MADAGASCAR to MAURITIUS
Islands of the Indian Ocean aboard the MS Serenissima
JANUARY 15 TO 31, 2020 Featuring IAN TATTERSALL
Curator Emeritus in the Division of Anthropology of the American Museum of Natural History
DEAR TRAVELER,

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN paleoanthropologist Ian Tattersall on an extraordinary cruise from Madagascar to Mauritius, aboard the elegant, 53-cabin MS Serenissima. While archaeological sites are not the focus of this AIA-sponsored program, this is a splendid opportunity to travel and learn about human origins with Dr. Tattersall, our AIA lecturer and host, who is one of the world’s leading experts on the hominid fossil record. Ian is a specialist in the biology and evolution of the primates of Madagascar, has carried out extensive fieldwork on the living lemur fauna of Madagascar, and also has done field research on the macaque monkeys of Mauritius.

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Madagascar is a global treasure of nature: often called the “eighth continent,” it is the fourth-largest island in the world. It is home to 5% of the world’s plant and animal species that have developed in splendid isolation and exist nowhere else on Earth. With no fewer than six different climatic zones, the island’s array of flora and fauna includes baobab trees; more than 300 species of reptiles; and more than 200 species of birds. Madagascar’s more than 100 known species of lemur are some of the most extraordinary animals you could ever hope to see, and our AIA lecturer and host has a lemur named for him (Propithecus tattersalli)!

Dr. Tattersall is an exceptionally engaging and lucid scholar who will share insights on human evolution through lectures and informal conversations. He will be joined by other onboard experts and, through illustrated talks and informal discussions, they will help to increase your understanding and appreciation of these beautiful and unique environments.

To maximize your time in Madagascar, this expedition begins with a private charter flight from Johannesburg, South Africa, to Toliara, Madagascar, thus avoiding the two-day crossing by ship of the Mozambique Channel. Enjoy 11 days exploring Madagascar’s numerous marine reserves and national parks. Then arrive at Réunion Island, a paradiasiacal French outpost, to explore its white-sand beaches, spectacular dormant volcanoes, and vibrant Creole character. Disembark on the island of Mauritius, taking in the island’s cultural riches and geologic wonders. Choose from two optional, pre-cruise extensions in South Africa, one with a paleoanthropology focus that includes Sterkfontein Caves and is accompanied by Ian Tattersall, and the other a safari near Kruger National Park; and/or a choose a post-cruise opportunity to lengthen your stay on Mauritius.

This program is limited to just 85 travelers and is co-sponsored by other organizations, so I urge you to reserve your cabin on the MS Serenissima today. Call AIA Tours at (800) 748-6262 or email aia@studytours.org.

Sincerely,

R. Todd Nielsen
Director, AIA Tours
Archaeological Institute of America
THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA AND THE AIA TOURS PROGRAM

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world’s archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA tour, you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA’s network of scholars and worldwide contacts.

STUDY LEADER

Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and host IAN TATTERSALL is an internationally recognized authority on paleoanthropology, primatology, evolutionary biology, and evolutionary theory. A specialist in the biology and evolution of the primates of Madagascar, Ian has a lemur named for him (Propithecus tattersalli). Currently an Emeritus Curator in the Division of Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, he was born in England and raised in East Africa. Ian’s interest in the Malagasy primates was first kindled in 1969 when he visited Madagascar to study extinct lemurs. He has subsequently carried out extensive fieldwork on the living lemur fauna of both Madagascar and the Comoro Islands, and has also done field research on the macaque monkeys of Mauritius.

Ian has written extensively for both academic and popular audiences; his recent books include The Accidental Homo sapiens: Genetics, Behavior, and Free Will (2019, with Rob DeSalle), The Strange Case of the Rickety Cossack and Other Cautionary Tales from Human Evolution (2015), and Masters of the Planet: The Search for Our Human Origins (2012). He has also written for the AIA’s Archaeology magazine (“Rethinking Human Evolution,” 52:4.22-25) as well as for Scientific American and Natural History magazines. Ian lectures widely at venues around the world and he has curated several major exhibits at the American Museum of Natural History, including Madagascar: Island of the Ancestors (1989) and two permanent exhibits: the Hall of Human Biology and Evolution (1993) and the Spitzer Hall of Human Origins (2007). He has long been a popular lecturer on study tours, including four previous AIA Tours exploring human origins in southern Africa, prehistoric cave art in Spain and France, and Madagascar and Mozambique.
ITINERARY

