



VARIETY CRUISES



# THE ICELANDIC SAGA 2019

ABOARD THE 24-CABIN M/S *PANORAMA*

June to September 2019 | 8-day cruises

From Reykjavik to Akureyri, Iceland or reverse

Two cruise voyages in the Land of Ice & Fire, unraveling the wonders of the coasts of Iceland.



## THE PANORAMA MOTOR SAILER

The **M/S PANORAMA** is a 54 meter elegant motor sailer accommodating just 49 passengers in 24 outside cabins.

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

Length: 54 m

Launched: 1993 | Last Renovated: 2014

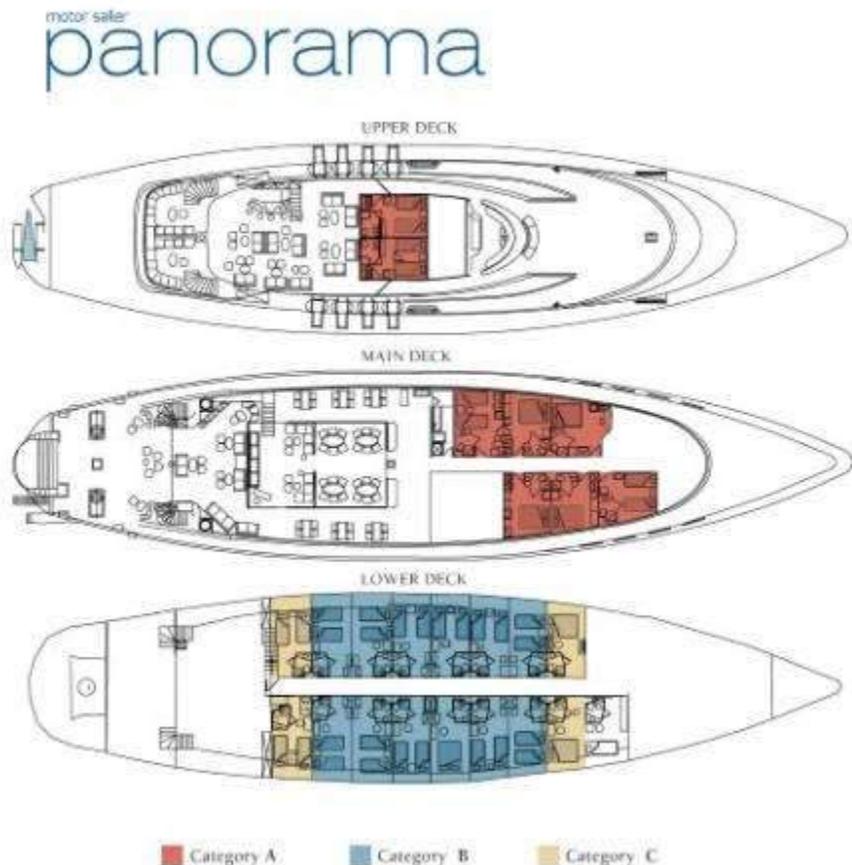
Cabins: 24

Capacity: 49 passengers

Crew: 16-18

The **M/S PANORAMA** is a 54 meter/24 cabin elegant motor sailer that was launched in 1993 and was renovated in 2001, 2008 and 2014. This state of the art sail cruiser has performed several Atlantic Ocean crossings, has sailed from the Seychelles to Monte Carlo and from the Black Sea to Cuba and offers the highest standard of accommodation, comfort and safety. The vessel complies with the most stringent SOLAS safety regulations.

Service on board is provided by your Captain, the Cruise Coordinator and your experienced Marine and Hotel crew members. Service will be attentive or unobtrusive according to your preference and priority is always given to the safety and comfort of passengers. Organized excursions are available for most ports of call and can be pre-booked or reserved 24 hours in advance.





## THE MOTOR SAILER PANORAMA

### CABIN SPECIFICATIONS:

The PANORAMA's 24 cabins are located on 3 decks and are finished with wooden furniture and light fabrics. Cabins on the Upper and Main decks are equipped with windows while cabins on the lower deck have portholes. The fully equipped bathrooms are finished with marble or corian materials. All cabins are air-conditioned and fitted with flat-screen TV, telephone (for internal use), hairdryers, mini-fridge, central music, public address system and safe boxes.

