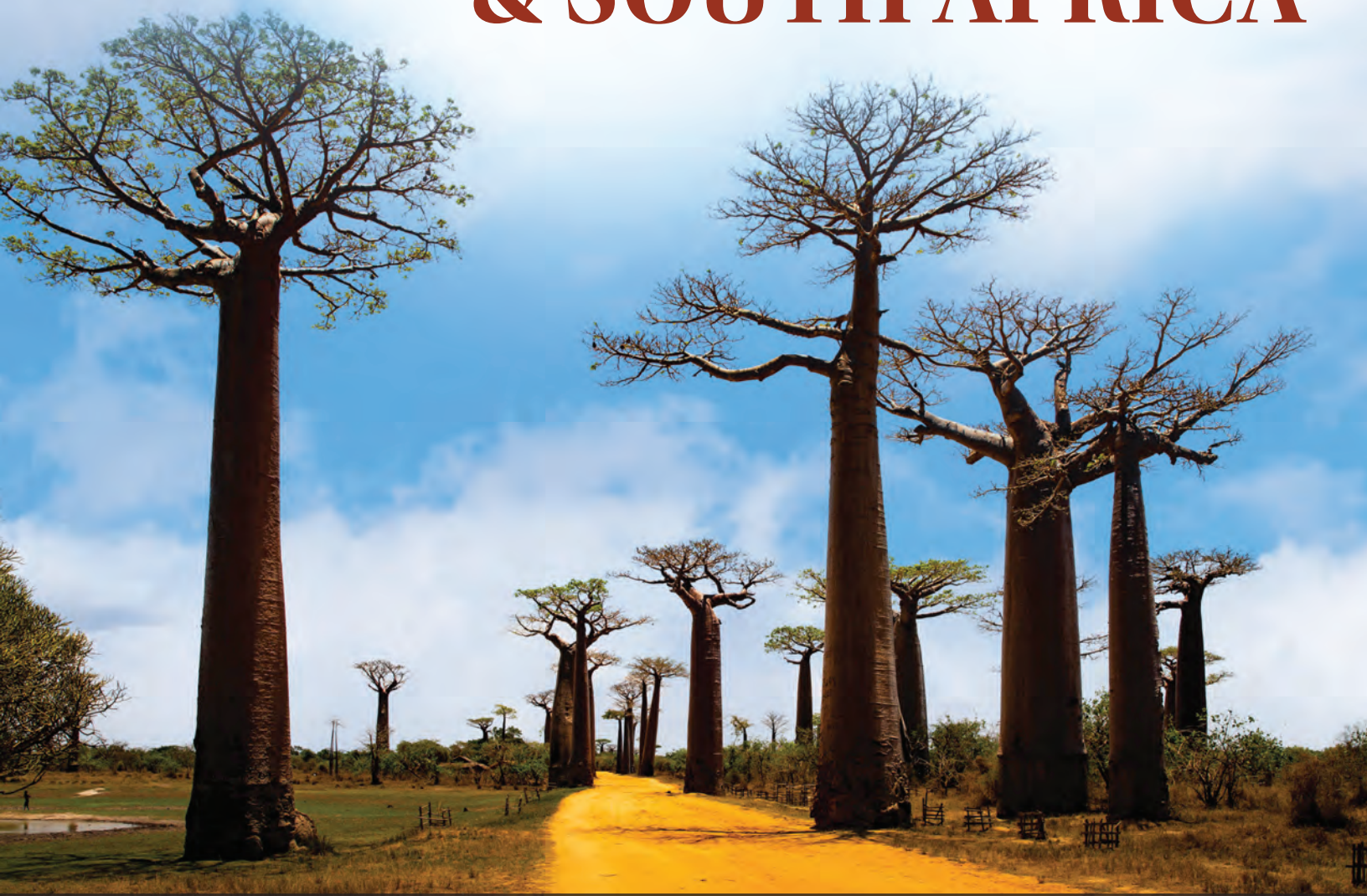


With Professor Emerita of Earth & Environmental Sciences, **Molly Miller**, and Professor Emeritus of Earth & Environmental Sciences, **Calvin Miller**



FROM THE SHORES OF KENYA TO MADAGASCAR & SOUTH AFRICA



Distinctive Baobab trees at the Avenue of the Baobabs, Morondava, Madagascar

Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship *DIANA*
November 2 - 21, 2023

Dear Alumni and Friends,

We are delighted to be able to invite you to join an extraordinary expedition from Kenya's port city of Mombasa to the remote and supremely pristine Aldabra and Glorieuses isles, Madagascar, Mozambique and South Africa, a journey of nearly 4,000 miles that visits places that few people will ever have the privilege of seeing.


