

A person wearing a red hat and dark clothing stands on a rocky shore, looking up at a massive, translucent blue glacier wall. The glacier's surface is highly textured with ripples and folds, creating a shimmering, crystalline appearance. The scene is set in a rugged, mountainous landscape with a rocky riverbed in the foreground.

**New
Scientist
Discovery
Tours**

**Science inspired
experiences**

Tours | Cruises | Expeditions | Weekenders

Welcome

Welcome to the world of *New Scientist* Discovery Tours!

I am excited to share with you our growing programme of tours, expeditions, cruises and Weekenders.

Firstly, I want thank those of you who have travelled with us over the past few years. I was fortunate enough to join tours to Iceland, Scotland, Devon and the Arctic, and it was great meeting our Discovery guests. I look forward to welcoming and getting to know more of you on future tours.

For those who are new to the world of Discovery Tours, we have been operating our life-enhancing science-focused group tours since 2015. The idea was developed by the *New Scientist* editorial team and other experts from the *New Scientist* world to create a unique collection of tours that promise to be enriching and brimming with knowledge.

Since we began, we have run over 75 departures to more than 20 destinations, including Spain, the US, the Galapagos islands, Mongolia, Australia, Italy and the UK, to name a few. This year, we are exploring some exciting new countries, including Zambia, Austria and Portugal, all featured in this brochure. We have also expanded our portfolio to include Weekenders, which offer shorter, more focused science breaks.

This brochure features a selection of our tours, including the month of departure. To view all of the tours programme, including full itineraries, departure dates and prices, visit:

[newscientist.com/tours](https://www.newscientist.com/tours)

You can sign up to our mailing list or email us with any questions at:
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.










I hope you are inspired by this brochure and our selection of amazing science-focused tours across the globe. We are continuing to develop new tours and welcome suggestions from our travellers and readers.

Kevin Currie

New Scientist Discovery Tours Director



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Experts & Guides

Through our extensive network and connections, we are privileged to have access to some of the brightest minds in science to accompany our Discovery Tours. Each is an expert in their field and they elevate each tour experience through a mix of formal talks, walking seminars, ad-hoc commentary and informal chats around the dinner table.

Since we began operating our tours in 2015 a number of notable science figures and members of the *New Scientist* editorial team have accompanied our tours, receiving wonderful feedback from our guests. A small selection of our past, present and future experts include:

Richard Dawkins

Marine biology and volcanic cruise around Hawaii



Richard Dawkins is probably the best-known evolutionary biologist in the world today and certainly the world's best-known atheist.

He was the first professor of the public understanding of science at the University of Oxford, a position that was created by Charles Simonyi, the software billionaire, especially for him. He has been described as "the most influential science writer in the world" and has the unusual distinction of being a Fellow of both the Royal Society and the Royal Society of Literature.

Abigail Beal

Several astronomy-based tours



Abigail Beal is a writer and features editor for *New Scientist*, where she also writes a monthly astronomy column. In 2019, Abigail wrote and published the book *The Art of Urban Astronomy* and has also co-written three popular science books for Dorling Kindersley.

"I can't praise Abby Beal enough as the astronomy lead. She was enthusiastic, knowledgeable and really went the extra mile to ensure everyone was looked after. Nothing was too much trouble." – **Total Solar Eclipse: Australia**

Emily Wilson

Ancient caves, human origins: Spain



Emily Wilson is an author and former editor-in chief of *New Scientist*. Previously she was at The Guardian, where she served as features editor, website editor and editor-in-chief of the newspaper's Australian edition, as well as running the paper's science, technology, health and environment coverage.

Her first novel, *Inanna*, set in ancient Sumer, the world's first known civilisation, was published in August 2023.

James Wallman

The Science of how to get more from your time: Morocco



James Wallman is an author, experience evangelist, trend forecaster and adviser who believes in using the power of science to build better experiences. He is the author of two books on the experience economy, *Stuffocation* and *Time and How to Spend it*, which was the Financial Times Book Of The Year.

"James provided valuable insights into how leisure time is spent that I will benefit from in the future. James is an articulate force for planning adventures that leave you wanting more, and the Morocco trip certainly fulfilled that wish." – **The Science of how to get more from your time: Morocco**

Jo Ruxton

Darwin's Galapagos



Credited by David Attenborough as being one of the key driving forces behind single-use plastic awareness, Jo Ruxton has been instrumental in marine conservation efforts around the world, having previously worked with conservation group WWF, the BBC Natural History Unit and the celebrated Blue Planet team.

Jo co-founded the charity, Ocean Generation (previously the Plastic Oceans Foundation) in 2010 and produced the acclaimed documentary A Plastic Ocean.

Rebecca Wragg Sykes

Neanderthal origins and ancient caves: Southern France



Rebecca is an expert in Palaeolithic archaeology and stone tool technology. Her academic career includes a synthesis of the last Neanderthals in Britain and exploring the cognitive aspects of their technologies.

"It was quite wonderful to have Dr. Wragg Sykes's company on this tour. She is a terrific teacher and I enjoyed her weaving of geology, climate science, archaeology etc into a fascinating commentary on what we saw." – **Neanderthal origins and ancient caves: Southern France**

Peter Getzels

Science of the Incas: Peru



Peter is an Emmy award-winning documentary producer and director who comes to filmmaking as an anthropologist, explorer and mountaineer.

As a Thomas J Watson Fellow and PhD candidate at the London School of Economics, Peter conducted fieldwork among remote Quechua-speaking highlanders in Peru, tracking myths about the return of a messianic figure called Inkarrí, which had innuendos in Peruvian politics.

Barry C. Smith

The Science of Whisky: Scotland



Barry C. Smith is a professor of philosophy and director of the institute of philosophy at the School of Advanced Study, University of London. He is the founding director of the Centre for the Study of the Senses, which pioneers collaborative research between philosophers, psychologists and neuroscientists.

"The science talks by Barry Smith were very good and really added to the experience. The two onboard tastings were very successful and informative – everyone enjoyed them. Crew were great. Food was ideal for this experience." – **The Science of Whisky: Scotland**

Russell Arnott

Whale watching and marine ecosystems in the Azorean Islands: Portugal



Russell Arnott holds a combined Masters in Oceanography at the University of Southampton, a PhD in marine biology from the University of Bath and has worked as a commercial oceanographer. His research has taken him from the Southern Ocean with the British Antarctic Survey to the Gulf of Bothnia in northern Sweden.

"Russell Arnott was wonderful, the presentations were fascinating and the science-based aspect of the tour was great." – **Whale watching and marine ecosystems in the Azorean Islands: Portugal**

Helen Scales

Science of the Arctic expedition: Norway



Helen Scales is a marine biologist, writer and broadcaster. She is author of many books about science and the ocean including *Spirals in Time*, *The Brilliant Abyss* and the children's books *What a Shell Can Tell* and *Scientists in the Wild*. She writes for *National Geographic Magazine*, the *Guardian*, and *New Scientist*, among others.

She teaches at Cambridge University, is a storytelling ambassador for the Save Our Seas Foundation and science advisor for the marine conservation charity Sea Changers.

Archaeology & Palaeontology

There are many amazing archaeological sites and palaeontological remains worldwide that have changed the way we think about and study the dawn of species and civilisations, from Mongolia's great wilderness, the Gobi desert, to Upper Palaeolithic sites

in Spain and France and the mesmerising ancient sites of Petra in Jordan and Machu Picchu in Peru. Explore these magnificent marvels and gain insight into their scientific significance from the accompanying experts, who will bring these wonders to life.



August | 15 days

Dinosaur hunting in the Gobi desert: Mongolia

A thrilling and unique expedition to search for dinosaur remains in the beautiful wilderness of the Gobi desert. Participate in live prospecting and fossil digging across key sites, with the potential to be the first person in 80 million years to set eyes on a discovery. During the tour you will be joined by specialists from the Mongolian Institute of Palaeontology, who will be on hand to offer scientific insight into the regions visited. There will also be time to explore Mongolia's bustling capital, Ulaanbaatar.

- Participate in fossil prospecting and digging accompanied by experts offering insights into findings.
- Explore the striking Flaming Cliffs site, where dinosaur eggs were first discovered.
- Spend time exploring the museums, sites and laboratories of the Mongolian Institute of Palaeontology.



- Discover the first known city in the world, Çatalhöyük, which was founded 9000 years ago and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Visit other UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Göbekli Tepe, Goreme Open Air Museum, Hattusa and Mount Nemrut.
- Explore Neolithic and Bronze age sites that are still under excavation accompanied by archaeologist Çiler Çilingiroğlu.



September | 8 days

Human origins – Neolithic and Bronze age: Turkey

Discover the dawn of civilisation where our Neolithic and Bronze age ancestors changed from hunter-gatherers to organised societies with agriculture, ritual and an understanding of the wider world. Gain a deeper understanding of how these civilisations lived with visits to multiple excavation sites and museums that have diligently curated significant archaeological collections from around Turkey. Time will also be spent discovering the cosmopolitan cities of Istanbul and Ankara, as well as a visit through Cappadocia's unique landscapes.



September | 5 days

Human Origins: Pre-Historic Southwest England

Be immersed in the early human periods of the Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Ages on our gentle walking tour that explores the prehistoric origins of Wiltshire and Dorset. From complex Iron Age hillforts, ancient stone circles and some of the area's most beautiful landscapes, discover this quaint region of south-west England. Visit several National Trust, English Heritage and UNESCO listed sites, including Stonehenge, Old Sarum, Avebury and Maiden Castle.

- Delightful walking tours around several prehistoric sites, including the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Stonehenge and Avebury.
- Joined in Cerne Abbas by *New Scientist's* editor-in-chief Emily Wilson, who will lead a guided walk around the prehistoric landscape.
- Talks from the directors of the Salisbury and Wiltshire museums offering an insight into what life was like during this period.



- Lectures and walking seminars from Mycenae's archaeologists. Learn about the systematic survey methods employed in recording, analysing and interpreting a site.
- Discover the ATREUS Field School archaeology labs, led by field archaeologists and the Mycenaean Foundation's experts.
- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Mystras, as well as Epidaurus, considered to be the most perfect ancient Greek theatre for acoustics and aesthetics.



