## MITALUMNI Travel Program

## Columbia and Snake Rivers: Food, Wine and History

October 18-25, 2025 **Aboard National Geographic Sea Bird** 





#### Dear MIT Alumni and Friends,

Cruise the mighty Columbia and Snake Rivers, taking in the scenery and splendor of this storied region. Aboard the *National Geographic Sea Bird*, you'll journey into history, following in the wake of Lewis and Clark to discover a diverse and bountiful region cultivated over thousands of years by its indigenous people. See time layered in the riverbanks where the Missoula Floods of 15,000 years ago carved much of the route and the landslides of 500 years ago altered the river's course by a full mile—events the expedition's geology expert will explain. In fact, the full expedition team will put everything into context, weaving an ongoing narrative from each day's events.

This fertile region is bursting with flavors from the orchards and farmlands along

the route and in the dining room as the ship is primarily stocked with provisions from local markets, vineyards, and breweries within the Pacific Northwest. Taste more than 40 of the region's best wines, sampling bottles personally selected by Food & Wine magazine's Executive Wine Editor Ray Isle. Learn about the region's unique terroirs from an onboard wine expert, and during private tours and tastings with local winemakers.

#### **FOOD&WINE**

In 2025, this itinerary is part of an exclusive wine collaboration with **Food & Wine** magazine. See page 6 for details.

Witness modern marvels of human engineering while transiting eight towering locks and sailing under large-span bridges. Enjoy kayaking, hiking and visits to fascinating historic sites and museums.

Please contact Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic directly with all trip inquiries and to make a reservation. Their travel consultants are eager to take your call and answer your questions. **Email groups@expeditions.com, or call Lindblad Expeditions at 833-985-1261.** 

Sincerely,

Melissa Chapman Gresh MIT Alumni Travel Program

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#### Special Offer

Save 10% when traveling with MIT Alumni Travel. See page 12 for details.

Cover: Taking in the view of stunning basalt cliffs along our journey.

Opposite page: Multnomah falls.

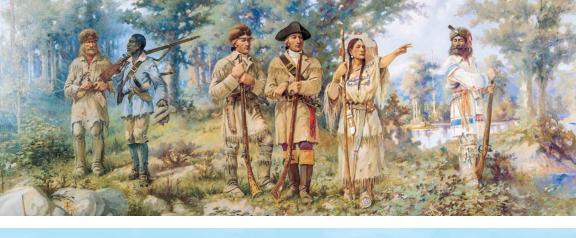
## EPIC SCENERY AND HISTORY AROUND EVERY BEND

#### Discover a Spectacular Landscape Carved Over Eons

The powerful Columbia and Snake Rivers flow through some of the world's most geologically fascinating landscapes, carved over time by tumultuous floods and volcanic eruptions. Today, you are able to appreciate its beauty peacefully aboard a 31-cabin expedition ship, employing Zodiacs and kayaks to explore its wild reaches up close. Discover towering canyons, massive waterfalls, ancient petroglyphs and rocky shorelines where bighorn sheep roam free. Around every bend of the Columbia and Snake Rivers, the region's unique natural history reveals itself in all its glory. These rivers also offer up another exhilarating marvel as you travel through a series of eight locks that lift or lower the ship some 700 feet, nearly ten times what the Panama Canal entails.

#### In the Wake of Early Explorers

The fascinating legacy of Lewis and Clark's epic 19th-century expedition permeates this region. Traveling in their footsteps, you gain a deeper understanding of the region's history and learn about their interactions with Native American tribes. Visit Cape Disappointment, where Meriwether Lewis first saw the Pacific in 1805, and take in the whole story at the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center. An onboard history expert provides crucial insight along the way, and a Nez Perce storyteller will come aboard for an evening of culture sharing.

















## THE ULTIMATE EXPEDITION EXPERIENCE

#### Your Platform for Discovery

An expedition ship is an ideal way to explore the Pacific Northwest. Traveling expedition-style allows you to experience the region with all your senses—seeing its grand beauty, hearing its waterfalls and wild silences, feeling its fresh air and tasting it daily in the delectable, locally sourced food served aboard. You travel in comfort aboard the purpose built *National Geographic Sea Bird*, which features open decks, spacious cabins, generous windows and an accommodating bow area. The 31-cabin ship is key to your experience. An onboard fleet of Zodiacs and kayaks are the perfect vehicles to have up-close views of the dramatic scenery of the Palouse River. Life aboard the ship is warm and welcoming. The lounge graciously accommodates the expedition community during nightly Recaps and wine tastings, and the casual dining room serves meals in single seatings with unassigned tables for easy mingling.

