Passage through the Panamá Canal and Costa Rica

aboard the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship
Le Dumont-d’Urville
Featuring Professor Mark Westneat
February 19 to 27, 2020

- Daylight Transit through the Panamá Canal
- Luxury Small Ship
- 100% Ocean-View Staterooms
- All Shore Excursions Included
Dear Alumni, Parents, Families and Friends,

We invite you to join us as we cruise from the Pacific to the Atlantic through one of the greatest man made wonders of the world, the ingenious Panamá Canal, an experience nearly unmatchable in its drama and engineering prowess. A recently completed, monumental expansion in 2016 doubled its capacity; this 50-mile passage through the narrow Isthmus of Panamá continues to astonish even today’s most veteran traveler. During a specially arranged and narrated daylight transit, experience firsthand the mighty locks that raise and lower oceangoing vessels 85 feet, employing the force of gravity to accomplish in mere hours what would have previously taken a three-week circumnavigation of South America.

Our journey of a lifetime also features the Earth’s most pristine ecosystems in the rain forests, islands and archipelagos of Panamá and Costa Rica during the best time of year. On our comprehensive itinerary, explore the heart of Panamá City’s UNESCO World Heritage-designated Casco Antiguo—the city’s old town—and tour acclaimed architect Frank Gehry’s only design in Latin America, Panamá City’s Biodiversity Museum. Visit the stunning and biodiverse Manuel Antonio National Park in Costa Rica, where expert naturalists will lead us on a trail walk through an ecosystem of rare species, including the scarlet macaw and fiery-billed aracari.

Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, five star Le Dumont-d’Urville, launching in 2019 and featuring the extraordinary Blue Eye, the world’s first multisensory Observation Lounge. This sophisticated, small ship offers only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony. Dock in small ports of call inaccessible to larger vessels, enjoy enriching excursions led by experienced onboard naturalists and receive personal, attentive service.

Space is limited for this extraordinary travel opportunity and excellent value, so book now while Early Booking Savings are still available!

Sincerely,

Sarah Eichhorn
Assistant Director, Alumni Travel Program

Visit the University of Chicago Alumni Travel program online at https://alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/lifelong-learning/travel or contact us at 773.702.2150 or alumnitravel@uchicago.edu.

For questions on logistics or registration, call Gohagan & Company at 312.609.1140 or 800.922.3088.

Mark Westneat is a professor in the Department of Organismal Biology and Anatomy, a member of the Committee on Evolutionary Biology, director of graduate studies for the integrative biology program at the University of Chicago and a research associate in zoology at the Field Museum of Natural History. Westneat’s research program focuses on marine and freshwater fishes and the assessment and conservation of coral reef fishes. This will be his third trip with the Alumni Travel Program.

Cover photo: Cruise from the Pacific to the Atlantic on our daylight passage through the Panamá Canal.
Called the “rich coast” by the Spanish conquistadors who sought to colonize it following Columbus’s arrival in 1502, Costa Rica offers diverse and fascinating richness, seen in its fertile landscapes and the perseverant culture of its indigenous people. More than 25 percent of this captivating country is a national park, wildlife refuge or protected rainforest, earning Costa Rica the distinction of one of the greenest countries in the world and a leading destination for eco-tourism. Explore lush rainforests, stroll the white sands of coral-fringed beaches and encounter a vivid array of wildlife, including howler monkeys and 600 species of non-migratory birds. The national motto of Costa Rica is “¡Pura Vida!” translating to “pure life,” and is expressed in the proud and welcoming faces of the Ticos (Costa Ricans), the passionate biologists captivated by the flourishing rare and endemic species and the spectacularly vivacious landscape itself.

San José, Costa Rica
In the heart of the fertile Valle Central, Costa Rica’s dynamic capital city of San José possesses an eclectic mix of museums; lush, landscaped parks; lively cafés; fascinating art galleries and an interesting fusion of Spanish Colonial, Moorish and Modernist architectural styles. Visit the ornate, Neo-Classical National Theater, built between 1891 and 1897 and recently declared a National Symbol; the interior is famous for its marble staircases and golden statues. Peruse the National Museum’s impressive collections showcasing the country’s natural and cultural heritage, including pre-Columbian artifacts.

Curú National Wildlife Refuge
A unique blend of sustainable agriculture, forest management and wildlife protection, the Curú National Wildlife Refuge is home to species like the scarlet macaw and spider monkey, both reintroduced into the wild here. Encompassing five distinctive untouched habitats that range from mangrove swamps and dry and humid forests, it is the ideal place to see the intricacies of interdependent ecosystems.