September | 8 days

Behind the ropes – Archaeology at Mycenae: Greece

An interactive tour offering a unique opportunity to get "behind the ropes" at Mycenae, one of the most important historical and archaeological sites in Greece. Learn many of the techniques used by archaeologists and gain insights into the specialist technology used at excavation sites. Visit many hidden gems and famous Mycenaean sites of the Peloponnese. You will stay in the ancient coastal town of Nafplio and venture out across this beautiful part of Greece.



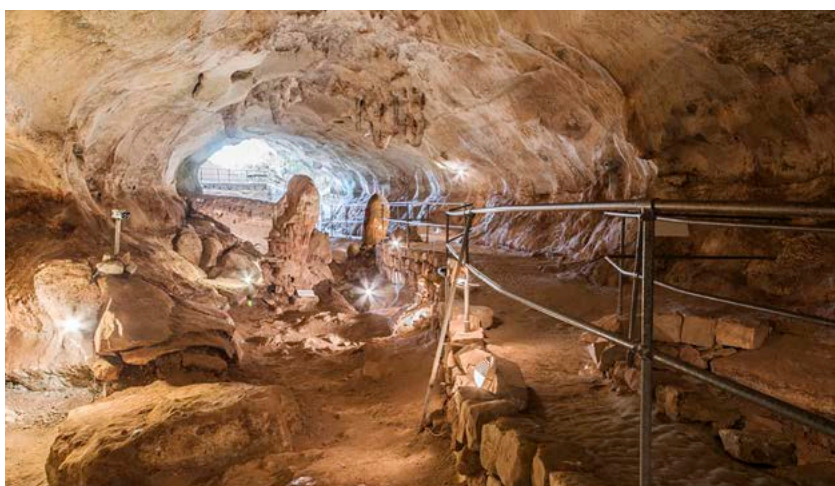
- Visit renowned archaeological sites and gain a deep understanding of the life and development of the Neanderthals.
- Explore multiple archaeologically important caves and rock shelters, including La Roche à Pierrot, Le Moustier, Font-de-Gaume, Pech Merle and Grotte du Lazaret.
- Enjoy the exquisite French countryside, including travelling through the Tarn Gorge, Pont d'Arc rock arch, Verdon and Grand Causses Regional Natural Parks.



May & September | 10 days

Neanderthal origins and ancient caves: Southern France

Step back in time on a journey to the key Neanderthal and Upper Palaeolithic sites of southern France between Bordeaux and Nice with Palaeolithic archaeologist and author Rebecca Wragg Sykes. In this tour, Rebecca shows how advances in archaeological methods, especially over the past three decades, have transformed our understanding of these ancient cousins. See some of the oldest traces left by archaic homo sapiens – stone tools, art objects, cave paintings and skeletons – that have changed the way we think about Neanderthals.



November | 6 days

Megalithic temples, fortifications and archaeology: Malta

Explore the islands of Malta and Gozo, both rich in remarkable history and archaeological sites. Visit prehistoric temples that are thought to be the earliest accessible free-standing buildings in the world, as well as medieval settlements and the walled city of Mdina. Discover three UNESCO World Heritage Sites and 7000 years of history, including unexplained carved-stone landscapes and prehistoric death cults, as well as beautiful coastlines, attractive fishing villages and fine Baroque architecture.

- Visit the megalithic temple complexes of Tarxien, Hagar Qim and Mnajdra, which date back to around 3600BC.
- Unearth the remarkable history of these islands.
- Gain a deeper understanding of the sites visited during talks and walking seminars.





September | 10 days

Science of the Incas: Peru

Peru is an impressive land of deserts etched with ancient geoglyphs, soaring peaks harbouring secret cities and awe-inspiring landscapes. Experience a full immersion into the Inca civilisation's most important archaeological sites, including Machu Picchu. Get to the heart of how Hiram Bingham "discovered" Machu Picchu and several other sites while exploring the science and history of the beautiful Sacred Valley. Spend time exploring the museums, archaeological remains and Spanish colonial architecture.

- Learn how the Incas developed a complex society and used their extensive grasp of science and technology to expand rapidly.
- Enjoy two days to explore Machu Picchu, with plenty of leisure time built in to wander these remarkable ancient ruins.
- A unique anthropological and archaeological experience offering a deeper understanding into Inca civilisation.



- Visit three UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including a full day exploring the beautiful Petra Archaeological Park where the 5th century BC Nabataean civilisation formed tombs.
- Enjoy a thrilling jeep safari through Wadi Rum before spending the night surrounded by majestic sandstone mountains.
- Relax and float in the world's most famous salt lake, the Dead Sea.



October | 8 days

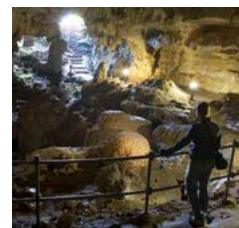
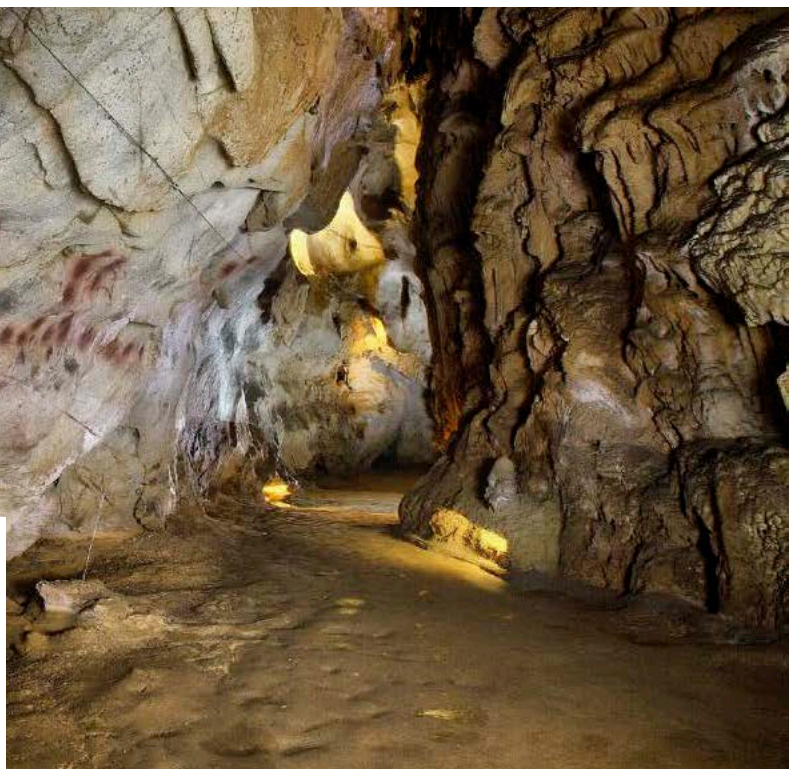
The archaeological wonders of Jordan

From the capital of Amman to castles, caves, mosaics and excavations, Jordan offers so much for the curious traveller. Explore archaeological remains and the living history of Jordanian sites inhabited from the Neolithic and Bronze ages through to the Roman and Byzantine periods. Visit three UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the remarkable Petra Archaeological Park. Enjoy varied archaeological sites influenced by many intersecting pilgrims, traders, cultures and societies.

September | 6 days

Ancient caves, human origins: Northern Spain

Travel back 40,000 years and discover some of the world's oldest known cave paintings. Experience the wonders of several renowned caves full of art from before the dawn of civilisation, including El Castillo, El Pindal and Tito Bustillo. Visit the wonderful replica of Altamira, the Museo de la Evolución Humana and the Prehistory and Archaeology Museum of Cantabria.



| Tour insight

Emily Wilson, author and former editor-in-chief of *New Scientist* accompanied the Ancient caves, human origins: Northern Spain tour. She published her thoughts on the tour in her editor's highlights email.

"I had the good fortune last week to accompany a group of 13 *New Scientist* readers on one of our Discovery Tours. We visited a series of limestone caves that are home to northern Spain's finest prehistoric cave art. Here are some of my reflections on the experience.

1. I had no idea how huge, and beautiful, the caves would be. They are either unlit, or very poorly lit, to help preserve the ancient art, but when the custodians lift up their torches, you understand just how spectacular the caves are. Thousands of long and elegant stalactites, vast stalagmites and elaborate rock flows all combine to produce an extraordinary, otherworldly landscape. And the rock comes in many natural colours, from black to white via reds, yellows, purples and more. I would have been happy to visit those caves even if they had contained no art.
2. Seeing the art in situ, rather than in a photograph, is vital in order to understand its power. The ancient art, be it of a horse, a bison, an auroch or a mammoth, changes dramatically when seen from different viewpoints. Some of the images are designed to look as if they are moving, when viewed by fire or candlelight. And the art is arranged as if on a stage set or in a temple. You are meant to witness it in a certain way.

3. As a group, we kept describing the caves as "cathedral like". Only afterwards did I think, however fancifully: is it that cathedrals are designed to be "cave like"?

4. A lot of the cave art isn't of animals but is instead made up of symbols. Some of those symbols, according to a relatively new technique called uranium series dating – which can date calcite that forms over the paintings, long after they are created – were made long before our species, *Homo sapiens*, was in Europe. Which means Neanderthals made the art. With every week that goes by, the dates of the "world's oldest art" are being pushed backwards.

5. The idea of Neanderthals making art doesn't make everyone happy. I'm not sure why that is. For me, it makes sense. We interbred with them; why wouldn't they be capable of art?

6. In case it was in any doubt, visiting the caves leaves you convinced that the people who made the art there were no different from us, bar the odd iPhone.

7. It's so, so sad that some caves – for example the glorious Altamira – were so badly damaged by visitors and can now only be seen by a tiny number of scientists. I do hope some of the caves can be kept open long term, with very careful management, because they really are amazing. The caves, and the art within them, provide a direct connection back to our distant ancestors. I hope future generations are able to experience it."

