SAILING THE PANAMA CANAL
Costa Rica & Panama Aboard Sea Cloud

JANUARY 4 TO 16, 2015
WITH PATRICK BOWE

Dear National Trust Travelers,

When the Panama Canal opened in 1914, it fulfilled a dream that began more than four centuries ago with the conquistadores: to link the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Next January, escape the chill of winter on a luxury cruise from Costa Rica to Panama, as we traverse this man-made miracle aboard the legendary Sea Cloud.

We are delighted to be accompanied by distinguished architectural historian and horticulturist Patrick Bowe. A long-time favorite of the National Trust, Patrick will enrich our journey with his in-depth knowledge and delightful wit.

Begin in San José, Costa Rica, with an early morning visit to the Pre-Columbian Gold Museum. Admire exotic orchids and perhaps spot a quetzal, the Mayan sacred bird, at nearby El Silencio de Los Angeles Cloud Forest Reserve. From Puerto Caldera sail down the country’s rugged Pacific coast to discover the vast, verdant Térraba-Sierpe mangroves, home to rare birds and accessible only by boat. Spend a morning exploring stunning Corcovado National Park before sailing to Isla de Coiba, home to Panama’s largest marine reserve. Step ashore in Isla Iguana for snorkeling and bird-watching, and anchor overnight in Panama City for an architectural tour and museum visits.

Spend a day traversing the canal to Colón. View the immense steel gates that open to let ships into various locks, which raise and lower the vessels to access artificial lakes. The following day, sail through the densely forested islands of Bocas del Toro, tendering ashore for a private reception by the owner of a botanic garden.

Disembark in Puerto Limón and enjoy a nature walk in the Veragua Rainforest before concluding in San José.

Built in 1931 for heiress Marjorie Merriweather Post, the luxurious Sea Cloud is a sailing yacht like no other. Experience the thrill of traveling under billowing white sails aboard this elegant square-rigger, which has hosted royalty and even served her country during World War II.

We hope you will join us on this exploration of man-made and natural wonders, in the congenial company of members of the Harvard Alumni Association and Yale Educational Travel.

Sincerely,

Scott Gerloff
Director, National Trust Tours

Corcovado National Park
Sierpe de Osa
San José
San Ramón
Puerto Caldera
Puerto Limón
Colón
Panama City
Isla Iguana
Panama Canal
Drake Bay
Isla de Coiba
Bocas del Toro

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DRAKE BAY 1
SIERPE DE OSA, COSTA RICA
Tuesday, January 6 Enjoy the first morning at sea. Attend a lecture as the ship anchors in Drake Bay. After lunch, join a boat tour through the channels of the Manglares de Térraba-Sierpe, one of the largest mangrove systems of Central America. A hidden world accessible only by water, these flooded forests are home to nearly 100 species of birds, including the endemic mangrove hummingbird (found nowhere else on earth).

MIAMI 1 SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA
Sunday, January 4 Depart Miami this morning on a nonstop flight to San José. Following check-in at the Costa Rica Marriott Hotel San José, the afternoon is at leisure. In the early evening, gather for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

SAN JOSE 1 SAN RAMON 1
PUERTO CALDERA, COSTA RICA
Monday, January 5 After an early morning visit to the Pre-Columbian Gold Museum, depart for San Ramón and the El Silencio de Los Angeles Cloud Forest Reserve, where we will discover some of the 2,500 species of plants, including 400 varieties of orchids. We hope to see exotic wildlife such as the quetzal, two-toed sloth, and motmot bird. Following lunch, continue to Puerto Caldera where Sea Cloud awaits. Enjoy a champagne toast as we set sail in the early evening.

CORCOVADO NATIONAL PARK,
COSTA RICA
Wednesday, January 7 This morning explore Corcovado National Park. Mostly undisturbed because of its isolation, the park is home to the scarlet macaws, quetzals, red-eyed tree frogs, and tapirs. Naturalist guides will lead us on a walk through the park to see some of the 13 major ecosystems, including mangrove, palm grove, montane forest, lagoon and primary lowland rainforest. Return to Sea Cloud for lunch and the balance of the day at sea.

GOLFITO, COSTA RICA 1 AT SEA
Thursday, January 8 Stop in Golfito and travel by Zodiac to nearby Casa Orquidea, a beautiful private orchid garden. Enjoy an afternoon of sailing and lectures, as Sea Cloud continues to Panama.
ISLA DE COIBA, PANAMA

Friday, January 9 Tender ashore this morning to Isla de Coiba, home to Coiba National Park, the largest marine reserve in Panama and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Swim or snorkel from the pristine white sand beach at Granito de Oro, with its calm waters and splendid array of coral and fish.

ISLA IGUANA, PANAMA

Saturday, January 10 Known for its large population of frigate birds, the Isla Iguana Wildlife Reserve also has vast areas of preserved coral reef, making it a superb place to snorkel. Admire the beauty and unique fauna of this uninhabited island during our morning visit.

