MELANESIA EXPEDITION

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, THE SOLOMON ISLANDS AND VANUATU

March 23 to April 8, 2013
Vast stretches of the Pacific Ocean are dotted with some of the most idyllic islands on earth. For millennia the islands of Melanesia have entranced visitors, from the earliest navigators to the settlers who eventually populated them and in whose path we’ll follow as we sail from Papua New Guinea to Vanuatu aboard the intimate expedition ship, *Clipper Odyssey*. We’re thrilled to return to this corner of the Pacific on a voyage that covers a diversity of landscapes—from dazzling rings of coral atolls, where nothing stands higher than a palm tree, to towering lush volcanic islands. Professor Paul Ehrlich and a world-renowned team of naturalists will introduce us to cultural and historic treasures and amazing wildlife as we journey through this tropical paradise.

**Highlights**

**Witness** lively sing-sing dances and marvel at the bizarre and colorful costumes of villagers in Papua New Guinea.

**Experience** WWII history in the Solomon Islands, visiting battle sites and U.S. military installations where many wrecks still lie above and below the sea.

**Walk** through villages on remote islands and observe traditional ways of life unfolding in Vanuatu.

**Snorkel** or dive among colorful coral and man-made reefs, sharing the waters with thousands of exotic tropical fish.
Stanford Faculty Leader

Paul Ehrlich is a professor of biology and the Bing Professor of Population Studies at Stanford. An internationally prominent ecologist and conservationist, he is the recipient of numerous national and international scientific awards. In 1990 he received the Crafoord Prize in Population Biology and the Conservation of Biological Diversity from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (an explicit substitute for the Nobel Prize), as well as a much-coveted MacArthur Fellowship, which recognizes the work of particularly creative individuals.

- Joined the Stanford faculty in 1959
- Co-founder of Stanford’s Human Biology Program and its Center for Conservation Biology
- Member, National Academy of Sciences
- BS, University of Pennsylvania
- MS and PhD, University of Kansas

Expedition Leaders

Since 1990, Stanford Travel/Study has partnered with Zegrahm Expeditions to combine some of the world’s most remote and remarkable destinations with expedition leaders and naturalists who are experts in their fields and passionate about the natural wonders we encounter. Joining this expedition are Michael Moore, expedition leader; Peter Harrison, MBE, author of the definitive Seabirds: An identification Guide; Shirley Metz, the first woman to ski overland to the South Pole; and cultural anthropologist, Shirley Campbell, author of The Art of Kula.

Reservation Form
Melanesia Expedition
March 23 to April 8, 2013

I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them.
Signature _________________________________________________________

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

□ I wish to have single accommodations.

OR □ I plan to share accommodations with _________________________

OR □ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

Category Preference:
1st choice: _______________________________ □ Twin Beds □ Queen Bed
2nd choice: _______________________________ □ Twin Beds □ Queen Bed

Here is my deposit of $________ ($1,000 per person) for ______ space(s), plus $______ ($200 per person) for the Optional Pre-voyage Extension.

□ Enclosed is my check (make payable to Stanford Alumni Association) OR
□ Charge my deposit to my: □ Visa □ MasterCard □ American Express

CARD # EXPRES

AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE DATE

Mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?melanesia2013. Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.
Itinerary

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 23 & 24
DEPART THE U.S.
Depart on independent overnight flights to Australia, crossing the international date line en route.

MONDAY, MARCH 25
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA / PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Arrive in Brisbane and connect with an independent flight to Port Moresby. Upon arrival, transfer to our hotel for an afternoon at leisure. This evening gather with fellow travelers for a welcome cocktail party and dinner at our hotel. AIRWAYS HOTEL (D)

