

VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS PRESENTS



Northern **RING OF FIRE**

KATMAI ♦ PRIBILOFS ♦ BERING SEA ♦ ALEUTIANS
KAMCHATKA ♦ KURILS



JULY – AUGUST 2010

TWO VOYAGES ABOARD THE *CLIPPER ODYSSEY*



DEAR ADVENTURER

In cooperation with Zegrahm Expeditions, VENT is offering two Ring of Fire voyages in the North Pacific Ocean in the summer of 2010. The first expedition, **The Bering Sea & Aleutians**, July 25 – August 11, is a Bering Sea cruise from Seward, Alaska, to Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula, including the Pribilof and Aleutian Islands. The second expedition, **Kamchatka & Kuril Islands**, August 9 – 21, will start at Russkaya Bay on the Kamchatka Peninsula and end in Sapporo, Japan, and includes more time on the Kamchatka Peninsula and visits to the Kuril Islands and Sakhalin Island. Both of these trips visit some of the world's richest areas for seabirds and marine mammals, and both offer tremendous coastal and mountain landscapes. These trips may be taken separately, but together they offer a full North Pacific experience.

I had the privilege of joining a voyage that covered this same area on a trip I made in June 2003. That expedition was one of the best trips of my life. Every day brought remarkable experiences in nature. I was astounded at the number and variety of seabirds we spotted while at sea and when visiting remote island rookeries. The fulmars, shearwaters, storm-petrels, gulls, and alcids that form the North Pacific seabird colonies provide some of the greatest wildlife spectacles in the world. Traveling the length of the Aleutian chain, with a visit to the Pribilof Islands, affords dramatic scenes of sheer islands towering out of the sea, bedecked in remnant winter snow and plunging waterfalls.

Among the featured activities of the second voyage is an exploration of Russkaya Bay on the Kamchatka Peninsula, home to a bounty of nesting seabirds, lush coastal forests, and abundant marine life. The southern coast of the Kamchatka Peninsula is a remarkable place—an area where the magnificent Steller's Sea-Eagle, the world's largest eagle, can be seen in addition to brown bears and a captivating assortment of breeding Asian songbirds. Perfectly conical snow-capped volcanoes provide a backdrop of stupendous scenery.

VENT leader Jeri Langham will accompany both of these voyages. He will be joined by Brennan Mulrooney if tour size warrants.

The destinations we will visit are virtually inaccessible to the public by any means other than by ship. The vessel for this voyage is the *Clipper Odyssey*, a well-appointed expedition ship equipped with a fleet of Zodiac landing craft. Whether you choose **The Bering Sea & Aleutians**, **Kamchatka & Kuril Islands**, or both cruises, I know you will feel as I did at the conclusion—that you have seen an extraordinary portion of the world and have truly had the trip of a lifetime.

