

explorers

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE EXPEDITION MARCH 2006

Eight Night Mediterranean Cruise

Programme includes Heraklion, Benghazi, Apollonia, Cyrene, the Sahara Desert, Tripoli, Leptis Magna, Santorini and Athens

Eclipse observation from south of Jalu Oasis in the Sahara Desert

Price from £995





NASA 2006 Eclipse Bulletin (F. Espenak & J. Anderson)

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE 2006

In June 2001 the continent of Africa was the best location from which to observe a total solar eclipse. With a duration of **over four minutes** and after a gap of almost five years, Africa will again be the best place from which to observe the next such event in March 2006. None of the total solar eclipses over the next decade offer the same prospects of a duration of over four minutes from a **land based observation site** and very **favourable weather conditions**.

Eclipse weather prospects

Successful observation of an eclipse requires a clear sky! Almost all other considerations must take second place to this requirement. Whilst we now have a mass of weather data available for every part of the world, predicting the exact weather at a specific spot during a four minute period over a year in advance remains far beyond our capabilities. It may be suggested that even predicting tomorrow's weather is still an inexact art, however we can get a good view of the likely prospects by looking at the weather statistics for a particular location at a specific time of year during previous years.

The track of the moon's shadow for this event first touches down in South America, crosses the Atlantic reaching land in West Africa, then leaves the continent at the Libya/Egypt border and continues across the Mediterranean Sea, Turkey and Asia Minor. In rather simplistic terms the weather

prospects are best at the mid-point of the track, near the Libya/Niger border and they are progressively less good as you move away from that point. The least good prospects will be the northern part of the track from the Mediterranean and over Turkey and Asia Minor. The weather in this part of the Mediterranean is also likely to be doubtful at this time of year, with depressions generating weather fronts over Morocco which then track eastwards.

Although data for the Sahara Desert is limited, the statistics strongly indicate that as you move southwards from the coast into Libya, the weather prospects improve dramatically. Actual observation of the weather pattern in this region confirms this analysis. Low level cumulus clouds roll in from the Gulf of Sirte giving overcast, rainy conditions along the coast of Libya in the Benghazi/Darnah region. As the southern edge of these weather fronts meets the dry warm air of the Sahara, the clouds rapidly

dissipate leaving a clear blue sky. The ideal location from the weather standpoint will therefore be as deep into the Sahara as possible. The limitation therefore becomes one of logistics and our chosen observation site south of the **Jalu Oasis** offers the best option, with good road connections together with enough desert around us to dry out any clouds. Guarantees of weather are not available, but we think this comes quite close!

Eclipse programme.....	3
Boat information.....	4
Destination information.....	6
Observing the eclipse.....	10
General information.....	12
Booking Conditions.....	13
Booking Form.....	15

"For those who have never experienced a total solar eclipse the memory of your first minutes within the moon shadow will last a lifetime... and you will return as an eclipse chaser!"

Eclipse cruise

PRICES FROM £995 FOR 9 DAYS

We have selected the option of a cruise ship for the main programme on this project in order to provide a comfortable standard of accommodation and safe food. It enables us to observe the event from a land base with very good weather prospects and also to visit the extraordinary ancient sites of the country.

26 March Join our charter flights from either London or Manchester for the flight to **Heraklion** on the Greek island of Crete. A short sightseeing trip will be included on arrival before joining the MV Sapphire. Sail from Crete late evening.

27 March **Cruising the Mediterranean.** A briefing on the eclipse will be presented during the voyage, also a short lecture on the historic sites to be visited.

28 March Early morning arrival in **Benghazi**. An optional trip to the sites of Apollonia and Cyrene will be available today, return to the ship mid-afternoon.

29 March Depart from the port very early (app. 4am) for the five hour road journey into the **Sahara**. Stops along the way will include Ajdabiya and Awjilah. There will be basic toilet facilities on the site and lunch boxes will be provided by the ship. After the **eclipse** we will return direct to the ship and sail for Tripoli late evening.

30 March **At sea** – a good chance to relax and compare observation results.

31 March Arrive in **Tripoli** early morning. One of the highlights of the trip will be a visit to the extraordinary city of Leptis Magna, available as an optional tour today.

The labyrinthine souk (local market) is just a few minutes walk from the port and worth a visit. The ship sails from Tripoli early this evening.

1 April **Return cruise** across the Mediterranean.

2 April Arrive at the Greek island of **Santorini** (Thira) early this afternoon. The ship cruises directly through the spectacular caldera, a remnant of one of the world's great volcanic explosions. An optional shore excursion will be available before we set sail for our final night on the ship.

3 April Arrive in the port of Piraeus this morning, a short orientation tour of **Athens** will be included before joining your return charter flight to London or Manchester.

Prices from £995 – for full details of prices and cabin upgrades see the next page 'Boat information'.

Extended Programmes and Variations
If you wish to extend your visit to Greece, this can be arranged prior to joining the MV Sapphire at additional cost. Please contact us with your requirements.



The observation site - Jula Oasis, in the Sahara



Part of the ruins at Cyrene, near Benghazi

Land-based alternative

For the more adventurous there is an entirely land based alternative. This includes a two night camp in the desert, with a wonderful opportunity to observe the sky from a desert location close to the Chad border.

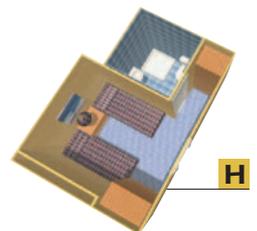
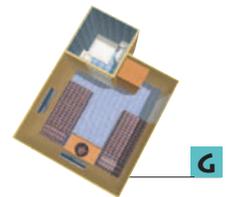
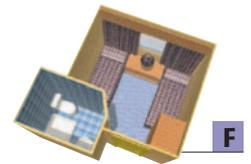
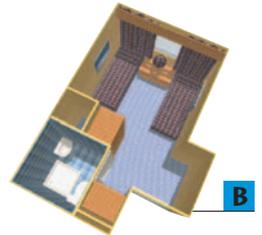
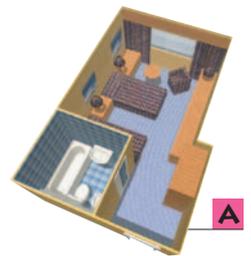
On this option, you will be able more easily to meet the people and learn about their way of life. The eclipse is bound to attract large numbers of visitors to the country and this will stress all the tourist facilities and cause some disruption. You must be willing to take things as they come and accept any disorganisation and discomforts this will cause.

Further details of this option will be available mid-2005.



MV Sapphire

Although a small vessel by today's standards, the Sapphire offers a surprising degree of space and comfort for her passengers. Following a full refit in 1995, she has been continuously maintained and upgraded. Her 140 metre length and six decks provide a full range of facilities, including two restaurants, three bars, two lounge areas, a disco and a cinema. A swimming pool is featured on the open deck area and a gym is also available for the energetic.



Prices from £995

Outside Cabins

A	2 beds or matrimonial and 1 sofa	bath or shower	WC	£1,995
B	2 beds	shower	WC	£1,945
C	2 beds	shower	WC	£1,895
D	2 beds or matrimonial, 3/4 berths	shower	WC	£1,745
E	2 beds or matrimonial, 3/4 berths	shower	WC	£1,695
F	2 beds or matrimonial, 3/4 berths	shower	WC	£1,645

Inside Cabins

G	2 beds or 3/4 berths	shower	WC	£1,695
H	2 beds or matrimonial, 3/4 berths	shower	WC	£1,295
I	2 beds or matrimonial, 3/4 berths	shower	WC	£1,195
J	2 beds or matrimonial, 3/4 berths	shower	WC	£1,145
K	2 beds or 3 berths	shower	WC	£1,095
L	2 berths	shower	WC	£995

Price is per person and includes –

- flights from London (or Manchester at a supplement of £25)
- all transfers
- accommodation on MV Sapphire
- all meals on board the MV Sapphire
- all taxes, tips and port charges
- coach transport to the observation site

Single Supplements:

- Category F Cabin £1,195
- Category K Cabin £745
- Category L Cabin £645

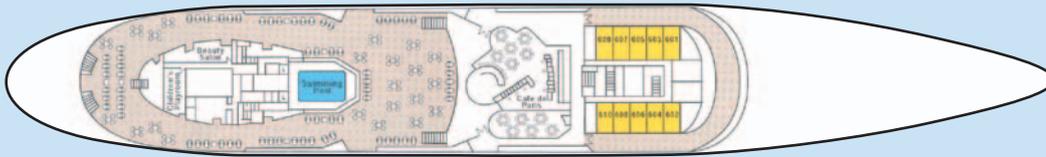
The supplement is payable in addition to the price shown.

