

See the Annular Eclipse December 26, 2019!

Singapore Eclipse 2019

Come Explore with The Planetary Society! December 18-27, 2019

With optional Angkor Wat Pre-Trip December 15-20, 2019

In December 2019, we are exploring the amazing city of **Singapore**, of the film "**Crazy Rich Asians**" fame, which will include an adventure to **Bintan Island** to see the **Annular Solar Eclipse** on December 26, 2019!

Discover the heritage of Singapore at the **National Museum** and as you enjoy the sparkling city skyline from **bumboats** in the harbor!

Enjoy an afternoon at the Singapore Science Center and see the famous Gardens by the Bay, where the Flower Dome and Cloud Forest Dome offer two of the finest botanical experiences in the world.

Ferry a short distance to **Bintan Island, Indonesia**, where we will see the Annular Solar Eclipse at an extraordinary archaeological site with 500 life-sized statues!

Leading the expedition will be Betchart's top Asia naturalist, **Dr. Chris Carpenter**, and popular Betchart Eclipse leader, naturalist **Bob Nansen**. Joining them will be an astronomical leader from The Planetary Society.

You can explore Singapore and see the Eclipse, and also

enjoy **two of the finest experiences in Asia: Angkor Wat** (on a pre-trip) and sailing on the tall ship, **Star Clipper** (on a post-trip)!

The Angkor Wat pre-trip in Cambodia will allow you to see this renowned archaeological site which the world first saw overgrown with jungle, in the National Geographic magazine a few decades ago.

The Star Clipper post-trip will be a New Year's voyage, from Singapore to Phuket, on one of the finest tall ships in the world. It is a fully rigged vessel, 360-feet long with 4 masts, and is an unbeatable way to celebrate New Year's!

We hope you will join us to explore Singapore & see the 2019 Annular Eclipse! **Space is limited, so please let us know right away.**



**With optional Singapore to Phuket
New Year's Voyage**

**On board 360-foot 4-masted Star Clipper
December 27, 2019 - January 5, 2020**

Itinerary

Days 1/3 San Francisco To Singapore

Expedition members depart San Francisco on a flight to Singapore. Cross the International Date Line en route. Arrive on Day 3 and transfer to the *Furama City Centre Hotel* (5 nights). Enjoy a welcome social and briefing about the trip.

Day 4 Singapore Sights & Bumboat Tour

This morning, we will begin our discovery of Singapore on a panorama tour with wonderful views of the "Lion City," including Parliament House and the Merlion Park on Marina Bay. See shrines that reflect the diverse cultural background of the people of Singapore – Chinese, Malaysian, Indian, and more! At noon, we'll sample Singapore's delicious cuisine along Chinatown Food Street. Have time on your own this afternoon before a scenic bumboat tour along Singapore's historic river this evening. B,D

Day 5 National Museum & Singapore Science Center

This morning we'll explore Singapore's diverse heritage at the National Museum, which features a large format video of contemporary life in the Lion City. The history is engrossing. More than 200 years ago, Sir Stamford Raffles of the British East India Company recognized the strategic location of the muddy island at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and established a trading settlement, which became the British Colony of Singapore in 1819. Singapore was occupied by the Japanese in WWII, merged with Malaysia for a short time, and became



independent in 1965. Since then, Singapore has modernized to a spectacular degree.

This afternoon we will visit the Singapore Science Center to learn about eclipses in Chinese folklore and night sky navigation. We may have a chance to view the sun through their observatory telescope, weather permitting. B,D

Day 6 Little India & National Orchid Garden

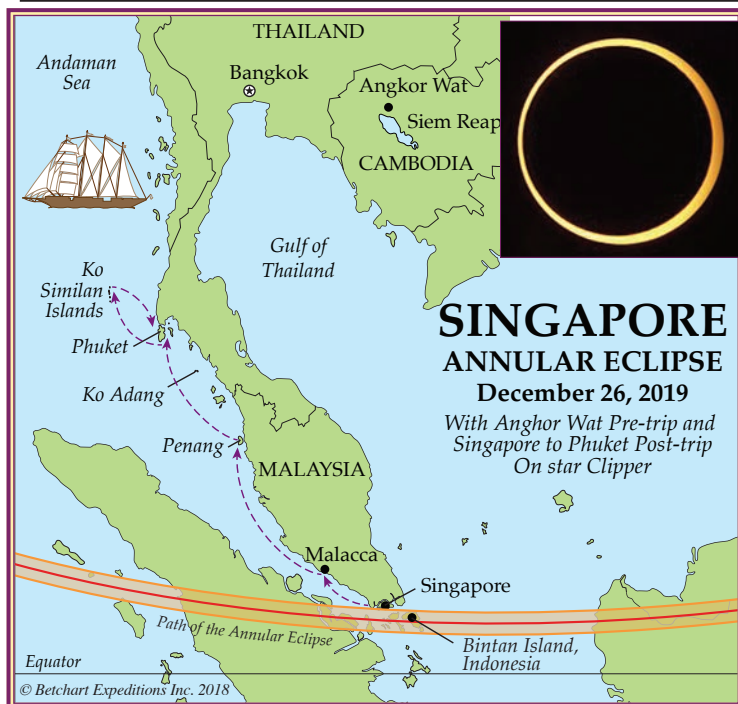
This morning we plan to visit the Indian Heritage Cultural Center and Museum, which showcases the heritage of Singaporeans whose ancestors came from India. Here we can learn about interactions between South and Southeast Asia, the experience of the Indian community and its contribution to Singaporean nation-building. Later today, we'll visit the National Botanical Orchid Exhibit. This garden, established in 1928, is responsible for many orchid hybrids and includes more than a thousand orchid species and twice that number of hybrids. Evening at leisure with plenty of good eating opportunities in Chinatown or along the river front. B

