

Professor David Keeling
PROPOSED LECTURES FOR 2024-2025 VOYAGES
ABOARD THE M/S PAUL GAUGUIN

Islands of the Marquesas & Tuamotus | September 14, 2024 | 14 Nights

- **Island Geographies: Resources and Geopolitics** – Examines the cultural and physical properties of the Pacific islands, with a specific focus on our cruise destinations in French Polynesia. The lecture will also highlight the colonial and post-colonial context of exploration and settlement in the Pacific region, including the Society Islands.
- **Law of the Sea: Why do Countries Have More Territory than Just Land?** – Explains how exclusive economic zones work, why islands have more political and resource territory than just land, and how this system evolved after 1945. Also examines the role of the U.S. and the United Nations in establishing a framework for managing the resources of the oceans.
- **Hot Spots, Island Arcs, and Volcanic Chains in the Pacific Ocean** – Details how the islands of the Pacific Ocean support biodiversity that has evolved in the context of diverse and complex geological forces. Examines how the Pacific Ocean was formed, why current island groups are where they are, and how changing climates are reshaping the region.
- **Voyages of Discovery: In the Footsteps of Polynesians, Iberians, and Gauguin** – Follows early explorers as they embarked on voyages of discovery around the world and across the Pacific Ocean. Explains how politics and technology motivated early explorers. Examines what motivated artists like Paul Gauguin to travel to the South Pacific in the 19th century and others thereafter.
- **Myths and Legends of the South Pacific - Cyclones, Ocean Currents, and Rogue Waves** – Explores the physical properties of the southwestern Pacific Ocean and the beauty of the region's seascapes. Highlights some of the South Pacific myths associated with the ocean and its islands, including the Myth of the Shark God and the Legend of the Octopus Lure.
- **The Magical Marquesas** - Explores the physical and cultural development of this island archipelago northeast of Tahiti. As the burial place of Paul Gauguin and Belgian singer Jacques Brel, the islands have a fascinating cultural history. The lecture will highlight our Marquesas ports of call.

Society Islands, Cook Islands, Tonga & Fiji | January 4, 2025 | 14 Nights

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- **Hot Spots, Island Arcs, and Volcanic Chains in the Pacific Ocean** – Details how the islands of the Pacific Ocean support biodiversity that has evolved in the context of diverse and complex geological forces. Examines how the Pacific Ocean was formed, why current island groups are where they are, and how changing climates are reshaping the region.
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- **Fiji and Geographies of the Indian Diaspora** – Explores the colonial heritage of the Fiji Islands, the arrival of successive waves of South Asian migrants, and the physical nature of the Fijian Archipelago. Discusses Fiji's approach to sustainable tourism and provides examples of highlights of each of our cruise destinations.

Crossing Oceania: Fiji to Bali | January 19, 2025 | 20 Nights

- **Law of the Sea: Why do Countries Have More Territory than Just Land?** – Explains how exclusive economic zones work, why islands have more political and resource territory than just land, and how this system evolved after 1945. Also examines the role of the U.S. and the United Nations in establishing a framework for managing the resources of the oceans.
- **A Historical Geography of Vanuatu** – Examines the 3,500-year history of the settlement and development of the Vanuatu archipelago, with a focus on 17th-century European exploration and the Anglo-French control of the islands in the 20th century. Discusses

the controversial “blackbirding” economy, post-World War II development, and modern tourism.

- **Geographies of WWII Pacific Island Battles** – Explores the emergence of Japan’s imperial ambitions in the Pacific region, focuses on several of the key naval and land battles that took place along our cruise route, and examines the U.S. and its allies’ responses in the region.
- **The Geography and History of the Solomons** – Maps the settlement of the Solomons from early human arrivals about 30,000 ago, to the Lapita people, and into the European era. Discusses the independence movement, ethnic tensions, environmental impacts of logging, and more recent economic developments.
- **Papua New Guinea and the Challenges of Post-Colonial Development** – Discusses the early settlement of the island, its division between competing colonial powers, and post-independence challenges. Explores PNG’s approach to globalization, especially the search for rare-earth minerals, and provides visual highlights of our cruise destinations.
- **Trade Routes Across the Region** – Follows the >5,000-year evolution of trade routes in the region against the backdrop of historical globalization, and the impact of European explorations on local economic development. Highlights the resource capability of countries in the region and their contemporary integration into the global economic system.
- **Voyages of Discovery: In the Footsteps of Austronesians and Europeans** - Follows early explorers as they embarked on voyages of discovery around the world and across the Indian Ocean to Southeast Asia. Explains how politics and technology motivated early explorers. Examines what motivated artists and writers like Rudolf Bonnet and Walter Spies to travel to Bali in the early 20th century and others thereafter.
- **Darwin and Wallace – 19th Century Theories about Speciation** - Maps help to tell the story of how Southeast Asia and Australasia were separated during the last Ice Age and how flora and fauna developed independently. Explains how the 19th-century research of Charles Darwin (Galapagos) and Alfred Wallace (Indonesia) laid the foundations for modern evolutionary biology and our understanding of the distribution of plants and animals.
- **Timor Leste: From Colony to Independence** – Discusses the early settlement of the island of Timor, its colonization by Europeans, the struggle for independence by East Timor, and the growth of modern society. Explores the benefits and challenges of the “resource curse” – oil – and its impact on the sustainability of the future Timorian economy.

- **Nationalism and Identity on Indonesia's Bejeweled Islands** – Provides an overview of the historical settlement of the myriad islands that comprise Indonesia, the Dutch East Indies period, independence, and the modern state. Examines the diverse linguistic and cultural systems that shape contemporary Indonesia.
- **Bali – A Cultural and Physical Experience** – Previews our final destination on this cruise with a specific focus on those attributes that define Bali as very different from other Indonesian islands. Examines the society's Hindu roots and its growth from an important stop on the 1960s' hippie trail to a global "bucket-list" destination today.