



Flock to Marion Newsletter No. 3: 14 July 2021

Dear Flock to Marion passengers

In these dark times that our country is enduring, a little light at the end of the tunnel. MSC Cruises and BirdLife South Africa remain committed to the continuation of the Flock to Marion voyage and we are all working hard under trying circumstances to ensure a successful voyage.

It has been a little while since our last newsletter, but I'm pleased to report that the migration of the cabin bookings from the MSC Lirica to the MSC Musica is well under way, albeit a slightly slower process than we anticipated.

We will communicate all new booking confirmations as soon as we are able to. This has proved to be an enormous administrative task, hampered by the increase of Covid-19 infections and the Level 4 restrictions which have impacted both MSC Cruises' and BirdLife South Africa offices, with all staff now working remotely due to full office closures.

As a reminder and in case you have not seen our last communication, not only has the ship changed but we now have a reversal of the departure ports; i.e the MSC Musica now leaves Cape Town on 24 January and arrives in Durban on 31 January 2022.

As soon as the reallocation of bookings has been completed, we will be reopening for new bookings. In the meantime, if you are interested in booking on the voyage or have any enquiries in this regard, please click [HERE](#) to contact us.



Kind regards

Mark D. Anderson
Chief Executive Officer
BirdLife South Africa

**Announcing a Flock to Marion series of seabird and mammal
ID courses**

***** SAVE THE DATES *****



SMALL

White-bellied Storm Petrel
- Peter Ryan



BIGGER

Grey Petrel - Ross Wanless



BIGGEST

Wandering Albatross - Otto Schreier

Introducing a series of seabird and marine mammal ID courses. Presented by experts for you to get to know the wildlife before the Flock to Marion voyage.

To help you prepare for this trip of a lifetime we are providing an opportunity for you to learn from some of our Flock to Marion specialist bird and marine mammal guides before we depart.

R50 admission per person per workshop

DATE	TITLE	PRESENTER
Thursday 04 November	Big Birds; Albatrosses and Giant Petrels	Trevor Hardaker Zest for Birds
Thursday 11 November	Medium Birds; Skuas, Shearwaters and Petrels	Vincent Ward Cape Town Pelagics
Thursday 18 November	The Other Birds; Coastal seabirds and Penguins	Dr. Daniel Danckwerts Rockjumper Birding Tours
Thursday 25 November	Small Birds; Diving petrels, Storm Petrels, Prions	Dr. Dominic Rollinson Birding Ecotours
Thursday 02 December	Marine Mammals	Prof. Kenneth Findlay

All we'd like you to do right now is to diarise these dates. Registration and payment details will follow.

SAVE THESE DATES



The BirdLife South Africa Expedition to our Southern Ocean Islands

to Marion 2022



Jackpot birding!

Help our country's birds by purchasing a ticket in BirdLife South Africa's annual raffle. This year there are four prizes! **First prize is R100 000**, with three additional prizes of R10 000 each.

RAFFLE!
R500 per
ticket
(only 1000
tickets)



You may consider supporting BirdLife South Africa in another way. Our annual raffle provides much-needed funding for our conservation work, while offering bird and nature lovers the opportunity of an exciting windfall! The tickets are R500 each and only 1000 are available. That's good odds to win the R100,000 first prize or the three R10,000 consolation prizes! Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#). Please encourage your friends to support our raffle.

A reminder, each time a newsletter goes out it will be saved to the website and copies of these can be found under [Newsletter Updates](#) on the BirdLife South Africa website.

(POPIA ACT) PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION ACT

BirdLife South Africa respects your privacy and is committed to keeping your personal information secure and confidential. In compliance with our obligations under POPIA and PAIA, we are currently notifying everyone on our database of the following:

From 1 July 2021, the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA) is coming into full effect. If you are no longer interested in receiving information from us, please unsubscribe on the link below.

Kind regards,

The Flock to Marion Organising Committee