Day 7 Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve & Gardens By The Bay

This morning, we will visit Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve on Singapore's northwest shore. The mangroves provide excellent habitat for waterfowl and migratory shorebirds. It was listed as an ASEAN Heritage Park in 2003. Birds include bitterns plovers, Lesser whistling duck, Greater spotted eagles and several kingfisher species. Otters are resident and salt water crocodiles are occasionally sighted.

In the afternoon, we'll visit the astonishing Gardens by the Bay, two large climate controlled domes that replicate Mediterranean ecosystems from five continents and a montane cloud forest with plant species from Amazonia and the Himalaya. Enjoy dinner this evening at the Flower Dome, with a few across the bay toward Singapore's iconic skyline. B,D

The Annular Solar Eclipse - Dec. 26, 2019





Day 8 Singapore To Bintan Island

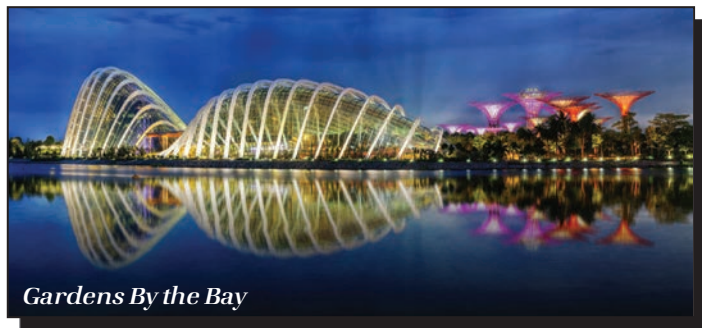
Transfer this morning by ferry from Singapore to Tanjung Pinang on Bintan Island, Indonesia where we'll stay at the Aston Tanjung Pinang Hotel & Conference Center (2 nights). Afternoon at leisure to relax at the hotel and there will be a presentation about tomorrow's Annular Solar Eclipse. B,L,D

Day 9 Annular Solar Eclipse & 500 Lohan Statues

We'll depart this morning to visit a local market at the edge of Tanjung Pinang harbor, with fresh fish, equatorial produce, and spice stalls. After the market, we'll relocate to Vihara Ksitigarbha Bodhisatvva, the Temple of 500 Lohans or enlightened beings. This fascinating site, quite near our hotel, accommodates 500 life-sized statues of Buddhist sages, each with a distinctive appearance and matching backstory. Here we will view the Annular Eclipse from the magnificent hilltop site of the Lohan Temple, delighting in the play of light and shadow as the moon occludes the sun, living only a thin ring of sunlight around the perimeter. B,L,D

Day 10 Singapore To USA or BEGIN Star Clipper Extension

Transfer to the Singapore Airport for flights home or to the *Furama Hotel (2 nights)* to begin the Star Clipper Extension. B



Gardens By the Bay

Angkor Wat Pre-Trip

December 15-20, 2019

Our Angkor Wat Pre-Trip will enable you to explore the most renowned archaeological site in southeast Asia! It is a great source of national pride in Cambodia, and offers a tremendous artistic legacy from the 12th century. We will also explore Angkor Thom, Bayon Temple, and others, with excellent local guides!

**For a detailed itinerary call
(800) 252 4910**



Reservations

#1570

Yes! I/we want to join the **Singapore Annular Eclipse 2019 Expedition, December 18-27, 2019** offered by **Betchart Expeditions Inc.** and **The Planetary Society**. Please reserve _____ space(s). As a deposit, I/we enclose a check for \$_____ (\$1,000 per person) for Singapore, \$_____ (\$500 per person) for the optional Angkor Wat Extension, and \$_____ (\$500 per person) for the optional Star Clipper New Year's Voyage, payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

Name(s) _____ Age ____ Sex ____

_____ Age ____ Sex ____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone: H (____) _____ C (____) _____

Email address: _____

Membership: Planetary Society AAAS Sigma Xi ACS

Singapore or Angkor Wat accommodations Preference:

___ Twin ___ Single ___ Twin Share ___ with a friend *or*

___ Nonsmoker ___ Smoker ___ assign a roommate

Star Clipper Cabins: (please mark 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice)

___ Category 2: \$ 2,995 pp share + Port Charges \$ 240 pp + air

___ Category 3: \$ 2,895 pp share + Port Charges \$ 240 pp + air

___ Category 4: \$ 2,795 pp share + Port Charges \$ 240 pp + air

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please Mail To: Singapore Eclipse 2019
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road
Cupertino, CA 95014-5345**

Costs & Conditions

Singapore Eclipse Expedition Fee: \$ 4,995 per person twin share + air fare of \$ 1,795 from San Francisco to Singapore, RT. Single Supplement \$ 895.

