WILDERNESS TRAVEL SPECIAL EVENTS

Total Solar Eclipse of 2020
PROGRAMS IN SOUTH AMERICA & FRENCH POLYNESIA

Lakes to Volcanoes Eclipse Adventure
Chile & Argentina Hotel-Based Program

DECEMBER 9-15, 2020
with Dr. Richard Terrile
and Lorenzo Symson

Tropical Polynesia Eclipse Cruise
Ship-Based Program

DECEMBER 5-19, 2020
with Jean-Michel Cousteau, Dr. Alex Filippenko,
Dr. Rick Fienberg, Mark Eddowes
Dear Friends,

One of the universe’s most beautiful and dramatic events—a total solar eclipse, when the sun, moon and earth are perfectly aligned and darkness washes over earth in the middle of the day—will occur on December 14, 2020.

Astronomer David Levy says a total solar eclipse “is a natural event with unnatural consequences. In fact, a total eclipse of the sun has the power to rip through to the core of your being.”

If you’ve ever experienced one, you understand exactly what Levy means. And if you haven’t, 2020 is your best chance to find out.

Wilderness Travel has offered exclusive eclipse experiences for 25 years in some of the world’s most remote locations, from western Mongolia to the Atacama Desert. For the total solar eclipse of 2020, we are delighted to share two exciting programs.

Our land-based program will immerse you in the beautiful lakes and volcanoes region of Chile and Argentina, with an exclusive viewing site on the side of a volcano in Chile, right on the centerline of the eclipse. Our cruise aboard the Paul Gauguin will bring you through some of French Polynesia’s most renowned islands, including the Marquesas, Bora Bora, and Moorea—and for Eclipse Day, we’ll position the ship at an ideal point for promising weather and unusual solar features along the eclipse centerline.

Every total solar eclipse is unique, and each can be a transformative experience. We invite you to join us for one of these extraordinary adventures in 2020.

Sincerely,

Bill Abbott
President, Wilderness Travel

P.S. Our eclipse trips always sell out very quickly, so call soon at 1-800-368-2794 to reserve your place.
Two Exceptional Ways to Experience the Eclipse of 2020

Lakes to Volcanoes Eclipse Adventure
Chile & Argentina Hotel-Based Program

7 DAYS, DECEMBER 9-15, 2020
90 PARTICIPANTS

For our hotel-based program, we’ve selected a site in the Andes that optimizes the prospects for good viewing and the length of totality—around two minutes and eight seconds. Our adventure begins in the scenic mountain town of Bariloche, Argentina, and brings us across the Andes to our private viewing site in Chile’s picturesque Lake District.

OUR GUEST EXPERTS

Astronomer Richard Terrile, PhD, of NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will join us for the full program, giving lectures on eclipses and astronomy. Dr. Terrile is a veteran of seven solar eclipses and an expert on eclipse photography.

Lorenzo Sympson is a noted wildlife researcher specializing in the study of Patagonia’s Andean condor. Sympson participated in the re-introduction of captive-bred condors in Patagonia and coordinates a program for researching their biology and behavior.

HIGHLIGHTS

• More than two minutes of totality!
• Stable, land-based viewing, perfect for serious eclipse photographers.
• Hikes in Argentina and Chile’s spectacular lake districts.
• Choice of varied activities in Pucón, including hikes, visits to hot springs, and cultural excursions.
• Wide choice of extensions, including Iguazu Falls, Easter Island, and the Atacama Desert, or join one of our signature Patagonia trips.

Tropical Polynesian Eclipse Cruise Program

15 DAYS, DECEMBER 5-19, 2020
332 PARTICIPANTS

On our ship-based program, we travel aboard the luxurious 332-passenger Paul Gauguin, which provides the flexibility to maneuver to the ideal viewing position on Eclipse Day. We’ll visit some of French Polynesia’s celebrated islands, including the Marquesas, Bora Bora, and enchanting Moorea.

OUR GUEST EXPERTS

Jean-Michel Cousteau is an explorer, educator, award-winning producer, and an impassioned diplomat for the environment.

Alex Filippenko, PhD, is a leading astronomer who was voted “Best Professor” at UC Berkeley an extraordinary nine times.

Rick Fienberg, PhD, is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the former editor of Sky & Telescope magazine. Mark Eddowes is an authority on Polynesian anthropology and archaeology.

