



EXPLORING THE LOW COUNTRY: CUMBERLAND ISLAND TO CHARLESTON

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS | ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION*
APRIL 23-30, 2022



The seaboard of Georgia and South Carolina harbors a wealth of wildlife habitats and a fascinating cultural heritage. Here, the Sea Islands hug the mainland, offering undulating dunes, meadows, marshes, and forests that teem with birdlife and other creatures, as well as an intricate web of waterways that beg to be explored. Discover these stunning wilderness areas with our naturalists, and delve into the complex history of the South in charming coastal cities and on barrier islands where the West African-influenced culture of the Gullah-Geechee people continues today.



DAY 1: Home/Jacksonville, Florida/Fernandina Beach

Arrive in Jacksonville and transfer to Fernandina Beach, where we embark *National Geographic Sea Lion*. Meet the crew and our team of naturalists, and set sail toward St. Mary's River. (D)

DAY 2: Cumberland Island, Georgia

This morning, we cruise north into Georgia, following the Intracoastal Waterway to Cumberland Island, a designated National Seashore of wild beaches, vast marshes, and intriguing history. Inhabited over the centuries by Native Americans, enslaved people, missionaries, and the famous Carnegie family, the island offers insight into life and culture of the southeastern seaboard over the centuries. Visit the haunting ruins of the Carnegie Dungeness estate, abandoned after a fire in 1959. Then set off on foot to discover feral horses and other fascinating flora and fauna amid pine forests and dunes. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: Jekyll Island/Brunswick

Sail into the Golden Isles region of the Georgian coast this morning. On Jekyll Island, pay a visit to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center to meet researchers who rehabilitate injured sea turtles, study sea turtle behavior, and raise awareness about the conservation challenges they face. This afternoon, stroll the historic center of Brunswick, visiting the ornate 19th-century Old City Hall and Victorian-era Oak Grove Cemetery. Or take in the view of the surrounding wetlands from Marshes of Glynn Overlook Park and see the "Lover's Oak," a magnificent tree that is said to date back more than 900 years. (B,L,D)





DAY 4: Sapelo Island/Ossabaw Island

Georgia's fourth largest barrier island, Sapelo Island protects the fragile habitat of the Altamaha River Estuary and harbors rich wildlife. With its 28 transitional habitat areas, the island is an important piece of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. While now largely undisturbed and returned to nature, the island has been inhabited for some 4,500 years, from prehistoric indigenous people to Spanish missionaries, through the dark years of slavery and on to the freedmen and women who established the community of Hog Hammock still in existence today. This is one of the isolated barrier islands where the Gullah-Geechee culture emerged, drawing on West African languages and traditions. After lunch on the ship, sail to Ossabaw Island, where, if conditions permit, we will launch kayaks and Zodiacs to explore its backwaters, which teem with wildlife. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: Savannah

Arrive in stately Savannah, Georgia's oldest city. We'll explore the city on foot, starting off with a stroll among the Spanish moss-draped trees of Forsyth Park, where we may see northern parula warblers amid the hanging moss. Stop by First African Baptist Church, the oldest African American congregation in the country, founded in 1773. Savannah's 22 historic squares each have their own character and interesting story. We'll visit several of them, including Greene Square, named for Revolutionary War hero Nathanael Greene, where the Emancipation Proclamation was read and soon-to-be freed enslaved people were promised "40 acres and a mule." (B,L,D)

DAY 6: Daufuskie Island, South Carolina/Turtle Island

Go ashore at Daufuskie Island, a hub of Gullah culture and language. Some residents continue to speak Gullah to this day. Get immersed in the mystique of the island, soaking up the local culture and learning about the rich spiritual traditions of its residents, who paint their trim "heaven blue" to ward off evil spirits. After lunch, continue to nearby Turtle Island. Comprised of coastal dunes, salt marsh, and upland southern pine habitat, the island has been designated as an Important Bird Area. The wide variety of species that pass through here include the endangered least tern, Wilson's and piping plovers and black skimmers. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: Charleston

Founded in 1670, Charleston is steeped in history and charm, from its cobblestoned, lantern-lit streets to its romantic mansions. On our way into the city, we'll cruise past Fort Sumter, where the first shots of the Civil War were fired. Set out on a walking tour of this picturesque city, strolling through Rainbow Row, where historic Georgian homes are painted in bright, lavish colors. Continue to lovely White Point Garden at the southern tip of the peninsula on which Charleston sits. Here, meander past cannons and other relics of the Civil War and enjoy expansive views of Fort Sumter and the Charleston Harbor. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: Charleston/Home

After breakfast this morning, disembark and transfer to the Charleston airport for your flight home. (B)

SPECIAL OFFER:

- Take \$500 off the double occupancy price for each person under 18.

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo.						
DEPARTURE	CAT. 1	CAT. 2	CAT. 3	CAT. 1 SOLO	CAT. 2 SOLO	ADVANCE PAYMENT
April 23-30, 2022	\$5,590	\$6,380	\$7,160	\$8,390	\$9,560	\$750



 **BETCHART
EXPEDITIONS** INC.
with AAAS, Sigma Xi & ACS

Please send reservation to:
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Cupertino, CA 95014
Phone: (800) 252-4910 or
(408) 252-4910
E-mail: info@betchartexpeditions.com

RESERVATION FORM: **EXPLORING THE LOW COUNTRY: CUMBERLAND ISLAND TO CHARLESTON**

ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION*

APRIL 23-30, 2022

Please reserve _____ place(s).

