



THE SOLO CRUISE COMPANY

AFRICA & INDIAN OCEAN

Date	Price	Ship	Climate
Jan. 4th - Jan. 26th, 2025	22 days from €17,573	Silver Spirit	Dry, 17 - 32°C

Jan. 4th

Arrival in Mahé, Transfer to Hotel (Private Car)

Your 3-night residence in Mahé is the exquisite Constance Ephelia Resort, located on one of Mahé's most beautiful beaches. Nestled among two pristine white sand beaches on Mahé island, overlooking Port Launay's marine national park, Constance Ephelia offers an ideal retreat for a Seychelles getaway.

This luxurious 5-star Seychelles resort seamlessly integrates with its stunning natural surroundings, encompassing 120 hectares of lush and rare vegetation. Just a 40-minute drive from Seychelles International Airport and 30 minutes from Victoria, the capital, Constance Ephelia provides a tranquil haven for vacationers, offering numerous options for relaxation, wellness, and sports.

Morning & Afternoon:

Depending on your arrival time, as you may have flown long distances to the Seychelles, the remainder of your day is at leisure.

Evening:

Join us early evening at the Pool Bar for welcome cocktails and canapés. This is an opportunity to meet your Solo Cruise Company Concierge Host, accompanying you throughout your entire itinerary. Dinner is at your leisure.

Jan. 5th

Mahé, Seychelles

Morning & Afternoon:

At the Solo Cruise Company, we prioritise flexibility and choice, offering a curated selection of half-day excursions for you to customise your experience. Opt for a morning or afternoon excursion or indulge in a full-day sightseeing adventure by combining two options.

Before your departure from home, we'll provide a list of excursions available during your stay in Mahé. These must be pre-booked, limited to a maximum of two excursions today, provided operational times allow both. Please note, due to capacity limits on some excursions, we may need to adjust your preferences or alter the timing.

Evening:

Join us for a delightful "Welcome Dinner" at the Adam & Eve Restaurant, a charming venue. This is your chance to meet fellow travellers, enjoy some fun, and ease into the incredible journey through the Indian Ocean and Madagascar to South Africa in the days and weeks ahead.

Meals:

Breakfast/Dinner

Jan. 6th

Mahé, Seychelles

Morning & Afternoon:

After a leisurely breakfast, today is dedicated to unwinding in this idyllic setting. Whether it's lounging by the pool with the book you've been meaning to read or catching up on podcasts, the choice is yours. Take a leisurely stroll along the beach, indulge in some snorkelling, or, for the more adventurous, consider a standup paddle-boarding lesson!

If relaxation calls for pampering, head to Spa Ephelia for a rejuvenating experience. Treat yourself to the Island Ritual, a spa-special created by the talented therapists, or opt for Wellness Grooming with a manicure, pedicure, or energetic yoga and fitness sessions. The renowned Sisley Paris offers a range of treatments, from facials to massages, using their famous essential oils and plant extracts. Feel free to consult your Concierge Host for spa appointment assistance.

Indulge and enjoy!

Evening:

Continuing the relaxation theme, tonight's highlight is a delightful "feet in the sand" beach BBQ (weather permitting), accompanied by local entertainment.

Meals:

Breakfast/Dinner

Jan. 7th

Mahé & Embarkation on the Silver Spirit

Morning:

In keeping with our commitment to flexibility and choice, our curated a range of half-day excursions are available for you to choose from this morning. Because we will be embarking the ship in the evening, you will only have time for one excursion today.

Prior to your departure from your home city, we will provide you with a list of excursions available for you to choose from. These must be pre-booked prior to your arrival in Mahé.

Afternoon:

Upon your return to the hotel, you are at leisure to have a relaxed lunch as well as time for any last-minute packing. Your room will be available for you until we depart the hotel to embark Silver Spirit.

Meals:

Breakfast

The ship is scheduled to sail this evening at 7.00pm.

Jan. 8th

La Digue, Seychelles

Urbanites look away. You'll find no bright lights or big cities here. Instead, it's just long ribbons of perfect beach, lush inland forests and enough kaleidoscopic coral reef to make any diver weak at the knees. Because of La Digue's proximity to both Praslin and Mahé, it is considered part of the holy trinity of the Seychelles. But that is not to say that it's a hot spot. On the contrary, life is taken at a slow pace here – transport is by bicycle or ox-cart (there are rumours that motor taxis exist but for now that's just hearsay), entertainment is a slow walk on paths shaded by tropical flowers, and life hums to the rhythm of bygone days. That is the true attraction of La Digue, the very other worldliness of the island; the feeling that nothing has changed since the 18th century. In fact, some of the residents (called Digueois) still carry the names of their forefathers, who arrived as slaves with the French colonialists in 1789. The island's beaches are, of course, legendary.

