

With Warren Allmon, Professor of
Paleontology and Holger Klinck, Ph.D,
Specialist in Bioacoustics



Cornell **CAU**
Education Vacations

Expedition to ANTARCTICA:

*Ancient Landscapes to
Current Soundscapes*



Gentoo Penguin, Antarctica

Aboard the new, 152-guest Expedition Cruise Ship, *Vega*
January 9-24, 2024

Dear Cornellians & Friends,

Visiting Antarctica is almost like stepping back in time, to an era when the world was new. There are no human sounds, only the wild cries of birds, seals, and whales echoing across a vast expanse of land and sea.

During the long days of Antarctica's austral summer, as you cruise to the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland Islands, you will have endless opportunities to observe seals, whales and seabirds in their natural habitat, to witness hillsides and shorelines teeming with penguins, and to cruise through the blue Antarctic waters admiring the dramatic play of light on icebergs, glaciers, and towering mountains.

We are privileged to have accompanying our voyage Professor of Paleontology, Warren Allmon, and Holger Klinck, Ph.D., a specialist in bioacoustics at Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Both will engage us in a series of lectures and discussions throughout the voyage.

Your vessel for this journey is the state-of-the-art expedition ship, Swan Hellenic's *Vega*, designed specifically for polar exploration. The ship's limited guest capacity, advanced technical and mechanical systems, and experienced officers and crew, make it the vessel of choice for exploring Antarctica in safety and comfort.

We hope you will join Warren Allmon, Holger Klinck, and fellow alumni on this once-in-a-lifetime travel adventure.

Warmly,

CAU
(Cornell's Adult University)



CORNELL FACULTY

Warren Allmon

Professor of Paleontology



Warren Allmon is the Hunter R. Rawlings III Professor of Paleontology in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, the director of the Paleontological Research Institution (PRI), and a longtime faculty member at CAU. He is the author of more than 250 technical and popular publications, including extensive writings on macroevolution and paleoecology, and the recipient of the 2004 Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Understanding of Geoscience from the American Geological Institute.

Holger Klinck, Ph.D.

Specialist in Bioacoustics



Holger Klinck is the John W. Fitzpatrick Director of the K. Lisa Yang Center for Conservation Bioacoustics at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, a faculty fellow at Cornell's Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, and a courtesy professor at Oregon State University. His current work explores the application of hard- and software tools for passive acoustic monitoring of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and his previous research was based at the German Antarctic Research Station Neumayer II, located in Dronning Maud Land, Antarctica.

THE NEW 152-GUEST EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP VEGA



Oceanview Stateroom



Balcony Suite



Observation Lounge



Sauna



Club Lounge



Outdoor Café/Bar with swimming pool

Built in Finland and launched in July 2022, Swan Hellenic's *Vega* is a new-generation expedition cruise ship. Although at 10,250 tons the ship is large enough to accommodate more than 250 passengers, *Vega* will accommodate a maximum of 152 guests in 76 spacious staterooms and balcony suites. The low guest density results in one of the most generous indoor and outdoor space-to-guest ratios among cruise ships.

Featuring the latest advances in technology and engineering, *Vega* is among the world's first environmentally responsible ships. Equipped with hybrid engines, a system of powerful batteries, and a unique water filtration system, *Vega* leaves a minimal footprint. For cruising in Polar regions, the ship meets the stringent requirements of the new Polar Code with its high PC5 Category A ice-strengthened hull and other advanced features. A computer-controlled Dynamic Positioning System allows the ship to maintain position without anchoring. Operated by a complement of 120 experienced European officers and international crew members, *Vega*

will carry a fleet of Zodiacs, versatile landing boats, and kayaks. Powerful stabilizers provide a smooth ride.

Vega's interior spaces exude sophisticated elegance, with most rooms opening to panoramic views of the sea. All staterooms and suites face outside and are equipped with private facilities, climate control, TV, Wi-Fi and USB connections, and other amenities. Of the ship's 76 staterooms, 60 have balconies. Public areas include a spacious observation lounge equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for lectures and presentations; a club lounge; a restaurant that accommodates all guests at one seating; an outdoor café/bar that surrounds the heated swimming pool; a wellness area with gym, spa, and sauna with an adjoining outdoor jacuzzi; library; beauty salon; and an infirmary that is attended by a full-time doctor and nurse. The ship also features expansive open-deck areas. Two elevators connect all decks. Attentive service is provided on a 24-hour basis. The outstanding cuisine is complemented by fine wines at lunch and dinner.

FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL **THALASSA JOURNEYS** TOLL-FREE AT **866-633-3611**

ITINERARY



Tuesday, January 9, 2024

DEPART FROM U.S.

Depart from home to Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Wednesday, January 10

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

Arrive in Buenos Aires and transfer to the *Alvear Icon Hotel*. In the evening, meet fellow travelers, your CAU lecturers, and your trip director for a welcome dinner. (D)

Thursday, January 11 and Friday, January 12

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

Enjoy two full days to explore Buenos Aires, Argentina's cosmopolitan capital. Sightseeing includes Plaza Mayo, surrounded by elegant 19th-century buildings including Casa Rosada, the



Lemaire Channel



Adélie penguins, Antarctica

presidential palace, and other sites. On the evening of January 12th, gather at the hotel for a reception and briefing to prepare for tomorrow's flight to Ushuaia and embarkation on *Vega*. (B)

Saturday, January 13

BUENOS AIRES/USHUAIA/EMBARKATION

Following our charter flight to Ushuaia, embark *Vega* in the afternoon and sail through the magnificent scenery of the Beagle Channel. (B, D)

Sunday, January 14

AT SEA

Attend lectures and briefings on what lies ahead and enjoy the ship's facilities as *Vega* navigates the Drake Passage to Antarctica. Keep a lookout for the albatrosses, Cape petrels, and whales



Sea lions and Albatross, Beagle Channel near Ushuaia



Get close to the scenery and wildlife with the ship's fleet of Zodiacs.

that may accompany the ship as we make our way to the White Continent. (B, L, D)

Monday, January 15 – Sunday, January 21

EXPLORING ANTARCTICA: ANTARCTIC PENINSULA AND SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

During these days, we will explore the pristine wilderness of the Antarctic Peninsula and its surrounding islands. The Peninsula is a narrow finger of land that separates the Bellingshausen and Weddell Seas. As *Vega* cruises through scenic waterways, witness breathtaking panoramas of blue glaciers and jagged, snow-capped mountains. Aboard the ship's Zodiacs, we cruise among ice floes and explore penguin rookeries. The exact nature of our daily activities will depend on ice and wind conditions, but we expect to make landings at such places as Paradise Harbor, where humpback and minke whales are often sighted offshore; Petermann Island, the habitat of Gentoo and Adelle penguins; and Deception Island, known for its volcanically-heated hot springs

and for the remains of abandoned whaling huts and extraordinary wildlife, including the largest colony of Chinstrap penguins on the Antarctic Peninsula. Navigating through the magnificent Lemaire, Neumayer and other protected channels is also planned. Also attend lectures and discussions with our CAU professors and attend briefings with the ship's expedition staff. (B, L, D)

Monday, January 22 – Tuesday, January 23

AT SEA

As *Vega* makes her way back across the Drake Passage toward Ushuaia, treat yourself to the amenities aboard and attend final lectures. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, January 24

