Treasures of
Colombia, Panama, & Costa Rica
Aboard the Variety Voyager • January 10–19, 2014
With Professor Michael Littman, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering

Featuring a Panama Canal Daytime Transit
Dear Princetonian,

Natural history riches. Restored colonial architecture. A marvel of modern engineering. This Journey holds a little something for each side of your personality.

After spending two nights in Cartagena, Colombia, board the state-of-the-art yacht Variety Voyager for a seven-night voyage among some of the loveliest islands and national parks in Central America and the Caribbean Sea. Transit the Panama Canal in daylight and continue along the Pacific coast of Panama and Costa Rica. Along the Journey, the region’s natural beauty comes alive—rainforests teeming with exotic wildlife and bird species; sugary beaches fringed by sparkling azure waters; and dense forests that cascade down impressive mountainsides to the shore.

Swim, snorkel, and explore the fascinating marine life supported by one of the largest coral reefs on the Pacific coast of the Americas. Hike through lush rainforests alive with the vivid sounds and colors of a richly diverse wildlife, and soar overhead through the canopy of vegetation that provides habitat for some very unusual species. Also meet the indigenous tribal populations that have been present for countless generations and who maintain many of the customs practiced by their ancestors.

Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Michael Littman, a historian of technology and innovation, will serve as study leader for this program. Not only will he explain the history and mechanics behind ships and canals, he will also give those with an interest in photography a look inside their cameras to understand lenses, depth of field, and f-stops. His accessible talks will be supplemented by remarks by other experts in marine habitats and the areas visited.

On this Journey, Princeton travelers will be joined by those from the Association of Yale Alumni, the American Museum of Natural History, and the Oceanic Society. In order to confirm the place of your choosing, contact the Princeton Journeys team at (609) 258-8686 or journeys@princeton.edu today.

With kind regards,

Leslie J. Rowley S95
Executive Director, Princeton Journeys
Office of the Alumni Association
Princeton University
Study Leaders

MICHAEL LITTMAN

Arriving on Princeton’s campus in 1979, Professor Michael Littman has spent his professional life in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, serving for the past 15 years as the department’s representative to the undergraduate body. He is an experimentalist in optics and spectroscopy whose work focuses on designing telescopes that would allow for optical imaging of earth-like planets around nearby stars. His teaching interests are many, spanning the areas of automatic control systems and microprocessing to the history of modern engineering and a Freshman Seminar entitled “The Art and Science of Motorcycle Design.” He also participates in and designs hands-on workshops and courses through Princeton’s Keller Center for Innovation and its Engineering Projects in Community Service.

RODERIC MAST

Roderic Mast is executive vice president of the Oceanic Society. Rod is an author, photographer, lecturer, and seasoned traveler and tour guide, having visited more than 130 countries. He is a marine biologist, expert in sea turtles, and creator of the State of the World’s Sea Turtles Program.

ROGER COHN

Roger Cohn ’73 is the editor of Yale Environment 360, an award-winning online magazine published at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. He formerly was editor of Mother Jones and executive editor of Audubon. Roger will lecture on key environmental issues affecting Panama and Costa Rica, including the loss of tropical rainforests and coral reefs, and discuss the state of environmental journalism.

PATRICIA LEIGH BROWN

Patricia Leigh Brown, a former staff writer for The New York Times, continues to contribute to the Times and writes regularly for The Huffington Post and the Center for Investigative Reporting. She will discuss the art of travel writing, including writing about Central America and writing your own travel journal.