Angkor Wat Pre-Trip Fee: \$1,595 per person twin share + air fare of approximately \$2,295 from San Francisco to Angkor Wat & Singapore, RT. Single Supplement \$ 495.

If you register for the Angkor Wat pre-trip and the Star Clipper post trip, your air fare from San Francisco to Angkor Wat and Singapore, with return from Phuket is approximately \$2,295.

Star Clipper Post-Trip Fee – New Year's Voyage Singapore to Phuket, Thailand: Fee based on per person twin share (depending on cabin category)

Category 2: \$ 2,995 pp share + Port Charges \$ 240 pp + air

Category 3: \$ 2,895 pp share + Port Charges \$ 240 pp + air

Category 4: \$ 2,795 pp share + Port Charges \$ 240 pp + air

Fee includes Singapore Hotel Dec 27 & 28, 2 breakfasts, & transfers Dec 27 & 29, 8 days/7 nights on Star Clipper with meals and many activities. You sign up for optional shore excursions on board (added cost).

Single Supplement: Is 175% of the cabin rate in Cat 2, 3, or 4. We encourage all singles to bring a roommate, or we may be able to pair you up with a roommate.

Singapore Fee Includes: Group transfers; transportation; activities as indicated; accommodations, meals as indicated, leadership by an excellent naturalist and local guest experts and guides; administration.

Singapore Fee Does Not Include: International air fare (quoted separately); independent transfers; some meals or optional excursions; tips; beverages at meals; alcoholic beverages, sodas, snacks, bottled water, laundry, internet use, passport, or travel insurance.

What to Expect: This expedition is for the travel enthusiast who would like to explore the magnificent city of Singapore and see the Annular Solar Eclipse on Bintan Island, Indonesia, December 26, 2019. Led by an excellent naturalist, explore museums, botanic gardens, archaeological sites, and a mangrove wildlife reserve. Discover the delights of Singapore cuisine, culture, and heritage, with a special program at the Singapore Science Center. Typically it will be in the 80s to 90s with tropical weather. There is a good

For Information or Reservations

Please mail the completed reservation form with a deposit check for \$1,000 per person + \$500 pp for Angkor Wat and \$500 per person for Star Clipper post-trip to:

Betchart Expeditions Inc.

17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

Telephone (800) 252-4910 or (408) 252-4910

Fax: (408) 252-1444

Email: betcharttaunya@gmail.com

On the Web: www.betchartexpeditions.com

Final payment is due 120 days before departure (August 10, 2019)

possibility of clear skies for the eclipse on Bintan Island, but it could be obscured by clouds or rain (no guarantees!). (No smoking in buses or at meals.)

Accommodations: Are in excellent hotels in Singapore, on Bintan Island, and at Angkor Wat, twin share with private bathroom. Accommodations on Star Clipper are in yacht-sized, comfortable cabins with private bath.

For Angkor Wat Pre-Trip & Star Clipper New Year's Post-Trip: Please email betcharttaunya@gmail.com for the detailed flyers and with any questions.

Air Fare & Airline Ticketing: Group flights from San Francisco are on Singapore Airlines, RT. AIR FARES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL TICKETED.

Responsibility: A statement of responsibility is available upon request.

Cancellations & Refunds: The initial deposit is refundable up to 120 days before departure, less a handling fee of \$250 pp for Singapore, \$100 pp for Angkor Wat, and \$100 pp for Star Clipper. There is no refund for any cancellation within 120 days of departure. Trip cancellation insurance will be offered. No refunds are made for unused services.



**With optional Singapore to Phuket New Year's Voyage
On board 360-foot 4-masted Star Clipper
December 27, 2019 - January 5, 2020**

We invite you to join our Singapore to Phuket, Thailand, New Year's Voyage, December 27, 2019 to January 5, 2020.

It begins with an in transfer from the Bintan ferry terminal to your hotel (two nights in Singapore with breakfast) and time to explore Singapore on your own. You then transfer Dec 29th to the Marine Bay Cruise Center to board the 4-masted, 360-foot fully rigged tall ship *Star Clipper*. You then begin your 8 day/7 night voyage sailing north to Malacca, along the coast of Malaysia and Thailand, with, snorkeling, and leisure en route to Phuket, Thailand, with optional shore excursions (added cost). We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity!

SPACE ON STAR CLIPPER'S NEW YEAR'S VOYAGE SELLS OUT QUICKLY, SO PLEASE CONTACT US RIGHT AWAY FOR MORE INFO AND RESERVATIONS, (800) 252-4910.