HIGHLIGHTS

• Ship-based program offers flexible maneuvering to the ideal viewing position.
• Shorter totality—38 seconds—allows prolonged and dramatic viewing of the sun’s red chromosphere.
• Rare opportunity to see the partially eclipsed sun rise above the ocean.
• The sun’s low position near the horizon should showcase the moon’s cone-shaped shadow racing across the earth’s surface.
• Special presentations on Polynesian culture and the ocean environment.
DAYS 1-2, DECEMBER 9-10: BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA

Arrive in Bariloche, a mountain town known for its Swiss alpine-style architecture, adventure activities, and chocolate. It sits on the shore of Lago Nahuel Huapi, a glacial lake rumored to be the home of a serpentine monster called Nahuelito. While we’re unlikely to see the mysterious monster, we will enjoy panoramas across snow-capped Andean peaks from Cerro Campanario, then gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner. A boat journey brings us to Isla Victoria for a magical walk in the Bosque de Arrayanes, a forest of native myrtle trees with unique, cinnamon-colored trunks—some a meter or more in diameter. We enjoy a talk by Guest Expert Lorenzo Sympon on Andean condors and an introductory eclipse presentation by Dr. Terrile.

DAY 3, DECEMBER 11: SAN MARTÍN DE LOS ANDES

A beautiful drive on the “Route of the Seven Lakes”—with its picturesque waterfalls and ancient cypress forests—brings us to our hotel outside the charming mountain town of San Martín de Los Andes. The views of the lakes are phenomenal, and we’ll stop along the way for photography and a hike, and gather in the evening for a second astronomy presentation.

DAYS 4-5, DECEMBER 12-13: VOLCÁN LANÍN / PUCÓN, CHILE / HIKING AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

We’ll hike at the base of towering, snow-capped Volcán Lanín and walk through the native auracaria (or “monkey-puzzle tree”) forest in Lanín National Park before we cross into Chile at a remote mountain border post. Our hotels are in Pucón, set at the foot of Volcán Villarrica in the Chilean Lake District. Here we’ll enjoy additional astronomy presentations as well as a choice of other activities: hiking Píllilanchañue Glacier, a more challenging hike in the Parque Nacional Huerquehue, and excursions to the area’s famous hot springs.

Other options include exploring the culture of Chile’s indigenous Mapuche, who have maintained their independence from the Incas and the Spanish conquistadors for more than 300 years. We’ll visit the local anthropological museum, with its collection of jewelry, masks, musical instruments, and statues, and spend time with Anita Epulef, a traditional Mapuche chef and the owner-operator of a Mapuche cooking school in Curarrehue.

DAY 6, DECEMBER 14: ECLIPSE DAY!

We view the total solar eclipse from a private location on the slopes of dramatic Volcán Villarrica, close to Pucón. We travel to our site after breakfast, so we’ll have plenty of time to set up for photography and viewing. Totality doesn’t occur until around one o’clock in the afternoon. Those who wish can enjoy an optional morning hike through the nearby forest, home to red and grey foxes, mountain monkeys, and several species of endemic marsupials. We’ll also have the opportunity to learn more about Volcán Villarrica, originally called “Rucapillán,” which means “house of the devil” in Mapuche language. It’s easy to understand why, as this volcano is Chile’s most active and has been smoldering for hundreds of years. A guided walk through dramatic volcanic caves and a tour of the small volcano museum enhance our experience, and we’ll enjoy a catered lunch at our viewing site.
Richard Terrile PhD, is an astronomer and the director of the Center for Evolutionary Computation and Automated Design at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory. As a member of the Voyager imaging team, Dr. Terrile discovered four of the moons around Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, and took the first pictures of another solar system around the nearby star Beta Pictoris. His other interests include planetary rings, geology, and exploration; the development of medical instrumentation for tissue identification during neurosurgery; artificial intelligence and robotics; and the future of technology and how we relate to it. Dr. Terrile also offers science consulting for the movie industry, and was featured in The Farthest, a documentary about the Voyager spacecrafts shown on PBS. He is a veteran of seven solar eclipses and a frequent lecturer on the phenomena, as well as an expert on eclipse photography.

Lorenzo Sympson is a noted wildlife researcher specializing in the study of Patagonia’s Andean condor. After obtaining a degree and practicing veterinary medicine for 12 years, he initiated a research project on the black-chested buzzard-eagle and the Andean condor—studies he carries on today. He also co-founded Sociedad Naturalista Andino Patagonica, a regional NGO dedicated to the conservation of Patagonia’s unique ecosystems. Sympon participated in the re-introduction of captive-bred condors and coordinates a program for researching their biology and behavior. Since 1995, he has guided ornithologists, birdwatchers, nature photographers, and well-known documentary filmmakers through northern Patagonia.

