New Scientist Discovery Tours



Where will your curiosity take you?

Science-inspired tours, cruises, expeditions and short breaks across the globe, accompanied by experts

New Scientist
Discovery Tours

100+ science inspired journeys

Learn from **leading experts**

Exclusive access to awe-inspiring locations and experiences

Connect with **curious minds**

Every detail **carefully planned**



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Welcome to the world of New Scientist Discovery Tours

You're kneeling in the Gobi desert, brushing sand from a bone protruding from the earth.

You turn to your paleontologist guide to ask about the significance of the fossil. His eyes light up.

Quickly, he gathers the rest of the group around and together you excavate what transpires to be an intact Protoceratops *skull.*

The discovery of a lifetime – and it's only day four of your Mongolia expedition.

This is the world of New Scientist Discovery Tours. Every itinerary is built around moments like this: real science, unfolding in real time.

Just imagine:

- **Going behind the scenes at CERN with a leading particle physicist, probing the mysteries of the universe.**
- **Standing in the path of totality on a remote island off Australia's Kimberley coast, as an astronomer explains the physics of a total solar eclipse.**
- **Tracing 40,000 years of human history through cave paintings, symbolic art and stone tools in France's Vézère valley.**

With 100+ tours, cruises and expeditions across 40 countries, our expert-led journeys reveal the discoveries, ideas and forces shaping our planet, our history and our future.

Your journey of curiosity starts *here*.

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Additional information

On each tour we have given an indication of the month of departure. For full details of departure dates and prices, please visit **newscientist.com/tours** or contact **tours@newscientist.com**. There is also a QR code next to each tour in the brochure that will take you straight to the tour details online.

Our difference

Most travel companies show you the world. *We help you understand it.*
Travel alongside some of the brightest minds in science on our collection of tours, cruises and expeditions. From ancient civilisations to distant galaxies, each journey combines extraordinary places with eye-opening ideas that will change the way you see our history, world and universe.



100+ science inspired journeys

Every small-group journey is meticulously designed to reveal the scientific story of a destination. Explore extraordinary landscapes, cultures and cuisines while delving into subjects spanning geology, astronomy, ecology, archaeology and more.



Learn from leading experts

Our tours are led by science writers, evolutionary biologists and oceanographers – experts at the forefront of discovery who share their knowledge through insightful lectures, walking seminars and informal discussions.

Exclusive access to awe-inspiring locations and experiences

We open doors most others don't even know exist, giving you exclusive access to research sites, observatories and institutions that are rarely open to the public – all thanks to our expert network and longstanding relationships in the scientific community.



Connect with curious minds

Our journeys create a community of friendly, like-minded travellers who share a thirst for knowledge and a penchant for asking the big questions, with over a third joining solo. You don't need a science background to enjoy our tours – just a curious mind.

Every detail carefully planned

Every element of your journey is meticulously planned, organised and executed in collaboration with our trusted operating partners, meaning that you can travel in total confidence while we take care of the finer details.

The experts who bring science to life

What sets a New Scientist Discovery Tour apart isn't just where you go – it's who takes you there. Our scientific experts are hand-picked for their credentials, subject mastery and gift for storytelling, turning every trip into a masterclass and every question into a conversation.



Dr Martin Cohen

Wildlife and wilderness of Tasmania: Australia

Martin is a tropical biologist with more than 25 years' experience leading wildlife expeditions. He has conducted biodiversity surveys across Australia, Southeast Asia and the Amazon, worked with community conservation groups, guided eco-tours, authored wildlife books and communicated nature through TV, radio and articles.



Dr Eve McDonald

The archaeological legacy of Carthage and Rome: Tunisia

Eve is a Canadian-British ancient historian and field archaeologist, and senior lecturer in ancient history at Cardiff University. Her research ranges beyond the traditional Greco-Roman world to the fringes of empire, including the archaeological legacy of colonial North Africa.



Ron Garan

Wild Antarctica expedition cruise exploring the Weddell Sea

Ron is a former NASA astronaut who spent 178 days in space and completed 2,842 orbits of Earth, flying in both the US space shuttle and the Russian Soyuz spacecraft mission. He also spent 18 days undersea at Aquarius, the world's only underwater research lab. Today, he's a vocal champion for collaboration and planetary stewardship.



Professor Paul Pettit

Ancient caves, human origins: Northern Spain

Paul is professor of Palaeolithic archaeology at Durham University, specialising in Neanderthal and early Homo sapiens art and funerary archaeology. He co-discovered the UK's only Palaeolithic cave art at Creswell Crags, and helped prove Neanderthals created art in three Spanish caves.



Ashley Leiman

Orangutan conservation in Borneo: Indonesia

Ashley is an internationally recognised conservationist and founder of Orangutan Foundation. For over three decades, she has protected orangutans and Borneo's rainforests through habitat conservation, research, education and community initiatives, while championing great ape conservation and rainforest biodiversity.



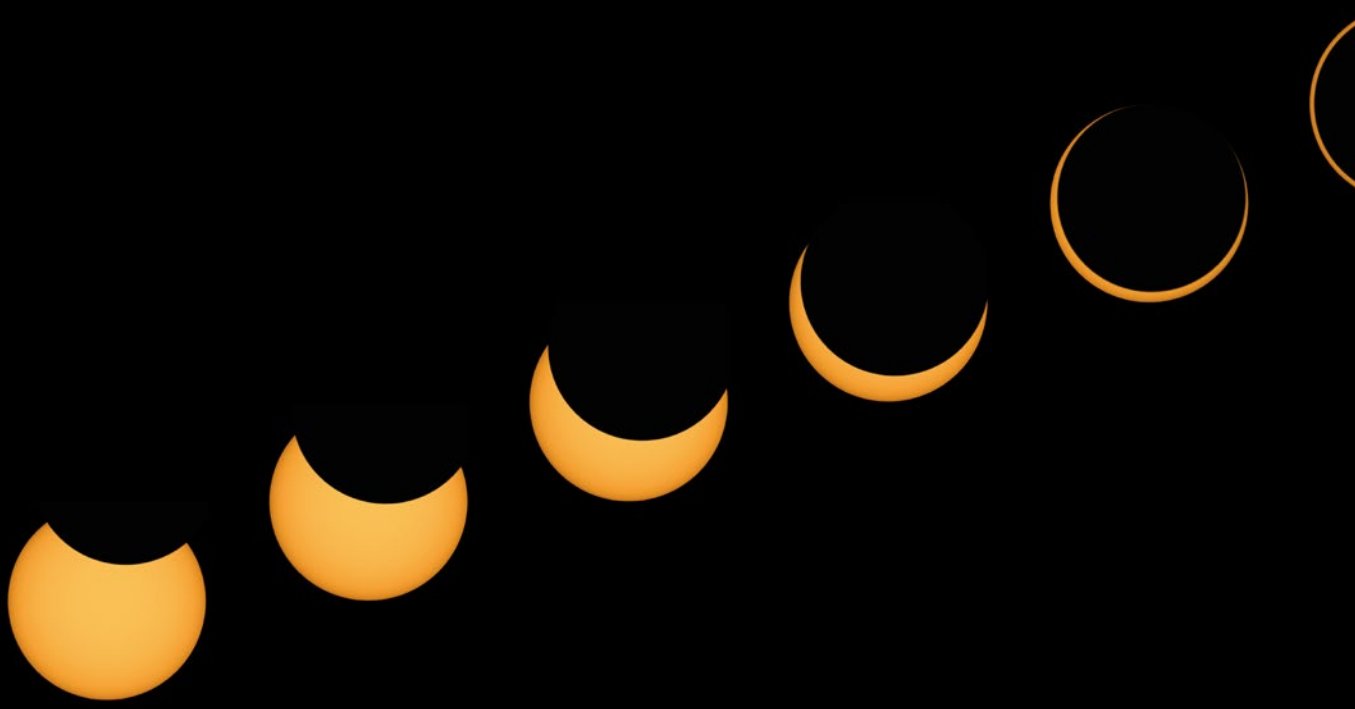
Dr Chris Jackson

Scientific pioneers of the ancient world, Cairo and Alexandria: Egypt

Chris is a world-renowned geologist, science communicator and explorer who reads the stories written in rock, from desert dunes to deep-sea basins. He's technical director at WSP and visiting professor of basin analysis at Imperial College London, having earned his PhD through fieldwork in Egypt's ancient sedimentary basins.

Total and annular solar eclipses

Witness one of nature's most extraordinary spectacles with the people who know it best.



Chosen for the best possible view

Every eclipse journey is designed to maximise your viewing opportunities, with carefully chosen locations close to the eclipse's centre line and selected for the best combination of duration, weather and local conditions.

Travel with leading eclipse experts

Travel with leading astronomers and eclipse specialists who bring each event to life through insightful talks, live commentary and informal discussions.

Total or annular – every eclipse is unique

No two eclipses are the same. Whether experiencing totality or the spectacular "ring of fire", our experts reveal the science behind these rare celestial events, making every moment even more memorable.