Wednesday & Thursday, January 15 & 16, 2020
HOME / JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA
Depart home on international overnight flights to Johannes¬burg, South Africa, arriving on January 16th. Meet your fellow travelers at a welcome reception this evening.
54 ON BATH HOTEL (R)

Friday, January 17
TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR
This morning board a charter flight to Toliara, Madagascar. After arrival, explore the Arboretum d’Antsokay and learn about its fantastic collection of 500+ species of endemic plants. Board the MS Serenissima this afternoon and enjoy the Captain’s welcome reception and dinner this evening.
MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Saturday, January 18
TOLIARA
Visit the curious spiny forest region, a unique ecosystem which only exists in the southern part of Madagascar, and see the spectacular baobab trees at Reniala Private Reserve. The reserve is a paradise for birds and home to the grey mouse lemur, radiated tortoise, and warty chameleon.
MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Sunday, January 19
MORONDAVA
After breakfast depart to see the Avenue of Baobabs, an extraordinary stand of the iconic massive trees, followed by free time in Morondava market. Or, visit Kirindy Forest Reserve, home to the greatest density and diversity of primates in the world as well as dozens of amphibian species. Look for eight lemur species, the narrow-striped mongoose, the cat-like fossa, and the giant jumping rat.
MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Monday, January 20
AT SEA
Enjoy a full day at sea and the continuation of the educational program as the MS Serenissima cruises along the west coast of Madagascar.
MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Tuesday, January 21
MAHAJANGA
Drive to Ankarafantsika National Park, a vast reserve boasting a dense diversity of flora and fauna, for guided walks in search of wildlife. One of Madagascar’s finest parks for birdwatching, look for 129 identified species, including Van Dam’s vanga. Learn about the medicinal plants and flowers used by the locals for centuries, try to spot tiny mouse lemurs, and visit the Durrell Breeding Program, established to protect the highly endangered plough-share tortoise.
MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Wednesday, January 22
NOSY TANIKELY
After a morning of cruising, arrive at Nosy Tanikely marine reserve for an afternoon of snorkeling. Recognized for its remarkable marine biodiversity, the reserve offers some of the best snorkeling in the area, with a spectacular coral reef teeming with colorful fish and other sea creatures.
MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Thursday, January 23
NOSY HARA NATIONAL PARK
Nosy Hara means ‘mountainous island’ in Malagasy and is considered one of the last true paradises of Madagascar. The island offers a stunning bay, sandy beaches, and the unique, sharply eroded limestone spikes known as Tsingy formations. Hike the low circular path on the island or choose the steeper path to a sweeping viewpoint. Enjoy time in the afternoon to relax on Nosy Hara’s beautiful beaches.
MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)

Friday, January 24
DIEGO SUAREZ
Round Madagascar’s northernmost point and cruise into Diego Suarez’s stunning natural harbor to discover the town on a guided tour. Later,
climb aboard a 4x4 vehicle to drive to Amber Mountain National Park for tropical rainforest walks. See lush flora and waterfalls, look for the crowned lemur, spot volcanic lakes, and count more than 40 varieties of butterfly. **MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Saturday, January 25**

**NOSY MANGABE**

After a morning of cruising and lectures, spend the afternoon exploring Nosy Mangabe, a small island reserve of virgin rainforest, and home to a unique nocturnal lemur called the aye-aye. Take the Zodios ashore for nature walks and hopefully spot black and white ruffed lemurs, colorful paradise flycatchers, and many other types of wildlife. **MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Sunday, January 26**

**MASOALA NATIONAL PARK**

Explore Masoala National Park’s coastal rainforest, dense marshes, and stands of mangrove. Search for a variety of colorful chameleons, geckos, and of course lemurs, including the red-ruffed lemur native to this area. Stop at Ambodiforaha village to meet with locals and shop in the market. **MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Monday, January 27**

**ILE SAINTE-MARIE / NOSY NATO**

Enjoy a full day on Ile Sainte-Marie, a lush tropical island dotted with thatched villages. Visit the oldest church in Madagascar and the vibrant market in the capital of the island, Ambodifotatra. Continue to Nosy Nato, a small island south of Ile Sainte-Marie, with curving white beaches and overhanging palms, for nature walks and snorkeling. **MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Tuesday, January 28**

