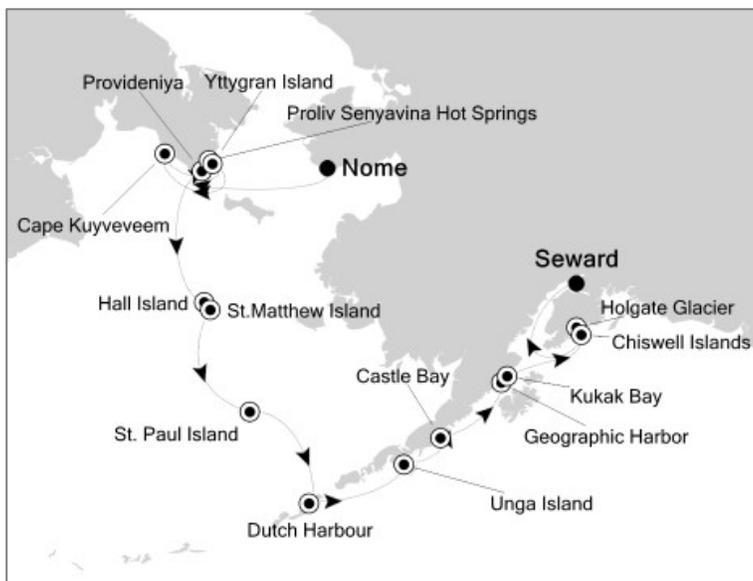


Islands of The Bering Sea and Alaskan Peninsula

FROM NOME TO SEWARD, ALASKA



Get as close to your Alaskan experience as possible. Leaving the Russian Far East, travel to Alaska as never before, observing seals, sealions and sensational land and seascapes along the way. Enjoy the legendary ornithology at Cape Kuyveveem and in the Pribiloffs and Aleutians, relax in the hot springs of Proliv Senyavina, and observe astonishing geology formed by aeonian stratas of time.



DATES: August 13-25, 2018

DURATION: 12 DAYS/11 NIGHTS

EMBARK: NOME, ALASKA
DISEMBARK: SEWARD, ALASKA

SHIP: Silver Explorer

FROM: \$8,145*

After 10% Early Payment by May 02, 2017

ITINERARY

Day 1 — Nome, Alaska, USA

Join us at a Sail Away cocktail party as we depart on our spectacular expedition: "Islands of the Bering Sea and Alaskan Peninsula".

Day 2 — Provideniya, Russia

After lunch, we will start our walking tour of Provideniya, a former military outpost. Many of the houses have been abandoned, but those inhabitants that stayed behind seem to be optimistic that Provideniya will once again be an important port –most probably for the Northeast Passage. We will visit the local museum, and will be entertained by local and Russian songs and dances.



Day 3 – Proliv Senyavina and Yttygran Island, Chukotka, Russia

Proliv Senyavina promises a nice tundra hike to reach some hot springs located inland. We will hike to the hot springs and take a relaxing dip.

We cruise the Bering Sea to reach Yttygran Island home of "Whalebone Alley" –an area with large numbers of carefully arranged skulls and whalebones. It is not only on land that we can see evidence of whales; grey whales are known to roam the seas around Yttygran.

Day 4 – Kuyvyveen and Provideniya, Chukotka, Russia



The Kuyvyveen bird cliffs not only show a varied bird life, but also are one of the most spectacular settings for a Zodiac cruise. We will spend the morning here to look for

and photograph birds and geology. A large sheltered bay with towering cliffs composed of light-colored granite and streaked by darker rock on each side creates the spectacular scenery of Cape Kuyvyveen. A sandy beach lies at the head of the bay with rolling tundra behind. The sheer granite rocks, distinct basalt caves and arches of the cape are home to thousands of Tufted Puffins that nest in rocky crevasses. Thick-billed Murres, Glaucous and Slaty-winged Gulls, Parakeet Auklets and Red Phalaropes frequent the dramatic rocky formations while Common Murres, Pelagic Cormorants and Black-legged Kittiwakes line the cliffs and archways.

In the evening, we will briefly stop in Provideniya for our outward clearance.

Day 5 – Cruising the Bering Sea (Cross the International Date Line and gain a day)

On our way back to Alaska we will be crossing the Dateline again. Be on the outer decks to look for whales and seabirds, and attend one of the lectures preparing you for the Pribilof Islands.



Day 6 —Hall Island and St. Matthew Island, Alaska

Today we will see two of the islands belonging to the Bering Sea Wilderness. At Hall Island we will spend the morning, using our fleet of Zodiacs to explore the rugged coast of this uninhabited island. Here we hope to witness the vast numbers of kittiwakes and guillemots that make their nest on the steep cliffs. Jacob's ladder and lousewort will thrive between the auklet colonies. Be on the lookout for Arctic fox, and Horned Puffins that are regularly seen from the Zodiac.

Silver Explorer will continue to St. Matthew Island. There you will step upon an island few have ever even heard of. Known as Alaska's most remote location, it was designated by President Teddy Roosevelt as one of America's first nature reserves in 1909. The focus today is on botany and birding -McKay's Bunting, Lapland Longspur, and various seabirds are normally seen.

Day 7 — St. Paul, Pribilof Islands, Alaska

After lunch we will have a guided walk to the Salt Lagoon, Town Cove and the Rift Point fur seal haul out. The bird cliffs and seal rookery are located at the eastern edge of the island. On the way, you will note the fish and crab processing plant near the water, as well as

the Russian Orthodox Church standing above the town.



