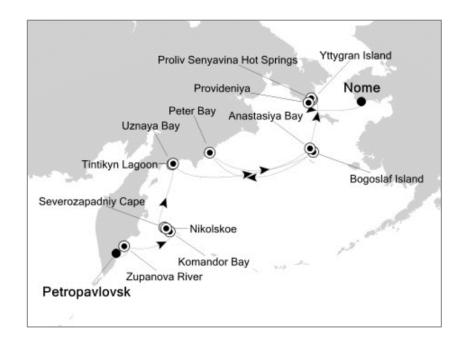
Wilderness of Kamchatka

PETROPAVLOVSK, RUSSIA to NOME, ALASKA



A geothermal wonderland of volcanoes and hot springs await as you follow in the footsteps of Vitus Bering. Remote and rarely visited destinations offer sensational wildlife spotting opportunities with countless birds nesting in the area. Zodiac® tours will fascinate, extraordinary topography will captivate and the whole journey will enthral.



DATES: July 14-25, 2018

DURATION: 12 DAYS/11 NIGHTS

EMBARK: PETROPAVLOVSK DISEMBARK: NOME, ALASKA

SHIP: Silver Explorer

FROM: \$9,225*

After 10% Early Payment by May 02, 2017

ITINERARY

Day 1 — Petropavlovsk, Russia

Once all guests have embarked, you will participate in the safety drill. Later you will be introduced to members of the crew and your Expedition Team. This evening we invite you to familiarize yourself with your new home away from home, meet some of your fellow travelers, and enjoy the first of many memorable meals in The Restaurant.



Day 2 — Petropavlovsk, Russia

During our second day we will have an opportunity to explore Petropavlovsk. The town of Peter and Paul derives its name from the two sailing ships used by Vitus Bering when the great explorer reached Avacha Bay in 1740. It is the only major city on the peninsula and one of the oldest. Petropavlovsk is also the scientific and cultural center of the region, and today local guides will take us on a comprehensive tour including the museum of ethnography and natural history, the art school, the gold-domed Russian Orthodox Cathedral and the marketplace.

In the evening, we depart on our spectacular expedition "Wilderness of Kamchatka".

Day 3 — Zhupanova River, Russia

By cruising the Zhupanova River with our highly maneuverable Zodiacs, we will be able to stop and go ashore wherever we expect to find the best birding and nature walks. Heading upstream, we are likely to spot up to 40 different bird species and may even see brown bears fishing for salmon in the river. Our main goal today is to spot Steller Sea Eagles. This majestic bird is known to frequent this

area, and we hope to have good views of at least one of the eagles.



Day 4 - Commander Bay, Russia

The Komandorskiye or Commander Islands are named after famed Commander Vitus Bering who had been commissioned by the Russian Tsar to search for a land bridge between Asia and America. After having been to Alaska he was forced to overwinter here. He was buried on the island, but part of the crew managed to return to Petropavlovsk.

Day 5 – Severozapadniy Cape and Nikolskoye Village, Russia

Today we intend to visit a Steller sea lion rookery on the north side of Cape Severozapadniy. Apart from the sea lions, arctic foxes can often be seen – they are curious, and will watch us from a safe distance.

Before lunch *Silver Explorer* will sail to Nikolskoye, which was established in 1826 by fur traders. This fishing village on Bering Island has colorful buildings and an Orthodox Church -one of Russia's newest and one of the eastern-most- and a small museum where we will learn about the Aleut people and their culture. During our visit, we will enjoy a concert and be entertained by a presentation of local games.

Day 6 - At Sea

Day 7 – Yuzhnaya Glubokaya and Lavrova Bay or Tintikyn Lagoon

During the early morning we will arrive at Yuzhnaya Glubokaya, where we will visit an abandoned

fishing village that today is covered in wildflowers. This is an area well-liked by brown bears and activities will much depend on their presence.

Depending on tidal conditions we will either do a



Zodiac cruise in Lavrova Bay or at Tintikyn Lagoon. Lavrova Bay features a Russian shipwreck dating back to the 1970's and another abandoned fish camp where we offer a Zodiac cruise and short nature walk. The mountains surrounding the lagoon are inhabited by brown bears and we should be able to spot them grazing on the slopes.