Emily Wilson, former *New Scientist* Editor-in-chief

Geology & Volcanology

Discover deep time processes and the spectacular landscapes they have created. Explore geoparks, national parks and world heritage sites to search for and learn about their geological features and how these were formed. In Canada, marvel at the colossal forces that generated and shaped the

Rocky mountains. In Spain, learn how mountain belts form and see the resulting spectacular panoramas and geological structures. Gain a deeper insight from experts into how rocks, volcanoes, fossils and glaciers have shaped our global landscapes.



- Explore the geological history of Colorado including and Bear Ears national monuments, Arches and Canyonlands national parks.
- View impressive petroglyphs made by Fremont, Ancestral Puebloan and Native American peoples.
- Learn to read rock layers in incredible geological regions, including the Colorado National Monument and Boulder Mountain.



September | 9 days

A desert adventure: Landscapes and cultures of Utah, USA

South-east Utah holds a wealth of fascinating geological and cultural stories. Explore the landscapes and cultures of this mighty desert region with visits to famous locations such as Monument Valley, the backdrop for many films, as well as lesser-known historical sites, such as Newspaper Rock and ghost towns of the old west. Join experienced geologists to learn about the rocks and their influence on the history of the area.



June | 9 days

The science of the Pyrenees: Spain

Explore the geology, culture, food and wine of two of Spain's distinct and unique autonomous regions in the central Pyrenees: Aragón and the adjacent province of Navarra. Visit cathedrals and mountain communities, and trace the path of a famous pilgrims' way, the Camino de Santiago.

- Explore the spectacular geology and stunning landscapes of the Pyrenees.
- Understand the processes that built this compact mountain belt.
- Discover ancient mountain villages and sample local Pyrenean and Spanish cuisine.





- Visit a spectacular ice cave, located underneath Europe's biggest icecap, Vatnajokull, which has around 30 glaciers flowing out from it.
- Explore the famous Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon, a beautiful sea of floating icebergs with blues that contrast vividly with the charcoal-coloured sand of the beach.
- Spend time exploring the Reykjanes Peninsula to see where two tectonic plates meet and the volcanic fissures created.



October | 8 days

Land of fire and ice: Iceland

Iceland's incredible landscapes offer otherworldly vistas. On this unforgettable tour, days are filled with volcanic and geological adventure, while evenings offer the opportunity to see the aurora borealis. Discover the awe-inspiring might of the planet and marvel at the sights, sounds and smells of erupting geysers, hot springs and bubbling fumaroles. Get up close to majestic glaciers, waterfalls and tectonic plates as they pull apart.

"We really enjoyed our tour... wonderful tour guide in Christian... nice hotels... great food... everything was very efficiently organised... with lots of good company... the expert geologists were great... I really can't think of anything negative to say... Thank you!" – Land of fire and ice: Iceland



July | 7 days

The Rockies and the Badlands: Geology and dinosaurs in Canada

Delve deep into 420-million-years of history through the landscapes left behind. Unearth how geology influenced the development of Alberta. Examine the rocks and life from this prehistoric Devonian era to the present day, a tale that includes huge reefs, dinosaur playgrounds, evidence of the geological process that formed the Rocky mountains and, more recently, ice sheets that covered Alberta and carved out spectacular landscapes.



- Explore the stunning scenery and geology of southern Alberta as our experts bring to life the history of settlements in this remote but beautiful land.
- Traverse the spectacular scenery of the Canadian Rockies and marvel at the colossal forces that generated and shaped them.
- See dinosaur excavation sites normally off-limits to the public while at Dinosaur Provincial Park.





November | 8 days

Volcanology, geothermal valleys and astronomy: North Island, New Zealand

Discover the amazing and diverse landscapes of New Zealand's North Island, which over millions of years have been shaped by forces deep within Earth and carved from above. Explore key geological regions, including Rangitoto Island, Waitomo caves, the major geothermal areas and the Tongariro National Park. Accompanied by experts who will offer a deeper understanding of the island's significant geology and volcanology. Enjoy the otherworldly scenery and welcoming hospitality of New Zealand by luxury coach, boat and train.



- Explore the UNESCO World Heritage listed Tongariro National Park to discover Mount Ruapehu, the largest active volcano in New Zealand and the highest point on North Island with three peaks over 2700 metres.
- Visit the Wairakei geothermal field, the first geothermal field to be used for electrical generation.
- Visit Auckland's Stardome Observatory and Planetarium for an evening with an astronomer exploring the southern hemisphere skies.



- Set sail and explore the extraordinary fjords, including Milford Sound.
- Discover the beautiful twin glaciers of Fox and Franz Josef, both of which descend from the Southern Alps into temperate rainforest.
- Explore the scenic cities of Queenstown and Christchurch, which are both surrounded by giant mountain range vistas.



November | 8 days

Glaciology and geology: South Island, New Zealand

Carved by glaciers over 100,000 years ago, the landscape of New Zealand's South Island is one where waterfalls cascade hundreds of metres into deep black fjords, ancient rainforest clings to mountains and shimmering lakes and granite peaks look as they did a thousand years ago. See the mesmerising peaks of Milford Sound, the unique Punakaiki geology, Fox and Franz Josef glaciers, fjords and the Southern Alps.

History of Science

Explore the key scientific thinkers, their history and inspirations behind some of the world's most important science breakthroughs. In Sweden, learn about Alfred Nobel, a pioneering chemist and engineer who established the Nobel Prize in 1895

for "those who, during the preceding year, have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind". Discover the Scottish enlightenment where scientists from Charles Darwin to Mary Somerville spent time developing their ideas.



July | 6 days

Bohr's Copenhagen: Physics past and future: Denmark

Visit the institutes and sites where Niels Bohr formulated his theories, uncovering a rich history of scientific developments not only by Bohr himself, but by a host of Danish scientists, including Tycho Brahe and Ole Rømer. Today, Copenhagen is a bustling city with trendy markets, shops, art, natural spaces, impressive architecture and laid-back people. Get under the skin of the city's scientific heritage and hear from a raft of experts, accompanied by scientific author and journalist Manjit Kumar.



- Examine the scientific work of Niels Bohr, which allowed us to better understand the structure of the atom and quantum theory.
- Enjoy a guided tour of the Carlsberg Foundation where Bohr once lived and worked, as well as visits to the Niels Bohr Institute and the National Academy.
- Meet scientists from the European Spallation Source (ESS) at their Data Management and Software Centre, which will be used to interpret data when construction of the ESS in Lund, Sweden, is completed.



- Enjoy private tours around several museums, including the National Museum of Scotland, the Hunterian, the Surgeons' Hall and the Kelvingrove.
- Enjoy two evening lectures on the Scottish enlightenment and the science of the region from the 16th to 19th centuries, as well as an exclusive private talk and tour around the James Clerk Maxwell Foundation.
- Learn about the wide cast of protagonists, including such luminaries as Lord Kelvin, Mary Somerville, Arthur Conan Doyle, Robert Burns and Charles Darwin, who studied in Edinburgh.



September | 5 days

The science history of Scotland: The enlightenment and beyond

Discover Edinburgh and Glasgow's most famous scientific thinkers and learn how their ideas underpinned our emerging understanding of the world from the 16th century onwards. Explore key sites from the Scottish Enlightenment, a period of incredible scientific and intellectual creativity in the 18th and early 19th centuries. During those times, leading practitioners of geology, medicine, maths, physics, astronomy, economics and philosophy exchanged and developed key scientific ideas.



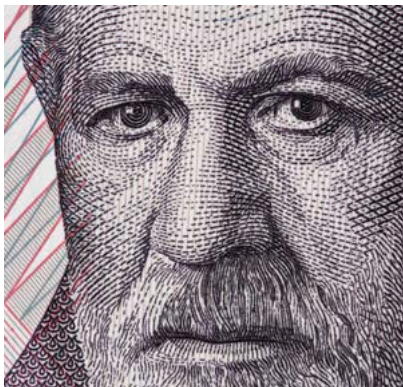
June | 6 days

The birth of modern medicine: Paris and Montpellier: France

Discover the foundations of the modern science of medicine in two French cities: Paris, where the “Paris School” of hygiene and hospital teaching flourished, and Montpellier, home to the world’s oldest university medical faculty. Be introduced to key figures, including Louis Pasteur, who pioneered the first vaccines, Rene Laennec, whose stethoscope is still a symbol of medical professionals today, and Marie Curie, the first woman to win a Nobel prize and still the only person to win the prize in both physics and chemistry.



- Discover Paris’s role as the leading European centre of 18th-century medicine, from the churches that administered the first hospitals to medical developments during the French Revolution and two world wars
- Enjoy the beauty and tranquility of the architecture and gardens of these two beautiful cities.
- Learn about the sometimes gruesome but always fascinating early history of medicine, from mummified écorché figures to bone-lined catacombs.



- Gain deeper understanding of Sigmund Freud and explore the city where he lived for more than 80 years.
- Private guided tours, including of the Jewish Museum, Sigmund Freud Museum, Narrenturm and the Josephinum medical museum.
- Visit the famous Café Landtmann, a meeting point for many of the great thinkers, artists and politicians of Belle Epoque Vienna.



November | 5 days

Freud’s Vienna: Psychoanalysis and the Viennese schools: Austria

Gain insight into the mind of Sigmund Freud and the city in which he spent most of his life. Uncover how he explored the subconscious and became known as the founder of psychoanalysis. Learn about other key Austrian psychological thinkers, including Alfred Adler and Viktor Frankl. Travel in the company of a neuroscience expert to delve into the lives of Freud, Adler, Frankl and the birth of the Viennese schools of psychoanalysis, as well as the history of science and medicine in Vienna and the Jewish community in particular.



- Learn more about Kepler, one of the world's most influential astronomers whose work on optics and the laws of planetary motion influenced the ground-breaking research of Galileo Galilei and Isaac Newton.
- Visit the world's oldest astronomical clock, Prague Castle and the Klementinum astronomical tower, and enjoy stargazing at the Stefanik Observatory.
- Explore the historically fascinating towns of Nelahozeves and Kutna Hora.



