Circumnavigation of Iceland

Cruising aboard the Exclusively Chartered Small Ship Five-Star M.S. Le Soléal

August 1 to 9, 2017
Round-Trip Air Included from Select Cities

University of Maryland Alumni Association
Dear Alumni and Friends:

Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime exploration of a land of incredible natural wonder, where glinting glaciers cap simmering volcanoes, ancient Viking ruins exist alongside the latest in geothermal technology and prolonged daylight melds into the lingering twilight. This is Iceland—a spectacular and ever-changing landscape that serves as a testament to the powerful natural forces that shape our planet.

During our specially designed seven-night circumnavigation of this extraordinary Nordic island nation, experience unimaginable scenery that exists nowhere else on Earth and encounter Iceland’s wondrous sights at close range. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, small ship M.S. LE SOLEAL, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms, with the ability to cruise into small ports inaccessible to larger vessels and to alter course and launch its Zodiac excursion vessels as a kaleidoscope of wild, ethereal landscapes and mystery unfold before you.

Look for rare migratory birds, orcas and humpback whales; admire steaming geysers, rugged coastline and pristine beauty; and touch ice fragments calved from one of Europe’s largest glaciers. Visit Grimsey Island, crossing into the Arctic Circle, and cruise up close to Surtsey, Earth’s youngest island and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the majestic and rocky vista of a former lava lake and marvel at dramatic Godafoss, the “Waterfall of the Gods.” Discover centuries of mythic lore and epic sagas forged upon the land, and learn more about the enduring spirit of generations of coastal Icelanders—a warm and friendly people whose love of nature, respect of resources and resilient character have kept them thriving here for centuries.

Don’t miss this unforgettable adventure through the wonders of Iceland, featuring included round-trip air from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Philadelphia and Washington-Dulles; or Low Air Add-Ons for an additional $200 per person from Chicago and Minneapolis or an additional $300 per person from Denver, Seattle and Portland, Oregon.* Make your reservation before January 9, 2017, while Early Booking Savings are still available!

Sincerely,

Amy Eichhorst
Executive Director

*Included airfare and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.

Traveling with the Maryland Terrapins is a University of Maryland Alumni Association member privilege for alumni, their friends, families and colleagues. We welcome all travelers, but require that at least one person in your traveling party become an Alumni Association member. For information about joining or to check your membership status, please call 301.405.7938.
Tuesday, August 1
Depart from the U.S.

Reykjavík, Iceland
Wednesday, August 2
This morning, arrive in Reykjavík, the world’s northernmost capital, inhabited by one-half of the country’s total population of 300,000. See the idyllic recreational sports area of Laugardalur, or Hot Spring Valley, where geothermal water keeps an Olympic-sized outdoor swimming pool open year round. Continue to the Pearl, Reykjavík’s remarkable landmark glass dome built atop six 10-story hot water tanks—an architectural wonder as well as an amazing feat of engineering—and admire a captivating view across the city from the dome’s observation deck. Tour the impressive National Museum for a comprehensive overview of Iceland’s history, culture and heritage. It exhibits nearly 3000 objects and artifacts dating from the A.D. 874 settlement through the present day. Visit the iconic Hallgrímskirkja, a towering Lutheran church and the tallest building in Iceland. Pass by the colorful, picturesque houses of central Reykjavík before boarding the M.S. LE SOLÉAL. Please note that the ship’s cruising pattern and direction are dependent on weather conditions and are subject to change.

Vigur Island/Ísafjörður
Thursday, August 3
Enjoy the morning cruise to the awe-inspiring Westfjords. On charming Vigur Island—home to one single farming family and thousands of puffins, Arctic terns, black guillemots and eider ducks—where time seems to stand still, see the birds in their natural habitat and Iceland’s only windmill, built in 1840. Visit the country’s smallest post office and enjoy coffee and cakes served by our island hosts in their well-preserved, 19th-century house.