Best wishes,



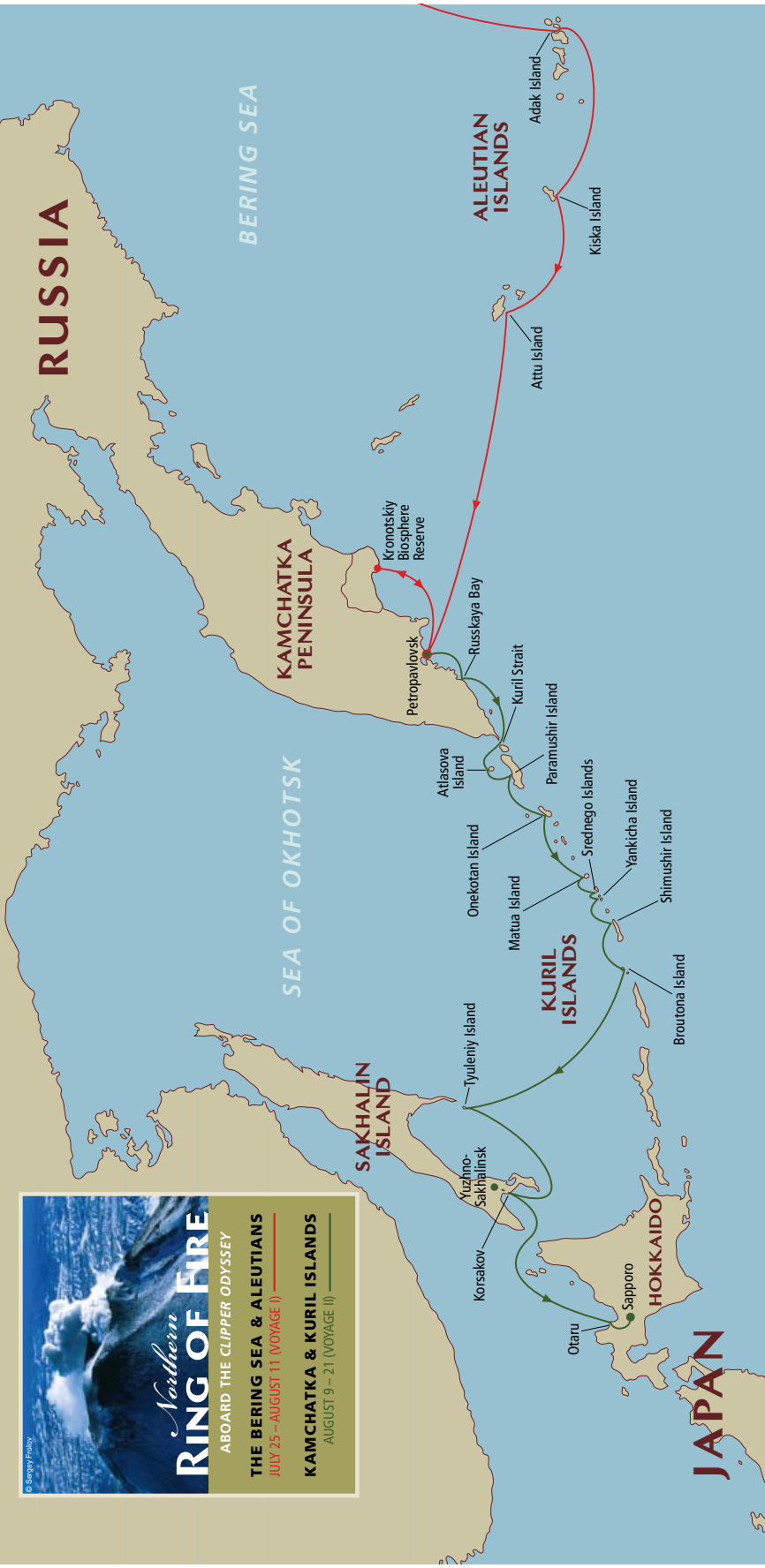
Victor Emanuel

© Sergey Frolov

Northern
RING OF FIRE
 ABOARD THE CLIPPER ODYSSEY

THE BERING SEA & ALEUTIANS
 JULY 25 – AUGUST 11 (VOYAGE I)

KAMCHATKA & KURIL ISLANDS
 AUGUST 9 – 21 (VOYAGE II)



THE BERING SEA & ALEUTIANS

VOYAGE I: July 25 – August 11, 2010 • 18 Days

- Sunday, July 25, 2010
HOME / ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
- Monday, July 26
ANCHORAGE / SEWARD / EMBARK CLIPPER ODYSSEY
- Tuesday, July 27
KODIAK ISLAND
- Wednesday, July 28
GEOGRAPHIC HARBOR, KATMAI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE
- Thursday, July 29
AGHIYUK ISLAND, SEMIDI ISLANDS
- Friday, July 30
UNGA ISLAND, SHUMAGIN ISLANDS
- Saturday, July 31
BABY ISLANDS / DUTCH HARBOR, UNALASKA ISLAND
- Sunday, August 1
ST. GEORGE ISLAND, PRIBILOF ISLANDS
- Monday, August 2
ST. PAUL ISLAND
- Tuesday, August 3
AT SEA
- Wednesday, August 4
ADAK ISLAND, ALEUTIAN ISLANDS
- Thursday, August 5
KISKA ISLAND
- Friday, August 6
ATTU ISLAND
- Saturday & Sunday, August 7 & 8
AT SEA / CROSS INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE
- Monday, August 9
PETROPAPLOVSK, RUSSIA
- Tuesday, August 10
KRONOTSKIY BIOSPHERE RESERVE
- Wednesday, August 11
PETROPAPLOVSK / DISEMBARK ODYSSEY / USA

KAMCHATKA & KURIL ISLANDS

VOYAGE II: August 9 – 21, 2010 • 13 Days

- Monday, August 9, 2010
HOME / ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
- Tuesday & Wednesday, August 10 & 11
ANCHORAGE / CROSS INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE / PETROPAPLOVSK, RUSSIA / EMBARK CLIPPER ODYSSEY
- Thursday, August 12
KAMCHATKA PENINSULA / RUSSKAYA BAY
- Friday, August 13
KURIL STRAIT / ATLASOVA ISLAND, KURIL ISLANDS
- Saturday, August 14
PARAMUSHIR ISLAND / ONEKOTAN ISLAND
- Sunday, August 15
MATUA ISLAND / SREDNEGO ISLANDS / YANKICHA ISLAND
- Monday, August 16
YANKICHA ISLAND / SHIMUSHIR ISLAND
- Tuesday, August 17
BROUTONA ISLAND
- Wednesday, August 18
TYULENIY ISLAND
- Thursday, August 19
KORSAKOV, SAKHALIN ISLAND / YUZHNO-SAKHALINSK
- Friday, August 20
AT SEA / OTARU, JAPAN
- Saturday, August 21
OTARU / DISEMBARK CLIPPER ODYSSEY / SAPPORO / TOKYO / CROSS THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE / USA



MAP NOT TO SCALE



© Peter Harrison



© Peter Harrison



© Jonathan Rossouw



THE BERING SEA & ALEUTIANS

VOYAGE I • July 25 – August 11, 2010

Sunday, July 25, 2010

HOME / ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Independent arrival in Anchorage and transfer to our hotel. Introductions and a briefing before dinner; overnight at our hotel.

Monday, July 26

ANCHORAGE / SEWARD / EMBARK CLIPPER ODYSSEY

After a morning at leisure and lunch at our hotel we board motorcoaches for Seward where we embark the *Clipper Odyssey*.

Tuesday, July 27

KODIAK ISLAND

We dock at the town of Kodiak, a bustling port settled by Russian fur traders in 1784. By 1792, Alexander Baranof established the town as the first capital of Russia's North American colonies. We visit the 1794 Holy Resurrection Russian Orthodox church, with its prominent blue onion domes, and Erskine House, a National Historic Landmark built in 1809 and now housing the Kodiak Baranof Museum. Exhibits in the Alutiiq Museum detail the history and culture of these native people who lived here millennia before the Europeans arrived.

Wednesday, July 28

GEOGRAPHIC HARBOR, KATMAI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

We sail along the Alaska Peninsula today,

a stunning, nearly-uninhabited wilderness, stopping to investigate islands and coves. Nearly hidden at the far reaches of Amalik Bay, Geographic Harbor is surrounded by magnificent volcanic scenery; access through the narrow entrance of the harbor is tidal dependent. We cruise the area by Zodiac, watching for brown bears along the beaches.

Thursday, July 29

AGHIYUK ISLAND, SEMIDI ISLANDS

The Semidi Islands are home to two and a half million birds. We make a Zodiac landing to walk on a small, sandy beach covered in driftwood sea-carved into intriguing silvery shapes. Also by Zodiac, we trace the shores of Aghiyuk Island, home to huge colonies of seabirds: Northern Fulmars, Common Murres, and Black-legged Kittiwakes. In the evening, search for whales in these waters, famed for seasonal migrations, as we head toward the Shumagin Islands.

