Passage through the Panama Canal and Costa Rica

aboard the Exclusively Chartered, Newly Launched, Five-Star, Small Ship Le Champlain accompanied by Dr. Patrick Lloyd Hatcher

February 10 to 18, 2019

- Daylight Transit through the Panama Canal
- Luxury Small Ship
- 100% Ocean-View Staterooms
- All Shore Excursions Included
The Cal Discoveries Travel Difference

Our goal is to provide the University of California, Berkeley community with an exciting combination of discovery, learning, and adventure in educationally oriented travel.

When you travel with Cal Discoveries Travel, you can be assured that we understand your desire for a strong educational component, a carefully selected destination, and a Cal connection on every trip.

Benefits of traveling with Cal Discoveries Travel
- Experience “lifelong learning” with world-renowned Cal faculty and/or local experts
- Receive outstanding customer service from Cal Discoveries Travel staff with more than 40 years expertise
- Meet new friends and old, and find interesting, inquisitive travel companions who have Cal in common

Lecturer Biography
Dr. Patrick Lloyd Hatcher earned his Ph.D. at UC Berkeley in History and went on to teach in both Cal’s History and Political Science Departments. For his teaching he won the Blue and Gold teaching award. He has led Cal Discoveries Travel programs to Asia, Africa and the Americas, as well as Europe. In 1986, Dr. Hatcher joined a team of specialists advising President Reagan on U.S. policies toward Costa Rica and Panama. During this time they met with the presidents and cabinet ministers of both countries and traveled extensively in both nations. 

Cal lecturer’s participation cannot be guaranteed and is contingent on a minimum number of travelers.

Tour Highlights
- Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered Five-Star Le Champlain, launching in 2018 and featuring the extraordinary Blue Eye, the world’s first multisensory observation lounge. This sophisticated small ship offers only 92 Suites and Staterooms, each with a private balcony.
- Voyage from the Atlantic to the Pacific through one of the greatest man-made wonders of the world, the ingenious Panama Canal—an experience nearly unmatchable in its drama and engineering marvel. During a specially arranged and narrated daylight transit, experience firsthand the mighty locks that raise and lower oceangoing vessels to accomplish in mere hours what would have taken a three-week circumnavigation of South America in years gone by.
- Discover the planet’s most pristine ecosystems in the rainforests, islands and archipelagos of Panama and Costa Rica during the best time of year.
- Explore the heart of Panama City’s UNESCO World Heritage-designated Casco Antiguo—the city’s old town—and tour acclaimed architect Frank Gehry’s only design in Latin America, Panama City’s Biodiversity Museum. Visit Panama’s ancient San Blas Islands, where the native Guna people live as they did centuries ago.
- Panama Pre-Program Option and Costa Rica Post-Program Option.

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For further information, please call the Cal Discoveries Travel office at $10.900.8222 or toll free at 888.225.2586 or email caldiscoveries@alumni.berkeley.edu.

Like us on Facebook.com/CalDiscoveriesTravel

Cover photo: Cruise from the Atlantic to the Pacific during your daylight passage through the Panama Canal, hailed as one of the 20th century’s greatest achievements in engineering and a monument to the ingenuity and tenacity of mankind.
Called the “coast of riches” by the Spanish conquistadors who sought to colonize it following Columbus’s arrival in 1502, Costa Rica offers diverse and fascinating riches, from its impossibly fertile landscapes to the perseverant culture of its indigenous people. More than 25 percent of this captivating country is a national park, wildlife refuge or protected forest, earning Costa Rica the distinction of the greenest country in the world and the leading destination for eco-tourism. Explore lush rainforests, stroll coral-fringed beaches and encounter a vivid array of wildlife. The national motto of Costa Rica is “Pura vida!” which translates to “pure life”; it is expressed in the proud and welcoming faces of the ticos (Costa Rican natives), the passionate biologists captivated by the flourishing rare and endemic species, and the spectacularly vivacious landscape itself.

San Blas Islands, Panama
Located on the Caribbean side of Panama, the sun-drenched San Blas Islands are a living testament to Panama’s indigenous Guna people, also known as the Kuna, and their centuries-old language, customs and culture. Villagers live in typical thatched-roof huts, barter or trade in fish and agricultural products, and paddle dugout canoes, their main mode of transportation. Guna women continue to hand stitch traditional colorful molas (reverse appliqué panels) and wear winis, long strings of tiny beads wrapped around their forearms and legs in striking geometric patterns.

