PERSIAN GULF CRUISE

OMAN, ABU DHABI, QATAR AND DUBAI

Aboard the Crystal Esprit
January 7–17, 2020
DEAR PRINCETONIAN,

In the Persian Gulf states, old and new co-exist in innovative and intriguing ways. During this exploration of Dubai, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, and Oman aboard the all-suite *Crystal Esprit*, visit the mosques, souks, educational institutions, and museums that reflect a fascinating juxtaposition of past and present that is unique to the Islamic world.

Begin your exploration in Oman's culturally rich museums, mosques, and markets before cruising through the fjord-like waterways of the Musandam Peninsula. In the emirate of Abu Dhabi, museums, mosques and Masdar City amaze with both their sheer grandeur and minute detail. Continue to Qatar, where visits to the old souq and the new Education City illustrate how dramatically change has come to the Gulf States. Wrap up your journey among the dazzling skyscrapers of Dubai, the business and cultural hub of the Middle East and home to some of the most stunning architectural masterpieces of the 20th and 21st centuries. For those who wish to further explore the region, optional extensions in Dubai and Oman's interior are also available.

The yacht-like *Crystal Esprit* comfortably accommodates just 48 guests, and Princeton Journeys travelers are sharing this cruise with travelers from Stanford University. This compelling itinerary is sure to inspire early reservations, so we encourage you to save your space by contacting the Princeton Journeys team at (609) 258-8686 or journeys@princeton.edu.

With kind regards,

*Bridget St. Clair*

Bridget St. Clair
Executive Manager, Princeton journeys
**Tuesday & Wednesday, January 7 & 8**

**Home / Muscat, Oman**
Depart home on an overnight flight to Muscat. Upon arrival, transfer to the Al Bustan Palace, a Ritz Carlton hotel overlooking the Gulf of Oman. **AL BUSTAN PALACE HOTEL (MEALS ALOFT)**

**Thursday, January 9**

**Muscat**
After a welcome orientation and lecture, a visit to the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque is always memorable; the primary place of worship in Oman, it is the only mosque in the country that allows non-Muslims to enter. The main hall, which can accommodate more than 6,000 worshippers, is crowned by an enormous chandelier of Swarovski crystal and delicate gold-plated metalwork. Continue to the Omani Heritage Gallery, a nonprofit that supports Omani artisans working in traditional crafts, and a wonderful place to view a wide range of authentic, high-quality products including jewelry, tribal weavings, camel trappings, woven baskets, and textiles. End the day's activities at the Bait Al Zubair Museum. Built by Sheikh Al Zubair as a residence in 1914, it was converted into a museum by his son in 1998 to display a comprehensive collection of Omani art and artifacts. This evening enjoy a welcome reception and dinner at the hotel. **AL BUSTAN PALACE HOTEL (B,L,R,D)**

**Friday, January 10**

**Muscat**
Begin at the Bait Adam Museum, whose interactive exhibits on Muscat's history and culture will be explained by the head of the museum. Continue to Muttrah Souk, the oldest market in Oman and an exotic, fragrant treasure chest filled with gold, and silver, antiques, frankincense, clothing, toys, and spices. This afternoon, embark the **Crystal Esprit**. **CRYSTAL ESPIRIT (B,L,D)**

**Saturday, January 11**

**Musandam Peninsula, Oman**
The Musandam Peninsula, a region of fjord-like landscapes and traditional small villages, is one of the Gulf States’ last wilderness areas. Board a traditional wooden dhow to access scenic inlets, and snorkel near a coral reef to view butterfly fish, grouper, and even dolphins. **CRYSTAL ESPIRIT (B,L,D)**

**Sunday, January 12**

**Abu Dhabi, UAE**
This morning we arrive in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE and largest of the seven emirates. Visit the majestic Sheikh Zayed Mosque, a dazzling construction of white marble, gold leaf, semi-precious stones, crystals, and ceramic tiles. Continue to the breathtaking cultural highlights of the newly opened Louvre Abu Dhabi Museum on Saadiyat Island. There are 12 galleries curated masterfully in partnership with the Louvre, Paris. The stunning floating dome of light designed by renowned architect Jean Nouvel is a photographer’s delight. This afternoon an optional visit to Masdar City, a $20 billion enterprise showcasing Abu Dhabi’s investments in renewable energy and green technology, will be offered. **CRYSTAL ESPIRIT (B,L,D)**

**Monday, January 13**

**Abu Dhabi**
Spend the morning enjoying an introduction to the fascinating world of falconry in the company of a trained falconer. Continue to Qasr Al Hosn, the oldest stone building in Abu Dhabi, recently opened as a museum after eleven years of extensive restoration. Trace the city’s development from a fishing settlement to a modern global metropolis, including artifacts dating as far back as 6,000 BCE. **CRYSTAL ESPIRIT (B,L,D)**