Friday, July 30

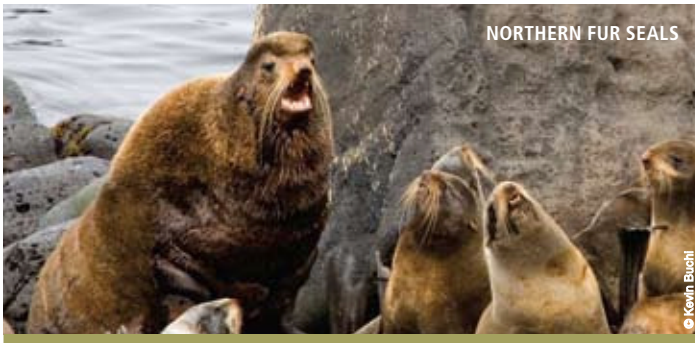
UNGA ISLAND, SHUMAGIN ISLANDS

We anchor at Unga Island today; its multiple bays offer excellent Zodiac cruising opportunities to spot sea otters and birds, including Peregrine Falcons. Ashore, we walk amid fields of wildflowers and spongy tundra. Scattered pieces of multicolored petrified wood are remnants of an ancient *Metasequoia*



PARAKEET AUKLET





NORTHERN FUR SEALS

© Kevin Blouch



COMMON MURRES

© Peter Hampton

forest, evidence that the region once enjoyed a warmer climate.

Saturday, July 31

BABY ISLANDS / DUTCH HARBOR, UNALASKA ISLAND

This morning we sail among the Fox Islands group of the Aleutians, watching for Minke whales, the smallest baleen whale in the northern Pacific. The five tiny, volcanic Baby Islands, today's first destination, teem with puffins and Whiskered Auklets.

Dutch Harbor was originally used by the North American Commercial Company to process fur seal pelts. Today, it is the busiest fishing and processing port in Alaska. We stroll among WWII relics of the U.S. Army, Museum of Aleutians, and view the oldest onion-domed Russian church in Alaska.

Sunday, August 1

ST. GEORGE ISLAND, PRIBILOF ISLANDS

North in the Bering Sea lies the tiny archipelago comprising the five Pribilof Islands. They were discovered in 1786 by the Russian explorer Gerassim Pribilof who successfully located what he was hoping to find: fur seals by the thousands, which the Russians later harvested nearly to extinction. Today, the northern fur seal is protected and cannot be hunted commercially. The Pribilof breeding

population now numbers more than 700,000. Bird colonies abound, with some 225 species recorded in the islands.

We explore the small town of St. George whose residents include about 150 people of Aleut and Russian descent. A picturesque Russian Orthodox church commands a vista of the Bering Sea, and a cliff-top blind provides a remarkable view of a fur seal rookery. More Parakeet Auklets breed on St. George than anywhere else, and the nearly quarter million nesting Red-legged Kittiwakes make up 98 percent of the world's population.

Monday, August 2

ST. PAUL ISLAND

St. Paul is home to 800 Aleuts, the largest such community in the world. Enjoy a stroll through town, then walk among a profusion of tundra wildflowers, watching for Arctic foxes often spotted here. Zodiac excursions and walks to the edge of the cliffs reveal birds by the thousands—Horned and Tufted puffins; Red-legged Kittiwakes; Red-faced Cormorants; and Crested, Least, and Parakeet Auklets.

Tuesday, August 3

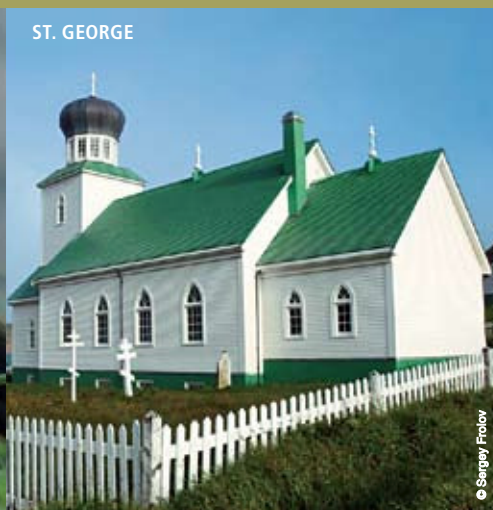
AT SEA

As we sail towards the Aleutian Islands our onboard experts share their knowledge about



TUFTED PUFFIN

© Sergey Frolov



ST. GEORGE

© Sergey Frolov



ARCTIC FOX

© Sergey Frolov



© Sergey Frolov

the flora, fauna, and fascinating history of this region. Birders and nature enthusiasts watch from the decks for a chance at the “Holy Grail” of North Pacific seabirds, the extremely rare Short-tailed Albatross, which has, in recent years, substantially increased in numbers.

Wednesday, August 4

ADAK ISLAND, ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

Today our ship enters the long chain of Aleutian Islands, which stretch in an arc one thousand miles long, bridging the Bering Sea between Kamchatka and Alaska. Each of the 124 islands is the summit of an underwater volcano, and nearly all are part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, a 3.5 million-acre preserve. The refuge is home to an estimated 40 million seabirds of 55 different species.

While the Japanese invaded and occupied the far western Aleutian Islands of Attu and Kiska, U.S. forces built facilities on Adak Island to support efforts to retake the islands and to guard against a possible counter-offensive. In 1943, 27,000 troops were stationed in Adak. In 1997, the U.S. Navy released control of the island to the Aleut Native Corporation. Only about 300 people live here today, making a living from fishing and various commercial enterprises

that utilize the abandoned buildings and lengthy airstrip.