3rd and 4th Person Reductions: Reduced prices for 3 or 4 person cabin share are available as follows:

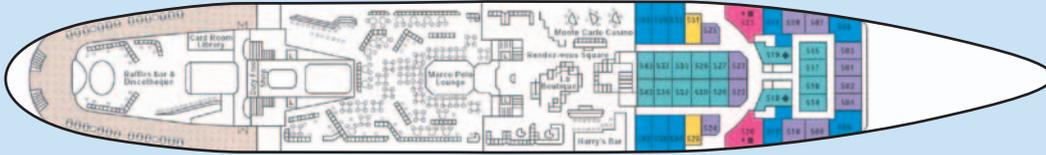
- Category E Cabin £1,295
- Category J Cabin £995

Request Shares: Passengers requesting a cabin share will be allocated either Category E or Category J cabin as above (3 or 4 person share). Please specify your preference.

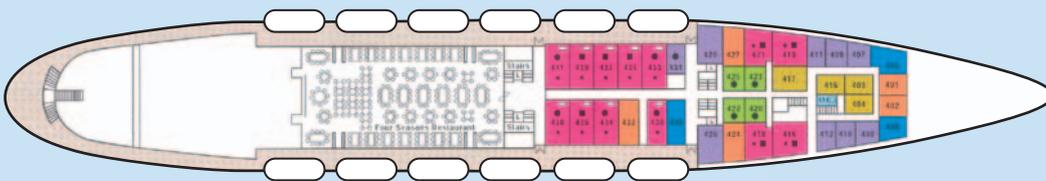
Lido Deck



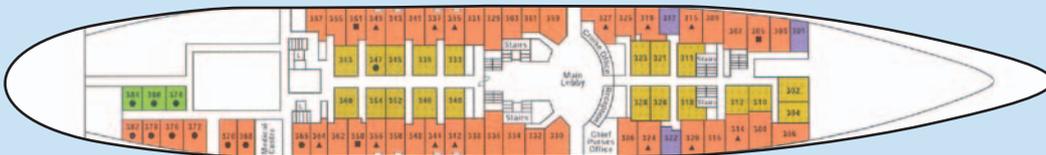
Riviera Deck



Promenade Deck



Pacific Deck



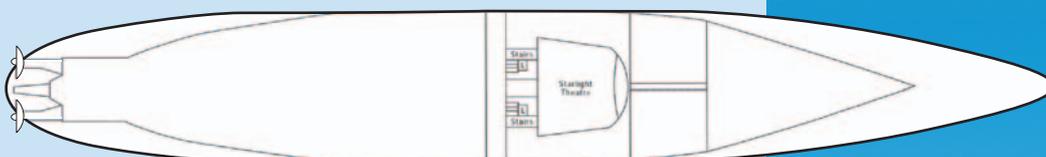
Belvedere Deck



Capri Deck



Cinema Deck



For the technically minded, the ship has a gross tonnage of 12,263 tonnes and a beam of 21.50 metres. She accommodates around 600 passengers and has a crew of 250 experienced staff. Cabin electric current is provided at both 230 and 110 volts.

In accordance with the Maritime Law (SOLAS) following embarkation a safety briefing/drill is carried out which is attended by all passengers. During this exercise, the passengers are provided with all the necessary information. In all Cabins the position of the life jacket is well marked with fluorescent signs. Behind the door in each cabin, there are both written and pictorial instructions of the escape routes/assembly stations and instructions on how to use the life jacket.





Libya lies directly opposite Greece and Italy and it is no surprise therefore that there are extensive remains of settlements dating back to the times when Greece and Rome dominated this region.

Libya

CYRENE LEPTIS MAGNA BENGHAZI TRIPOLI

A vast country with a small population of around four and a half million, Libya is **mostly a place of vast empty deserts**. Most of the population live in the main cities of Tripoli and Benghazi, but a scatter of old villages and nomadic communities can be found throughout the country, particularly along the Mediterranean coast.

This is a country that has been effectively closed for the past decade and, as it has never been a prime tourist destination, most of the historic sites remain much as they were left almost two millennia ago. In the magnificent city of Leptis Magna for instance, it is possible to walk the old streets with a real feeling of what it was like to live here in Roman times.

Since the "change" in the guiding mind of the Libyan regime, this has become a relaxed and safe country. The effect of being cut off for a period still shows and the

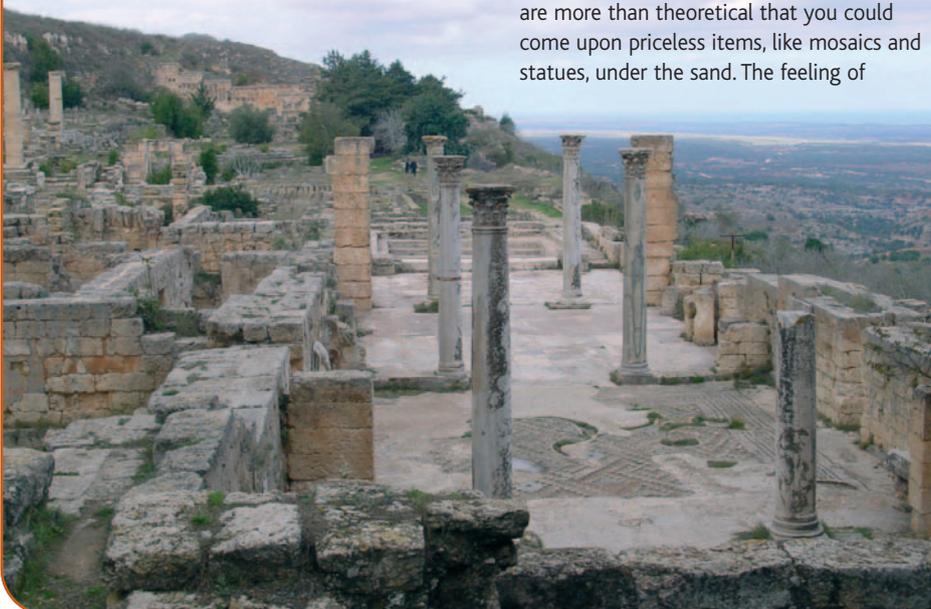
tourist facilities are very limited. The few hotels are either closed or seriously run down and there are very few restaurants.

Cyrene 28 March

Old Roman cities are fairly well represented all over North Africa, but it proves difficult to find a better site of Greek ruins than Cyrene. Not only does it have a fantastic setting, at the beginning of the beautiful **Jabalu l-Akhdar**, looking towards the Mediterranean Sea, but the site is tantalisingly only partly excavated: the chances are more than theoretical that you could come upon priceless items, like mosaics and statues, under the sand. The feeling of

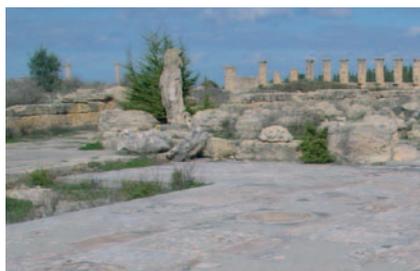
actually discovering something, so easily lost when walking around ancient sites complete with dustbins and multilingual guides, persists throughout your visit to Cyrene. Much of the history of Cyrene has survived, and the legend about the formation of the place is a gem. Battus went to the oracle of Delphi to seek advice. The oracle told him that he should bring people with him, and settle in Libya. Battus did so, but he and his expedition landed on a small island. Dissatisfied with this island, Battus returned to the oracle, only to be told that he had not yet arrived in Libya. Once again Battus set out, and he finally arrived in Libya. Six years later the colonists moved to the site of Cyrene, and in the centuries that followed the place prospered. How much of this is actually true we cannot know. But Cyrene was a colony, and one believes that the colonists came from the island today known as Santorini in Greece. The years that followed saw close relations between the Greeks and the Libyans, and some generations of intermarriage united the two peoples. However, new groups of Greeks continued to come, so the Greek touch was never lost.