**Tuesday, January 14**

**Doha, Qatar**
Doha is the fast-growing capital of Qatar, and an important Middle Eastern financial center. Explore the Museum of Islamic Art, designed by I.M. Pei and located on the city’s Corniche. This architectural gem houses collections of metalwork, ceramics, jewelry, woodwork, textiles, and glass dating from the 1600s to the 1900s. Stroll through Souq Waqif, founded a century ago and noted for offering traditional garments, spices, and handicrafts. Continue to Education City, which covers more than five square miles and houses facilities for pre-school through graduate-level research and education, as well as branches of six U.S. universities and several European educational institutions. Conclude the day at the Doha Racing and Equestrian Club, where horse racing is serious business and horses, which have played an important role in the history of the Arab world for centuries, live like royalty. **CRYSTAL ESPIRIT (B,L,D)**

**Wednesday, January 15**

**Doha**
This morning travel over towering sand dunes in four-wheel-drive vehicles to Qatar’s magnificent Inland Sea, a shallow tidal lake with a narrow outlet to the sea and shores in both Qatar and Saudi Arabia. After lunch in the desert, return to the ship and depart Qatar. **CRYSTAL ESPIRIT (B,L,D)**

**Thursday, January 16**

**Dubai, UAE**
Explore modern Dubai, including the Burj al Arab Hotel, which soars to 1,053 feet above the ground and is located on an artificial island connected to Jumeirah Beach; Ski Dubai, an indoor ski resort complete with ski slopes, toboggan and sled runs, giant snowballs, ice caves, and resident penguins; and Burj Khalifa, at 2,722 feet the tallest artificial structure in
the world. From an observation deck on the 124th floor, marvel at the panoramic views over the surrounding city. Celebrate your journey with a farewell reception and dinner on board the ship. **CRYSTAL ESPRIT (B,L,R,D)**

**Friday, January 17**

**Dubai / Home**

Disembark the **Crystal Esprit** and transfer to the airport for flights home (B)

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**OPTIONAL PRE-Cruise EXTENSION**

**Oman’s Interior**

**January 3–8, 2020**

Explore the Bedouin culture of the desert on this four-night pre-cruise extension. Depart home on January 3 and fly overnight to Muscat, arriving January 4. On January 5, depart Muscat for Oman’s Interior to explore forts, date plantations, orchards, and mountain villages from the luxurious Alila Jabal Akhdar Hotel in the awe-inspiring Al Hajar Mountains. Continue to the Desert Nights Camp and meet a Bedouin family at the Sharqiya Sands, a vast, undulating red-and-white sea of sand dunes that rise to more than 650 feet high. Return to Muscat on January 8 to begin the main tour. **AL BUSTAN PALACE HOTEL, ALILA JABAL AKHDAR HOTEL, AND DESERT NIGHTS CAMP (4B/4L/3D). RATES: $3,390 per person, double occupancy; $4,880 per person, single occupancy.**

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**OPTIONAL POST-Cruise EXTENSION**

**Dubai**

**January 17–18, 2020**

Explore “Old Dubai” on this post-cruise extension. Disembark the **Crystal Esprit** in the morning and board an abra (water taxi) to cross Dubai creek and explore the historic Bastakia district. Learn about Dubai’s history at Al-Fahidi Fort and Dubai Museum, and enjoy lunch and a special presentation on Islam at the Sheikh Mohamed Centre for Cultural Understanding. **RADISSON BLU DEIRA CREEK (1B / 1L). RATES: $790 per person, double occupancy; $990 per person, single occupancy.**
Launched in 2015, this newly refurbished, 31-stateroom yacht offers an atmosphere of classic elegance mixed with modern comfort, an elegant enclave of gorgeous interiors and inviting social spaces with a staff of 90 catering to just 48 guests. Unhampered by crowds or lines, she’s much like a private club with a relaxed and unregimented ambience. The **Crystal Esprit** offers the unique option for luxury travel to small ports, harbors, and islands not accessible to larger cruise ships. Each guest suite features a master bedroom with an ultra-thin high-definition TV with on-demand movies and interactive bedside iPad, full picture windows, seating area, and custom-designed bathroom with high-end finishes and modern technology. Wi-Fi and a private butler are provided for each suite. The ship’s four dining options boast Michelin-inspired menus, with included wines, champagne, and spirits, and 24-hour in-suite dining is available. The ship’s recreational facilities include a swimming pool, sauna, gym, spa, and a variety of aquatic equipment.