Once ashore we board motorcoaches and have the choice to explore the island to get a sense of its significance in WWII, or to go on a birding excursion to look for Red-faced Cormorants, Aleutian Terns, and Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches. Time permitting, we take Zodiacs along the shores for wildlife viewing—among the species we watch for are sea otters, harbor seals, and Ancient, Marbled, and the increasingly rare Kittlitz’s murrelets.

Thursday, August 5

KISKA ISLAND

This island was once the site of Japanese troop occupation in WWII. When the Americans arrived they found that the Japanese had all been evacuated under cover of fog; evidence of their existence remains in a 1,200 foot long pier, wooden boardwalk, and a grounded Japanese two-man submarine. History unfolds as we explore the island with our historian and naturalists and note the evidence of Japanese presence amid myriad flowers and plants.

In the afternoon we have the opportunity to view the world’s largest nesting population of Least Auklets. In our Zodiacs we cruise Sirius Point, a relatively recent headland created from lava flow and a special habitat for these



© Allan White

STELLER’S SEA-EAGLE



© Peter Harrison



seabirds. We hope to see thousands of auklets and other small alcids as they come and go in their feeding routines.

Friday, August 6
ATTU ISLAND

Massacre Bay on Attu is a remote outpost on this ruggedly mountainous, westernmost Aleutian island. The site of the only land battle fought on North American soil during WWII, Attu's evocative heritage reveals rusty Quonset huts, the occasional spent cartridge shell, and other military artifacts attesting to the American occupation of the island after it was retaken from the Japanese in 1943. Today, a nature walk reveals placid fields of vividly-hued wildflowers carpeting the now green battlefields: lupines, Alaskan paintbrush, and iris.

On Attu, we have a chance to observe the endemic Aleutian races of Rock Ptarmigan and Song Sparrow but the island is legendary among birders for its reputation as a magnet for Asian species such as Wood Sandpiper and Olive-backed Pipit which regularly stray across the Bering Strait to make landfall on this lonely outpost.

Saturday & Sunday, August 7 & 8
AT SEA / CROSS INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE

Today we spend a relaxing day at sea and lose a day as we cross the International Date Line.

Monday, August 9
PETROPAVLOVSK, RUSSIA

Upon arrival and clearance, we set out for an exploration of Petropavlovsk, one of the oldest towns in the Russian Far East. Vitus Bering arrived in Kamchatka and laid the first foundation stone in 1740 in this huge and well-sheltered harbor. Hospitable local guides bring us to the museum of ethnography and natural history, the gold-domed Orthodox cathedral, and the marketplace.

Tuesday, August 10
KRONOTSKIY BIOSPHERE RESERVE

In 1934 the Soviet Union set aside this beautiful area as a reserve and since then it has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is one of the most pristine parts of the Kamchatka Peninsula and features volcanoes, some of which are still active; hot springs; and geysers. Though not inhabited, it is still used extensively by small numbers of indigenous people.

Wednesday, August 11
PETROPAVLOVSK / DISEMBARK CLIPPER ODYSSEY / USA

Today, for those not continuing on Voyage II, disembark the *Clipper Odyssey* and transfer to the airport for your independent flights to the USA. Cross the International Date Line, arriving home on the same day.





© Sergey Frolov

KAMCHATKA & KURIL ISLANDS

VOYAGE II ♦ August 9 – 21, 2010

Monday, August 9, 2010

HOME / ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Independent arrival in Anchorage and transfer to our hotel. Introductions and a briefing before dinner; overnight at our hotel.

Tuesday & Wednesday, August 10 & 11

ANCHORAGE / CROSS INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE / PETROPAVLOVSK, RUSSIA / EMBARK *CLIPPER ODYSSEY*

After breakfast we transfer to the airport for the morning flight to Petropavlovsk. Weather permitting the flight unveils spectacular views of the four active volcanoes that ring this picturesque city. On our way to Russia we cross the International Date Line, losing a day, we arrive on August 11.

Upon arrival, we set out for an exploration of Petropavlovsk, one of the oldest towns in the Russian Far East. Vitus Bering arrived in Kamchatka and laid the first foundation stone in 1740 in this huge and well-sheltered harbor. Hospitable local guides bring us to the museum of ethnography and natural history, the gold-domed Orthodox cathedral, and the marketplace, where wolverine hats and fresh salmon are sold alongside electronics and imported fruit. We embark the *Clipper Odyssey* this evening and set sail southward along the magnificent Kamchatka Peninsula.

Thursday, August 12

KAMCHATKA PENINSULA / RUSSKAYA BAY

A geologic wonderland, Kamchatka is home to 300 volcanoes that soar skyward. Some 29 of these are active, some producing steam, others bubbling lava, and a few issuing forth dramatic pyroclastic eruptions. This morning we cruise the southern coast—a naturalist's paradise—watching for seals, brown bears, large colonies of Slaty-backed Gulls, which breed here, and Horned Puffins winging overhead. In nearby Russkaya Bay we spot evidence of the powers of Kamchatka's volcanoes, such as lightweight pumice scattered on the shoreline. During a walk through a coastal forest—a birding highlight—we are likely to find such sought-after species as the Eurasian Nutcracker, Taiga Flycatcher, and Red-flanked Bluetail. As we continue down the eastern side of Kamchatka, keep binoculars at the ready as we watch for skittish Kamchatka brown bears along the shoreline and Steller's Sea-Eagles in the treetops.

Friday, August 13

KURIL STRAIT / ATLASOVA ISLAND, KURIL ISLANDS

On our way to Atlasova, we cruise through the Kuril Strait where sea otters congregate by the hundreds—perhaps the highest density anywhere—and in this season pups are

RUSSKAYA BAY



© Albert Feyman



MT. SARYCHEV

© Allan White



© Ingrid Visser

often spotted riding about on their mother's upturned bellies.