### LIFE ON BOARD

During the day, life on board centers around the Lounge and Dining Room at the Main Deck as well as the Upper deck indoor and outdoor bar area and the sun deck. In the evening you can relax in one of the ship's lounges, and enjoy a drink while listening to piano music. The swimming platform on PANORAMA's stern enables you to swim when weather and anchorage conditions permit. The Captain will drop anchor at secluded bays and beautiful uninhabited islands where guests enjoy swimming, snorkeling.



### MAIN DECK DINING ROOM

The classy dining room is surrounded by large windows providing beautiful views of the ports of call. The spacious dining room seats all passengers in a single, unassigned seating and food is served at the table or displayed on the state of the art hot & cold buffet which also includes a "a la minute cooking" section.



### MAIN DECK & UPPER DECK LOUNGE AREAS

The interior lounges have relaxing couches and comfortable lounge chairs where you can have a drink and gaze out of the large windows into the breathtaking sceneries you are cruising to, read a book, watch television on the satellite TV or one of our documentaries on the next place you are visiting. Also located on the Upper Deck, the outdoor area provides beautiful views of the ports of call visited.

### SUN DECK

The vessel features a Sun Deck with a sitting area to relax and enjoy unobstructed views and with ample Sun loungers' space to bask under the sun, read a good book or just gaze at the scenery.