Explore beautiful Coiba Island (right), the largest island in Central America, designated a national park in 1992 and a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2005. A daytime transit of the Panama Canal provides opportunities to observe construction activities around the Third Set of Locks project, which will enhance the canal’s carrying capacity.
Itinerary

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10
Home / Cartagena, Colombia
Depart home and fly to Cartagena. Upon arrival, check in to the Hotel Santa Teresa. This evening enjoy a welcome reception and dinner.
HOTEL SANTA TERESA (R,D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11
Cartagena
Cartagena was founded in 1533 by Spanish maritime explorer Pedro de Heredia and named after the Spanish town where most of Heredia’s crew had resided. Spend a full day exploring Cartagena’s colonial walled city and the Castillo de San Felipe de Barajas, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a superb example of Spanish military engineering. Las Bóvedas, structures built into the walls of the old city as storage vaults, were used as dungeons during the civil wars of the 19th century and now house shops offering traditional Colombian handicrafts. HOTEL SANTA TERESA (B,L).

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
Cartagena
Today choose for your morning activity either a culinary/market tour or a literary tour based on Nobel-winning author Gabriel Garcia Marquez’s characters. Embark on the Variety Voyager this afternoon. VARIETY VOYAGER (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 13
San Blas Islands, Panama
The San Blas Islands (Guna Yala) form an archipelago off the north coast of Panama. They are home to the Kuna (Guna) Indians, who were driven off Panama during the Spanish invasion. Visit a local community where native women produce intricate, highly distinctive, and much-acclaimed needlework. VARIETY VOYAGER (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14
Panama Canal (Daytime Transit)
The 48-mile Panama Canal cuts through the Isthmus of Panama to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Built between 1881 and 1914, the canal has been named one of the seven wonders of the modern world by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Begin your day-long transit of the canal on the Atlantic side at the Gatún Locks, which raise the Variety Voyager to the level of Gatún Lake. Cross the lake and proceed through the canal to Miraflores Lake, where the Miraflores Locks bring the ship back down to sea level on the Pacific side. VARIETY VOYAGER (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15
Coiba Island
Linked by the underwater Cordillera mountain chain to the Cocos and Galapagos Islands, Coiba Island is surrounded by one of the largest coral reefs on the Pacific coast of the Americas. Its waters teem with marine life, including whale and tiger sharks, sperm whales, sea turtles, angel rays, and giant schools of fish. Coiba is also a refuge for a number of threatened terrestrial animals, such as the crested eagle, and several sub-species of agouti, possum, and howler monkey. Established as a national park in 1992, Coiba Island is a UNESCO World Heritage site. VARIETY VOYAGER (B,L,D)
**Optional Extensions**

**PRE-TOUR**

**Colombia’s Caribbean Coast and Tayrona National Park**
*January 7–10*
Spend two full days exploring Tayrona National Park, home of the critically endangered cotton-top tamarin (above), where the lush jungles of the Cordillera Mountains meet the brilliant white sand beaches, crystal-clear waters, and coral reefs teeming with colorful fish of the Caribbean coastline. Visit indigenous archaeological sites and sheltered bays that are ideal for kayaking, snorkeling, and hiking. Continue to Barranquilla to appreciate Colombia’s African, indigenous, and Spanish cultural influences at the Carnival Museum and Museum of the Caribbean before starting the main tour in Cartagena. Details and pricing will be sent to participants confirmed on the cruise.

**POST-TOUR**

**Costa Rica’s Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve**
*January 16-19*
Spend a full day walking the trails of the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. Perched atop Costa Rica’s continental divide at 4,662 feet and sustained by moist clouds and fog, Monteverde’s complex ecosystem supports more than 100 species of mammals, 400 species of birds, tens of thousands of insect species, and at least 2,500 varieties of plants, 420 of which are orchids alone. Details and pricing will be sent to participants confirmed on the cruise.

