

FIVE FANTASTIC VOYAGES

TRAVEL BY WATER OFFERS THE BEST OF TWO NATURAL WORLDS—THE BEAUTY OF THE OCEAN AND THE EXCITEMENT OF EXPLORING ON LAND.

HERE ARE FIVE OF THE MOST UNFORGETTABLE WAYS TO SEE THE GLOBE BY BOAT.





Photo Courtesy of Sabah Sarawak Tourism Boards



RAJA LAUT

CONRAD'S VOYAGE, MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA

Inspired by Joseph Conrad's late-19th-century travels along the trade routes of the Malay Archipelago, the *Raja Laut*—which means "king of the seas" in Malay—takes adventure seekers on a six-week cruising-and-overland journey from Malaysia and Singapore to Sulawesi and the Spice Islands of Indonesia. From lands once populated by headhunters to remote rivers and rainforests where guests can spot orangutans and pygmy elephants, this journey traverses truly exotic locales. Another highlight is a visit to Sipadan, an island surrounded by clear waters and reefs that rise 2,000 feet from the seabed.
Contact: William Dickens, info@rajalaut.com or 60.88.228.599; ***rajalaut.com***

The gaff-rigged topsail schooner is designed in the style of turn-of-the-century Baltic merchant vessels to recall the trade explorations of 100 years ago—with significant modern luxuries such as air-conditioned cabins, fine dining, multimedia and scuba gear.

RATE	Six-week Conrad's Voyage, $213,000 plus expenses or from $5,000 per day
ACCOMMODATIONS	Six cabins sleeping up to 12
BEST TIME TO GO	March, April and May have the best weather, which means calmer sea conditions as well. The *Raja Laut* recommends booking at least two months in advance of your trip.





Photo by Kristian Sivertsen



Photo by Hans Stoll



Photo by Marina Burgos





Photo by Yngve Olsen Saebbe

AQUA

AMAZON RIVER, PERU

To understand the magic of the Amazon, you can't just look at it from a stationary treetop lodge: You must move through it. On the gorgeous, 130-foot *Aqua* or 147-foot *Aria*, Aqua Expeditions provides the opportunity to do this in style. Their guides will explain the wild, while the boats' suites feature enormous windows for stunning views, day and night. There's no Internet access, but the overworked may consider this a blessing. Added perk: Travelers will rarely see other vessels because captains have to be experts on the region as no GPS can accurately navigate the ever-changing waters.

Contact: Victoria Vargas, vvargas@aquaexpeditions.com or 511.368.3868; ***aquaexpeditions.com***

Wildlife encounters abound. From piranha fishing and macaw watching to spotting endangered pink dolphins, or botos, and observing the care of manatees at a local rescue center, guests won't lack for up-close experiences.

RATE	Seven-night private charter on the Aqua, $109,760; on the Aria, $161,280
ACCOMMODATIONS	12 suites sleeping up to 24
BEST TIME TO GO	To travel further into remote tributaries, plan your trip for high-water season, December to May. For more land-based excursions, low-water season, from June to November is your best bet.

VULKANA

NORTHERN NORWAY

This converted fishing boat tames the cold of northern Scandinavia, keeping its guests in spa-like comfort while transporting them to on-land adventures. Guests travel through fjords to the Lyngen Alps to ski in fresh powder, alpine or off-piste and take in the expanses of white snow on a reindeer or dog sledding excursion. On board, visitors can enjoy a Turkish bath in the Zen Lounge or gaze upon the aurora borealis from an upper-deck hot tub. Really adventurous seafarers can also dive off a 23-foot-high tower into the ocean.

Contact: Erlend Larsen, post@vulkana.no or 47.9110.0626; ***vulkana.no***

Whether escaping the cold or relaxing from a day's excursions, travelers on the Vulkana can wind down with spa amenities ranging from a steam room and massage services to a wood-fire sauna and saltwater hot tub.

RATE	Four-day yoga safari, including amenities and on-land yoga and meditation instruction, from $1,650 per person
ACCOMMODATIONS	Four cabins sleeping up to 12
BEST TIME TO GO	To see the Northern Lights and take advantage of skiing without long hours of winter darkness, the best months are March and April.









GRACE

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

The Galapagos offer a unique glimpse into natural habitats teeming with endemic species made famous by Charles Darwin. When not exploring with sea kayaks and snorkel gear or hiking the islands to see penguins and sea lions, guests can relax in the quiet of the bar or library. Ideal for family trips, *Grace* also provides child-oriented guides who organize educational activities on land and on board.
Contact: Richard Laker at Bailey Robinson, travel@baileyrobinson.com or 44.14.8868.9700; ***quasarex.com***

The Grace, originally a wedding gift from Aristotle Onassis to Grace Kelly and Monaco's Prince Rainier III, was where the newlyweds spent their honeymoon in 1956. More important for your purposes, the boat holds just 18 passengers.

RATE	Seven-night private charter, from $92,250
ACCOMMODATIONS	Nine cabins sleeping up to 18
BEST TIME TO GO	If you're seeking calmer and warmer waters, December to May.





ATMOSPHERE

CHILE

Whether using an onboard helicopter to heliski in the mountains or simply hiking, travelers aboard Nomads of the Seas' *Atmosphere* can explore all the contrasting landscapes of Patagonia. And if you're tired from the day's trekking, horseback riding or river rafting, *Atmosphere* offers a sauna and saltwater tubs to reinvigorate the weary. Also, with dozens of different watercraft ranging from sea kayaks and skiffs to pontoon rafts and Zodiacs available, travelers are assured access to fishing areas and views far beyond the reach of the mother ship.
Contact: Marcelo Rotella, contacts@nomads.cl or 56.2414.4652; ***nomadsoftheseas.com***

In addition to organizing outdoor adventures, Nomads of the Seas regularly plans culinary and spirits tours. (Chilean wines are, naturally, a highlight.) The experience can include Chilean chefs, sommeliers and cigar experts.

RATE	Seven-night, all-inclusive private charter, $290,000
ACCOMMODATIONS	14 cabins sleeping up to 28
BEST TIME TO GO	Wildlife observers and fly fishers see the most activity from December to April; skiers have the best conditions in November; whale watchers are best served in February and March.