## THE ICELANDIC SAGA WEST & NORTH 2019

7-NIGHTS/8-DAYS · **FROM REYKJAVIK TO AKUREYRI, ICELAND OR REVERSE**

<b>DAY 1- SATURDAY</b>	<b>REYKJAVIK,</b> ☺ ICELAND	Embarkation at 3-4 pm. Overnight in port.
<b>DAY 2 – SUNDAY</b>	<b>REYKJAVIK,</b> ICELAND	Our <b>Golden Circle optional excursion</b> will start at the Thingvellir National Park, a place of tremendous interest as a primary site of both Iceland's geological and historical heritage. The tour continues to Gullfoss, Iceland's most beautiful waterfall and then to the Geysir geothermal area with its multitude of hot springs, where the most active one, Strokkur, spouts every few minutes. We stop at the Hveragerdi village, where geothermal water has been used to build up an extensive greenhouse industry and then at the Hellisheiði Geothermal Power Plant showcasing Iceland's ability to supply green power. Our tour ends as we pass through Reykjavik's city center before arriving at the pier. Overnight at sea.
<b>DAY 3 – MONDAY</b>	<b>GRUNDAFJORDUR,</b> ICELAND	This morning we arrive in Grundarfjordur, a quintessential Icelandic town, for our <b>optional excursion</b> of the Snaefellsnes Peninsula. This small fishing village lies next to striking Mt. Kirkjufell, or "Church Mountain", one of the most photographed mountains in Iceland. From there we head to Olafsvik, passing the splendid Baejarfoss waterfall and we continue to the southern side of the peninsula to reach the villages of Arnarstapi and Hellnar before making our way to Snaefellsjokull National Park, one of the county's three national parks, established in 2001 in an effort to preserve the region's unique ecosystem and historical artifacts. After our visit to the park, we drive back to the ship for a relaxing afternoon and evening sailing to Patreksfjordur. Overnight at sea.
<b>DAY 4 – TUESDAY</b>	<b>PATREKSFJORDUR</b> ICELAND	Morning arrival at Patreksfjordur. The <b>optional Westfjords adventure excursion</b> starts from our port and reaches the Latrabjarg cliffs, with the largest seabird colony in the northern Atlantic, famous for its puffins colony. Your next stop is at Raudasandur or "Red Sand" beach, distinct itself from most of Iceland's beaches, as it is golden and pink in color. We will ride on a tractor carriage with our expert guide and local farmer along the beach to the seal colony, where you can see the seals up close. Late afternoon, we cruise around the Harnarfjordur and anchor in front of the majestic Dynjandi Waterfall. After drinks to celebrate this wonder of nature, we sail to Isafjordur. Overnight at sea.
<b>DAY 5 - WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>ISAFJORDUR,</b> ICELAND	Morning arrival in Isafjordur. After breakfast onboard, disembark for an <b>optional tour to Thingeyri village</b> and the interactive <b>Viking Museum</b> . After the "Viking experience" we return to Isafjordur and visit the Maritime and Heritage Museum, highlighting the rich history and culture of this fishing community. In the afternoon we sail to Holmavik. Overnight at sea.
<b>DAY 6 – THURSDAY</b>	<b>HOLMAVIK,</b> ICELAND	Morning arrival in the small village of Holmavik, one of the least visited parts of Iceland's Westfjords. After breakfast onboard, disembark for an <b>optional full day excursion</b> : first, we will visit the Museum of Sorcery and Witchcraft to learn about the old Viking traditions and culture, then we will stop for lunch at a local restaurant, built from the town's oldest house, and finally we will visit a local sheep farm to interact with the farmers daily lives and spend time observing the sheep. Evening return to the ship and sailing to Siglufjordur. Overnight at sea.
<b>DAY 7 – FRIDAY</b>	<b>SIGLUFJORDUR,</b> ICELAND	This morning we reach Siglufjordur, Iceland's northernmost city, very close to the Arctic Circle and possibly the most picturesque port of Iceland. Once known as the capital of Herring fishing. There are two optional excursions: 1. The <b>optional walking excursion</b> through the city will take you to the port, the <b>Herring Museum</b> , the Folk Music center housed in Madame House, the oldest house in the city. 2. The <b>Lake Myvatn &amp; Godafoss optional tour</b> : Depart Siglufjordur around noon and head to the thermal field of Namaskard. Then continue to Dimmuborgir lava labyrinth, a paradise of towering lava castles, natural arches and grottos. Lunch included. Driving along the shores of Lake Myvatn we reach Skutustadir and its amazing craters. We then continue to the Godafoss, one of the most spectacular waterfalls in Iceland. Our tour will end at Akureyri, where we rejoin the Panorama late evening. Passengers not taking the excursion will be sailing from Siglufjordur to Akureyri with the Panorama.
	<b>AKUREYRI,</b> ☺ ICELAND	The Panorama reaches Akureyri in the evening. Farewell dinner. Overnight in port.

DAY 8 – SATURDAY	AKUREYRI, ICELAND	Disembarkation 6 am-10 am.
---------------------	----------------------	----------------------------