Share the experience with curious minds

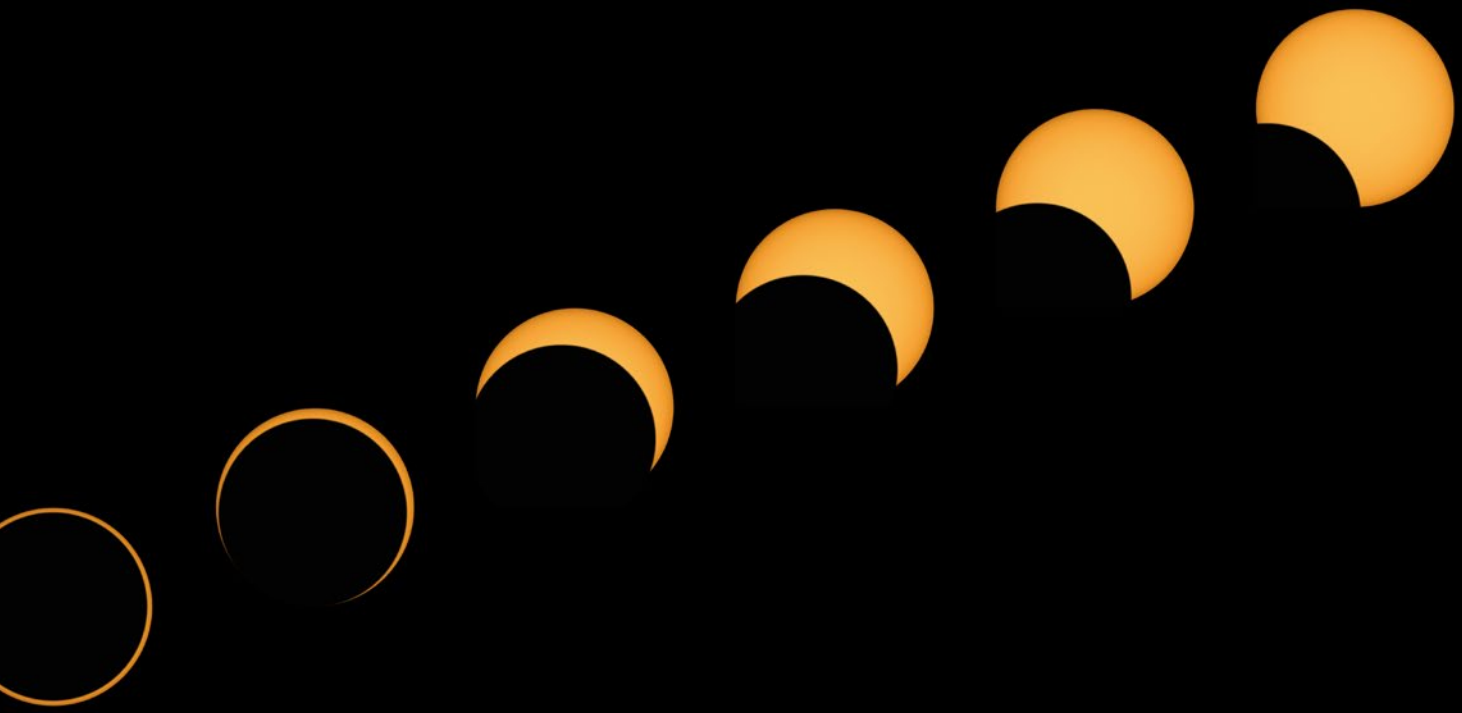
There's something uniquely powerful about witnessing an eclipse alongside people who share your curiosity. Our group journeys bring together inquisitive travellers from around the world, creating lasting friendships through shared discovery, conversation and unforgettable experiences.

Every detail planned around the eclipse

Every aspect of your journey is meticulously planned by our experienced team and trusted local partners. All you need to do is look up.

Book early

These incredible eclipse adventures are among our most sought-after experiences, with many selling out up to two years in advance. To give yourself the best choice of destinations and viewing locations, we recommend booking early.



Annular solar eclipse 2027: Patagonia, Argentina

February | 8 days

Observe the spectacular 2027 annular "ring of fire" solar eclipse in Patagonia, Argentina, with astronomer and eclipse expert Jamie Carter. Explore Buenos Aires, Bariloche and El Maitén, perfectly placed on the path of annularity, while enjoying expert talks, safe solar observing and stargazing beneath some of South America's clearest skies. Blending astronomy, nature and culture, this is an unforgettable journey to experience one of the world's most remarkable celestial events.

- Witness the 2027 annular solar eclipse as the moon reveals a brilliant ring of sunlight from a prime viewing site in Patagonia
- Eclipse expert Jamie Carter will explain the science behind eclipses and guide your stargazing, elevating the eclipse experience with fascinating insights into the night
- Stargaze under exceptional Patagonian skies, observing nebulae, clusters and galaxies with large telescopes





Total solar eclipse 2027: Southern Spain

July | 5 days

Experience the spectacular total solar eclipse on 2 August 2027 in southern Spain from the comfort of a four-star beachside hotel near the centre line of totality. In the company of expert astronomers and guest speakers, enjoy fascinating talks, an essential eclipse briefing and guidance throughout the event. Combined with the culture, cuisine and landscapes of southern Spain, this is an unforgettable opportunity to witness one of nature's greatest spectacles.

- Experience nearly 4 minutes of totality – among the longest total solar eclipses visible from Europe this century
- Enjoy expert talks, eclipse briefings and guidance from leading astronomers throughout your journey
- Discover the culture, cuisine and landscapes of southern Spain alongside this unforgettable celestial event

Total and annular solar eclipses



NEW

Total solar eclipse 2028 cruise: The Kimberley, Western Australia

Sail aboard the Coral Discoverer for an unforgettable expedition along Australia's Kimberley coast to witness the total solar eclipse on 22 July 2028. Lasting more than 5 minutes, this rare celestial event will be enhanced by renowned astronomer Martin Griffiths, whose expert talks and eclipse briefings will bring the science of the event to life.

July | 12 days

What makes this voyage truly exceptional is the chance to experience two rare wonders in a single adventure: one of the world's last great wild coastlines and a total solar eclipse from the heart of the path of totality. Exploring the remote Kimberley aboard an intimate expedition ship, you'll access places few travellers ever reach, from ancient Aboriginal rock-art sites and towering waterfalls to secluded islands and dramatic tidal landscapes. The journey culminates with a front-row view of the 2028 total solar eclipse, creating an unforgettable blend of natural and celestial spectacle.

Ideal for those with a passion for astronomy, nature, science and exploration, this intimate voyage aboard the 68-guest Coral Discoverer offers exceptional access to the Kimberley's hidden waterways, remote islands and remarkable landscapes. Renowned astronomer Martin Griffiths enriches the experience with engaging talks, eclipse briefings and stargazing sessions, while an expert expedition team provides fascinating insights into the region's geology, wildlife and Indigenous heritage.

- **Travel with just 68 guests for a more personal and immersive expedition experience**
- **Astronomy, geology, marine science and Indigenous culture brought to life through expert talks and excursions**
- **Designed for curious travellers, this expedition combines a spectacular total solar eclipse with science, exploration and discovery in one unforgettable journey**



Expert
Martin Griffiths

Martin was a senior lecturer in space science at the University of South Wales and a current fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, with over 40 years of experience bringing the wonders of the cosmos to life. His research explores the origins, evolution and potential distribution of life across the universe, shaped by his time at NASA's Astrobiology Institute. As director of the Brecon Beacons Observatory, Martin blends hands-on observation with dynamic public engagement, sharing the excitement of planetary science, exoplanets and astrobiology with audiences of all levels. With more than 100 scientific papers published, he is renowned for translating complex cosmic phenomena into vivid, accessible insights for both scientists and science enthusiasts alike.

Total solar eclipse 2028: Darwin to Kununurra, Australia

July | 9 days

Journey through the rugged landscapes of northern Australia and the remote Kimberley for the 2028 total solar eclipse. Travel from Darwin through the waterfalls of Litchfield National Park and the dramatic gorges of Nitmiluk to the frontier town of Kununurra, before arriving at a secluded Kimberley viewing site within the path of totality. Along the way, astronomer and eclipse chaser Jamie Carter shares expert talks, eclipse briefings and guided stargazing, adding fascinating insight to this remarkable adventure.

- **Witness a total solar eclipse from a central location with over five minutes of totality**
- **Stargaze under pristine dark skies with guided sessions revealing the southern hemisphere heavens**



Total solar eclipse 2028: Uluru to Darwin, Australia

July | 9 days

View the spectacular total solar eclipse from a private viewing site near the Devils Marbles, perfectly positioned beneath the path of totality. Explore Alice Springs, Uluru and the Australian outback before finishing in Darwin, while renowned astronomer Dr John Mason enriches your journey with expert talks, eclipse briefings and fascinating insights into the science behind this extraordinary celestial event.

- **Learn about astronomy, eclipses and geology through talks and guided activities from *New Scientist* experts**
- **Enjoy expert-led excursions to Uluru and Kings Canyon, revealing the cultural significance of these iconic sites**
- **Gain a deeper understanding of Indigenous heritage and relationship with the land and sky**



Total solar eclipse 2028: South Island, New Zealand

July | 7 days

Experience the total solar eclipse on an unforgettable journey through New Zealand's South Island. Begin in Christchurch before travelling through the dramatic alpine scenery of Mount Cook, where glacier-capped peaks and clear southern skies create ideal conditions for stargazing. Your adventure culminates at a private viewing site near Clyde, perfectly positioned for the eclipse. Along the way you'll enjoy guided astronomy sessions, night-sky observations and expert insights.

- **Highly detailed and engaging eclipse briefings plus a full programme of talks from the accompanying expert**
- **Stargazing in the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve**
- **Discover the beautiful landscapes of the Southern Alps, Lake Tekapo and Lake Wakatipu**



Astronomy

Journey to the ends of the Earth and beyond to discover the wonders of the night sky. Timed around the new moon for optimal stargazing, our astronomy tours take you to some of the world's darkest skies, from remote Dark Sky Reserves to renowned observatories. Perfect for beginners and enthusiasts alike.

Astronomy and volcanoes in the Canary Islands: Spain

Discover the wonders of the cosmos on a journey to La Palma and Tenerife with astronomy expert Colin Stuart. Explore world-class observatories, stargaze beneath some of Europe's darkest skies and uncover the science of the universe among the Canary Islands' dramatic volcanic landscapes. Accompanied by Colin, a renowned astronomy writer, speaker and fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, this journey brings the wonders of space to life.

December | 7 days

What makes this tour truly exceptional is the rare opportunity to experience two of the world's foremost astronomical destinations in a single journey. Protected by strict light-pollution laws and atmospheric conditions that attract leading international observatories, La Palma offers some of the darkest and clearest skies on Earth. Combined with private visits to world-class telescopes, expert-led stargazing and the dramatic volcanic landscapes of both La Palma and Tenerife, this tour provides an unrivalled insight into the science of astronomy in the very places where groundbreaking discoveries are being made.

For those fascinated by the universe and driven by curiosity, this journey offers the chance to experience astronomy where some of the world's most important discoveries are made. Combining expert insight, world-class observatories and the dramatic landscapes of the Canary Islands, it reveals the science and stories behind the stars.