The entire site at Cyrene covers about 1.7 square kilometres, but much of it has merged with the village of Shahat, and the agricultural fields which surround it. **The Temple of Apollo**, one of the main points





of interest, stands out. It was built as early as the 7th century BC, but rebuilt 3 centuries later. About 50 metres from the temple, the **Fountain of Apollo** can be found whose water was considered to contain curative properties. Inside it one can still see the seats where people sat while being treated. Near the temple and the fountain, inside what was the



sanctuary of Apollo, are the **Great Baths**. Parts of these are in exceptionally good condition and inside the **Grand Hall**, the pipes carrying water from the Fountain of Apollo, are still very much in evidence. The theatre is at the extreme north-west. The theatre is Roman, though it is believed that the foundations are Greek and it retains a Greek style. The setting is stunning, with hills falling away behind the theatre offering a dramatic view over the landscape that stretches to the sea.

In the centre of Cyrene, on the Agora (the town square), is the **Tomb of Batt**, giving some substance to the stories of the origin of Cyrene. There is slightly less to see here, though the **Forum of Proculus** is in good condition. Around Cyrene, the Necropolis covers an unbelievable area, an estimated 10 square kilometres. There are still hundreds of tombs cut into the hills, and many take the shape of mausoleums or temples.

The old Greek port of **Apollonia** is the site of both the ruins and the village of Susa. Whilst the modernisation of Libya has reduced the number of traditional settlements, Susa still

retains a great deal of history. Much of Apollonia has disappeared, mainly due to landslides. Apollonia served as the port of Cyrene. Apollonia is a Greek settlement that is very much formed according to the topography of the land, with a beach cut by rugged rocks, and hills which all contribute to Apollonia's idyllic setting.

Leptis Magna 31 March

Leptis Magna is a **World Heritage site** on the Mediterranean coast of North Africa in the Tripolitania region of Libya. It was a prominent city of the republic of Carthage, and later, of the Roman Empire. Its ruins are located 62 miles southeast of Carthage, near Tripoli in the modern country of Libya. Originally founded by the Phoenicians in the 10th Century BC, it survived the attention of Spartan colonists, became a Punic city and eventually part of the new Roman province of Africa around 23 BC. The city remained independent until the reign of the Roman emperor Tiberius, when Leptis Magna and the surrounding area was formally incorporated into the empire as part of the province of Africa. Leptis achieved its greatest prominence beginning in 193, when a native son, the "Grim African", Lucius Septimus Severus, became emperor. He favoured his



Leptis Magna is a World Heritage site and the site of some of the most impressive ruins of the Roman period. Its ruins are located 62 miles southeast of Carthage, near Tripoli.

hometown above all other provincial cities, and the buildings and wealth he lavished on it made Leptis Magna the third most-important city in Africa, rivalling Carthage and Alexandria. In 205, he visited the city with the imperial family and received great honors.

During the Crisis of the Third Century, when trade declined precipitously, Leptis Magna's importance also fell into a decline, and by the middle of the fourth century, large parts of the city had been abandoned. It enjoyed a minor renaissance beginning in the reign of the emperor Theodosius I. In 439, Leptis Magna and other cities of Tripolitania fell under the control of the Vandals when their king, Gaiseric, captured Carthage from the Romans and made it his capital. Unfortunately for the future of Leptis Magna, Gaiseric ordered the city's walls demolished to dissuade its people

from rebelling against Vandal rule. But the people of Leptis and the Vandals both paid a heavy price for this in 523, when a group of Berber raiders sacked the city.

Belisarius recaptured Leptis Magna in the name of Rome 10 years later, and in 534 he destroyed the kingdom of the Vandals. Leptis became a provincial capital of the Eastern Roman Empire, but never recovered from the destruction wreaked upon it by the Berbers. By the time the Saracens overran Tripolitania in the 650s, the city was abandoned, except for a Byzantine garrison force.

Tripoli 31 March

Known as Tarabulus in Arabic and Oea in antiquity, Tripoli is the de facto capital of Libya, although there have been attempts in recent years to move some government departments to other parts of the country. Once known as the 'White Bride of the Mediterranean' Tripoli has lost much of its pristine allure, though its many historic mosques and lively medina retain a good deal of character. The Turkish and Italian colonial periods have also left a distinctive mark on the city's architecture, and best of all, Gaddafi's revolution has ensured the absence of billboards and other hallmarks of a modern commercial city.

Easily the most dominant feature of Tripoli is the **Red Castle, Assai al-Hamra**, which sits on the northern promontory overlooking what used to be the sea - a motorway and 500m of reclaimed land now separate the two. The massive structure comprises a labyrinth of courtyards, alleyways and houses built up over the centuries with a total area of around 13,000 square metres. Once inside, look for evidence of all the city's (and thus the citadel's) former rulers: the Turks, Karamanlis, Spaniards, Knights of Malta, Italians and several others, who all left a piece of their culture in its arts and architecture. The entrance to the **Jamahiriya Museum** is on

Green Square, next to the castle. These excellent facilities were built in consultation with UNESCO at enormous cost, and the exhibits within are laid out chronologically, starting with prehistory and concluding with the revolution. The most impressive parts are the mosaics, statues and artefacts from classical antiquity, which make up one of the finest collections in the Mediterranean.

The medina is the heart of Tripoli, providing the most visually exciting and certainly the best shopping in the city, if not the whole country. As only a handful of tourists visit Libya, the souq has an authentic air and the goods on display cater to local taste. Even better news is that you'll find absolutely none of the hassle usually associated with a trip to a souq. When you've had your fill of the market scene, the old walled city also contains virtually all of Tripoli's historic mosques, khans (inns), hammams (Turkish baths) and houses.

Benghazi 28 March

Situated on the eastern edge of the Gulf of Sirt, Benghazi ranks as the second largest city in Libya and a major commercial centre. The city today displays little of its ancient heritage,



as it was pretty much pummelled to pieces during WWII and rebuilt only after oil money began pouring in following the revolution. What it lacks in historical charms, however, it makes up for in location. Benghazi makes a great base for exploring the lush **Jebel Akhdar** area and the numerous Roman ruins along the coast, and there are **good bathing beaches** within short driving distance.



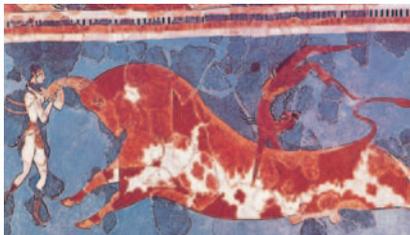


Santorini is one of the most spectacular and unique islands in Greece. Located in the South Aegean Sea, it is part of the Cyclades Islands.

Greece

Heraklion 26 March

Heraklion is the capital of **Crete** and is the largest city on the island with a population of 120,000. In ancient times Heraklion served as a port of Knossos and then in the 9th century AD it appeared as a town which was founded by the occupiers of Crete, the Saracens. Later on during four centuries of Venetian occupation many buildings were erected and still stand today showing fine examples of Venetian architecture of that



time, such as **The Basilica di San Marco** and the **Morozini fountain** with its four lions standing proudly in the centre of town. Within the suburbs of Heraklion lies **Knossos** the site of the most important and better known palace of Minoan civilisation. According to tradition it was the seat of the legendary King Minos. The palace is linked with the myths of The Labyrinth with the Minotaur and the stories of Daidalos and Icaros. The palace was continuously inhabited from the Neolithic period (7000 - 3000 B.C.) until Roman times.

