

2022-2023 Caribbean & Central America

EXPEDITION CRUISES

CARBBEANCA



Vinere creanscapes become reality

AN TOMA



Most people's idea of 'paradise' is based on the tropical landscapes and seascapes of Central America and the Caribbean—and it's easy to see why. Closed-canopy forests, towering volcanoes, azure skies, and turquoise waters teeming with colorful marine life are just some of the stunning sights that await you in this amazing part of the world.

Visit Central American coastal communities, ranging from vibrant, cosmopolitan cities, to isolated villages nestled in gorgeous pockets of a rainforest. Visit sleepy fishing towns with dark-sand beaches, ancient Maya ruins, and national parks that are home to some of the most fascinating wildlife on the planet.

Maya magic

Your expedition to Central America will take you into Maya civilization territory. Learn about their history in informative lectures from our Expedition Team and on optional excursions to ancient ruins. Whether you're taking in stunning views from the top of a carefully restored Maya temple in Belize or exploring a village preserved in volcanic ash in El Salvador, you'll leave with a deeper knowledge of this fascinating civilization.

Spectacular scenery

The dramatic sights and sounds of the Caribbean and Central America's jungles may seem familiar from movies and wildlife documentaries, but nothing can prepare you for experiencing these extraordinary sights and sounds for yourself. Not to mention the pristine beaches, lagoons, atolls, reefs, and palmtree islands the Caribbean is so famous for.

Remarkable diversity

The dense forests of Costa Rica alone harbor about 5% of the world's biodiversity. The Caribbean and Central America are havens for a range of wildlife, including iguanas, dolphins, whales, sloths, monkeys, turtles, manta rays, and toucans. While hiking up a volcano, trekking through a forest, or simply strolling through a botanical garden, you'll see why this special part of the world is a dream for animal lovers, birdwatchers, and photographers alike.

Giving back to the communities

This region includes a mix of native customs and immigrant traditions, with Spanish and English colonial influences. Our commitment to sustainable travel includes forming meaningful relationships with local communities. For example, one of our included activities in Granada, Nicaragua, is a visit to a local school, where we'll drop off donated school supplies.

Adventures on land and at sea

Make the most of your expedition by participating in a range of optional activities and excursions (or perhaps even one of our Preor Post-Programs that occurs before or after your cruise, if you have time to spare). For example, before your cruise embarks from Puntarenas, Costa Rica, you can take a romantic catamaran tour to the many bays of Huatulco, Mexico. Or, see spectacular coral and colorful fish while snorkeling in Belize's famed barrier reef, or watch for basilisk lizards and crocodiles from a riverboat.

Culinary delights

The food in this region is both delicious and diverse. Try a pupusa, a cornmeal griddle cake filled with cheese, pork, or beans, and El Salvador's national dish; and relish two of Central America's greatest exports: coffee and chocolate. You even have the opportunity to join an optional excursion to a communal kitchen in Piedra de Moros, Mexico, to see how the locals make authentic tortillas and tamales!

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© Central America and Caribbean

April & September 2022

U.S.

Cabo San Lucas -

In addition to the stunning beaches, azure waters, and spectacular jagged granite rocks in the shape of arches, you can also enjoy marine wildlife and local Baja Californian cuisine.

Puerto Vallarta

One of Mexico's premier coastal destinations, featuring highlights such as The Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mercado Municipal Rio Cuale, and El Malecón, a seafront boardwalk.

> North Pacific Ocean

Huatulco

A dream for nature lovers and photographers alike, the area is home to nine scenic bays, 36 pristine beaches, sheltered coves, beach resorts, and a national park.

MEXICO

Belize City

Full of colorful colonial architecture, Old Belize also has a 'moving' museum—a train that takes you through Belize's history and natural beauty.

Acajutla, El Salvador

Once a Maya village, stroll the dark-sand beaches, enjoy the comfortable atmosphere here, and sample typical Salvadoran dishes and famous, delicious regional coffee.

THE EXPEDITION CRUISE FLEET

MS Roald Amundsen 3 departures: April 2022 & September 2022

Atlantic Ocean

Enjoy warm, sunny days filled with history, culture, and diverse wildlife in Central America and the Caribbean.

Gulf of Mexico

Lighthouse Reef, Belize Considered one of the best marine sites in all of the Caribbean, a thrilling variety of sealife, lush keys, and enthralling water activities await you here.