TUESDAY, MARCH 26
PORT MORESBY / EMBARK CLIPPER ODYSSEY
Visit the National Museum and Art Gallery with its exceptional collections of primitive arts, including Sepik River carvings, Malagan masks and Trobriand Islands fishing vessels. Board our ship in the afternoon. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27
AT SEA / EXPEDITION STOP
Make an expedition stop this afternoon at one of the numerous small islands that dot the southern coast of Papua New Guinea for an introductory snorkel or a dive above colorful reefs. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
DOBU AND FERGUSSON ISLANDS, D’ENTRECASTEAUX ISLANDS
Explore the distinctive Dobu and Fergusson Islands, capped by active volcanoes, and snorkel or dive in the surrounding marine-rich waters. Visit a tranquil seaside fishing village where women and children still wear traditional dress, and travel to a hot spring and mud pool surrounded by lush vegetation. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, MARCH 29
KITAVA AND NARUTU ISLANDS, TROBRIAND ISLANDS
This morning visit with the Trobriand islanders of Kitava and watch energetic, time-honored dances that celebrate fishing and the seasonal yam harvest. Learn about the history of the Kula Ring, a circular pattern of ceremonial trade relationships that binds together the islands of Milne Bay and eastern Papua New Guinea in a long-established network of friendship. These islanders are also renowned for the exquisite quality of their ebony wood carvings, often decorated with mother-of-pearl shell inlays. Explore nearby Narutu Island, pausing to snorkel amid kaleidoscopic coral reefs populated by parrotfish, neon damsels and other brilliantly hued marine species. Our naturalists lead a hike around the island, including a walk through the lush forest where we may spot flying foxes (fruit bats), sulphur-crested cockatoos or helmeted friarbirds. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 30
LAUGHLAN ISLANDS
Traditional canoe building is a specialty of the Laughlan islanders. In this very remote corner of eastern Papua New Guinea see hand-crafted seagoing canoes in various stages of construction. The residents of Bodaluna perform traditional dances as they welcome our group. Afterwards, stroll through their village of palm-thatched houses. Enjoy an afternoon snorkel off a pristine sandbar or an adventurous dive at the outer reef. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, MARCH 31
GIZO AND KENNEDY ISLANDS, SOLOMON ISLANDS
Hike up a hillside on Gizo Island and watch for white-bellied cuckoo-shrikes, red-knobbed imperial pigeons, moustached treewits and eclectus parrots; divers have the opportunity to investigate WWII shipwrecks in the island’s crystal-clear waters. In the afternoon our ship cruises in the historic wake of John F. Kennedy’s PT-109 boat, ripped in half by a Japanese destroyer in the Blackett Strait during the war. Kennedy and his crew swam ashore to the island later named in his honor. Snorkel or dive amid coral reefs that lie off its sandy beaches. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B,L,D)

MONDAY, APRIL 1
HONIARA / IRON BOTTOM SOUND, GUADALCANAL
During WWII, when the British established the military base of Honiara, the town and the Mataniko River were the front for many months during the Battle of Guadalcanal. Enjoy a morning tour of Honiara and its environs, visiting war memorials, the open-air war museum at Henderson Field and a local woodcarving academy. Later cruise the waters of Iron Bottom Sound, site of intense WWII naval battles and so named for the large numbers of Japanese and American ships and aircraft that sank beneath these placid seas. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B,L,D)
TUESDAY, APRIL 2
SANTA ANA ISLAND
Village warriors greet us with the blowing of conch-shell trumpets as the residents welcome us with songs and elaborately costumed dances unique to their island. Join our naturalist for a guided walk across the island. Bird sightings may include the cardinal honeyeater, Brahminy kite and Solomon sea eagle. Clipper OdySSey (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3
UTUPUA ISLAND
A lagoon formed by a barrier reef encircles the rarely visited island of Utupua where Zodiacs take us down a fjord-like channel. Learn about the mangrove ecosystem that is a beehive of biological activity. Follow a local dugout canoe along a narrow waterway to view the prolific vegetable gardens grown by Nembao villagers. Clipper OdySSey (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, APRIL 4
TIKOPIA ISLAND, SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS
Tikopia is legendary—a remote tropical paradise where traditional customs remain intact. This Polynesian-settled island lies in Melanesia, yet its people are descendants of Tongan and Wallis Island settlers. Schoolchildren clad in tapa cloth harmonize songs of welcome, followed by exuberant dances by the young men of the village. A hike to the crater lake at Tikopia’s center may reveal fairy terns, cardinal honeyeaters and yellow-bibbed lories. Stroll along a beach or snorkel on the edge of the reef where up to 60 species of fish may be seen. Clipper OdySSey (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 5
LUGANVILLE, ESPIRITU SANTO ISLAND
Explore the many areas of Luganville and its environs where WWII history unfolded. Inspect relics of this large American base—view Quonset huts and downed bombers, or elect to visit Nekat Village to participate in a traditional kava ceremony. Divers can opt to set out on an unforgettable dive over the USS President Coolidge, which sank in 1942; a tapestry of corals encrusts the wreck offering a haven for fishes. Birders and hikers can instead set off on an excursion inland to search for some 50 species of birds, including the very rare mountain starling and thicket warbler. Conditions permitting, snorkel at Million Dollar Point, where the Allies jettisoned large quantities of surplus war materiel into the sea. Fish and other marine life, including baby chevron barracuda, have made their homes among the wreckage. Clipper OdySSey (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, APRIL 6
AMBRYM ISLAND / PENTECOST ISLAND
Palm-leaf-clad dancers perform with elegantly carved headdresses to welcome us as we arrive on Ambrym Island. Walk around Linbul Village and see traditional slit-gong drums, some carved from enormous breadfruit tree trunks. Later, visit Pentecost Island, famous as the birthplace of bungee jumping. An exhilarating spectacle awaits us as men jump from tall towers, with vines tied to their feet, in a ritual believed to ensure a good yam harvest. Enjoy a farewell cocktail reception and dinner aboard ship this evening. Clipper OdySSey (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, APRIL 7
PORT VILA / DISEMBARK / BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
Disembark our ship this morning for a tour of Port Vila, the capital of Vanuatu, ending at the airport for an independent flight to Brisbane. Gather for dinner at our hotel tonight. NOVOTEL BRISBANE AIRPORT HOTEL (B,L,D)