Santorini Island 2 April

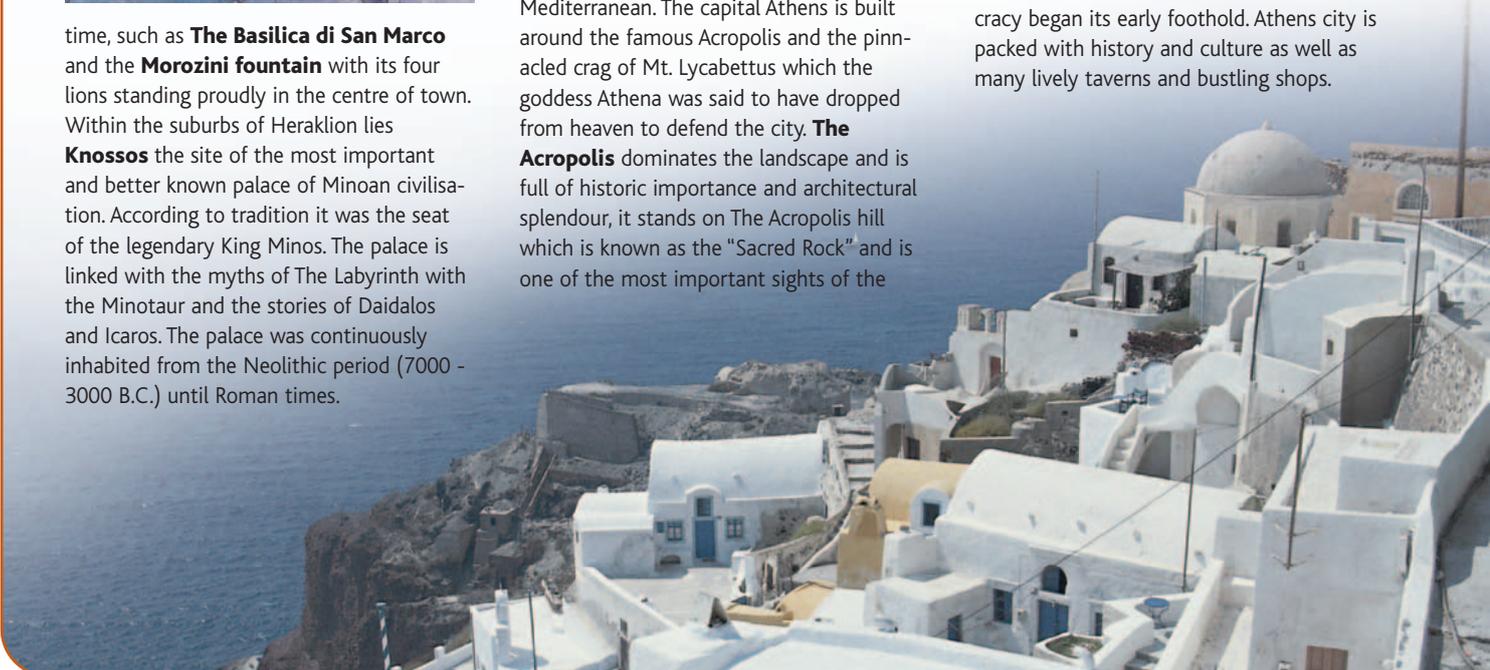
The official name of the island is Thira but it is widely known by its name of Santorini which was given in honour of the island's patron saint, St. Irene of Thessaloniki, who died here while in exile in 304 A.D. The centre of the island sank into the sea during the volcanic explosion of 3,500 years ago, what remains today is **a large crescent shaped island enclosing a vast bay**, and as you sail into the caldera rim and gaze up at the steep cliffs you are faced with a beauty beyond description. Santorini has 13 villages with Fira being the island's capital. It lies 27.5m above the sea and is reached from the port of Skala by climbing the steep 566 broad steps either on foot or by donkey. For those wanting a quicker ascent you can take advantage of the cable car which takes only 2 minutes. Santorini has an important wine trade and the rich volcanic soil also produces popular small sweet tomatoes.



Piraeus 3 April

In terms of population Piraeus is Greece's third largest city and also boasts the biggest port of great commercial importance in the Mediterranean. The capital Athens is built around the famous Acropolis and the pinnacled crag of Mt. Lycabettus which the goddess Athena was said to have dropped from heaven to defend the city. **The Acropolis** dominates the landscape and is full of historic importance and architectural splendour, it stands on The Acropolis hill which is known as the "Sacred Rock" and is one of the most important sights of the

city. The entrance to the Acropolis is the Propylea which extends 150 feet. The highest part of the Acropolis is known as **The Parthenon** and was built between 447 and 437 BC and it was here that modern democracy began its early foothold. Athens city is packed with history and culture as well as many lively taverns and bustling shops.





There are so many special features associated with Total Solar Eclipses and each eclipse, due to weather and other factors, is unique, you really have to observe several to enjoy the many phenomena presented to you. But be warned, total solar eclipses are addictive!

Observing the eclipse

A total solar eclipse is one of the most beautiful events of the natural world. The extraordinary coincidence of the almost equal apparent size of the moon and sun results in **a spectacular piece of natural theatre** for those lucky enough to be within the narrow band of the earth's surface beneath the shadow. The following notes offer some details to watch for...

The Partial Phases

It sometimes surprises people that the eclipse can be quite advanced before it becomes noticeable that something is happening to the quality of the light. The fall in light level is very gradual at first but seems to accelerate particularly in the last ten minutes before totality. The greatest drop in light intensity is in the last four seconds and is very dramatic.

As the eclipse progresses it is interesting to note how the colour of the sky seems to change and the intensity of brightly coloured objects seem to soften. If there are trees around, the little gaps between the leaves act as pin-hole cameras to throw many overlapping images of the crescent sun on the ground. This becomes more noticeable as the crescent sun narrows.

Just before the eclipse becomes total you may see the shadow of totality advancing like a wall across the landscape rapidly towards you. Except in special circumstances the shadow of totality moves from west to east. The visibility of the shadow will depend on the clarity of the atmosphere and your location, whether you are on a mountain overlooking a plain etc. Also the speed of the shadow varies. In the early morning or late evening the shadow may be travelling at a speed of perhaps 12,000 miles per hour, whereas if you are observing the eclipse near noon on the equator the shadow may only be travelling at 1,500mph.

Second Contact

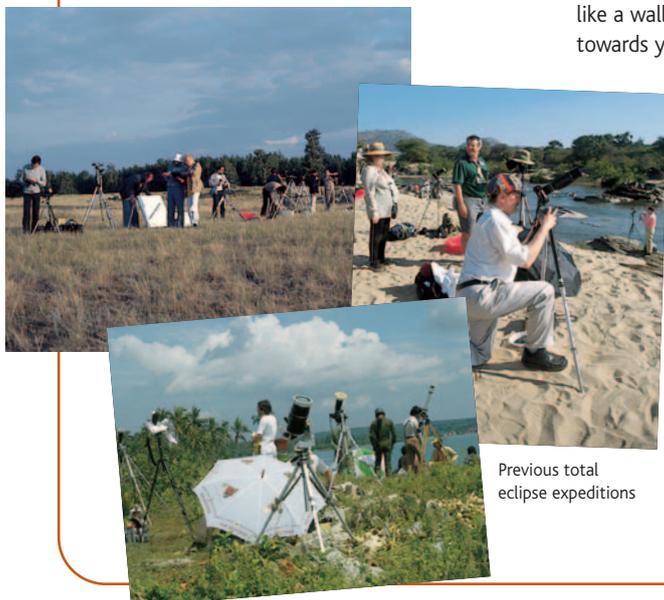
Baily's Beads are a familiar feature of total eclipses. As the moon completely covers the sun, the razor thin solar crescent breaks up into a chain of beads which gradually wink out. When the last one disappears totality has started.