September | 6 days

Renaissance astronomy in Kepler's Prague: Czech Republic

Discover the legacy of the Renaissance period astronomers Johannes Kepler and Tycho Brahe in Prague, the city of a hundred spires, where astronomy, maths, music and art connect. Learn about the city during the 17th century, when it was a melting pot of international artists, scientists and thinkers, attracted by the tolerant political climate. Journey to the heart of early science, exploring Prague's medieval marvels and walking the streets as Kepler and Brahe did whilst astronomer and historian Martin Griffiths, alongside local guides, share tales of Renaissance history.



November | 8 days

The science of the Renaissance: Italy

Encounter the great scientific minds and discoveries of the Renaissance on a cultural adventure through the period's pre-eminent cities of science: Florence, Pisa and Bologna. Witness the wondrous scientific collections, striking buildings and churches that demonstrate the burgeoning knowledge of the period, while also allowing the opportunity to enjoy these beautiful cities.

- Learn fascinating stories about polymaths like Leonardo da Vinci and Galileo Galilei, as well as about a wealth of other Renaissance scientists and artists.
- Factoring in astronomical, anatomical, architectural, medical and mathematical perspectives, look at the wondrous collections, buildings and churches that demonstrate the burgeoning knowledge of the period.
- Visit the European Gravitational Observatory to see the Virgo interferometer, which is designed to detect gravitational waves and is the only one of its kind in Europe.

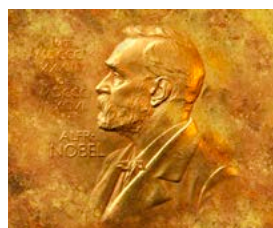




September | 6 days

Nobel's Stockholm: Celebrating science through space and time: Sweden

Explore the beauty of Stockholm, a haven of scientific thought that was home to Alfred Nobel, Carl Linnaeus, Jons Jacob Berzelius and more. Built across 14 of the 20,000 islands that shelter the city from the Baltic Sea, Stockholm is undoubtedly one of the world's most elegant capitals. Explore the scientific heritage of the city past and present, and learn about the Noble prizes, which were created to celebrate great achievements in science. Meet experts from a range of scientific fields and learn about Sweden's contribution to botany, astronomy, physics, chemistry and medicine.



Day 1: Arrive in Stockholm

Arrive in Stockholm with time at leisure before an evening meeting with the group. Here, the accompanying expert will introduce Sweden's scientific heritage and the significance of the Nobel prizes.

Day 2: Stockholm walking tour, including visit to Nobel Museum

Enjoy a guided walking tour through the old town's medieval maze of narrow streets. Visit the Nobel Museum and National Museum of Science and Technology, which celebrate Swedish scientists and innovators. In the evening, explore Vinterviken bay by boat.

Day 3: Sweden Solar System, Natural History Museum and SciLifeLab

Explore the sculptures in Stockholm that represent the inner planets of our solar system at a scale of 1:20 million. Visit the Swedish Museum of Natural History and Cosmonova. Finally, enjoy a behind-the-scenes guided tour of part of the SciLifeLab and learn about its ongoing research projects in biotechnology.

Day 4: Stockholm walking tour, including visit to Nobel Park, arboretum and Vasa museum

Enjoy the city's coastline with this morning's walking tour. Start at Sweden's largest art museum, then visit the Nobel Park, an arboretum where nearly every species of tree that grows in Sweden can be found and studied, before continuing to the Vasa museum to learn about a time before Linnaeus and Nobel.

Day 5: Uppsala

Travel to the nearby town of Uppsala to visit the botanical gardens of Carl Linnaeus. Tour Ulriksdal Palace and the exquisite 18th-century rococo theatre, Confidencen, enroute back to Stockholm. On the final evening, explore Stockholm's archipelago and sample the city's food and drink scene.

Day 6: Depart Stockholm

Depart for the airport. A final stopping point is a visit to Arlanda Airport, home to Jupiter in the Sweden Solar System.

Astronomy & Space

Throughout time, scientists have transformed our understanding of the universe. They have delved into the great unknown, unearthing secrets of the cosmos. This has helped us define the mechanics of the solar system, understand the chemistry of stars and explore how the night sky changes over time, allowing us

a deeper insight into what is beyond our planet. In Chile and Spain, visit observatories and enjoy dark sky stargazing. In Switzerland, visit CERN, where physicists aim to uncover what the universe is made of and how it works.



March | 12 days

The world capital of astronomy: Chile

With unique geographical and climate conditions and 70 per cent of the world's telescopes, Chile truly is the world capital of astronomy. Accompanied by *New Scientist's* Abigail Beall, gain hands-on experience at historical and modern observatories, meet local experts and stargaze at several sites near San Pedro, Santiago and Vicuña. Plus, enjoy the amazing landscapes of the Atacama desert, traditional cuisine and the fascinating towns and cities of this beautiful country.



- Visit several observatories, including ALMA and Paranal.
- Stargaze in the Atacama desert and at three observatories with Abigail Beall.
- Traverse the amazing landscapes of the Atacama desert and explore vibrant towns and cities.



| Tour insight

My amazing month with Discovery Tours

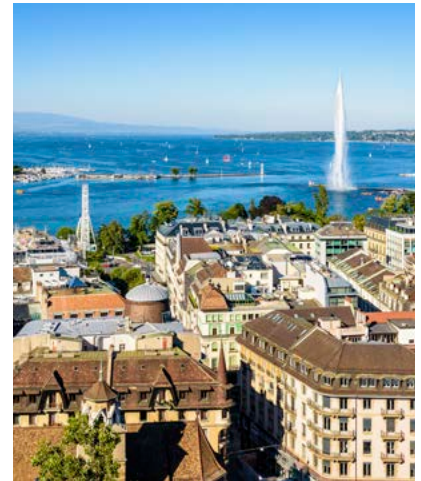
In 2023, I was lucky enough to spend a month leading three different *New Scientist* Discovery Tours – the first to Chile, and then two tours in Australia. All trips had a focus on astronomy, but alongside the observatory visits and stargazing evenings we saw plenty of incredible landscapes and wildlife.

In Chile, we began in Santiago before heading to the Atacama desert, where we explored the alien landscapes, salt flats and geysers. We spotted flamingos, vicunas, guanacos, viscachas and plenty of llamas. But the incredible stargazing and visits to the telescopes were the main event. We had a fabulous group of guests, with people from the UK, Germany, Spain, Ireland, Australia and the US, who all bonded quickly over their shared passion for astronomy, and still stay in touch.

Then, I flew to Australia and began a one-week trip around New South Wales. Our group, from the UK, Australia and the US, quickly became firm friends with some kangaroo spotting. Our week was full of visits to iconic radio astronomy telescopes, including Parkes, home to the dish from the film *The Dish*, and the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex.

I spent the final week on the west coast of Australia, where I embarked on a cruise to witness the total solar eclipse on 20 April. Onboard we had a much larger group, of around 40 guests, but we spent time together every day and watched the eclipse together. Some guests had never seen one before, others had seen 12, which made for a great conversation topic. On the day, everyone was sharing tips on what to look out for and, afterwards, sharing in the joy of the spectacle. The eclipse itself was stunning, with two beautiful “diamond rings” and lots of prominences visible from the surface of the sun during the minute of totality. All in all, it was an unforgettable month full of once-in-a-lifetime experiences with the loveliest people.

Abigail Beall, *New Scientist*



May & October | 6 days

CERN and Mont Blanc: Dark and Frozen Matter: Switzerland and France

Explore Europe's particle physics centre, CERN, where researchers operate the famous Large Hadron Collider, nestled near the charming lakeside town of Geneva. Discover CERN and Geneva's fascinating histories before heading to Chamonix to explore Mont Blanc and the nearby glacier. During the tour, enjoy private lectures from particle physicist Darren Price, who will also give a personal guided tour of CERN.

- Enjoy a guided tour of the CERN physics facility, home of the Large Hadron Collider.
- Explore the Museum of the History of Science and the Patek Philippe Museum.
- Spend time visiting Geneva, including its botanical gardens and Lake Geneva.



- Discover the beautiful Canary Islands of La Palma and Tenerife, including private tours of the Llano del Jable and Mount Teide observatories.
- Explore the night skies with Abigail Beall and local Starlight Guides.
- Visit rare sub-tropical rainforests, ancient petroglyphs, volcanic vineyards and walk through recently formed lava tubes.



September | 7 days

Astronomy and volcanoes in the Canary Islands: Spain

Visit an array of telescopes and take part in expert-led stargazing at multiple sites across the islands of Tenerife and La Palma with *New Scientist's* astronomer Abigail Beall. UNESCO recognized La Palma as a designated Biosphere Reserve for its volcanic landscape. You will also explore Tenerife's Mount Teide. The islands are beautifully austere during the day and outstanding for stargazing at night.

Polar Cruising

The inside track on expedition cruising

Since the world has opened up again and people have started travelling further afield, there has been a renewed interest in expedition cruising. But what is it and is it right for you?

What is the difference between a regular cruise and an expedition cruise?

Expedition cruises tend to be on smaller ships, allowing a more intimate and in-depth experience. They are operated in the spirit of adventure, with flexible itineraries to make the most of wildlife sightings and sea conditions. Onboard there is an expert crew offering lectures on subjects such as the wildlife in the area, as well as focusing on getting you off the boat as much as possible. In contrast, regular cruises tend to be more sedentary, with limited activities and a more surface-level experience at the locations they visit.

Do you spend all your time on the ship and how big are they?

The size of ship that you choose will affect the amount and type of excursions available to you. Expedition ships typically house between 30 and 130 guests, leading to a more tailored experience. In addition, the aim is to get off the ship as much as possible to see your surroundings, and fewer passengers means leaving the ship is quicker, giving you more time to explore. In addition, smaller ships can navigate bays and ports that larger ships are unable to reach.

What do you do onboard during the days when you are at sea?

There are several optional lectures you can attend while at sea, which cover a range of topics linked to the area visited. Given by the expert expedition crew, these give you an insight into the amazing places you are visiting.

What are some of the highlights you are likely to see from the ship on a polar cruise?

Nature is very much in charge and you have the opportunity to experience unique wildlife, stunning landscapes and ice on a grand scale. Many guests find the serenity, austerity and isolation awe inspiring, while others are drawn to the diversity of wildlife, from minuscule phytoplankton to polar bears, walrus and penguins, depending on which hemisphere you visit.