Ray Rodney, WT’s Special Events Manager, is involved in every aspect of planning and managing our Special Events, and has worked with all our eminent guest speakers over the years, including Jane Goodall, Sir Edmund Hillary, Mary Leakey, Reinhold Messner, and Thor Heyerdahl. He has led many Wilderness Travel trips in Asia and organized eclipse viewing programs in 21 different locations over the last 25 years. His favorite eclipses include seeing the glowing red Soufrière Volcano as a backdrop for the 1998 eclipse in the Caribbean, and sharing the joy of the eclipse with awe-struck Kazakhs and Mongols in western Mongolia in 2008.

Our Guest Experts

**Richard Terrile PhD**, an astronomer and the director of the Center for Evolutionary Computation and Automated Design at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory. As a member of the Voyager imaging team, Dr. Terrile discovered four of the moons around Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, and took the first pictures of another solar system around the nearby star Beta Pictoris. His other interests include planetary rings, geology, and exploration; the development of medical instrumentation for tissue identification during neurosurgery; artificial intelligence and robotics; and the future of technology and how we relate to it. Dr. Terrile also offers science consulting for the movie industry, and was featured in *The Farthest*, a documentary about the Voyager spacecrafts shown on PBS. He is a veteran of seven solar eclipses and a frequent lecturer on the phenomena, as well as an expert on eclipse photography.

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**OUR PATAGONIA TRIP LEADERS**

We will be joined by five WT Patagonia leaders, each of whom brings his or her own skills to the journey: **Rob Noonan**, a self-confessed “bird nerd” who enjoys sharing the ecology of the diverse landscapes he leads trips in; **Karen Lund Petersen**, a dedicated naturalist with an extensive knowledge of Chile and Argentina’s geology and history; **Carlos Leon**, a tireless master of detail with an easygoing nature and a love of hitting the trail; **Jose Argento**, an Argentine horseman and mountaineer with a deep connection to nature; and **Bernardita de Negri**, with her buoyant personality and dedication to the development of nature tourism.
Lakes to Volcanoes Eclipse Adventure

Our Accommodations

DAYS 1-2: HOTEL LLAO LLAO, BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA
This classic hotel with incredible views of Lake Nahuel Huapi is the most exclusive resort in Patagonia, and offers a huge, scenic terrace where we’ll enjoy a Welcome Reception as well as comfortable meeting rooms for our presentations. In the heart of Argentina’s beautiful lake district, this five-star resort is set in a 35-acre park framed by three mountains. Amenities include a marina, beach, 18-hole golf course, solarium, heated indoor and outdoor infinity-edge swimming pools, and a spa and health club with sauna and fitness center.

DAY 3: LOI SUITES CHAPELCO, SAN MARTÍN, ARGENTINA
Conveniently located north of the mountain resort town of San Martín de los Andes, this hotel features two fine restaurants and a well-stocked wine cellar, as well as meeting rooms for our presentation. The Namasté spa offers a sauna, steam room, and heated pool, plus aromatherapy and a variety of massages services. It has a beautiful mountain setting and nearby forests of ancient auracaria trees, which have been around since the time of the dinosaurs and are sacred to the local Pehuenche people.

DAYS 4-6: ECLIPSE HOTELS, PUCÓN, CHILE
We have selected three small hotels in Pucón, with the majority of our group staying at Hotel Casa Solaria and others staying at Cocurantu Hotel or Huincahue Hotel. Each hotel provides free wifi and many other amenities. Set at the foot of Volcán Villarrica, Pucón is an adventure-sports destination. Its attractions include a popular central plaza, beautiful lake, picturesque marina, beach, museums, and year-round Feria Artesanal (artisan market) showcasing textiles, handicrafts, clothing, and local honey. Hot springs, waterfalls, a glacier, volcanoes and volcanic caves, several national parks, and a wildlife refuge are nearby.
Optional Pre- or Post-trip Extensions

The solar eclipse program can be combined with a variety of extensions and full-length trips, including our selection of inspiring Patagonia adventures among majestic snow-capped peaks, towering ice walls, and vast glacial fields. Extension details and pricing will be available approximately one year before the trip begins.