Totality

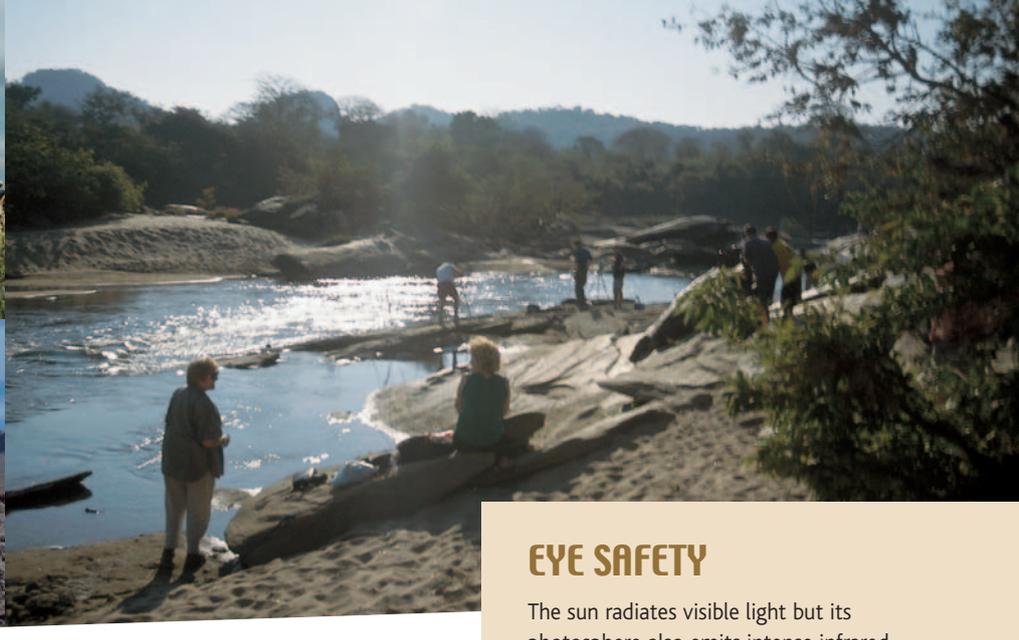
Just as the eclipse becomes total, at the point where the last Baily's Bead has disappeared for a second or two you will see a bright red streak along the limb of the Moon. This is an upper layer in the solar atmosphere called the chromosphere. It is quite bright though not as bright as the photosphere.

The most noticeable feature during totality is the solar corona, the outer atmosphere of the sun that is only visible to the naked eye during a total eclipse. It consists of pearly-white streamers radiating outwards. Prominences are flame like appendages to the chromosphere which may be seen at any location round the eclipsed sun, perhaps being larger and more spectacular at times when the sun is very active. It is also interesting to note that as the moon moves across the sun during totality, prominences in the area where second contact took place start to be covered up whereas others in the vicinity of where third contact is about to occur become larger as the moon uncovers them.

Among the most dramatic features of an eclipse are the colours during totality. The disc of the moon is completely black, surrounded by the pearly-white of the corona with occasional flame red



Previous total eclipse expeditions



prominences. The sky is a deep purple-blue and around the horizon the sky is usually an orange colour reminiscent of sunset. This strange mixture of colours can make everyday objects look positively surreal. A glow around the horizon is due to sunlight outside the shadow of totality being reflected inwards. The actual colour can vary from reddish-orange to yellow. During totality the sky is not particularly dark so only the brightest stars may be seen however it is worth having just a quick glance around the sky to see which stars and planets are visible. There is always the possibility that totality will reveal a comet close to the sun which had not been observed before due to its proximity to the sun.

Third Contact

The chromosphere starts to emerge from behind the rim of the moon at the location where the photosphere will reappear at third contact. This occurs just a second or two before third contact and gives a good warning that the sun is about to reappear. If you are using optical equipment to observe totality this warns you to now look away before the light of the photosphere reappears.

The Diamond Ring

This is one of the most dramatic features of the whole eclipse. As the first point of the photosphere reappears we see something that resembles a giant diamond ring in the sky with the small portion of the photosphere being the diamond and the rapidly fading corona being the rest of the ring. It is in fact the same configuration as the last Baily's bead at second contact but the difference lies in the adaptation of our eye. At second contact our eyes are used to the bright light and can perceive the last bead as a small point. However our eyes become dark adapted during totality and so the reappearance of the sun can be dazzling.



EYE SAFETY

The sun radiates visible light but its photosphere also emits intense infrared and ultra violet radiation. Just as this radiation causes sunburn it will also cause damage to your eyes which need only be exposed to direct sunlight for a few seconds to sustain permanent damage.



The only way to view the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun is through a special filter. Explorers Tours will provide a solar filter for each person for safely viewing the partial phases of the eclipse.

During totality the moon completely masks the photosphere making it completely safe to look at the sun with the naked eye, through your telescope or with binoculars.

DEFINITIONS

First contact: the moment when the first small bite appears in the edge of the sun.

Second contact: the moment when the sun is completely covered.

Totality: the period of time (usually a few minutes) following second contact when the sun can be observed with the naked eye.

Third contact: the moment when the sun reappears from behind the Moon.

Fourth contact: the moment when the sun is completely restored.

Photosphere: the bright solar surface that we normally see and which is completely covered during the total eclipse.

SIMPLE EXPERIMENTS

As you might expect there are many experiments that scientists can perform under the unique circumstances of a total solar eclipse. However here are three experiments which can be performed with little or no specialised equipment if you feel you wish to do more than just simply look.

1. For a beginner, even just taking a photograph with a simple camera will record something and will be a personal souvenir of the event.
2. If there are animals or birds around it might be worth noting their behaviour as the partial

phase increases and what actually happens at the moment of totality. Eclipses are so unusual that they give wild life observers the opportunity to study the adaptability of species to these very special circumstances.

3. One experiment that is very simple to perform using the stopwatch facility available on many watches is to simply time the duration of totality, i.e. from the moment the last Baily's Bead has disappeared to the Diamond ring effect. Timings are useful and should be passed on to professional astronomers.



"Other tour members were repeat customers of Explorers and they were not shy about telling me why. The big things were done right and the little things were done right."

General information

Travel information, payment and final documents

An invoice requesting final payment will be sent to you nineteen weeks prior to your tour departure for final payment due in our office eighteen weeks prior to your departure. Final documentation, air tickets and full itinerary will be posted to you two to three weeks prior to your departure.

Single travellers and cabin share accommodation

A limited number of sole occupancy cabins will be offered and are subject to availability at the time of booking. We also offer the option of twin or triple share accommodation to clients to avoid unnecessary payment of a single supplement for those willing to share a cabin with someone of the same sex and smoking status. Twin or triple share requests will be put together on a first come, best matched, first served basis and will be confirmed at the time that the invoice is sent out.

Children

We regret this programme is not suitable for young children. We will not be able to accept reservations for children under the age of 7 years at the date of travel.

Special requests

Explorers will notify the airline and Cruise Ship of seating and meal requests. Please note Explorers must be advised in writing of any special requests and whilst every effort will be made to meet reasonable requests, they cannot be guaranteed.

Health requirements

Travellers to all countries are advised to have up to date protection against Tetanus and Hepatitis A. Advice varies from person to person so we suggest that you seek the up to date details from your own doctor, particularly if you have an existing health problem.

Visas and passports

All clients will be required to have a valid passport with a minimum of 6 months validity from your date of departure. Visas are required for entry into Libya. At present the Visa requirements for Libya are in the process of changing therefore we will contact you once the final details are in place to advise you of the procedure to follow to obtain your Visa. It is expected that a Group Visa will be issued for all passengers. The tour price does not include the cost of a visa, nor does it include the cost of any taxes or special charges which may be imposed by the local authorities for this event. The cost of these charges (if any) will be added to your Final Invoice.

Further queries

If you have any further queries regarding any aspect of this tour programme please feel free to call us on

01276 406877

or fax 01276 406854

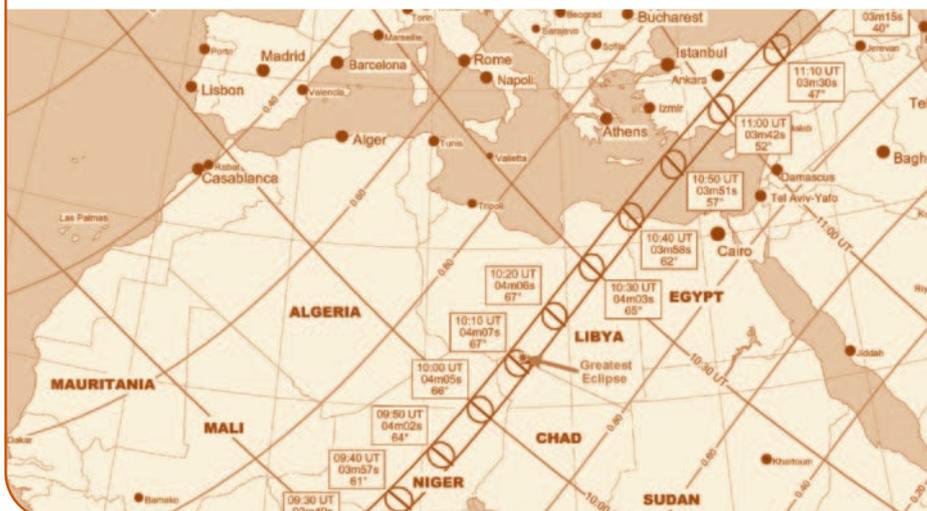
or email on astro@explorers.co.uk

Our office hours are

Monday-Friday 9am-6.00pm

Saturday 9am-4pm

Path of the eclipse through Africa, March 29 2006
NASA 2006 Eclipse Bulletin (F. Espenak & J. Anderson)



Booking conditions

This contract is for the provision of travel arrangements only, it does not guarantee a successful viewing of the solar eclipse. Please read these booking conditions carefully together with the General Information section contained in this brochure as they form the basis of your contract with Explorers Travel Club Ltd.