#### See, Do & Learn More with an Expert Team

Your time on the river and ashore is spent in the company of a veteran expedition team that is passionate about the region's rich history. Relive moments in modern history—from early exploration to construction of the dams—with insights from a history expert. Join the geology expert to marvel at layers of ancient basaltic lava. Enjoy accessible wine education from our food and wine expert and taste the region's diverse terroirs. Capture everything with the help of the National Geographic certified photo instructor. With one staff member aboard for every 10 guests, you're ensured diverse knowledge, varied points of view and engaging companionship.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Guests kayaking on the Palouse River; ship officer at sunset; National Geographic Sea Bird; guests observe the terraced cliffs along the Palouse River.

## SAVOR THE BOUNTY OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

As you sail through rolling valleys and soaring canyons, delve into the sustainable food and wine movements that thrive in this fertile region.

- Indulge in gourmet, seasonal menus featuring sustainable ingredients sourced primarily from the Pacific Northwest.
- Enjoy nightly tastings of the region's best wines, personally selected by Food & Wine magazine's Executive Wine Editor Ray Isle.

**FOOD&WINE** 

- Explore places steeped in culinary and cultural history, from the trendy wine town of Walla Walla to quirky Astoria, a mecca for seafood and beer.
- Meet winemakers and enjoy private tours and tastings.
- Enjoy cocktails, canapes and spectacular scenery while transiting towering locks in the evening.
- Enjoy the company of a food and wine expert, offering pairing suggestions, culinary insight and more on board and on excursions.



#### ENJOY COMPLIMENTARY WINE, BEER & SPIRITS

Experience the full richness and diversity of the Pacific Northwest with complimentary beer, wine and cocktails (excluding superpremium brands) throughout your voyage.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Guests enjoying wine on the sundeck; wine barrels in Walla Walla; locally sourced salmon.

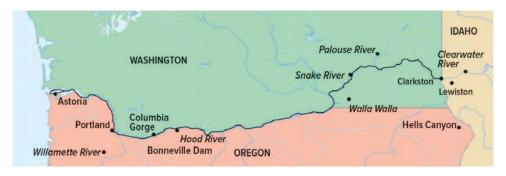






#### **Itinerary**

Delve deep into the history, harvests and landscapes of the Columbia and Snake rivers, while also indulging your senses with culinary splendors and world-class wines of the region. Travel as early explorers, settlers and indigenous peoples did—by waterways that stretch far inland from the Pacific Ocean. Enjoy spectacular scenery including views of Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams. Tour museums and historic sites, taste local produce and wines and actively explore by foot, kayak, Zodiac and jet boat. A top team of naturalists—including a history expert and a geology expert—will illuminate all you see, and a food and wine expert will host nightly tastings, guiding guests through the region's bounty. Take it all in from the unmatched perspective of a nimble, intimately-scaled small ship.



#### DAY 1: PORTLAND, OREGON/EMBARK

Arrive in the early afternoon in Portland, located on the Columbia and Willamette Rivers in the shadow of snow-capped Mount Hood. Embark in early evening and discover why Portland is nicknamed "Bridgetown" as you sail under eight of the city's 12 eclectic bridges along the Willamette River, the first of five rivers you will encounter on this voyage. (D)

#### **DAY 2: ASTORIA**

You begin your journey by navigating the Columbia to the mouth of the river at Astoria. At Cape Disappointment, take in the dramatic scenery where Meriwether Lewis saw the Pacific for the first time in 1805 and visit the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center to learn more. In the afternoon, choose to learn about this estuary's navigational hazards and history of shipwrecks at the maritime museum, take a shuttle to the Astoria Column or explore the seaside town on your own. Back onboard, enjoy local beer provided by Buoy Beer Company. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 3: CRUISING/HOOD RIVER

Immerse yourself in natural and man-made marvels as you explore the scenic Columbia and pass through Bonneville Lock and Dam. Take a steaming cup of coffee to the bow where the naturalists offer honest perspectives on the controversial history of dams along the river. In the afternoon, make a stop at neck-craning Multnomah Falls before an optional

hike of iconic Beacon Rock, a basalt column towering 848 feet above the Columbia River. Later, enjoy a private event with Syncline Winery at the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center. Sample local beer or wine as you take in exhibits capturing 15,000 years of cultural history. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 4: CRUISING THE GORGE**