How are expedition cruises mitigating their impact on the polar environments they travel to?

Many of the ship operators are members of organisations such as the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators, and as such they commit to adhering to polar codes of conduct that cover both how the ship operates and how guests interact with the environment.

In the past five years, more than 30 new polar vessels have been launched and these often have technology to reduce environmental impacts, such as dynamic mooring using satellite GPS and thrusters rather than anchors that can damage the sea floor. Newer expedition ships are also being built with an XBOW hull design, making for a smoother and more fuel-efficient sailing.

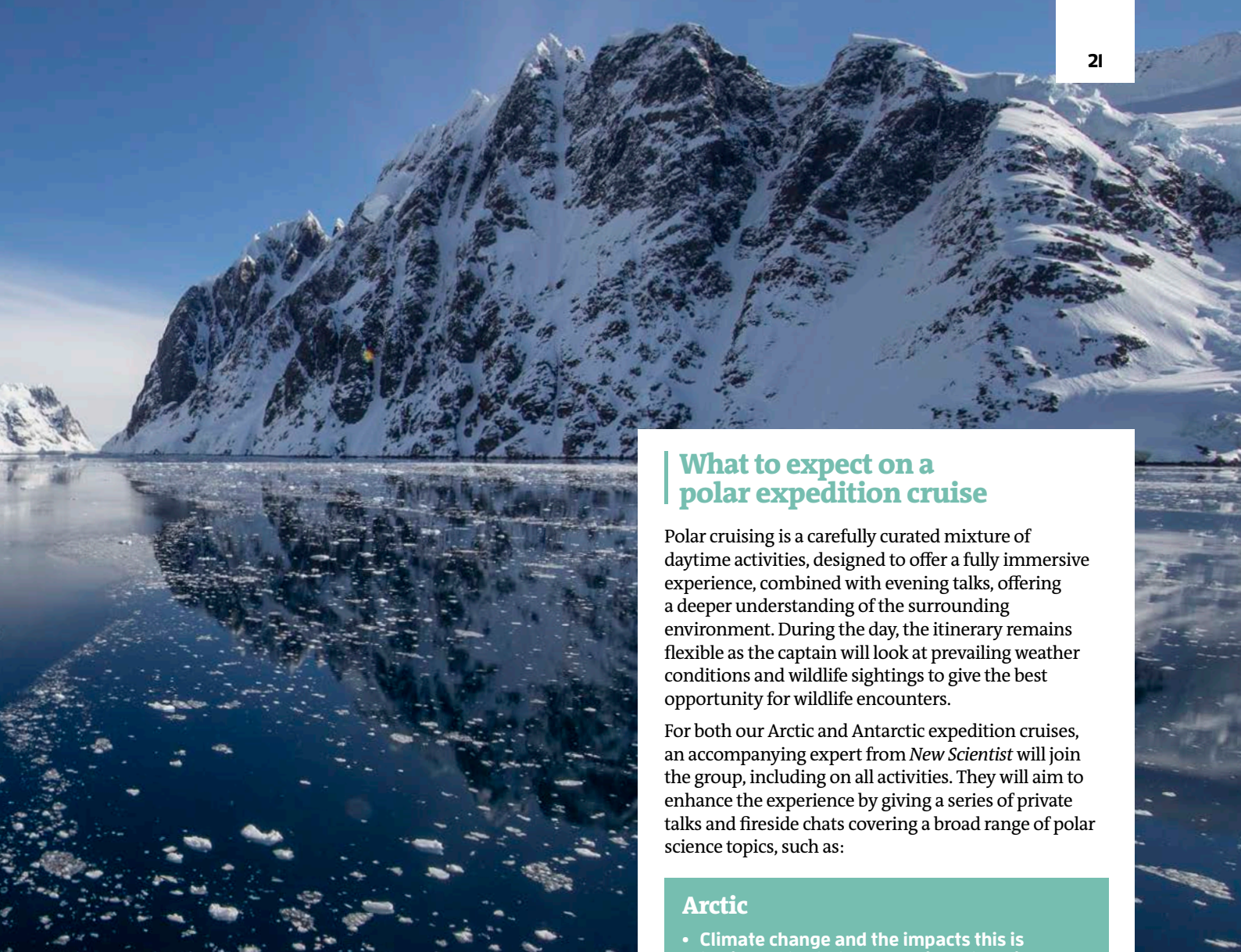
How long do expedition voyages last?

The duration can vary but most expedition cruises last between a week and a month.

Do expedition cruises venture beyond the polar regions?

Beyond Antarctica, the Arctic and Alaska, expedition cruising can be enjoyed in many spectacular (and warmer) destinations, such as the Amazon, Papua New Guinea, Baja California, Hawaii and Kimberley in Australia.





What to expect on a polar expedition cruise

Polar cruising is a carefully curated mixture of daytime activities, designed to offer a fully immersive experience, combined with evening talks, offering a deeper understanding of the surrounding environment. During the day, the itinerary remains flexible as the captain will look at prevailing weather conditions and wildlife sightings to give the best opportunity for wildlife encounters.

For both our Arctic and Antarctic expedition cruises, an accompanying expert from *New Scientist* will join the group, including on all activities. They will aim to enhance the experience by giving a series of private talks and fireside chats covering a broad range of polar science topics, such as:

Arctic

- Climate change and the impacts this is having on both the Antarctic and Arctic.
- Geology of Svalbard – ancient history, fossils and coal.
- Physics and folktales of the Northern Lights.
- Extremophiles – organisms that survive extreme conditions.
- The largest land predator on Earth – the polar bear.
- Polar whales and Arctic ecosystem engineering.
- How to navigate in the polar environment.



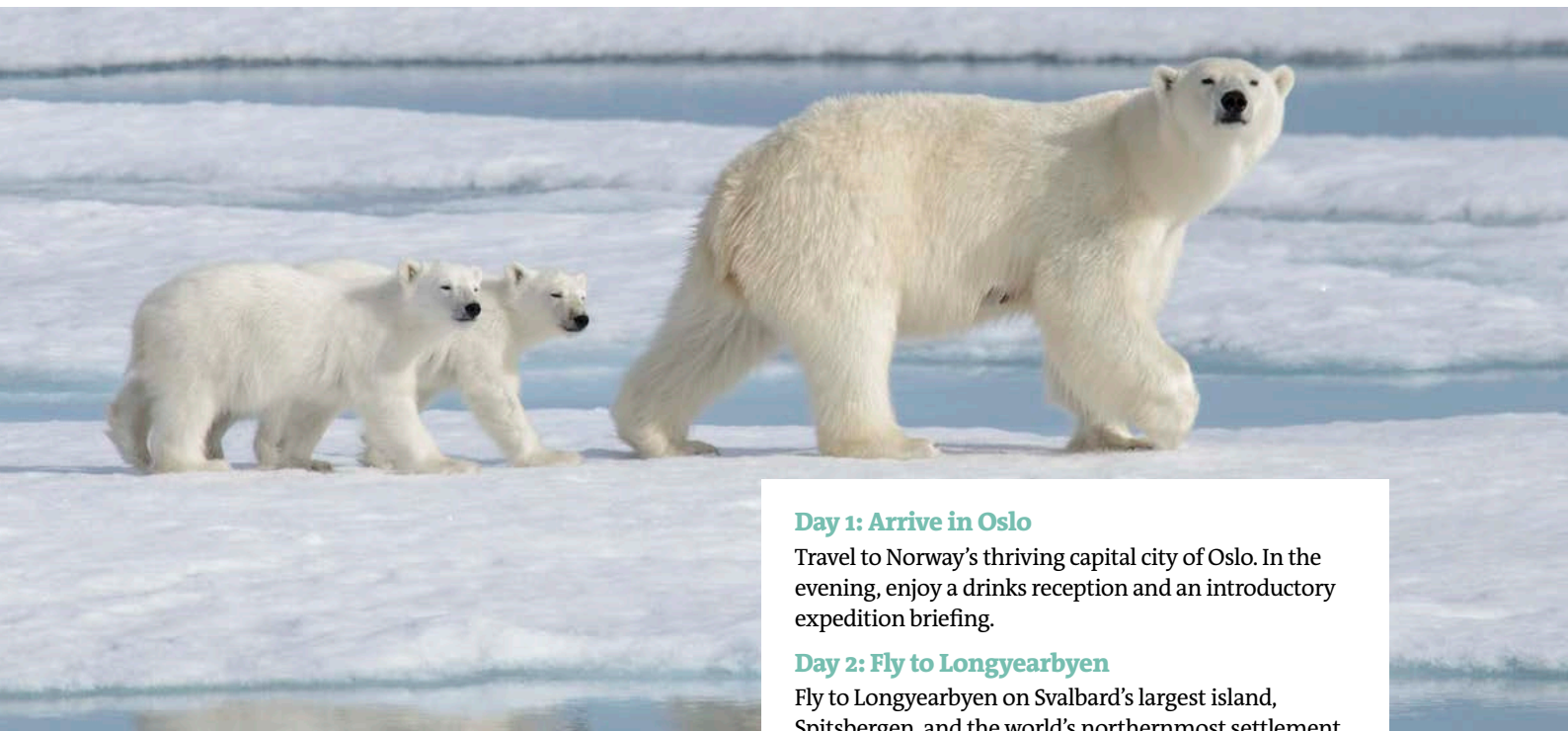
Citizen science

On our polar expeditions there is the opportunity to participate in some citizen science. It is designed to be a hands-on, immersive and transformative experience offering insight into the importance of protecting the beauty of the planet. Various sampling and data collection projects will be conducted and there will be a dedicated onboard citizen science coordinator, who will be on hand to introduce and assist throughout.



Antarctic

- The advanced technology involved in staging a deep Antarctic exploration.
- The story of Ernest Shackleton and his ship the *Endurance*.
- Reading weather patterns, the ice and the currents.
- The organisms that live and thrive in polar regions.
- Whales and their migration.
- The *Endurance 22* expedition – What was it, why did it happen and what did it discover?
- The legacy of the *22 Endurance* expedition and how it helped gain data that was previously uncharted.