The pristine, turquoise waters of Golfo de San Blas—populated with untouched coral reefs and vibrant marine life—offer an exciting opportunity for swimming.

Panama City
By special arrangement, cruise through the fascinating Panama Canal. Arrive in Central America’s most attractive capital city and learn more about the operation of the canal’s locks in the adjacent Miraflores Locks Visitor Center. Nearby, the new Biodiversity Museum, designed by architect Frank Gehry of Guggenheim fame, showcases the ecological significance of Panama’s exotic flora and fauna.

Photo this page: In only three square miles, Costa Rica’s Manuel Antonio National Park showcases an abundance of natural wonders among its sandy beaches, low-lying marshes and mature tropical forests.
Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated “old quarter” of Casco Antiguo, a charming neighborhood replete with cobblestone streets and many architecturally significant historical edifices, including a 16th-century cathedral.

Isla Cébaco
A winding coastline of rarely visited sandy beaches and towering palm trees front the dense rainforests that dominate Isla Cébaco, a gem in the sparkling Gulf of Montijo. Snorkel in its emerald waters, where schools of brilliantly colored fish, giant manta rays and four different species of turtles swim amid spectacular coral reefs.

Manuel Antonio National Park, Costa Rica
Experience an unparalleled diversity of wildlife in this lush tropical haven, a captivating combination of rainforest, beach and coral reef, home to more than 100 species of mammals, almost 200 species of birds and various reptiles and amphibians.

Explore this protected “Living Eden,” where expert naturalists will help you spot colorful toucans, screeching howler monkeys, camouflaged iguanas, squirrel monkeys, two- and three-toed sloths and rare and endangered species such as the scarlet macaw.

Curú National Wildlife Refuge
Unlike traditional nature reserves, Curú Wildlife Refuge is a unique blend of sustainable agriculture, forest management and wildlife protection, reestablishing species like the scarlet macaw and spider monkey, both reintroduced into the wild here. Encompassing five distinctive untouched habitats—including mangrove swamps and both dry and humid forests—it is the ideal place to see the intricacies of interdependent ecosystems. Enjoy a guided walk in the morning, the best time of day to observe an abundance of wildlife including capuchin and howler monkeys, more than 230 species of birds, white-tailed deer and iguanas.

Isla Tortuga
Nestled in a private reserve near the stunning Nicoya Peninsula, idyllic Isla Tortuga is named for its tortoise-like volcanic rock formations. Against a backdrop of coconut palm trees and white-sand beaches, enjoy opportunities to swim and snorkel in this protected island’s clear, sheltered waters, home to fascinating marine life such as angel fish, spotted eagle rays and sea horses.
San José
In the heart of the fertile Valle Central, Costa Rica’s dynamic capital city of San José possesses an eclectic mix of museums, landscaped parks, lively cafés and art galleries and an interesting fusion of architectural styles including Spanish Colonial, Moorish and Modernist.

Visit the National Theater, a regal Baroque edifice modeled on Milan’s La Scala, with marble staircases, gilded statues and red velvet carpeting, and peruse the National Museum’s impressive pre-Columbian Central American artifacts, stonework, gold jewelry and statuettes.

Dynamic Panama—
The Renaissance of a City
Pre-Program Option
An exploration of old and new, Panama is the perfect complement to “the crossroads of the Americas.” Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Panama Viejo to see the ruins of the oldest European settlement on the Pacific American coast, cruise the Gatún River to meet the indigenous Embera people and visit the fascinating Agua Clara Visitor Center for panoramic views of the Panama Canal expansion. Spend two nights in the ideally located, deluxe Bristol Panama Hotel.

Costa Rica’s Cultural and Natural Riches
Post-Program Option
Experience a medley of Costa Rica’s diverse biospheres, from steamy hot springs to misty cloud forests. In view of towering Arenal Volcano, explore the lush rainforest along a series of suspended and fixed bridges. Tour historic San José, an organic chocolate workshop, an award-winning coffee estate and a traditional artisan town known for intricately hand-painted woodcrafts. Accommodations are for two nights in the ideally located Hotel Royal Corin and two nights in the hacienda-style Costa Rica Marriott Hotel San José.