Today spend the day cruising through some of the most scenic and geologically interesting stretches of the Columbia River and the Columbia Plateau. A geology expert provides fascinating insight on the glacial floods that sculpted the landscape 13,000 years ago, as the food and wine expert illustrates the expression of such unique terrain through its tastes and tannins. Relive the historic tales of the Corps of Discovery through the eyes of a history expert as you sail by important landmarks. Or unwind with a massage in preparation for an exciting day ahead. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 5: WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON

Drive through some of the most fertile agricultural areas in the nation, with bright, rolling green and purple fields of sprouting wheat, asparagus and famous Walla Walla sweet onions. Visit the Whitman Mission, a standout National Historic Site where friction between Native Americans and white missionaries erupted into an event that reverberates in our culture today. After lunch at Seven Hills Winery, explore charming downtown Walla Walla at your leisure, taking in the art at local galleries, sampling sweets at the country's #1 candy store or popping into cozy tasting rooms. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 6: PALOUSE RIVER**

The still water of the Palouse River is the perfect mirror for the surrounding basalt cliffs as you set off on Zodiac and kayak adventures. Visit Palouse Falls, where waters plunge 200 feet into a churning pool. These falls and the surrounding canyon with its towering cliffs, cavernous holes in the earth, and winding water routes are part of geologically unique channeled scablands created by ancient floods. Afterwards, sail up the Snake River, enjoying a taste of local specialties. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 7: CLARKSTON**

Today finds guests at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers, more than 450 miles from the sea. Travel by comfortable jet boat into spectacular, 125-mile Hells Canyon, North America's deepest river gorge, mostly inaccessible by road. Observe remnants of the Nez Perce tribe, including ancestral horsetrails along the hillsides and petroglyphs on rock formations, while keeping an eye out for stately and nimble Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. In the evening you are joined by a Nez Perce storyteller, and a local winemaker hosts the final tasting as guests toast an unforgettable journey before a special final dinner. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 8: CLARKSTON/DISEMBARK

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for connecting flights home. Choose to fly from nearby Lewiston, Idaho, or travel through the picturesque landscapes of the Palouse to Spokane, Washington, two hours away. (B)

#### National Geographic Sea Bird



Nimble and intimately scaled, *National Geographic Sea Bird* can easily navigate places inaccessible to larger ships. She can venture into fast-moving channels where whales come to feed, nose up to waterfalls in secluded coves and sail into small bays perfect for snorkeling and kayaking. Inviting public spaces foster a sense of shipboard life where everyone is integral to the adventure, engendering a rewarding sense of community.

#### Capacity

31 outside cabins accomodating 62 guests.

#### Registry

United States.

#### **Overall Length**

152 feet.

#### **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 sundeck 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. Menu emphasizes local fare.



The lounge is the center of life aboard the ship.

#### Accommodations

All cabins face outside with windows, private facilities and climate controls. Cabins are equipped with Wi-Fi and multiple electrical and USB outlets. Botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel and lotion are all available in cabin bathrooms, as well as an Expedition Essentials Kit. Hair dryers, complimentary insulated water bottles and an atlas are available in each cabin.



Category 2 cabin with single beds.

#### **Expedition Equipment**

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

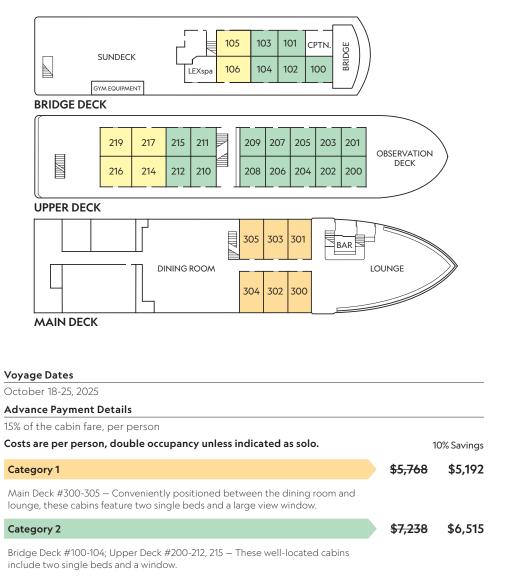
#### Staff & Crew

Every staff member is committed to ensuring guests have an unforgettable experience. Many of the veteran guides and naturalists are locally based and have worked with the company for decades. A full-time medical professional, certified photo instructor and undersea specialist (except on river expeditions) are on board. With a low staff to guest ratio, you can hear different perspectives and gain new insights every day.