June | 13 days

Science of the Arctic expedition cruise: Svalbard, Norway

Discover the science of the Arctic travelling aboard a new state-of-the-art polar expedition vessel, the Greg Mortimer, in Norway's Arctic archipelago of Svalbard. Explore the northernmost region of Earth, the realm of the polar bear, with a full programme of talks, shore visits and Zodiac boat safaris. Accompanied by an expert from *New Scientist*, along with a highly knowledgeable and supportive expedition team, including experts in exploration, science and wildlife. Experience the majesty of Norway's Svalbard where wildlife thrives at nearly 80° north.



Day 1: Arrive in Oslo

Travel to Norway's thriving capital city of Oslo. In the evening, enjoy a drinks reception and an introductory expedition briefing.

Day 2: Fly to Longyearbyen

Fly to Longyearbyen on Svalbard's largest island, Spitsbergen, and the world's northernmost settlement (with a population of over 1000) at only 1316 kilometres from the North Pole. In the evening, join a pre-embarkation briefing ready to set sail the following day.

Day 3: Explore Longyearbyen and ship embarkation

Spend the morning exploring Longyearbyen. Visit Camp Barentz and the Svalbard Museum before embarking on the vessel in the late afternoon. Set sail through the beautiful Isfjorden, escorted by gliding fulmars and perhaps the occasional puffin. In the evening, get to know the expedition team at the Captain's Welcome Dinner.

Days 4 to 12: Exploring the Svalbard archipelago

Spend nine days exploring the Arctic wilderness at its best. Every day will include a mixture of activities, including Zodiac boat safaris, walks and informal photography tuition. Visit deep fjords, mountain ranges and a polar desert rich in fossils.

The onboard expedition team, who have made countless journeys to this area, will use their expertise to design a day-to-day itinerary, choosing the best options based on the prevailing weather, sea-ice conditions and wildlife sightings.

Wildlife encounters may range from witnessing walrus hauled out on sea ice or on beaches, exploring towering cliffs noisy with nesting guillemots and puffins or watching a majestic polar bear on pack ice or whales breaching around the ship.

On the final evening aboard, the captain will host a Farewell Reception with a four-course dinner and cocktails.

Day 13: Disembark and fly to Oslo

Disembark and say a fond farewell to the expedition team before transferring to the airport and flying to Oslo.





Day 1: Arrive in Buenos Aires

Arrive in Argentina's cosmopolitan capital, Buenos Aires. In the evening, enjoy a welcome drinks reception and be briefed on the expedition ahead.

Day 2: Fly to Ushuaia

Fly to Ushuaia at the southern tip of Argentina, fondly known as El Fin del Mundo or the End of the World.

In the evening, meet with fellow expeditioners at a welcome reception.

Day 3: Ushuaia exploration and embarkation

The morning is at leisure to explore the port town of Ushuaia. Later in the afternoon, transfer to the *Sylvia Earle* and set sail through the Beagle Channel. In the evening, meet the friendly expedition team at a welcome dinner to celebrate the start of a thrilling adventure to Antarctica.

Days 4 and 5: Crossing the Drake Passage

Commence the Drake Passage crossing and start the lecture programme to learn more about Antarctica's history, wildlife and environment.

Days 6 to 12: Exploring Antarctica

During these days, flexibility will be key, with a range of shore excursions, Zodiac cruises and time to take in the beauty of Antarctic ice and enormous tabular icebergs. Be awestruck by the array of wildlife that frolic, forage and hunt in Antarctic Sound, including whales, penguins and seals. In addition to Zodiac cruises and shore excursions, witness the ship pass through some of the narrow, dramatic straits separating offshore islands from the mainland, or linger in scenic bays to marvel at sculptural icebergs and photograph spectacular scenery. Keep an ear out for the creak and deep rumble of glaciers as they calve into the sea. The expedition team, and *New Scientist* expert, will also offer a series of lectures and talks throughout the days and evenings.

Days 13 and 14: Drake Passage

Traverse the Drake Passage for the return journey to South America, with lectures and film presentations to complete the Antarctic experience.

Day 15: Ushuaia disembarkation

Cruise up the Beagle Channel, arriving in Ushuaia, to bid a fond farewell and disembark. Fly onto Buenos Aires.



March | 15 days

The science of the deep Antarctic: Shackleton's expedition and the Weddell Sea

Follow Ernest Shackleton's extraordinary voyage, navigating as far as possible into the Weddell Sea. Whilst at sea, enjoy onboard lectures by an expert from *New Scientist* and the onboard expedition team. When the ship reaches the Antarctic peninsula, the aim will be to make as many excursions as possible, generally making landings or Zodiac boat trips twice a day to visit penguin rookeries, discover historical sites and explore some of the most spectacular scenery.



Marine Biology & Cruises

Less than 5 per cent of the ocean has been explored. In fact, we have better maps of Mars than of the oceans, even though at its closest approach it is still more than 80 million kilometres away. From tropical waters to the polar regions, explore the science of the oceans and follow in the footsteps of notable biologists

Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. From Indonesia's Spice Islands to the wildlife rich waters of the Azores, as well as the bucket list destinations of the Galapagos, Amazon and Madagascar, unforgettable wildlife encounters on both land and at sea await!



January | 13 days

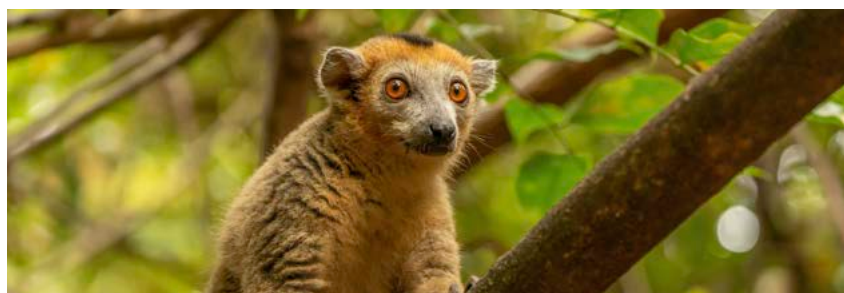
In the wake of Alfred Wallace: Cruise Indonesia

Follow in the footsteps of one of the greatest naturalists of all time, Alfred Russel Wallace. Set sail and explore the Spice Islands and Raja Ampat as Wallace did, marvelling at their biodiversity and beauty. Cruise aboard a luxury 22-berth crewed schooner and visit several sites that were important to Wallace's discoveries. Go in search of wildlife on land, in the air and at sea, including several species of birds of paradise, golden birdwing butterflies and a wealth of sea creatures, as well as experiencing the islands' local culture, primary rainforests, geology and conservation projects.

- In-depth insight into the life and work of Alfred Russel Wallace plus the natural treasures of Indonesia.
- Explore primary rainforests, marine ecosystems and their flora and fauna, including several species of birds of paradise and Wallace's golden birdwing butterfly.
- No more than 22 passengers on board, which allows for frequent interaction with the accompanying experts.



- Discover the evolution of Madagascar's array of species found nowhere else on Earth, including lemurs and fossas.
- Walk through endemic forests and rainforests, where you can listen out for the haunting call of an indri (the largest species of lemur) or see a chameleon blending into its surroundings.
- Step outside of the ordinary and sail into the unexpected on this voyage of discovery on a beautiful tall ship.



September | 11 days

Cruise in search of Madagascar's magical wildlife

Set sail and be immersed in Madagascar's diverse and unique ecosystems and wildlife, which includes 23 different species of lemur. Gain a deeper understanding of how, having broken away from mainland Africa some 150 million years ago, Madagascar is now unlike anywhere else on the planet, with extraordinary fossilised forests, fantastical geological formations, semi-desert and open savannah. Travel aboard the Luna Moon, a sailing schooner known as one of the Great Sailing Ships of the World, for a unique exploration of this wildlife-rich destination.



May | 7 days

Whale watching and marine ecosystems in the Azorean Islands: Portugal

Experience the hidden paradise of the biodiverse Azores islands, their lush flora and fauna, volcanic craters, lagoons and picturesque towns. This is a rare opportunity to actively take part in whale research, watching the social interactions of whales at the surface and listening for their click sounds as they descend into the water. Spend days exploring and learning about marine life, current conservation efforts, whale intelligence and ecosystems.

“Dr. Russell Arnott was very good – gave fascinating talks & was good company. Tour leader Tiago Negrão was very good too. The marine experts who led the boat trips were absolutely outstanding. We also met several research scientists just completing their PhDs, who were also brilliant. We were incredibly lucky in that we saw an extraordinary number of whales and dolphins and were able to observe some very special interactions.” – Whale watching and marine ecosystems in the Azorean Islands: Portugal



- Guided whale-watching marine safaris accompanied by marine scientists and PhD research students. See detailed research in action.
- Ecological and geological tours of two Azorean islands: Pico and Faial.
- Exclusive talks, both on land and at sea, by marine biologist and oceanographer Russell Arnott.



- Accompanied by onboard guides with over 30 years' experience, who will help you explore the animals and plants of the region.
- The yacht aims to minimise its carbon footprint by using a mix of solar-electric and solar-thermal systems to power its amenities.
- Enjoy four or five activities per day, including informative lectures, skiff safaris, forest walks, wildlife watching and kayak expeditions.



September | 13 days

Ecology expedition through the Amazon and Pantanal: Brazil

Travel onboard the traditional motor yacht Tucano to voyage through one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world, the Brazilian Amazon. Leave the main tourist path behind and glide through the small tributaries woven between the rainforest in search of howler monkeys, spider monkeys and tamarins. Continue to one of the most beautiful regions of the northern Pantanal, an ideal base from which to explore these remarkable wetlands.



August | 8 days

Darwin's Galapagos: Ecuador

Explore the Galapagos Islands, a major bucket list destination for wildlife enthusiasts, accompanied by conservation advocate Jo Ruxton. We have curated a distinctive trip to this paradise for natural history and geology lovers, which includes the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site of Quito followed by seven days of exploring at sea. Serving as inspiration for Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, it will come as no surprise that myriad exotic species inhabit the Galapagos Islands and the surrounding sea.