Atlasova Island claims the highest peak of the Kurils; the spectacular Alaid Volcano rises nearly 8,000 feet from the sea. Steller's sea lions haul out on the coastline and rosy-finches are a common sight. We land on a sweeping black sand beach and set out to explore the shore and inland fresh water lake.

Saturday, August 14
PARAMUSHIR ISLAND /
ONEKOTAN ISLAND

This morning we anchor at Paramushir Island in Shelakova Bay, an old whaling station, where we photograph the rusting hulls of old Russian whaling vessels. Scan the rugged and rocky ledges for seabirds while taking a shoreside walk with our naturalists. Small streams and waterfalls tumble down the hillsides to the beach; we may spy brown bears that forage for roots on the island's hillsides.

On the volcanic island of Onekotan we spy a WWII Japanese pill box and bunker before we depart on walks along the coast. After crossing a river, walk through tundra and rhododendrons keeping an eye out for red foxes and myriad bird species, such as the Red-throated Pipit. Offshore it is possible

to spot Dall's porpoises and some of the six species of seals, including Steller's sea lions.

Sunday, August 15
MATUA ISLAND / SREDNEGO ISLANDS /
YANKICHA ISLAND

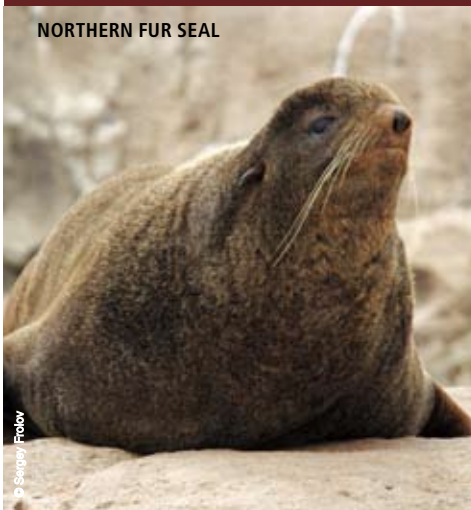
This morning we go ashore at Matua Island. During WWII the Japanese established an airfield here, targeted by the United States frequently in 1944, and during our landing and walks on the old roads, we witness bunkers and the remains of equipment and artillery scattered about.

The rugged Srednego Islands are home to large populations of Steller's sea lions and northern fur seals. During Zodiac cruises they can be seen frolicking in the waters around us or staking out their territory on rocky ledges.

In the evening we arrive at Yankicha just in time to view Whiskered Auklets creating a virtual auklet haze as they return to their nests in spectacular swarms after feeding offshore in the mingling tides.

Monday, August 16
YANKICHA ISLAND /
SHIMUSHIR ISLAND

A sinking volcanic caldera at Yankicha Island offers access during high tide. Via Zodiacs



NORTHERN FUR SEAL

© Sergey Frolov



ONEKOTAN ISLAND

© Bruce Louffier



COSSACK SINGERS



BIRD CLIFF

© Jonathan Pincus

© Giovanna Fasanelli

we enter the magnificent lagoon, where we witness the ongoing volcanic of sulfur fumaroles. The island's rocky slopes are nesting grounds for Crested Auklets, and Common and Thick-billed murres make their home in the ledges of the vertical cliffs.

Heading south, Laysan Albatross may be wheeling and banking effortlessly in our wake. From the deck we closely study every seabird looking for the telltale bubblegum-pink bill of the magnificent and extremely rare Short-tailed Albatross, which had been hunted almost to extinction by plume hunters but whose population has begun to slowly and steadily increase.

Shimushir Island's narrow crater pass opens into a nearly hidden harbor—Broutona Bay—home to a Soviet military base and 2,000 occupants from 1978 to 1991. Abandoned since 1997, there is a ghost town atmosphere to the empty buildings, workshops, vehicles, and even a school and playground.

**Tuesday, August 17
BROUTONA ISLAND**

We take several Zodiac excursions today, visiting a series of small islands punctuated with caves and coves and populated with profuse wildlife and birds. Western Broutona is home to vast colonies of Northern

Fulmars—nearly a million nest here—cormorants, puffins, Black-legged Kittiwakes, and guillemots.

**Wednesday, August 18
TYULENIY ISLAND**

A dizzying, sensational show of wildlife meets us at our landing site today. *Tyulenyi* means seal in Russian, and we immediately understand why the island is so-named. Hundreds of northern fur seals and Steller's sea lions cover the beaches, their calls piercing the air. We see bulls defending their harems, males sparring, and pups and other seals cavorting in the water.

With naturalists by our side, we observe the wildlife from some rough blinds built by Russian researchers. Birds fill whatever space the seals and sea lions leave unclaimed. Thousands of Common Murres and kittiwakes cover the cliffs and fly overhead. Other bird species include Crested Auklets, Siberian Rubythroats, Pallas's Warblers, with possible sightings of Red-necked Stints and Narcissus Flycatchers.

**Thursday, August 19
KORSAKOV, SAKHALIN ISLAND /
YUZHNO-SAKHALINSK**

Today we set off for an overland visit to the island's capital, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. Founded



TYULENIY ISLAND

© Allan White



CRESTED AUKLETS

© Sergey Frolov



as a small Russian settlement in the 1880s, the city became a Japanese prefect capital when the southern half of Sakhalin Island was declared a Japanese colony in 1905. After WWII it was returned to Russia. Highlights of our exploration include a visit to the local church with an opportunity to hear the traditional choir, and a visit to the Regional Museum, housed in an impressive former Japanese mansion.

Alternatively, join our ornithologist for a day of birding in the southern part of the island. Watch for Latham's Snipes, Eurasian Bullfinches, and White-tailed Sea-Eagles. Prized sightings may include the Siberian Thrush, Swinhoe's Robin, and Siberian Rubythroat.