**AT SEA**

During a final full day at sea, enjoy the conclusion of the lecture program and the onboard amenities en route to Réunion Island, a rainforested outpost hundreds of miles into the Indian Ocean. **MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,D)**

**Wednesday, January 29**

**PORT EST, RÉUNION ISLAND**

Visit Réunion Island’s central highlands, a spectacular rugged landscape of active, dormant, extinct, and collapsed volcanoes, where mountain peaks tower to over 10,000 feet above sea level. See picturesque villages that dot the lush and verdant landscape and learn about vanilla production at a small family run plantation. Enjoy the Captain’s farewell reception and dinner this evening on board **MS SERENISSIMA** before crossing to the neighboring island of Mauritius. **MS SERENISSIMA (B,L,R,D)**

**Thursday, January 30**

**PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS**

Disembark the ship this morning and discover the unique history of Port Louis and Mauritius at the La Citadelle Fort and Aapravasi Ghat, the immigration depot where the modern indentured labor diaspora began. Explore Chamarel, an eye-catching region of tropical flora, hidden waterfalls, and undulating sand dunes displaying an array of colors. Visit Bois Cheri tea plantation for a refreshing cup of tea before departing for the airport (MRU) for flights home. **(B,L)**

**Friday, January 31**

**ALOFT / HOME**

Arrive in the U.S.

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**OPTIONAL POST-CRUISE EXTENSION**

**January 30 to February 2**

**MAURITIUS**

Extend your stay for further exploration of the lush rainforests and white sand beaches of Mauritius. During your three-day stay, discover Ile aux Aigrettes, one of the last sanctuaries for rare Mauritian wildlife, including the giant aldabra tortoise (below) and the ornate day gecko. Also learn about the island’s long colonial history and enjoy snorkeling in the crystal blue water.

Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.
**PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE**
- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary
- Charter flight from Johannesburg, South Africa to Toliara, Madagascar
- Full program of briefings, lectures and presentations
- Team of expert naturalists
- Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to ship staff, porters, wait staff, guides and drivers
- Entrance fees
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- House wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunches and dinners aboard the ship
- Bottled water throughout
- Professional tour managers

**PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE**
- U.S. domestic and international airfare
- Passport/visa expenses
- Medical expenses and immunizations
- Travel and trip cancellation insurance
- Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure dates
- Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess baggage charges
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted
- Gratuities for non-group services
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, fax, Internet and email charges
- Room service
- Other items of a personal nature.

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**
U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Economy-class airfare from New York to Johannesburg and Mauritius to New York is approximately $1,200 per person as of March 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.

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**MS SERENISSIMA**

Recently refurbished in 2018, the 95-passenger MS Serenissima can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to larger cruise ships. The public areas on board create a relaxed and spacious atmosphere. The Andrea Lounge provides a comfortable venue for lectures and has an elegant bar, and the Harald Jarl Lounge offers a library and computers. Outside decks include a massive observation deck for 360-degree views of the passing scenery, and the all-teak Sun Deck is used for meal service in pleasant weather. Guest accommodations are designed for comfort and convenience. All cabins feature ocean views, en-suite bathrooms, and are equipped with many amenities. The Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in a single seating, with great views through the large picture windows. When possible, local produce is sourced for authentic dining experiences. Complimentary house wines, beer, soft drinks, mineral water, coffee, and tea are included with meals. Wifi is available throughout the vessel.

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**PROGRAM RATES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECK 3</th>
<th>$12,990 per person sharing</th>
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<tr>
<td>Standard Cabin</td>
<td>109-144 sq ft, portholes</td>
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<tr>
<th>DECK 3</th>
<th>$13,990 per person sharing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classic Cabin</td>
<td>152-211 sq ft, portholes</td>
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<th>DECK 4</th>
<th>$14,990 per person sharing</th>
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<tr>
<td>Superior Cabin</td>
<td>116-198 sq ft, portholes or windows</td>
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<th>DECKS 4, 5 &amp; 6</th>
<th>$15,490 per person sharing</th>
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<td>Deluxe Cabin</td>
<td>162-274 sq ft, windows</td>
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<th>DECK 6</th>
<th>$16,490 per person sharing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Suite</td>
<td>225-233 sq ft, windows</td>
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<tr>
<th>DECK 7</th>
<th>$16,990 per person sharing</th>
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<tr>
<td>Owner’s Suite</td>
<td>244 sq ft, windows</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>DECK 6</th>
<th>$17,990 per person sharing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serenissima Suite</td>
<td>273-284 sq ft, windows, balcony</td>
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<tr>
<th>DECKS 3, 4 &amp; 5</th>
<th>$14,490 per person (limited)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Standard Single</td>
<td>107-127 sq ft, portholes or windows</td>
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WHAT TO EXPECT This is a moderately strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. Daily activities can involve up to two miles of walking, over sometimes rough terrain; often elevators are unavailable and stairs may not have handrails.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, 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.

