

WASHINGTON AND LEE  
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*Lifelong Learning*

# Islands of the Azores: Basalt Peaks to Volcanic Vineyards

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

July 21-28, 2027



# Islands of the Azores: Basalt Peaks to Volcanic Vineyards



## Expedition Highlights

- ✓ Search for whales, follow scenic hiking trails and learn of the volcanic history unique to the Azores.
- ✓ Soak up Azorean culture, sampling local wine and cheese, and dine on a delectable local specialty: a stew cooked underground by volcanic heat.
- ✓ Discover the varied past and the stories of explorers, whalers and conquerors who all had a part in weaving the tapestry of island history.
- ✓ Experience the commitment the locals have to sustainable growth and protecting the natural beauty and ecosystems of the archipelago.

# Itinerary

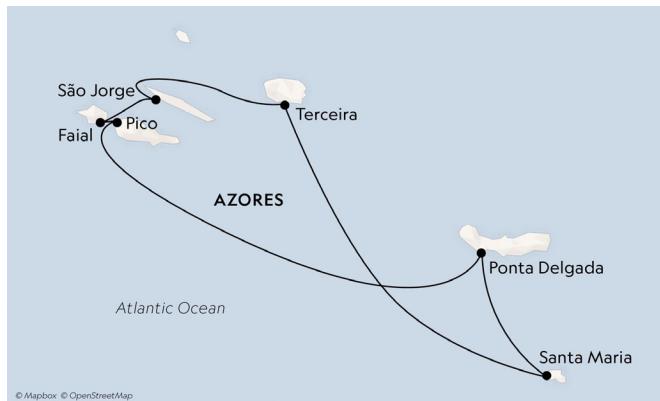
**DAY 1** • **PONTA DELGADA, AZORES, PORTUGAL/EMBARK**  
Arrive in Ponta Delgada, the charming capital of the Azores. Transfer from the airport to the city and spend the day at your own pace exploring the sights, sounds and tastes of this island capital. Check in with the hospitality desk this afternoon before embarking the ship. (D)

**DAY 2** • **PICO / FAIAL**  
The tallest mountain on the Atlantic Ridge, the long dormant Ponta do Pico, is a defining feature of this beautiful island whose claims to fame are whaling history and wine. Visit the once-booming former whaling village Lajes do Pico, and learn about the importance of the whaling industry to these islands at the Whalers' Museum. Then travel to the wine region, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where the moonscape terrain left by the lava flows has been painstakingly converted to vineyards. See the unlikely lava stone corrals that protect the precious vines, and enjoy a tasting of these very special wines. This afternoon, sail to the island of Faial in time to raise a glass at Peter Café Sport, a legendary pub where sea adventurers historically dropped off their mail. (B,L,D)

**DAY 3** • **FAIAL**  
Following breakfast, we head to Capelinhos, where you can see how dramatically the landscape changed when its volcano erupted in 1957. Farms and villages were covered with ash, which added nearly an extra mile of land to the island. Later, stroll in the marina, visit the excellent scrimshaw museum and enjoy a coffee at a local café. (B,L,D)

**DAY 4** • **SÃO JORGE**  
This morning visit São Jorge, formed by volcanic fissures. An impressive mix of imposing sea cliffs and fajãs—coastal plateaus formed from lava flows—the island has fertile soil that supports picturesque grasslands and farms. On trails that crisscross the ridge and beaches, hike to Caldeira de Santo Cristo Lake, known for its clams; visit the small villages perched on the fajãs; explore the coffee and tea plantations and taste world-renowned São Jorge cheese. Be on deck with binoculars this afternoon as you sail around the tip of the island, passing cliffs with nesting seabirds and looking for Risso's dolphins and whales. (B,L,D)

**DAY 5** • **TERCEIRA**  
First settled by Portuguese navigators around 1450, Terceira became a popular port of call for merchant ships and the economic and religious center of the Azores. You'll wind along the coastline and explore historic villages like Porto Judeu, a small fishing community; São Sebastião, which has a notable 15th-century parish church and Altares, with its quaint whitewashed houses capped with traditional chimneys and painted cones. Upland at Algar





do Carvao, be amazed by a huge lava tube adorned with stalactites and stalagmites, and later, stroll the streets of Praia da Vitoria. Or, take a walking tour with local guides to see the forts, palaces, churches, museums and gardens of Angra do Heroismo. Step back in time in this 15th-century UNESCO World Heritage Site and see firsthand the indelible mark left by the ancient explorers, conquerors and religious leaders. (B,L,D)

**DAY 6**

**SANTA MARIA**

As you cruise towards the island of Santa Maria, be on deck to search for the islands' many cetaceans. Go ashore at Santa Maria, historically significant as the first landfall of Christopher Columbus on his return from the Americas in 1493. You'll see a statue of the explorer in the village of Anjos and admire breathtaking vistas as you travel along the coast. Those who choose to hike the Pico Alto-Baía dos Anjos trail will travel from the highest point on the island to the sea to observe marine birds in their azure surroundings. (B,L,D)