PRE-TRIP EXTENSIONS

IGUAZÚ FALLS (3 DAYS)
Journey to this spectacular UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site, with its roaring falls, misty rainbows, and subtropical landscape.

COUNTRYSIDE ESTANCIA (2 DAYS)
Enjoy a country sojourn at Candelaria del Monte, a tranquil place to enjoy long walks, horseback rides (even if you’re a novice), and stargazing in the Southern Hemisphere.

BUENOS AIRES (2 DAYS)
Enjoy the Belle Epoque architecture, tango culture, leafy parks, European glamour, and fascinating history of “the Paris of South America.”

POST-TRIP EXTENSIONS

EASTER ISLAND (4 DAYS)
Journey to remote Easter Island, or Rapa Nui, an open-air archaeological museum of a fascinating but vanished Polynesian culture with its huge, enigmatic stone moai.

CHILE’S WINE COUNTRY (4 DAYS)
Sip your way through the Colchagua Valley, named one of the 10 best wine travel destinations and noted for its full-bodied Cabernet, Carménère, Syrah, and Malbec wines.

THE ATACAMA DESERT (4 DAYS)
Explore the world’s driest desert, with moon-like landscapes, ancient archeological sites, surreal geyser fields, wind-sculpted dunes and spectacular views of the Milky Way.

SANTIAGO (2 DAYS)
Discover world-class wine, art, and museums—including one devoted to Nobel-prize winning poet Pablo Neruda—in Chile’s cosmopolitan capital city.

Program Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip Cost: $6295</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single supplement: $1195</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charter flight: $390 (subject to change)</td>
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<td>Temuco to Santiago</td>
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Terms & Conditions

Payment Schedule
At time of reservation: $1500 per person
June 9, 2020: 25% of Trip Cost
September 9, 2020: Balance

Cancellation Policy
Minimum fee: $750 per person
From September 9, 2019: $1500 per person non-refundable
From June 9, 2020: All deposits to date non-refundable
From September 9, 2020: 100% of amount paid

See the complete, binding Terms & Conditions on our website: www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/argentina/solar-eclipse-tour-chile-terrile

California Seller of Travel #1007696-40
Tropical Polynesia Eclipse Cruise
WITH SPECIAL GUEST JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU AND NOTED ASTRONOMERS
DECEMBER 5-19, 2020

DAYS 1-2, DECEMBER 5-6: PAPEETE, TAHITI / TAHAA
Embark the Paul Gauguin in Papeete and sail to Taha’a, with a full day on this idyllic, isolated island and a delicious barbecue lunch. Known as the “Vanilla Island,” Taha’a produces most of French Polynesia’s vanilla and often exudes its perfume-like aroma. The island is also known for exceptionally high-quality pearls.

DAYS 3-5, DECEMBER 7-9: BORA BORA / AT SEA
Bora Bora’s legendary lagoon is a must-see—and a great place for a swim or snorkeling. After a day of exploration, we continue our voyage to the eclipse path, heading toward the Marquesas. Our days at sea will be enriched by presentations by our guest experts on astronomy, Polynesian culture, and the ocean environment, and we’ll enjoy stargazing under the Tahitian night sky.

DAYS 6-9, DECEMBER 10-13: THE MARQUESAS / NUKU HIVA / HIVA OA / AT SEA
With breathtaking vertical peaks reaching into the clouds, the Marquesas are one of the most beautiful island groups in the South Pacific, and we have two days to explore them. Zodiacs bring us ashore on Nuku Hiva with its lush valleys, impossibly blue bays, and sky-high waterfalls that inspired works by Herman Melville, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Jules Verne. On Hiva Oa, the final resting place of artist Paul Gauguin, we visit the archaeological ruins of ancient Tiu people and get a close-up look at some of their remarkable tiks—human-like sculptures that were often used to mark sacred sites. Then we continue our voyage toward the eclipse path.

DAY 10, DECEMBER 14: ECLIPSE DAY!
Our viewing of the total solar eclipse today includes the unusual opportunity to see the sun rise with a broad notch missing from its disk, as the partial phases of the eclipse will have begun 20 minutes before the sun crests the horizon. Low-altitude eclipses like this also enhance the experience of seeing the moon’s shadow racing across the earth’s surface, an unforgettable spectacle that is not as apparent in eclipses when the sun is higher in the sky. The sun will be well above the horizon by totality.