JAMAICA

Caribbean Sea

HONDURAS

NICARAGUA

COSTA RICA

Corn Island One of the Caribbean's best-kept

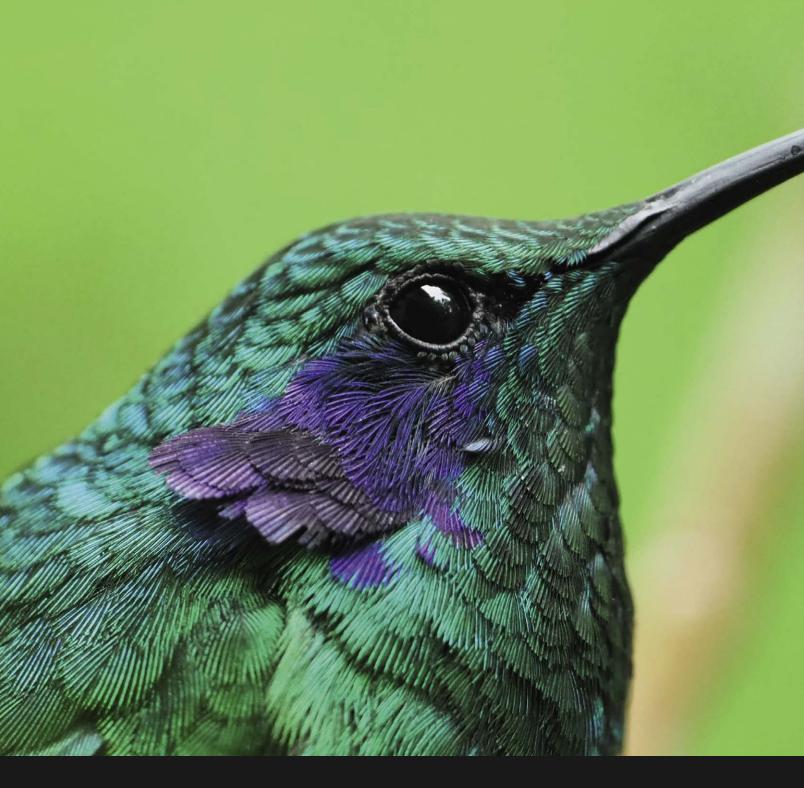
secrets. The incredible beaches, friendly locals, and low-key restaurants are topped off by pristine and beautiful coral reefs surrounding the island.

Bocas del Toro

This national marine park is an archipelago of clear-blue waters, with breathtaking beaches, and uninhabited islets, and wildlife including red frogs, three-toed sloths, and exquisite birdlife.

PANAMA

COLOMBIA



The amazing tropics

The region's warm climate creates a range of wildlife habitats: lowland rainforest, isolated beaches, mangrove swamps, and waterfalls, all rich with life.

Slow and steady

The gently lapping waves of the Caribbean and its sandy beaches are the perfect ecosystem for its oldest inhabitants: sea turtles. Six of the seven known species are found in this region.

Optional snorkeling excursions, perhaps within Belize's famed barrier reef, will give you the chance to see loggerhead, hawksbill, and green turtles. If you're lucky, you might even



spot the iconic leatherback turtle in Bocas del Toro, a gorgeous archipelago off the coast of Panama with UNESCO Marine Sites.

Same habitat, opposite habits

A highlight of an optional hiking excursions in the forest, such as the Arenal Conservation Area in Costa Rica, offers the chance to see two very different animals—monkeys and sloth. You'll hear howler monkeys before you see them, as their calls can be heard as far as three miles. Jumpy spider monkeys are usually nearby, too, as well as white-faced capuchins with their distinctive black caps.

Unlike their noisy monkey neighbors who never stay still, sloths are silent and extremely slow-paced. They avoid anything strenuous. Spot them hanging upside down in large-leafed trees, where they may be feeding or, more likely, sleeping.





The top tool for the toucan – A toucan's beak usually comprises one third of its entire body. The beak is made of keratin—the same protein that serves as a base for hair and nails—and features a hollow honeycomb structure inside, making it lightweight. It also has a serrated edge, perfect for peeling fruit with amazing precision. Toucans regulate blood flow to their beak to help control their body temperature, and are even known to use their beaks for balance when sleeping.



