

**ATLANTIC TRAVEL & TOURS**

**EGYPT, MIDDLE EAST,  
INDIAN OCEAN AND JAPAN  
PET-FRIENDLY TRAVEL**

**DISCOVER OFF-THE-BEATEN-TRACK DESTINATIONS  
WITH YOUR PET: RELAXATION AND FUN  
WITHOUT LIMITS**



**[WWW.VISITATLANTICTRAVELTOURS.COM](http://WWW.VISITATLANTICTRAVELTOURS.COM)**

## FROM THE CEO - FOUNDER

---

Dear travelers,

Imagine a journey where you are never alone: your four-legged companion walks beside you every step of the way, sharing every discovery, every city view, and every corner of nature. Each experience becomes a moment to enjoy together, filled with authentic emotions and companionship, with the joy of exploring side by side.

Picture peaceful walks along quiet beaches, sunlit waterfronts, parks, and scenic trails immersed in nature, **where your pet can move freely and safely**. Imagine charming small towns, cafés, and local markets welcoming both you and your dog or cat, **creating memories that will forever remain part of your story**.

This brochure is an invitation **to explore, to be inspired**, and to imagine every experience as a special moment to share together. Each page offers atmospheres, ideas, and carefully selected details designed to make you feel **free, comfortable, and fully immersed in the beauty of each destination**.

Open these pages, **let yourselves be carried away by emotion**, and begin planning a pet-friendly journey that belongs as much to your companion as it does to you — an unforgettable adventure to experience together.



*Steve Tabacchi*

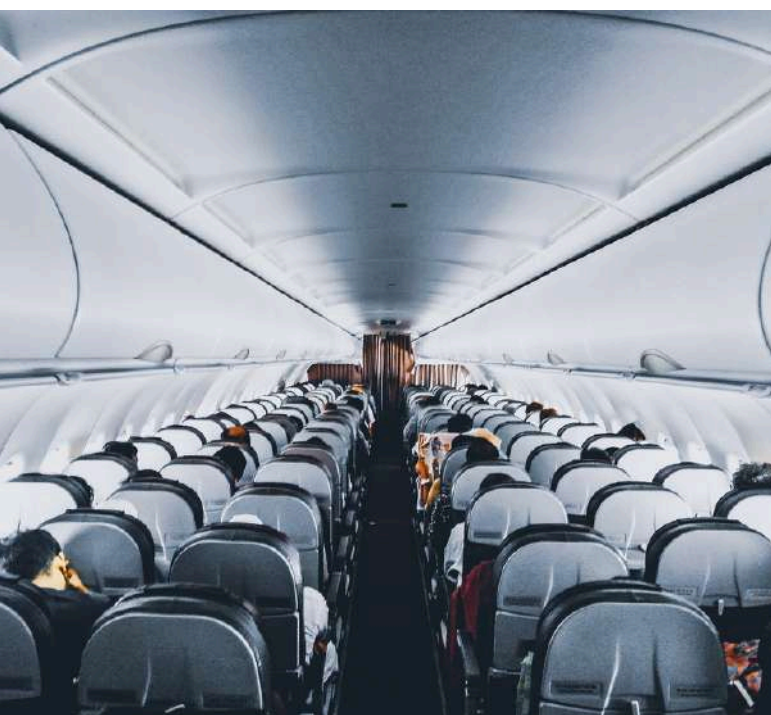
DR. STEVE TABACCHI  
CEO - FOUNDER  
ATLANTIC TRAVEL & TOURS



**WHY TRAVEL  
WITH US**

**DISCOVER WHY OUR  
TOUR OPERATOR IS  
UNIQUE AND  
UNRIVALED!**

# BESPOKE TRAVEL FOR EVERYONE



## OUR TRAVEL ITINERARIES

We exclusively curate itineraries for innovative and original travel experiences that diverge from the conventional paths of mass tourism. Our aim is for each customer to be the protagonist of their own journey.

## OUR TRAVEL CLASSES

We arrange travel for the following categories:

- **FIRST**
- **PREMIUM**
- **ECONOMY**

# WE ORGANIZE ITINERARIES USING THE FOLLOWING TRANSPORTS



## CAR

- ✓ RENTAL



## VAN

- ✓ RENTAL
- ✓ SCHEDULED TOURS WITH DRIVER



## COACH

- ✓ RENTAL WITH DRIVER
- ✓ SCHEDULED TOURS WITH DRIVER



## MOTORHOME

- ✓ RENTAL



## MOTORCYCLE

- ✓ CHARTER SERVICES
- ✓ TAILOR MADE TRAVEL ITINERARIES

# WE ORGANIZE ITINERARIES USING THE FOLLOWING TRANSPORTS



## AIRPLANE

- ✔ DOMESTIC FLIGHTS



## BOAT

- ✔ TOURS AND EXCURSIONS
- ✔ INTERNAL TRANSFERS



## FERRY

- ✔ INTERNAL TRANSFERS



## SEAPLANE

- ✔ INTERNAL TRANSFERS

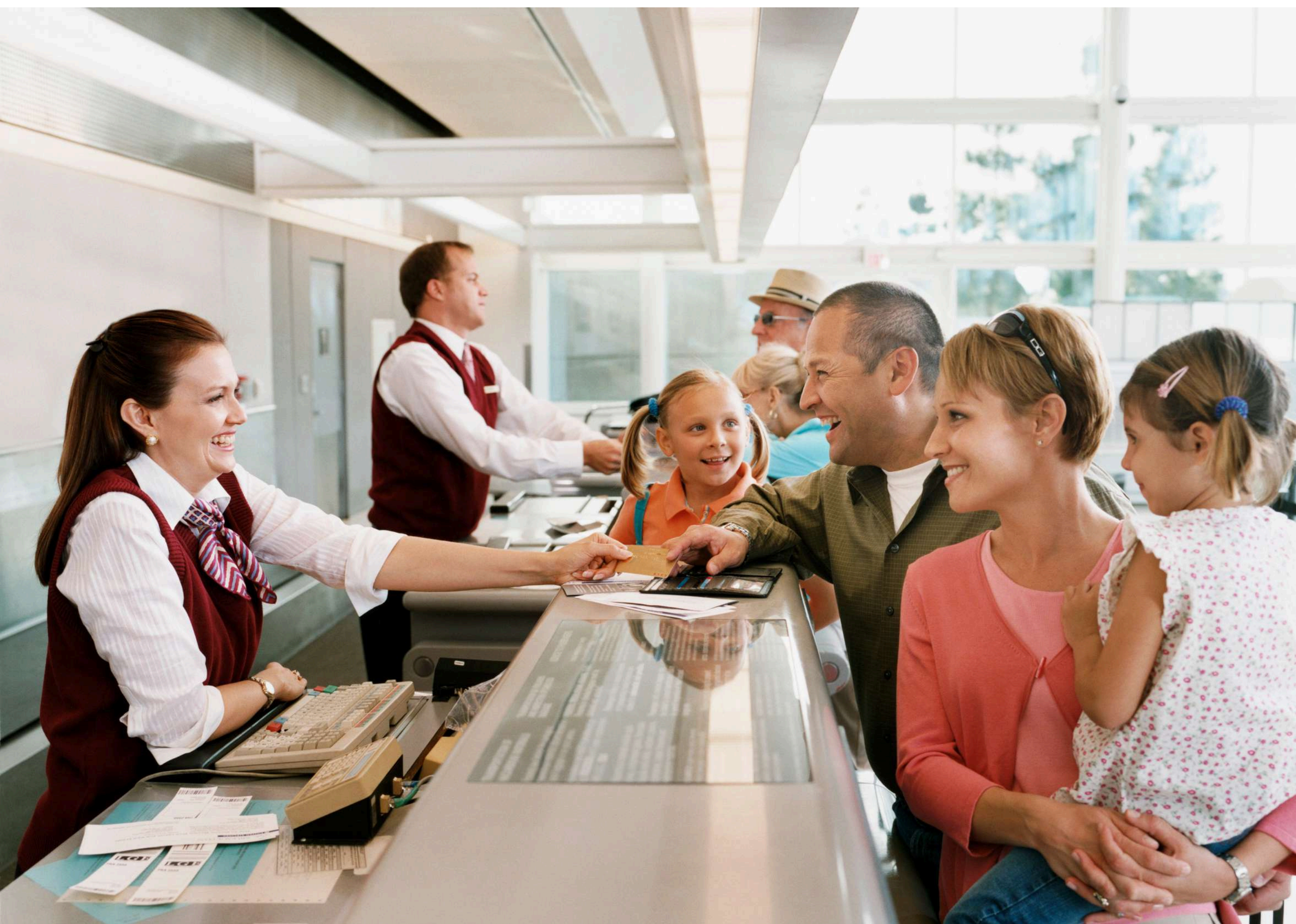


## TRAIN

- ✔ INTERNAL TRANSFERS

# PRIORITY CHECK-IN AND CHECKED BAGGAGE

Bid farewell to lengthy check-in queues! With our priority check-in service, you can swiftly obtain your boarding pass and check in your baggage. We are consistently prepared to provide this option, contingent upon airline availability, to enhance your travel experience, whether you are flying in premium or economy class. **Do not squander time; opt for comfort!**



# NO QUEUES AT THE AIRPORT WITH THE FAST TRACK SERVICE



We understand the frustration of enduring lengthy waits at airport security. Therefore, we consistently incorporate fast track access into our travel packages, allowing you to bypass the queue and enjoy a stress-free experience.

The service is contingent upon the availability at each airport, thus we cannot assure its constant accessibility. Nevertheless, we are pleased to announce that it has been implemented in the majority of the airports we utilize. **Seize this opportunity!**





# COMFORT IN AIRPORT LOUNGES

Once reserved solely for business and first-class passengers, airport lounges are now available to travelers in other classes as well. We provide the highest level of comfort and luxury to ensure your airport experience is memorable. In our travel packages, we consistently strive to include access to these exclusive areas at both departure and arrival points (subject to airport and airline availability). Relax, indulge in culinary delights, savor fine beverages, and enjoy refreshing showers, all within elegant and tranquil settings. **Seize this exceptional opportunity!**










# OTHERS SERVICES

OUR EXCEPTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH DIVERSE SUPPLIERS ENABLE US TO PROVIDE OUR CUSTOMERS WITH THE FINEST OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

**ADVANCED LUGGAGE SHIPPING**  
**TOURIST VISAS**  
**CURRENCY EXCHANGE**  
**INSURANCE POLICIES**



	AUD	7.01
	NZD	5.05
	JPY	0.0913
	GBP	11.23
	EUR	9.71
	SGD	5.35
	CHF	7.01



# ALWAYS TRAVEL WITH A PREMIUM DISCOUNT!



**-20%**

- **ACTIVE YEAR-ROUND**
- **FOR ALL CATEGORIES OF TRAVELERS**
- **NO MINIMUM SPENDING THRESHOLD REQUIRED**



# TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER

FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE TOUR  
**FOREVER**



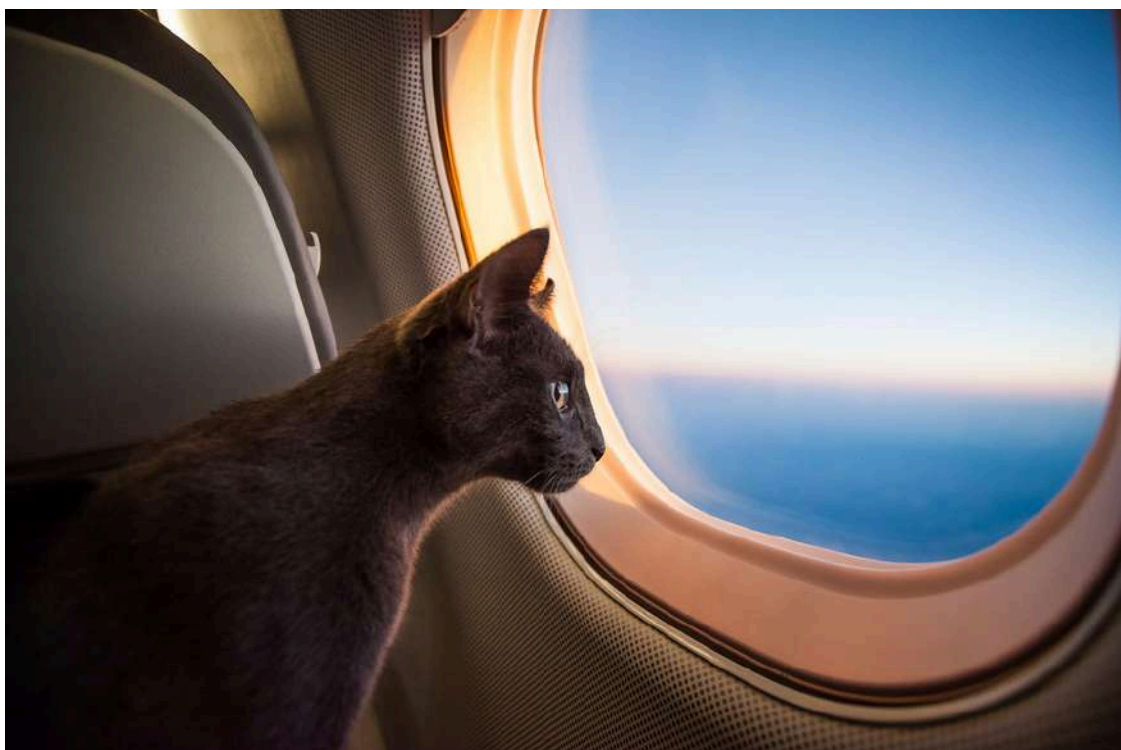
Certain journeys hold a unique significance: a honeymoon, a wedding anniversary marked by the renewal of vows, or cherished moments spent with close friends or family. Such beautiful occasions will be immortalized through professional photography and videography. Should you wish to incorporate this option into your upcoming trip, we are pleased to provide assistance with photographers who can transform your experience into a lasting memory.