- **Travel during the new moon for optimal dark skies, exploring La Palma's Starlight Reserve, one of the world's premier astronomy destinations**
- **Enjoy expert-led stargazing and talks with astronomy writer Colin Stuart, whose insights will elevate your journey through the wonders of the night sky**
- **Explore La Palma, Roque de los Muchachos Observatory, Teide National Park and Llano de Jable, with world-class stargazing throughout**



Expert
Colin Stuart

Colin is a multi-award-winning astronomy author and speaker who has introduced more than half a million people to the wonders of the universe. He has written 20 books, selling over 400,000 copies in 24 languages and more than 250 science articles for titles including The Guardian, *New Scientist*, The Wall Street Journal and the European Space Agency. A fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, he has also co-authored a book with astronaut Tim Peake, and even has an asteroid, (15347) Colinstuart, named in his honour for his contribution to popularising astronomy.





The science of space exploration and astronomy: US

September | 9 days

Take off on a quest across the United States tracing the past, present and future of space exploration, from Kennedy Space Center and Johnson Space Center to the Very Large Array and Spaceport America. Stand beneath the Saturn V rocket, explore mission control and discover the technologies shaping missions to the moon and Mars. Enjoy guided evening stargazing sessions under some of the darkest skies in Florida and New Mexico, bringing the science and stories of space to life.



The world capital of astronomy: Chile

March and October | 13 days

Journey to Chile on an astronomy adventure led by space scientist Martin Griffiths. Witness cutting-edge research into the origins of stars, planets and galaxies, all under the Atacama desert's famously clear skies. Alongside evenings of stargazing, you'll explore dramatic desert landscapes and vibrant local culture, making this both a scientific and cultural adventure like no other.



Astronomy adventure in the Andes and the Salar de Uyuni: Bolivia

April | 10 days

Join an extraordinary journey through Bolivia's spectacular landscapes and rich astronomical heritage alongside acclaimed astronomy expert Jamie Carter. From high-altitude observatories and ancient solar sites to the vast, mirror-like expanse of the Salar de Uyuni, discover some of the most remarkable stargazing locations on Earth. Through engaging talks and hands-on observing sessions, Jamie brings the night sky to life, revealing the wonders of the cosmos and the science behind Bolivia's uniquely pristine skies.



Stargazing and geology in Moab, Canyonlands and Arches national parks: US

May | 5 days

Venture across the south-western US on a carefully timed adventure aligned with the new moon, when desert skies are at their darkest, and the stars shine with exceptional clarity. By day, explore the vast landscapes of Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park and Dead Horse Point State Park, shaped over millions of years. By night, join *New Scientist*'s Leah Crane for guided stargazing sessions and walking seminars, bringing the desert sky to life with expert insight into astronomy and cosmic phenomena.



Astronomy and culture through Silk Road cities: Uzbekistan

April and September | 14 days

Embark on a captivating journey through Uzbekistan, where the legacy of astronomy is woven into centuries of Silk Road history, culture and discovery. Once a vital crossroads for the exchange of scientific ideas across Eurasia, this historic region is home to remarkable astronomical heritage and pioneering early work in celestial mapping. From ancient centres of learning to the vast Central Asian steppe, experience skies and explore how early astronomers shaped our understanding of the cosmos.



Renaissance astronomy in Kepler's Prague: Czech Republic

September | 6 days

Travel to the heart of early science in Prague, where Renaissance astronomers Johannes Kepler and Tycho Brahe once shaped our understanding of the cosmos. Explore the city's medieval streets and soaring spires as astronomer and historian Martin Griffiths brings its rich scientific and cultural heritage to life. Discover Prague's golden age as a hub of astronomy, mathematics, music and art, and visit landmark sites including the Klementinum, the Štefánik Observatory and the world's oldest astronomical clock.



NEW

Arctic northern lights adventure: Churchill, Canada

Witness the aurora borealis like never before in Churchill, Canada, where Arctic winter skies reveal one of Earth's most spectacular natural shows. Explore this remote Arctic town by day and by night study the northern lights in all their glory from heated observatories, remote vantage points and custom platforms beneath crystal-clear skies offering a truly unforgettable adventure.

February | 7 days

What makes this tour distinctive is the variety of aurora-viewing experiences it offers. From heated observatories and the remarkable glass Aurora Pod® to remote wilderness locations reached by snow coach, you'll experience the northern lights from multiple perspectives in some of the world's best viewing conditions.

Whether you are fascinated by astronomy, wildlife or photography, or are simply drawn to witnessing one of nature's most spectacular displays, this journey offers discovery at every turn. From understanding the science behind the aurora and capturing its ever-changing colours to exploring the Arctic wilderness and encountering its unique wildlife, this is an experience that inspires curiosity, wonder and a deeper connection with the natural world.

- **Maximise your chances of seeing the aurora with expertly selected viewing locations in one of the world's premier northern lights destinations**
- **Watch the northern lights from heated observatories, a glass Aurora Pod® and remote wilderness locations beneath Churchill's pristine Arctic skies**
- **Expert insights throughout the tour will enrich your experience, revealing the science, stories and significance behind the Arctic night sky**



Expert
Katrina Rosen

Katrina has spent a lifetime exploring Canada's northern wilderness and sharing its wonders with others. Deeply connected to the boreal forest and Arctic landscapes, she is passionate about introducing guests to the magic of Churchill – where the dancing northern lights illuminate some of the world's darkest skies. An ACMG-certified guide, published author and expert interpreter of Canada's natural history, Katrina combines her love of the north with engaging storytelling, creating unforgettable experiences beneath the aurora borealis.



The northern lights, fjords and glaciers: Svalbard and Tromsø, Norway

March | 7 days

Join an extraordinary Arctic journey in Norway with expert astronomer Jamie Carter, where the beauty of the landscape meets the wonder of the night sky. This seven-day expedition blends scenic Arctic experiences with immersive astronomy, including planetarium shows, aurora hunting and Jamie's expert talks, revealing the secrets of the cosmos. The tour offers a remarkable combination of stunning natural scenery and unforgettable experiences under the northern skies.



Science of astronomy and the northern lights: Sweden

February | 5 days

Journey to Swedish Lapland with astronomy expert Jamie Carter and experience the Arctic under some of Europe's clearest skies. Based in spectacular Abisko National Park, discover the science behind the stars through expert-led stargazing and witness the mesmerising aurora borealis in one of the world's best locations for viewing the northern lights. An unforgettable blend of astronomy, Arctic landscapes and natural wonder.



Astronomy and stargazing in the Atlas mountains and beyond: Morocco

March | 7 days

Explore Morocco through some of its most dramatic landscapes, transformed into natural gateways to the night sky. Timed around the new moon for optimal darkness, this journey takes you from high-altitude observatories in the Atlas mountains to remote desert camps beneath unpolluted skies. Each evening is dedicated to expert-led stargazing, with telescopes, guided sky interpretation and engaging talks designed to deepen your understanding of the cosmos.



The wonders of the night sky in Petra and Wadi Rum: Jordan

June | 7 days

Experience Jordan like never before under some of the darkest, clearest skies in the world. Timed around the new moon in June, explore sweeping desert landscapes, tranquil canyons and rugged mountains that double as natural observatories, where minimal light pollution transforms every night into an unforgettable journey through space. Let the mysteries of the universe unfold above Jordan's dramatic and timeless scenery.



Astronomy and tiger conservation safari: India

January | 11 days

Discover India through two of its greatest wonders: its extraordinary wildlife and its dazzling night skies. By day, journey through Tadoba and Pench national parks in search of the magnificent Bengal tiger. When evening falls, join astronomy expert Martin Griffiths for an inspiring exploration of the cosmos, where storytelling and stargazing unveil the mysteries of the universe above the forest. Along the way, visit historic observatories that bridge ancient celestial traditions and modern scientific discovery, creating a truly unforgettable adventure of wildlife, wonder and exploration.



Astronomy safari in the Serengeti: Tanzania

June | 8 days

Witness Tanzania at its most extraordinary on an adventure that combines world-class safari experiences with expert-led astronomy. Track iconic wildlife across the Serengeti and Ngorongoro crater, visit the Mount Meru Astronomical Observatory, and enjoy unforgettable stargazing beneath pristine new-moon skies. Accompanied by space scientist Martin Griffiths, this unique tour also offers meaningful cultural encounters with local communities, providing fascinating insights into the traditions, landscapes and way of life that shape this remarkable region.



Stargazing, safari and sand dunes: Namibia

Venture across Namibia on an extraordinary astronomy adventure through one of the world's most sparsely populated countries, where vast desert landscapes and exceptionally dark skies create ideal conditions for stargazing. Joined by renowned astronomy writer Jamie Carter, you'll uncover the science behind the southern night sky through expert-led stargazing sessions and engaging discussions.

October and November | 13 days

What makes this tour distinctive is its blend of world-class astronomy and Namibia's extraordinary landscapes. Visit the HESS gamma-ray telescope to discover how scientists study the universe's most energetic phenomena, stand beside the world's largest meteorite at Hoba, explore the towering dunes of Sossusvlei and the surreal Moon Landscape, and experience some of Earth's darkest skies.

Perfect for those who want to combine expert-led stargazing with unforgettable landscapes, it offers a deeper understanding of the cosmos alongside encounters with Namibia's extraordinary geology, wildlife and culture. Whether you are an experienced astronomy enthusiast or simply captivated by the night sky, this journey offers discovery at every turn.

- **Experience some of the world's darkest skies in one of the premier destinations for Southern Hemisphere stargazing**
- **Visit the HESS gamma-ray telescope, Hoba meteorite, Sossusvlei and the dramatic Moon Landscape alongside expert guide Jamie Carter**
- **Discover Damaraland and Etosha National Park, combining iconic landscapes, incredible wildlife and pristine night skies**



Expert

Jamie Carter

Jamie Carter is one of the world's leading astronomy and eclipse writers, whose work has appeared in Space.com, Live Science, Sky & Telescope, BBC Sky at Night and New Scientist. An expert in astrotourism and celestial events, Jamie combines scientific insight with captivating storytelling. He will reveal the wonders of Namibia's southern skies, sharing the science, stories and discoveries behind the stars while guiding you through some of the world's most spectacular stargazing landscapes.

