

ROAMING**BUFFS**<sup>®</sup>



Alumni Association  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

# Exploring Costa Rica: Guanacaste, Santa Rosa and Rincón de la Vieja

February 18-23, 2026  
*Aboard National Geographic Quest*



**SPECIAL AFFINITY GROUP SAVINGS OFFER**



## Dear Traveler,

Costa Rica is known throughout the world for its lush rainforests—but the Guanacaste region on the country's Pacific coast adds surprising new dimensions with its cowboys and cattle ranches, ancient lava flows and bubbling mud pots, and oasis-like waterfalls. Here, an incredible range of climates and ecosystems support stunning biodiversity. Cacti flourish in rare tropical dry forests, along with intriguing wildlife, such as motmots and kinkajous. Orchids and bromeliads add color to the bordering humid rainforests, which harbor parrots and peccaries. Forests carpet the sides of volcanoes, creating habitats for howler monkeys and pumas. And along the 400 miles of coastline, sea turtles and manta rays swim in pristine coral reefs.

We invite you to discover both the legendary and little-known wonders of Costa Rica aboard the purpose-built *National Geographic Quest*. This small and nimble vessel is equipped with tools like kayaks, paddleboards, and Zodiacs that take you deeper into the country's secret spaces—from serene beaches to mangrove forests aflutter with birdlife. Modern and clean-lined, she features open decks and large windows that keep you connected with extraordinary views of tropical waters. The lounge is where fellow travelers gather to unwind and hear naturalists discuss the day's astounding sights, and at any hour, you can take up the captain's open invitation to visit the Bridge and watch the crew navigate the region's secluded coastlines.

With easy access and striking natural beauty, this corner of Costa Rica is also the ideal place to travel with family. Young and seasoned explorers alike can discover their wild surroundings while snorkeling with colorful schools of tropical fish, soaring through the jungle canopy on a zipline, and trekking to a waterfall-framed swimming hole hidden deep within the jungle. And spotting elusive species with loved ones is always a highlight that is sure to eclipse any other family vacation.

Come savor the Costa Rican "*pura vida*" in some of the most pristine parks and preserves on Earth. **To reserve your space, please return the reservation form, email [groups@expeditions.com](mailto:groups@expeditions.com) or call Lindblad Expeditions at 833-985-1261.**

Sincerely,



Tricia Essenpreis  
Director,  
Forever Buffs Engagement & Outreach

### **Special Offer**

Save 5% when traveling with University of Colorado Boulder Alumni Association. See page 12 for details.

Cover: A Violaceous Trogon perched bird on a branch in Tikal National Park, Mayan Jungle, Guatemala. Opposite Page: A sunset through palm trees, Costa Rica.



# ENCOUNTER THE RARE WONDERS OF COSTA RICA

## Discover the Beauty of a Tropical Dry Forest

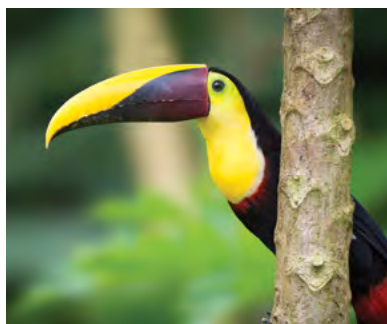
Costa Rica is home to one of Central America's largest tropical dry forests, which flourishes across the coastal Guanacaste region. Here, you can spy species that have adapted to the arid, temperate conditions, including some of Costa Rica's most charismatic tropical creatures: armadillos, white-nosed coatis and a variety of monkeys.



Along the coast, crescents of golden sand and mazelike mangroves meet the sparkling waters of the Pacific, where dolphins, sea turtles and tropical fish of every color await oceanic explorers. You'll also have the chance to explore the misty volcanic peaks of Rincón de la Vieja National Park, where the tropical dry forest meets the more humid montane ecosystem. Hike beneath the lush canopy or soar above it on a zip line, taking in a bird's eye view of the snaking jungle rivers and volcanic slopes below.

## A Commitment to Preserving Nature

Innovative restoration programs in the Guanacaste Conservation Area have contributed to the regeneration of this region's rare and endangered tropical dry forests, heavily felled by cattle ranchers in the mid-20th century. The conservation zone now harbors an estimated 235,000 species, which account for 65% of the species in Costa Rica. You'll witness the fruits of conservation firsthand as you venture into untamed parks and refuges that grow wilder with each passing day.