**ThursdA y, JanuAry 16**

**Golfito, Costa Rica**
Dock in the small port of Golfito for a visit to either the Orchid House, a private botanical garden with beautiful landscaping, amazing flowers, and unique fruits, or the Golfito National Wildlife Refuge’s flourishing monkey, bird, amphibian, and reptile populations. **VARIETY VOYAGER (B,L,D)**

**FriDA y, JanuAry 17**

**Corcovado National Park / Drake Bay**
Corcovado National Park is considered the crown jewel in Costa Rica’s extensive system of national parks and biological reserves. Biologically rich and diverse, the abundance of wildlife is due in part to the park’s great variety of habitats and vegetation and in part to the park’s location on the “land bridge” that links North America and South America. Explore the park or enjoy a boat tour of Drake Bay to observe its dolphin, whale, and sea turtle populations. **VARIETY VOYAGER (B,L,D)**

**SATurdA y, JanuAry 18**

**Manuel Antonio National Park**
Often rated as one of the most beautiful national parks in the world, Manuel Antonio National Park packs a variety of impressive landscapes into approximately 4,000 acres, including white sand beaches, lush foliage, imposing mountains, and dense forests that reach to the shoreline. Soar high above the jungle floor on a canopy tour or explore the park’s fragile rainforest ecosystem on the well-maintained trails below. **VARIETY VOYAGER (B,L,D)**

**SundA y, JanuAry 19**

**Puerto Caldera / Home**
Disembark the Variety Voyager and transfer to the airport in San Jose for flights home. (B)
**Program Rates Include**

Comprehensive educational program by study leaders, on-site experts, and local guides • All accommodations and meals as specified in the itinerary • All excursions, including entrance fees, as specified in the itinerary • Group arrival and departure transfers by coach • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel for all group activities • Port charges • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • House wine, beer, and soft drinks at all group lunches and dinners • Bottled water on excursions • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout

**Variety Voyager**

The Variety Voyager is a state-of-the-art yacht that accommodates just 72 passengers in 36 cabins. Guests will enjoy her sleek lines and ample deck space, designed to the high standards of the finest privately owned yachts. Cabins and public areas are finished with warm fabrics, rich marbles, luxurious Axminster carpeting, and rich wood paneling. Cabins have oversized port holes or double windows, en suite facilities with marble floors, individually controlled air-conditioning, TV/DVD, and access to 24-hour WiFi. Throughout the ship, guests have unobstructed views of the ocean and of the ports visited, as well as the services of a friendly and professional crew of 28. There are opportunities to dine both inside the yacht and on the deck, and to enjoy the shaded sun deck lounge bar, the Internet corner and library, and the mini-spa with massage room, sauna, hair salon, and fitness equipment.

**Program Rates, per person**

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Double</th>
<th>Single</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td>$6,950</td>
<td>$10,430</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marina Deck, 129–145 sq.ft. depending on location, oversized twin port holes, twin beds or queen bed, shower.</td>
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<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>$7,750</td>
<td>$11,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marina and Riviera Decks, 145–216 sq.ft. depending on location, oversized twin port holes (Marina Deck) or double windows (Riviera Deck), twin beds or queen bed (7 of the 11 cabins offer flexible bedding configuration), shower.</td>
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<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>$8,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riviera Deck, 151–195 sq.ft. depending on location, double windows, twin beds or queen bed (9 of the 11 cabins offer flexible bedding configuration), shower.</td>
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<td><strong>P</strong></td>
<td>$9,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horizons Deck, 227–248 sq.ft. depending on location, double windows, twin beds or queen bed (all cabins offer flexible bedding configuration and 4 of the 7 include an extra sofa bed), shower.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Owner's Suite</strong></td>
<td>$10,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horizons Deck, 292 sq.ft., four windows, twin beds or queen bed (flexible bedding configuration), shower.</td>
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**Airfare**

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare from New York to Cartagena, Colombia, and return from San Jose, Costa Rica, is approximately $650 as of May 2013; from Miami to Cartagena and return from San Jose is approximately $775 as of May 2013. Both fares are subject to change without notice.
General Information

Program Rates Do Not Include: U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport and visa fees • Medical expenses and immunizations • Trip cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess-baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals • Alcohol or soft drinks except where indicated as included • Private transfers or transfers not on program arrival and departure days • Personal items such as room service; email, telephone, and fax charges; laundry; gratuities for non-group services; and other items of a personal nature

What to Expect: The weather in January will be pleasant, with average daytime temperatures in the low 80s F and little rain. This is a moderately active program that involves extended periods of walking on uneven terrain on trails and beaches. There are also opportunities for swimming and snorkeling. Participants should be fit, in active good health, and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff.