1. Booking Your Cruise and Payment

Once you have chosen your cruise arrangements, you may make a provisional reservation. We will usually hold a provisional reservation for seven days. To make a confirmed booking, our booking form must be completed and signed by the first named person (who must be at least 18 years of age) on behalf of all party members. The signed booking form should then be sent to us accompanied by the deposit shown on the booking form or full payment if booking eight weeks or less before departure. Bookings made by telephone, over the Internet, by e mail or any other electronic medium shall have the same effect as if they had been made as above. In addition, all applicable insurance premiums should be paid at the time of booking if you wish to purchase the insurance we offer (see clause 18 and insurance details). Passengers resident outside the UK should make their insurance arrangements in their own countries, or you may choose to use the policy we offer but in this case any repatriation services will only return you to the UK.

We will confirm your chosen arrangements and acknowledge your payment by sending you a confirmation of your booking. Please check this confirmation together with all other documents sent to you carefully to ensure they fully accord with your instructions. If you have any queries, you must advise us immediately. Four months prior to your departure we will send you a final invoice showing the outstanding balance due to us (unless full payment has already been made), this balance must be received by us no later than three months prior to departure. If for any reason the balance is not received by us in full by the due date, we reserve the right to treat your booking as cancelled by you so that the fees set out in clause 5 will be payable. Any monies paid to an ABTA travel agent for your holiday with us will be held by him on our behalf until they are paid to us or refunded to you.

2. Your Contract

A binding contract between us will come into existence when we issue our Confirmation of your booking. These booking conditions form the basis of that contract. They may only be varied by a director of Explorers Travel Club Limited in writing. Your contract is governed by English law and is subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales.

3. Prices

We reserve the right to make changes to and correct errors in advertised prices at any time before your holiday is confirmed. We will advise you of any error of which we are aware and of the then applicable price at the time of booking.

4. Prices and Brochure Accuracy

Please note, the information and prices shown in this brochure may have changed by the time you come to book your holiday. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the brochure and prices at the time of printing, regrettably errors do occasionally occur. You must therefore ensure you check all details of your chosen holiday (including the price) with us at the time of booking. This brochure is our sole responsibility. It is not issued on behalf of and does not commit any independent organisation/carriers whose services are featured in it.

5. Amendment by You

Should you wish to make any changes to your booking after it has been confirmed, please advise us as soon as possible in writing. We will endeavour to assist although we cannot guarantee that requests for amendment can always be met. Where an amendment can be made, a fee of £25 per booking per amendment will be charged together with any costs or charges incurred by us or incurred or levied by our suppliers. An amendment constitutes a change to the existing booking. A request to transfer to another holiday or to other arrangements will be treated as a cancellation incurring the cancellation fees set out in clause 6.

Where you or a member of your party is prevented from travelling (e.g. as a result of personal illness/injury, the serious illness or injury of a close family relative, jury service or unavoidable work commitments) the person

concerned may transfer their booking to another qualified person, providing we are notified of the need to transfer not less than 28 days prior to departure. An amendment fee of £25 will be payable together with any costs or charges incurred by us or incurred or levied by our suppliers to effect the transfer.

6. Cancellation by You

You have an option to cancel your holiday arrangements which must be exercised in writing. The fees for the exercise of this option are shown below. Notice of exercise of your option to cancel should be sent to us by Recorded Delivery. No refunds can be made for any part or parts of any holiday, tour, excursions or other arrangements cancelled on or after your scheduled departure date or not utilised by you.

Period before departure within which written notification of cancellation is received by us and the applicable fees:

More than 90 days	a sum equal to deposit paid
89 to 30 days	80% of total cost
29 days to 7 days	90% of total cost
6 days or less	100% of total cost

Total cost means the total cost of the cancelled arrangements excluding insurance premiums and any amendment charges which are non refundable in the event of your cancellation. Depending on the reason for your cancellation, you may be able to claim a refund of the above fees from your insurance company if you have taken out an appropriate travel insurance policy.

7. Changes by Us

We reserve the right to make changes to your booked arrangements and our brochure at any time both before and after bookings have been confirmed. Most changes will be minor ones. Occasionally, it is necessary to make a significant change. A significant change is one made before departure involving a change of outward or return international flight time by 12 hours or more, a change of UK departure airport to one which is more inconvenient for you (except as between Heathrow and Gatwick and vice versa), a change of accommodation where specific identified accommodation has been booked (except in the case of one or two night stays), a change of accommodation for the whole or a significant part of the holiday to that of a lower standard or which is lacking important advertised features, or a significant change or deletion of a major part of the itinerary. All other changes are treated as minor changes. Where known, minor changes will be shown on your Final Itinerary which will be sent to you with your travel documents about two weeks before departure. In the event of a significant change, we will advise you as soon as possible and give you the choice of:- (a) accepting the changed arrangements as notified to you; or (b) purchasing different arrangements from us, of at least the same standard if available (with you paying or receiving a refund in respect of a price difference); or (c) cancelling your arrangements and receiving a full refund of all monies paid to us. If we have to make a significant change within 56 days of departure, we will in addition pay you compensation in accordance with the scale set out below (providing we have received full payment from you) except where the change is made as a result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which we could not have avoided even with all due care. Such circumstances may include those amounting to "force majeure" as set out in clause 10 below. Compensation is not payable in the case of minor changes. Minor changes further do not entitle you to cancel or change to another holiday without paying our normal charges. In all cases, our liability is limited to the payments set out in the scale below and we cannot be responsible for any costs or expenses you may incur as a result of any change. Period before scheduled departure date within which a significant change is notified to you, and compensation per person

More than 56 days	Nil
56 to 43 days	£35.00
42 to 29 days	£40.00
28 to 15 days	£45.00
14 days or less	£50.00

8. Changes after Departure

After departure, our Tour Director or local ground agent has the right to make any changes to arrangements which they/we consider to be necessary or appropriate in the interests of the safety of any of our clients, employees or suppliers or to be beneficial to the operation of the arrangements or desirable to overcome weather, transportation or other problems beyond our immediate control or that of our suppliers, or if changes are required at any time by government agencies or organisations or other official bodies. This may include a change or deletion of ports visited by the vessel or the routing. We do not control the day to day management of your accommodation. It is possible that we may be advised that your reserved accommodation is not available after you have departed on holiday. If this occurs, we will endeavour to provide accommodation of at least the same standard.

9. Cancellation by Us

Occasionally, it may be necessary to cancel previously confirmed arrangements which we reserve the right to do. Where your arrangements are cancelled other than due to your default in payment, we will offer you the choice of either purchasing alternative arrangements from us, of at least the same standard if available (with you paying or receiving a refund in respect of any price difference) or receiving a full and immediate refund of all monies paid to us. Except where you fail to make payment in full and on time, we will not cancel less than eight weeks before departure unless we are forced to do so as a result of "force majeure" as defined in clause 10 below. We regret no compensation will be payable if we cancel eight weeks or more before departure for any reason or less than eight weeks before departure as a result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which could not have been avoided even with all due care. Very rarely, we may be forced to curtail your arrangements after the date of departure where circumstances amounting to "force majeure" as defined in clause 10 below occur. In this very unusual situation, we regret we cannot make any refunds (except where these are obtained from the relevant supplier(s)), pay any compensation or be responsible for any costs or expenses you may incur as a result.

10. Force Majeure

Except where otherwise expressly stated in these booking conditions, we regret we cannot accept liability or pay any compensation where the performance or prompt performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected by or you otherwise suffer any damage or loss (as more fully described in clause 11 (1) below) as a result of "force majeure" Force majeure includes any event which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid such as war or threat of war, civil strife, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, fire, terrorist activity, governmental action and all similar circumstances beyond our control.