On Aldabra, the largest raised coral reef on earth, we will experience what Sir David Attenborough has called "one of the wonders of the world." We will meet black lemurs on the Malagasy island of Nosy Be, and delight in the baobab trees and other indigenous wildlife in Morondava and Toliara on Madagascar's western shores. Crossing the channel to continental Africa, we will engage in a 'safari by the sea,' as we explore national parks and private game reserves along the South African coastline. Toward the end of our journey, we will find ourselves on the legendary Garden Route, where excursions to the Kariega and Botlierskop Game Reserves bring the opportunity to encounter lions, leopards, rhinos, giraffes, zebra, wildebeest and a myriad of bird species. We end our journey in South Africa's oldest city, Cape Town, one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Throughout the voyage, Professors Molly Miller and Calvin Miller will bring to life the rich natural and geological wonders of the region. In addition, an expert expedition team of naturalists will supplement these lectures with presentations and briefings on the day-to-day experiences we share.

The vessel for this extraordinary journey will be Swan Hellenic's *Diana*, a state-of-the-art, new-generation expedition cruise ship, currently under construction in Finland and due to launch in April. Accommodating only 192 guests in beautifully appointed staterooms and balcony suites, *Diana* will feature several lounges, a restaurant, outdoor cafe, spa, library and beauty salon, and will be equipped with the latest safety and environmentally-friendly technology.

Please join us aboard *Diana* in November 2023 to discover the remarkably rich, natural and cultural treasures of Aldabra, Glorieuses, Madagascar, Mozambique and South Africa.

Sincerely



Cary DeWitt Allyn
Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program

VANDERBILT FACULTY

MOLLY MILLER & CALVIN MILLER



MOLLY MILLER

Professor Emerita of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Molly Miller, Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Emerita, studies how animals' interactions with their environment have changed over the last 600 million years. Her studies of fossil trackways and burrows and other features in sandstones that contain them to unravel the ancient history of the Cumberland Plateau. In Antarctica, she and her students have discovered 260-million-year-old fossil forests that grew near the South Pole and documented modern processes and animal activity on the seafloor beneath sea ice. These studies reveal a valuable record of modern and ancient climate, and climate change, in the currently icy continent. Molly enjoys teaching at all levels but she is partial to introducing all students (and everybody!) to basic geoscience. She has been awarded a Vanderbilt Chair of Teaching Excellence, the Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, and the Chancellor's Cup; nationally, she was named "Educator of the Year" by the Association of Women Geoscientists. Currently she and volunteer co-workers offer fossil programs at Fort Negley in Nashville, including discovery-oriented field trips for over a thousand Metro Nashville Public School students each year.

CALVIN MILLER

Professor Emeritus of Earth & Environmental Sciences

Calvin Miller, William R. Kenan Professor Emeritus of Earth & Environmental Sciences, studies and teaches about igneous rocks, how they form, and global-scale processes that control their formation. Growing up in California, he was initially inspired by the granite that forms iconic landscapes of Yosemite and Joshua Tree National Parks, as well as most of Earth's continental crust. He was also intrigued by erupted magmas that formed the volcanoes that he saw during travels that began at age five, to Hawaii. Since 2006 he and his students have spent much of their time in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, on the intensely volcanic island of Iceland.

Calvin's work as well as his joy in life have centered around travel. Research projects with his students, conferences, and field trips have taken him to six continents – all but Antarctica.

THE NEW 192-GUEST EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP *DIANA*



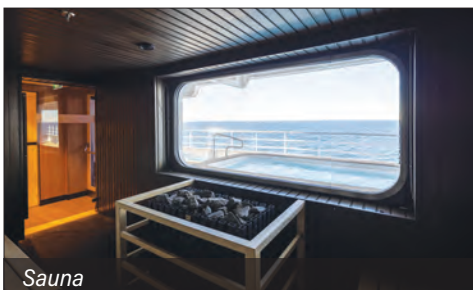
Oceanview Stateroom



Balcony Suite



Observation Lounge



Sauna



Club Lounge



Outdoor Cafe / Bar with swimming pool

Constructed in Finland and launching in April 2023, Swan Hellenic's *Diana* is a new-generation expedition cruise ship. Although at 12,100 tons the ship is large enough to accommodate more than 350 passengers, *Diana* will accommodate a maximum of 192 guests in 96 spacious staterooms and balcony suites. The low guest density results in one of the most generous indoor and outdoor space-to-guest ratios among cruise ships.