This afternoon, cruise up the dominant fjord of this distinct and remote 14-million-year-old region, Ísafjörður’s Djúp (“deep”), defined by ruggedly stunning mountains. Near the town of Ísafjörður, visit the open-air museum of Ósvör to see restored traditional 19th-century fisherman’s huts and fishing equipment that vividly depict the harsh reality of the lives of generations of Iceland’s fishermen. Tour Ísafjörður’s Westfjords Heritage Museum to learn more about the vibrant coastal art and culture and fascinating maritime history of this remote outpost. Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception this evening.

Siglufjörður/Akureyri
Friday, August 4
Iceland’s northernmost town, picturesque Siglufjörður is a small, historic fishing hub built from the success of the herring industry. Here, visit the award-winning Herring Era Museum and enjoy a lively, music-filled performance of historical herring salting methods. Afterward, sample traditional local herring and Icelandic schnapps.

Return to the ship for lunch and the unforgettable approach to lively Akureyri, nestled beneath the mountains of Eyjafjörður, Iceland’s longest fjord. Visit the monumental hilltop Akureyrarkirkja (Church of Akureyri), which showcases an intricate stained-glass central window that once graced England’s Coventry Cathedral, and walk amid the extensive collection of flora blooming in the open-air Botanical Gardens.

Cover photo: The perpetual expansion of majestic Jökulsárlón lagoon is fed by the recurrent calving and gradual melting of luminous-blue icebergs from Breidamerkurjökull glacier.

Photo this page: Divine waterfall Goðafoss punctuates the craggy lava fields and rich green pastures of northern Iceland’s Bárðardalur valley, its cascades misting the crystal clear waters of the glacial Skjálfandafljót River.
Explore northern Iceland’s unique and extraordinary natural landscapes, stopping at Námaskarð, an unearthly, steaming field of boiling, sulfurous mud pots, and the distinctive pseudo craters at Skútustaðir, formed when hot lava flowed over the wetlands 2300 years ago. Walk among the surreal, almost eerie lava formations of Dimmuborgir, the mythic source of Icelandic folklore, and drive along the shores of cerulean Lake Mývatn, a birdwatcher’s paradise and a haven for many rare migratory birds and 14 species of Iceland’s bountiful wild ducks. Look for broods of the sleek harlequin duck and the black-and-white Barrow’s goldeneye, a remarkable bird species that nests nowhere else. Continue to Goðafoss, “Waterfall of the Gods.” According to legend, this spectacular waterfall earned its name when an Icelandic chieftain threw wooden statues of his Norse gods into its crashing waters, signifying his conversion to Christianity.

This afternoon, cruise to Grímsey Island, bisected by the Arctic Circle and the northernmost inhabited territory in Iceland. Visit quaint Grímsey Church, built out of driftwood in 1867. Officially cross the Arctic Circle, the top of the world, where the island is treeless but lush with grasses and mosses. Despite the remote Arctic latitude, its weather is mild year round. See thriving populations of seabirds, especially auks—their black and white coloring is similar to a penguin’s, but auks have the distinctive ability to fly above and dive into the Arctic water.

Today delight in a cruise along the east coast of Iceland, characterized by beautiful fjords, and attend educational lectures on board.

Enjoy a full-day scenic excursion along Iceland’s stunning east coast from Djúpivogur to Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon.
Board a small boat for a private cruise amongst the breathtaking icebergs of this spectacular lagoon and actually touch the ice that has calved off the outlet tidewater glacier, Breidamerkurjökull. On clear days, look for the awe-inspiring Vatnajökull Ice Cap, Europe’s largest glacier.

Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant near the lagoon before a panoramic tour of historic Höfn, a small fishing village known for its stunning mountain views.

**Vestmannaeyjar (Westman Islands) for Heimaey Island/Cruise along Surtsey Island**

**Tuesday, August 8**

Arrive at fascinating Heimaey Island, part of the Vestmannaeyjar archipelago, where the tall cliffs are inhabited by puffin, fulmar and guillemot bird species. Tour the fascinating Eldheimar Museum, which chronicles the fateful volcanic activity of 1973 that created Mount Eldfell. Then, see the incredible formation, also known as “Fire Mountain,” and its lava fields which are still warm to the touch even 40 years after its last eruption.