MONDAY, APRIL 8
BRISBANE / U.S.
Transfer to the airport this morning for independent flights back to the U.S. (B)

Optional Pre-voyage Extension
MARCH 17 TO 25
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
From spectacular lowland rain forests on the coastal plains to 15,000-foot-high peaks, Papua New Guinea is rightly called “the land of the unexpected.” The lush green canopy of its tropical rain forest in the highlands is home to 38 plant species of the ornately plumaged birds of paradise and over 2,700 species of orchids. Visit the Sepik region, considered to be one of the best sources of primitive art in the world, and discover fascinating cultural traditions in villages along the Karawari River. A detailed itinerary and pricing will be sent with trip confirmation.
Clipper Odyssey

The Clipper Odyssey is a comfortable 110-passenger vessel, ideally suited for expedition cruising. She carries a fleet of Zodiacs, which allows us to land anywhere nature or curiosity dictates, and a glass-bottom boat, which gives us a topside look at the undersea world. All cabins have an ocean view, safe, minibar, individually controlled heat/air conditioner, in-room music system and sitting area with sofa. Passengers can track the progress of their voyage on the Global Positioning System broadcast in each cabin. Beds can be configured for twin or queen-size sleeping arrangements. All cabins have an en suite bathroom with shower. The Clipper Odyssey maintains a gourmet kitchen, providing American and international specialties. Facilities onboard include a dining room, lounge and small library, as well as a gym, outdoor pool, massage room and gift shop. An elevator services all passenger cabin decks. The Clipper Odyssey has an infirmary staffed by a registered physician and a sophisticated telecommunications system permitting internet access and telephone and fax communication with any location around the world.

Program Cost*

Rates per person, based on double occupancy

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Rates per person, based on single occupancy **

| Category 2| Main Deck  | $15,780  |
| Category 3| Main Deck  | $16,780  |
| Category 4| Lido Deck  | $18,280  |

* Association nonmembers add $200 per person.
** Single accommodations are limited at this rate. Additional singles may be available at 1.6 times the share rate.
Information

DATES
March 23 to April 8, 2013 (17 days)

SIZE
Limited to a total of 110 participants, including travelers from Stanford and Zegrahm Expeditions

INCLUDED
2 nights of hotel accommodations • 12-night cruise aboard the Clipper Odyssey • 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches and 14 dinners • Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions • Bottled water on excursions • Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities • All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary • Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days • Port fees and embarkation taxes • Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance • Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information • Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
All air transportation • Passport and visa fees • Immunization costs • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Independent and private transfers • Trip-cancellation/ interruption and baggage insurance • Excess-baggage charges • Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry, bar charges and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Economy-class airfare on Qantas Airlines from San Francisco to Port Moresby via Brisbane with return from Port Vila via Brisbane is approximately $2,825 as of April 2012 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by Zegrahm Expeditions.

FUEL COSTS
In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT
Temperatures are expected to be in the mid-80s (°F), and humidity can be between 70 and 90%. Afternoon rain showers are possible. Most activities involve a relatively moderate level of exertion. You will need to be able to climb into and out of Zodiacs for snorkeling activities and excursions ashore. Ashore, you must be able to walk moderate distances, unaided, along beaches and sometimes over rough terrain, including steep and sandy trails. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Terms & Conditions

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space for this program. An additional $200-per-person deposit is required to hold space for the optional pre-voyage extension. Complete and return the attached reservation form or sign up online. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case an $1,100-per-person cancellation fee will apply. We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. We strongly recommend that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation about one week after we receive your deposit. The product offered in this brochure includes a special Waiver of Pre-Existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency and Terrorist Acts if you postmark your insurance payment within 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. Parents and their children under 21 may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/member or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/member.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passen-

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“The whole trip was amazingly well-organized. The level of professionalism of the staff was outstanding!”

DAVID EGGER, ’58, MELANESIA EXPEDITION, 2008