Featuring the latest advances in technology and engineering, *Diana* is among the world's first environmentally-responsible ships. Equipped with hybrid engines, a system of powerful batteries, and a unique water filtration system, *Diana* leaves a minimal footprint. For cruising in Polar regions, the ship meets the stringent requirements of the new Polar Code with its high PC5 Category A ice-strengthened hull and other advanced features. A computer-controlled Dynamic Positioning System allows the ship to maintain position without anchoring. Operated by a complement of 135 experienced European officers and international crew members, *Diana*

will carry a fleet of Zodiacs, versatile landing boats, and kayaks. Powerful stabilizers provide a smooth ride.

Diana's interior spaces exude sophisticated elegance, with most rooms opening to panoramic views of the sea. All staterooms and suites face outside and are equipped with private facilities, climate control, TV, Wi-Fi and USB connections and other amenities. Of the ship's 96 staterooms, 76 have balconies. Public areas include a spacious observation lounge equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for lectures and presentations; a club lounge; a restaurant that accommodates all guests at one seating; an outdoor café/bar that surrounds the heated swimming pool; a wellness area with gym, spa, and sauna with an adjoining outdoor jacuzzi; library; beauty salon; and an infirmary that is attended by a full-time doctor and nurse. The ship also features expansive open-deck areas. Two elevators connect all decks. Attentive service is provided on a 24-hour basis. The outstanding cuisine is complemented by fine wines at lunch and dinner.

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT **VANDERBILT TRAVEL OFFICE** AT 615-322-3673 OR ALUMNI.TRAVEL@VANDERBILT.EDU

ITINERARY



Thursday, November 2, 2023
Depart the United States

Friday, November 3
Mombasa, Kenya

Arrive in Mombasa and transfer to the *Serena Beach Hotel* (or similar). Enjoy a welcome dinner with fellow travelers this evening. (D)

Saturday, November 4
Mombasa/Embark

After breakfast at the hotel, join an excursion to the 16th-century



Giant Aldabra tortoise (*Aldabrachelys gigantea*),
Glorieuses island

Fort Jesus, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and visit the bustling spice market where Indian, Arab, and African vendors compete for your attention, before transferring to the port to board *Diana*. Set sail for the Seychelles in late afternoon. (B,D)

Sunday, November 5

At Sea

During a day at sea heading toward Aldabra, treat yourself to the amenities aboard ship and attend informative lectures and briefings from expedition staff and guest lecturers. You may also want simply to enjoy being in the middle of the ocean, looking over vast horizons under open skies, with the sun, wind and a few adventurous seabirds to keep you company. (B,L,D)

Monday, November 6

Aldabra, Seychelles

Located in the very heart of the Seychelles archipelago, the Aldabra Atoll is one of the last virtually untouched sanctuaries on earth, where a large population of sea turtles have found refuge. Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this vast tract of sea and land is formed by 4 small reef islands separated by narrow passes and containing an emerald-water lagoon lined with mangrove and fine-sand beaches. (B,L,D)

Tuesday November 7

Glorieuses, Scattered Islands

The Scattered Islands are like confetti sprinkled around Madagascar and form an archipelago of unrivaled beauty. Their geographic isolation and their very limited human settlement make them a true ecological sanctuary. Regularly used as the “zero point” in scientific studies, they offer their rare visitors almost pristine vegetation consisting mainly of mangrove, as well as long beaches of shimmering sand stretching out behind turquoise lagoons, and coral reefs that are home to the highest concentration of sea turtles in the world. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, November 8

Nosy Be, Madagascar

The Nosy Be Archipelago is a collection of small islands with magnificent white sand beaches and an exceptional diversity of marine and terrestrial life. From the port of Andoany, commonly referred to as “Hell-ville,” we take pirogue canoes through the mangrove to Lokobe Nature Reserve, a primal forest that serves as habitat for more than 370 species of wildlife. On a guided walk through the forest, we will be looking for the birds, reptiles, and primates that abound—especially the endangered black lemur. (B,L,D)