## **ONE FREE INDIVIDUAL FOR EVERY 15 PAYING CUSTOMERS**

Take advantage of our **perpetually active** promotion. If you can gather a **minimum of 15 individuals**, one person will receive a **complimentary** trip. Consider anyone who might be interested among family, friends, colleagues, or others. Additionally, if you require a tour leader or tour guide to assist you and your group throughout the entire tour, we can provide this service as well

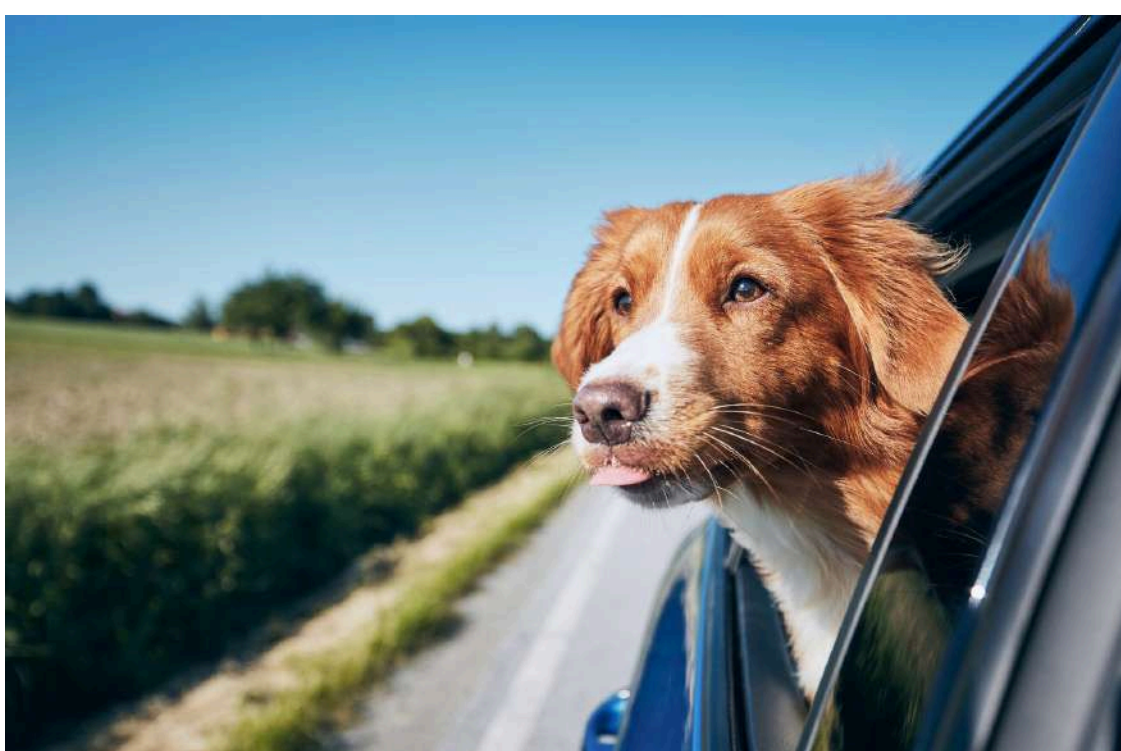
# TRAVELING WITH PETS

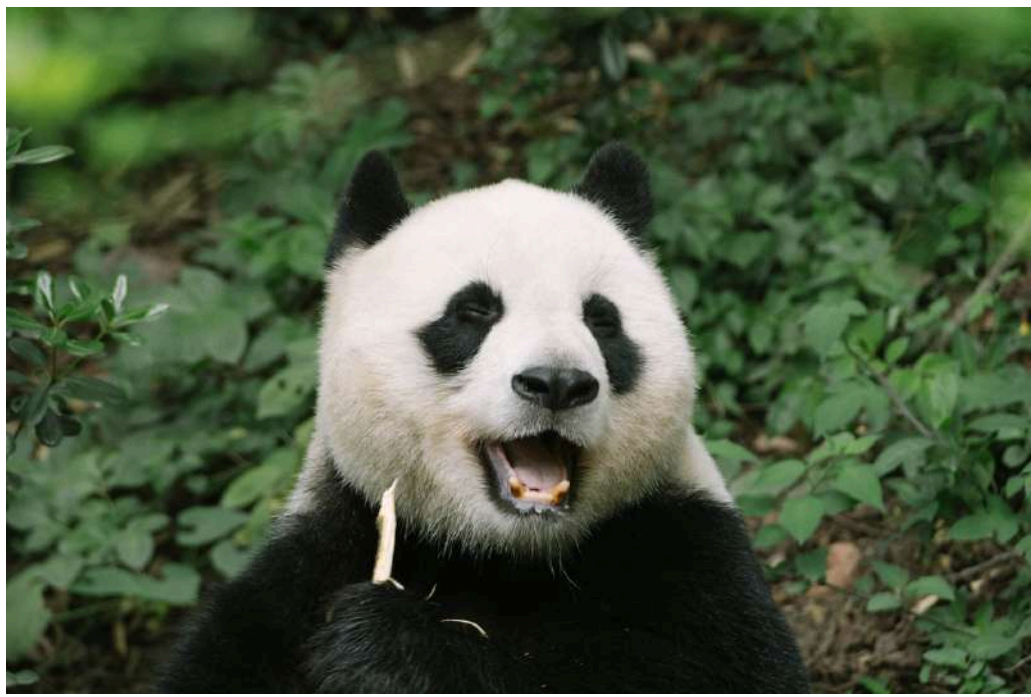


Do you wish to travel but are uncertain about who to entrust your four-legged companion to? Why not bring him or her along for the adventure? After all, he or she is an essential member of your family. We also arrange customized trips for this specific situation.