#### Wellness

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

#### **Ship Deck Plan & Pricing**



**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.

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.

Category 3

Category 1 Solo

Category 2 Solo

<del>\$8,337</del>

<del>\$8,652</del>

<del>\$10,857</del>

\$7,504

\$7,787

\$9,772

#### INCLUSIVE PRICING

- All accommodations aboard ship
- Excursions and airport transfers, as indicated in the itinerary
- All meals as indicated in the itinerary. Meals are inspired by regional cuisine and locally sourced where possible
- Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages, including 24-hour coffee, tea, and soda on demand
- Beer and wine, plus cocktails and spirits, with super premium wines and liquors are available for purchase
- Hors d'oeuvres and snacks during lounge Recap

- The guidance and expertise of our expedition staff
- Lectures and presentations
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Local transportation to/from sites of interest
- Special access permits, park fees and port taxes
- The services of a medical professional
- Morning stretch classes and 24-hour access to exercise equipment
- Complimentary refillable water bottle
- Exploration tools such as Zodiacs and kayaks
- Basic Wi-Fi, with the option to upgrade

#### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR SPECIAL OFFERS

**SPECIAL 10% GROUP SAVINGS:** Save 10% on the cabin fare (as indicated) when traveling with MIT Alumni Travel Program. Valid on this departure date of the *Columbia and Snake Rivers: Food, Wine and History 8-Day*, for new bookings only, subject to availability, may not be combined with other offers, and is not applicable on airfare or extensions. Call for details.

**CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES:** Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US\$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, not applicable on airfare or extensions and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

**BRINGING THE KIDS:** Sharing the expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$500 off the double occupancy price for each person under the age of 18. Not applicable on airfare.

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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 amenities listed in inclusive pricing above. Unused services or items included in this program are non-refundable.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Airfare; pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights; private transfers; travel protection plan; REAL I.D., passport, visa, and immigration fees; spa treatments; items of a personal nature such as laundry, enhanced or premium Wi-Fi plans and phone services.

**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.

**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**

Passenger Information

### MITALUMNI Travel Program

### Columbia and Snake Rivers: Food, Wine and History

October 18-25, 2025
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD

#### Contact Information

To register, please contact:

Lindblad Expeditions 96 Morton Street New York, NY 10014

Phone: 833-985-1261 Fax: 646-390-2050

Email: groups@expeditions.com

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Please reserve	_ place(s).				
Guest 1:(Name as it appears on I.D.)		Date of Birth:			
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Guest 1:(Name as it appears on I.D.)		Date of Birth:			
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**Note:** Tour participants must fully review the tour operator's cancellation and refund policies, as the tour participant's financial commitments are directly with the tour operator, with all tour funds being paid to the operator. **The purchase of a comprehensive travel insurance policy is highly recommended.** The MIT Alumni Travel Program provides further information about the Travel Program and the relationship between the Alumni Association and the tour operator online at: http://alum.mit.edu/travel/about

## Columbia and Snake Rivers: Food, Wine and History

## **EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS**

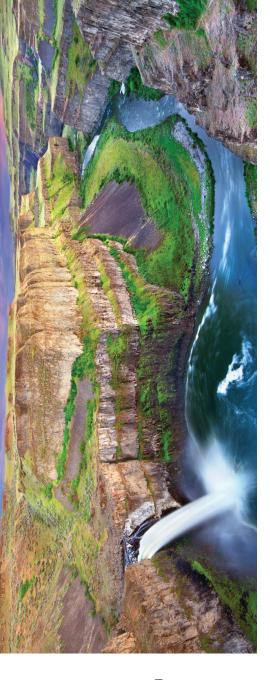
- Explore the history, geology, and cuisine of the Pacific Northwest.
- Follow the path of Lewis and Clark's expedition and hear tales of their exploits from our history expert.
- Enjoy locally sourced, gourmet meals, as well as nightly wine tastings curated by Food & Wine magazine's Executive Wine Editor, Ray Isle.
- Venture out in Zodiacs and kayaks, and take an exhilarating jet boat ride through spectacular Hells Canyon.
- Travel through eight locks that lift or lower you some 700 feet in all.
- Gain exclusive access, including a private reception at the Columbia Gorge Museum, as well as private tours and tastings with local winemakers.

# LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS: 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.

Printed on 10% recycled content paper with soy-based inks.

We recommend that you pass this along for others to enjoy or recycle



# MITALUMNI Travel Program

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