Superior swingers – The spider monkey is perfectly adapted for life high in the canopy in two ways. The first is its tail: It's probably the most powerful tail of all animals, capable of supporting the spider monkey's entire body. The underside of where the tail curls has no fur and resembles a palm, for extra grip. The other factor is the spider monkey's long, slender fingers. They wrap securely around branches, and with no thumbs to get in the way.



Slow but super strong – Sloths have the lowest metabolic rate of any mammal and it takes them a month to digest a single leaf as it passes through its permanently full four-chambered stomach. But their stamina, grip, and strength are the envy of any climber. From the moment they are born, they can lift their whole body weight up with just one arm. Even with 30% less muscle mass than similar-sized animals, they are still three times stronger than the average human!

SUN-SOAKED AGTIVITIES IN CENTRAL ANERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Central America and the Caribbean are adventureladen outdoor playgrounds ripe for exploration by nature enthusiasts, thrill seekers, and beach lovers alike. Pick from various included activities and optional excursions to immerse yourself in this tropical paradise.



Nature landings

Embark on our small boats (RIBs) to make landings at sites set in gorgeous scenery that are hard to reach and off the beaten track, adding to your sense of discovery when you do. Explore smaller, less-visited Caribbean Islands and meet members of the local communities that call them home.

* Please note that these are optional activities subject to additional cost.

Lectures

The expert Expedition Team members will deliver lectures on a range of fascinating topics, such as the geology, marine biology, history, and ornithology of the Caribbean and Central America, among many others. Lectures will primarily take place in the ship's onboard Science Center, but more informal guiding may occur on deck or ashore during landings.



Birdwatching

Central America and the Caribbean are a birdwatcher's paradise. From mountain ranges and rainforests to coastal areas, you can spot hundreds of bird species in pristine, natural surroundings. Scan for frigatebirds and boobies from the deck, pelicans along the coast, and beautiful parrots and hummingbirds in the jungle.





Stand-up paddle boarding* The Caribbean Sea's warm and clear waters are perfect for stand-up paddle boarding (SUP), which offers you a unique vantage point to see under the water and out to the horizon. With only a little instruction, you'll be able to stand on the board while looking at the colorful fish darting in and out of coral reefs beneath you.

Hiking*

Picture yourself standing on a hill overlooking the town of San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua. The walk up to the colossal statue of Jesus may take an hour, but you'll have your reward: panoramic views over the town and beach. Or imagine exploring a vast rainforest in Costa Rica among the chirping of interesting and varied birdlife, with a towering volcano in the distance.



Snorkeling*

The Caribbean and Central America offer great options for snorkeling. Beneath the water is a colorful world full of marine life, spectacular coral-reef seascapes, and even the occasional submerged shipwreck.



Yoga and meditation program

Our ships offer the opportunity to participate in yoga and meditation classes, refreshing you in body, mind, and soul. These classes may be held on deck to take advantage of the sunshine and balmy sea breeze.

Kayaking*

Calm bays, lagoons, beaches, and rugged coastlines are all picture-perfect settings for kayaking. Kayaking is also a great way to discover remote places that can't be reached otherwise. You never know what sealife you'll see—or sometimes even surface right next to you!





Shore excursions*

Tour scenic bays on a catamaran or volcanoes via bus tours. Experience local culture through a cultural performance or a cooking class. Visit ruins and learn about Maya history. Whichever optional excursions you choose to do, they're sure to add a special dimension and richness to your expedition.

BIOSPHERE RESERVES TO BOAST ABOUT

Several hundred biosphere reserves lay scattered across our planet in almost all types of climates and ecosystems. But what exactly is a 'biosphere reserve' and why are they so important to us?

DISCOVER With us

Photo: Hurtigruten

Local solutions to global challenges UNESCO defines a 'biosphere reserve' as a learning place for sustainable development. They often incorporate and preserve large areas of unique ecosystems and work side by side with local businesses and populations. These are designated areas where different approaches to finding a balance between industry and the environment are tested.

The projects run at these sites help scientists and researchers find answers to questions such as: Can tourism and wildlife habitats coexist? Can cash-crop agriculture by local communities still grow side by side with biodiverse native flora? The successes achieved at these sites can inform and inspire similar initiatives nationally—or even worldwide. Biosphere reserves are vitally important ecological experimental training grounds for a future where humankind can live harmoniously with nature.

In the power of the people

Who runs the biosphere reserves? They often come under the jurisdiction of the countries and states where they are located, although they are designed by an intergovernmental program led by the Director- General of UNESCO.