PANAMA CITY, PANAMA

Sunday, January 11 Arrive at Balboa, the port for Panama City. Drive to the Miraflores Locks Visitor Center, for an up-close view of vessels transiting the canal and visit to the museum on the canal’s history. Enjoy a private concert of Latin jazz played by talented children from the Danilo Pérez Foundation. Dinner is on board as Sea Cloud remains in port overnight.

CANAL TRANSIT 1 COLON, PANAMA

Tuesday, January 13 Today is dedicated to our passage through the man-made lakes and three sets of locks that comprise the 48-mile-long Panama Canal, considered one of the seven wonders of the modern world. In the early evening, arrive in Colón, on the Caribbean Sea.

BOCAS DEL TORO, PANAMA

Wednesday, January 14 The Bocas del Toro Archipelago consists of six densely forested islands, scores of uninhabited islets, and Isla Bastimentos National Marine Park. Tender ashore this afternoon to see a private botanic garden where we will be greeted by the owner. Following the visit, there will be time to explore the quaint town.

PUERTO LIMON 1 SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

Thursday, January 15 Disembark Sea Cloud in Puerto Limón for a scenic drive to the capital city of San José. En route visit Veragua Rainforest and see the research center. Enjoy a nature walk before lunch. Arrive at the Costa Rica Marriott in time for dinner and an overnight.

SAN JOSE 1 MIAMI

Friday, January 16 Depart on a morning flight to Miami.
The text in the image appears to be a page from a document about a travel itinerary, specifically for sailing the Panama Canal. The text includes details about various destinations and activities such as visits to national parks, museums, and reserves, as well as information about the ship's deck plan, rates, and general travel details. The text also mentions rates for cabins, land/cruise rates, and a reservation application form for a sailing trip aboard Sea Cloud.

For more information, please telephone the Tours Program at the National Trust at (888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300. web: www.PreservationNation.org/tours email: info@nationaltrusttours.com
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TERMS & CONDITIONS

AIRFARE: Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements for this program, including specially negotiated group airfare when available, suggested group flights, or individual requests, for a processing fee of $40 per person. Complete details will be provided in your confirmation mailing.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: $2,500 per person, payable to National Trust Tours, of which $350 is non-refundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Balance due by check 120 days prior to departure.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS: The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and AAA. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares and currency exchange rates in effect at the time of brochure printing and subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual.

ELIGIBILITY: National Trust for Historic Preservation tours are open to members only. Membership dues for 2015 are $30 for family and $20 for individual membership. The minimum age limit for the program is 14. Children must pay the full price, and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There is no maximum age limit. PLEASE NOTE: Participants must be in excellent health and able to participate in tour activities. Any physical condition that may require special medical attention (for example, the need of a wheelchair) must be reported at the time of your reservation. Participants must be able to walk on uneven surfaces and climb in and out of various conveyances, including tenders. If you have any doubt about your ability to participate fully due to health conditions or disabilities, contact the National Trust at (888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and AAA reserve the right to decline or retain any person as a member of this tour at any time. In such case, the refund will be limited to the actual cost of unused tour services. Please note: Sea Cloud does not have an elevator.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: The National Trust for Historic Preservation strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for a fee. 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. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at 888.484.8785.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations must be in writing and are subject to a $350 non-refundable processing fee. At the time AAA receives written notice of cancellation, the following cancellation charges will apply: cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure, 20 percent of the program cost per person; those received between 90 and 61 days before departure, 50 percent of the program cost per person; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on day of departure or after, or for unused portions of tour. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Air cancellation penalties will be assessed in accordance with airline regulations. NOTE: Neither the National Trust for Historic Preservation nor AAA accepts liability for any airline cancellations penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets. In the case of a cancellation due to shortage of participants, AAA will attempt to notify all participants at least 45 days prior to departure. The right is reserved by AAA to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason. In such case, refund of the cost of the trip shall constitute full settlement with the passenger.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE: The National Trust for Historic Preservation, in order to make an educational opportunity available to its members, has arranged for AAA to organize our tour and procure carriage, accommodations and other tour services from other parties. Once tour members register for the tour, they must contact and otherwise deal with AAA. Neither AAA nor any other suppliers of tour services are joint venturers with or in any way controlled by the National Trust. The National Trust can undertake no responsibility for the accuracy of representations in tour promotion literature, for tour reservations, accommodations, transportation or safety, nor any other aspect of the tour except preservation-related educational programs and the liaison between the National Trust and other preservationists. Consequently, the National Trust shall not be construed to make any covenants or warranties, expressed or implied, regarding our tours, and shall not be liable in any way for any personal injury, death, property damage or loss incurred by any persons in connection with our tours. AAA and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, carriage, aircraft or other conveyance that may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the passenger, neither will they be responsible for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity that may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the tour operators. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. However, when the tour departs the U.S., no refund can be made for any feature of the program not used by the passenger during operation of the tour. The agent reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. In such case the refund will be limited to the actual cost of the unused land tour services. The sole responsibility of any airline used in any tour is limited to that set out in the passenger contract evidenced by the ticket. Any ARC/IATA carriers used are not responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not aboard their planes or conveyances. Similar responsibilities as noted above apply to all types of carriers.

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Academic Arrangements Abroad

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