Columbia and Snake Rivers: Food, Wine and History

Experience the bounty of the Pacific Northwest with National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions and wines curated by *Food & Wine* Executive Wine Editor Ray Isle. Choose a 6- or 8-day journey to delve deep into the history, harvests, and landscapes of the Columbia and Snake rivers, while indulging your senses with the region's culinary splendors and world-class wines. Actively explore the region on hikes, kayaking excursions, and visits to museums and wineries. Our nimble, intimately scaled ship offers an unmatched vantage for taking in the rolling valleys and soaring canyons, and a top team of naturalists—including experts on history, geology, and wine—illuminates all we see and savor.

From
£5,645 / per person
Does not include flights

DATES
Mar, Apr, Sep and Oct

DURATION
6-8 Days

SHIPS
National Geographic Sea Bird

STARTS AT
Portland, Oregon

→

ENDS AT
Clarkston, Washington

Highlights

- Indulge in gourmet, seasonal menus featuring sustainable ingredients sourced primarily from the surrounding Pacific Northwest region
- Enjoy nightly tastings of the region's best wines, personally selected by *Food & Wine* magazine's Executive Wine Editor, Ray Isle
- Witness the region's geological wonders—from Beacon Rock to Multnomah and Palouse Falls—and explore up close and at water level aboard kayaks and Zodiacs
- Explore art galleries, sweets shops and tasting rooms in delightful downtown Walla Walla

Palouse River
Clarkston
Snake River
Walla Walla
Astoria
John Day Dam
Columbia Gorge
Portland
Willamette River
mapbox
© Mapbox, © OpenStreetMap

Day by day

■ DAY 1

Portland, Oregon / Embark Ship

Arrive in the early afternoon in Portland, located in the shadow of snow-capped Mount Hood. Embark in early evening and enjoy wine and champagne as the ship sails along the Willamette River under eight of Portland's 12 eclectic bridges.

Arrival Time: Arrive by 3:00 p.m. local time.
Arrival City: Portland, Oregon

Meals included: dinner

◇ DAY 2

Astoria

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. Walk or enjoy a scenic hike to the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center to learn more. In the afternoon, there are several options to explore Astoria—visit the maritime museum to learn about this estuary's navigational hazards and history of shipwrecks, take a shuttle to the Astoria Column or explore the shops and restaurants on your own.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 3

Cruising / The Dalles / 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 your 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. Savor canapes and Syncline's distinctive wines as you take in 15,000 years of cultural history, including indigenous art and a massive working steam engine.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 4

Cruising the Gorge

Spend the day cruising through some of the most scenic and geologically interesting stretches of the Columbia River and the Columbia Plateau. Your geologists provide fascinating insight on the glacial floods that sculpted the landscape 13,000 years ago, as your 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 historian as you sail by important landmarks.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ 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. In the morning, discover the thriving art scene on a guided tour, or choose to visit the Whitman Mission, a standout National Historic Site where friction between Native Americans and white missionaries erupted into an event that continues to reverberate in American culture. After lunch at a local winery, explore charming downtown Walla Walla at your

leisure, perusing local galleries, sampling sweets at the country's #1 candy store or popping into cozy tasting rooms.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ 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 your 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.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 7

Clarkston

Today, explore 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 the stately and nimble Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. In the evening, you'll be joined by a Nez Perce storyteller, and a local winemaker hosts your final tasting as you toast an unforgettable journey before a special final dinner.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

■ DAY 8

Clarkston / Disembark Ship

Disembark in Clarkston and transfer to the airport for flights home. Choose to fly from nearby Lewiston, Idaho or from Spokane, Washington, two hours away.

Departure Time: After 12:00 p.m., local time (Lewiston); after 12:00 p.m., local time (Spokane)
Departure City: Lewiston, Idaho, or Spokane, Washington

Meals included: breakfast

8-Day Eastbound

Portland, Oregon → Clarkston, Washington

2026 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Sea Bird*

17 Oct				

Alternative Routes

Visit Expeditions.com for more information.

2026 Departure Dates

24 Oct

National Geographic Sea Bird

GUESTS	CABINS
62	31

A U.S.-flagged vessel, she and her sister *National Geographic Sea Lion* discover domestic waters

Before they built the National Geographic Venture and Quest, U.S. shipbuilder Nichols Brothers built the twin ships National Geographic Sea Lion and National Geographic Sea Bird. Nimble, reliable and intimately scaled, they both continue to sail the waters of the west coast of North America and Central America.

National Geographic Sea Bird accommodates just 62 guests in 31 outside cabins. Her inviting public spaces foster a sense of shipboard life where everyone is integral to the adventure, engendering a rewarding sense of community and esprit du corps. National Geographic writer Andrew Evans called *National Geographic Sea Lion* the "closest thing to Cousteau's *Calypso*" he's ever had the pleasure to be on.

With a shallow draft and small size, she can easily reach places inaccessible to larger ships. She can venture into fast-moving channels where whales come to feed, transit a series of locks in the Pacific Northwest, nose up to waterfalls in secluded coves and sail into protected anchorages in small bays perfect for snorkeling and kayaking.

Cabin Categories

Category 1

MAIN DECK **#300-305**

Conveniently located between the dining room and lounge, these cabins feature two single beds, and a large window. All cabins feature a closet, two nightstands, and sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom.

Category 2

BRIDGE DECK **#101-104**

UPPER DECK **#200-212, 215**

These well-located cabins include two single beds and a window. Cabin doors and windows open to the outside. Cabins feature a closet, two nightstands, closet, and sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom.

Category 3

UPPER DECK **#214, 216, 217, 219**

These cabins include two single beds that can convert to a double bed and a pullout murphy bed for a third person. Cabins feature a small table, two chairs, large double closet, sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom, and two windows. Cabin doors and windows open to the outside. Third person rates are available in certain categories at one-half the double occupancy rate.

