



## Cruise Details

Name:	Expedition Canary Islands And Cape Verde: Adventure Off The Coast Of Africa
Reference:	HAPAGSPI2717
Operator:	Hapag-Lloyd Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Expedition
Ship:	HANSEATIC spirit
Regions:	Africa
Departs On:	28 Oct 27
Departs From:	Santa Cruz de Tenerife
Arrives On:	10 Nov 27
Arrives At:	Palmeira, Sal Island
Cruise Nights:	13
Total Vacation Days:	14

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Santa Cruz de Tenerife (Spain)

Arrives On: 28 Oct 27

### Day 2: El Hierro Island (Spain)

El Hierro, the smallest and westernmost of the seven main Canary Islands, is located around 1,450 km (900 mi.) from the Spanish mainland. With only about 11,000 inhabitants and an area of approximately 269 km<sup>2</sup> (103 mi.<sup>2</sup>), it has retained its original character to this day. The island was declared a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 2000 and has been pursuing consistent sustainable development since 1996: today, it covers almost all of its energy needs from renewable sources such as wind power and water storage. In 1493, Columbus made his last stop here on his second voyage – at a time when El Hierro was still considered the westernmost point in the world and the

prime meridian ran through Punta de Orchilla. Shaped by volcanism, dramatic coastlines and a mild climate with plenty of sunshine and little rain, the island delights visitors with highlights such as the Mirador de la Pena viewpoint, designed by artist César Manrique.

Arrives On: 29 Oct 27

### Day 3: Santa Cruz de La Palma (Spain)

La Palma is often called “La Isla Bonita” and it's a real beauty of the Canary Islands. The island has the trade winds, which bring clouds and therefore rain and fog, to thank for its lush, green vegetation. The tiny island, formed entirely by a volcano, rises up over 6,000 m (19,685 ft) from the sea bed, around 4,000 m (13,123 ft) of which is below the water. At its centre lies the impressive Caldera de Taburiente\*, a national park full of gorges, waterfalls and hiking trails that lead through the lush green vegetation. On the coast, wild beaches with black lava sand are interspersed with idyllic fishing villages, where you can really get a sense of the slow pace of island life. La Palma is a paradise for hikers, as well as for stargazers: the clear skies and strict anti-light pollution regulations have made the island an internationally recognised centre of astronomy. After sunset, make the deck of your expedition ship your own observatory.

Arrives On: 30 Oct 27

### Day 6: Cape Verde (Cape Verde)

Cape Verde invites you on a discovery tour full of contrasts. Each of the islands has its own individual character and charm, as well as its own history. On Sao Vicente, immerse yourself in life on Cape Verde in its cultural capital, Mindelo. The African influence is unmistakable here: smell the exotic scents, hear the music in the air and listen to the women loudly selling their wares at the market. The windswept beaches on the island, which are popular with kitesurfers and sun worshippers, contrast with the arid, moon-like scenery. A genuine hiker's paradise is revealed on Santo Antao, an island dominated by mountains, wind and water. Here you will find a world of dramatic mountains, deep valleys and lush vegetation – and your route will be lined by protected dragon trees. You will see why the island is one of the most diverse in Cape Verde in Paul Valley\*, an El Dorado for nature lovers. Sao Nicolau, a mountainous and relatively small island in the north of the archipelago, is a real insider tip for nature lovers and hiking enthusiasts. With Monte Gordo as its highest point, the island offers a fascinating landscape of rugged mountains, dry coastlines and green valleys. The vibrant coastal town of Tarrafal in the south lives from fishing, and here everything revolves around the sea. Brava, the smallest inhabited island in Cape Verde, is an island of contrasts and a retreat for those seeking peace and quiet. Known as the “untameable island”, it features an impressively green and flower-filled landscape, which stands in stark contrast to the dry neighbouring islands. Forna, the only port, is spectacularly located in a former volcanic crater and is Brava's lifeline. Fogo in the south of the archipelago is a mighty volcano with its peak, Pico do Fogo, the highest mountain on Cape Verde. In the fire island's volcanic landscape, explore

bizarre lava formations that come to resemble figures as your imagination takes flight. Along the coast, you will discover black lava beaches scattered with colourful fishing boats. On a walk through Sao Filipe, immerse yourself in the exciting island life. A sea full of contrasts awaits you on Cape Verde. This is best represented on Santiago, the largest island in the archipelago: green valleys, impressive mountains and desert-like regions are special highlights, as well as colonial architecture and African zest for life. Santiago is the cultural and historical hub of the group of islands, and its modern capital Praia offers a mix of traditional culture and colonial heritage. Music is everywhere here – especially the Bataque and Funana rhythms, which are deeply rooted in the culture of the island. Maio is a place for quiet moments and natural beauty. Time seems to stand still here. The serene island is characterised by small colourful villages where goats roam peacefully and people go about their daily lives at a leisurely pace. The vegetation is sparse, but Maio boasts salt marshes, acacia forests and the largest contiguous forest area in Cape Verde – the result of extensive reforestation. Birdwatchers will be in their element: from sandpipers to ospreys, there are many species to discover. Kilometres of almost untouched beaches invite you to swim and relax. Boa Vista, the pearl of Cape Verde, boasts endless sandy beaches, barren desert landscapes and extensive date plantations. Once dominated by the salt trade, today you will find fishermen, musicians and artisans here. The island offers space for relaxation, but also for encounters with the authentic, unspoilt life of Cape Verde. Sal Rei, the lively capital, is located on a sheltered bay and forms the centre of culture and trade.

Arrives On: 02 Nov 27

#### Day 14: Palmeira, Sal Island (Cape Verde)

Arrives On: 10 Nov 27

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

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