Physics



Travel to the frontiers of modern physics and uncover the discoveries reshaping our understanding of the universe. Our physics tours bring complex scientific ideas to life through expert-led visits and accessible explanations.

CERN and Mont Blanc, dark and frozen matter: Switzerland and France

March, April and October | 6 days

What is the universe made of, and how did it begin? Find out at CERN, where some of the world's greatest scientific questions are being explored. Gain unique behind-the-scenes access to pioneering facilities, hear from experts at the forefront of discovery and delve into the remarkable breakthroughs that are reshaping our understanding of reality. From the Higgs boson to the mysteries of dark matter, this fascinating tour reveals the science shaping our future, set against the spectacular backdrop of the Swiss Alps.

- Explore CERN and the Large Hadron Collider, where discoveries like the Higgs boson changed our view of the universe
- Tour the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology's Plasma Center, a world-leading fusion research facility, and discover how scientists are developing clean energy for the future
- Discover the spectacular landscapes of Mont Blanc and discover how glaciers, geology and climate have shaped one of Europe's most dramatic alpine regions





SURF and the Black Hills, ancient and dark matter: US

September | 5 days

Descend into the cutting-edge world of particle physics at the Sanford Underground Research Facility (SURF) in South Dakota. Go behind the scenes of groundbreaking experiments taking place 2 kilometres underground as scientists chase elusive neutrinos, probe dark matter, analyse biology in extreme environments and explore nuclear fusion. Enjoy expert insights throughout who will translate complex geology and extreme biology into engaging stories and showing how cutting-edge research connects to the broader tapestry of science.

- Discover the science taking place nearly 2 kilometres underground at SURF, where researchers search for dark matter, neutrinos and cosmic mysteries
- Meet SURF researchers and learn how cutting-edge experiments are advancing our understanding of matter, energy and the cosmos
- Discover how geology, fossils and deep time shaped the Black Hills at Wind Cave, Mount Rushmore and the Mammoth Site

Archaeology



Mycenaean and Peloponnesian archaeology: Greece

Go beyond the guidebook on an immersive archaeological adventure through the Peloponnese, led by Dr Christofilis Maggidis, president of the Mycenaean Foundation. Combining iconic ancient sites with exclusive behind-the-scenes access, this tour offers a rare opportunity to engage directly with the science and practice of archaeology.

May and September | 8 days

What sets this tour apart is its unique focus on active discovery. Alongside visits to Mycenae, Sparta, Corinth, Epidaurus and Nemea, you'll gain unparalleled insight into ongoing research at Mycenae, one of Greece's most important archaeological sites. Through an innovative excavation simulator, you'll experience the techniques archaeologists use in the field, from geophysical surveying and aerial imaging to excavation, restoration and digital recording.

This tour will appeal to anyone fascinated by ancient civilisations, archaeology, history and scientific investigation. Expert-led visits, hands-on learning and evening lectures bring the Mycenaean world vividly to life, offering a deeper understanding of how modern research continues to reshape our knowledge of the ancient past.

- **Gain firsthand knowledge of the techniques employed by archaeologists and delve into the specialised technologies used at excavation sites**
- **Enjoy lectures and walking seminars from Mycenae's archaeologists, including Christofilis Maggidis and his colleagues**
- **Based in the ancient coastal town of Nafplio, discover the impressive landscapes and cultural landmarks of this remarkable part of Greece**



Expert

Professor Christofilis Maggidis

Christofilis is president of the Mycenaean Foundation, with nearly 30 years of archaeological field experience at major sites across Greece, including Mycenae, Glas, Crete and Akrotiri on Santorini. Following postdoctoral research at Brown University and a fellowship at Harvard University, he has become a leading authority on Minoan and Mycenaean archaeology, specialising in the art, architecture and culture of Bronze Age Greece.



Ancient caves, human origins: Northern Spain

June and September | 7 days

Step back 40,000 years and uncover the origins of human creativity on an extraordinary exploration of northern Spain. Visit remarkable cave systems, such as Santimamiñe, El Pindal, Tito Bustillo, El Castillo and Las Monedas, experiencing ancient artwork by torchlight in small groups. Discover the stories behind human evolution with expert guides and archaeologists, while enjoying world-class museums, vibrant cities and Spain's celebrated cuisine.



Megalithic Malta: Temples, architecture and archaeology

March | 6 days

Uncover 7000 years of history on the captivating islands of Malta and Gozo, where ancient monuments and rich cultural heritage await. Visit extraordinary temple complexes believed to be among the world's earliest free-standing structures, wander through the atmospheric streets of medieval Mdina, and delve into three UNESCO World Heritage Sites. From enigmatic carved-stone landscapes, dramatic coastlines and elegant Baroque architecture, this fascinating tour reveals the many layers of Malta's remarkable past.



Neanderthals, human origins and cave art: France

August | 9 days

Trace the origins of humanity on a fascinating exploration of prehistoric southern France, from Bordeaux to Montpellier. Visit world-renowned archaeological sites, rock shelters and cave systems that have transformed our understanding of Neanderthals and early humans. In the celebrated Vézère valley, uncover remarkable evidence of ancient life, from stone tools and skeletal remains to some of the world's earliest art, brought to life through expert insight and storytelling.



Bronze Age, Phoenician and Roman Sardinia: Italy

April | 8 days

Explore the extraordinary history of Sardinia, one of the Mediterranean's most captivating islands. Accompanied by archaeologist Emily Holt, visit remarkable Nuragic, Phoenician and Roman sites, including exclusive access to her excavation near Barumini. From ancient towers and sanctuaries to atmospheric coastal towns and stunning landscapes, this fascinating tour combines archaeological discovery, rich cultural heritage and traditional Sardinian hospitality.



Uncovering Vesuvius, Pompeii and ancient Naples: Italy

March and September | 6 days

Discover the extraordinary story of Mount Vesuvius and the ancient cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum with expert volcanologist Guido Giordano. Based in vibrant Naples, explore remarkable archaeological sites, the latest excavations, world-class museums and the dramatic legacy of the 79 AD eruption through expert talks, guided visits and unforgettable landscapes.



Angkor Wat and the archaeological wonders of Cambodia

March | 12 days

Journey through Cambodia's remarkable archaeological heritage, tracing the rise of the Funan, Chenla and Khmer empires from Phnom Penh to Angkor. Traverse ancient capitals, jungle temples and UNESCO-listed sites, culminating in two full days at the magnificent Angkor Wat complex. Explore this extraordinary legacy with landscape archaeologist Iman Nagy, whose expertise reveals the history, religion, art and architecture behind one of Southeast Asia's greatest civilisations.



Archaeological stories of the Inca and Machu Picchu: Peru

Go beyond Machu Picchu and uncover the remarkable story of the Inca civilisation in the company of one of Peru's leading experts. From the ancient capital of Cusco to the dramatic landscapes of the Sacred Valley, this immersive tour reveals how science, engineering, culture and belief combined to create one of the world's most sophisticated societies, while exploring some of Peru's most spectacular scenery.

September | 11 days

What makes this tour truly special is the depth of access and expertise it offers. With renowned anthropologist Dr Jacques Decoster sharing his knowledge throughout, you'll gain unique insights into Inca history and the latest archaeological research. Alongside extensive time at Machu Picchu, you'll visit lesser-known sites, providing a richer and more complete understanding of the Inca world.

Ideal for travellers with a passion for archaeology, history and ancient civilisations, this tour is designed for those seeking a deeper understanding of Peru's remarkable heritage. Combining expert-led exploration with authentic cultural encounters and breathtaking Andean landscapes, it offers an engaging and rewarding experience for curious minds and adventurous travellers.

- **Spend a day and a half exploring Machu Picchu with expert insight into its history, architecture and enduring mysteries**
- **Travel with renowned anthropologist Dr Jacques Decoster, one of Peru's leading authorities on Inca culture and archaeology**
- **Gain a deeper understanding of Inca science, engineering and society through expert talks and on-site discussions**



Expert

Dr Jacques Decoster

Jacques is a professor of Anthropology at Saint Antony University in Cusco and a leading expert on Inca history, South American ethnography and Andean cultural heritage. Educated in France, the United States, Peru and the UK, he directed the Machu Picchu Museum from 2012 to 2014, overseeing the return of the Hiram Bingham collection from Yale University. A National Geographic expert and member of ICOMOS, he is widely recognised for his work protecting and promoting Peru's archaeological heritage.



Archaeological wonders of the Maya: Mexico and Guatemala

September | 10 days

Step into the world of the Maya on an extraordinary exploration of Mexico and Guatemala's ancient wonders. Visit legendary sites including Palenque, Bonampak, Yaxchilán and Tikal to uncover the achievements of one of history's most sophisticated civilisations. Accompanied by Emmy Award-winning documentarian and archaeo-anthropologist Peter Getzels, delve into Mayan science, astronomy, art and culture through expert talks and site visits that bring this fascinating world vividly to life.



Prehistoric, Bronze Age and Roman archaeology: Morocco

September | 10 days

Travel through millions of years of history on an insightful exploration of Morocco's ancient past. From prehistoric fossil beds and enigmatic rock carvings to the magnificent Roman ruins of Volubilis, uncover the cultures and landscapes that shaped North Africa. Crossing the Atlas mountains and the Sahara desert, this expert-led tour combines archaeology, history and science with Morocco's vibrant cities, spectacular scenery and rich cultural heritage.



The archaeological legacy of Carthage and Rome: Tunisia

April | 10 days

Step into the world of Carthage and Rome on a fascinating exploration of Tunisia's extraordinary archaeological treasures. From the ruins of Carthage and the hilltop city of Dougga to the vast amphitheatre of El Jem and the subterranean villas of Bulla Regia, uncover the rise and fall of empires that shaped the ancient Mediterranean with leading Carthage historian and archaeologist Dr Eve MacDonald, whose expertise brings this remarkable landscape to life.



Scientific pioneers of the ancient world, Cairo and Alexandria: Egypt

March | 7 days

Uncover the ingenuity of ancient Egypt on a fascinating exploration of its archaeology, geology and scientific achievements. Accompanied by geologist and broadcaster Professor Chris Jackson, examine the landscapes and materials that helped shape one of history's greatest civilisations. From the pyramids and Sphinx to the treasures of Tutankhamun and the intellectual legacy of Alexandria, discover how innovation, engineering and natural resources underpinned Egypt's enduring achievements.