Photo this page: See the indigenous Guna people paddling traditional dugout canoes, their main method of transport.

Itinerary

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Costa Rica Pre-Program Option</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Depart the U.S./Arrive in San José, Costa Rica</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>San José/Puerto Caldera/Embark Le Dumont-D’Urville</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Curú National Wildlife Refuge/Isla Tortuga</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Quepos for Manuel Antonio National Park</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Isla Cébaco, Panamá</td>
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<td>Panamá City</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Panamá Canal Transit/Colón</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>San Blas Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Colón/Disembark ship/Agua Clara Visitor Center/Panamá City</td>
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<td>Return to the U.S.</td>
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Panamá Post-Program Option
*Departure flight time permitting.
**Enjoy a guided walk in the morning, the best time of day to watch for groups of capuchin and howler monkeys, coatis, iguanas and more than 230 bird species.**

**Isla Tortuga**
Nestled in a private reserve near the stunning Nicoya Peninsula, idyllic Isla Tortuga is named for its tortoise-like volcanic rock formations. Against a backdrop of coconut palm trees and white-sand beaches, enjoy opportunities to swim and snorkel in this protected island’s clear, sheltered waters, home to fascinating marine life including angelfish, spotted eagle rays and sea horses.

**Manuel Antonio National Park**
Experience an unparalleled diversity of wildlife in this lush tropical haven, a captivating combination of rainforest, beach and coral reef, home to more than 100 species of mammals, almost 200 species of birds and a variety of reptiles and amphibians.

Explore this protected, biodiverse paradise where expert naturalists will assist in spotting colorful toucans, screeching howler monkeys, camouflaged iguanas, arboreal squirrel monkeys, two- and three-toed sloths and rambunctious capuchin monkeys.

**Panamá City**
In Central America’s most attractive capital city, visit the Punta Culebra Nature Center, a fascinating, open-air museum focused on marine science and conservation. Nearby, the spectacularly colorful Biodiversity Museum, designed by architect Frank Gehry of Guggenheim fame, showcases the ecological significance of Panamá’s exotic flora and fauna. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Historic District, a charming neighborhood replete with cobblestone streets and historical buildings, including a 16th-century cathedral. By special arrangement, cruise through the fascinating Panamá Canal.

**San Blas Islands**
Located on the Caribbean side of Panamá, the sun-drenched San Blas Islands are a living testament to Panamá’s indigenous Guna.

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*Stroll through the Historic District of Panamá City, Casco Antiguo, a colonial outpost during the 16th and 17th centuries and a UNESCO World Heritage site also known as Casco Viejo.*
people, also known as the Kuna, and their centuries-old language, customs and culture. The Guna live in thatched-roof huts, barter or trade in fish and agricultural products and travel in dugout canoes. Guna women hand embroider traditional colorful molas (reverse appliqué panels) and wear winis, long strings of tiny beads wrapped around their forearms and legs in striking geometric patterns.

The turquoise waters of Golfo de San Blas, populated with untouched coral reefs and vibrant marine life, offer a paradisal setting for swimming and snorkeling.

**Landscapes of Costa Rica**

**Pre-Program Option**
Experience the beauty of Costa Rica’s diverse biospheres, from steamy hot springs to misty cloud forests. In view of towering Arenal Volcano, explore the lush rainforest along a series of suspended and fixed bridges. Tour historic San José, and visit an organic chocolate workshop, an award-winning coffee estate and a traditional artisan town known for intricately hand-painted woodcrafts. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe COSTA RICA MARriott HOTEL HACIENDA BELEN and two nights in the ideally located TbaCÓN THEMaL RESORT.

**Panamá’s Renaissance**

**Post-Program Option**
An exploration of old and new, Panamá is the perfect complement to “the crossroads of the Americas.” Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Panamá Viejo to see the ruins of the oldest European settlement on the Pacific American coast; visit the fascinating Agua Clara Visitor Center for panoramic views of the Panamá Canal expansion and cruise the Gatún River to meet the indigenous Embera people. Spend two nights in the ideally located, deluxe BRISTOL PANAMÓ HOTEL.

The Pre- and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation. Pre-Program pricing includes a credit for one night’s accommodations in San José and the San José city tour already included in the cost of the main program.

On the Pre-Program Option, see towering Arenal Volcano, standing at 5357 feet.

Interact with the Guna people of Panamá’s San Blas region.