While the eclipse is short—about 38 seconds—short eclipses have the unique advantage of showcasing the sun’s chromosphere. The chromosphere gives the eclipsed sun a brilliant red border that stretches most of the way around the shadow and is visible for the whole of totality, while longer eclipses show the chromosphere for only a few fleeting seconds at the start and end of totality. Being on a ship provides us the opportunity to maneuver to an ideal location between any clouds, so we expect excellent viewing.
Our Guest Experts

**Jean-Michel Cousteau**, son of renowned oceanographer Jacques Cousteau, is an explorer, environmentalist, educator, and producer whose work has received Emmy, Peabody, Sept d’Or, and many other awards. He was directly responsible for making it possible for Keiko, the captive killer whale of “Free Willy” film fame, to return safely to the wild. Cousteau is the founder of Ocean Futures, a marine conservation and education organization. As a voice for the ocean, he inspires and educates audiences about the need to preserve the fragile underwater ecosystems that are so intricately tied to all life on earth.

**Mark Eddowes** came to Tahiti in 1988 and has spent many years studying Polynesian prehistory—prospecting, mapping, and excavating archaeological sites in the archipelago. He learned to speak Tahitian, which gave him access to many of the communities where he has worked, and enhanced his already extensive knowledge of Tahitian society, past and present. Eddowes was resident archaeologist at the Musée de Tahiti et des Iles for 10 years and carried out the first systematic studies of marae, or Polynesian temple architecture. He was honored as a National Geographic Expert in the archaeology of French Polynesia and the Cook Islands.

**Rick Fienberg, PhD**, is the Press Officer of the American Astronomical Society. Earlier he spent 22 years at Sky & Telescope magazine, the last eight as Editor in Chief. NASA awarded him its Exceptional Public Achievement Medal “for exceptional service to the nation in [his] tireless efforts for the public’s safe solar viewing of the 2017 total solar eclipse,” and the International Astronomical Union named asteroid 9983 Rickfienberg in his honor. With a PhD from Harvard in astronomy, he has done research on the aurora borealis, asteroids, planetary nebulas, and the center of the Milky Way. Eclipse 2020 will be his 15th voyage to totality.

**Alex Filippenko, PhD**, is the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Distinguished Professor in the Physical Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley. He is a leading authority on exploding stars, black holes and the expansion of the universe, and his team’s discovery of cosmic antigravity was named the “Top Science Breakthrough of 1998” by *Science* magazine. Dr. Filippenko has been voted UC Berkeley’s “Best Professor” an extraordinary nine times, has produced five astronomy videos with The Great Courses, and appears in many TV documentaries including *The Universe* series. Eclipse 2020 will be his 18th eclipse, his 13th with Wilderness Travel.
Tropical Polynesia Eclipse Cruise
PROGRAM COSTS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Eclipse Day Weather Prospects

The eclipse begins in the mid-Pacific, about 450 miles northeast of Hiva-Oa in French Polynesia. An observation point 500 miles farther along the track, where the cloud cover is at a minimum, has been selected to view the spectacle.

Analysis of the past 13 years of satellite data shows that in eight of them the eclipse would have been visible from the viewing site, and three more would require a movement of only 10 miles or so. Being on a ship provides a special opportunity to maneuver to a location between any possible clouds.

This view of the eclipse is a short one, but our position lets us view rare and exciting features including the spectacular chromosphere—a brilliant red border that appears to encircle the eclipsed sun—which will be visible for the whole of the 38-second totality. Low-level eclipses like this one also come with a marvelous cone-shaped shadow stretching from the sun—an ephemeral connection between the observer and the solar system.

Daily Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Port</th>
<th>Arrive</th>
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<td>1 Dec 5</td>
<td>Papeete</td>
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<td>2 Dec 6</td>
<td>Tahaa</td>
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<td>9 Dec 13</td>
<td>At sea</td>
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<td>11 Dec 15</td>
<td>At sea</td>
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<td>12 Dec 16</td>
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<td>15 Dec 19</td>
<td>Disembark</td>
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*Sailing schedule is subject to change due to sea conditions or other factors

Travel & Extensions
Details about air travel and hotel packages will be available one year before the trip begins.

