



# COLUMBIA & SNAKE RIVERS JOURNEY: SPRING BLOOM

8 DAYS | NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD | FROM \$5,710\*

2022 DEPARTURE DATES: APR 3, APR 10, APR 17, APR 24

These voyages travel in reverse.

## DAY 1: PORTLAND, OREGON/EMBARK SHIP

Arrive in Portland located on the Columbia and Willamette rivers, in the shadow of snow-capped Mt. Hood. The city is known for its eco-friendliness, microbreweries, and coffeehouses. This afternoon board our ship and set sail. We'll cruise the lower part of the Willamette River, passing under the many bridges and through the center of picturesque Portland before reaching the Columbia River. (D)

## DAY 2-3: COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE AND HOOD RIVER

Gain a fresh perspective on such highlights as Bonneville Lock and Dam, Multnomah Falls, and Beacon Rock (perhaps even hike it if you are inclined). Bonneville is first in the series of eight locks which will lift or lower the ship some 700 feet above sea level, nearly 10 times that of the Panama Canal.

Continue through the Gorge to Hood River, located in the shadows of majestic Mount Hood where you will have the option to see the spring bloom in the Hood River Valley. The valley is known for its fruit growing orchards—including one of the world's largest pear growing areas. Visit the Western Antique Aeroplane & Automobile Museum and explore one of the largest collections of still functioning antique cars and planes or choose to do something more active in the area. (B,L,D)

## DAY 4: CRUISING

Today we will spend the day cruising through some of the most scenic and geologically interesting stretches of the Columbia River and the Columbia Plateau. Our onboard geologist and naturalists will talk with you about the Columbian Basalt Flows and the Missoula Floods that sculpted the landscape 13,000 years ago. Relive the historic tales of the Corps of Discovery through the eyes of the historian as you sail by landmarks from their epic journey. Or unwind with a massage from the wellness specialist. (B,L,D)

## DAY 5: WALLA WALLA

Drive through some of the most fertile agricultural areas in the nation, with bright, rolling green fields of sprouting wheat, asparagus, the famous Walla Walla Sweet Onions, and now the vineyards that bring Walla Walla world-wide recognition. Enjoy historic Walla Walla with a visit to the Whitman Mission, a National Historic Site, and the location of the 1847 attack on missionaries Marcus and Narcissa Whitman and 12 members of their household by a group of Cayuse seeking retribution for the spread of measles among their people and the inability of Whitman to heal the sick. Enjoy lunch and a tasting at a local winery. (B,L,D)

(continues)



#### DAY 6: EXPLORING THE PALOUSE RIVER

The still water of the Palouse River is the perfect mirror for the surrounding basalt cliffs as we set off cruising on our Zodiac and kayak adventures. Visit Palouse Falls, where cascading waters plunge 198 feet into the pool below. In spring, the falls are at their peak, fueled by melting snows nearby. These falls and the canyon are an important feature of the channeled scablands created by the great Missoula Floods that swept periodically across the region. Afterwards, sail up the Snake River, enjoying a taste of local specialties. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 7: CLARKSTON, WASHINGTON

At Clarkston, we find ourselves at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers, more than 450 miles from the sea. The name Clarkston is in reference to William Clark and is located directly across the river from Lewiston, Idaho, which is named for Meriwether Lewis, though neither of them ever traveled to the Clarkston side of the river.

Travel by comfortable jet boat into one of North America's most scenic spots, spectacular Hells Canyon. For a short period each spring, the canyon is full of vibrant greens and colorful flowers. The 125-mile long canyon was carved by the waters of the Snake River and at 7,993 feet is North America's deepest river gorge—most of it inaccessible by road. The earliest known settlers in the canyon were the Nez Percé tribe and, as you travel up the river, look to the hillsides and see remnants of their ancestral horse trails along with pictographs and petroglyphs on the rock formations.

This evening, enjoy the company of a local winemaker onboard and sip their wines while you hear about how the geology of the area surrounding the Lewis-Clark Valley AVA, the newest Viticultural Area in the United States, affects the flavors of their wines (eastbound voyages only). (B,L,D)

#### DAY 8: CLARKSTON/DISEMBARK

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your connecting flights home. Choose to fly from nearby Lewiston, Idaho, or travel through the picturesque landscapes of the Palouse to Spokane, Washington, located two hours away. (B)

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\*See our website at [expeditions.com](http://expeditions.com) for the most up-to-date pricing, which may vary by departure date. Prices are subject to modification, and are not guaranteed until booking and required deposits are made. For best pricing, book early.

**Advance Payment:** \$750

**Important Flight Information:** We will gladly assist in making your air arrangements. Please call for airfares from your departure city.

**Cost Includes:** Accommodations aboard ship; meals as indicated; excursions; services of expedition leader, naturalist staff and expert guides; use of kayaks; entrance fees; all port charges and service taxes; Scheduled group airport transfers to/from the ship.

**Not included:** Air transportation; voyage chronicle; personal items such as alcoholic beverages, Wi-Fi, etc.; discretionary tips for ship's crew.

**Travel Protection Plan:** We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date. Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: [www.expeditions.com/TravelProtection/](http://www.expeditions.com/TravelProtection/)

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