- Explore the wildlife-rich islands of Santa Cruz, Isabela, Fernandina, Santiago and Rabida.
- Accompanied by film producer and marine biologist Jo Ruxton, founder of the charity Ocean Generation.
- Get up close to spectacular wildlife, including blue-footed boobies and giant tortoises, as well as coral and volcanoes.



- Learn more about Alexander von Humboldt's 1802 expedition and how his theories altered the way scientists see the natural world.
- Visit and stay in the heart of Ecuador's Amazon rainforest, home to truly astounding biodiversity, with more than 300 species of mammal, 800 species of fish and 350 species of reptile.
- Spend two days discovering the cloud forest, one of the most biodiverse regions on the planet. It is recognised as a hotspot for birds, orchids, epiphytes, butterflies and mammals.



August | 11 days

In the footsteps of Alexander von Humboldt: Ecuador

Follow in the footsteps of geographer, explorer and naturalist Alexander von Humboldt, tracing part of his 1802 expedition through Ecuador's Avenue of the Volcanoes and onto the Amazon and the cloud forest, regions that helped to establish his "unity of nature" theory. This tour offers an amazing opportunity to combine two of Ecuador's most fascinating natural destinations: the biodiverse wonders of the Amazon and the Pacific cloud forests to the west of Quito.

Nature & Conservation

Science offers a way to understand the natural world and, more importantly, teaches us why we should conserve and protect it. Accompanied by conservation experts, explore Canada's polar bear country, Mexico's butterfly migration and Yellowstone in winter. In Tasmania, join a highly immersive expedition around

reserves and coasts in search of its diverse wildlife. Embark on a wildlife expedition like no other through Sri Lanka in search of leopards, elephants and whales. Delve into the science of rewilding and how it will be key in reviving and restoring our environment.



October | 7 days

Churchill Polar Bear expedition: Canada

Travel to Churchill in northern Canada to visit the world's greatest concentration of polar bears. Explore the area by Polar Rover vehicle, a tundra buggy aimed to have minimum impact on the environment. With huge windows and a see-through steel outdoor viewing deck, it allows you closer access to the bears and other wildlife. Accompanied by experts who will take a deep dive into the life and natural history of the polar bear, you will explore their evolutionary history and learn about the role of protected areas and ecotourism in the protection of polar bears and arctic biodiversity.



Day 1: Arrive in Winnipeg

Begin in Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba. In the evening meet with the expedition leader for a welcome dinner.

Day 2: Winnipeg and then fly to Churchill

Fly by chartered plane to Churchill. This hospitable frontier town, originally a Hudson's Bay Company fur trading post, is the base for this adventure. This evening head out into the tundra for the first glimpse of the bears.

Days 3 and 4: Polar Bear Viewing

Custom-built Polar Rovers are used to explore the tundra in search of bears, with ample space to accommodate everyone. The expedition leaders know the best places to observe polar bears, which congregate here each autumn as they wait for Hudson Bay to freeze, signalling the start of the winter seal-hunting season. The expedition leader will explain the bears' behaviour and how they thrive in such a harsh environment. In the evenings, gather for dinner and presentations on wildlife and local cultures.

Day 5: Exploring Churchill, including an evening on the tundra

During the day follow the coastal road on a drive to Cape Merry, keeping an eye out for Arctic fox and Arctic hare. If the skies are clear, our nighttime tundra excursion might reveal one of nature's most exhilarating experiences: the northern lights. Though never predictable, the auroral display typically starts as a pale glow in the northern sky that often begins to undulate in shimmering curtains of colour, most typically green but occasionally red or violet.

Day 6: Dog sledding and fly to Winnipeg

This morning take part in an authentic dog sled ride. Join a local musher and his team, spending time with the lively and affectionate dogs before taking turns riding behind them on an exhilarating trip through the boreal forest. Enjoy a farewell lunch together before flying back to Winnipeg.

Day 7: Winnipeg departure

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home.





- Search for wolves in Yellowstone's remote Northern Range – the best place on Earth to find these elegant and elusive wilderness icons.
- Witness steaming geysers erupting in a crystalline spray against a snowy backdrop.
- Accompanied by New Scientist's Corryn Wetzel, naturalists and scientist researchers, offering scientific insight into the local fauna and flora.



February | 7 days

Yellowstone wolf & wildlife winter safari: USA

A peerless wildlife odyssey through the Grand Teton national park with extended wolf-watching time in Yellowstone's Lamar Valley. Yellowstone is the oldest national park in the US. Its far-reaching grasslands are dotted with bison and bighorn sheep, and its forests echo with wolf howls at night. This tour capitalises on the quiet season when wildlife viewing is best as crowds are non-existent, animals stand out against winter's snow and Yellowstone's hidden pockets feel like ours alone.



January | 6 days

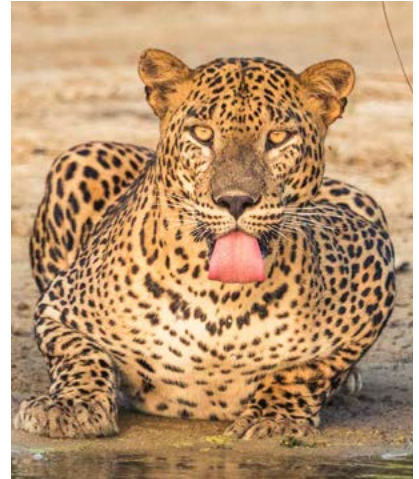
The great monarch butterfly migration: Mexico

One of the world's most astounding wildlife events occurs each year in the forested Central Highlands of Mexico, featuring the most delicate of creatures: the monarch butterfly migration. Accompanied by experts to explain the origins of the migration, the complete natural history of the monarch butterfly and the role of conservation travel in protecting sensitive environments, this all-encompassing itinerary offers an extensive time among the butterflies, as well as a chance to enjoy authentic cultural encounters.



- Discover the remote fir forests of Mexico's Central Highlands, where millions of monarch butterflies roost and breed each winter.
- Explore traditional Mexican mountain villages and visit an authentic market, witnessing the benefits of butterfly ecotourism for local people.
- Accompanied by expert guides who will delve deep into the science of this natural phenomena.





March | 12 days

Wildlife and conservation of Sri Lanka

Embark on a wildlife expedition like no other, travelling to the wild corners of this extraordinary island in search of leopards, elephants, whales, sloth bears, pangolins and loris. The tour acts as a fantastic introduction to Sri Lanka's amazing flora, fauna and geology and how it is being protected, and provides a chance to observe a great many species on land, in the skies and at sea.

- Explore some of the most diverse biospheres in South-East Asia.
- Get up close to a broad range of flora and fauna, many endemic to Sri Lanka.
- Visit national parks, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, rainforests, research centres and local conservation initiatives.



- Join guided and independent daytime and night walks around several reserves and national parks with local conservationists.
- Gain different perspectives from different viewpoints, explore wetlands, rivers and marine ecosystems by boat and ascend high into the forest canopies via the Sky Walk.
- Get insights into the country's biology, ecology, agriculture, sustainability and environmental stewardship.



November | 13 days

The science of biodiversity: Costa Rica

Join this amazing expedition to experience biodiversity firsthand and delve deep into the science behind it. This trip will encompass a wealth of fascinating ecosystems, including cloud forests, wetlands, primary rainforests, volcanic zones and the rich variety of life in marine reserves and national parks. Local guides, conservationists, biologists and naturalists will create a fully immersive experience into the country's natural splendours and demonstrate why Costa Rica is at the top of the Happy Planet Index.



- Glide down river through the Ninh Binh valley, taking in the surrounding rice paddies and karst limestone mountains.
- Gain conservation insight at the Endangered Primate Rescue Centre and the Save Vietnam Centre.
- Embark on a traditional Vietnamese junk boat, cruising through Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



September | 13 days

Geology, Conservation and Culture: Vietnam

Discover a different side to Vietnam in this wide-ranging tour that explores the country's geology, landscapes, animal conservation and history. Experience tropical jungles, limestone caves, blissful villages and amazing feats of underground engineering. Be immersed in local culture and sample Vietnamese cuisine, ranging from street food to dining like royalty – a real treat for the senses.



November | 8 days

Carnivore conservation insight: Zambia

Join this incredible tour offering a behind-the-scenes look at carnivore conservation in Zambia's South Luangwa National Park. This unique African conservation experience allows you to learn and gain firsthand insight from Zambia's longest running conservation project, the Zambian Carnivore Programme. As part of this tour, join the programme's team members on game drives and during evening fireside chats, as they talk about their work and explain the vital impact of their large carnivore conservation efforts.



- An up-close and behind-the-scenes look at large carnivore conservation in South Luangwa National Park, Zambia.
- Talks from members of the Zambian Carnivore Programme team, offering insights into their conservation efforts.
- Enjoy game drives, boat and walking safaris, with opportunities to see wildlife including elephants, lions, hyenas and African wild dogs, as well as many other species.





April | 6 days

Rewilding in the Côa valley: Portugal

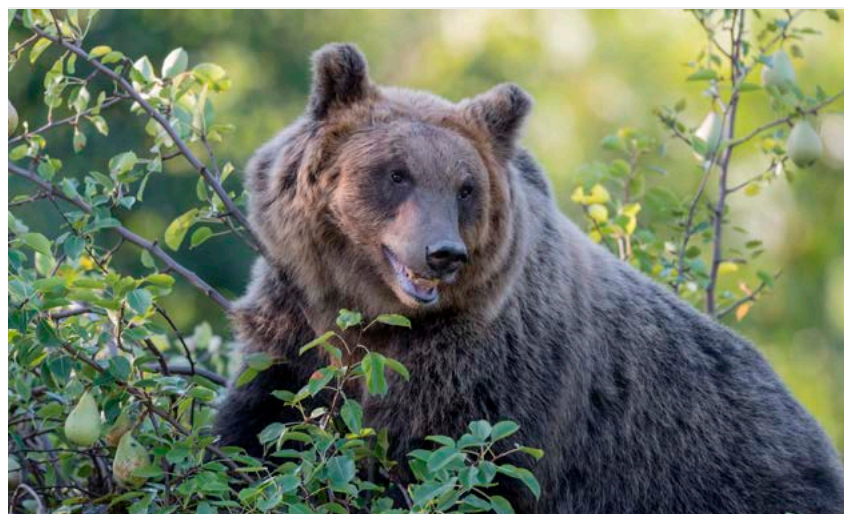
Discover the unique, unspoiled landscapes of the Greater Côa valley. Learn how, through rewilding, wildlife's natural rhythms are creating wilder, more biodiverse habitats that encourage nature to flourish. Explore the region accompanied by Fernando Romão from Rewilding Portugal, who will introduce the area's rewilding projects, which aim to make it a wilder place, with fully functioning ecosystems and abundant wildlife.