## SERVICES OFFERED

- **TRANSPORT**
- **ACCOMMODATION**
- **PET SITTING SERVICE**
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE FOR ANIMALS**

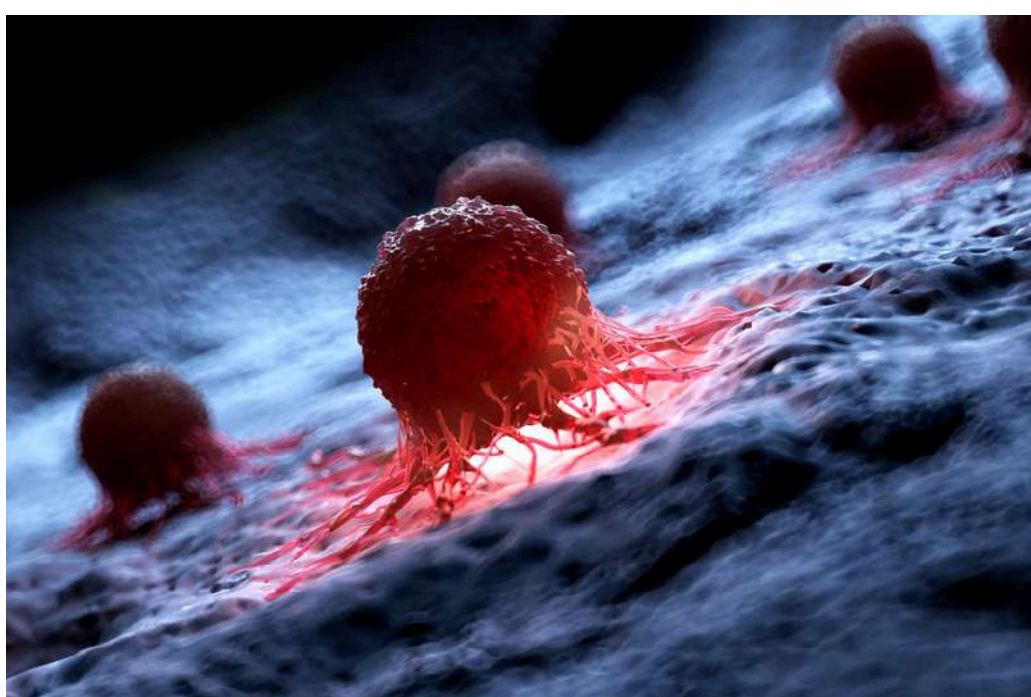




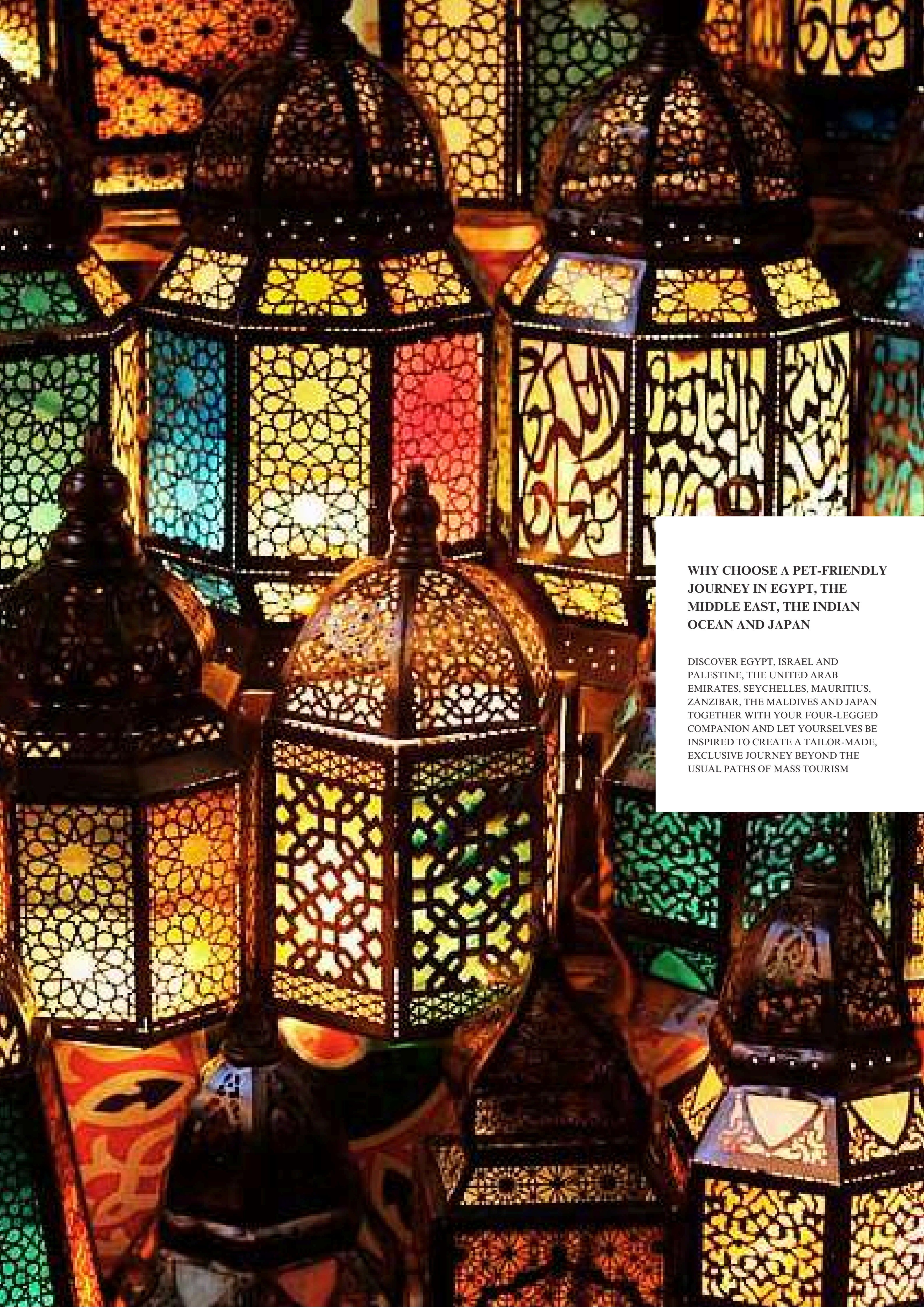
## **OUR COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CANCER RESEARCH**



THROUGH OUR TRIPS, WE AIM TO PROVIDE OUR CUSTOMERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO **SUPPORT** NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS DEDICATED TO ADDRESSING THE FOLLOWING GLOBAL CHALLENGES.