USHUAIA/DISEMBARK/BUENOS AIRES

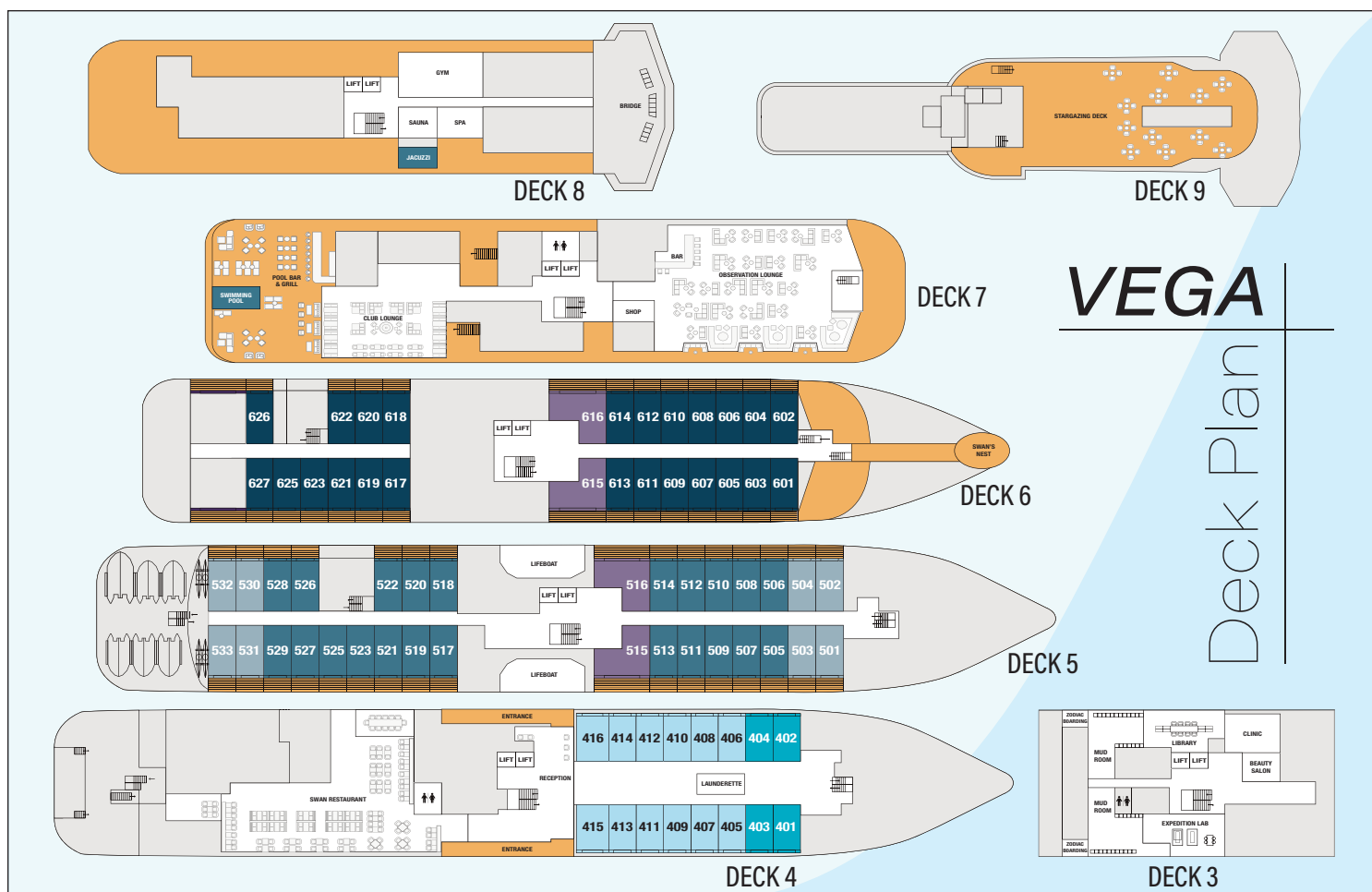
After breakfast aboard ship, transfer to the airport in Ushuaia for our charter flight to Buenos Aires, where we connect to flights homeward. (B)



Humpback whale



Antarctic iceberg



All accommodations aboard *Vega* are spacious staterooms and balcony suites. They are elegantly decorated, face outside, affording sea views, and include a queen-size bed that can be arranged as two twin beds, a spacious bathroom, mini-refrigerator, safe, ample closet space, climate control, telephone, TV, Wi-Fi, and USB connections, as well as other amenities.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	RATES PER PERSON / DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
E	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401-404.	\$12,390
D	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405-416.	\$12,890
C	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501-504, 530-533.	\$13,990
B	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505-514, 517-529.	\$14,690
A	Suites with balcony and living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601-614, 617-627.	\$15,790
AA	Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom & living room. 440 sq. ft. Decks 5 & 6. Suites 515, 516, 615 & 616.	\$17,990

SPECIAL BENEFIT

Book this cruise program and receive a

5% SAVINGS

on your next cruise with
Cornell's Adult University
and Thalassa Journeys.

If you book your next cruise within
30 days after you return from
Expedition to Antarctica
you will receive an
ADDITIONAL 5% SAVINGS.