The jewel in La Digue's crown (and there are so many) would have to be La Anse Source d'Argent, frequently considered as one of the most beautiful beaches on the planet. This is truly the Holy Grail – a long string of powdery, white sand, bordered by the crystal-clear waters of the Indian Ocean. Scattered around the beach and shore are smooth granite boulders that form coves and caves and provide home for some of the most colourful underwater life you're ever likely to see.

Jan. 9th

Day at Sea

Days at sea offer the ideal chance to relax, unwind, and attend to those things you've been meaning to do. Whether it's hitting the gym, indulging in a spa visit, whale watching, catching up on reading, or simply basking in the sun to enhance your tan, these blue sea days provide the perfect counterbalance to the bustling days spent exploring ashore.

Jan. 10th

Antisiranana, Madagascar

Originally named Diego Suarez after a 16th century Portuguese navigator, Antisiranana was renamed in 1975 when independence from Portuguese rule was declared in Madagascar. The Bay of Diego is one of the largest natural bays in the world, and both bay and city are full of history. The bay was a battleground for the French in the 1880s, a depot for Russia in 1896, and again a point of focus for capture during World War II. In 1942, the Allies launched Operation Ironclad and landed forces at Courier Bay and Ambararata Bay, just west of Antisiranana. Hundreds of British soldiers fell in the Battle of Madagascar, and most of them were buried in the special British cemetery in the centre of town. Antisiranana leads to the Montagne d'Ambre (Amber Mountain) National Park, an isolated patch of mountain forest that rises from the surrounding dry region. The park is famous for its waterfalls, crater lakes, and wildlife, especially chameleons.

Jan. 11th

Day at Sea

Days at sea offer the ideal chance to relax, unwind, and attend to those things you've been meaning to do. Whether it's hitting the gym, indulging in a spa visit, whale watching, catching up on reading, or simply basking in the sun to enhance your tan, these blue sea days provide the perfect counterbalance to the bustling days spent exploring ashore.

Jan. 12th

Day at Sea

Days at sea offer the ideal chance to relax, unwind, and attend to those things you've been meaning to do. Whether it's hitting the gym, indulging in a spa visit, whale watching, catching up on reading, or simply basking in the sun to enhance your tan, these blue sea days provide the perfect counterbalance to the bustling days spent exploring ashore.

Jan. 13th

Port Louis, Mauritius

Located just off the east coast of Madagascar, Mauritius is fast making a name for itself as the tropical paradise of the Indian Ocean. A volcanic island approximately 10 million years old, Mauritius is thought to be the peak of an enormous sunken volcanic chain stretching from the Seychelles to Réunion. In fact, volcanic lakes and inactive craters can be found scattered throughout the island. Mauritius also boasts a unique marine environment. Surrounded by one of the largest unbroken coral reefs on the planet, conservationists are now campaigning to protect its white coral sand beaches and fragile ecosystem.

Though it can be found on the maps of early Arab mariners, Mauritius remained uninhabited until the end of the 16th century. Portuguese became the first European visitors in 1510, however, they did not lay claim to the island. In 1598 Dutch colonists settled on the island, naming it after Prince Maurice of Nassau. The Dutch colonial period saw the development of thriving sugar cane plantations as well as the decimation of the ebony forests and the extinction of the dodo bird and other indigenous wildlife. Eventually abandoning their settlement in 1710, Mauritius lay unclaimed until the arrival of the French five years later. French continued the cultivation of sugar as well as indigo, cloves, nutmeg and other spices, retaining possession of the island until 1810 when it was ceded to Britain at the end of the Napoleonic Wars. Mauritius is now a vibrant cultural mix with impressive mountains, boundless sugar cane plantations and some of the most exquisite beaches and aquamarine lagoons.

Jan. 14th

Pointe des Galets, Reunion

Feel the excitement as you enter the Pointe des Galets port in the northwest of the Reunion Island, this gorgeous tropical island is yours to discover. Immerse yourself in local life by visiting one of the weekly markets, the perfume of vanilla beans, coffee and vetiver straight from the plantations will awaken your senses..