Day 8 - Pyotr Bay and Bogoslav Island

Named after one of the ships used for the Bering expedition, Pyotr Bay is a sheltered bay and offers two hikes: one near the lighthouse close to the entrance of the bay with little climbing and only a short distance to cover; the other at the end of the bay, heading towards two lakes situated well above sea-level. While Largha seals can be expected at the first landing, the other promises a longer hike, spectacular landscape and more birding.

In the afternoon, we plan to cruise and explore Bogoslav's shore by Zodiac. Arches and caves will be found along the coast around most of the island and we hope to see a walrus haul-out and Slaty-backed Gulls, Pigeon Guillemots, Black-legged Kittiwakes, Tufted Puffins, Horned Puffins, Common Guillemots, and Harlequin Ducks.

Day 9 - Anastasia Bay, Russia

We plan to cruise and explore this region by Zodiac, hoping to see a walrus haul-out and seals. Birders will be on the lookout for Slaty-backed Gulls, Pelagic Cormorants, Horned Puffins, Tufted Puffins, Black-legged Kittiwakes, and White Wagtails, White-fronted Geese, Bean Geese and Whooper Swans.

Depending on the conditions we might go ashore by Zodiac for nature walks amid a landscape surrounded by conical peaks and jagged cliffs, separated by valleys with lakes, waterfalls and tumbling streams and glimpses of arctic voles and ground squirrels.

Day 10 - At Sea

Day 11 – Yttygran and Proliv Senyavina Hot Springs, Russia

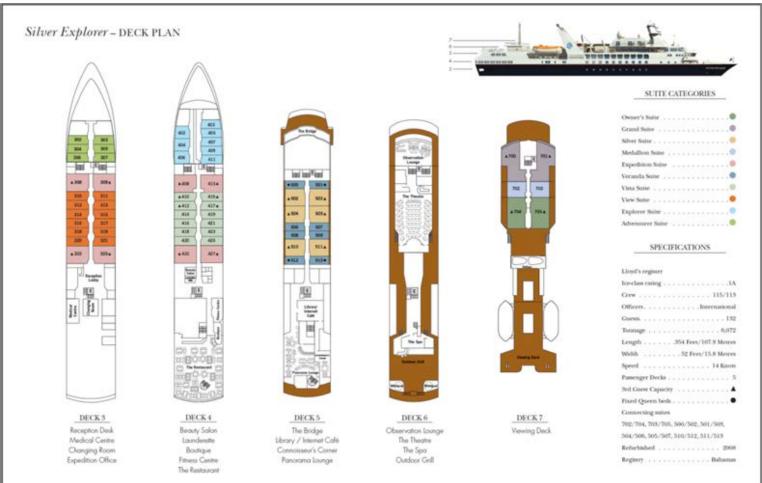
Yttygran offers a unique natural history experience on this voyage. Whale Bone Alley - an array of bowhead whale bones and rock arrangements is stunning – it is a place of great archaeological importance combined with natural beauty. An early morning landing will add to the magic and mystery of the place due to the soft hues and the muffled light conditions. For the more energetic passengers a hike up the steep nearby hill provides an excellent leg stretch.

Silver Explorer will reposition to be closer to the Proliv Senyavina Hot Springs. We will go ashore by Zodiac, will enter a small lagoon and hike across tundra and some rolling hills to reach a stream with some hot springs. You can choose to either enter a small pool prepared by the local fishermen, or to go into the stream.

Day 12 — Provideniya, Russia (Cross the International Date Line and gain a day) In Provideniya we will only stop for our outward clearance.

Day 13 — Nome, Alaska, USAAfter breakfast, disembark *Silver Explorer*.





2017 RENOVATIONS-

We are excited to announce that the Silver Explorer will undergo a \$15 million refurbishment and dry dock from April 29 through May 17, 2017. She will receive significant upgrades to the suites and many of the public areas, including new flooring and new furniture. The Observation Lounge will get a cozier feel and a private library, the gym will almost double in size and The Spa will get special attention.

Contact us for availability and more details-



Reservations and Information: 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)

Email - <u>info@explorcruises.com</u> <u>www.explorcruises.com</u>