FOR SOLO TRAVELERS

A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy in categories D to B at no additional charge. Additional single cabins are available at a supplement of 50% of the per person double occupancy rate, instead of the normal 70% supplement.

FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL **THALASSA JOURNEYS** TOLL-FREE AT **866-633-3611**

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

The rates are all-inclusive. There are no hidden costs and no additional charges such as shore excursions and embarkation and port charges. Other than the international airfare and expenses of a personal nature, all else is included. Specifically, the rates include the following:

- Three nights in Buenos Aires at *Alvear Icon Hotel* (or similar), including breakfast daily.
- Welcome CAU Dinner in Buenos Aires on January 10, and reception and briefing at the hotel on January 12.
- Round trip group flight between Buenos Aires and Ushuaia.
- 11-night cruise aboard the *Vega*, as described in the itinerary.
- Private lectures by Cornell Professor of Paleontology, Warren Allmon and Holger Klinck, Ph.D. specialist in bioacoustics.
- Lectures and briefings by expert shipboard expedition leaders and naturalists.
- Airport/hotel/pier transfers and handling of luggage.
- Complete program of shore landings and activities organized by the expedition leaders and naturalists.
- All meals aboard the ship, with a selection of wines, beer and soft drinks during lunch and dinner.
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard the ship hosted by the captain.
- Open bar with select alcoholic beverages.
- Coffee, including espresso and cappuccino, tea and soft drinks throughout the day and night.
- 24-hour room service.
- Gratuities to the ship's crew, porters and drivers.
- Basic Wi-Fi aboard the ship.
- The services of an experienced Thalassa Journeys trip director.
- All local taxes and service charges, including port and embarkation taxes.
- Use of rubber boots for shore landings.
- Complementary expedition parka for you to use and keep.
- Complete pre-departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the itinerary or the above inclusions.

While Cornell is pleased to facilitate travel opportunities for its alumni and friends with tour operators that specialize in high-quality educational travel, please be aware that Cornell does not conduct, manage or operate these travel experiences, or act as an agent for travelers interested in tours. Tour operators and travelers are responsible for making their own safety decisions concerning this travel, and, as a facilitator between travelers and the tour operators with whom travelers make arrangements for completing travel, Cornell's role and liability are strictly limited. Specific tour operator and national health and safety protocols will apply to each trip, and travelers should review all protocols and trip terms and conditions, including terms and conditions regarding cancellations, refunds, health and safety, and insurance prior to making a reservation. Cornell is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements or for losses, expenses, damages, or injuries resulting from travel.

REGISTRATION

CAU 24V-0109

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for \$ _____ (\$ 1,500 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on **Expedition to Antarctica**, January 9 - 24, 2024, with Cornell's Adult University. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

Please either make check payable to and mail with this registration form to Thalassa Journeys: 8815 Conroy-Windermere Rd., Suite 406, Orlando, FL 32835

**or call Thalassa Journeys to register using a credit card:
Phone Toll-Free: (866) 633-3611**

PLEASE SELECT STATEROOM CATEGORY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

1st choice ☐ _____ 2nd choice ☐ _____ 3rd choice ☐ _____

☐ Double Occupancy ☐ Single Occupancy (Inquire for rates)

PREFERRED BED CONFIGURATION

Double ☐ _____ Twin ☐ _____

FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)	CLASS OF
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FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)	CLASS OF
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ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (DAY) _____

(EVENING) _____

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the "General Information" section and agree to its terms.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

EMAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check or charged to a credit card.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

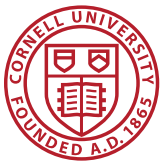
INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Thalassa Journeys.

RESPONSIBILITY: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the traveler and Thalassa Journeys. Thalassa Journeys acts solely as agents for the traveler with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the traveler's safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the traveler or in affecting these tours. We are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the traveler, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the traveler's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the traveler beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, transportation methods, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the traveler certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other travelers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other travelers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the traveler's risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in Florida, pursuant to applicable Florida law.

RATES: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change.

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Cornell **CAU**
Education Vacations

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**Explore the Wonders of Antarctica with Warren Allmon, Professor of Paleontology
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