- **CONSERVATION OF PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE**
- **GLOBAL WARMING**
- **CANCER RESEARCH**



**WHY CHOOSE A PET-FRIENDLY  
JOURNEY IN EGYPT, THE  
MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN  
OCEAN AND JAPAN**

DISCOVER EGYPT, ISRAEL AND  
PALESTINE, THE UNITED ARAB  
EMIRATES, SEYCHELLES, MAURITIUS,  
ZANZIBAR, THE MALDIVES AND JAPAN  
TOGETHER WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED  
COMPANION AND LET YOURSELVES BE  
INSPIRED TO CREATE A TAILOR-MADE,  
EXCLUSIVE JOURNEY BEYOND THE  
USUAL PATHS OF MASS TOURISM

# PET-FRIENDLY TRAVEL IN EGYPT, THE MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN OCEAN, AND JAPAN



There are journeys that involve not only people, but also their four-legged companions. Pet-friendly travel isn't simply a logistical choice, but a way to experience the journey without separation, seeking destinations and accommodations that allow for a harmonious coexistence between travel, discovery, and everyday life.

Between Egypt, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and Japan, options vary greatly depending on local regulations and the type of infrastructure available, but there are more suitable contexts where open spaces, coastal areas, and natural environments make the experience more flexible and manageable.

In these regions, landscape plays a fundamental role. In Egypt, coastal and desert areas offer vast open spaces; in the Middle East, urban waterfronts and organized desert areas allow for controlled strolls; in the Indian Ocean, islands develop in flat, natural environments; in Japan, urban parks, riverfronts, and selected coastal areas become the most suitable settings.

Water and open spaces become central elements of the journey. The coasts of the Red Sea and the Mediterranean in Egypt, the modern waterfronts of Gulf cities, the beaches and lagoons of tropical islands, and the parks along rivers and bays in Japan offer environments where outdoor mobility is easier and more natural.

The pace of pet-friendly travel tends to be more structured and stable. In the Indian Ocean, extended stays in resorts or facilities immersed in nature are prevalent; in the Middle East, modern cities allow for walks in dedicated areas and urban green spaces; in Egypt, experiences focus on organized excursions and open areas; in Japan, the combination of efficient transportation and public parks allows for more flexible travel, albeit with some restrictions at cultural sites.

The cultural component remains present, but is primarily experienced through open and accessible contexts. In Egypt and the Middle East, the focus is on waterfronts, modern neighborhoods, and scenic areas; in the Indian Ocean, local culture intertwines with island nature and coastal villages; in Japan, the cultural dimension emerges in historic parks, traditional neighborhoods, and open-air urban spaces.

A pet-friendly trip to these destinations isn't about intensive site visits, but rather the quality of shared spaces and the ability to integrate the presence of your pet into the rhythm of the trip. Choosing the right locations is therefore crucial: open spaces, flexible facilities, and accessible natural settings.

It's a way of traveling that broadens the very concept of experience, including not only individuals but also their travel companions, and transforming the holiday into a shared, continuous, and adaptable journey.

# WHY CHOOSE EGYPT, THE MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN OCEAN, AND JAPAN FOR A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP?

## A WAY OF TRAVELLING THAT INTEGRATES THE PRESENCE OF THE ANIMAL IN THE CHOICE OF DESTINATIONS

Traveling with a pet requires a different approach to planning the itinerary, where the priority is not only the destination, but also the ability to share spaces harmoniously. It means selecting environments, facilities, and rhythms that allow for genuine coexistence throughout the journey. Egypt, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and Japan present very different scenarios, with varying levels of openness and organization, but with some areas more suited to a pet-friendly experience. In this type of trip, planning plays a key role: it's not about spontaneously adapting everything, but rather building a coherent itinerary that takes into account open spaces, flexible accommodations, and the possibility of controlled movement.

## OPEN SPACES, NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS AND SELECTED URBAN CONTEXTS

In Egypt, the most suitable areas are often the coastal ones and the open areas along the Nile, where the presence of outdoor spaces makes it easier to manage daily travel.

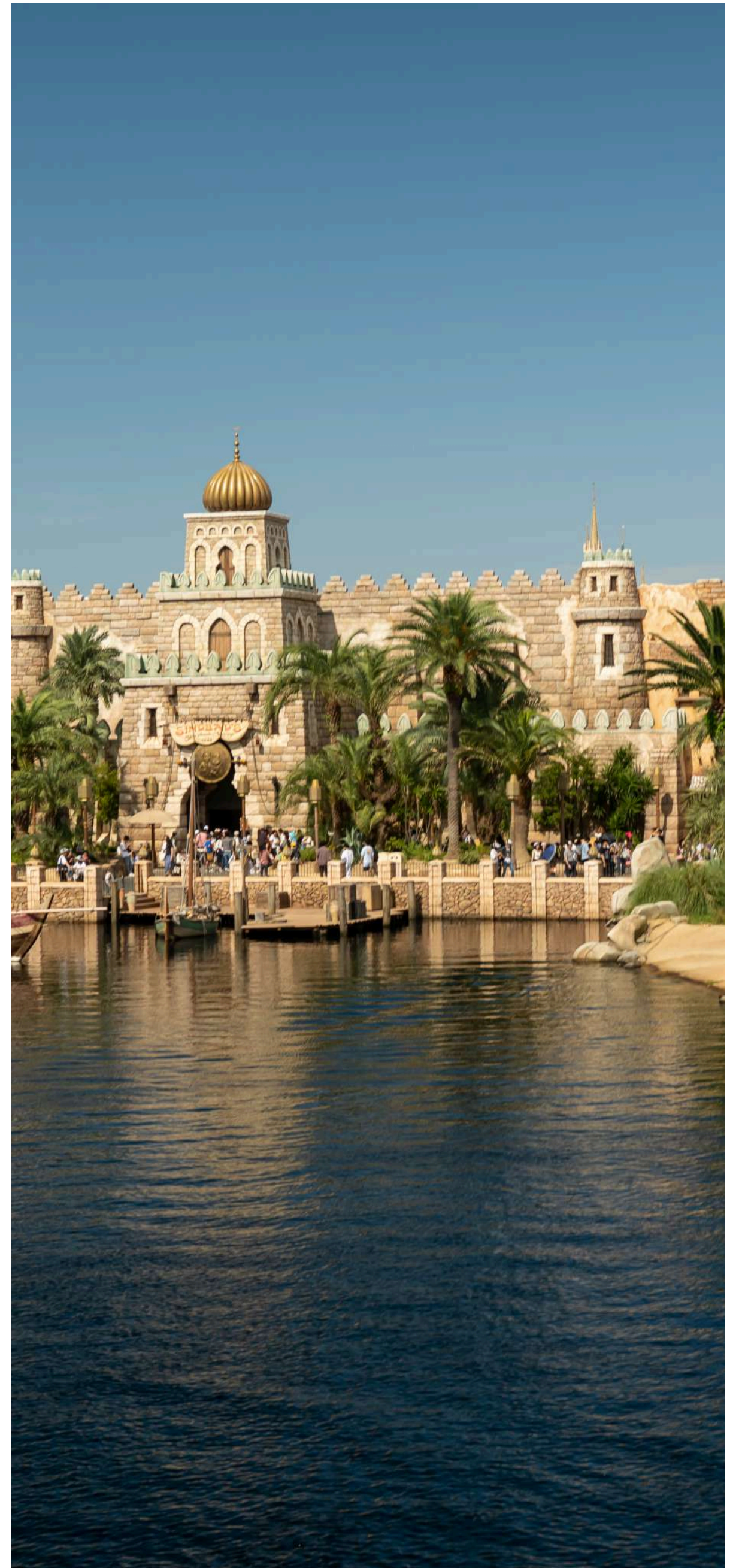
In the Middle East, some modern cities offer waterfronts, urban parks, and spacious neighborhoods that allow for walking in organized and relatively orderly settings.

