Daylight Transit through the Panama Canal

Luxury Small Ship—only 106 Suites

100% Ocean-View Suites

All Shore Excursions Included

February 3 to 11, 2018

A voyage aboard the Exclusively Chartered, All-Suite Small Ship Five-Star STAR BREEZE

The University of Kentucky Alumni Association
Dear Alumni & Friends:

Few experiences can match one of the world’s most dramatic voyages, a cruise from the Atlantic to the Pacific through one of the greatest man-made wonders of the world, the ingenius Panama Canal. Having celebrated its centennial anniversary just three years ago and the completion of a monumental expansion doubling its capacity last year, this marvel of engineering and 50-mile passage through the narrow isthmus of Panama continues to astonish even today’s most veteran traveler. During a specially arranged daylight transit, experience firsthand the mighty locks that raise and lower oceangoing vessels 85 feet and using no other power than the force of gravity, accomplishing in mere hours what would have taken a three-week circumnavigation of South America in years gone by.

We invite you to join us for this voyage of a lifetime featuring a narrated passage through the historic Panama Canal and to the unspoiled rainforests of Panama and Costa Rica during the best time of year. On this comprehensive itinerary, 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 Guna Indians live much as they did centuries ago. Experience one of our planet’s most pristine ecosystems in the rainforests, islands and archipelagos of Panama and Costa Rica.

This spectacular offering features the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, all-Suite STAR BREEZE, relaunched in 2015 by an award-winning cruise line after an expansive, $8.5 million refurbishment. This sophisticated small ship features only 106 Suites, six with a private furnished veranda and 36 with private French-style balcony—ideal for your own secluded viewing of the daylight passage through the Panama Canal. Dock in small ports of call inaccessible to larger vessels and enjoy the advantages of Five-Star small ship cruising—casually elegant ocean-view accommodations, an exclusive itinerary carefully crafted with enriching excursions led by experienced onboard naturalists and no waiting in long lines.

This is an extraordinary travel opportunity and an excellent value, so book now while space is available!

Sincerely,

Stan Key
Director of Alumni Affairs and Executive Director of UK Alumni Association

Alumni Travel Protection Plan

Injury, illness, trip delays and lost baggage are a few of the things that can cost you more than just your vacation. They can also cost a lot of extra money you hadn’t planned on spending. That’s why the University of Kentucky Alumni Association recommends our Alumni Travel Protection Plan to all alumni and/or members who travel. This plan not only insures your vacation but, more importantly, it provides the peace of mind you deserve while traveling. You’re covered from the moment you leave home until the moment you return. If your vacation is cancelled for a covered reason, you’ll get your money back—money to reschedule your vacation!

The Alumni Travel Protection Plan is custom-designed exclusively for University of Kentucky alumni and/or University of Kentucky Alumni Association members. If you have any questions about this plan, call 800-753-1000 and choose option 6 or visit https://alumni.tpaproducts.com/ukaa.

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.

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 discovered it in 1502, Costa Rica offers visitors incredible beauty, ecological diversity and fascinating cultural experiences. More than 25% of this captivating country is a national park, wildlife refuge or protected rainforest, earning Costa Rica the distinction of the greenest country in the world and the leading destination for eco-tourism. Explore lush rainforests, walk along exquisite beaches and see a stunning array of wildlife, where rare and endemic species flourish, including howler monkeys, colorful tree frogs and 600 species of non-migratory birds. Costa Rica’s national motto is “Pura vida!” which translates literally as “pure life” and is expressed by the optimistic, carefree spirit and the smiling faces of the ticos (Costa Rican natives) who warmly welcome you to their spectacular landscape.

San Blas Islands, Panama
Located on the Caribbean side of Panama, the sun-drenched San Blas Islands are an extraordinary testament to Panama’s commitment to the indigenous Guna Indians, 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 vibrant, untouched coral reefs and rich marine life—offer splendid opportunities for swimming and snorkeling.

Panama City
Central America’s most attractive capital city was founded in 1519 by Spanish explorers and rebuilt in the late 17th century. In the UNESCO World Heritage-designated “old quarter” of Casco Antiguo,
discover a charming neighborhood with cobblestone streets, a stunning 16th-century cathedral and many historical architectural edifices that remain intact.

Adjacent to the Panama Canal, the Miraflores Locks Visitor Center provides an opportunity to see how the locks operate. Nearby, the new Biodiversity Museum, designed by architect Frank Gehry of Guggenheim fame, showcases the ecological significance of Panama’s exotic flora and fauna.

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

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

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

During a guided morning walk through this “Living Eden,” expert naturalists will help you spot colorful toucans, screeching howler monkeys, camouflage iguanas, squirrel monkeys, two- and three-toed sloths and rare and endangered species such as the scarlet macaw, all of which are protected by law in this natural haven.

**Curú National Wildlife Refuge**
Unlike traditional nature reserves, Curú Wildlife Refuge, a hidden gem of the tropics, is a unique blend of sustainable agriculture, forest management and wildlife protection, encompassing five distinctive untouched habitats—including mangrove swamps and both dry and moist forests—making it the ideal place to see the intricacies of co-dependent ecosystems. Enjoy a guided walk in the morning, the best time of day to observe an abundance of wildlife including spider, howler and capuchin monkeys; white-tail deer; iguanas; and more than 230 species of birds, including the scarlet macaw.
The Panama Canal’s stunning Gatún Lake was the world’s largest man-made lake upon completion in 1913.

Panama City’s Casco Antiguo, settled in 1673, showcases a charming blend of Spanish, French and Italian colonial architecture.