**DAY 7**

**PONTA DELGADA**

Explore the Furnas Valley and its famed hot springs, hiking the trails and visiting a tea plantation. Sample a typical Azorean dish for lunch: cozido, a dish made with a variety of meats and vegetables naturally cooked underground from the heat of volcanic activity. Following lunch, join local cetacean spotters and a marine biologist onboard a catamaran in search of the gentle creatures of the sea. (B,L,D)

**DAY 8**

**PONTA DELGADA/DISEMBARK**

Disembark in Ponta Delgada and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)



# National Geographic Orion

**CAPACITY:** 53 outside cabins and suites accommodating 102 guests.

**REGISTRY:** Bahamas. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 338 feet.

This nimble vessel takes travelers to little-known parts of Europe. Gracious and intimate, she fosters a spirited atmosphere on board, while amenities such as outdoor dining, spa treatment rooms and a top deck plunge pool and hot tub invite relaxation amid sapphire seas.

**PUBLIC AREAS:** Outdoor café, lounge with bar, restaurant, sundeck, reception desk, observation lounge and library, laundry, Global Gallery, marina platform. Open Bridge allows guests to meet the captain and officers and learn about navigation.

**MEALS:** All meals are served in a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. The menu emphasizes local flair, expertly prepared and featuring fresh, nutritious meals.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** All cabins and suites feature ocean views, private facilities, climate controls and a flat-screen TV. Equipped with Ethernet and Wi-Fi connections and USB ports for mobile devices. Some cabins have French balconies. Botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel and lotion are all available in cabin bathrooms, as well as an Expedition Essential Kit. Hair dryers and complimentary insulated water bottles are available in each cabin.

**EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT:** Zodiac landing craft, a fleet of 24 double kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, glass-bottom Zodiac, splashcam, crow's nest camera, hydrophone, underwater video camera, video microscope and a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV).

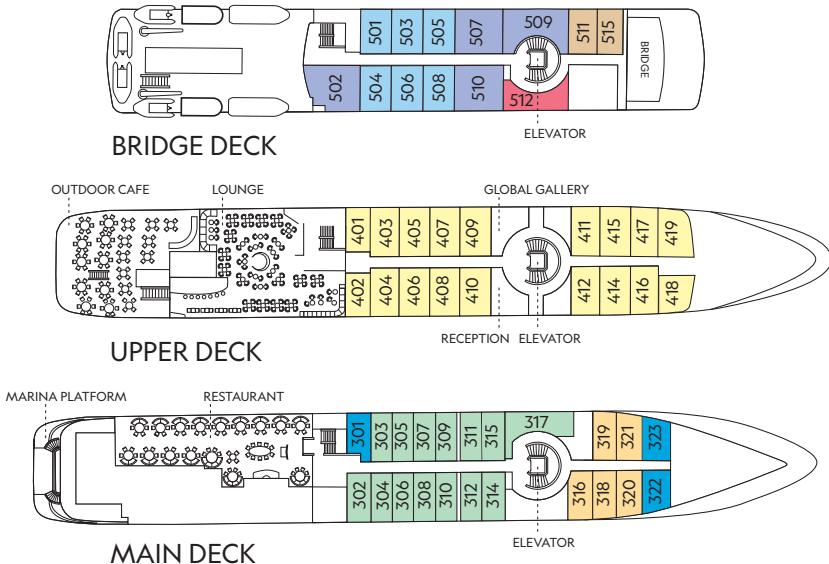
**STAFF & CREW:** Every staff member is committed to ensuring guests have an unforgettable experience. Many of the veteran guides and naturalists are locally based in your destination and have worked with the company for decades. A full-time medical professional, undersea specialist, National Geographic photographer and a National Geographic certified photo instructor is on board, and with a high staff-to-guest ratio, you can hear different perspectives and gain new insights every day.

**WELLNESS:** A wellness specialist, fitness center, LEXspa treatment room and sauna are on board.

**PIONEERING RESPONSIBLE EXPLORATION:** From our consistent quest to improve our practices to offsetting 100% of our carbon emissions, supporting conservation, science and education initiatives around the planet and investing in the communities in the places we explore, we are guided by our commitment to explore responsibly.