In the Indian Ocean, many islands feature widespread, flat natural environments, with short distances and green or coastal areas easily accessible within accommodation facilities.

In Japan, however, public parks, riverfronts, and selected coastal areas represent the most suitable contexts, thanks to the presence of well-maintained and well-regulated spaces.

## AN ITINERARY BUILT ON THE BALANCE BETWEEN FREEDOM AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

In these destinations, pet-friendly travel isn't about the quantity of experiences, but rather the compatibility between the pace of travel and the needs of cohabitation. Egypt, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and Japan allow for itineraries where stops are selected based on ease of management and adequate space. Experiences are therefore distributed evenly, favoring more stable stays and well-organized travel, avoiding overly complex or difficult-to-manage situations. The goal is to maintain continuity without sacrificing the quality of the trip. The result is an experience model that integrates the pet into the travel itinerary in a natural and sustainable way, transforming the holiday into a shared experience, built on conscious choices and truly compatible environments.





# **TAILOR-MADE TRIPS TO EGYPT, THE MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN OCEAN, AND JAPAN WITH YOUR PETS**

**A trip to Egypt, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and Japan can be truly special when shared with your four-legged friends. Pet-friendly vacations allow you to explore unique landscapes, authentic villages, and natural attractions with your pets, without sacrificing comfort, safety, and relaxation.**

**For this reason, it should never be a standard package, but a carefully and attentively designed experience, designed for you and your four-legged travel companions.**

**Our approach to creating pet-friendly travel is based on a fundamental principle: each itinerary must be unique, accessible, and tailored to the needs of your pets, ensuring safe and enjoyable experiences for everyone.**

**We listen to your desires, understand your pace and travel style, and create an itinerary that makes every stage of your shared adventure special.**

**Every detail is carefully studied:**

- Choice of destinations, from nature parks with pet-friendly trails, to quiet beaches and scenic islands, to pet-friendly villages and hamlets**
- Pace of the itinerary, to enjoy every experience without rushing and without stress, leaving space for the needs of your animals**
- Experiences along the way, such as scenic walks, visits to pet-friendly museums and attractions, nature excursions and moments of relaxation together**
- A selection of the most welcoming facilities, with dedicated services for pets and comfortable spaces for a peaceful stay**

**The result is an authentic, safe, and deeply personal journey, designed to offer unforgettable moments with your pets, discovering places far from mass tourism and creating precious memories shared with those you love.**

# EXPERIENCES THAT MAKE A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP TO EGYPT, THE MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN OCEAN AND JAPAN UNIQUE



## **A JOURNEY BUILT ON THE BALANCE BETWEEN MOBILITY, OPEN SPACES AND DAILY COEXISTENCE**

A pet-friendly trip requires careful planning, where the choice of destinations depends not only on tourist interest but also on the possibility of integrating the presence of the animal naturally throughout the journey. Egypt, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and Japan offer very different contexts, with varying levels of openness and organization, but with some areas featuring larger spaces and more accessible outdoor areas.

## **EXPERIENCES THAT DEVELOP IN OPEN, NATURAL AND EASILY MANAGEABLE CONTEXTS**

In Egypt, coastal areas and the Nile River offer relatively open environments, where outdoor spaces allow for easier management of daily activities. In the Middle East, urban waterfronts, public parks, and some organized desert areas offer easier outdoor mobility. In the Indian Ocean, the island structure and the presence of resorts immersed in nature allow for stable living in flat environments, with large outdoor spaces and short distances. In Japan, however, urban parks, riverfronts, and selected coastal areas offer environments more suited to daily mobility, thanks to the care and accessibility of public spaces.

## **A JOURNEY BUILT ON CONSCIOUS CHOICES AND COMPATIBLE ITINERARIES**

In these destinations, pet-friendly travel is not based on the quantity of activities, but on the compatibility between itinerary and daily management. In Egypt, experiences focus on open areas and organized itineraries; in the Middle East, on modern urban spaces and equipped outdoor areas; in the Indian Ocean, on permanent stays in controlled natural environments; in Japan, on well-structured urban and green settings. This selection allows for a more predictable and manageable trip, reducing logistical complexities and favoring environments where the presence of the pet can be more naturally integrated. The result is a travel model in which planning becomes central, allowing for shared, continuous experiences tailored to the needs of all participants.

# WHEN TO GO ON A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP TO EGYPT, THE MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN OCEAN, AND JAPAN



Choosing the right departure time for a travel in these destinations depends heavily on the climate and the different seasonality of each country. Between Egypt, Israel and Palestine, the United Arab Emirates, the Seychelles, Mauritius, Zanzibar, the Maldives, and Japan, there isn't a single ideal season, but rather a series of more favorable time slots that allow you to optimize your travel experience based on the chosen destination.

**In Egypt**, the climate is predominantly desert, with strong temperature variations between the seasons that significantly affect the quality of travel, especially in inland areas and along the Nile.

- October–April: Best time with milder temperatures and ideal conditions for cultural visits and Nile cruises
- May–September: very hot season, especially in desert areas and southern Egypt

**In Israel and Palestine**, the Mediterranean and semi-arid climate varies between the coast, interior, and desert areas, influencing the seasonality of travel.

- March–May and September–November: best periods with more balanced climate and ideal conditions for cultural and naturalistic visits
- June–August: hot season, especially in inland and desert areas, but still practicable on the coasts
- December–February: Mild winter, varying between light rain and cool temperatures, ideal for more leisurely trips

**In the United Arab Emirates**, the desert climate strongly influences the choice of travel period.

- November to April is the ideal season with pleasant temperatures
- From May to September the intense heat and humidity make the stay less comfortable

The tropical climate **in the Seychelles** allows for year-round travel, with variations related to seasonal rainfall.