Regardless of intergovernmental oversight, the involvement of local communities is pivotal to each project's success. Without the support and participation of people in the local communities, no initiative would even be able to get off the ground. According to the fundamental principle of sustainability, biosphere reserve projects are designed to benefit all three Ps: people, profits, and the planet—making sure they do good for all three.

Our top picks in Central America

Today, approximately 700 biosphere reserves exist across 124 countries. Some of the most spectacular biosphere reserves can be found in Central America. The region has several reserves essential for thriving ecosystems—and are a real treat for the senses. These reserves are often applauded for creating a sustainable relationship between humans and nature, not to mention fascinating hotspots for explorers.

One of the best reserves in this region is the Huatulco National Park and Biosphere Reserve in Mexico. It is located in the Sierra Madre del Sur province, which is famous for its rocky cliffs and bays. The park and reserve preserves large areas of marine territory and lowland jungle and harbors the most important coral communities of the Pacific Ocean off Mexico. Some of its bays are only accessible by boat, with no human constructions of any kind in sight. If you travel there by boat, enjoy dreamy white-sand beaches and waters in myriad shades of blue and green. Another amazing reserve is the La Amistad Biosphere Reserve in Bocas del Toro, in Panama. It includes a variety of habitats that range from mountain forests to mangrove jungles and coral reefs. With good reason, Bocas del Toro is known as an extraordinary location for interesting and diverse flora and fauna and is a magnet for birdwatchers and wildlife photographers. Snorkelers and divers are also drawn here to uncover a mesmerizing underwater world.

Piece of paradise in the Caribbean The reserves in the Caribbean are famous for being astonishingly beautiful and for protecting important natural resources and habitats. The Caribbean has reserves in St Kitts, Haiti, Cuba, Guadeloupe, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Dominican Republic.

One of the most gorgeous reserves in the Caribbean is the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve in the southwestern Caribbean. This is a vast reserve containing diverse marine and birdlife, along with expansive coral reefs. As a marine biosphere reserve, it covers approximately 10% of the Caribbean Sea, including three islands surrounded by coastal mangroves and swamps and highly productive coral reef ecosystems. It's a snorkeler's paradise.



Let's explore and learn together

These important and beautiful biosphere reserves offer wonderful experiences for the intrepid traveler. You can visit the ones we've mentioned above on an expedition cruise with Hurtigruten, where together, we'll discover extraordinary wildlife, incredible nature, and learn firsthand about the importance of preserving these critical ecosystems and biospheres. **16 days MS Roald Amundsen** Departure: April 17, 2022

ARENAL VOLCANO WITH COASTAL HIGHLIGHTS OF CENTRAL AMERICA

Discover the magnificent Arenal Conservation Area. Explore a rainforest, a natural park, and wildlife sanctuary before moving on to the coastal highlights of Central America.

La Paz Waterfall Gardens and Arenal Volcano

Your adventure begins in San José and our first stop is at the La Paz Waterfall Gardens. This nature park and animal sanctuary offers beautiful scenery, orchid and butterfly gardens, and a range of interesting and unusual wildlife.

We'll continue to the region around the Arenal Volcano to paddle the Peñas Blancas River, which runs through lush rainforest. You'll also enjoy thrilling views as you walk among the treetops along a set of canopy-level hanging bridges.

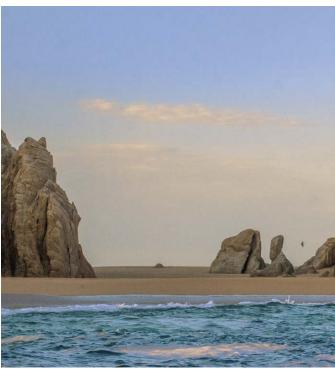
End your visit in La Fortuna with a dip in volcanic natural hot springs, and then head to Puntarenas and the start of your cruise.

Coastal cities and local communities

You'll enjoy leisurely days as we take you to rarely visited cities in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Mexico on your way north to San Diego.

On this cruise you'll experience the perfect combination of beach life, local community visits, culture, and wildlife, while treating yourself in yoga sessions, spa treatments, and delicious food aboard your hybrid electric-powered ship, MS Roald Amundsen.