Name 1: _____
(As it appears on I.D.)

Name 1: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: _____
(As it appears on I.D.)

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: _____

Advance Payment Information: US \$1,000 per person.

Please make check payable to: **Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.**

☐ Enclosed is my advance payment of \$ _____

☐ I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Membership: ☐ AAAS ☐ Sigma Xi ☐ ACS

#1621B



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION

CAPACITY: 31 outside cabins accommodating 62 guests.

OVERALL LENGTH: 152 feet.

REGISTRY: United States.

PUBLIC AREAS: The ship features a library; global market; lounge with full-service bar and facilities for films, slide shows, and presentations; observation deck; partially covered sun deck with chairs and tables; and LEXspa. An 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. Breakfasts are wide-selection buffets, and lunches are often served family style. Dinners are primarily served plated. Menu emphasizes local fare.

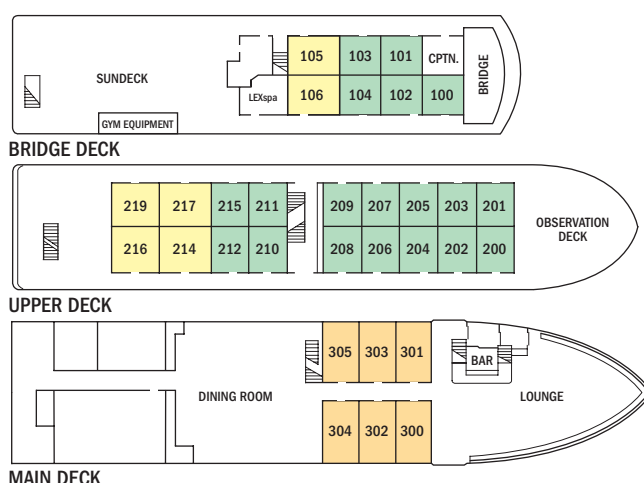
CABINS: All face outside with windows, private facilities, and climate controls.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiacs, kayaks, bow camera, hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, and video microscope.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Guest Wi-Fi access. A certified photo instructor and a video chronicler are on board.

WELLNESS: The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features exercise equipment, LEXspa, and outdoor stretching area.

SELF-DISINFECTING SHIPS: Lindblad Expeditions became the first self-disinfecting fleet with the rollout of the ACT CleanCoat™ system in 2019. This photocatalytic cleaning process activates when illuminated, continuously breaking down unwanted microbes such as bacteria, viruses, mold, and airborne allergens. The positive environmental impacts of this non-toxic, chemical-free system are many: less plastic in the supply chain and waste stream, and more than one million gallons of water saved annually. The system lowers our carbon footprint and creates a cleaner, healthier shipboard environment for guests and crew alike.



CATEGORY 1: Main Deck #300-305 — Conveniently positioned between the dining room and lounge, these cabins feature two lower single beds and a large view window.

CATEGORY 2: Bridge Deck #100-104; Upper Deck #200-212, 215 — These well-located cabins include two lower single beds and a window.

CATEGORY 3: Bridge Deck #105, 106; Upper Deck #214, 216, 217, 219 — These cabins feature a seating unit with table and two large view windows. Upper Deck cabins include two lower single beds which can convert to a double bed and a pull-out single bed for a third person; Bridge Deck cabins include two lower single beds only.

NOTE: Solo occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third person rates are available in certain categories at one half the double occupancy rate.

SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS: Shares can be arranged at the double occupancy rate in Categories 1 and 2 only.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COST INCLUDES: All accommodations aboard ship; all meals and non-alcoholic beverages aboard ship; all shore excursions per itinerary, sightseeing and entrance fees; use of kayaks and paddleboards; round-trip transfers for guests using group flights; local transportation to/from sites of interest; gratuities to local guides and drivers; services of our expedition staff. Unused services or items included in this program are non-refundable.

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; REAL ID, passport, and visa fees; travel protection plan; individual transfers; meals not indicated; items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, Wi-Fi, voyage chronicle, and laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew are at your discretion.

AIRFARE: Airfare is an additional cost. Lindblad Expeditions will assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, an advance payment of US\$1,000 per person is required at the time of reservation and is payable by check. Receipt of advance payment indicates your acceptance of the terms and conditions.

FINAL PAYMENT: Payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Lindblad Expeditions reserves the right to cancel your reservation if payment has not been received by final payment due date.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Travel and medical insurance are available at an additional cost. Information will be sent to you upon registration.

ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: Guests are advised to verify travel documents (REAL ID/passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country, if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country's requirement.

SMOKING AND VAPING POLICY: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and the National Geographic Expeditions' (a division of National Geographic Partners, LLC) liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided

to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

NOTE: Itinerary and prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date and are subject to change. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, the expedition pricing is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event of increases in those costs, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, the right is reserved to adjust the price of your expedition or add a surcharge to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide an explanation of the reason for increase in costs.

PHOTO CREDITS: Cultura Creative, Stephen Frink, Ralph Lee Hopkins, Marco Ricca, Universal Images Group North America LLC

Travel with confidence. We encourage you to view the Health & Safety protocols currently in effect. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/3atsiNM.



CANCELLATION POLICY	
Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
120 or more days	\$350
119–90 days	Advance payment cost
89–60 days	25% of trip cost
59–45 days	50% of trip cost
44–0 days	No refund
<i>This policy applies to the voyage only. We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.</i>	