To view the seals we will have to use the seal blind to peer out into the busy seal rookery without disturbing anything. The juvenile male northern fur seals lying on the grass in front of the blind have to wait until they are large enough to stake out their own territory down on the water's edge and collect a harem of females of their own. On the far side of the blind, the view is of the ocean and St. Paul's working waterfront. In the foreground, however, are close to a thousand fur seals barking, wailing, posturing and rushing one another, and hundreds of pups, waiting in groups for their mothers to return from the sea with their lunch.

Heading up to the bird cliffs you will be rewarded with stunningly close views of Tufted Puffins and Common Murres perched on the rocky ledges.

Day 8 —Dutch Harbor, Unalaska Island, Aleutian Islands, Alaska

Together with the city of Unalaska, Dutch Harbor is a bustling community with about 4,000 residents. During our city tour, we will see the World War II bunkers and the spectacular Russian Orthodox Church. Dutch Harbor is a great place to see Bald Eagles and birders will have excellent views of these magnificent animals.

Day 9 — Unga Island, Aleutian Islands, Alaska

Unga Island had an Aleutian settlement which had been subject to a small gold rush. Unga Village was eventually abandoned in the 1960's and now has a somewhat somber appearance. Many of the houses have collapsed. From a distance the church with the tower seems intact. Standing close one can see that only the roof is standing on the ground, the walls having collapsed. Great Horned Owls nest near the church. During a Zodiac cruise in the bay kittiwakes, Double Crested and Pelagic Cormorants, as well as good numbers of Common Murres and Tufted Puffins can be seen.

Day 10 — Castle Bay, Alaska

Castle Bay is just around the corner from Chignik, a fishing village of just a few hundred inhabitants —much depending on the season. The name Castle Bay was given, as the great scenery and the skyline of the

mountains resembles turrets and towers of a castle. In our Zodiacs we will be cruising along the northwestern arm of Castle Bay, bringing us close to harbor seals, Bald Eagles, Pigeon Guillemots, Marble Murrelets, Mew Gulls, Black-legged Kittiwakes and Vega Gulls.

Day 11 — Geographic Harbor, and Kukak Bay Katmai National Park, Alaska

At Geographic Harbor and Kukak Bay we have another opportunity to get up close to wildlife. The scenery at Geographic Harbor at the head of Amalik Bay is magnificent and brown bears are ubiquitous. This is one of the prime areas in this region for bear viewing. *Silver Explorer's* Expedition Team will lead a variety of Zodiac tours in search of bears, sea mammals and birds. Brown Bears, sea otters, Bald Eagles, Kittlitz's Murrelets, Surf Scoters, Pigeon Guillemots, Black-billed Magpies, as well as Northwestern Crow and Golden-crowned Sparrow have all been seen here.



In the afternoon Kukak Bay promises further and interesting Zodiac cruises with more brown bears, sea otters and Black Oystercatchers and Goldeneyes seen as well.

Day 12 — Chiswell Islands and Holgate Glacier, Alaska

The Chiswell Islands —part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge- will give us a last chance to go out in our Zodiacs to get a close-up look at Steller sea lions. Thousands of birds call these rugged islands their home and we can expect to see Horned Puffins, Tufted Puffins, Black-legged Kittiwakes, and the Cassin's Auklet and the Whiskered Auklet, among others.

Kenai Fjords National Park's famous Holgate Glacier will be our last chance to see a calving glacier. Enjoy the views from the outer decks as we leave the area shortly before sunset.

Day 13 – Seward, Alaska

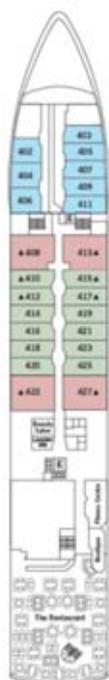
Following breakfast, disembark *Silver Explorer*. We can arrange more Alaska adventures for you – Kenai Peninsula, Denali National Park – and more.



Silver Explorer – DECK PLAN



DECK 3
 Reception Desk
 Medical Centre
 Changing Room
 Expedition Office



DECK 4
 Beauty Salon
 Laundryette
 Boutique
 Fitness Centre
 The Restaurant



DECK 5
 The Bridge
 Library / Internet Cafe
 Connoisseur's Corner
 Panorama lounge



DECK 6
 Observation Lounge
 The Theatre
 The Spa
 Outdoor Grill



DECK 7
 Viewing Deck



SUITE CATEGORIES

- Owner's Suite
- Grand Suite
- Silver Suite
- Medallion Suite
- Expedition Suite
- Veranda Suite
- View Suite
- Explorer Suite
- Adventurer Suite

SPECIFICATIONS

- Lloyd's register
- Ice-class rating 1A
- Crew 115/115
- Officers International
- Guests 132
- Tonnage 6,072
- Length 354 Feet/107.9 Metres
- Width 52 Feet/15.8 Metres
- Speed 14 Knots
- Passenger Decks 5
- Bed Guest Capacity ▲
- Fixed Queen beds ●
- Connecting suites
- 702/704, 703/705, 500/502, 501/503,
504/506, 505/507, 510/512, 511/513
- Refurbished 2008
- Registry Bahamas

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 - info@explorcruises.com
www.explorcruises.com