Stop at the precipitous headland of Stórhöfði to observe Heimaey’s largest puffin colony and see the ruins of ancient Viking farmhouses dating from A.D. 650.

This evening, cruise along the coast of Surtsey Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Created during volcanic activity between 1963 and 1967, it is the youngest island on Earth and one of the most fragile; scientists are carefully monitoring the evolution of its flora and fauna.

This evening, join your traveling companions for the Captain’s Farewell Reception.

**Reykjavík/U.S.**

**Wednesday, August 9**

Disembark and transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

Wildlife-rich Skjálfandi Bay is an ideal place to look for diverse marine life such as the protected humpback whale.

**Reykjavík Golden Circle • Saga Trails**

**Pre-Cruise Option**

The captivating city of Reykjavík, along with its surrounding natural wonders, is the perfect introduction to your Circumnavigation of Iceland. Visit the famous Blue Lagoon, with time to rejuvenate in its mineral-rich geothermal waters. See the Golden Circle—the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Thingvellir National Park, where settlers founded arguably the world’s oldest parliament in A.D. 930; the spectacular, thundering Gullfoss waterfall; and Strokkur, the phenomenal natural fountain geyser.

Retrace the footsteps of the Vikings along the ancient Saga Trails through picturesque Borgarfjörður, the setting of many Icelandic legends and myths. Accommodations are for two nights in a four-star hotel.

The Pre-Cruise Options is available at additional cost. Details will be included with your reservation confirmation.
FIVE-STAR, SMALL SHIP
M.S. LE SOLÉAL

Small Ship, State-of-the-Art Design
The exclusively chartered M.S. LE SOLÉAL represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies
Each air-conditioned deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet), features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages; most have two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. Enjoy accommodation amenities including individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

Chic and Casual Dining
International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious L’Eclipse dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual Pytheas Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. Continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Wine is served with lunch and dinner.

Spacious Public Areas/
World-Class Service and Facilities
In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting, and they can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge, nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge and lectures, cultural performances and film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, two elevators and an infirmary staffed with a doctor and a nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

Respect for the Environment
The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” designation due to its advanced eco-friendly features, a rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has two tenders and 10 Zodiacs.
Included Features

◆ Round-trip air is included from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Philadelphia and Washington-Dulles.*

On board the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, small ship M.S. LE SOLÉAL

◆ Seven-night cruise featuring the circumnavigation of Iceland round-trip Reykjavík, with port calls at Vigur Island, Ísafjörður, Sigufljófur, Akureyri, Húsavík, Lake Mývatn, Grímsey Island for the Arctic Circle, Djúpivogur for Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, and Heimaey Island.

◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.

◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.

◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise.

◆ All meals—early continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.

◆ Wine is served with lunch and dinner.

◆ Opportunities to alter course and launch the ship’s Zodiac excursion vessels as natural wonders unfold before your eyes.

◆ City tour of Reykjavík, featuring the Pearl and the National Museum.

◆ Visit to idyllic Vigur Island to observe the natural habitat of thousands of puffins, Arctic terns and eider ducks.

◆ Tour of the charming fishing town of Ísafjörður, featuring the Westfjords Heritage Museum and Ósvör, one of Iceland’s oldest fishing stations.

◆ Visit to the herring boomtown of Siglufjörður, with a visit to the award-winning Herring Era Museum, featuring lively music demonstrations and sampling of Icelandic delicacies including herring and schnapps.

◆ Visit to the historic town of Akureyri, featuring a visit to the towering Church of Akureyri and the phenomenal Botanical Garden.

◆ Scenic excursion to legendary Goðafoss Waterfall, beautiful Lake Mývatn, the amazing lava towers of Dimmuborgir, the unique craters at Skútustaðir and the otherworldly geothermal field of Námaskarð.