Human origins: Neolithic and Bronze Age Turkey

May and September | 12 days

Travel through the cradle of civilisation on an extraordinary exploration of Turkey's prehistoric and ancient wonders. From the world's earliest known temple at Göbekli Tepe and the Neolithic settlement of Çatalhöyük to the colossal statues of Mount Nemrut and Cappadocia's underground cities, uncover the origins of human society with leading archaeologists whose firsthand experience brings these discoveries and cultures to life.



Ancient Anatolia from Troy to Ephesus: Turkey

September | 7 days

Discover the birthplace of Mediterranean civilisation on a fascinating exploration of western Turkey's archaeological treasures. From the legendary city of Troy to the remarkably preserved streets of Ephesus, uncover the rise of early settlements, powerful kingdoms and great empires. With specialist insights throughout, explore spectacular ancient sites including Pergamon and Aphrodisias.

Science in the UK

Follow the story of scientific discovery across the United Kingdom, from ancient monuments and Roman frontiers to the engineering innovations that transformed the modern world. Uncover the people, ideas and breakthroughs that shaped Britain's place at the forefront of science and invention.



Ancient civilisations and wildlife cruise: Scotland

Cruise through Scotland's wild northern archipelagos on an extraordinary voyage that combines archaeology, wildlife and natural history. From Neolithic settlements and Viking heritage to dramatic coastlines, seabird colonies and remote island landscapes, this expedition reveals the remarkable connections between people and nature across more than 8000 years of history.

July | 12 days

What makes this tour truly special is its unique combination of scientific discovery and expedition cruising. Aboard the state-of-the-art Douglas Mawson, you'll explore some of Britain's most remote and captivating islands, including Iona, Eigg, Skye, Orkney and Shetland, alongside acclaimed author and former *New Scientist* editor-in-chief Emily H. Wilson.

Designed for curious travellers with a passion for archaeology, wildlife, history and the natural sciences, this is far more than a traditional cruise. Zodiac landings, remarkable wildlife encounters and visits to exceptional archaeological sites bring each destination to life, creating an immersive and enriching experience shared with like-minded explorers.

- **Enjoy exclusive talks from Emily H. Wilson and expert insights that bring the archaeology, geology, ecology and human story of these islands to life**
- **Explore remote islands by Zodiac, reaching secluded bays, dramatic cliffs and rarely visited coastal landscapes**
- **Sail aboard a purpose-built expedition ship designed for comfort, discovery, and taking you closer to nature**



Expert

Emily H. Wilson

Emily is a journalist and author with a passion for prehistory, archaeology and the story of human origins. She is currently writing Flint Hunters, a non-fiction book exploring prehistoric stone tools and what they reveal about ancient humans. Emily is also the author of a trilogy of novels set in Ancient Sumer, the world's first civilisation. Formerly editor-in-chief of *New Scientist* and a senior editor at The Guardian, she brings a wealth of storytelling expertise and a lifelong fascination with the ancient past.



Walking Hadrian's Wall and Roman innovation: England

June | 7 days

Follow in the footsteps of the Romans on an immersive exploration of Hadrian's Wall, one of Britain's greatest ancient monuments. Walking across Northumbria's dramatic landscapes, uncover how geology shaped the wall's construction and the empire's northern frontier. With expert archaeologists, guides and curators, visit forts, museums and active excavation sites, gaining fascinating insight into Roman engineering, daily life and one of the ancient world's most ambitious building projects.



The science of the waterways: England and Wales

May | 7 days

Discover the extraordinary ingenuity behind Britain's canal age on a fascinating exploration of England and Wales's most remarkable waterways. Visit six of the UK's seven canal wonders, including Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Standedge Tunnel and Bingley Five Rise Locks, while unveiling the engineering innovations that powered the industrial revolution. Accompanied by waterways expert Roger Butler, gain unique insight into the science behind one of Britain's greatest engineering achievements.



Canals and the Industrial Revolution: England

May | 7 days

Uncover the hidden engineering that powered the industrial revolution on an exploration of Birmingham's remarkable canal network. Once the lifeblood of Britain's manufacturing heartland, these waterways carried vast quantities of goods through an ingenious system of locks, aqueducts and junctions. Join waterways specialist Roger Butler on boat trips and guided walks while discovering the science, innovation and ambition behind one of the world's most influential transport networks.



The science of rail travel: York, England

July | 5 days

Celebrate over 200 years of railway innovation on an engaging exploration of the engineering, science and social impact of rail travel. From pioneering steam locomotives to modern high-speed trains, visit some of Britain's most important railway sites, including the National Railway Museum and Locomotion. With Gareth Dennis sharing his insights into railway engineering, discover the breakthroughs that transformed transport, connected communities and continue to shape the future of mobility.



The science history of Scotland: The Enlightenment and beyond

September | 5 days

Follow in the footsteps of history's greatest thinkers on a fascinating exploration of Edinburgh and Glasgow, the cities that helped shape the modern world. From the Scottish Enlightenment to groundbreaking discoveries in medicine, geology, physics and engineering, uncover the ideas that transformed our understanding of nature and society. Through expert-led visits and engaging storytelling, discover how Scotland became one of the world's most influential centres of scientific innovation.

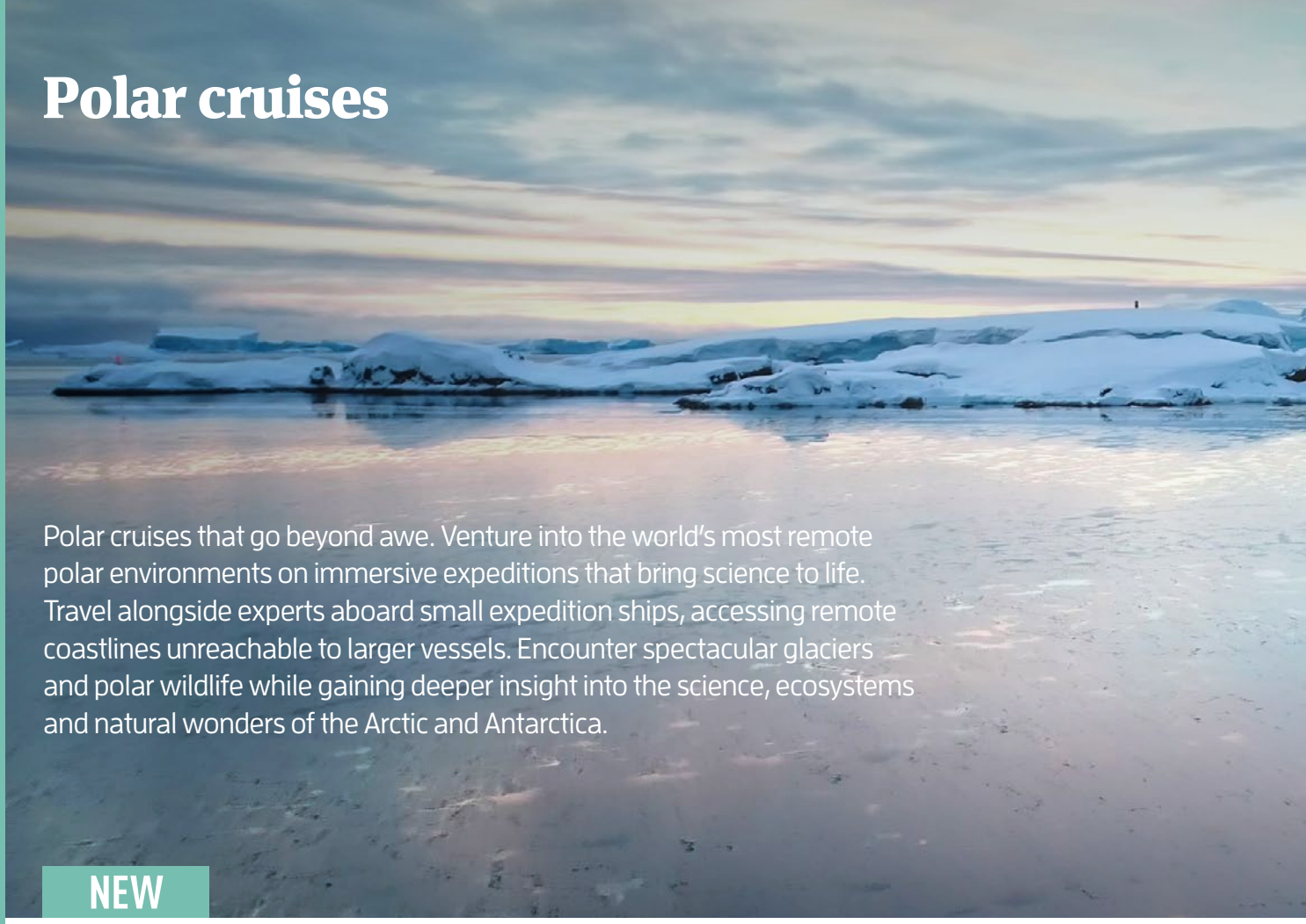


The science of whisky: Scottish Hebrides cruise

September | 8 days

Set sail through some of Scotland's most evocative whisky landscapes on a unique voyage that blends sensory science, sailing and exceptional whisky. Visit renowned distilleries on Islay and Jura, enjoy expert-led tastings and uncover how fermentation, maturation, environment and even sea air influence flavour. Aboard the historic Flying Dutchman, and accompanied by award-winning drinks writer Billy Abbott, you'll gain a fascinating insight into the science behind every dram.

Polar cruises



Polar cruises that go beyond awe. Venture into the world's most remote polar environments on immersive expeditions that bring science to life. Travel alongside experts aboard small expedition ships, accessing remote coastlines unreachable to larger vessels. Encounter spectacular glaciers and polar wildlife while gaining deeper insight into the science, ecosystems and natural wonders of the Arctic and Antarctica.

NEW

Arctic expedition cruise with Professor Helen Czerski: Svalbard, Norway

Go beyond a traditional Arctic cruise on a science-focused expedition with Professor Helen Czerski and *New Scientist*'s Timothy Revell. Explore Svalbard's spectacular wilderness while gaining expert insights into the ocean physics, sea-ice dynamics, wildlife ecology and climate science that make the Arctic one of Earth's most important regions for scientific research.