Group Size: This program is limited to 64 participants, including travelers from Princeton, Yale, American Museum of Natural History, and Oceanic Society.

Terms & Conditions

Reservations & Payments: To reserve space, return the completed reservation form with your $1,000 per person deposit to: Princeton Journeys, John Maclean House, P.O. Box 291, Princeton, NJ 08542-0291 or fax to (609) 258-5561. Balance of payment is due September 13, 2013. We accept personal checks, payable to Princeton Journeys, as well as VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club, and Discover. Reservations will be processed in order of receipt.

Cancellations & Refunds: Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by Princeton Journeys. Deposits are refundable (less a $250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Cancellations within 120 days of departure are 100% nonrefundable. For this reason we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. If the program is cancelled by Princeton Journeys or our tour operator, you will receive a full refund, without further obligation on our part. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. Note: Neither the Office of the Alumni Association of Princeton University nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour. Details and costs will be advised prior to your departure.

Insurance: As a service to its travelers, the Office of the Alumni Association of Princeton University automatically provides its travelers basic medical coverage under a group travel insurance policy. It is highly recommended that you supplement this basic insurance with your own additional coverage, as well as trip cancellation/ interruption or baggage coverage. Information on additional insurance is available and will be mailed upon receipt of your reservation.

Disclaimer: Princeton University, through its Office of the Alumni Association and Princeton Journeys, is pleased to provide this service of facilitating travel opportunities for its Alumni and Friends. The Office of the Alumni Association strives to work with the best tour operators to make available interesting and enriching travel opportunities for the Princeton family. Please note that the University does not conduct tours, nor does it act as an agent for guests interested in tours. Princeton Journeys acts as a facilitator with tour operators, with whom tour participants make arrangements for completing travel, and is pleased to act as a liaison with tour operators should you have any questions or concerns that may arise before, during, or after your tour. Princeton Journeys encourages you to familiarize yourself thoroughly with the tour operator’s cancellation and refund policies, and also to investigate available services such as trip cancellation insurance. The University is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements or for losses or additional expenses resulting from travel.

California Seller of Travel Program CST #2088800-40

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Reservation Form

Treasures of Colombia, Panama, & Costa Rica
Featuring a Panama Canal Daytime Transit
Aboard the Variety Voyager • January 10–19, 2014

Please make your deposit check payable to Criterion Travel and mail to: Princeton Journeys, John Maclean House, P.O. Box 291, Princeton, New Jersey 08542-0291. Or fax credit card information to: (609) 258-5561. For more information, contact the Princeton Journeys staff at journeys@princeton.edu or (609) 258-8686.

NAME #1 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT)

PRINCETON AFFILIATION

NAME #2 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT)

PRINCETON AFFILIATION

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/POSTAL CODE

EMAIL #1

EMAIL #2

Payment

❏ Enclosed is my check for $ ___ ($1,000 per person) to hold ___ place(s) on Treasures of Colombia, Panama, & Costa Rica. OR

❏ Charge my deposit to:
  MasterCard ❏ VISA ❏ AmEx ❏ Diners Club ❏ Discover

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE

Signature as it appears on credit card

Single travelers

❏ I prefer to have single accommodations. ❏ I plan to share accommodations with ________________.

❏ I’d like to know about roommates. ❏ I am a ❏ Non-smoker ❏ Smoker

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of September 13, 2013, I will pay the single rate.

Accommodations

Cabin category preference: 1st ________________ 2nd ________________

I/We have read the Terms and Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein.

Signature

Date

Signature

Date
Treasures of Colombian, Panama, & Costa Rica

Featuring a Panama Canal Daytime Transit

exotic wildlife Kuna Indians colorful birds coral reef fish rainforests