Thursday, November 9

Mahajanga

From the lively cosmopolitan city of Majunga (Mahajanga), travel to Ankarafantsika National Park, one of the largest deciduous forests remaining in Madagascar and a safe haven for a number of endemic species of lemurs and birds. Eight species of lemur



River through rainforest in the Garden Route, South Africa

are found here, including Coquerel's sifaka and mongoose lemurs, which can often be observed close up. Birders will enjoy the rare opportunity to see rufous vanga and Schlegel's asity. (B,L,D)

Friday, November 10

At Sea

Enjoy a relaxing day at sea enjoying the many amenities aboard ship and attending presentations from expedition staff and guest lecturers. (B,L,D)

Saturday, November 11

Morondava

Situated at the mouth of the Morondava River on the Mozambique Channel, Morondava is the gateway to the famous 'Avenue of the Baobabs', where massive baobab trees tower over the landscape. Nearby Kirindy National Park, which claims to have the greatest density of primates anywhere in the world, offers the chance to see ring tailed lemurs, red tailed sportive lemurs, red fronted lemurs, and dancing Sifaka lemurs. Kirindy is also home to the rare Fossa, a catlike creature closely related to the mongoose. (B,L,D)

Sunday, November 12

Toliara

Toliara, surrounded by mangroves and an offshore coral reef, provides easy access to the Arboretum d'Anstokay, established by a Swiss botanist in 1980 in the middle of a spiny forest. Guided

tours lead past more than 900 mostly endemic plant species, some identified only in the past 40 years, and you might spy birds, butterflies or lemurs living among the branches. (B,L,D)

Monday, November 13

At Sea

As *Diana* crosses the Mozambique Channel on the way to Maputo, you may treat yourself to the amenities aboard and attend informative lectures and briefings from expedition staff and guest lecturers. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, November 14

Maputo, Mozambique

Established by the Dutch in 1721 then briefly ruled by the British, Maputo was under Portuguese control from 1781 until Mozambique's independence in 1974. The city's Mediterranean-style architecture and wide avenues make it one of East Africa's most attractive capitals. The commercial and economic center of the country, Maputo is also home to important cultural institutions, including a University, a Natural History Museum, and the Museum of the Revolution. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, November 15

Ilha dos Portugueses

Portuguese Island, historically known as Elephant Island, is the place where European traders in the 16th and 17th centuries met



Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur



Rhinoceros and Wildebeest, Botlierskop Private Game Reserve, Mossel Bay, South Africa

their African counterparts and exchanged trinkets for ivory. Today the island is a marine reserve with a small lagoon and beautiful protected coral reefs. (B,L,D)

Thursday, November 16

Richards Bay, South Africa

From the port city of Richards Bay, drive to the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi National Park, the oldest national park in South Africa and certainly one of the country's most outstanding game reserves. A pristine wilderness, Hluhluwe-Imfolozi is known for its rich wildlife, including black and white rhinos, lion, cheetah, leopard, giraffe, hippo and others. (B,L,D)

Friday, November 17

Durban

Durban is home to the busiest container port in Sub-Saharan Africa, handling about 32 million tons of cargo each year, and as the largest coastal city in KwaZulu-Natal province, it brings together African, Indian, and colonial influences. Durban's waterfront was extensively rebuilt for the 2010 World Cup and boasts a five-mile-long promenade of shops and restaurants that connects the modernistic Moses Mabhida Stadium to an enormous marine theme park. (B,L,D)

Saturday, November 18

At Sea

Enjoy a day at sea as you treat yourself to the amenities aboard ship and attend informative lectures and briefings from expedition staff and guest lecturers. (B,L,D)

Sunday, November 19

Port Elizabeth

This morning, we arrive in Port Elizabeth, now officially known as Gqeberha. Founded in 1820 by British settlers, it became and remains a prosperous port and trading center. From Gqeberha we travel to the Kariega Game Reserve, a family-owned Big 5 safari reserve. In addition to the big five—lion, elephant, rhino, buffalo, and leopard—we will be on the lookout for multitudes of other South African wildlife from our open 4X4 vehicles. (B,L,D)