Friday, August 20
AT SEA / OTARU, JAPAN

We arrive in Otaru this afternoon and enjoy a tour of the historic and photogenic Canal Zone, including a visit to the Kitaichi Glass

Factory. Created by a sea reclamation project in 1914, the canal is lined with the original stone shipping warehouses as well as more recent shops and restaurants. Once the capital of Hokkaido in Japan's Meiji Period, Otaru was known as the "Sakhalin of Japan" for its busy maritime trade with Russia.

Birders set out from Otaru for an exploration of the surrounding foothills to search for special resident species such as Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker and Varied Tit, as well as migrants such as Blue-and-white Flycatcher lingering in the late summer Hokkaido forests.

Saturday, August 21
OTARU / DISEMBARK CLIPPER ODYSSEY / SAPPORO / CROSS THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE / USA

Today we disembark the *Clipper Odyssey* and transfer to Sapporo airport for your flight homeward. Cross the International Date Line arriving home the same day.



TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. RESERVATIONS: 30% of the expedition fare, along with a completed and signed Reservation Form, will reserve a place for you on this Victor Emanuel Nature Tours and Zegrahm Holdings LLC, d/b/a Zegrahm Expeditions (VENT/ZE) program. The balance of the expedition fare is due 150 days prior to departure. All prices are quoted in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars.

2. CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY: Notification of cancellation must be received in writing by VENT/ZE. At the time we receive your written cancellation, the following penalties will apply:

- 150 days or more prior to departure: \$500 per person
- 60 through 149 days prior to departure: 60% of expedition fare
- 1 through 59 days prior to departure: 100% of expedition fare

Once an expedition has departed, there will be no refunds from VENT/ZE for any unused portions of the trip. The above policy also applies to all extensions and independent travel arrangements made in conjunction with this program.

3. TRIP CANCELLATION AND INTERRUPTION INSURANCE:

We strongly advise that all travelers purchase trip cancellation and interruption insurance as protection against an emergency that may force you to cancel or leave an expedition while it is in progress. A brochure describing coverage will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation.

4. SHARE POLICY: Accommodations on all VENT/ZE programs are based on double occupancy. If you are traveling alone and wish to share accommodations, a roommate will be assigned to you whenever possible. When pairing roommates, we will always pair participants of the same sex. All shared accommodations are nonsmoking. If it is not possible to pair you with a roommate, you may be asked to pay a single supplement for the land portion of the program.

5. MEDICAL INFORMATION: Participation in a VENT/ZE program requires that you be in generally good health. It is essential that persons with any medical problems and related dietary restrictions make them known to us well before departure. We can counsel you on whether the expedition you have selected is appropriate for you.

The tour leader has the right to disqualify any participant at any time during the tour if he or she feels the participant is physically incapable and/or if a participant's continued participation will jeopardize either the individual involved or the group. There will be no refund given under these circumstances.

6. LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS: Luggage size and weight limitations for both checked and carry-on luggage, imposed by the airlines or as an operational requirement due to type of aircraft, will apply for flights to/from/within this program. Specifications will be provided with pre-departure materials.

7. CURRENCY FLUCTUATION AND FUEL COST INCREASES:

In order to keep rates as low as possible, we do not build into the trip fare an allowance to cover possible increases from currency fluctuations or fuel costs. **Therefore, as currencies do fluctuate around the world and as fuel cost increases may occur, it may**

be necessary for us to initiate a minor rate surcharge, at any time before departure, if there are exceptional cost increases beyond our control.

8. ITINERARY CHANGES & TRIP DELAY: Itineraries are based on information available at the time of printing and are subject to change.

VENT/ZE reserves the right to change a program's dates, staff, itineraries, or accommodations as conditions warrant. If a trip must be delayed or the itinerary changed due to bad weather, road conditions, transportation delays, government intervention, airline schedules, sickness, or other contingency for which VENT/ZE or its agents cannot make provision, the cost of delays or changes is not included.

9. ITINERARY CANCELLATION: VENT/ZE reserve the right to cancel an itinerary before departure for any reason whatsoever, including too few participants or logistical problems such as strikes, wars, acts of God, or any other circumstances that may make operation of the trip inadvisable. All trip payments received will be promptly refunded, and this refund will be the limit of VENT/ZE's liability. VENT/ZE are not responsible for any expenses incurred by trip members in preparing for the trip, including nonrefundable or penalty-carrying airline tickets, special clothing, visa or passport fees, or other trip-related expenses.

10. PARTICIPATION: VENT/ZE reserves the right to decline to accept any individual as a trip member for any reason whatsoever.

11. LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY: This section defines VENT/ZE's responsibility with respect to all of our trips, including extensions and independent arrangements. Please read it carefully.

VENT/ZE, its Owners, Agents, and Employees give notice that they act only as the agent for the owners, contractors, and suppliers providing means of transportation and/or all other related travel services and assume no responsibility howsoever caused for injury, loss, or damage to person or property in connection with any service resulting directly from: acts of God, detention, annoyance, delays, expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, thefts, pilferage, force majeure, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, terrorism, government restrictions or regulations, and discrepancies or changes in transit or hotel services over which it has no control. Reasonable changes in the itinerary may be made where deemed advisable for the comfort and well-being of the passengers.

As described in item 7 above, all prices are subject to change.

As described in item 9 above, in the event that an expedition must be cancelled, VENT/ZE is not responsible for any personal expenses incurred by trip members in preparing for the program.

Certain ship owners require use of preprinted ticket forms that limit the ship owner's and operator's liability. When such tickets are used, you are generally bound by the terms of these tickets with respect to your legal relationship to the owner and operators of the ship, their agent (ZE), and the ship's crew.

On advancement of deposit to VENT, the depositor acknowledges that he/she has read and understands the above recited terms and conditions, and agrees to be bound by them.