11. Liability

(1) We promise to make sure that all parts of the holiday we have agreed to arrange, perform or provide as part of our contract with you are arranged, performed or provided with reasonable skill and care. We will accept responsibility if any death, personal injury, failure or deficiency of your holiday arrangements is caused by any failure by ourselves or our employees (providing they were at the time acting within the course of their employment) or our agents or suppliers (as applicable) to use reasonable skill and care in performing or providing the service in question. Please note it is your responsibility to show that reasonable skill and care has not been used if you wish to make a claim. We will not be responsible for any injury, illness, death, loss (for example loss of enjoyment), damage, expense, cost or other sum or claim of any description whatsoever which results from any of the following:- (a) the fault of the person(s) affected or any member(s) of their party of (b) the fault of a third party not connected with the provision of your holiday which we could not have predicted or avoided or (c) an event or circumstance which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not have predicted or avoided even after taking all reasonable care (see clause 10) (d) the fault of anyone who is not carrying out work for us (generally or in particular) at the time. In addition, we will not be responsible where you do not enjoy your holiday or suffer any problems because of a reason you did not tell us about when you booked your holiday or where any problems you suffer did not result from any breach of our contract or other fault of ourselves or, where we were responsible for them, our suppliers or agents or where any losses, expenses, costs or other sum

you have suffered relate to any business. Please note, we cannot accept responsibility for any services which do not form part of our contract. This includes, for example, any additional services or facilities which your hotel or any other supplier agrees to provide for you where the services or facilities are not advertised in our brochure and we have not agreed to arrange them and any excursion you purchase in resort.

(2) The promises we make to you about the services we have agreed to provide or arrange as part of our contract - and the laws and regulations of the country in which your claim or complaint occurred - will be used as the basis for deciding whether the services in question had been properly provided. If the particular services which gave rise to the claim or complaint complied with local laws and regulations applicable to those services at the time, the services will be treated as having been properly provided. This will be the case even if the services did not comply with the laws and regulations of the UK which would have applied had those services been provided in the UK. The exception to this is where the claim or complaint concerns the absence of a safety feature which might lead a reasonable holidaymaker to refuse to take the holiday in question.

(3) We limit the maximum amount we may have to pay you for any and all claims or parts of claims which do not involve personal injury, illness or death. Except where loss of and/or damage to luggage or personal possessions is concerned or a lower limitation of liability applies to your claim, the maximum amount we will have to pay you for such non personal injury claims if we are found liable to you on any basis is twice the price (excluding insurance premiums and amendment charges) paid by or on behalf of the person(s) affected in total. This maximum amount will only be payable where everything has gone wrong and you have not received any benefit at all from your holiday. Where we are found liable for loss of and/or damage to any luggage or personal possessions (including money), the maximum amount we will have to pay you is £50 per person affected as you are assumed to have taken out adequate insurance at the time of booking. Please also see clause 11(4) below.

(4) Where any claim or part of a claim concerns or is based on any travel arrangements (including the process of getting on and/or off the transport concerned) provided by any air, sea, rail or road carrier or any stay in a hotel, the maximum amount of compensation we will have to pay you will be limited. The most we will have to pay you for that claim or that part of a claim if we are found liable to you on any basis is the most the carrier or hotel keeper concerned would have to pay under the international convention or regulation which applies to the travel arrangements or hotel stay in question (for example, the Warsaw Convention as amended for international travel by air and/or for airlines with an operating licence granted by an EU country, the EU Regulation on Air Carrier Liability for national and international travel by air, the Athens convention for international travel by sea). When making any payment, we are entitled to deduct any money which you have received or are entitled to receive from the transport provider or hotelier for the complaint or claim in question.

(5) This clause 11 is intended to set out our obligations to you as a tour operator/organiser in the light of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note, we regret we cannot make any payment to you or any member of your party if the person concerned is not entitled to one from us under these Regulations. You must provide ourselves and our insurers with all assistance we may reasonably require. If asked to do so, you must transfer to us or our insurers any rights you have against the supplier or whoever else is responsible for your claim or complaint (if the person concerned is under 18, their parent or guardian must do so). You must also agree to cooperate fully with us and our insurers if we or our insurers want to enforce any rights which are transferred. It is a condition of our acceptance of liability as set out in this clause that you fully comply with our complaints procedure, as set out in clause 12 below.

(6) If you or any member of your party suffers illness, injury or death, through misadventure, as a result of an activity which does not form part of your contracted holiday arrangements, we will provide you with all reasonable assistance. This assistance may include our making a contribution towards your initial legal costs in taking action against the person(s) responsible providing you request this within 90 days of the incident in question. All assistance (financial or otherwise) is subject to our reasonable discretion and a maximum total cost to ourselves of £5,000 per booking form. If you are entitled to have any costs and expenses arising from such an incident met by or from any insurance policy or if you obtain a costs order against anyone in relation to the incident, you must repay to us the costs and expenses we spend in assisting you.

(7) Higher risk activities - Certain activities (e.g. trekking, diving, rafting etc) are of their very nature dangerous and

carry a greater risk of personal injury and death. Such risks are compounded by the fact you may be participating in these activities in remote areas where even limited medical assistance may be some considerable distance and time away. It is your responsibility to ensure you and all members of your party are medically fit to engage in any particular activity. Certain activities (e.g. diving) have particular medical, training or other requirements. It is your responsibility to ensure you are familiar and comply with those requirements. In signing our Booking Form, you acknowledge and accept the risks inevitably associated, both directly and indirectly, with higher risk activities and that we cannot accept responsibility if any such risks materialise and you suffer death, personal injury, loss or damage as a result. If you are in any doubt as to possible risks, you should consult our staff before booking. You must ensure that any insurance policy you take out covers you in relation to higher risk activities.

(8) Special events, visits, exhibition, excursions and facilities - All special events, visits, exhibitions, excursions and facilities referred to in our literature are shown in good faith and will, to the best of our belief be available. However, we do not control or arrange such matters. Where any special event, visit, exhibition or facility which forms a significant part of your confirmed holiday arrangements become unavailable, cannot be provided or is not to take place for any reason, we will advise you before departure if possible. The provisions of clause 6 will then apply. Unfortunately, we may be unaware of such non availability prior to departure or may be unable to inform you of this prior to departure. In this event, the rest of the holiday arrangements will be provided as booked and we will refund the direct cost of the event etc in question (together with the cost of any local transportation where applicable). Our liability in this situation will be limited to such refunds.

12. Complaints/claims

If you are unhappy about any aspect of your arrangements, you must inform our tour escort or ground agents together with the supplier of the service concerned immediately. You must make every effort to bring problems to the attention of ourselves and the supplier so that they can be resolved during your holiday and to mitigate any losses, expenses or costs you incur. Once we and the supplier concerned are aware of the problem, everything reasonably possible will be done to quickly resolve it. If you remain dissatisfied, you must write to us giving full details of your complaint within 29 days of your return to the UK (e mail messages are not acceptable in this context). We regret we cannot accept liability in relation to any complaint which is not notified entirely in accordance with this clause.

13. Arbitration

Disputes arising out of, or in connection with this contract which cannot be amicably settled may be referred to arbitration if you so wish under a special scheme arranged by the Association of British Travel Agents and administered independently by the chartered Institute of Arbitrators. The scheme provides for a simple and inexpensive method of arbitration on documents alone with restricted liability on the customer in respect of costs. Full details will be provided on request or can be obtained from ABTA. This scheme does not apply to claims for an amount greater than £5,000 per person. There is also a limit of £15,000 per booking form. Neither does it apply to claims which are solely in respect of physical injury or illness or their consequences. The Scheme can however deal with compensation claims which include an element of minor injury or illness subject to a limit of £1000 on the amount the arbitrator can award per person in respect of this element. The application for arbitration and statement of claim must be received by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators within 9 months of the date of return from the holiday. Outside this time limit arbitration under the Scheme may still be available if we agree, although the ABTA Code does not require such agreement.

