aboard the

Five-Star M.S. L'AUSTRAL

August 2-14, 2014

Smithsonian Journeys are designed to engage members in Smithsonian's mission—"the increase and diffusion of knowledge." Like the Institution, our tours enrich our guests' lives and satisfy their curiosity about the world. Your participation benefits the work of Smithsonian's 19 museums and nine research centers, helping to preserve our national treasures and shape the future through science, research, and exhibitions.

To book call **1-877-338-8687** or
Visit **SmithsonianJourneys.org/iceland-greenland**