

SECLUDED SHORES OF MICRONESIA & JAPAN



Discover the secluded shores of remote islands during this expedition cruise aboard Silversea's Silver Cloud. We immerse ourselves in the pristine paradise of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands; swimming, snorkelling and hiking in between each day's gradual northerly sailing. Our days in Japan are spent wildlife watching, testing the waters of natural hot springs, and admiring the exquisite skills of artisans. Just 24 guests will join our rare island adventure.



A JOURNEY OVERVIEW

Guam - Northern Mariana Islands
 - Tori-Shima Island - Shimizu -
 Motomachi - Toba - Takamatsu -
 Kochi - Miyajima - Miyanoura - Kobe
 - Osaka

18 Days Expedition Voyage
 Departing 30 April 2027

Day 1 Guam (U.S.A.)

Your private transfer delivers you directly to Dusit Thani Guam Resort, where an early check-in has been arranged. Relax and enjoy the facilities of our delightful waterfront hotel. You may also like to join an orientation tour of Guam. Meet your fellow travellers and Tour Host Team this evening during a Welcome Dinner at our hotel.

Day 2 Guam

A full-day's exploration of Guam awaits us today. At War in the Pacific National Historical Park, we learn about the island's role during World War II – the serene beach setting belying horrific realities of the past. A southerly drive then brings us to Cetti Bay Overlook, which offers breathtaking views over the island's lush topography and coastline. Nearby, Umatac Village occupies a secluded valley along the bay. See the remnants of Spanish fortifications and a battery of cannons. On the island's opposing coast, we look upon the curious form of Bear Rock, which appears to contemplate the waters lapping at the shores before it. Continuing our coastal adventures, we reach Pago Bay Overlook, a perfect panorama of curving coastline and turquoise waters.

At the Fish Eye Marine Park, we attend a cultural dinner and show, enjoying dishes inspired by the island's bounty of fresh produce, as well as performances by local dancers and musicians.

Day 3 Guam, Embark Silver Cloud

Continue to soak up Guam's island paradise during a morning at leisure. This afternoon, we embark Silver Cloud, a luxurious small ship and our home for the next 14 nights. Acquaint yourself with your comfortable suite, as well as the ship's considerable amenities, before enjoying dinner on board.

Day 4 Saipan

Our northerly sailing soon sees us arriving at the Northern Mariana Islands. We dock along the shores of the archipelago's largest island, Saipan. This tiny island was the scene of fierce fighting between the United States and Japan during World War II. Heading ashore, we tour some of the key battle sites that shaped the island.

Day 5 Pagan

Silver Cloud passes several other of the Northern Mariana Islands on our way to Pagan. In 1981, a powerful volcanic eruption led to the evacuation of its entire population – at that time, around 50 people – with several former residents periodically returning, yet no permanent settlement was ever re-established. Today the island is home to just two people.

Explore this remote and geologically diverse island during one of these optional experiences, which will be presented to you aboard the ship:

Swim or snorkel in this most serene of settings. You can also explore these unspoilt shores during a Zodiac cruise or from aboard a glass-bottom boat.

Go in search of World War II relics during a hike of the island. The wreckage of a Japanese Zero fighter plane, as well as bunkers and fortifications can be seen here. Both short and long hiking options will be offered.

Days 6 & 7 At Sea

As we continue our cruise of the Pacific Ocean, perhaps take the opportunity to catch up with your fellow guests in the bar or lounge. There will also be plenty of time to simply relax up on deck and take in the ocean views as we make our way to Japan.

Day 8 Tori-Shima Island (Japan)

Silver Cloud arrives near to the shores of Tori-shima. The diminutive island has been designated an Important Bird Area, and as such, we are unable to go ashore. From the ship, however, we are able to appreciate the island's rich birdlife, including short-tailed albatross, shearwaters and storm petrels. Assisted by our Expedition Team, we also scan the surrounding waters for bottlenose dolphins and humpback whales.

Day 9 Shimizu

Further north, we reach Japan's main island, Honshu. Docking in the coastal town of Shimizu, we disembark and head to nearby Miho no Matsubara. This scenic waterfront setting is fringed by pine forest, while also offering unimpeded views of colossal Mount Fuji. The iconic mountain, with its snowcapped peak, forms the centrepiece of our explorations here, as we enjoy strolling the beach and wandering tranquil pathways through the forest.

Day 10 Motomachi

Rounding the Izu Peninsula, Silver Cloud shortly docks at the island of Oshima.

The volcanic island provides plenty of scenic opportunities; choose from the following optional experiences:

Hike to some of the most scenic viewpoints along Mount Mihara, looking out across rugged landscapes and the ocean beyond.

Rejuvenate mind and body in the island's relaxing natural hot springs, which are fuelled by the region's geothermal activity.

Visit Motomachi Itsukushima Shrine, which you will reach upon passing beneath a vermilion torii gate and ascending a small flight of stairs.