July | 9 days

What makes this expedition truly unique is the unrivalled access it offers to leading scientific expertise in one of the world's most remote environments. Exclusive talks, workshops and citizen-science activities with Professor Helen Czerski and Timothy Revell bring the Arctic to life, transforming each wildlife encounter, glacier landing and Zodiac voyage into an opportunity to understand the science behind this rapidly changing region. All this takes place aboard the Sylvia Earle, as you navigate Svalbard's spectacular wilderness.

Travel alongside like-minded adventurers who share a passion for nature, discovery and science, whether travelling solo, as a couple or with friends.

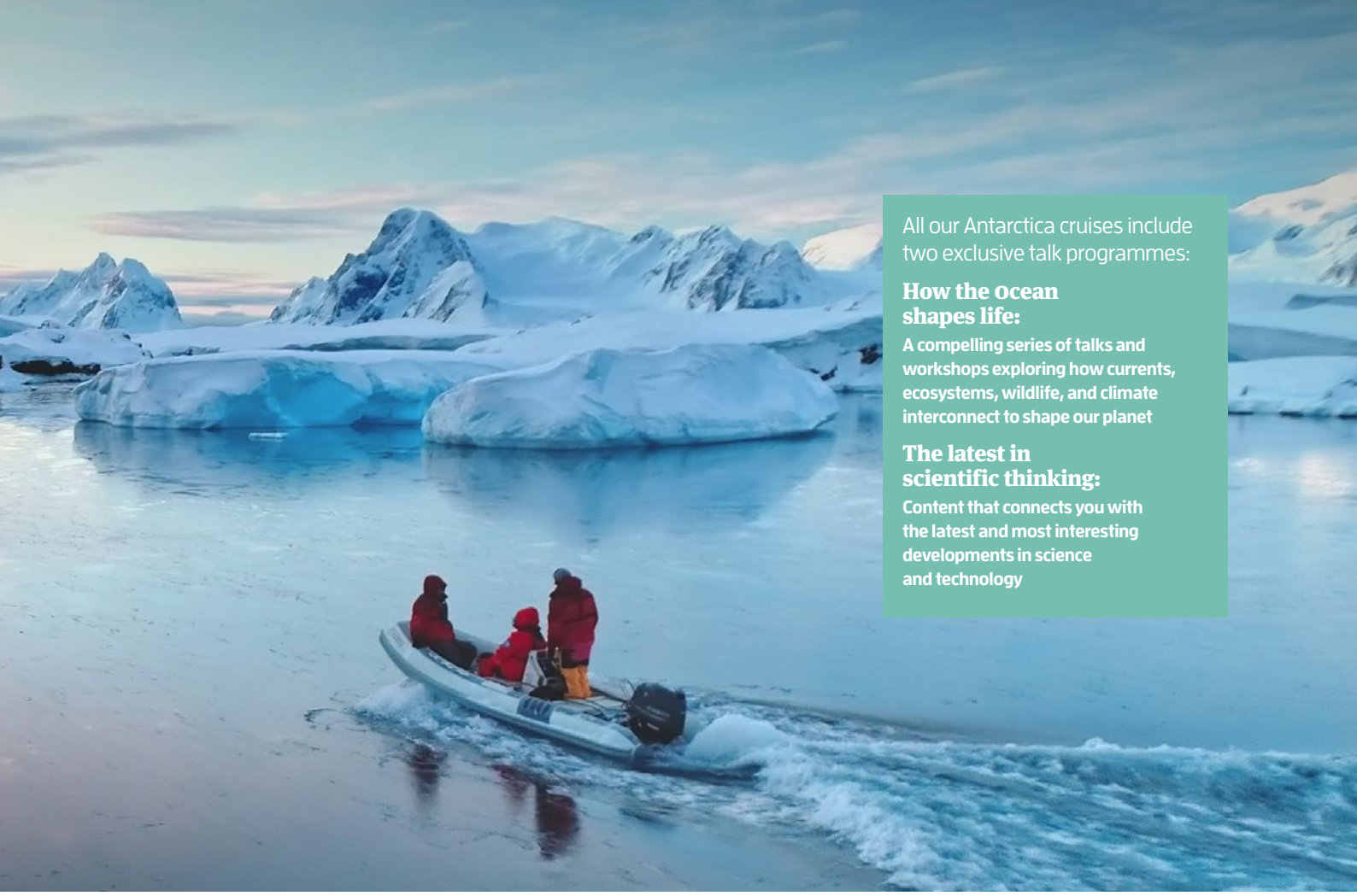
- **Enjoy fascinating talks and workshops from oceanographer, physicist and author Professor Helen Czerski and *New Scientist*'s executive editor Timothy Revell**
- **July is one of the best times to visit Svalbard, with retreating sea ice allowing wider exploration and excellent opportunities to spot Arctic wildlife**
- **Venture deep into Svalbard's remote wilderness on Zodiac excursions and guided landings, exploring places few travellers ever reach**



Expert

Professor Helen Czerski

Helen is a physicist, oceanographer and acclaimed science communicator whose research focuses on the physics of the ocean, from breaking waves to microscopic bubbles. A professor of environmental physics at University College London, she combines world-leading expertise with an engaging, accessible approach to science, and is widely known for her BBC documentaries, writing and public talks on the natural world.



All our Antarctica cruises include two exclusive talk programmes:

How the Ocean shapes life:

A compelling series of talks and workshops exploring how currents, ecosystems, wildlife, and climate interconnect to shape our planet

The latest in scientific thinking:

Content that connects you with the latest and most interesting developments in science and technology

Spirit of Antarctica expedition cruise: Antarctic Peninsula

December | 12 days

Embark on an extraordinary voyage to Antarctica, where breathtaking exploration is enriched by expert scientific insight. Featuring *New Scientist*'s Rowan Hooper and marine biologist Dr Russell Arnott, this journey sails from Ushuaia across the Drake Passage to the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands aboard the state-of-the-art Douglas Mawson ship. Encounter whales, seals and vast penguin colonies, explore by Zodiac and on foot, and gain deeper insight into this remarkable wilderness through exclusive talks, workshops and discussions.

- **Engage in daytime explorations aboard Zodiac boats, gliding through secluded coves, past majestic glaciers and across wildlife-rich waters**
- **Enjoy exclusive hands-on workshops and citizen science sessions with Rowan and Russell, offering unique insights into Antarctica's wildlife, ecosystems and scientific importance**
- **With a maximum of just 130 guests, you are guaranteed a far more intimate and personalised experience than larger vessels**





Wild Antarctica expedition cruise exploring the Weddell Sea

March | 13 days

Set sail into one of the most dramatic and least-explored regions – the legendary Weddell Sea, one of Antarctica's most remote and spectacular areas, accompanied by *New Scientist*'s Alison George, former NASA astronaut Ron Garan and marine biologist and oceanographer Dr Russell Arnott. Encounter gigantic tabular icebergs the size of skyscrapers, huge calving glaciers, waters declared by scientists as the clearest on Earth allowing visibility of up to 260 feet and an array of marine wildlife on this trip of a lifetime. Unlike standard expeditions, this journey offers a front-row seat to the wonders of science in action.

- **Discover how space exploration and cosmic phenomena mirror the polar regions**
- **Sail aboard the Sylvia Earle, carrying just 130 guests for a more intimate experience and greater access to remote polar landscapes**
- **Travelling to Antarctica in March offers exceptional wildlife encounters, with peak whale sightings – especially abundant humpbacks**

Marine biology

Dive into the wonders of the world's oceans on expert-led adventures that reveal far more than the wildlife alone. From whale migrations and dolphin behaviour to vibrant coral reefs and complex marine ecosystems, these journeys uncover the science of life beneath the waves.



Alfred Russel Wallace expedition cruise: Misool and Raja Ampat islands, Indonesia

January | 13 days

Follow in the footsteps of Alfred Russel Wallace on an extraordinary voyage through Indonesia's remote Spice and Raja Ampat islands, two of the most biodiverse regions on Earth. With Dr George Beccaloni, a leading Wallace expert, sharing his insights throughout, explore the landscapes and wildlife that inspired the theory of evolution, from dazzling birds of paradise to vibrant marine ecosystems. Travelling aboard a beautifully restored traditional schooner, this immersive expedition blends evolutionary science, natural history and cultural discovery in unparalleled comfort.



Panama Canal and rainforest biodiversity cruise: Panama and Costa Rica

October | 10 days

Discover Central America through the lens of science aboard the state-of-the-art expedition ship Douglas Mawson. Combining a daytime transit of the iconic Panama Canal with immersive exploration in Panama and Costa Rica, this voyage reveals the region's remarkable biodiversity, from tropical rainforests and mangrove forests to whale-rich waters and vibrant marine ecosystems. Expert-led talks and wildlife excursions bring the science of marine biology, ecology, conservation and engineering vividly to life.



Whales, dolphins and marine life of the Azores Islands: Portugal

May | 7 days

Explore the Azores through the eyes of a scientist on an immersive adventure that combines spectacular volcanic landscapes with hands-on marine research. Discover the world of whales and dolphins alongside marine biologist Dr Russell Arnott, contributing to real scientific research through observation, recording sightings and listening to underwater communications through hydrophones. From crater lakes and dramatic coastlines to close encounters with marine life, this unique journey offers a rare opportunity to experience conservation and discovery in action.



Baja whale watching adventure: Mexico

March | 6 days

Experience one of nature's greatest wildlife encounters in Baja California Sur, where gray whales return each year to the calm coastal lagoons of Mexico's Pacific coast. Enjoy unforgettable up-close encounters with these gentle giants while exploring the science behind their behaviour, migration and remarkable conservation success. Blending wildlife, marine science and spectacular landscapes, this is a truly immersive journey of discovery.