WHAT TO EXPECT

For most activities, a moderate level of exertion is required. You will need to climb into and out of Zodiacs for excursions ashore. Many of the landings will be "wet" and require that you wear waterproof, knee-high boots. Ashore, you must be able to walk moderate distances, unaided, over occasionally rough terrain. Average daily temperatures on this voyage range from the 50s°F to the low-70s°F with cooler temperatures in the evening.

As with all travel to this region, the itineraries are pending final permission by the authorities. We have done a tremendous amount of

scouting, preparation, and planning for our expedition. In addition, your onboard staff is very experienced in leading trips to these remote areas. We will mail a complete list of recommended clothing and a suggested reading list to you approximately five months prior to departure. Flexibility is a must and participants will most enjoy these remarkable voyages if they travel with a spirit of adventure.

Note: We estimate you will be without your passport for one month while we work on procuring your Russian visa.



Jeri M. Langham – Jeri has a Ph.D. in plant ecology from Washington State University, and after 38 years as a professor of biological sciences at California State University in Sacramento, retired in May 2008. He received the first Outstanding Teacher Award from the newly formed College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics in 1997; the Outstanding Faculty Award from the Science Educational Equity, and Minority Organization of Science Students organizations in 2005; and his University's third annual Lifetime Achievement Award for Community Service in 2006. Jeri has ardently birded all over North America, as well as Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela, Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands, Peru, Argentina, Kenya, Borneo, and Australia. Known for his enthusiasm and boundless energy, Jeri thoroughly enjoys searching for birds and sharing them with others. His passion for teaching and his natural teaching abilities soon become apparent as his tour participants enjoy learning more about the biological world around them. Jeri is a former member of the Bausch and Lomb Birding Council and the California Bird Records Committee. He is a Director for the Neotropical Grassland Conservancy.



Brennan Mulrooney – Brennan was born and raised in San Diego, California. Growing up, his heart and mind were captured by the ocean. He split his summer days between helping out behind the scenes at southern California's leading aquarium and working on sport fishing vessels off the coast. As a wildlife and fisheries biology major at UC Davis, he developed his fascination with birds and love of birding while taking a required ornithology course. Since graduating from UC Davis, Brennan has traveled throughout the United States working on widespread ornithological field studies. His work has taken him from the mountains of northern California

to the Salton Sea in southern California, and from Cape May, New Jersey to Key Largo, Florida. Participants often comment that Brennan's sharp eyes, sharper wit, and easygoing attitude make it a pleasure to bird with him.

Mike Messick (Expedition Leader) – One of the best expedition leaders in the business, Mike embarked on a full-time career in adventure travel shortly after graduation and has since visited more than 170 countries around the world. Mike is a member of The Explorers Club, holds a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license, and has his scuba instructor certificate from NAUI. In 1990 Mike and six others founded Zegrahm Expeditions.

Mark Brazil – Mark developed his fascination with the natural world, especially birds, during his boyhood in the landlocked English county of Worcestershire. He earned his Ph.D. from Stirling University, Scotland, for his work on avian ecology and behavior in Iceland. His work as a field naturalist, author, researcher, and guide has taken him to every continent. He is the author of several ornithological books and the leading authority on the natural history of Japan, including his most recent *A Field Guide to the Birds of East Asia*.

John Buchanan – John is a professor of geology and director of the environmental science program at Eastern Washington University. While his academic focus includes sedimentology, hydrogeology, and geomorphology, he is easily excited about all things geological. He has recently participated in National Geographic Society funded caving expeditions to Central America where he is mapping and studying the region's longest caves. John is also an experienced world traveler, an avid photographer, and a passionate amateur astronomer.

Bob Quaccia – Bob chose adventure as a career more than thirty years ago when he became a commercial fisherman in Alaska. Bob has recently spent three summers as a skiff operator for the Alaska Marine Mammal Observing Program, which has taken him to the remote waters of Kodiak and Yakutat with a focus on sustainability. He holds a B.S. in biology with the bulk of his studies in natural history. He is currently the Programs Director for the Rogue Valley Audubon Society and has served on the board for two terms. An active birder he has participated in thirty Christmas bird counts and led numerous field trips in Alaska and Oregon.

Additional leaders will join the above team.

RESERVATION FORM

NORTHERN RING OF FIRE

- Voyage I: **THE BERING SEA & ALEUTIANS** July 25 – August 11, 2010
- Voyage II: **KAMCHATKA & KURIL ISLANDS** August 9 – 21, 2010
- Combo Voyage: **NORTHERN RING OF FIRE: KATMAI, PRIBILOFS, BERING SEA, ALEUTIANS, KAMCHATKA, KURILS** July 25 – August 21, 2010

Name #1 (as it appears on passport)

(preferred name)

Name #2 (as it appears on passport)

(preferred name)

Address

City State ZIP Country

Phone (Home) (Office)

E-mail Fax

CABIN CATEGORY: 1 2 3 4 5 6 Suite

ACCOMMODATIONS: Twin Share (roommate to be assigned) Single

I AM/WE ARE: Nonsmokers Smokers

DEPOSIT INFORMATION:

Enclosed is a deposit check for \$ _____ (30% per person of the program fare)

Charge 30% deposit per person to: VISA MasterCard

Card Number Expires

Authorized Cardholder Signature Date

I/We have read and understand the enclosed Terms & Conditions for this program, and agree to abide by them.

