

# Hawai'i: A Birding & Nature Cruise

## With Naturalist Journeys & Caligo Ventures



**Feb. 15 – 22, 2020**

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Join Naturalist Journeys and host Greg Smith on an unforgettable Hawaiian nature cruise. Sail between the four Hawaiian Islands of Moloka'i, Lana'i, Maui, and Hawai'i to discover a new side of Hawai'i, far from the tourist crowds. Enjoy a trip that emphasizes marine life, snorkeling, and fun. Begin your journey as a smiling crew and glass of champagne welcome you aboard. Snorkel through coral gardens and sea turtle habitat. See Giant Pacific Manta Ray on a night excursion. Observe whales in the Humpback National Marine Sanctuary, and find endemic birds like Nēnē, a sample of Hawaiian honeycreepers, and Hawaiian Short-eared Owl.

## Tour Highlights

- Cruise between four islands: Moloka'i, Lana'i, Maui, and Hawai'i
- Find endemic birds like Nēnē, Hawaiian honeycreepers, and Hawaiian Short-eared Owl
- Indulge in an evening pa'ina (feast) and Hawaiian jam session with Moloka'i locals
- Snorkel among coral gardens and at a sea turtle habitat
- Visit Moloka'i's ancient Halawa Valley
- Discover island history at the Lana'i Culture and Heritage Center
- Embark on snorkeling, kayaking, paddle boarding, and skiff excursions

## Tour Summary

8-Day / 7-Night Hawaiian Nature Cruise with Greg Smith

Starting at \$5195 from Moloka'i, departing Kona

Arrival airport is Molokai (MKK), Departing airport is Kona International (KOA)





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## Itinerary

**Sat., Feb. 15**

### **Moloka'i | Embarkation**

Welcome to Hawaii! You arrive today (or a few days early if you want to enjoy a few extra vacation days ahead of your cruise) on the island of Moloka'i. Moloka'i is the fifth largest of the Hawaiian Islands at 38 miles long and 10 miles wide, and is in the middle of the Hawaiian Islands chain. This rural island is also home to the highest sea cliffs in the world, as well as the longest contiguous reef on the planet ... a perfect island from which to start our Hawaiian birding and nature cruise. On arrival, you are transferred to our cruise company's hospitality area. Later, the Captain and crew greet you with smiles and champagne as you board our awaiting yacht, the *Safari Explorer*. This evening, we settle in, get acquainted with our fellow travelers and your Naturalist Journeys host, and enjoy dinner aboard the yacht. After dinner there is a presentation about what to expect for our week ahead.



**Sun., Feb. 16 Moloka'i**

A warm Aloha spirit gives you a sense of Hawaii long ago. No stop lights, no high-rises, just a welcome slower pace. "Talk story" with locals and experience their land and traditions as few visitors ever do. We hear legends and lore, then take in a cultural lesson in taro patches and poi making, or hike to the towering Mo'oula Falls waterfall in Halawa's cathedral valley — one of the island's most historic places. At a half-mile wide and varying between three and four miles deep, a hike through this valley is spectacular. At the Moloka'i Museum and Cultural Centre, discover the history of this ancient homeland as you enjoy an evening pa'ina (feast), complete with a home-style Hawaiian jam session by local musicians.



**Mon., Feb. 17 Lāna'i**

Today we gear up for a day of play on Lāna'i, the "Private Island." Thousand-foot sea cliffs line the shore



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of Hawaii's smallest inhabited island, while ancient volcanic plugs sit both above and below the water's surface as host to a wide diversity of marine life. Snorkel, paddle board, kayak, explore by skiff, or stretch your legs on a hike — whichever activities suit your fancy. Take a stroll to Sweetheart Rock, a sea stack jutting 80 feet above the crashing surf, and discover the legend of the princess Puu Pehe. Learn about the island's plantation days with a visit to the quaint Lānaʻi Culture and Heritage Center.

## **Tues., Feb. 18 Olowalu | West Maui**

In ancient times, Olowalu was considered a place of refuge. Today, it delivers a treat of snorkeling among coral gardens teeming with underwater life and a known sea turtle habitat. The Humpback National Marine Sanctuary — located between Lanaʻi, Molokaʻi, and Maui — provides front-row seats as we cruise through these productive marine breeding grounds searching for dolphins, whales, and other marine life.

## **Wed., Feb. 19 Captain's Choice Exploration**

Leave it to your Captain and crew to seek out and unveil the best opportunities the islands hold in store today. Dramatic volcanic backdrops, marine life sightings, and chances for snorkeling, kayaking, and paddle boarding are all possible!





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**Thurs., Feb. 20**

## **Honomalino Bay**

Fringed by coconut palms, Honomalino Bay, a secluded black sand beach on the big island, offers a morning of snorkeling, paddle boarding, and kayaking. The bay reveals a diversity of colorful corals, sponges, and tropical fishes. Lava tubes, kayaking, and skiff tours fill out our day of adventure — in an area known to be favored by marine mammals. This evening we anchor at an offshore location for a thrilling night snorkel with Giant Pacific Manta rays.



**Fri., Feb. 21**

## **Kailua-Kona**

Skiff to Kealahou Bay State Park, where Captain Cook was slain in 1779, for some of the island's best snorkeling. The bay is a Marine Life Conservation District and we hope to see Spinner Dolphins and more. At the historic village of Kailua-Kona, once a retreat for Hawaiian royalty, stroll through town at your own pace, and uncover the charm of this historic town. This evening, celebrate with the Captain's Dinner and photographic recap of your adventure.