Day 11 Toba

Skirting the shores of Honshu in a westerly fashion soon sees us arriving in the coastal town of Toba. The area is recognised for its time-honoured tradition of pearl diving, practiced here by local female free divers known as *ama*.

The region provides plenty of scenic opportunities; choose from the following optional experiences:

Learn about pearl industry innovator, Kokichi Mikimoto, born in Toba and credited as the creator of the first cultured pearl.

Stroll the beach, keeping watch for dolphins, sea turtles and seabirds; the area is known for its oystercatchers, great egrets and black-vented shearwaters.

Venture along scenic trails, across hillsides and coastal areas. From here, you may spot Japanese cormorants, great egrets, and other migratory seabirds.

Day 12 Takamatsu

Reaching the island of Shikoku, we leave the ship for a discovery of Takamatsu.

The following options will be offered to you while aboard the ship:

At Ritsurin Park – one of Japan’s most celebrated gardens – wander pathways past beautiful ponds and pavilions. You are also likely to see spring blooms of azaleas and lotus flowers.

The city encourages you to appreciate the traditional artistry of bonsai; the tiny plants painstakingly cultivated from locally grown pine trees.

You may prefer to savour Takamatsu’s signature dish, flavoursome udon noodles, during a regional culinary experience.

Day 13 Kochi

On Shikoku’s southern coast, the city of Kochi welcomes us today. A short drive from the port, we admire the black and white structure of Kochi Castle, one of the country’s original 12 castles. Take in its grand feudal architecture and climb to the top for sweeping views of the city below.

Optional experiences allow us to tailor our experience of Kochi to our interests:

Wander the peaceful grounds of Makino Botanical Garden, which exhibits more than 3,000 plant species.

Enter a world of exquisite Japanese craftsmanship, learning how to fashion a kitchen knife from locally sourced iron.

Embark upon your own private pilgrimage, stopping at a few of the temples famously visited by Buddhist monk, Kukai.

Follow pathways past moss-covered boulders and gaze into the impossibly blue waters of river-fed pools during a trek of the Nakatsu Gorge. Along the way, discover the stone statues of the Seven Gods of Fortune.

Day 14 Miyajima

Our ship returns us to Japan's main island, Honshu, docking in the port of Hiroshima. From here, our ship's Zodiacs transport us to the nearby island of Miyajima. Famed for its large, vermilion torii gate and shrine, as well as the many deer who roam the island, Miyajima is one of the country's most idyllic settings.

A choice of experiences awaits us here:

Admire the island's iconic torii gate. At high tide, the arresting structure appears to float upon the water. The revered Itsukushima Shrine, itself built over the water, is no less mesmerising a sight – its many wooden beams and columns matching the torii gate's vermilion colour scheme.

Ascend Mount Misen, either on foot or by cable car. From its peak, enjoy panoramic views across Hiroshima Bay and the Seto Inland Sea. The lush forests, ancient temples, deer and birdlife seen along the way add to your experience.

Explore the scenic walking trails within Momijidani Park. Cross the traditional arched red bridge over the river and admire the park's groves of maple trees.

Day 15 Miyanoura

This morning, Silver Cloud docks in the port of Miyanoura, on remote Yakushima Island. Flourishing forests cover this subtropical island, known for its giant Yakusugi cedar trees. The island was among Japan's first sites to be granted World Heritage status and today offers us a choice of experience:

Walk among ancient Yakusugi trees during a guided nature walk of the island's pristine forest.

Take alternative forest trails, getting up close to the island's diverse flora and fauna during this scenic hike.

Marvel at moss-covered trees and rocks, while enjoying the serene sounds of flowing streams, within Shiratani Unsuikyo Ravine.

Day 16 Day at Sea

Silver Cloud makes its return to Honshu during a day at sea. Take in the views from your preferred position along the deck or in one of the bars or lounges. Get in a few laps of the pool, relax in the spa, or simply pass the time with a good book.

Day 17 Kobe, Disembark Silver Cloud, Osaka

Our arrival in the port of Kobe signals the end of our cruise. Farewell our ship and crew, then disembark for our transfer to the nearby city of Osaka. On arrival, we head straight to Osaka Castle, whose ornate, five-tiered edifice is surrounded by sprawling grounds protected by a wide moat. Enjoy some local specialties during lunch, before taking a walking tour of Dotonbori, a local district renowned for its enthralling sensory overload. Set along the Dotonbori River, the area is brimming with colourful neon signs, street food vendors, shops, bars and restaurants. Close by, the city's distinctive Umeda Sky building offers striking panoramic views from its observatory.

Our Farewell Dinner is complemented by a scintillating taiko drumming performance. Enjoy an overnight stay at the Four Seasons Hotel Osaka this evening.

Day 18 Osaka

Our extraordinary journey has come to an end. Farewell your Tour Host Team and fellow guests as we transfer to the airport.