**Program rates**, per person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Double</th>
<th>Single</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suite S4</strong></td>
<td><strong>SEABREEZE DECK 223 SQ. FEET</strong>, queen or twin beds, shower</td>
<td>$12,990</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Suite S3</strong></td>
<td><strong>SEABREEZE DECK/HORIZON DECK 280 SQ. FEET</strong>, king, queen, or twin beds, shower, sofa</td>
<td>$13,490</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Suite S2</strong></td>
<td><strong>SEABREEZE DECK 280 SQ. FEET</strong>, king or twin beds, shower, sofa</td>
<td>$13,990</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Suite S1</strong></td>
<td><strong>HORIZON DECK 280 SQ. FEET</strong>, king or twin beds, shower, sofa</td>
<td>$14,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Owner’s Suite</strong></td>
<td><strong>SEABREEZE DECK 515 SQ. FEET</strong>, king bed, separate sitting and dining rooms, jacuzzi tub with separate shower, sofa</td>
<td>$21,990</td>
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**What to expect**

This is a moderately active trip for travelers who are flexible, comfortable traveling with a group, and can handle the vagaries of travel with good humor. Walking for up to one mile unassisted, standing for up to two hours in museums or at other sites, and climbing several flights of stairs, which may not have handrails, are the most strenuous activities. In addition, travelers must be able to board the ship via a metal gangplank with rope handrails and be comfortable with the rolling movement of the ship. Daytime temperatures during the trip will generally average in the mid to high 70s F, with infrequent rain.

**Air arrangements**

Please note: U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare from New York to Muscat, with return from Dubai, is approximately $1,000 per person as of April 2019 and is subject to change without notice. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

**Program rates include**

- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary including 2 hotel nights and 7 nights aboard **Crystal Esprit**• Full program of briefings, lectures, and presentations• Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure days• Visa fees for Oman, Qatar, and the UAE for U.S. Citizens• Port charges• Baggage handling• Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel• Entrance fees• Welcome and farewell wine receptions• Wine, beer, champagne, spirits, soft drinks, or water at lunch and dinner aboard **Crystal Esprit**; wine and beer may be included at some group meals off the ship• Bottled water on motor coaches• Professional tour manager throughout the program
PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses not noted as included • Medical expenses and immunizations • Private airport transfers on days other than group arrival and departure days • Travel insurance • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess baggage charges • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

INSURANCE As a service to its travelers, the Office of Alumni Affairs of Princeton University automatically provides all Princeton Journeys participants with basic medical, accident, and evacuation coverage under a group emergency assistance policy. It is highly recommended that you supplement this basic protection with your own additional insurance coverage, as well as trip cancellation/interruption or baggage coverage. Information on additional insurance is available and will be mailed from Princeton Journeys upon receipt of your reservation.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

GROUP SIZE This program is limited to 48 participants, including travelers from Princeton and Stanford.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed “Agreement, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release” is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

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 9, 2019. We accept personal checks, payable to Criterion Travel, as well as VISA, MasterCard, American Express, 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 after final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. 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 Alumni Affairs 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.

ITINERARY CHANGES The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Princeton Journeys and Criterion Travel, the tour operator. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Princeton Journeys and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

DISCLAIMER Princeton University, through the Office of Alumni Affairs and Princeton Journeys, is pleased to provide this service of facilitating travel opportunities for its Alumni and Friends. The Office of Alumni Affairs 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.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

RESERVATION FORM

OMAN, ABU DHABI, QATAR AND DUBAI

CRUISE

Aboard the Crystal Esprit

January 7–17, 2020

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) 258-3561. For more information, contact the Princeton Journeys staff at journeys@princeton.edu or (609) 258-8686.

CONTACT INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME 1 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT) PRINCETON AFFILIATION
NAME 2 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT) PRINCETON AFFILIATION
ADDRESS
ZIP
CITY
STATE
HOME PHONE
MOBILE PHONE
E-MAIL
PAYMENT
Enclosed is a check for $ ________ ($1,000 per person, made payable to Criterion Travel) for ________ place(s) on Persian Gulf Cruise program, or
Please charge my deposit of $ ________ ($1,000 per person) to my
VISA MasterCard American Express Discover
NAME ON CREDIT CARD
CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE
SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD DATE
NAME ON CHECK
CHECK NUMBER
SIGNATURE DATE

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1ST CHOICE
2ND CHOICE
Bed preference: Two Beds One bed

SINGLE TRAVELERS

I prefer to have single accommodations.
I plan to share accommodations with
I would like to know about roommates. I am a smoker non-smoker.

I understand that if a roommate cannot be located for me by the final payment date of September 9, 2019, I will pay the single rate.

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

SIGNATURE DATE
SIGNATURE DATE
Modern architectural marvels astonishing in their creativity and audacity, from the Burj Khalifa skyscraper to the ecologically sustainable Masdar City

Breathtakingly beautiful mosques that herald the importance of Islam in this part of the world

Unique cultural and historic sites, including Oman’s Heritage Gallery, Abu Dhabi’s Louvre Museum and Qatar’s Education City

Inviting museums and souqs showcasing the arts and crafts traditions of the Gulf States

Remarkable natural wonders such as Qatar’s spectacular sand dunes and Inland Sea to the Musandam Peninsula’s fjord-like waterways