Cruise Details

Name:	Expedition Seychelles: Premiere – Warm Winter On Tropical Islands
Reference:	HAPAGNAT2725
Operator:	Hapag-Lloyd Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Expedition
Ship:	HANSEATIC nature
Regions:	Africa
Departs On:	08 Dec 27
Departs From:	Victoria, Mahé
Arrives On:	20 Dec 27
Arrives At:	Port Louis
Cruise Nights:	12
Total Vacation Days:	13

Itinerary

Day 1: Victoria, Mahé (Seychelles)

Arrives On: 08 Dec 27

Day 5: Saint-Francois (Seychelles)

Like a bright green splash of colour, the uninhabited St. Francois Atoll rises from the azure-blue expanse of the Indian Ocean. Discovered on 28 Jan 1730, it bears the name of St Francis de Sales, patron saint of writers, journalists and the deaf. Visitors to St. Francois are immersed in a world beyond time – a place where nature appears to be one big miracle and the sea whispers softly of its ancient secrets.

Arrives On: 12 Dec 27

Day 7: Aldabra Atoll (Seychelles)

Welcome to the Aldabra Islands. A true Garden of Eden in the Indian Ocean, it has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1982. Visitors to the Aldabra Islands are immersed in a world of secrets and silent wonders. This unique paradise touches the heart, opens the senses and brings the soul into harmony with the rhythm of nature.Above the Cosmoledo Atoll, there is a lively buzz in the air: countless seabirds such as the banded frigate bird and the sooty tern have made their home here. The colony of colourful red-footed boobies is even the largest in the entire Indian Ocean. A mixture of sand dunes, mangroves and meadows, as well as the approximately 145 km² (56 mi.²) lagoon, provide an ideal habitat for the animals. Let yourself be enchanted by the turquoise-blue water and breathtaking coastline on an exciting Zodiac ride.Aldabra, formed by a volcano that was active around 20 million years ago, is one of the largest atolls in the world with a circumference of around 100 km (62 mi.). This remote island region is famous for its majestic Aldabra giant tortoises, which wander leisurely through the dense greenery and across the wide sandbanks as if they were the silent rulers of this primeval realm.Astove also tells its story: discovered by Arab sailors between 1500 and 1000 BC, the first settlement was established here in 1760 by enslaved people who had been abandoned by the Portuguese ship “La Dom Royal”. Today, the island is under strict nature conservation, preserving its fragile connection between history, memory and wild beauty. Discover the unique flora and fauna of this atoll on guided hikes through mysterious mangroves and along pristine beaches.

Arrives On: 14 Dec 27

Day 10: Farquhar Islands (Seychelles)

Where the Indian Ocean seems to flow into infinity lies a small island kingdom that appears to have fallen out of time – the Farquhar Group. Discovered in 1501 by Portuguese navigator Joao da Nova, this tranquil archipelago stretches across two atolls: Farquhar Atoll in the south and Providence Atoll in the north. Even from a distance, you can see the sand dunes of Farquhar Atoll, which are up to 10 m (33 ft) high and can be explored on a guided hike with your experts. The island is also home to a small settlement of about 15 inhabitants, who are connected to the outside world by a modest airfield. Providence Atoll, with the Wizard Reef off its coast, is sure to thrill sea lovers. Not far from there, your route takes you to the completely uninhabited island of St Pierre, which has a calming effect on the soul and spirit.

Arrives On: 17 Dec 27

Day 13: Port Louis (Mauritius)

A diverse paradise in the Indian Ocean awaits on Mauritius. In the heart of the island, be inspired by lush rainforests, spectacular waterfalls and a colourful plant and animal kingdom. Meanwhile, breathtaking beaches and turquoise waters will tempt you back to the coast – it’s often just a short car journey from the white sandy beach to the thick jungle. The capital city Port Louis is busy all day long, while the neighbouring Creole villages exude nostalgic charm and tranquillity. The varied

history of Mauritius has resulted in a mix of ethnicities and religions, all living together in harmony today. You can even taste the variety: the local cuisine combines elements of French, Indian, Chinese and Creole cooking.

Arrives On: 20 Dec 27

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.
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