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

Costa Rica’s Cloud Forests and Volcanoes Post-Program Option
Experience a medley of Costa Rica’s diverse biospheres, where a towering volcano cradles a steamy, emerald green lagoon deep within a mile-wide crater and misty cloud forests shelter a dazzling array of flora and fauna. Explore the lush Arenal rainforest along a series of suspended and fixed bridges. Tour an organic chocolate workshop and an award-winning coffee estate. Accommodations for two nights are in the ideally located HOTEL ROYAL CORIN and one night in the hacienda-style COSTA RICA MARRIOTT HOTEL SAN JOSÉ.

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

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

Isla Tortuga
Nestled in a private reserve off the southwestern tip of 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 vibrant 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.

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

Surrounded by lush rainforest, Costa Rica’s imposing Arenal Volcano entered into a resting phase in 2010.
The exclusively chartered, Five-Star, all-Suite STAR BREEZE, relaunched in 2015 following multimillion-dollar refurbishments, offers intimate cruising at its finest. This small ship can dock in ports inaccessible to larger vessels and celebrates traditional “sail aways” on deck. Its Zodiacs carry small groups on island landings and excursions that are led by expert naturalists.

Ideal for private viewing of the Panama Canal daylight transit are the six Classic and Owner’s Suites, each with a private, furnished veranda. The 36 French Balcony Suites have a floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and wooden railing, and the ocean-view Suites have one picture window. Each of the Five-Star Suites features one queen bed (most convertible to two twin beds), a private bathroom with shower (most with full bathtub), luxurious European linens and amenities, individual climate control, flat-screen satellite television, Wi-Fi Internet access, safe, walk-in closet and ample drawer space, minibar, dressing table, hair dryer, plush robes and slippers. Complimentary welcome flowers and fruit are provided in each Suite upon arrival.

The elegant AmphorA dining room accommodates all guests at a single, unassigned seating, and an attentive staff serves fine contemporary international cuisine. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are included throughout the cruise. Guests may enjoy indoor or outdoor dining in the Veranda restaurant for breakfast and lunch or reserve a table at Candles for alfresco evening dining. The Yacht Club offers complimentary specialty coffees and light snacks in between meals. Room service is also available 24 hours.

The inviting and spacious public areas are tastefully appointed and include a large lounge, where a program of enriching lectures is held; two bars; a comfortable library; computer center with Internet access; spa; fitness center; boutique; casino; outdoor whirlpool and counter-current pool; and a watersports marina with complimentary paddleboarding, kayaking and snorkeling equipment. The ship has two elevators, and there is a medical facility on board staffed by a physician.

With a ratio of one crew member for every 1.5 guests, the English-speaking, award-winning crew provides personal and attentive service.
Included Features

Scenic transfer from Panama City to Colón.

On board the exclusively chartered, all-Suite, small ship Five-Star STAR BREEZE

- Seven-night cruise from Colón, Panama, to Puerto Caldera, Costa Rica, featuring Panama Canal Transit and port calls at the San Blas Islands, Panama City, and Isla Cébaco, Panama; and Quepos for Manuel Antonio National Park, Curú National Wildlife Refuge, and Isla Tortuga, Costa Rica.
- Spacious, Five-Star, ocean-view, all-Suite accommodations, each with a private bathroom and individual climate control.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- All meals—breakfast, lunch and dinner—featuring fine international cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.
- Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise.
- Expert onboard naturalist guides to lead small group excursions.
- Excursion to the idyllic, remote San Blas Islands.
- Daylight passage through the Panama Canal, accompanied by a narration on the history of the canal. Transit times through the canal are controlled by the Panama Canal Authority and 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 unspoiled Isla Cébaco, with opportunities for swimming and snorkeling in pristine waters amongst 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 a natural habitat, such as the rare scarlet macaw and the spider monkey, both reintroduced into the wild here.
- Visit to unspoiled Isla Tortuga, with opportunities for snorkeling in its transparent turquoise water.
- Culinary demonstration by the ship’s chef.
- Tour of the ship’s gourmet galley.

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 the National Theater and National Museum, with lunch.

Enhanced Travel Services

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides and naturalists.
- Complimentary bottled water in your Suite aboard ship and on excursions.
- The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.
- Hospitality desk aboard ship and in the hotel.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
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 to complete at a cost of $400 million. This historic engineering feat changed the world, opening up new channels of international trade and allowing 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 was turned over to the U.S. in 1903, and construction began during the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt. Among the 100,000 workers involved in the construction was French Post-Impressionist artist Paul Gauguin. 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 Panama Canal has undergone a $5.25 billion expansion, adding a wider third lane that accommodates more than twice the cargo of the original lanes, 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.
Send to: The University of Kentucky Alumni Association c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company 209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500 Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

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

1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

I/We want you to book my/our air from __________________________ (fill in departure city)

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by October 31, 2017.
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: Thomas F. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring association, participates in and controls the itinerary and/or land and/or air or any part of the trip. Gohagan shall not be responsible for any injury or illness, economic or the event of any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the 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 participants of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

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 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 participants of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

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 himself/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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CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including PrePost Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 PrePost Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 PrePost Program(s)) per person; from 61 through 94 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 may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Trip cancellation information will be sent to you by the University of Kentucky Alumni Association with your confirmation letter.

TRIP CANCELLATIONS: Reservations are effective only after full payment is received and accepted in writing. Payment is non-refundable after deposit, by July 11, 2017. In the event a “discounted” reservation is cancelled the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 PrePost Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 PrePost Program(s)) per person; from 61 through 94 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 may apply.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations made on the effective date of the reservation. Discounts are subject to change at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute for any kind 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 waive 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 himself/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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