*This page: Orange-chinned parakeet perched on a branch; a chestnut-mandibled toucan. Opposite page (clockwise from top): Mangroves; guest enjoying waterfall in Rincón de la Vieja National Park; scenic landscape in Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge; a guest walking on Isla Tortuga, Costa Rica.*









# AUTHENTIC & IMMERSIVE EXPLORATION

## Built for Awe: *National Geographic Quest*

The nimble, 50-cabin *National Geographic Quest* is designed to sail along sinuous channels, and her open decks and large windows reveal extraordinary views of leafy shorelines draped in a thousand shades of green. A fleet of kayaks, paddleboards, and Zodiacs take guests deeper into the heart of this coastal wilderness, allowing you to glide into quiet coves and serene bays brimming with birds and sea life.



Your time on board offers even more opportunities to connect with and celebrate Costa Rica. Beautifully appointed cabins, suites and common areas reflect this region's sights, sounds and artistic traditions. Meals feature local cuisines and sustainable ingredients that are sourced from nearby lands and waters.

## Explore Every Day, Your Way

The itinerary features a range of activities designed to immerse you—and your whole family—in our spectacular surroundings. A trip to Costa Rica provides something for every interest and age group, from the second grader fascinated by ship navigation to the teenager who wants to zipline above the treetops to the grandparent who never misses a naturalist talk. After a full day of adventure, you can all reconvene on the sundeck and trade stories. Share in the thrill of discovery while every generation enjoys the experience in their own way.

*Opposite page (clockwise from top): Guest enjoying a drink at the bar on National Geographic Quest; enjoy your meals with a view; guests returning from a Zodiac tour to National Geographic Quest; panoramic view of Isla Tortuga; enjoy your meals with a view This page: National Geographic Quest's photo kiosks and library.*

# TRAVEL WITH INSPIRING EXPERTS

## A World-Class Expedition Team

Each of your guides—from naturalists to expedition leaders—is committed to ensuring you have an unforgettable experience.

The expedition team has been curated to bring in-depth perspectives from veteran and locally based experts with deeply personal connections to the region. Exploring in small groups, you will have the opportunity to hear different perspectives every day. And because there are no group assignments, you can gravitate toward naturalists who share your interests. Through the guest speakers program, you also gain access to fascinating experts who offer new layers of insight into the places you explore.



## Take Great Photos With the Pros

Photography is also central to the expedition experience. That's why a National Geographic certified photo instructor joins our voyage to assist travelers with everything from camera settings to composition.



Every guest—from smartphone camera users to advanced hobbyists—can stand side by side with top photographers and pick up tips in the field. Return home with extraordinary images of Costa Rica's plunging waterfalls, spirited howler monkeys, and smoldering volcanos that you can return to for years to come.

*This page (from top): Photographer captures the beauty of Isla Tortuga, Guanacaste, Costa Rica; getting the perfect shot of a mangrove. Opposite page (clockwise from top): Guests hiking in the dry forests; a lizard sits still on a fallen tree in the heart of the Rincón de la Vieja National Park; explore the coasts in kayaks; colorful flora along the coast of the Guanacaste Province; Savage's thin-toed frog.*





## Itinerary

From picture-perfect beaches to hidden jungle waterfalls, enjoy the diversity of the remote Guanacaste Conservation Area, one of the oldest and largest UNESCO World Heritage sites. Over millennia, eruptions from the Arenal Volcano have created hyper-rich soil that nurtures this unique tropical dry forest. More than thirty rivers wind their way through this swath of green, pumping nutrients into the surrounding waters and nourishing healthy, vibrant reefs that invite exploration.

### DAY 1: SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA/ PUERTO CALDERA/EMBARK

After arrival in San José this afternoon, transfer to the Pacific Coast town of Puerto Caldera. This evening, you embark *National Geographic Quest* and chart the course north to Costa Rica's Guanacaste Region. Opt to arrive early for a pre-voyage extension in the rainforests and reserves of Caño Negro. (D)

### DAY 2: PAPAGAYO PENINSULA

Anchor off the remote Papagayo Peninsula, to spend the day soaking up the sun and enjoying beach time alongside waters fringed by offshore islets—an outstanding habitat for tropical fish. Or choose to walk along a seldom-used four-wheel drive track through a forest rich with birds and plants as naturalists describe the intricate web of life in these oceanside ecosystems. After lunch on board, continue to explore Bahía Huevos and Playa Celestia. Your exploration of the bay and the nearby mangroves continues by Zodiac, kayak and paddleboard. (B,L,D)