Post-Program pricing includes a credit for one night’s accommodations in San José and the San José city tour already included in the cost of the main program.

The Pre- and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Panama’s Guna people proudly wear vibrant molas and wrap their legs with beaded winis.

Surrounded by lush rainforest, Costa Rica’s imposing Arenal Volcano entered into a resting phase in 2010.

The Panama Canal’s stunning Gatún Lake was the world’s largest man-made lake upon completion in 1913.
Exclusive to the Ponant fleet is the extraordinary Blue Eye, a multisensory underwater observation lounge that incorporates bionic and biomimetic technology to immerse you in the beauty of the ocean’s ecosystem. Observe marine life through the large subaquatic windows and on digital screens projecting undersea activity in real time, while specially designed hydrophones echo the ebb and flow of the sounds beneath the water’s surface. Marine life viewing varies by location.

Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design
Le Champlain, launching in 2018, ushers in a new generation of Five-Star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for an unparalleled cruising experience. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships and where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you.

Respect for the Environment
The newest addition to the Ponant “Clean Ship” fleet, a rare designation among ocean-cruising vessels, Le Champlain is energy efficient and eco-friendly, protecting fragile marine ecosystems while providing a safe and comfortable voyage.

Chic and Casual Dining
Dine indoors or alfresco on international and regional cuisine served in the stylish, spacious indoor-outdoor restaurant, at the casual pool deck grill or from 24-hour room service. Daily meals include continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner.

92 Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies
Each Five-Star Stateroom and Suite (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand Deluxe Suites have a bay window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control and luxurious hotel amenities.

Life on Board
Enjoy sweeping views from the lounges, which open to the outdoors, and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa and sauna or the Sun Deck’s infinity-style swimming pool. There is a beauty salon, fitness room and two elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available throughout the ship.

World-Class Service
The highly trained, English-speaking crew are personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and a nurse.
Included Features

Scenic transfer from Panama City to Colón.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship Le Champlain

- Seven-night cruise from Colón, Panama, to Puerto Caldera, Costa Rica.
- Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.
- All meals aboard ship.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
- Blue Eye—the world’s first luxury, multisensory, underwater observatory.
- Expert onboard naturalist guides to lead small group excursions.
- Excursion to the remote San Blas Islands, where you will meet the Guna people.
- Daylight passage through the Panama Canal, accompanied by a historical narration. Transit times through the canal are controlled by the Panama Canal Authority and are subject to traffic conditions.
- Tour of Panama City, highlighted by a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Casco Antiguo, the new Frank Gehry-designed Biodiversity Museum and the informative Panama Canal Miraflores Locks Museum.
- Visit to pristine Isla Cébaco, with opportunities for swimming and snorkeling among colorful marine life.
- Excursion in stunning and biodiverse Manuel Antonio National Park with a naturalist-led trail walk through the protected rainforest.
- Specially arranged, onboard guitar performance by local Quepos musicians.
- Guided tour through Curú National Wildlife Refuge to see a wide array of wildlife in its natural habitat, such as the rare scarlet macaw and the spider monkey.
- Visit to unspoiled Isla Tortuga, with opportunities for snorkeling.
- Culinary demonstration by the ship’s chef.

Scenic transfer from Puerto Caldera to San José.

In San José, Costa Rica

- One night in the hacienda-style Costa Rica Marriott Hotel San José.
- American breakfast.
- Tour of San José, including visits to the National Theater and National Museum, with lunch.

Always Included

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- Experienced, English speaking local guides for included excursions.
- Gratuities to hotel personnel, local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Hospitality desk aboard ship and in the hotel.
- Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
The Panama Canal

Marvel of Human Engineering
More than a Century of Passages

The 580-foot-long SS Kroonland was the largest passenger ship of its time to transit the Panama Canal in 1915.

During a daylight passage, experience firsthand the “greatest liberty man has ever taken with nature,” which cuts through the Great Continental Divide, spans 50 miles and took 33 years and 100,000 laborers to complete at a cost of $400 million. This historic engineering feat changed the world, opened new channels of international trade and allowed ships to travel between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans in a fraction of the time it took to circumnavigate South America.