Above: Arenal Volcano, Costa Rica Right: Kayaking, Cabo San Lucas, Mexico









ITINERARY

Day 1: San José Day 2: San José/La Fortuna Day 3: Arenal Area Day 4: La Fortuna/ Puntarenas Day 5: San Juan del Sur Day 6: Puerto Corinto Day 7: Acajutla Day 8: Puerto Chiapas Day 9: Huatulco Days 10-11: At Sea Day 12: Puerto Vallarta Day 13: Cabo San Lucas Days 14-15: At Sea Day 16: San Diego

INVITING BEACHES AND RICH CULTURE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Immerse yourself in nature, culture, beaches, and cities along Central America's Pacific coastline while cruising north from Costa Rica to Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Mexico.

Beautiful beaches and vast biodiversity

Central America's coastline is blessed with miles upon miles of glorious, unspoiled beaches, bays, and coves. Its pristine waters and protected ecosystems provide a safe habitat for thousands of animals, birds, and different types of marine life.

In Puntarenas, you'll join an exciting boat trip up the Tárcoles River to the Guacalillo Mangrove Estuary. Then, there are opportunities to join optional excursions to see volcanos in lush, wildlife-rich national parks in San Juan del Sur and Acajutla. Or, take a tour in a catamaran along Huatulco's scenic bays or admire the orchids, palms, and cacti at Puerto Vallarta's botanical gardens. Cabo San Lucas is a favorite hideaway for celebrities and boasts some of the best beaches around.

Vibrant cities and culinary delights

Your adventure actually starts in Costa Rica's capital, San José, before heading to San Juan del Sur to tour the colonial city of Granada. Puerto Corinto is next, where you can visit the former Nicaraguan capital of León. In Acajutla, optional excursions include visits to the Salvadoran cities of Sonsonate, Nahuizalco, or Ataco. There are also optional excursions from Tapachula, a culturally diverse city near Puerto Chiapas where Chinese-Mexican fusion cuisine thrives.

Along your journey, you'll have opportunities to try a range of local delicacies, from tamales to tejuíno, a beverage made from fermented corn. And don't miss the Churchill, the official, refreshing snack of Puntarenas, or delicious Baja Californian cuisine in San Diego.

Related optional excursions include a visit to a community kitchen in Huatulco and a cooking class in Puerto Vallarta. You can also visit the temptingly named Chocolate City, that's close to Puerto Chiapas.







- walks

- sessions
- tours

to change.



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EXPLORE THE NATURE & CULTURE OF CENTRAL AMERICA'S PACIFIC COAST

Join us as we travel along the Pacific coast of Central America to experience rarely visited cities, gorgeous beaches, and the cultures of diverse local communities.

Beach life and colonial architecture

Your expedition cruise starts in Puntarenas, Costa Rica. Stroll the oceanfront promenade before embarking your hybrid electric-powered ship.

Our first stop is San Juan del Sur. This charming Nicaraguan town is famous for its dark-sand beaches and great surfing. Admire the beauty of the colorful Victorian-era clapboard houses before sailing to León, Nicaragua's former capital—filled with exquisite colonial architecture—via Puerto Corinto.

Try typical Salvadoran food in Acajutla and sample locally grown and roasted coffee.

Chocolate City and a national park

In Puerto Chiapas, you can choose between several optional excursions, such as a visit to the Maya ruins at Izapa, a tasty visit to Chocolate City, or a boat tour where you can watch for interesting wildlife on nearby mangrove streams and Iagoons.

Next, you'll dive back into adventure mode with a visit to Huatulco National Park, home to nine scenic bays, 36 pristine beaches, and rich marine life. The waters are known to host radiant reef fish, sea turtles, and dolphins.

Your amazing adventure exploring the nature and culture of Central America's Pacific coast ends in Puerto Vallarta.





INCLUDED ACTIVITIES

- Lecture program
- Nature landings
- Short hikes and walks
- Science activities
- Art activities
- Photo lectures
- Birdwatching
- Yoga and meditation sessions
- Cultural sightseeing tours
- Beach clean-ups
- ${\boldsymbol{\cdot}} \, {\rm Town} \, {\rm shuttles}$

Activities are subject to change.



Above: Kayaking Left: Puerto Vallarta, Mexico



ITINERARY

Day 1: Puntarenas Day 2: San Juan del Sur Day 3: Puerto Corinto Day 4: Acajutla Day 5: Puerto Chiapas Day 6: Huatulco Days 7-8: At Sea Day 9: Puerto Vallarta

Price from USD \$3,542 per person, double occupancy Booking code: AMCAM2209US

For all pricing, optional activities/ excursions, and inclusions, visit us online at HURTIGRUTEN.COM

Please note that all itineraries and planned landings are subject to weather conditions and may change.