### DAY 3: SANTA ROSA NATIONAL PARK/GUANACASTE CONSERVATION AREA

Don a snorkel and fins to discover a rich underwater world, or hike into the upper reaches of the Guanacaste Conservation Area for commanding views over the full length of this rarely visited archipelago. After lunch, explore Santa Elena Bay in Santa Rosa National Park, Junquillal Wildlife Refuge, or Cuajiniquil Bay—all part of the Guanacaste Conservation Area. Here, yellow and black great kiskadees sally from exposed perches in search of a flying insect for an evening meal, and orange-fronted parakeets chatter overhead. Predators such as mangrove hawks may take flight, setting out on a late afternoon hunt, while ringed kingfishers—richly colored in brick red and deep blue—wait patiently, watching the shallows for a fish's silvery flash. (B,L,D)

### DAY 4: RINCÓN DE LA VIEJA NATIONAL PARK/HACIENDA GUACHIPELIN

Your adventure continues in Rincón de la Vieja National Park, a mountainous region of the Guanacaste Conservation Area that encompasses more than 34,000 acres.





With forests carpeting the sides of two active volcanoes, this area is alive with geothermal activity. Gurgling, bubbling mud pots spout, and steam rises above the canopy. Today, you can choose between several enticing options. Hike through the transition zone, where the tropical dry habitat meets the temperate cloud forest, for a chance to encounter mantled howler monkeys and the noisy white-throated magpie-jay. Opt for a shorter hike into the forest, followed by a swim below Las Chorreras Waterfall. Or choose to soar through the canopy by zip line. Afterward, enjoy a sumptuous lunch—including fresh ceviche—served poolside at Hacienda Guachipelin. (B,L,D)



*Las Chorreras waterfall.*

#### **DAY 5: CURÚ NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE/ISLA TORTUGA**

Curú National Wildlife Refuge sits between the wetter jungles of the south and Guanacaste's drier environment. Learn about the hundreds of species of birds, reptiles, and mammals that inhabit this thriving ecosystem while exploring the park's tracks and trails. Search for white-faced capuchin monkeys, turquoise-browed motmots, and with luck, scarlet macaws and the northern tamandua, a member of the anteater family. Later, enjoy lunch on board as the ship cruises to a cluster of offshore islets collectively called Isla Tortuga. Relax on the beach shaded by swaying palms and tropical vegetation. Celebrate the finale of your Guanacaste adventure with afternoon refreshments and hors d'oeuvres on the beach. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 6: PUERTO CALDERA/DISEMBARK/SAN JOSÉ**

After breakfast, disembark in Puerto Caldera and transfer to the airport in San José for your flight home. (B)

#### **Caño Negro Rainforests and Reserves Pre-Voyage Extension 5 Days**

Venture to Costa Rica's remote Caño Negro district, celebrated for its prolific bird population and important wetland habitats. Enjoy a stylish glamping experience at Tocú Tent Camp, your home base, as you explore Tenorio Volcano National Park and its surrounding foothills, walk suspension bridges for an incredible bird's-eye view of the region's lush rainforests, and learn about the culture and cuisine of the Maleku people, Costa Rica's smallest remaining Indigenous tribe.



*Suspension bridge in Tenorio Volcano National Park.*

# National Geographic Quest



Purpose-built to explore North American coastlines, *National Geographic Quest* has decks designed for exceptional wildlife viewing and shallow drafts for navigating the innermost reaches of carved coastlines. She is U.S.-flagged, eliminating domestic customs stops and allowing more time to explore.

## Capacity

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50 cabins and suites accommodating 100 guests.

## Registry

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United States.

## Overall Length

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239 feet.

## Public Areas

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Global Gallery; fitness center; LEXspa; lounge with full service bar and facilities for films and presentations; OM System Photo Gear Locker; observation deck; elevator; mudroom with lockers for expedition gear and a partially covered sundeck with chairs and tables. The open Bridge provides guests an opportunity to meet the officers and captain and learn about navigation.

## Meals

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Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere. Cuisine is fresh, sustainable, accented with regional flair and served plated.