After France’s failed attempt to build a sea-level canal here in the 19th century, and following the U.S. involvement in Panama’s independence, the project resumed under the watchful eye of President Theodore Roosevelt. When completed in 1914, the Panama Canal was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World. Now, more than a century later, the canal has undergone a $5.25 billion expansion to accommodate more than twice the cargo, maintaining its status as the “gateway to the world.”

Tens of thousands of workers labored and sacrificed to complete the largest engineering endeavor of the early 20th century.
MV Le Champlain

LAND/Cruise Tariff excluding taxes*

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Deluxe Suite

Prestige Suite

Privilege Suite

Grand Deluxe Suite

Owner’s Suite

*Le Champlain has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

THE PANAMA CANAL AND COSTA RICA RESERVATION FORM

Send to: Cal Discoveries Travel | Cal Alumni Association
1 Alumni House | Berkeley, CA 94720-7520
510.900.8222 or 888.225.2586
caldiscoversies@alumni.berkeley.edu

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Cal Class Year

Email Address Date of Birth

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Cal Class Year

Email Address Date of Birth

Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City State ZIP Code

Telephone: (Primary) (Cell)

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 096-02/10/19-012

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Panama Pre-Program Option and/or $200 per person Costa Rica Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Bonding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $ as deposit.

Make checks payable to Gohagan & Company.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $ to:

Visa MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by November 7, 2018.

One traveler per room, whether an alumni or friend, must be a current Cal Alumni Association member at the time of departure to participate in Cal Discoveries Travel offerings. Payment of $60 for seniors 65 years and over and $75 for others establishes a regular or affiliate membership with all other Association benefits. Memberships are for individuals only, and are non-refundable and non-transferable. A traveling pair and their children under 21 years of age may travel on one membership. Please make dues payable to CAA by separate check, or, if you prefer, provide a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express number with expiration date for payment. You can also enroll online at alumni.berkeley.edu/join.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:

1st choice 2nd choice

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and ask that you contact me should a single opportunity become available (shares cannot be guaranteed).

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and ask that you contact me should a single opportunity become available (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Panama Pre-Program Option

Double at $695 per person.

Single at $395 per person.

Business Class (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Costa Rica Post-Program Option

Double at $1295 per person.

Single at $695 per person.

Upgraded Economy (shares cannot be guaranteed).

First Class (Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is non-refundable).

I/We want to book my/our air, at an additional cost to be advised, from:

( fill in departure city)
Listen for the throaty call of the howler monkey, one of Costa Rica’s most common species.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Gohagan & Company, CAA, the sponsoring association/organization, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assignees (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide any of your trip arrangements or plans, but instead will be arranging for your hotel, travel and meal costs. Gohagan acts as principal, agent, or through independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the non-availability of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects, pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking, or any downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, trains or buses, regardless of the cause of any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to arrive or depart your hotel, travel and meal costs, and baggage. Baggage is entirely at your own risk. The right is reserved to make changes to any trip features; to substitute participants or remove from a trip without refund; any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigorous and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, or otherwise, or who Gohagan determines to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Such specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

Flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by passengers under these circumstances.

The provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects, pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking, or any downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, trains or buses, regardless of the cause of any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

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TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Travel insurance information is provided via email by the Cal Discoveries Travel Office upon confirmation of your reservation. To research insurance options on your own please visit: travelinsure.com/calalumni.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the trip price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased international air travel, airfare is subject to change and availability and, depending on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without notice. 

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: To enjoy your Cal Discoveries Travel experience, participants must be in good physical health, and be able to keep up with the pace of the group. Program participants requiring assistance must be accompanied by someone who can and will provide all required assistance. To help you choose the trip best suited for you, we describe this trip as moderately active: 3-6 hours of walking or hiking per day. Hiking and physical fitness are required.

RESERVATION CANCELLATION POLICIES: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the Cal Discoveries Travel Office. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellations are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 119 through 90 days prior to departure, $600 ($200 Pre/Post Program) per person; from 69 through 49 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 60 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

BINDING ARBITRATION: Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive [but not procedural] Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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