## THE ICELANDIC CRUISES WEST & NORTH 2019

### 7-NIGHTS/8-DAYS · FROM AKUREYRI TO REYKJAVIK, ICELAND

DAY 1 - SATURDAY	AKUREYRI, ICELAND	EMBARKATION 3-4 PM - Overnight in port and time for an optional late afternoon walking excursion in Akureyri.
DAY 2 – SUNDAY	AKUREYRI- SIGLUFJORDUR, ICELAND	This morning our <b>full day optional excursion</b> will take you from Akureyri to Siglufjordur (where you will meet the Panorama in the evening). The Captain will inform you of whale sightings. Mid-day we reach Siglufjordur, Iceland's northernmost city, very close to the Arctic Circle and possibly the most picturesque port of Iceland. Once known as the capital of Herring fishing. <b>The optional walking excursion</b> through the city will take you to the port, the Herring Museum, the Folk Music center housed in Madame House, the oldest house in the city. We take the Ring Road to reach Godafoss Waterfall - the Falls of the Gods - and will hear about the Kristni Saga, recounting the arrival of Christianity and the end of Paganism. After lunch we visit Lake Myvatn, Namarksard and Dimmuborgir, all fine examples of the volcanic world with lava fields, boiling and steaming mud pools, steam vents and craters. We rejoin the Panorama in Siglufjordur in the afternoon. Time to walk around this colorful port or option to take a late afternoon whale watching excursion. Passengers not taking the excursion will be sailing from Akureyri to Siglufjordur with the Panorama. Overnight at sea to Holmavik.
DAY 3 – MONDAY	HOLMAVIK, ICELAND	Morning arrival in the small village of Holmavik, one of the least visited parts of Iceland's Westfjords. After breakfast onboard, disembark for <b>an optional full day excursion</b> : first, we will visit the Museum of Sorcery and Witchcraft to learn about the old Viking traditions and culture, then we will stop for lunch at a local restaurant, built from the town's oldest house, and finally we will visit a local sheep farm to interact with the farmers daily lives and spend time observing the sheep. Evening return to the ship and sailing to Isafjordur. Overnight at sea.
DAY 4 – TUESDAY	ISAFJORDUR ICELAND	Morning arrival in Isafjordur. After breakfast onboard, disembark for an <b>optional tour to Thingeyri village</b> and the interactive <b>Viking Museum</b> . After the "Viking experience" we return to Isafjordur and visit the Maritime and Heritage Museum, highlighting the rich history and culture of this fishing community. Return to Panorama. Late afternoon we cruise around the Westfjords on our way to the picturesque Patreksfjordur. Overnight at sea.
DAY 5 - WEDNESDAY	PATREKKSFJORDUR, ICELAND	Today we can choose from 2 optional excursions: 1. <b>The optional Westfjord adventure</b> excursion starts from our port and reaches the Látrabjarg cliffs, with the largest seabird colony in the northern Atlantic famous for its puffins colony. Your next stop is at Rauðasandur or "Red Sand" beach, distinct itself from most of Iceland's beaches, as it is golden and pink in color. We will ride on a tractor carriage with our expert guide and local farmer along the beach to the seal colony, where you can see the seals up close. 2. <b>The optional excursion to the Dynjandi waterfall</b> , one of the most beautiful in Iceland and Bildudalur for a visit to the sea monsters museum. Evening sailing to Grundafjordur. Overnight at sea
DAY 6 – THURSDAY	GRUNDAFJORDUR, ICELAND	This morning we arrive in Grundafjordur, a quintessential Icelandic town, for our <b>optional excursion</b> of the Snaefellsnes Peninsula. This small fishing village lies next to striking Mt. Kirkjufell, or "Church Mountain", one of the most photographed mountains in Iceland. From there we head to Olafsvik, passing the splendid Baejarfoss waterfall and we continue to the southern side of the peninsula to reach the villages of Arnarstapi and Hellnar before making our way to Snaefellsjokull National Park, one of the county's three national parks, established in 2001 in an effort to preserve the region's unique ecosystem and historical artifacts. After our visit to the park, we drive back to the ship for a relaxing afternoon and evening sailing to Reykjavik.

		Overnight at sea.
<b>DAY 7 – FRIDAY</b>	<b>REYKJAVIK,</b> D ICELAND	Morning arrival in Reykjavik. Our <b>Golden Circle Optional excursion</b> will start at the Thingvellir National Park, a place of tremendous interest as a primary site of both Iceland's geological and historical heritage. The tour continues to Gulfoss, Iceland's most beautiful waterfall and then to the Geysir geothermal area with its multitude of hot springs, where the most active one, Strokkur, spouts every few minutes. We stop at the Hveragerdi village, where geothermal water has been used to build up an extensive greenhouse industry and then at the Hellisheiði Geothermal Power Plant showcasing Iceland's ability to supply green power. Our tour ends as we pass through Reykjavik's city center before arriving at the pier. Overnight in port.
<b>DAY 8 – SATURDAY</b>	<b>REYKJAVIK, ICELAND</b>	Disembarkation 9 am -10 am at Reykjavik Iceland.

*Itineraries can be changed at the discretion of Variety Cruises and of the Vessel's Captain in case of adverse weather conditions - winds of 6/7 beaufort or more depending on the vessel- on port authorities not allowing a vessel to leave port or in case of other extraordinary conditions. Such itinerary changes do not entitle automatically passengers to any refunds but Variety Cruises guarantees that passengers are disembarked at the advertised port of disembarkation on time for their flights.*