*The casual dining room with its expansive windows.*



*Category 4 cabin with single beds (which can be converted to a Queen) and a private step-out balcony.*

## Accommodations

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All cabins and suites face outside with windows or portholes, private facilities, climate controls and Wi-Fi connections and USB ports for mobile devices. Category 4 cabins have step-out balconies.

## Expedition Equipment

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A fleet of 8 Zodiacs and 24 kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, ROV (remotely operated vehicle); hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera and video microscope.

## Staff & Crew

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Every staff member is committed to ensuring guests have an unforgettable experience. Many of the veteran guides and naturalists are locally based and have worked with the company for decades. A full-time medical professional, undersea specialist and National Geographic certified photo instructor are on board, and with a low staff-to-guest ratio, you can hear different perspectives and gain new insights every day.

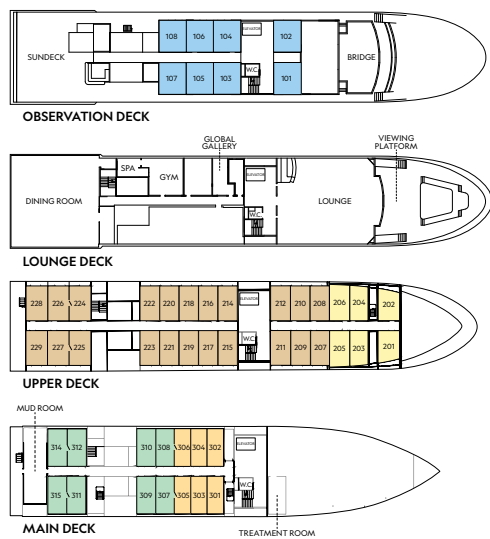
## Wellness

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The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features a gym with an elliptical machine, treadmill, exercycles, hand weights and resistance bands. Massages in the LEXspa are available by appointment.



# Ship Deck Plan & Pricing



## Voyage Dates

February 18-23, 2026

## Advance Payment Details

15% of the cabin fare, per person

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo

5% Savings

<b>Category 1</b>	<b>\$4,778</b>	<b>\$4,539</b>
Main Deck #301-306 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk and two portholes.		
<b>Category 2</b>	<b>\$5,926</b>	<b>\$5,630</b>
Main Deck #307-315 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk and two portholes.		
<b>Category 3</b>	<b>\$6,267</b>	<b>\$5,954</b>
Upper Deck #201-206 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk and two large windows.		
<b>Category 4</b>	<b>\$6,849</b>	<b>\$6,507</b>
Upper Deck #207-229 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, sliding glass door and small, private balcony.		
<b>Category 5*</b>	<b>\$7,277</b>	<b>\$6,913</b>
Observation Deck #101-108 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, large windows, an expanded bathroom, writing desk, ample storage space and a convertible sofa bed to accommodate a third person.		
<b>Category 1 Solo</b>	<b>\$7,368</b>	<b>\$6,700</b>
Main Deck #301-306		
<b>Category 2 Solo</b>	<b>\$8,904</b>	<b>\$8,459</b>
Main Deck #307-315		

**\*Suite Exclusives:** The Suite Exclusives package gives guests staying in eligible cabins access to an array of amenities designed to enhance your onboard experience, including priority booking for spa treatments, complimentary laundry and other exclusive perks.

**Note:** Solo occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third person rates are available in Category 5 cabins at one half the double occupancy rate.

**Connecting Cabins via internal doorway access:** Main Deck: #312-314, #311-315, #306-308, #305-307; Upper Deck: #224-226, #225-227

## INCLUSIVE PRICING

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- All accommodations aboard ship
- Excursions and airport transfers, as indicated in the itinerary
- All meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and on shore. Meals and hors d'oeuvres are inspired by regional cuisine and locally sourced
- Beer, wine, cocktails and spirits. Premium wines and liquors are available for purchase
- 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages and filtered water
- Selection of exploration tools such as Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks and other state-of-the-art gear
- The guidance and company of a leading expedition team
- Presentations by the expedition team
- Morning stretch class and 24-hour access to the fitness center
- Assistance of the certified photo instructor
- Access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker with the latest gear to try out on loan
- 24-hour access to the lounge, observation decks, library and other shared spaces
- Complimentary reusable water bottle
- Services of a medical professional
- Park and site entrance fees, special access permits and port taxes
- Basic Wi-Fi, with the option to upgrade

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SPECIAL OFFERS

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**SPECIAL AFFINITY GROUP SAVINGS:** Save 5% on the cabin fare (as indicated) when traveling with University of Colorado Boulder Alumni Association. Valid on this departure date of *Exploring Costa Rica: Guanacaste, Santa Rosa and Rincón de la Vieja*, for new bookings only, subject to availability, may not be combined with other offers and is not applicable on airfare or extensions. Call for details.