◆ Crossing of the Arctic Circle (66°33’ N) on Grímsey Island.

◆ Full-day scenic excursion along Iceland’s stunning east coast from Djúpivogur to the Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, highlighted by an awe-inspiring private cruise amongst Jökulsárlón’s many spectacular icebergs.

◆ Visit to Heimaey Island for a tour of Eldfell, “Fire Mountain,” and to see ancient Viking ruins and lava fields.

◆ Cruise along the coast of Surtsey Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the youngest island on Earth.

Enhanced Travel Services

◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).

◆ Low Air Add-Ons are available for $200 per person from Chicago and Minneapolis and for $300 per person from Denver, Seattle and Portland, Oregon.*

◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced, English-speaking local guides.

◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.

◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.

◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.

◆ The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.

◆ Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.

◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.

◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

*Included airfare and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.
Iceland is one of just a handful of places in the world to encounter the majesty of the geyser, a natural spring gushing steam and hot water. A land of unparalleled geological riches and home to some of the most diverse phenomena on Earth, Iceland is comprised of 4500 square miles of glaciers, 15 active volcanoes, 10,000 waterfalls and 800 hot springs. Born of the monumental forces unleashed in the movement of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, and at the same time carved out by majestic, slow-moving glaciers, the land is a combination of intense natural energy and total calm. The island topography of Iceland as we know it continues to evolve, yet many of its landscapes have hardly changed since the first Viking settlers saw it more than 1100 years ago.

Iceland’s unique and beautiful geography is like nowhere else on Earth. During your circumnavigation, see volcanic craters and fissures; watch as bubbling hot springs send steam into the air against a backdrop of barren, Mars-like terrain; encounter snowcapped mountains and black lava desert; and come upon pristine, powerful waterfalls and the deep freeze of mammoth ice caps. Along the coast, Iceland’s characteristic fjords—deep inlets cut into the coastline—chronicle the pathways of its glaciers. All of these natural wonders are in constant flux, as glaciers calve and shift and new mountains emerge from the volcanoes’ lava flows. The result is a startlingly beautiful portrait of Earth in process—a raw, primordial landscape hewn by the forces of fire and ice.

Generations of Icelanders have adapted their lifestyles and livelihoods to the country’s distinct and varied terrain.
Singles are available in category 6 at $15295* and in category 4 at $17695* on or before January 9, 2017.

Prestige Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Telephone: (Home)       (Mobile)

For additional information on membership call (800) 336-8627.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

M.S. LE SOLÉAL

University of Maryland Alumni Association

Send to:
University of Maryland Alumni Association
Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center
College Park, MD 20742-1321

Title   Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)   Class Year
Title   Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)   Class Year
Graduate of:________________
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)                     University Campus
City    State    Zip Code
Telephone: (Home)       (Mobile)
Email Address          (Business)

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s)          Tour No. 107-08/01/17-060

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Reykjavik Pre-Cruise Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, you agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to 2017 Circumnavigation of Iceland.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:
1st Choice 2nd Choice

Double occupancy (two twin beds).

Double occupancy (one queen bed).

Single accommodations.

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

Please please contact me/us regarding

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Reykjavík Pre-Cruise Option

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

Note: Included airfare, Low Air Add-Ons and/or airfare are subject to change. Space is limited and subject to availability and is not guaranteed. Changes to flight itineraries and travel dates are subject to additional fees; see Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

Please please contact me/us regarding an upgrade at additional cost to be advised.

CIRCUumnavigation of IcelandReservation Form
CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including PrePost Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until receipted in writing in the offices of Gohagan. You would have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 PrePost Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 PrePost Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

REGISTRATION: Cancellations are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruises, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in foreign exchange fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased insurance, any or part of the trip(s) will be paid on final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

BINDING ARBITRATION: Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, U.S.C. Sections I-16, either according to the then existing rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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Brought from Norway by the Vikings, the pure-bred Icelandic horse is known for its strong, thick mane and tail.