14. Air Travel

At the time of publication, we are not in a position to confirm the airlines, aircraft types and/or airports of destination which will be used in connection with your holiday arrangements. Where this information is provided prior to departure (as will usually be the case) a subsequent change at any stage will be treated as a minor change and will not entitle you to cancel without paying the normal cancellation fee. All flight times shown in our brochure or given on booking are subject to change. Please ensure you carefully check all travel documentation and information relating to your arrangements as soon as it is received by you. This brochure is our responsibility. It is not issued on behalf of and does not commit any airlines mentioned in it or an airline whose services are used in the course of any tour or other arrangements.

15. Delays

Unfortunately, delays in transportation (e.g. flights) can sometimes occur. We regret we cannot accept any liability in relation to any delays which are beyond our control or any expenses or losses you incur as a result. Depending upon terms of any insurance policy you have taken out, you may be able to seek reimbursement of any such expenses or losses together with compensation for the delay from the insurance company. We do not accept liability for loss of earnings or consequential business losses resulting from any delay and you should take out an appropriate insurance policy to cover such losses. In the event of your outward or return international flight being delayed, we will endeavour to arrange for the airline to provide appropriate refreshments if possible.

16. Conditions of Suppliers

In respect of all services, the conditions of the supplier concerned (e.g. airline, coach operator, hotelier or other provider) will apply. Such conditions will often limit the supplier's liability to you usually in accordance with applicable international conventions. Copies of these conditions are available from the suppliers concerned direct.

17. Pre-Departure Contact

It is essential to ensure you provide us with a telephone number or address where you can be reached up to 24 hours prior to your departure in the event of late changes or other problems.

18. Special Requests

If you have any special requests, please ensure you notify us in writing at the time of booking. We will endeavour to pass such requests on to the supplier(s) concerned. We regret however that we cannot guarantee special requests will be met and failure to do so will not be a breach of contract on our part. Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier or the inclusion of the special request on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met.

19. Insurance

It is a condition of our accepting your booking that you take out adequate travel insurance for the whole period of your holiday. Details of the policy we offer are shown in this brochure. We do not accept liability for any losses suffered by yourself or your party as a result of your being uninsured or under-insured. Insurance cover will only be effective when your premium has been paid. Please read your policy details carefully and take them with you on holiday. We do not check alternative insurance policies

20. Passport, Visa and Health Requirements

It is the party leader's responsibility to ensure that all members of your party have all necessary passports, visas and health/vaccination certificates for your holiday prior to departure. Requirements may change and you must check the up to date position in good time before departure. We cannot accept any responsibility if you are denied entry into any country or on to any flight due to inadequate travel documentation. Any costs or expenses incurred as a result will be your responsibility. Details of the current passport, visa and health requirements for the arrangements featured in this brochure which are applicable to British citizens are shown elsewhere in this brochure. A full British passport currently takes up to six weeks to obtain. Such requirements do change from time to time and you should accordingly check the up to date position in good time before departure. If you or any member of your party is not a British citizen or holds a non-British passport, you must check passport and visa requirements with the Embassy or Consulate of the countries to or through which you are intending to travel. If failure to have the necessary travel or other documents results in fines or other financial penalty being imposed on us, you will be responsible for reimbursing us accordingly.

21. Behaviour

We, the tour director and any other person in authority (e.g. airline pilot or accommodation manager) has the right to terminate the holiday arrangements of any person whose behaviour, in our opinion or that of the person in authority, does or is likely to cause danger, distress or annoyance to themselves or any of our other clients, employees or any third party or to cause damage to property. In this event, our responsibility for the person concerned (including any continuing/return travel arrangements) will immediately cease and we will not be liable to meet any expenses or costs incurred as a result, make any refund or pay any compensation.

Booking form TO BOOK BY PHONE CALL 01276 406877 OR FAX 01276 406854

• Details of each person travelling

TITLE	INITIAL	SURNAME	AGE IF UNDER 18	CABIN CATEGORY	CABIN TYPE (PLEASE TICK)			
					SINGLE	TWIN	TRIPLE	SHARE
					<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Post your completed booking form to: Explorers, 8 Minster Court, Tuscam Way, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3YY or phone: 01276 406877

Explorers Travel Club Ltd. is registered in England (Company no. 1473225) and is a bonded Tour Operator Member of the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA number V3883) and licenced as a Tour Operator by the Civil Aviation Authority (ATOL no 2941) All payments made by clients to the company are covered by either the ABTA or CAA financial security arrangements.

• Your contact details

Address _____

 Postcode _____
 Country _____
 Work phone (incl dialling code) _____
 Home phone (incl dialling code) _____

• Single travellers

If you are a traveller alone and would like to avoid paying the single supplement we are able to offer a share facility. Partners are allocated according to sex and smoking status. Smoker Non-smoker

• Comments or special meal requirements

• Payment details

x deposits @ £175 per person	Total	£
x insurance premiums @ £	Total	£
Total payment enclosed		£

• Payment method

Cheque (made payable to 'Explorers')

Visa Mastercard Switch (complete the details below)

Card No _____

Issue No (Switch) _____

Expiry Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Date _____

On behalf of all persons named, I have read, understand and agree to the Booking Conditions, I am over 18 years of age.

PERSONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of our accepting your booking (except U.S Citizens) that you take out adequate travel insurance for the whole period of your holiday. Details of the policy we offer are shown in this brochure. We do not accept liability for any losses suffered by yourself or your party as a result of your being uninsured or under-insured. Cover on a policy issued by ourselves will only be effective once these premiums have been paid.

Summary of Cover

- Cancellation and curtailment** – up to the holiday cost
- Medical and Other expenses** – up to £5 million
- Additional hospital benefit** – up to £600
- Personal accident** – up to £25000
- Baggage** – up to £1500
- Money and documents** – up to £500
- Loss of passport** – up to £250
- Personal liability** – up to £2 million
- Missed departure** – up to £800
- Legal expenses** – up to £25000
- A £35 excess will apply in respect of Cancellation (deposit only claims £10), Medical and Other Expenses,

Baggage, Money and Documents. Under Personal Liability a £250 excess applies in respect of temporarily rented holiday accommodation.

Under the Association of British Insurers General Business Code of Practice, Bishopsgate Insurance must advise the following:

- Policy document:** a copy of the policy will be sent with your holiday invoice. This document contains full details of what is and is not covered and the conditions of the cover. You should read the policy document very carefully.
- Conditions, exclusions and declaration:** there are conditions and exclusions which apply to individual sections and general exclusions, conditions and warranties which apply to the whole policy.
- Health:** the policy contains conditions about the health of the people travelling, and other people upon whose health the trip may depend.
- Property claims:** these claims are settled on an indemnity basis (the value of the goods at the time you lose them), not on a 'new for old' or replacement cost basis.
- Policy limits:** most sections of the policy have limits on

the amount the Insurer will pay under that section. Some sections also include other limits, for example for any one item, or for valuables in total.

- Policy excesses:** an excess applies to claims under most sections of the policy. This means that you will be responsible for paying the first part of the claim. The amount you have to pay is the 'excess'.
- Reasonable care:** you need to take all reasonable care to protect yourself and your property as you would if you were not insured.
- Complaints:** this insurance policy includes a complaints procedure which tells you what steps you can take if you wish to make a complaint. The policy is governed by English law unless you and the Insurers have agreed otherwise.

Please make sure that you read your insurance policy carefully. A copy of the full policy wording is available on request.

PREMIUMS

Up to 10 days	£26
Up to 17 days	£29



Established in 1980 and now celebrating our 25th anniversary, UK based specialist tour operator Explorers is delighted to present this special programme for the 2006 total solar eclipse. Since our first solar eclipse tour to Kazakhstan in 1981, we have travelled the globe offering our clients the chance to view solar eclipses in almost every part of the world, from Outer Mongolia to Zimbabwe, Indonesia to Peru, Australia to Iceland and many more.

We have a reputation for competitive prices combined with efficient, friendly service. Our financial security is guaranteed by our ATOL licence and we conform fully to the ABTA Code of Conduct.



CALL 01276 406877
WWW.EXPLORERS.CO.UK

"For those who have never experienced a total solar eclipse the memory of your first minutes within the moon shadow will last a lifetime... and you will return as an eclipse chaser!"

"Other tour members were repeat customers of Explorers and they were not shy about telling me why. The big things were done right and the little things were done right."

"If you are planning a trip and you want things to go just plain right, then Explorers are the people to go with."