CARIBBEAN VIBES & OCEAN Exploration

Join us on an unforgettable tropical cruise, carried out in our unique expedition style, from Miami to the stunning islands of the Caribbean and Central America.

Maya majesty

Belize is home to several historic ruins of the ancient Maya empire, but arguably none are as popular as Altun Ha, just outside of Belize City. It's one of the best-restored Maya ruins, and you'll gain a meaningful sense of this ancient civilization.

A sea of flora and fauna

White-sand beaches, densely forested islands, and a rich variety of sealife await you! We land at the uninhabited Half-Moon Caye Island in the Lighthouse Reef atoll, home to the Blue Hole Natural Monument.

You'll be awed by UNESCO's Seaflower Biosphere Reserve in the waters around Isla Providencia, which inspired the nickname: the Sea of Seven Colors. In Bocas del Toro, you'll have opportunities to seek the interesting wildlife in the UNESCO-listed National Marine Park on an optional excursion.

Island communities

On an expedition cruise with Hurtigruten Expeditions, you'll have the opportunity to learn about the island communities we'll be visiting. Through lectures from our Expedition Team members, you'll hear about the islands' history and culture. The warm welcome you'll receive on Big Corn Island will stay with you, and that's even before sampling the local food of some of the friendliest people you'll ever meet.

> Above: Bocas del Toro, Panama Right: Sea turtle, Belize











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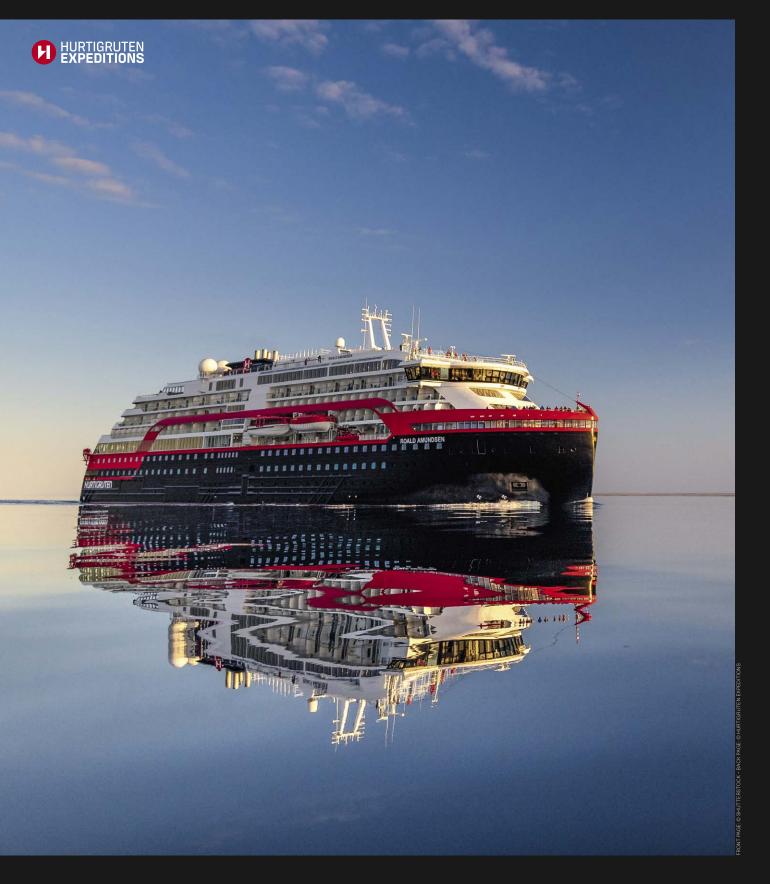
ITINERARY

Day 1: Miami Days 2-3: At Sea Day 4: Belize City Day 5: Lighthouse Reef Day 6: At sea Day 7: Isla de Providencia Day 8: Corn Islands Day 9: Bocas del Toro Day 10: Colón

Price from USD \$4,465 per person, double occupancy Booking code: AMCAM2218CO

For all pricing, optional activities/ excursions, and inclusions, visit us online at HURTIGRUTEN.COM

Please note that all itineraries and planned landings are subject to weather conditions and may change.



HURTIGRUTEN EXPEDITIONS 1505 Westlake Ave. N., Suite 125 Seattle WA 98109

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