The turquoise waters of Golfo de San Blas, populated with untouched coral reefs and vibrant marine life, offer a paradisal setting for swimming and snorkeling.

Snorkel in the Caribbean’s crystal-clear waters and see colorful marine life up close.

Look for the omnivorous capuchin monkey, an expert forager.

Visit Manuel Antonio National Park, established in 1972, where white sand meets lush rainforest.

Look for the endangered, three-toed pygmy sloth at Manuel Antonio National Park.
Introducing the extraordinary Blue Eye, the world's first multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge. View the beauty of marine life through the large, subaquatic windows and integrated digital screens providing live images from underwater cameras, and enjoy the sensory experience of listening to the ocean's unique underwater universe in the comfort of the exclusive Blue Eye lounge.*

Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design

Life on Board
Enjoy sweeping views from the lounges, which open to the outdoors, and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa and sauna or the Sun Deck's infinity-style swimming pool. There is a beauty salon, fitness room and there are three elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi access is available (conditions permitting).

Chic and Casual Dining
Dine indoors or alfresco on international and regional cuisine served in the stylish, spacious indoor-outdoor restaurant, at the casual pool deck grill or from 24-hour room service. Daily meals include continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner.

World-Class Service
The highly trained, English-speaking crew are personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and nurse.

*Marine life viewing varies by location.
Included Features

In San José, Costa Rica
◆ One night in the deluxe COSTA RICA MARRIOTT HOTEL HACIENDA BELÉN.
◆ American breakfast.
◆ Tour of San José, including visits to the National Theater and National Museum, with lunch.

Scenic transfer from San José to Puerto Caldera.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship LE DUMONT-D’URVILLE
◆ Seven-night cruise from Puerto Caldera, Costa Rica, to Colón, Panamá.
◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom.
◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.
◆ All meals aboard ship.
◆ Complimentary Wi-Fi access (conditions permitting).
◆ Blue Eye—the world’s first luxury, multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge.
◆ Expert onboard naturalist guides to lead small group excursions.
◆ Guided tour in the Curú National Wildlife Refuge.
◆ Visit to picture-perfect Tortuga Island known for palm-fringed beaches and lush, tropical flora.
◆ Excursion in biodiverse Manuel Antonio National Park with a naturalist-led trail walk through the protected rainforest.
◆ Specially arranged, onboard guitar performance by local Quepos musicians.
◆ Visit to pristine Isla Cébaco, with time at leisure to swim and snorkel among colorful marine life.
◆ Tour of Panamá City, highlighted by a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Casco Antiguo, the Biodiversity Museum and the Punta Culebra Nature Center.
◆ Daylight passage through the Panamá Canal, accompanied by a historical narration. Transit times through the canal are controlled by the Panamá Canal Authority and are subject to traffic conditions.
◆ Visit to the San Blas Islands archipelago to experience indigenous Guna culture.

Scenic transfer from Colón to Panamá City.

Always Included
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
◆ Gratuities to hotel personnel, local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
◆ Hospitality desk aboard ship and in the hotel.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Marvel at the grand construction of the Panamá Canal, a monumental project that spanned more than 30 years.
### MV Le Dumont-d'Urville

**LAND/Cruise Tariff** excluding taxes* (per person, based on double occupancy): $4995*.

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**The Panamá Canal and Costa Rica Reservation Form**


- Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)
- UChicago Affiliation/Degree Year
- Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)
- City
- State
- Zip Code
- Telephone: (Home)
- (Mobile)
- Email Address: (Business)

Preferred Name(s)/on Badge(s) / Tour No. 096-02/19/20-016

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Costa Rica Pre-Program Option and/or $200 per person Panama Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to 2020 The Panamá Canal and Costa Rica.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:
- Visa
- MasterCard

Card Number

Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by November 15, 2019.

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*Taxes are an additional $415 per person and are subject to change.

† Le Dumont-d’Urville has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

‡ Note: Airfare is subject to change and is nonrefundable.

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By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

- I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.
In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any entity or of any other third party. 

guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, the University of Chicago Alumni Association, and its and their employees, those listed in this brochure. 

by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port calls, assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line. 

Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation, guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. 

at the required deposit, by September 6, 2019. In the “Included Features” section.

PAID

Gohagan & Company, the University of Chicago Alumni Association, and the University of Chicago Alumni Association, the University of Chicago, the University of Chicago Alumni Association, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guiding services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of such person or entity or of any other third party.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective unless received in writing, in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 61 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 60 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon request of your reservation.

The University of Chicago Alumni Association 2535 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60616-15

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