Category 3

BRIDGE DECK **#105, 106**

These cabins include two single beds. Cabins feature a small table, two chairs, large double closet, sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom, and two windows. Cabin doors and windows open to the outside.

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.

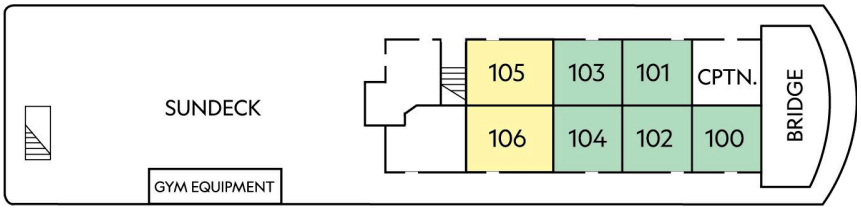
Shared Accommodations:

Shares can be arranged at the double occupancy rate in Categories 1 and 2 only.

Deck Plans

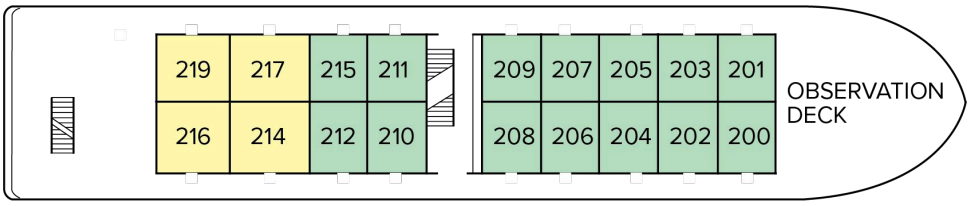
Bridge Deck

- Category 2
- Category 3



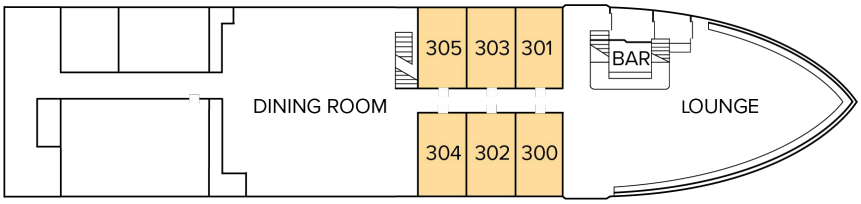
Upper Deck

- Category 2
- Category 3



Main Deck

- Category 1



Ship Amenities

Public Areas

A library; global market; lounge with full-service bar and facilities for films, slideshows and presentations; observation deck; partially covered sun deck with chairs and tables. Our "open bridge" provides guests an opportunity to meet our officers and Captain and learn about navigation.

Meals

Meals are served in the dining room at a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Menus feature sustainable choices, local where possible.

Cabins

All cabins face outside with windows, private bathroom and climate controls. Cabins are equipped with WiFi, multiple electrical and USB outlets. Botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel and lotion are all available in cabin bathrooms, as well as an Expedition Essential Kit. Hair dryers, complimentary insulated water bottles and a National Geographic Atlas is available in each cabin.

Expedition Equipment

A fleet of 6 Zodiacs and 16 kayaks, paddleboards, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, video microscope, snorkeling gear and wet suits for all guests (where applicable).

Special Features

National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions certified photo instructor, undersea specialist and video chronicler.

Wellness

A fitness center with elliptical, treadmill, weights and resistance bands.

Self-Disinfecting Ships

ACT Clean CoatTM is a light-activated, self-disinfecting cleaning process that continuously breaks down viruses, bacteria, mold and airborne allergens across all ship surfaces. Not only does this create a cleaner, healthier shipboard environment for guests and crew alike, but this non-toxic, chemical-free system also saves more than one million gallons of water each year in our cleaning procedures, and reduces our carbon footprint as well as the amount of plastic and waste in our supply chain.

Noteworthy Feature:

The generous scale of the bow, enabling the entire expedition community to congregate with our naturalists, photo instructors, and experts from the Alaska Whale Foundation or the National Park Service, and share the excitement of watching whales or dramatic glacier calving events.

Special Offers

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.

COMBINING OFFERS

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

10% OFF BACK-TO-BACK VOYAGES

Save 10% on consecutive departures, applicable on voyage fares only and not valid on extensions or airfare. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP

Save 5% when traveling as a group of 8 or more people. Valid for new bookings only on select departures, subject to availability, not applicable on extensions, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

INCLUDED IN PRICE

All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer, wine, cocktails, liquors and spirits aboard the ship (except certain premium brands which are available for purchase); hors d'oeuvres, 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, and filtered water; excursions and airport transfers to and from recommended flights, as indicated in the itinerary; exploration tools curated to destination, such as Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks; guidance and company of our leading expedition staff; assistance by the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor; access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; complimentary reusable water bottle; onboard physician consultations; morning stretch classes and 24-hour access to exercise equipment; 24-hour access to lounges, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; basic WiFi, park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE

Airfare (except flights* when indicated as included); pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); crew gratuities; private transfers; laundry, spa treatments, travel protection plans; and passport, visa, and immigration fees.

*Recommended flight costs include flight(s) that take place during the date range of your trip to transport travelers from one itinerary destination to another. This cost also includes ground transportation, luggage transfer, and airport assistance. If you prefer to arrange your own flights privately, have alternate means of transport, or wish to modify at a later time, please contact an Expedition Specialist at 1.833.400.0831

Additional costs associated with medical services outside onboard physician consultation.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non- refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/

CANCELLATION POLICY

Review our cancellation policy: https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/