- Gain a deeper understanding of the vital work being carried out by Rewilding Portugal.
- Talks and insights from rewilding conservationist Fernando Romão, as well as other members of the Rewilding Portugal team.
- Journey through some of Portugal's beautiful villages, the wild landscapes of the Côa valley and spectacular nature reserves.



- A perfect way to see firsthand the beneficial impact of rewilding and the importance of using wildlife corridors to connect protected areas, thereby supporting the comeback of iconic indigenous species.
- Learn how the rewilding process helps to restore nature's ecosystems and biodiversity so that wildlife can return and thrive.
- Discover how bear corridors work, as well as how the Rewilding Italy project is managing conflict between bears and local people.



September | 7 days

Rewilding in the Central Apennines: Italy

Journey into Italy's Central Apennines region and discover a fascinating introduction into the concept and practicalities of rewilding. The wild and dramatic landscape of this region is home to chamois, deer, wolves and golden eagles, as well as the rare Marsican brown bear. Spend time tracking wildlife on foot in the company of a specialist nature guide, while learning more about the Rewilding Italy project. In addition to wildlife, experience the region's ever-hospitable people and their culture and delicious cuisine.

UK

The UK has played a key role in the development of science, technology and innovation. It has been home to many scientific thinkers, including Stephen Hawking and Isaac Newton, and inventions, including the steam engine, telephone and world wide web.

Explore some interesting scientific fields on our tours, including the science of whisky in Scotland and the science of the waterways in the north-west of England.



June | 7 days

The science of the waterways: England and Wales

Explore the science of the waterways of England and Wales while visiting six of the seven British wonders of the waterways, including Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Standedge Tunnel and Bingley Five Rise Locks. Marvel at the engineering work and learn about the history of this 200-year-old network of canals that was originally built to transport industrial goods between towns and cities. Encounter locks, swing bridges, tunnels and aqueducts and explore quaint villages, insightful transport museums and majestic industrial heritage sites.



- Visit and travel across Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, renowned for being the highest and longest in Britain.
- Experience the longest, deepest and highest canal tunnel in England, Standedge Tunnel, nestled beneath the Pennines.
- Accompanied by experts throughout to offer engineering insight into the construction of these aquatic masterpieces.



- Enjoy exclusive tours, talks and tastings from industry experts, including distillery managers and master distillers.
- Visit distilleries such as Bruichladdich, Kilchoman, Lagavulin, Ardnahoe, Bunnahabhain and Jura.
- There will be opportunities to spot marine life, including whales, sharks and dolphins, while gliding through the scenic Hebrides islands.



September | 8 days

The science of whisky: Scottish Hebrides Cruise

A whisky lover's dream cruise, taking a deep look into the science of how whisky is made and how different processes and stimuli affect its flavours, while touring renowned distilleries on the islands of Islay and Jura. Explore whisky's complexity and variety via a programme of sensory experiences delivered by an accompanying expert. Sail aboard a comfortable and characterful 1903 tall ship travelling between areas of outstanding natural beauty and visiting idyllic harbour towns.

Weekenders

Explore the science of the UK on a range of shorter breaks. In Devon, learn how nature is making a comeback at Rewilding Coombeshead. Along the Jurassic Coast discover the only place on Earth where 185 million years of history are sequentially exposed in dramatic cliffs. In Cheshire, explore the mysteries

of the universe with leading astronomers, astrophysicists and cosmologists and visit Jodrell Bank. In Wales, explore the science of deep time during a slow paced walking weekend based in the Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons).



May | 3 days

Science of the Jurassic Coast: Dorset and Devon, England

Discover the science of the Jurassic Coast, from its ever-changing landscapes to the future of its beaches, with insights from geologists, marine biologists and conservation experts. Geology takes centre stage as this is the only place on Earth where rocks from the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods can be seen in one place, representing 185 million years of Earth's history. Hear from leading geology, conservation and palaeozoology experts who will take a deep dive through the region's history.

- Hunt for fossils along Lyme Regis's famed ammonite pavement accompanied by experts from the Jurassic Coast Trust.
- Enjoy a private tour of Lyme Regis Museum, former home of fossil hunter Mary Anning.
- Explore the Jurassic Coast by sea on a cruise with a local geology expert.



- Join a walking safari of the 160-hectare rewilding site, including a chance to see the animals in their breeding and reintroduction centre.
- Learn more about the process of rewilding and how it can be used to repair damaged ecosystems and restore natural landscapes.
- Lectures take place in a converted agricultural barn, which also houses a camp canteen and bar.



August | 3 days

The science of rewilding: Devon, England

A unique opportunity to stay at the heart of Rewilding Coombeshead, a conservation-in-action project nestled deep in the beautiful Devon countryside with Dartmoor and Bodmin moor as your backdrop. Witness the project's "rewilding helpers", such as water buffalo, wild boar, mouflon sheep and Exmoor ponies, in action and join leading ecology experts to learn about the history of rewilding, how rewilding is becoming a global phenomenon and the native species that are being reintroduced to the British countryside.



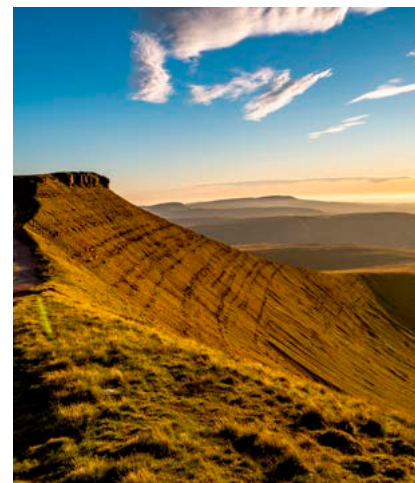
- Based in a delightful 4-star hotel in the Cheshire countryside.
- Enjoy a series of fascinating lectures that will cover topics from the big bang through to the James Webb Space Telescope.
- Remotely operate an Australian telescope to see the skies of the southern hemisphere.



August | 3 days

Mysteries of the universe: Cheshire, England

Spend a weekend exploring the mysteries of the universe in an exciting programme that includes an excursion to UNESCO World Heritage Site Jodrell Bank to see the iconic Lovell Telescope. Hear from leading astronomers, astrophysicists and cosmologists, who will talk about galaxy formation, the latest research into black holes and what iconic telescopes have already revealed.



September | 3 days

The science of deep time: Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons), Wales

Join us for a gentle walking weekend. Based in beautiful South Wales, you will stargaze back through time, journey deep underground in caves, climb mountains and hunt for fossils with palaeontologists. You will learn about the science of deep time, gaining an appreciation and understanding of the timelines and processes involved, and the very small amount of space and time we occupy.

- Talks and walking seminars from geologists, astronomers, palaeontologists and deep time advocates.
- Visit awe-inspiring caves and mountains.
- Learn more about the night sky in one of the top destinations in the world for stargazing due to its lack of light pollution.



Joining a *New Scientist* tour?

| Who joins a *New Scientist* tour?

A wide range of people from across the world and the age spectrum. You don't have to be a scientist to enjoy our tours and we ensure the talks are pitched so everyone is included. We believe that to fully understand a subject or landscape takes time, so the pace is relaxed.

Why join a *New Scientist* tour?

- Great itineraries with a science focus, to appealing destinations, curated by us.
- Tours cover a range of scientific topics, including archaeology, palaeontology, geology, Earth science, history of science, nature and space, offering something for all those with a curious mind who want to enrich their travel experience.
- The tours aren't just about science. Our itineraries also include the best of the local sites and experiences, plus plenty of time to relax.
- Travel with likeminded guests who enjoy the discovery of science.
- They are accompanied by experts drawn from our extensive network of editors, journalists, academics and authors, who offer a deeper understanding of various science related topics throughout the tour.

It is great to receive wonderful feedback about our tours from guests:

"The whole experience was excellent: the hotel, its location, the guide, the local guide, the speaker, the guided visits and the balance of free time – as well as being with a good group who had a common interest in the purpose of the whole tour."

Renaissance astronomy in Kepler's Prague: Czech Republic

"Everyone and everything handled by *New Scientist* was superb. Abby was an excellent host and went out of her way to accommodate all of us. Our walking tour was a highlight!"

Chile: The world capital of astronomy

What about the environmental impact of *New Scientist* tours?

- We work only with partners that have clear published sustainable tourism policies and/or are members of the Association of Independent Tour Operators or a similar body that works with its members to embed sustainable tourism practices.
- We recognise that flying is a luxury that comes at a considerable cost to the planet. When offering tours, we cannot realistically avoid this impact, but we would urge all our customers to think carefully about when and where they fly and the type of flights they take.
- Many experts see carbon offsetting as a useful short-term tool for mitigating the effects of our activities on the climate, when employed in conjunction with emissions reductions. If you wish to calculate the carbon impact of your flight and offset emissions, we would recommend the official UN platform for carbon offsetting at <https://offset.climateneutralnow.org> which ensures that your money benefits only emissions mitigation projects certified under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Our tours operate with full respect for local cultures, animal welfare, and the scientific, ecological and cultural significance of the places we visit.
- We will not undertake any tours or experiences that in the view of the *New Scientist* editorial team contradict best practice or our values. For an issue where there isn't clear cut best practice, we will err on the side of caution.

New Scientist Discovery Tours

New Scientist Discovery Tours are a global portfolio of science-inspired small group tours, cruises, expeditions and Weekenders that are accompanied by experts from a range of scientific fields and members of the *New Scientist* editorial team.

Travel in the company of well-read and well-travelled people who enjoy the discovery of science.



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