Signature Date

Signature Date

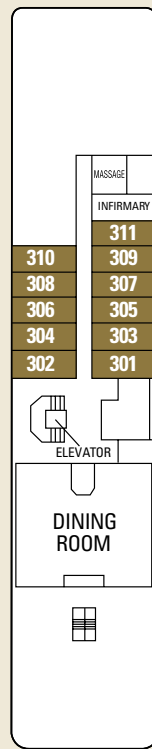
Please complete and return this Reservation Form with your deposit of 30% per person of the program fare to:



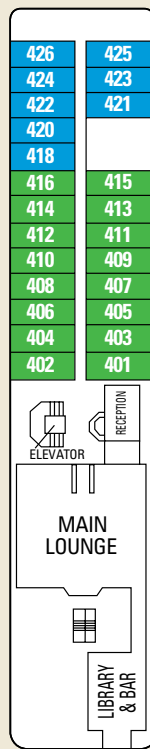
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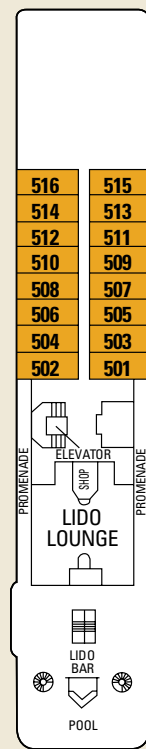
CLIPPER ODYSSEY DECK PLAN & RATES



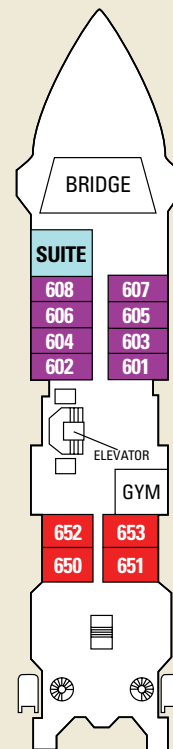
A-DECK



MAIN DECK



LIDO DECK



BRIDGE DECK

Category	The Bering Sea & Aleutians	Kamchatka & Kuril Islands	Combo Voyage	Savings
Category 1	\$9,980	\$8,580	\$18,060	\$500
Category 2	\$10,880	\$9,180	\$19,460	\$600
Category 3	\$11,780	\$9,780	\$20,860	\$700
Category 4	\$12,680	\$10,380	\$22,260	\$800
Category 5	\$13,580	\$10,980	\$23,660	\$900
Category 6	\$14,480	\$11,580	\$25,060	\$1,000
Suite	\$17,980	\$13,980	\$30,660	\$1,300
Single Cat 2	\$13,680	\$11,480	\$24,410	\$750
Single Cat 3	\$14,780	\$12,280	\$26,210	\$850
Single Cat 4	\$15,880	\$12,980	\$27,860	\$1,000

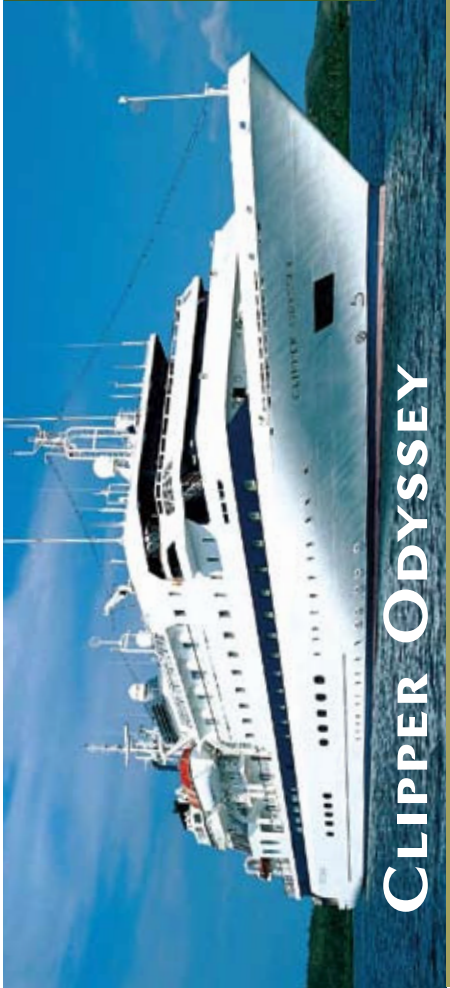
Single accommodations are on request basis only.

INCLUDED: Accommodations in our hotels and on board *Clipper Odyssey* as outlined in the itinerary; all onboard meals; all group meals on land; group transfers; services of the expedition staff, including lectures, briefings, slide/film shows; all group activities and excursions; landing and port fees; all gratuities.

NOT INCLUDED: All air transportation; excess baggage charges; airport arrival and departure taxes; transfers for independent arrivals and departures; passport and/or visa fees; travel insurance; items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar charges, alcoholic beverages, e-mail/fax/Internet/telephone charges.

AIR FARE: Air fare is not included in rates. Please call 800-328-VENT (8368) or 512-328-5221 to reserve your cabin and learn more about air arrangements.

All rates are per person, quoted in U.S. dollars, and must be paid in U.S. dollars. Rates and itineraries are subject to change.



CLIPPER ODYSSEY

The *Clipper Odyssey* is a 110-passenger luxury vessel, ideally suited for expedition cruising. She carries a fleet of Zodiacs, which allows us to land anywhere nature or curiosity dictates. All cabins have an ocean view, safe, minibar, individually controlled heat/air conditioner, in-room music system, and sitting area with sofa. Passengers can track the progress of their voyage on the Global Positioning System broadcast in each cabin. Beds can be configured for twin or queen-size sleeping arrangements. All cabins have an en suite bathroom with shower. The *Clipper Odyssey* maintains a gourmet kitchen, providing American and international specialties. Facilities on board the *Clipper Odyssey* include a dining room, lounge, small library and gym, outdoor pool, massage room, Internet café with wireless access, and gift shop. An elevator services all passenger cabin decks. The *Clipper Odyssey* has an infirmary staffed by a registered physician and a sophisticated telecommunications system permitting Internet access and telephone and fax communication from many locations around the world. Ship registry: Bahamas.

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Northern RING OF FIRE

KATMAI ♦ PRIBILOFS ♦ BERING SEA ♦ ALEUTIANS
KAMCHATKA ♦ KURILS



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