**BRINGING THE KIDS:** Sharing the expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$500 off the double occupancy price for each person under the age of 18 at the time of travel. Not applicable on extensions or airfare.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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Prices quoted in this brochure are per person based on double occupancy in USD. Prices shown are subject to change and availability at time of booking. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time advanced payment is made. However, our expedition pricing is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event of increases in those costs, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies or increased security costs, we reserve the right to adjust the price of your expedition or add a surcharge to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide an explanation of the reason for increase in costs.

**COST INCLUDES:** All amenities listed in inclusive pricing above. Unused services or items included in this program are non-refundable.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Air transportation; passport, visa or immigration fees; meals not indicated; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature such as: premium wines and liquors, enhanced and premium Wi-Fi plans, spa treatments and laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew are at your discretion.

**AIRFARE:** Airfare is an additional cost. Lindblad Expeditions will assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

**RESERVATIONS:** To confirm your place, an advance payment of 15% of the cabin fare per person is payable by check, Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.

**FINAL PAYMENT:** Due 120 days prior to departure. Lindblad Expeditions reserves the right to cancel your reservation if payment has not been received by final payment due date.

**TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN:** Travel protection and medical insurance are available at extra cost. Information will be sent upon registration.

**ITINERARY MODIFICATIONS:** Itineraries, routing and speakers listed are correct at time of publication, and are subject to change.

**ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS:** Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country(s) through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country's requirement.

**RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and National Geographic Expeditions' (a division of National Geographic Partners, LLC) liability for loss of property, injury, illness or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

## CANCELLATION FEE POLICY (PER PERSON)

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**120 or more days prior to expedition start: No penalty:** Advance Payment will be credited toward your next expedition\*\*

**119-90 days prior to expedition start: 50% of trip cost\*\*\***

**89-0 days prior to expedition start: 100% of trip cost\*\*\***

\*\*Advance payments will be credited in the form of a Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate, valid for 12 months from the date of cancellation, and which may only be applied towards final payment on any future booking.

\*\*\*Trip cost is total price paid including extensions, charter airfare and other additional services.

We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.

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# Reservation Form



## Contact Information

Please send reservation to:  
Lindblad Expeditions  
96 Morton Street  
New York, NY 10014  
Ph: (833) 985-1261  
Fax: (646) 390-2050  
E-mail: groups@expeditions.com

# Exploring Costa Rica: Guanacaste, Santa Rosa and Rincón de la Vieja

February 18-23, 2026  
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC QUEST

## Passenger Information

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).

Guest 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name as it appears on passport)*

Guest 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name as it appears on passport)*

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations: ☐ Double ☐ Single ☐ Twin share with a friend  
☐ Share with roommate assigned by tour operator.

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:

1st choice: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Advance Payment Information:** 15% of the cabin fare per person.

- ☐ Please send me information on the **Caño Negro Rainforests and Reserves** pre-voyage extension.
- ☐ If paying by check, please make payable to: **Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.**  
Enclosed is my advance payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ If paying by credit card, we will contact you to finalize your booking and collect payment information.

## Exploring Costa Rica: Guanacaste, Santa Rosa and Rincón de la Vieja

### EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Navigate the pristine coastline of Costa Rica's Guanacaste region, snorkel crystalline waters, and venture into wildlife-rich parks and preserves.
- Discover diverse tropical ecosystems while exploring via kayak and paddleboard, on foot and by zip line.
- Explore the volcanic landscapes of Rincón de la Vieja National Park and search for exotic wildlife, from monkeys to macaws.
- Enjoy a relaxing afternoon on Isla Tortuga's palm-shaded beaches with refreshments and hors d'oeuvres in hand.



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### LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS: PIONEERING RESPONSIBLE EXPLORATION

From our consistent quest to improve our practices to offsetting 100% of our carbon emissions, supporting conservation, science, and education initiatives around the planet, and investing in the communities in the places we explore, we are guided by our commitment to explore responsibly.

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