Monday, November 20

Mossel Bay

From Mossel Bay on South Africa's famed Garden Route we travel to Botlierskop Private Game Reserve for our final day of wildlife viewing. We will drive through this 10,000-acre park in search of the rhinoceros, lions, elephants, buffalo, giraffe, wildebeest, and zebra that are among the 26 different species of animals who live here in the company of over 200 resident species of birds. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, November 21

Cape Town/Disembark

After breakfast aboard, transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)



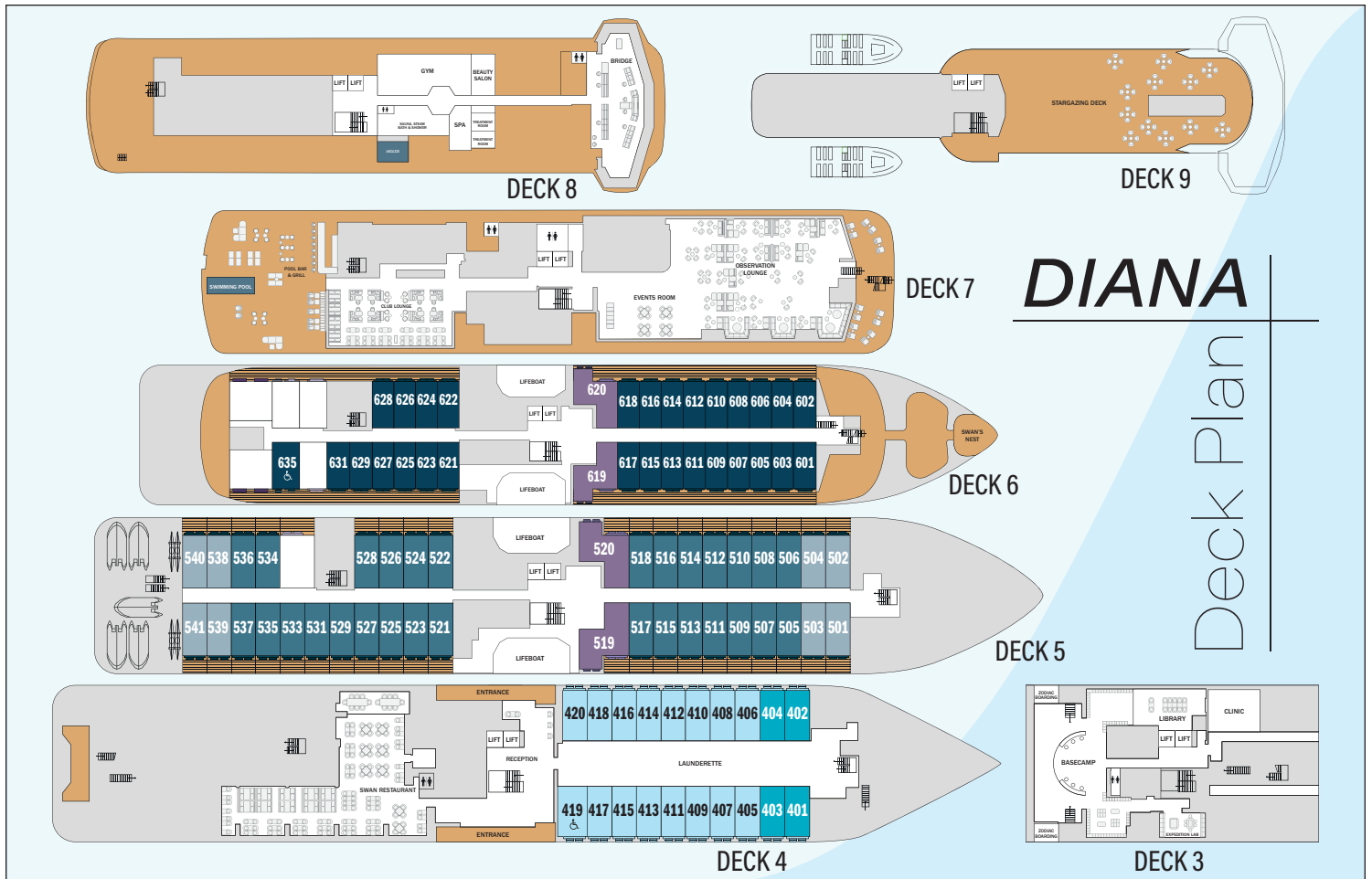
Madagascar hoopoe, Ankarafantsika National Park, Mahajanga, Madagascar