- **Witness breaching, spy-hopping, nursing calves and social whale behaviour in sheltered waters**
- **Learn from expert naturalists who explain migration, communication and whale ecology**
- **Stay in exclusive beachside cabanas inside the vast Vizcaíno Biosphere Reserve**



Evolution and wildlife cruise in Darwin's Galapagos: Ecuador

Experience the extraordinary biodiversity of the Galapagos Islands on an unforgettable voyage through one of the world's most unique natural environments. Explore Isabela, Fernandina, Santiago, Rabida and Chinese Hat, where giant tortoises, marine iguanas, penguins and blue-footed boobies thrive amid dramatic volcanic landscapes.

July | 9 days

What makes this journey truly special is its combination of expert insight and intimate exploration. With renowned Darwin and Wallace scholar Dr James Costa sharing his expertise throughout, you'll gain fascinating perspectives on evolution, biodiversity and conservation, including a visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station. Aboard the elegant 15-guest Solaris yacht, you'll access secluded bays and landing sites beyond the reach of larger vessels, with daily opportunities for guided walks, wildlife encounters and snorkelling among thriving marine ecosystems.

Ideal for nature enthusiasts, wildlife lovers and scientifically curious travellers, this cruise is perfect for those seeking a deeper understanding of evolution and the natural world.

- **Get up close to spectacular wildlife, including blue-footed boobies and giant tortoises, as well as coral gardens and volcanoes**
- **July is the best time to swim with larger species like sharks and rays as the water temperatures are cooler, bringing nutrients in the currents**
- **Enjoy a private talk from the science director at the Charles Darwin Research Station, located on Santa Cruz**



Expert

Dr James (Jim) Costa

Jim Costa is a professor and executive director of the Highlands Biological Station at Western Carolina University, and an internationally recognised authority on evolution, biogeography and the work of Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. A distinguished author, lecturer and naturalist, he has spent many years researching and teaching in the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador, bringing exceptional insight into the wildlife, geology and evolutionary history that make the islands so unique.

Nature and conservation

Immerse yourself in the natural world on expert-led journeys that celebrate the incredible diversity of life on Earth. From ancient rainforests and remote wetlands to wildlife-rich islands and conservation success stories, these tours offer a deeper understanding of the species and ecosystems that make our planet so extraordinary.



The great monarch butterfly migration: Mexico

Witness one of the world's most extraordinary wildlife spectacles on an unforgettable journey to the monarch butterfly reserves of central Mexico. Uncover the fascinating science behind one of nature's greatest migrations and experience the wonder of millions of butterflies gathering in a breathtaking display found nowhere else on Earth.

February | 6 days

What makes this tour truly special is the opportunity to spend extensive time among the butterflies in their winter sanctuary, observing one of the world's most remarkable wildlife phenomena at close quarters. With conservation biologist Court Whelan sharing his expertise throughout, you'll explore the science behind the migration, from the monarch's extraordinary navigational abilities to the mysteries that still surround its annual journey, while also experiencing the rich culture and landscapes of central Mexico.

Whether you're passionate about the natural world or simply seeking a truly extraordinary travel experience, the monarch migration is a spectacle that will stay with you forever.

- **Witness millions of monarch butterflies carpeting the forests of the UNESCO-listed Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve**
- **Learn how butterflies navigate 4000 kilometres across North America to winter in the mountains of Mexico**
- **Spend extensive time at key monarch sanctuaries, maximising opportunities for observation and photography**



Expert

Dr Court Whelan

Court is a distinguished conservation biologist and photographer. With a PhD in ecotourism and entomology from the University of Florida, Court has dedicated over two decades to guiding transformative travel experiences across all seven continents, from the monarch butterfly sanctuaries in Mexico to the polar bear habitats of Canada. His work seamlessly blends scientific expertise with storytelling, inspiring travellers to engage with nature through a conservation-focused lens.



Jaguar and wildlife adventure in the Pantanal: Brazil

September | 11 days

Venture into the Pantanal, the world's largest tropical wetland and one of the planet's greatest wildlife spectacles. Limited to just 11 guests, this immersive expedition explores the region's richest wildlife habitats in search of jaguars, giant river otters, tapirs, capybara and hundreds of bird species. Accompanied by expert naturalists, gain fascinating insight into the ecology and conservation that make this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve one of South America's most extraordinary natural treasures.



Yellowstone wolf and wildlife winter safari: US

January | 7 days

Experience Yellowstone at its most wild and captivating. Venture into a snow-covered landscape of steaming geysers, frozen forests and vast valleys, where wolves hunt, bison roam and elk gather against a spectacular mountain backdrop. With exclusive access to areas reserved for your group and guidance from expert naturalists, enjoy exceptional wildlife encounters while gaining fascinating insights into predator-prey relationships and the remarkable adaptations that allow life to flourish in winter.



Alaskan brown bear and wilderness adventure: US

June | 6 days

Come face-to-face with Alaska's magnificent brown bears on an unforgettable wilderness adventure. Based at an exclusive fly-in bush camp bordering Lake Clark National Park, you'll enjoy exceptional opportunities to observe these iconic animals at remarkably close range as they fish for salmon, forage along the shoreline and roam through spectacular coastal landscapes, with expert naturalists sharing their knowledge throughout.



An expedition through unique ecosystems: Madagascar

September | 16 days

Embark on an unforgettable wildlife expedition across Madagascar, one of the world's most remarkable biodiversity hotspots. Home to 23 species of lemur and countless plants and animals found nowhere else on Earth, this island nation is a living laboratory of evolution. Explore lush rainforests, spiny deserts, fossilised forests and dramatic limestone landscapes while uncovering the geological forces and evolutionary history that have shaped this extraordinary natural world.



Orangutan conservation in Borneo: Indonesia

June | 9 days

Journey into the heart of Borneo's rainforest on an unforgettable orangutan conservation adventure. Cruise remote jungle waterways by traditional klotok boat, explore the wildlife-rich forests of Tanjung Puting National Park and visit world-renowned orangutan rehabilitation centres, including Camp Leakey. Explore this extraordinary ecosystem with leading orangutan conservationist Ashley Leiman, gaining unique insights into orangutan behaviour and the vital work protecting one of our closest relatives.



Wildlife and wilderness of Tasmania: Australia

March | 12 days

Discover the untamed natural beauty of Tasmania on an immersive wildlife adventure through one of Australia's most remarkable island ecosystems. From ancient rainforests and rugged mountains to pristine coastlines and wetlands, seek out iconic species including Tasmanian devils, platypuses and little penguins. Accompanied by biologist and conservationist Dr Martin Cohen, gain fascinating insights into the island's unique biodiversity, evolutionary history and the conservation efforts.

Geology, ecology and volcanology

Explore the extraordinary forces that have shaped our planet on expert-led adventures through some of Earth's most remarkable landscapes. From active volcanoes and geothermal wonders to ancient karst formations, cloud forests and biodiversity hotspots, these journeys reveal the intricate connections between geology, volcanology and ecology.

A geological journey through ancient landscapes: Vietnam

Uncover the forces that shaped Vietnam on a fascinating journey through some of Southeast Asia's most spectacular landscapes. From the limestone karsts of Ninh Binh and Ha Long Bay to the vast cave systems of Phong Nha and the jungles of Cuc Phuong National Park, discover how millions of years of geological change have created the extraordinary scenery, ecosystems and cultures that define Vietnam today.

April | 13 days

What makes this tour truly unique is its focus on reading the landscape through the eyes of a scientist. Explore Vietnam's iconic karst landscapes, cave systems and coastlines with geoscientist Dr Amy Gough, uncovering the geological forces that shaped these environments and their connections to biodiversity and conservation. Visits range from the UNESCO-listed wonders of Ha Long Bay to leading wildlife conservation projects protecting endangered species.

Combining expert-led exploration with cultural encounters, spectacular landscapes and wildlife experiences, it offers a deeper and more rewarding perspective on one of Asia's most captivating destinations.

- **Cruise through Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's finest examples of drowned karst geology, formed over 500 million years**
- **Enjoy insightful talks and walking seminars throughout uncovering the deep history behind Vietnam's stunning scenery**
- **Discover Cuc Phuong National Park, where limestone cliffs, ancient caves and fossil-rich terrain reveal Vietnam's prehistoric marine past and biodiversity**



Expert

Dr Amy Gough

Amy is a geoscientist and lecturer at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, where she leads the Southeast Asia Research Group. For more than a decade, she has investigated the geological history of Southeast Asia, studying landscapes from the volcanoes of Indonesia and the subduction zones of Japan to the rivers, lakes and karst systems of Vietnam. Passionate about sharing her research, Amy brings landscapes to life by revealing the geological processes and ancient environments that have shaped some of Asia's most spectacular scenery.



The science of ecology and biodiversity: Sri Lanka

March | 11 days

Immerse yourself in the remarkable natural world of Sri Lanka on a wildlife and conservation adventure led by entomologist Dr Tim Cockerill. From mist-cloaked rainforests and lush tea country to wetlands and national parks, encounter an extraordinary diversity of insects, birds and mammals, including many species found nowhere else on Earth. Through private walks, night excursions and wildlife safaris in Udawalawe and Sinharaja, gain fascinating insights into the island's ecology, biodiversity and conservation challenges.



The science of biodiversity: Costa Rica

January | 13 days

Experience Costa Rica's extraordinary biodiversity through the lens of ecology on an immersive exploration of one of the world's most species-rich countries. Explore cloud forests, rainforests, volcanic landscapes, wetlands and coastlines with naturalists, biologists and conservation experts, gaining insight into the ecosystems, wildlife and conservation initiatives that have made Costa Rica a global environmental leader.



In the footsteps of Alexander von Humboldt: Ecuador

July | 11 days

Follow in the footsteps of Alexander von Humboldt on an extraordinary expedition through Ecuador's most spectacular landscapes. From snow-capped volcanoes and Andean highlands to cloud forests and the edge of the Amazon, explore the environments that inspired some of the earliest scientific observations of the natural world. Accompanied by expert guides, uncover the fascinating connections between geology, ecology, climate and biodiversity.



Caves, geology and gentle walking: Croatia and Slovenia

September | 8 days

Venture beneath the surface of Slovenia to explore one of Europe's most extraordinary karst landscapes. Discover vast cave systems, underground rivers and spectacular chambers adorned with stalactites and stalagmites, revealing millions of years of geological history. Guided by experts, uncover the processes that shaped these remarkable subterranean worlds and learn why Slovenia's unique landscapes have become a living laboratory for geologists, ecologists and explorers alike.