If it's relaxing beach time you're after, head for the Boucan Canot beach, one of the islands most beautiful and safest beaches to swim. The expanse of fine white sand is an invitation to unwind, palm groves offer green relief, bars and cafes a place to sip on ice cold drinks whilst contemplating the vast Indian ocean before you.

Saint-Denis the capital of the Reunion Island a mere 20 minutes away, is a must visit. A rich cultural heritage and wonderful location, makes a walk through the historic centre a joy. Admire the beautiful 19th century Creole architecture, stroll the length of the elegant rue de Paris. There are plenty of historic monuments to visit and peaceful shady gardens.

Jan. 15th

Day at Sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So, whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale watching, catching up on your reading or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shore side.

Jan. 16th

Tolagnaro, Madagascar

Tolagnaro, this secluded port at the end of the world sits on a little green peninsula jutting out into the Indian ocean, edged on three sides with scalloped shaped sandy bays Mountains rise, protectively behind the town and lush vegetation runs down the steep slopes making the rest of the world and its problems seem very far away indeed.

The gorgeously sheltered Libanona beach is the place to head for a swim and a dreamy place to sunbathe on soft, fine sand. Surfers are spoilt for choice, able to wait for the perfect break on world famous surf beaches like Ankoba and Monseigneur Bay, which are also great places to eat delicious freshly caught seafood.

The variety of surrounding landscapes is extreme due to diverse local climates. Verdant rain forests with ravenala, carnivorous plants and shy orchids make a sharp contrast to the spectacularly arid areas of Madagascar spiny forest, home to bottle trees and thorn bushes. These landscapes are true havens to a variety of wildlife, lemurs, tortoises, crocodiles, exotic birds and butterflies. There are numerous reserves and natural parks close by, offering the chance to discover this rich fauna and flora often endemic to the island.

St Louis' Pic dominates the whole town and accompanied by a guide, a hike to the top, 529 metres altitude, is the very best place to admire magnificent views of Fort Dauphin, feeling on top of the world.

Jan. 17th

Day at Sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So, whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale watching, catching up on your reading or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shore side.

Jan. 18th

Day at Sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So, whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale watching, catching up on your reading or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shore side.

Jan. 19th

Day at Sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So, whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale watching, catching up on your reading or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shore side.

Jan. 20th

East London, South Africa

A very British name tells us who established the city of East London. The British built this port on the Buffalo River in 1847 to service their military forts and troops in disputes over land with the Xhosa people. European settlement expanded and East London grew. Settlers usually walk in the footsteps of others who lived on the land before them. Here, many people must have resided over the years as the oldest footprints in the world, at 200,000 years, were found nearby. Most of the eight million Xhosa people live in Eastern Cape Province. They are a proud people with a rich and ongoing culture which they celebrate with vibrant clothing, music and dance.

Beaded jewellery is important for many reasons—decoration for dancers, special ceremonies and indicating the social status of women. Today they live in an Africa with modern opportunities and challenges, and ongoing links to their past. The city has several natural attractions for residents and visitors alike. Sandy beaches are popular with residents, who also enjoy water activities on the sheltered and picturesque Buffalo River. Like many areas of South Africa, game parks are popular for local wildlife lovers. Speaking of nature, near to East London is where the first living (well freshly dead in an angler's catch) coelacanth known to science was found in 1938. This lobe-finned fish had been only known from 66-million-year-old fossils. It is more closely related to four-legged land animals than typical ray-finned fish. This place has history.

Jan. 21st

Port Elizabeth, South Africa

Port Elizabeth, or PE is an uncut gem of a destination. Loved by wealthy South African families as a holiday destination, it is a city has of faces. One: a natural haven with unspoiled beaches, rolling sand dunes and the warm Indian Ocean lapping at your feet and two: a post-industrial migrant city with a rich heritage. PE is also called Nelson Mandela Bay, and there is much here that celebrates him – starting with Route 67, a collection of 67 artworks honouring the 67 years that Mandela dedicated to achieving South Africa's freedom.