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

The rates are all-inclusive. There are no hidden costs and no additional charges such as shore excursions or embarkation and port charges. Other than the international airfare and expenses of a personal nature, all else is included. Specifically, the rates include:

- Accommodations for one night at the *Serena Beach Hotel* (or similar) in Mombasa, including breakfast.
- Welcome dinner in Mombasa.
- Educational program of lectures and discussions with Vanderbilt Professors Molly Miller, Calvin Miller, and expert expedition staff.
- 17-night cruise aboard the new expedition cruise ship *Swan Hellenic Diana*
- All meals aboard ship with a selection of wines, beers and soft drinks with lunch and dinner.
- Coffee, including espresso and cappuccino, tea and soft drinks throughout the day and night aboard ship.
- Open bar with select alcoholic beverages aboard ship.
- 24-hour room service aboard ship.
- Airport/hotel/pier transfers and handling of luggage.
- Complete program of tours, excursions and other activities ashore, as described in the itinerary.
- The services of an experienced Thalassa Journeys trip director.
- Gratuities to shipboard personnel, local guides, drivers and porters.
- All local taxes and service charges, including port and embarkation taxes.
- Basic Wi-Fi aboard ship.
- Complete pre-departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the itinerary or the above inclusions.



All accommodations aboard *Diana* are spacious staterooms and balcony suites. They are elegantly decorated, face outside, affording sea views, and include a queen-size bed that can be arranged as two twin beds, a spacious bathroom, mini-refrigerator, safe, ample closet space, climate control, telephone, TV, Wi-Fi, and USB connections, as well as other amenities.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	RATES PER PERSON / DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
E	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401-404.	\$13,990
D	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405-420.	\$14,590
C	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501-504, 538-541.	\$15,890
B	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505-518, 521-537.	\$16,390
A	Suites with balcony and living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601-618, 621-635.	\$16,990
AA	Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom & living room. 474 sq. ft. Decks 5 & 6. Suites 519, 520, 619 & 620.	\$19,390

FOR SOLO TRAVELERS A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy in categories D to B at no additional charge. Additional single cabins are available at a supplement of 50% of the per person double occupancy rate, instead of the normal 70% supplement.



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**From the Shores of Kenya to Madagascar & South Africa with
Professors Molly Miller and Calvin Miller | November 2 - 21, 2023**

From the Shores of Kenya to Madagascar & South Africa | November 2 - 21, 2023



**FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
VANDERBILT TRAVEL OFFICE AT 615.322.3673**

Ring-tailed lemur

REGISTRATION

VAND 23D-1102

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for \$ _____
(\$ 1,500 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s)
on **From the Shores of Kenya to Madagascar & South Africa**, November 2 - 21, 2023 with Vanderbilt Alumni Association. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

For further information, and to reserve your space, please contact Vanderbilt Travel Office at 615.322.3673 or e-mail alumni.travel@vanderbilt.edu.

If you would prefer to pay by check, please complete this form and return it to Thalassa Journeys to the address below.
Thalassa Journeys, 8815 Conroy-Windermere Rd., Suite 406, Orlando, FL 32835
Phone Toll-Free: (866) 633-3611

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PLEASE SELECT STATEROOM CATEGORY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

Double Occupancy Single Occupancy (Inquire for rates)

PREFERRED BED CONFIGURATION

Double _____ Twin _____

FIRST

MIDDLE

LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

CLASS OF

FIRST

MIDDLE

LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

CLASS OF

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME)

(CELL)

EMAIL

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the "General Information" section and agree to its terms.

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE

DATE

GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

Payment can be made by personal check or charged to a credit card.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Thalassa Journeys.

RESPONSIBILITY: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the traveler and Thalassa Journeys. Thalassa Journeys acts solely as agents for the traveler with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the traveler's safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the traveler or in affecting these tours. We are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the traveler, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the traveler's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the traveler beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, transportation methods, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the traveler certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other travelers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other travelers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the traveler's risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in Florida, pursuant to applicable Florida law.

RATES: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change.

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Bag Market, Maputo, Mozambique