# National Geographic Orion



## CATEGORY 1

Main Deck—With an armchair, reading lamps, TV, bedside tables, coffee table, desk and marble bathrooms. #316, 318-321

## CATEGORY 2

Main Deck—With an armchair, reading lamps, TV, bedside table, coffee table, desk and marble bathrooms. #302-312, 314, 315, 317

## CATEGORY 3

Upper Deck—Cabins with a sitting area, sofa, armchair, writing desk, reading lamps, coffee table, TV, bedside table and marble bathrooms. #401-412, 414-419

## CATEGORY 4\*

Bridge Deck—Deluxe suites with separate sleeping and sitting areas, a chair and armchair, coffee table, a sofa, reading lamps, TV and marble bathrooms. #511, 515

## CATEGORY 5\*

Bridge Deck—Suites with French balcony and a separate sitting area with armchairs and a sofa, a writing desk, coffee table, reading lamps, TV and marble bathrooms. #501, 503-506, 508

## CATEGORY 6\*

Bridge Deck—Owner's suites with French balcony with a separate living area with a sofa, armchairs, coffee table, vanity, reading lamps, TV and marble bathrooms. #502, 507, 509\*\*, 510

## CATEGORY 1 SOLO OCCUPANCY\*

Main Deck—Cabins with a writing desk and chair, reading lamps, coffee table, bedside tables, TV and marble bathrooms. #301, 322, 323

## CATEGORY 3 SOLO OCCUPANCY\*

Bridge Deck—Solo cabin with panoramic window, armchairs, a table, coffee table, TV and a marble bathroom. Located in an optimal mid ship location near the Bridge, main stairwell and elevator. #512

**\*SUITE EXCLUSIVES:** The Suite Exclusives package gives guests staying in eligible cabins access to an array of amenities designed to enhance your on-board experience, including priority booking for spa treatments, complimentary laundry and other exclusive perks.

**Note:** Solo occupancy cabins available in Categories 1 and 3. Shared accommodations available in Categories 1 and 2.

Third person rates available at one-half the double occupancy rate in designated triple occupancy cabins.

\*\*#509 has double windows in lieu of a French balcony.

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VOYAGE DATES	CAT. 1	CAT. 2	CAT. 3	CAT. 4 SUITE	CAT. 5 SUITE	CAT. 6 SUITE	CAT. 1 SOLO	CAT. 3 SOLO
July 21-28, 2027	\$8,645	\$9,624	\$12,569	\$13,880	\$14,535	\$15,846	\$12,968	\$18,858

**ADVANCE PAYMENT:** 15% of the cabin fare, per person

## Terms and Conditions

**PRICING:** Prices quoted in this brochure are per person based on double occupancy in USD. Prices quoted are valid at the time of printing, and are subject to change and availability at time of booking. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time advanced payment is made. However, our 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, we reserve the right 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.

**COST INCLUDES:** All accommodations aboard ship; excursions and airport transfers, as indicated in the itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages and filtered water; beer, wine, cocktails and spirits, with premium wines and liquors available for purchase; selection of exploration tools, including Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards and kayaks, the guidance and company of the leading expedition staff; presentations by expedition staff; crew gratuities; access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker; complimentary reusable water bottle; onboard physician consultations (where available); 24-hour access to the lounge, observation decks, library and other shared spaces; morning stretch classes and access to the fitness center; assistance by the onboard photo instructor; special access permits, park and site entrance fees and port taxes; basic Wi-Fi, with the option to upgrade. Unused services or items included in this program are non-refundable.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Airfare; pre- and post-expedition extensions (if applicable); additional hotel nights; passport, visa, security and immigration fees; meals not indicated; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature such as certain premium brands of alcohol, enhanced and premium Wi-Fi plans, laundry, etc.

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

**RESERVATIONS:** To confirm your place, an advance payment of 15% of the cabin fare, per person is payable by Visa, MasterCard,

American Express, Discover or check. Receipt of advance payment indicates your acceptance of the terms and conditions.

**FINAL PAYMENT:** Due no later than 120 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.

**ITINERARY MODIFICATIONS:** Itineraries, routing and speakers listed are correct at time of publication, and are subject to change.

**ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS:** Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country(s) 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.

**RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and 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.

## CANCELLATION FEE POLICY (PER PERSON)

**120 or more days** prior to expedition start: **No penalty:** Advance Payment will be credited toward your next expedition\*\*

**119-90 days** prior to expedition start: **50% of trip cost\*\*\***

**89-0 days** prior to expedition start: **100% of trip cost\*\*\***

\*\*Advance payments will be credited in the form of a Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate, valid for 12 months from the date of cancellation, and which may only be applied towards final payment on any future booking.

\*\*\*Trip cost is total price paid including extensions, charter airfare and other additional services.

We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.

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RESERVATION FORM

# Islands of the Azores: Basalt Peaks to Volcanic Vineyards

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*Lifelong Learning*

**To register:**

<https://go.wlu.edu/azores>

Lifelong Learning at Washington and Lee University  
Ph: (540) 458-8723

Email: [lifelong@wlu.edu](mailto:lifelong@wlu.edu)

## PASSENGER INFORMATION

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).

Guest 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it appears on passport)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ M/F: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it appears on passport)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ M/F: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations:  Double  Single  Twin share with a 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:** 15% of the cabin fare, per person.

If paying by check, please make payable to: **Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.**

Enclosed is my advance payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If paying by credit card, we will contact you to finalize your booking and collect payment information.