Known as “the friendly city”, Port Elizabeth is enjoying an urban regeneration, spurred on by the youth of the region that want to put it (back) on the map. Think vibrant creative projects spilling out wherever you go; a pedestrianised central zone, galleries selling local artworks, restaurants serving South African fusion food, award-winning buildings that house museums, restored Victorian terraces. Unsurprisingly, the boardwalk is buzzing. PE's proximity to the excellent nature parks at Addo and Lalibela make it an ideal destination for game lovers. Both of these parks are a little way from PE (70 and 90 kilometres east respectively) but both offer a chance to revel in South Africa's no holds barred natural beauty. This is the real reason why people come to South Africa – for a chance to see the fabled Big Five. Addo even boasts the Big Seven (lion, elephant, rhino, buffalo and leopard, as well as the great white shark and Southern right whale).

Jan. 22nd

Day at Sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So, whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale watching, catching up on your reading or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shore side.

Jan. 23rd

Cape Town, South Africa and Disembarkation

Sprawling across endless, staggeringly blue coastline, and watched over by the iconic plane of Table Mountain, Cape Town is without doubt one of the world's most beautiful cities. A blend of spectacular mountain scenery, multiculturalism and relaxed ocean charm awaits in the Mother City, where you can venture out to rolling vineyards, dine in laid back sea suburbs, or spend days exploring cool urban culture. Cape Town's natural splendour fully reveals itself as the cable car rears sharply to the top of Table Mountain. From the summit, 3,500 feet above sea level, you can let the scale of the panoramic vistas of the city rolling down towards the ocean wash over you. Another heavenly perspective waits at the top of Lion's Head's tapering peak. A sharp hike and an early start is required, but the views of the morning sun painting Table Mountain honey-gold are some of Cape Town's finest.

Cape Town's glorious sunshine and inviting blue rollers can be a little deceiving - these oceans are anything but warm at times, with nothing between the peninsula's end and Antarctica's icy chill. This cool water has upsides though, bringing a colony of adorably cute African penguins to Boulders Beach. Boarded walkways offer the perfect vantage point to see the cute creatures dipping into the sea and lounging in the sun.

Nearby, journey to the end of Africa at the Cape of Good Hope, where you can stand at the bottom of this mighty continent, watching out over the merging waves of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. Cape Town's beauty is counterpointed by the ominous island form, which sits four miles offshore from the bustling restaurants and lazy seals of the lively V&A Waterfront. A living history lesson, you can sail in the ships that transported prisoners out to Robben Island, before a former prisoner tells of the traumas of life on this offshore prison. Your guide will show you the cramped cells, and render Mandela's long walk to freedom in heart-breaking, visceral clarity.

Jan. 23rd

Cape Town, South Africa

After collecting your luggage, your Concierge Host will be on hand to assist you to our transportation, and we will depart on a leisurely morning sightseeing tour of Cape Town.

Sightseeing is always guaranteed to make you hungry, so we'll head to the Victoria & Albert Waterfront for a delicious seafood lunch. After lunch, we'll proceed to our hotel for check-in.

Our home for the next 3 nights will be the beautiful Taj Cape Town or similar.

A breathtaking fusion of rich Indian heritage, signature Taj service, generous local traditions, and contemporary design, Taj Cape Town resides at the heart of the Mother City's dynamic business and leisure hub on Wale Street, Cape Town. Located in the centre of the old city, it boasts a strong sense of place and is within walking distance of some of South Africa's foremost landmarks, attractions, and an eclectic array of shops, galleries, and restaurants. Spread across two heritage buildings, all rooms at the 5-star hotel in Cape Town have spectacular city views or overlook the iconic Table Mountain.

Taj Cape Town has a diverse and exotic range of classic and contemporary restaurants, a lounge, and bars to choose from. Taste sumptuous gourmet cuisines and experience modern twists on dishes from across countries and cultures. Sumptuous and alluring décor mixed with exotic and dynamically textured fine Indian cuisine at the Bombay Brasserie will tantalise every sense and awaken a spirit of India in your consciousness. The Mint Restaurant and wood-fired Grill offer a host of all-day dining options for hotel guests and visitors alike. The Taj Lobby Bar and Lounge is the perfect place to unwind with a reviving cup of coffee or tea, a slice of heavenly cake, or an evening aperitif.

Afternoon & Evening:

The remainder of your day and evening is at leisure.

Meals:

Breakfast (onboard)/ Lunch

Jan. 24th

The Cape Winelands

Full Day:

Certainly, no visit to South Africa, especially the Southern Cape, is complete without experiencing the stunning scenery and indulging in the exquisite cuisine and wines of Stellenbosch.

