Madagascar to Mauritius

Islands of the Indian Ocean aboard the MS Serenissima

With NATE DOMINY, Professor of Anthropology

JANUARY 15-31, 2020
Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends of Dartmouth,

This is an extraordinary cruise for those who love the natural world and all its wonders. The star is Madagascar, a thousand-mile island boasting an impressive variety of spectacular landscapes from pristine coral reefs and coastal mangroves to virgin rain forests and native groves of Baobab trees. Geographically isolated for millions of years, nearly all of Madagascar’s intriguing animals and plants are found nowhere else on Earth, including nearly 100 varieties of lemurs. Madagascar’s people are also unique, having descended from Malay-Polynesian mariners, slaves from Africa, as well as traders from Arabia, India, and Portugal.

To maximize the time in Madagascar, this expedition begins with a private charter flight from Johannesburg to Toliara, Madagascar, thus avoiding the 2-day crossing of the rough Mozambique Channel by ship. Led by a team of expert naturalists, enjoy the luxury of having eleven days to explore Madagascar’s numerous marine reserves and national parks from the comfort of the newly refurbished 95-passenger MS Serenissima. Then, leaving the wonders of Madagascar behind, arrive at Réunion Island, a paradisiacal French outpost, to explore its white-sand beaches, spectacular dormant volcanoes, and vibrant Creole character. Disembark on the island of Mauritius, the perfect ending to our voyage, taking in this island’s cultural riches and geologic wonders before flying back to the U.S. Optional pre and post-cruise extensions are also available, including a safari near Kruger National Park in South Africa, and the opportunity to lengthen your stay on Mauritius.

National Trust travelers will be sharing this experience with other top affinity organizations. With a capacity of just 85 travelers, I encourage you to reserve your space on this truly unique today.

With regards from Hanover,

Robin K. Albing T’81
Director
Alumni Lifelong Learning and Travel

Patrick J. Bedard
Assistant Director
Alumni Lifelong Learning and Travel

Please visit our website at alumni.dartmouth.edu for details and updates on all of our programs.
STUDY LEADERS

PROFESSOR NATE DOMINY is an anthropologist and evolutionary biologist. He studies the behavior, ecology, and functional morphology of humans and nonhuman primates. He has worked in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia since 1999, and he has received grants and fellowships from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the National Geographic Society, the Packard Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. He is an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Explorers Club, and the Royal Geographic Society. His research philosophy is to integrate tropical fieldwork with mechanical, molecular, and isotopic analyses in order to better understand how and why adaptive shifts occurred during primate evolution. In 2010, he was named a “Brilliant 10” scientist under the age of 40 by Popular Science magazine.

DR. IAN TATTERSALL is currently curator emeritus in the Division of Anthropology of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. He has carried out both primatological and paleontological fieldwork in countries as diverse as Madagascar, Vietnam, Suriname, Yemen, and Mauritius. Trained in archaeology and anthropology at the University of Cambridge, and in geology and vertebrate paleontology at Yale University, Tattersal has studied the ecology and systematics of the lemurs of Madagascar since the 1960s.
Wednesday & Thursday, January 15 & 16, 2020

HOME / JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Depart home on international overnight flights to Johannesburg, South Africa. Meet your fellow travelers at a welcome reception this evening.

54 ON BATH HOTEL (R)

Friday, January 17

TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR

This morning board a charter flight to Toliara, Madagascar. After arrival, explore the Arboretum d’Antsokay and learn about its fantastic collection of 500+ species of endemic plants. Board the MS Serenissima this afternoon and enjoy the Captain’s welcome reception and dinner this evening.

MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Sunday, January 19

MORONDAVA

After breakfast depart to see the Avenue of Baobabs, an extraordinary stand of the iconic massive trees, followed by free time in Morondava market. Or, visit Kirindy Forest Reserve, home to the greatest density and diversity of primates in the world as well as dozens of amphibians and primate species. Look for eight lemur species, the narrow-striped mongoose, the cat-like fossa, and the giant jumping rat.

MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Monday, January 20

AT SEA

Enjoy a full day at sea and the continuation of the educational program as the MS Serenissima cruises along the west coast of Madagascar.

MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Tuesday, January 21

MAHAJANGA

Drive to Ankarafantsika National Park, a vast reserve boasting a dense diversity of flora and fauna, for guided walks in search of wildlife. One of Madagascar’s finest parks for birdwatching, look for 129 identified species, including Van Dam’s vanga. Learn about the medicinal plants and flowers used by the locals for centuries, try to spot tiny mouse lemurs, and visit the Durrell Breeding Program, established to protect the highly endangered ploughshare tortoise.

MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Wednesday, January 22

NOSY TANIKELY

After a morning of cruising, arrive at Nosy Tanikely marine reserve for an afternoon of snorkeling. Recognized for its remarkable marine biodiversity, the reserve offers some of the best snorkeling in the area, with a spectacular coral reef teeming with colorful fish and other sea creatures.

MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Thursday, January 23

NOSY HARA NATIONAL PARK

Nosy Hara means ‘mountainous island’ in Malagasy and is considered one of the last true paradises of Madagascar. The island offers a stunning bay, sandy beaches, and the unique, sharply eroded limestone spikes known as Tsingy formations. Hike the low circular path on the island or choose the steeper path to a sweeping viewpoint. Enjoy time in the afternoon to relax on Nosy Hara’s beautiful beaches.

MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Friday, January 24

DIEGO SUAREZ

Round Madagascar’s northernmost point and cruise into Diego Suarez’s stunning natural harbor to discover the
town on a guided tour. Later, climb aboard a 4x4 vehicle to drive to Amber Mountain National Park for tropical rainforest walks. See lush flora and waterfalls, look for the common crowned lemur, spot volcanic lakes, and count more than 40 varieties of butterfly.

**MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Saturday, January 25**

**NOSY MANGABE**

After a morning of cruising and lectures, spend the afternoon exploring Nosy Mangabe, a small island reserve of virgin rainforest, and home to a unique nocturnal lemur called the aye-aye. Take the Zodias ashore for nature walks and hopefully spot black and white ruffed lemurs, colorful paradise flycatchers, and many other types of wildlife.

**MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Sunday, January 26**

**MASOALA NATIONAL PARK**

Explore Masoala National Park’s coastal rainforest, dense marshes, and stands of mangrove. Search for a variety of colorful chameleons, geckos, and of course lemurs, including the red-ruffed lemur native to this area. Stop at Ambodifotatra village to meet with locals and shop in the market.

**MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Monday, January 27**

**ILE SAINTE-MARIE / NOSY NATO**

Enjoy a full day on Ile Sainte-Marie, a lush tropical island dotted with thatched villages. Visit the oldest church in Madagascar and the vibrant market in the capital of the island, Ambodifotatra. Continue to Nosy Nato, a small island south of Ile Sainte-Marie, with curving white beaches and overhanging palms, for nature walks and snorkeling.

**MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Tuesday, January 28**

**AT SEA**

During a final full day at sea, enjoy the conclusion of the lecture program and the onboard amenities en route to Réunion Island, a rainforested outpost hundreds of miles into the Indian Ocean.

**MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Wednesday, January 29**

**PORT EST, RÉUNION ISLAND**

Visit Réunion Island’s central highlands, a spectacular rugged landscape of active, dormant, extinct, and collapsed volcanoes, where mountain peaks tower to over 10,000 feet above sea level. See picturesque villages that dot the lush and verdant landscape and learn about vanilla production at a small family run plantation. Enjoy the Captain’s farewell reception and dinner this evening on board **MS Serenissima** before crossing to the neighboring island of Mauritius.

**MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,R,D)**

**Thursday, January 30**

**PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS**

Disembark the ship this morning and discover the unique history of Port Louis and Mauritius at the La Citadel Fort and Aapravasi Ghat, the immigration depot where the modern indentured labor diaspora began. Explore Chamarel, an eye-catching region of tropical flora, hidden waterfalls, and undulating sand dunes displaying an array of colors. Visit Bois Cheri tea plantation for a refreshing cup of tea before departing for the airport for flights home.

**MS SERENISSIMA (B,L)**

**Friday, January 31**

**ALOFT / HOME**

Arrive in the U.S.

**OPTIONAL POST-Cruise EXTENSION**

January 30 to February 2 **MAURITIUS**

Extend your stay for further exploration of the lush rainforests and white sand beaches of Mauritius. During your three-day stay, discover Ile aux Aigrettes, one of the last sanctuaries for rare Mauritian wildlife, including the giant aldabra tortoise (below) and the ornate day gecko. Also learn about the island’s long colonial history and enjoy snorkeling in the crystal blue water.

Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.
**MS SERENISSIMA**

Recently refurbished in 2018, the 95-passenger MS Serenissima can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to larger cruise ships. The public areas on board create a relaxed and spacious atmosphere. The Andrea Lounge provides a comfortable venue for lectures and has an elegant bar, and the Harald Jarl Lounge offers a library and computers. Outside decks include a massive observation deck for 360-degree views of the passing scenery, and the all-teak Sun Deck is used for meal service in pleasant weather. Guest accommodations are designed for comfort and convenience. All cabins feature ocean views, en-suite bathrooms, and are equipped with many amenities. The Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in a single seating, with great views through the large picture windows. When possible, local produce is sourced for authentic dining experiences. Complimentary house wines, beer, and soft drinks with lunches and dinners aboard the ship. Wifi is available throughout the vessel.

### General Information

**Program Rates Include**
- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary
- Charter flight from Johannesburg, South Africa to Toliara, Madagascar
- Full program of briefings, lectures and presentations
- Team of expert naturalists
- Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to ship staff, porters, wait staff, guides and drivers
- Entrance fees
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- House wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunches and dinners aboard the ship
- Bottled water throughout
- Professional tour managers

**Program Rates Do Not Include**
- U.S. domestic and international airfare
- Passport/visa expenses
- Medical expenses and immunizations
- Travel and trip cancellation insurance
- Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure dates
- Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess baggage charges
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted
- Gratuities for non-group services
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, fax, Internet and email charges
- Room service
- Other items of a personal nature.

### Air Arrangements

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Economy-class airfare from New York to Johannesburg and Mauritius to New York is approximately $1,200 per person as of March 2019 and is subject to change without notice. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online

### Standard Cabin

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deck 3</th>
<th>Standard Cabin</th>
<th>106-144 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$12,990 per person, double occupancy</th>
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### Classic Cabin

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<tr>
<th>Deck 3</th>
<th>Classic Cabin</th>
<th>152-211 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$13,990 per person, double occupancy</th>
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### Superior Cabin

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<tr>
<th>Deck 4</th>
<th>Superior Cabin</th>
<th>116-198 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$14,990 per person, double occupancy</th>
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### Deluxe Cabin

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<tr>
<th>DECKS 4, 5 &amp; 6</th>
<th>Deluxe Cabin</th>
<th>162-274 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$15,490 per person, double occupancy</th>
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### Junior Suite

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<th>Deck 6</th>
<th>Junior Suite</th>
<th>225-233 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$16,490 per person, double occupancy</th>
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### Owner’s Suite

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<th>Deck 7</th>
<th>Owner’s Suite</th>
<th>244 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$16,990 per person, double occupancy</th>
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### Serenissima Suite

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<th>DECKS 3, 4 &amp; 5</th>
<th>Serenissima Suite</th>
<th>213-284 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$17,990 per person, double occupancy</th>
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### Standard Single

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<th>DECKS 3, 4 &amp; 5</th>
<th>Standard Single</th>
<th>107-127 sq. ft.</th>
<th>$14,490 per person, limited availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
travel site, or the airline of your choice.

WHAT TO EXPECT
This is a moderately strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. Daily activities can involve up to two miles of walking, over sometimes rough terrain; often elevators are unavailable and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that she does not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS
Your costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE
Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Participants are free to purchase the travel insurance of their choice. Please be sure to carry the details of your travel insurance coverage with you on the program.

GROUP SIZE
This program is limited to 85 participants.

TERMS & CONDITIONS
Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed “Agreement, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release” is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS
To reserve space, please complete the reservation form and mail it with your check or credit card information to Criterion Travel, 165 Jessie Street, Suite 4, San Francisco, CA 94105. You may also fax the form to (650) 560-6400. If you have questions, please call (888) 328-2089 or email res@criteriontravel.com.

To reserve space on this Dartmouth Alumni Travel program, mail completed reservation form with your check or credit card information to Criterion Travel, 165 Jessie Street, Suite 4, San Francisco, CA 94105, or fax to (650) 560-6400. If you have questions, please call Criterion Travel at 888-328-2089 or email res@criteriontravel.com.

CONTACT INFORMATION

PAYMENT INFORMATION
☐ Please charge my deposit of $ __________ ($1,000 per person to reserve ___ place(s) on Madagascar to Mauritius to my: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER OR ☐ Enclosed is my check for $ ________ ($1,000 per person payable to Criterion Travel),

I/We understand that final payment is due September 13, 2019, 120 days prior to departure. Registrations after September 13, 2019: full payment is due.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Cabin category preference: 1st choice ________ 2nd choice ________
Hotel bed preference (not guaranteed): ☐ King/Queen ☐ Twins (choose one)

I/We have read the General Information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

I understand that the detailed statement of limitations and exclusions of liability will be sent to me for signature after registration, and is available for review prior, upon request.

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