TRAVEL INSURANCE Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

GROUP SIZE This program is limited to 85 participants, including travelers from the Archaeological Institute of America, Carleton College, Dartmouth, Harvard, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. You may reserve space immediately by contacting AIA Tours at (800) 748-6262 or aia@studytours.org. Or you may send the completed reservation form with your deposit payment (we accept checks payable to Criterion Travel) to Archaeological Institute of America Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main St., Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938 or fax to 603-756-2922. Final payment deadline is September 13, 2019, and is made by check or credit card. Reservations will be processed in order of receipt. By submitting your deposit, you are bound to the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the participant agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by AIA Tours. Deposits are refundable (less a $250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancella-

TO TRAVELERS This program is delineated throughout this brochure. Although every effort will be made to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change due to unforeseen world events and conditions such as exchange rates, inflation, 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.

HEALTH All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants.

ITINERARY CHANGES The itinerary and study leaders presented for this tour are subject to modification and change by AIA Tours and Criterion Travel. 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, AIA Tours 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.

RESPONSIBILITY Complete Terms & Conditions will be sent to participant(s) upon confirmation and are available to prospective participant(s) upon request. As a condition of participation, each participant will be required to sign a Release of Liability, which will be sent along with the Terms & Conditions.

California Seller of Travel Program CST #208880-40

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CONTACT INFORMATION (Please print)

NAME 1 (AS ON PASSPORT) ___________________________________________ DATE OF BIRTH ________________

NAME 2 (AS ON PASSPORT) ___________________________________________ DATE OF BIRTH ________________

MAILING ADDRESS ____________________________________________

CITY ___________________________________________ STATE _______ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE ___________________________________________ MOBILE PHONE ______________________________

EMAIL 1 ___________________________________________

EMAIL 2 ___________________________________________

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? □ Yes, □ No

PAYMENT □ Please charge my deposit of $ ______________es ($1,000 per person) to my: □ VISA □ MasterCard □ AmEx □ Discover OR □ Enclosed is a check for $ ______________es ($1,000 per person, made payable to Criterion Travel) to reserve _______ place(s) on Madagascar to Mauritius

NAME ON CREDIT CARD ___________________________________________

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _______________ EXP. DATE _______________ SECURITY CODE _______________

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE ___________________________________________

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference: ____________________________

FIRST CHOICE ___________________________________________

SECOND CHOICE ___________________________________________

Bed preference (not guaranteed): □ King/Queen □ Twins

SINGLE TRAVELERS (Choose one) □ I prefer to have single accommodations, (limited availability) □ I plan to share accommodations with ________________________________ □ I’d like to know about roommates. □ I am a □ non-smoker □ smoker

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of September 13, 2019, I will remain in a Standard Single cabin.

□ I/we have read the tour information and agree to the Terms & Conditions therein.

SIGNATURE ___________________________________________ DATE ________________

SIGNATURE ___________________________________________ DATE ________________

MADAGASCAR to MAURITIUS JANUARY 15–31, 2020

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To reserve your space, please complete this form and send it to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938; Deposit checks should be made payable to Criterion Travel. You may also call AIA Tours at 800-748-6262; Fax: 603-756-2922. Email: aia@studytours.org. Website: www.aiatours.org.
MADAGASCAR to MAURITIUS
Islands of the Indian Ocean aboard the MS Serenissima

JANUARY 15 TO 31, 2020 Featuring IAN TATTERSALL
Curator Emeritus in the Division of Anthropology of the American Museum of Natural History

Local market in Port Louis
Looking toward the south coast of Mauritius
Masoala National Park

Silky Sifaka Lemur