Land of fire and ice: Iceland

June and October | 8 days

Experience Iceland through the eyes of a volcanologist on an extraordinary exploration of one of Earth's most dynamic landscapes. From active volcanic systems and vast lava fields to powerful waterfalls, glaciers and geothermal wonders, explore this ever-changing island with volcanologists Dr Tamsin Mather or Dr Dave McGarvie, gaining rare insights into the geological forces that continue to shape one of the world's greatest natural laboratories.



Geology and palaeontology in the Badlands and the Rockies: Canada

September | 10 days

Be wowed by the phenomenal scenery and geology of the majestic Rocky mountains west of Calgary and the otherworldly Alberta Badlands to the east and discover the geological processes that created them. Delve into 420 million years of history and find out how geology influenced the development of Alberta. Examine the geological process that formed the Rocky mountains and, more recently, ice sheets that covered Alberta and carved out spectacular landscapes.

Palaeontology

Travel through deep time on extraordinary expeditions to some of the world's most important palaeontological and human origins sites. Explore active dig sites, meet leading researchers and uncover the remarkable stories hidden within fossils, bones and ancient landscapes that chart our evolutionary past.

NEW

Journey to the Cradle of Humankind: South Africa

Step into the story of human evolution on an extraordinary hands-on scientific adventure in South Africa's UNESCO-listed Cradle of Humankind. Home to some of the most important hominin discoveries ever made, this unique tour goes beyond traditional sightseeing, offering the opportunity to explore the landscapes, fossils and research that continue to transform our understanding of where we came from.



August | 12 days

What makes this experience truly exceptional is the chance to work alongside leading palaeoanthropologists at two of the world's most important hominin sites, Sterkfontein and Kromdraai. With exclusive access to active excavations, research laboratories and behind-the-scenes scientific facilities, you'll gain a rare insight into how groundbreaking discoveries are made and contribute directly to ongoing research.

Whether you're a lifelong learner, educator, student or enthusiastic amateur, this tour offers an unforgettable opportunity to experience real field science at the birthplace of humankind.

- **Take part in real fossil excavations alongside leading palaeoanthropologists at the renowned Sterkfontein and Kromdraai sites**
- **Enjoy exclusive behind-the-scenes access to research laboratories and scientific facilities not usually open to visitors**
- **Travel in a small group of just 12 guests, allowing exceptional access to experts and a highly immersive experience**

Experts



Professor José Braga

José is the director of excavations at Kromdraai and a pioneering researcher of early human evolution.

Dr Job Kibii

Job is the head of the Sterkfontein caves and a key figure in some of Africa's most important hominin discoveries.



Dr Bernhard Zipfe

Bernhard is the curator at the Evolutionary Studies Institute and an expert on fossil collections, human locomotion and the evolution of bipedalism.

Together, they offer unparalleled insight into the discoveries and research that continue to reshape our understanding of human origins.

Fossil hunting in the outback: New South Wales and Queensland, Australia

May | 13 days

Follow in the footsteps of dinosaur hunters on an extraordinary adventure through Australia's fossil frontier. Explore legendary fossil sites with palaeontologist Tim Richards, searching for prehistoric treasures and walking ancient dinosaur trackways across the vast outback. From the dazzling opalised fossils of Lightning Ridge to the colossal remains of Australotitan cooperensis, uncover the lost worlds, giant creatures and remarkable discoveries that have made Australia one of the most exciting places on Earth for palaeontology.

- **Explore renowned museums throughout Queensland each showcasing significant fossil discoveries**
- **Take part in expert-led workshops on fossil identification and preparation and in field digs**
- **See Australia's largest dinosaur, Australotitan cooperensis, and walk in the footprints of a real stampede site**





Dinosaur hunting in the Gobi desert: Mongolia

August | 15 days

Step into the age of the dinosaurs on an extraordinary palaeontological expedition across Mongolia's legendary Gobi desert. Explore one of the world's richest fossil-hunting regions alongside expert researchers, searching for evidence of prehistoric life among dramatic desert landscapes. With opportunities to take part in hands-on fossil prospecting and excavation at iconic dinosaur sites, this immersive adventure offers a rare glimpse into the discoveries that continue to reshape our understanding of Earth's distant past.

- **Experience life on expedition, working in small teams with expert guidance in remote desert fossil sites**
- **Hands-on fossil hunting in the Gobi, guided by expert palaeontologists in a true expedition setting**
- **Accompanied by specialists from the Mongolian Institute of Palaeontology, gaining in-depth scientific insights into the ancient ecosystems that once thrived in the region**

Science history and innovation

Explore the ideas, innovations and discoveries that shape the way we live, think and experience the world. Combining engaging insights with immersive travel experiences, they offer curious minds a unique opportunity to discover a destination through the lens of science, innovation and human ingenuity.



The science of health and well-being in Bangkok and Chiang Mai: Thailand

Experience Thailand through the lens of health, well-being and human behaviour on a fascinating exploration beyond the usual tourist trail. From Bangkok's hidden green spaces and innovative urban communities to Chiang Mai's forest temples, local food culture and slower pace of life, discover how environment, lifestyle and culture influence well-being.

September | 10 days

What sets this journey apart is its blend of slow travel, authentic cultural immersion and science-led discovery. Venturing beyond Thailand's iconic sights, you'll explore hidden green spaces, vibrant local communities and centuries-old traditions. Discover new perspectives with *New Scientist* health reporter Grace Wade, whose evening talks reveal the science behind each day's experiences through the latest research.

Designed for those who enjoy purposeful travel, this unique journey showcases Thailand through the lenses of science, well-being, culture and sustainability. From mindful experiences to fascinating insights into local innovation and traditions, it offers a richer, more authentic way to explore the country away from the usual tourist trail.

- **Gain fresh insights into the science of living well through expert-led workshops and discussions, while discovering a more authentic side of Thailand**
- **Explore Bangkok's hidden green spaces, from innovative urban parks to wildlife-rich wetlands designed to improve city well-being**
- **Enjoy meaningful encounters with local communities, learning about sustainable agriculture, traditional crafts and rural life**



Expert

Grace Wade

Grace is an award-winning health reporter at *New Scientist*, covering public health, nutrition and biotechnology. She holds a dual degree in journalism and science in human cultures, with a concentration in environment, science and society, from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism in Illinois. Grace will offer insights into the latest research shaping health and wellbeing.



Rhine and Moselle river cruise: The Netherlands, Germany and France

June | 8 days

Cruise through the storybook landscapes of the Rhine and Moselle, where medieval castle-clad scenery, vineyards and charming riverside towns unfold around every bend. From Amsterdam to Strasbourg, discover the rich heritage, culture and scenery that make these waterways among Europe's most enchanting. Pairing Europe's most beautiful river scenery with expert-led insight into the architecture, economics and cultural impact of the castles that shaped the region.



The science of pilgrimage and awe: Portugal and Spain

September | 9 days

Embark on a transformative journey, where scientific curiosity meets the centuries-old tradition of the Camino de Santiago. Starting in Porto and concluding in Santiago de Compostela, you'll explore rolling hills, charming villages and historical towns. Along the way, enjoy expert-led talks, hands-on discoveries and local culinary experiences, culminating in the award of your Pilgrim Passport and Compostela certificate, celebrating both the physical and intellectual achievements of this extraordinary adventure.



Marvels of mountain engineering: Switzerland

June | 7 days

Discover the extraordinary engineering that enables Switzerland's spectacular alpine landscapes to be explored and connected. From the world's steepest funicular and Europe's highest railway station to panoramic mountain railways, cable cars and pioneering hydroelectric schemes, experience some of the most ambitious engineering achievements ever built. Anthony Lambert, acclaimed railway historian and author, shares his expertise in Switzerland's railways and engineering innovation through visits to factories, workshops and museums exploring AI, robotics and more.



The history and future of automotive engineering in the Motor Valley: Italy

October | 6 days

Go behind the scenes of Italy's legendary Motor Valley and discover the science, engineering and innovation behind some of the world's most iconic performance vehicles. From Ferrari, Lamborghini and Ducati to cutting-edge manufacturers such as Pagani, gain insight into the technologies driving the future of automotive design. Explore factories, workshops and museums while uncovering the roles of aerodynamics, materials science, robotics and artificial intelligence.



The science of cheese and wine: France

September | 5 days

Explore France's culinary treasures through the lens of science and tradition on this immersive Lyon-based tour of wine and cheese. Discover the fascinating processes that transform milk and grapes into world-renowned cheeses and wines, from curd to cave and vine to bottle. Guided by acclaimed cheese expert Ned Palmer, enjoy hands-on tastings and insightful talks that reveal the artistry, history and sensory science behind every bite and sip – a unique journey for curious food and science lovers alike.



Science of the senses, Marrakech and the Atlas mountains: Morocco

December | 6 days

Venture beyond the familiar sights of Morocco on a journey where curiosity drives the experience. Traverse Marrakech and the Atlas mountains through the lens of science, uncovering how chemistry, botany and human perception shape the vibrant aromas, striking colours and unforgettable flavours of Moroccan cuisine. This is a Morocco you taste, smell and understand in an entirely new way.

Feedback from our guests

If you're looking for a community of inquisitive, interesting and friendly individuals, you've come to the right place. Our tours welcome guests from all around the world, drawn together by a pursuit for knowledge and a fascination for science.



"The archeological program exceeded expectations. It was very practical, pitched at a good level, informative and thought-provoking."

Travelled on
Mycenaean and Peloponnesian archaeology: Greece

"Russell Arnott was wonderful, the presentations were fascinating and the science-based aspect of the tour was great."

Travelled on
Whale watching and marine ecosystems in the Azores: Portugal

"Getting a proper behind-the-scenes look at CERN was great, and visiting with one of the facilities' particle physicists was a real highlight."

Travelled on
CERN and Mont Blanc: dark and frozen matter

New Scientist Discovery Tours



"Dave and Kristjan were amazing. Going to Iceland would not have been nearly as informative and interesting without them."

Travelled on
Land of fire and ice: Iceland

"The tour was stunning in both its scope and depth of interest."

Travelled on
Evolution and wildlife cruise in Darwin's Galapagos: Ecuador

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