**Sat., Feb. 22 Departures**

As the *Safari Explorer* docks at Kawaihae Harbor, you are transferred to the Kona Airport. If you wish to stay on and explore on your own, please let us know—we're happy to help make arrangements or recommendations; if you wish to stay on, tonight we recommend Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel. If you would like to schedule some guided time on the Big Island, we recommend Hawaii Forest & Trail. We certainly have incredible memories to take home. (B)



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## Our Ship: The *Safari Explorer*

The 36-guest *Safari Explorer* is beautifully designed for upscale comfort in the pursuit of adventure. Aboard this boutique yacht, three public decks provide room for mingling, relaxing, and enjoying the fresh air—and putting exploration in the spotlight.

This high-end SUV of a ship is nimble, strong, and loving. The *Safari Explorer* has what mariners call “feet” that take her into wild areas most other ships aren’t certified to visit. Her performance-built rugged construction means access to faraway regions. But it’s what’s on the inside that makes this yacht the prize of the fleet. And with only 36 guests on board, the feel is decidedly exclusive.

Lovingly called “the Bulldog,” she’s poised, her interior is a pearl, and the general mood is down-to-earth. For about half the year, she bops around the islands of Hawaii soaking up the laid-back aloha spirit. The other half she spends in Alaska sowing her wild oats. A protective spirit infused in every part of the ship, and within the crew. She’s made for adventures after all and with them comes inevitable fun and folly.

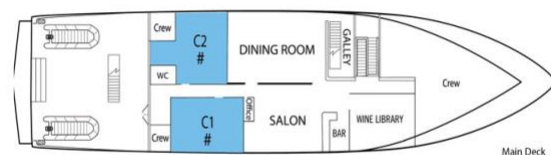
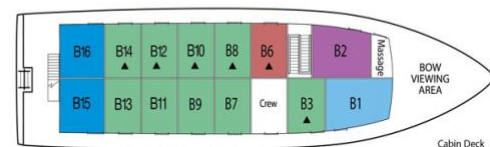
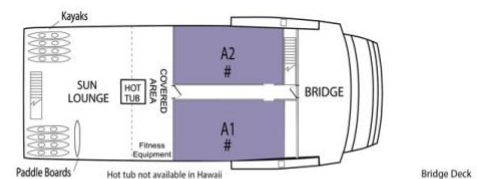
The *Safari Explorer* is adventure equipped: kayaks; paddle boards; inflatable skiffs; snorkel equipment (Hawaii only); and hiking poles and a full-beam swim step for easy access in the water. A hydrophone lets us listen to below-surface sounds and a bow-mounted underwater camera pipes the action to the lounge and to TVs in each cabin. The spa area includes an on-deck hot tub (Alaska only), fitness equipment, and yoga mats.

**Admiral Cabin** (left): C1, C2, B1

**Master Cabin** (right):

B3, B7-B14

Depending on the cabin, singles, doubles or triples can be accommodated. Common to all cabins are: Heated tile



All cabins are above deck with view windows. Diagram not to scale.  
# Double or Triple Accommodation ▲ Fixed Queen Bed



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floors in bathroom; air conditioning; Tempur-Pedic® memory foam mattresses; flat-screen TV/DVD; iPod docking station; view windows (no portholes); private bath with shower.

Destinations: Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands

Capacity: 36 guests

**Cabin Pricing:** We have Master and Admiral cabins available to us on this tour. Cost of the Master Cabin is \$5195 DBL / \$9095 SGL; cost of the Admiral Cabin is \$6995 DBL / \$12,245 SGL.

## Cost of the Journey

### Plan Ahead!

Protect yourself with Allianz Travel Insurance. Their website will show a grid of tour cost and your age category for you to make selections. As of January 2017, Naturalist Journeys pays 100% of your flight carbon offset.

### Cost of the Journey

Cost of the cruise is \$5195 – \$6995 DBL / \$9095 – \$12,245 SGL + \$375 per person port fees, from Moloka'i, Hawaii. This cost includes: Onboard meals; premium spirits, wine, beer; non-alcoholic beverages; transfers and baggage handling between airport/vessel on embark/disembark days; entry fees to national parks/preserves; all from-the-ship adventure activities and equipment; wellness amenities: fitness equipment, and yoga mats. Cost does not include: round-trip airfare to Moloka'i and from Kona.



### Travel Information

Plan to arrive in Moloka'i, Hawaii's Molokai Airport (MKK) by 2:30 PM on February 15, 2020. Please plan your departure flights from Kona International Airport (KOA) after 1:00 PM on February 22.

### Photo Credits

Booby in Flight, Tom Dove (TD); Lava, courtesy USGS; Liwi, TD; Hawaiian Short-eared Owl, TD; Nēnē, Naturalist Journeys Stock (NJS); Dolphins, Greg Smith (GS); Hike in Hawaii, NJS; Island Scenic, NJS; Sea Turtle Observation, NJS; Kayaking, NJS; Whale, GS; Beach NJS; Red-tailed Tropicbird, NJS; Nēnē Sign, NJS; Coastline, NJS; Red-crested Cardinal, NJS; Hawaii Scenic Overlook, NJS; Hawaiian Coot, NJS; Nēnē, NJS; liwi, TD; Pueo, TD; Palila, TD; Itinerary Map, courtesy Un-Cruise.