Today, embark on a fantastic full-day excursion to the Cape Winelands, offering the privilege of one of South Africa's most unique and finest dining experiences. Vuur Restaurant and Remhoogte Wine Estate enjoy almost cult status, with the restaurant accommodating only 10 guests treated to a 7-course chef's tasting menu showcasing the finest meats and seafood in South Africa. Non-meat options include equally delightful pescatarian and vegetarian tasting menus. The unique method of cooking, using open flames and embers, results in exceptional food. Lunch features wine pairings for each course, followed by a wine tasting and another non-wine-related activity before returning to Cape Town.

Evening:

After a day of beautiful scenery, wine tasting, and exceptional food, we recommend a leisurely evening for you to enjoy as you please! Perhaps consider room service for a relaxing end to your day.

Meals:

Breakfast/Lunch

Jan. 25th

Safari

You can't visit South Africa without seeking the Big 5 – lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, and buffalo. So, into the bush, we shall go! This full-day Big 5 safari experience adds excitement to your Cape Town itinerary, providing a diverse array of wildlife and immersing you in the untamed beauty of the Karoo. Aquila's one-day safari offers a fantastic opportunity to encounter South Africa's iconic big five animals, capture stunning wildlife photos, and experience an authentic African game drive safari without venturing too far from the city. Led by experienced game rangers and field guides, Aquila's traditional vehicle safaris ensure the best chances of seeing the reserve's natural wildlife. Your safari guide will navigate you through Aquila's 10,000-hectare reserve, sharing insider stories and facts about the unique Karoo fauna and flora.

Welcome drinks, buffet breakfast and lunch, a 2-to-3-hour traditional safari game drive, and a complimentary Eco Synergy Tour are all included. We'll depart mid-afternoon to head back to Cape Town.

Evening:

Sadly, we've come to the end of our incredible journey from the Seychelles to Madagascar, the west coast of South Africa, and finally, Cape Town. But we can't part without a wonderful farewell dinner! Tonight, we have planned a beautiful dinner at the stunning 12 Apostles Hotel in Camps Bay, with incredible views across the Atlantic Ocean. It's time for your favourite cocktail or glass (or two) of wine in the famous Leopard Bar, followed by delicious food in one of the most wonderful locations in Cape Town. Come, celebrate your travels and enjoy!

Meals:

Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Jan. 26th

Cape Town and Connecting Flights Home

After breakfast this morning, we will begin our transfers by private car or van to the airport to coincide with your departure flights throughout the day.

We strongly believe that you should be comfortable right until your departure for the airport. Therefore, should you have an afternoon or evening flight departure, your hotel room will be available to you until 6.00 pm.

Your Concierge Host (along with our local airport hosts) will be available to assist you at all times prior to departure and with your check-in at the airport.

It's always sad to say goodbye, but we would just like to express our gratitude to you for choosing to travel with us and for becoming a part of our wonderfully unique family of travellers. We sincerely hope your travels were not only enjoyable and enlightening but that you have come away having made some very special and wonderful new friends.

We can't wait to welcome you back on your next voyage of discovery.

Included

- *Services of our Concierge Host throughout your entire journey*
- *16-day Indian Ocean & Africa cruise onboard Silver Spirit*
- *3-nights luxury hotel accommodation in Mahe, Seychelles*
- *Private car airport/hotel transfer in Mahe*
- *Group transfer hotel/ship in Mahe*
- *3-nights luxury accommodation (with late check-out) in Cape Town*
- *Spa treatments as noted in the itinerary*
- *Multiple experiences and excursions as noted in the itinerary*
- *Private car & group transfers as noted in the itinerary*

Included

- *Long-haul intercontinental flights to Mahe and from Cape Town.*
- *Airline luggage charges in excess of one 23kg checked bag*
- *Visa fees*
- *Comprehensive travel insurance*
- *Meals & beverages not mentioned in the itinerary*
- *Laundry & dry cleaning services*
- *Items of a personal nature*
- *Credit card fees if paying by Visa, Mastercard or American Express*

Further Details

- *Minimum age is 55 years.*
- *This journey contains some active elements, including walks over uneven terrain and labour-intensive activities.*
- *Specifics regarding booking and terms can be found in the [Terms & Conditions](#), the [Privacy Policy](#), and/or by contacting support@solocruisecompany.com.*

Silver Spirit