Terms & Conditions

Payment Schedule
At time of reservation: $2,000 per person
February 5, 2020: 40% of cruise price
August 5, 2020: Balance

Cancellation Policy
Minimum fee: $1000 per person
From September 5, 2019: $2000 per person non-refundable
From February 5, 2020: All deposits to date non-refundable
From August 5, 2020: 100% of amount paid

See complete, binding Terms & Conditions on our website:
wildtrav.com/trip/french-polynesia/solar-eclipse-cruise-cousteau-filipenko
The *Paul Gauguin*

We partner with one of the world’s premiere cruise vessels: the *Paul Gauguin*, a five-star ship designed specifically for cruising the South Pacific. Carrying only 332 guests, our ship extends the informal environment of the islands. Guests will enjoy a choice of three dining venues, large outdoor decks, and a pool, an extensive spa, and a luxurious 1 to 1.5 guest-to-staff ratio.

The *Paul Gauguin* has been named one of the “World’s Top-Rated Small Ships” by Condé Nast Traveler readers every year since 1998. In 2016, the *Paul Gauguin* was ranked “#1 Midsize-Ship Ocean Cruise Line” by Travel + Leisure.

### CABIN PRICING & DECK PLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Cruise Price</th>
<th>Early Signup Price*</th>
<th>15 % Discount*</th>
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<td>F Porthole Stateroom</td>
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<td>E Window Stateroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>D Balcony Stateroom</td>
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Government Taxes and Fees (subject to change): $295 per person. Rates are per person in US dollars based on double occupancy. Shore excursions are optional and not included in cruise cost. Fuel surcharges may apply.

*Early signup rates feature a 15% discount and apply to reservations confirmed by November 30, 2018

* Denotes staterooms with choice of queen bed or twin bed configuration. All other staterooms feature queen beds.

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What is a Solar Eclipse?

A total solar eclipse occurs when the earth, moon, and sun are perfectly aligned so that the complete shadow of the moon—the umbra—sweeps across the earth. A total eclipse can only be seen within the narrow “path of totality,” which covers about 1% of the earth’s surface.

Only when the moon completely blocks the sun can one experience the awesome drama of darkness during the day—stars and planets become visible, the temperature drops by several degrees, and animals react as if night had fallen. For many viewers, this is a surprisingly emotional experience.

EVENTS YOU’LL REMEMBER FOREVER

An eclipse begins as the moon makes “first contact” with the sun and begins to slowly eat into the solar disc. The moon takes about an hour to cover the sun completely, and we check its progression every few minutes.

During this time, daylight begins to dim, and orange-and-red sunset hues tint the horizon in all directions. The sky above turns an eerie steely gray, the air cools, and viewers often get goose-bumps—because of both the drop in temperature and the mounting feeling of excitement.

The drama is increased by the ever-growing specter of the sun-cast shadow of the moon steadily approaching. This effect has been described as “the granddaddy of all thunderstorms, but utterly calm,” and as a “tangible darkness advancing almost like a wall, swift as imagination, silent as doom.”

As totality approaches, sunlight is reduced to a thin crescent and the world takes on a pinhole-camera-like quality: Shadows sharpen and so does viewers’ eyesight—leaving them feeling as though they have super-human vision. Waving shadow bands ripple across the landscape.

Soon the beads of light called “Bailey’s Beads” appear, creating the effect of jewels on a necklace as sunlight filters through the deep valleys on the moon’s surface. Then, as the Bailey’s Beads disappear, one final glow of direct sunlight peeks out from behind the last valley on the moon, creating the Diamond Ring Effect—a brilliant white “diamond” blazing for a few stunning seconds.

At last, during totality, the moon’s disc completely covers the body of the sun. At that moment, the sun’s dramatic red chromosphere and pearly-white corona become visible—the wispy coronal discharge streaming millions of miles into the cosmos in silvery undulations.

Finally, as the moon’s disc continues its arc to reveal the sun again, the partial phases recur in reverse order. Slowly, the world returns to normal—but observers are forever changed. They have experienced the immensity of a celestial clock timed to infinity, an elegant astronomical collusion ... uncanny darkness followed by the promise of dawn.

We invite you to join us for this awe-inspiring experience in 2020.

WARNING: Because there are fewer than 70 eclipses per century, the chance to see one is, for many, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. But be forewarned: For some seemingly normal people, eclipse-chasing becomes a lifelong obsession.

“Alex Filippenko was great fun. His lectures on complex topics were understandable to those of who are not astrophysicists. He is a gifted teacher as well as an expert in his field. He prepped us ‘eclipse virgins’ very well for watching this amazing phenomenon.”

— Noreen and Tod L., Santa Cruz, CA

Total Solar Eclipse of 2012