

Explora Journeys Introduces 'A Journey of Caribbean & Bahamian Blue' Featuring Exclusive Experiences with Brand Ambassador Mike Horn and the MSC Foundation



Geneva, Switzerland – 30 October 2025 – Explora Journeys, the luxury ocean travel brand of the MSC Group, invites guests to embark on a rare and transformative experience in the Caribbean aboard EXPLORA II in late January 2026.

'A Journey of Caribbean Calm & Bahamian Blue', departing from Miami, USA on 25 January 2026 and returning back to Miami on 4 February 2026, offers guests a unique opportunity to travel alongside explorer, and Explora Journeys' Brand Ambassador, Mike Horn, immersing themselves in the region's vibrant destinations while gaining a deeper understanding of ocean conservation. This 10-night ocean Journey includes calls in Puerto Plata, Kralendijk, Oranjestad, Willemstad, and Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve, a private island sanctuary dedicated to marine preservation.

As Explora Journeys' first brand ambassador, Mike, a South African-born Swiss explorer and world record-holder, has spent decades undertaking extraordinary feats of endurance and exploration. These include reaching the North Pole solo during the Arctic winter and circumnavigating the globe along the equator without motorised transport.

Previously having led immersive hiking experiences in Greenland and the Canary Islands, Mike will join guests in Oranjestad on 30 January for 5 nights of "Ocean Dialogues" at sea, filled with intimate sessions that illuminate the connections between adventure, awareness and ocean stewardship. The *Ocean Dialogues* then continues to Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve where guests will explore the MSC Foundation's Marine Conservation Center's work, learning about coral restoration and marine protection, before sailing the turquoise Bahamian waters under Mike's guidance, witnessing first-hand the importance of protecting the ocean's delicate ecosystems.

The MSC Foundation, established by the Aponte family, is an independent non-profit organisation focused on restoring harmony between people and nature. Its work spans ocean preservation, education, community and humanitarian initiatives, making Ocean Cay a living laboratory for conservation. As a member of the Foundation's Advisory Board, Mike Horn lends his vision and expertise to these efforts, reinforcing its mission.

"Discovery is at the heart of what we do, creating experiences that inspire curiosity and enhance guests' engagement throughout their Journey" said Anna Nash, President of Explora Journeys. "Partnering with Mike Horn and the MSC Foundation allows us to offer guests extraordinary adventures alongside a deeper understanding of the ocean's beauty, power and vulnerability. This Journey celebrates connection and meaningful ocean experiences."

From the pastel-hued harbours of the Caribbean to the coral reefs of Ocean Cay, guests aboard EXPLORA II will wander powdery beaches, kayak crystalline waters teeming with marine life, snorkel above thriving coral gardens and take part in hands-on conservation experiences guided by Mike's insights. Every moment of this Journey is designed to awaken curiosity, foster connection and leave a lasting impression of the ocean's beauty and fragility, all while enjoying the refined luxury and comfort that define the Explora Journeys experience.

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About Explora Journeys

Explora Journeys is the privately owned luxury ocean travel brand of the MSC Group, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Rooted in the Aponte family's 300 years of maritime heritage, the brand aims to redefine ocean travel for a new generation of discerning luxury travellers. **Explora Journeys** creates a unique 'Ocean State of Mind' by connecting guests with the sea, themselves, and like-minded others, while offering immersive itineraries blending iconic destinations with lesser-travelled ports that inspire discovery.

The brand introduces a new style of transformative ocean travel, featuring 461 oceanfront suites, penthouses, and residences - each a 'Home at Sea' with floor-to-ceiling windows, private terraces, and spacious, elegant interiors.

Guests enjoy eleven distinct culinary experiences across six restaurants, plus in-suite dining and Chef's Kitchen. The onboard experience includes twelve bars and lounges, five heated indoor and outdoor swimming pools, extensive outdoor decks with 64 private cabanas, a holistic wellness programme, and refined entertainment. Inspired by European heritage and elevated Swiss hospitality, **Explora Journeys** delivers intuitive service and relaxed luxury.

The fleet's first ship, EXPLORA I, launched in July 2023, followed by EXPLORA II in September 2024. EXPLORA III and EXPLORA IV, both LNG-powered, will join in 2026 and 2027, with EXPLORA V and EXPLORA VI scheduled for 2027 and 2028. These vessels incorporate advanced environmental technologies, reflecting the brand's strong commitment to sustainability.

To learn more about Explora Journeys, visit <u>explorajourneys.com</u> or follow us on <u>Instagram, X, Facebook</u> and LinkedIn.