- April–May and October–November: generally favorable period, with more stable climatic conditions
- December–February: May have more frequent rains

**In Mauritius**, seasonality is more marked than in other islands in the Indian Ocean.

- May to December is the most stable and recommended period
- January to March can be wetter and subject to cyclonic phenomena

**In Tanzania** (Zanzibar island) the equatorial climate alternates between well-defined dry and rainy seasons.

- June to October and December to February are the best periods
- March to May coincides with the heaviest rainy season

The tropical climate **in the Maldives** makes the destination accessible all year round, with variations linked to the monsoons that mainly affect the intensity of rainfall and the stability of the sea.

- November–April: best period with drier climate, calm sea and ideal conditions for seaside holidays
- May–October: more unstable season with more frequent rainfall

**In Japan**, the strong climatic variety makes choosing the right time of year crucial to best experience the different regions and their seasonal attractions.

- March–May and September–November: ideal periods thanks to the mild climate and particularly suggestive landscapes
- June–August: hot and humid season, especially in large cities
- December–February: variable winter, very cold in the north but milder in the southern areas

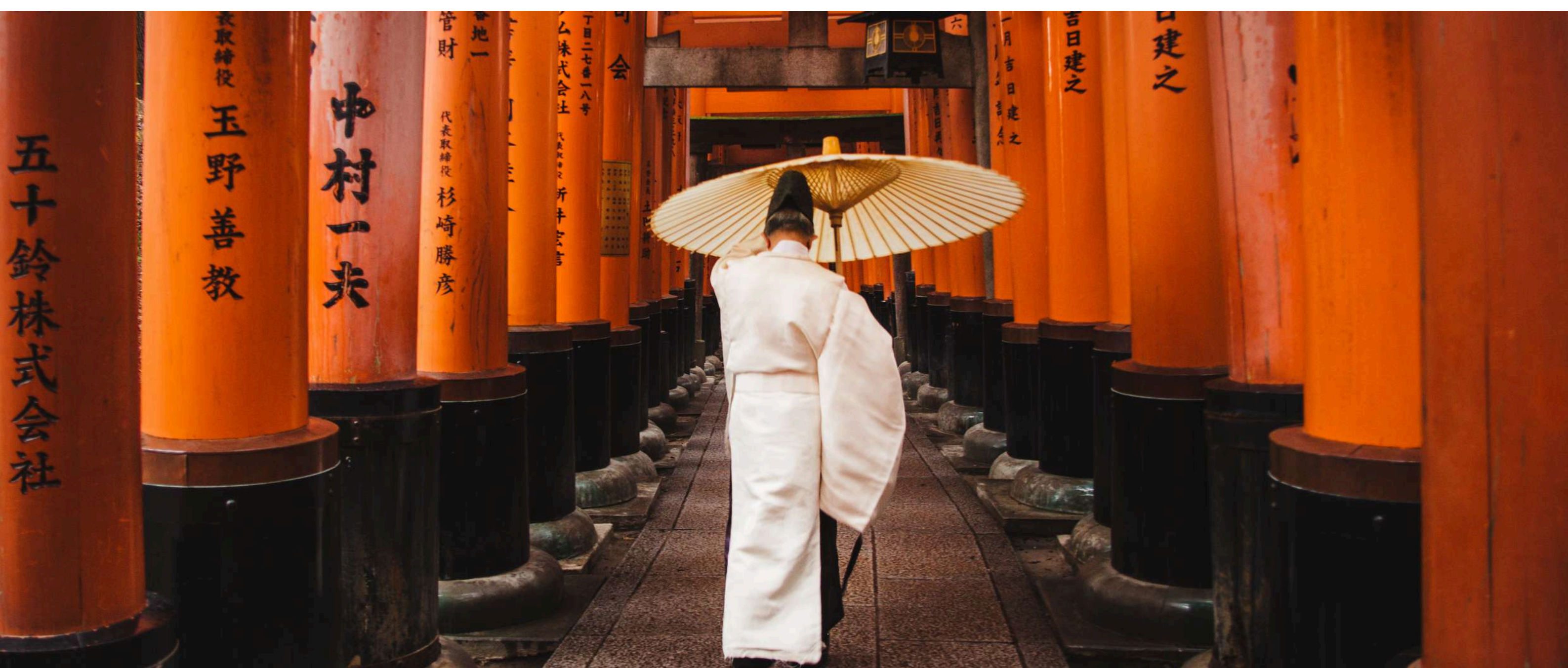
In these destinations, there isn't a single perfect time, but rather a series of optimal seasonal windows that allow you to tailor your trip to the most favorable weather conditions. Choosing the right time thus becomes an integral part of travel planning, decisively contributing to the overall quality of the experience.

# 10 TRAVEL SCENARIOS THAT EXIST ONLY BETWEEN EGYPT, THE MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN OCEAN, AND JAPAN

Between Egypt, Israel and Palestine, the United Arab Emirates, the Seychelles, Mauritius, Zanzibar, the Maldives, and Japan, there are travel experiences that unfold far from the major tourist hubs, in secondary territories of rivers, deserts, islands, and rural regions. These are settings where the pace is dictated by local geography and the communities that permanently inhabit these places, rather than by tourism infrastructure. The result is a way of traveling based on the continuity of the landscape and a more direct and authentic experience.

Among the most suggestive:

- Navigating the Nile between Luxor, Esna, Edfu, and Aswan - In Egypt, the stretch between Luxor, Esna, Edfu, and Aswan represents one of the slowest and most continuous experiences in the country. The Nile River becomes a natural axis along which temples such as Karnak and the Temple of Horus in Edfu alternate, along with farming villages, cultivated fields, and small towns that still live in close connection with the river.
- Crossing the Negev Desert between Makhtesh Ramon, Mitzpe Ramon, and Eilat - In Israel and the Palestinian Territories, the Negev Desert extends between natural canyons and rocky plateaus. The Makhtesh Ramon area, near Mitzpe Ramon, boasts one of the world's largest erosion craters, while heading south leads to Eilat, overlooking the Red Sea, in a seamless transition between desert and coast.
- Exploring the oases of Al Ain and the Rub' al Khali dunes towards Liwa - In the United Arab Emirates, the route between Al Ain and the Liwa region leads to the great Rub' al Khali desert. Al Ain is one of the country's most important historical oases, while continuing westward, you'll encounter traditional fortifications and the immense dunes of the empty desert, in a landscape dominated by sand and an open horizon.
- Experience the Baa and Laamu Atolls, and the local islets of Malé - In the Maldives, beyond the more popular tourist atolls, such as North and South Malé, there are areas like Baa Atoll and Laamu Atoll, home to local villages and inhabited islands. Here, daily life revolves around fishing, small ports, and natural lagoons, with a direct and constant connection to the ocean.
- Discover La Digue, Praslin, and the interior forests of Mahé - In the Seychelles, the islands of La Digue and Praslin offer a landscape of granite beaches like Anse Source d'Argent and tropical forests like the Vallée de Mai. On Mahé, the mountainous interior and Morne Seychellois National Park complete an environment where nature and small settlements coexist harmoniously.
- Traveling through Grand Baie, Chamarel, and the east coast of Belle Mare - In Mauritius, the north of Grand Baie is one of the liveliest areas, while the interior of Chamarel is known for its seven-colored earth and waterfalls nestled in lush vegetation. The east coast of Belle Mare, on the other hand, offers long, less urbanized stretches, with open beaches and small coastal villages.
- Exploring Paje, Jambiani, and Stone Town in Zanzibar - In Tanzania (Zanzibar), the journey takes you from the eastern coast of Paje and Jambiani, characterized by the tides and seaweed harvesting, to Stone Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The narrow streets, coral stone houses, and local markets reflect a strong cultural and commercial identity.
- Experience the local islands of Dhigurah, Maafushi, and Thulusdhoo - In the Maldives, the islands of Dhigurah, Maafushi, and Thulusdhoo offer a different experience than resorts. Here, you'll find local communities, schools, small ports, and businesses related to fishing and sustainable tourism, connecting visitors directly with daily life.
- Traveling through rural Tokyo, Kyoto, and the coast of Kyushu - In Japan, the journey can alternate between the rural outskirts of Tokyo, Kyoto's historic districts like Gion and Arashiyama, and the coast of Kyushu, particularly the Kagoshima and Beppu areas. The contrast between modern cities, temples, and volcanic landscapes creates a striking variety of environments.
- Crossing Hokkaido between Sapporo, Biei, and the volcanic lakes of Shikotsu and Akan - In Japan, the island of Hokkaido offers a landscape very different from the rest of the country, with vast natural expanses, farms in the Biei area, the city of Sapporo, and volcanic areas such as Lakes Shikotsu and Akan. The region is characterized by open spaces, national parks, and small towns immersed in nature, where the pace of travel is dictated by distances and marked seasonal changes.





# THE MOST CHARMING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP

A journey is defined not only by the places visited, but also by the accommodations where one stays, which become an integral part of the experience. Between Egypt, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and Japan, hospitality takes on a wide variety of forms: riverboats, desert camps, isolated resorts, traditional ryokans, and highly contemporary urban hotels. In every context, the stay is never neutral, but contributes to defining the perception of the journey.

In Egypt, a stay is often tied to the river and the region's historical significance. Nile cruises between Luxor, Esna, Edfu, and Aswan are one of the most distinctive experiences, with accommodations that allow you to seamlessly traverse the landscape. In cities like Cairo and Luxor, there are also hotels overlooking archaeological sites or housed in historic buildings, where the presence of history is constant and immediate.

In Israel and the Palestinian Territories, accommodations alternate between modern hotels in major cities like Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and more intimate accommodations in historic centers like Bethlehem or Jericho. In the Negev Desert, there are also lodges and desert camps near Mitzpe Ramon, where the natural landscape becomes an integral part of the experience.

In the United Arab Emirates, accommodations range from iconic and contemporary hotels in the cities of Dubai and Abu Dhabi to desert resorts and camps in the Al Marmoom and Liwa areas. Your stay can thus alternate between futuristic skylines, designer architecture, and desert environments characterized by silence and open spaces.

In the Seychelles, accommodations nestle among granite rocks, tropical forests, and natural beaches. On Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue, you'll find boutique hotels and eco-resorts nestled in lush vegetation, where the architecture seamlessly integrates with the landscape.

In Mauritius, a stay alternates between coastal resorts and properties nestled in the plantations and inland. Areas like Grand Baie, Belle Mare, and Chamarel offer very different settings, with sea, countryside, and volcanic mountains.

In Tanzania (Zanzibar), accommodations range from boutique hotels in historic Stone Town to lodges on the east coast, in the Paje and Jambiani areas, where the relationship with the tides and local life is constant.

In the Maldives, accommodations are strongly tied to the island experience, with resorts on private islands and guesthouses on inhabited islands like Maafushi or Dhigurah. Each property is directly connected to the lagoon and ocean, which become part of the daily experience.

In Japan, accommodations range from the traditional ryokans of Kyoto, where tatami mats and onsen define the experience, to the modern hotels of Tokyo and Osaka, to the natural settings of Hakone and Hokkaido. Japanese hospitality combines precision, attention to detail, and a strong cultural identity.

# MISTAKES TO AVOID WHEN ORGANIZING A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP TO EGYPT, THE MIDDLE EAST, THE INDIAN OCEAN, AND JAPAN



## **BUILDING ITINERARIES THAT ARE TOO DENSE AND UNREALISTIC**

One of the most common mistakes is trying to combine too many destinations in the same trip, without considering distances and geographic considerations. Even between Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, or Japan, an effective itinerary works best when it focuses on a single main area, possibly with a limited scope. The same goes for the Indian Ocean, where the Maldives, Seychelles, Mauritius, and Zanzibar should not be considered consecutive stops, but rather alternate destinations. This mistake stems from wanting to "see it all," but the result is often a fragmented and unenjoyable trip.

## **IGNORE THE COMPLEXITY OF MOVEMENT BETWEEN AREAS AND CONTINENTS**

Another mistake is underestimating actual travel times. In Japan, domestic travel is efficient but requires planning between cities like Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka. In Egypt, connections between Cairo, Luxor, and Aswan can be long. In the Middle East, even between Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and the Liwa Desert, distances must be carefully managed. In the Indian Ocean, each island or atoll often requires air or boat transfers, which affect the entire pace of the journey.

## **LEAVE NO ROOM FOR TRAVEL FLEXIBILITY**

In these destinations, conditions can change rapidly: climate, sea, city traffic, or transfer availability can impact the experience. In Zanzibar or the Maldives, for example, the sea and tides affect activities; in Japan, seasonality strongly influences tourist flows; in the deserts of the Emirates or Egypt, temperatures can alter daily plans. An itinerary that's too rigid reduces your ability to adapt.

## **FOCUS ONLY ON THE MOST WELL-KNOWN DESTINATIONS**

A common mistake is to limit oneself to iconic cities like Dubai, Tokyo, Cairo, or the most famous islands in the Maldives, overlooking lesser-known but often more interesting areas. In the Middle East, there are places like the Al Ain desert or Wadi Rum; in Japan, regions like Kyushu or Hokkaido; in the Indian Ocean, less touristy local islands; in Egypt, less crowded stretches of the Nile. It is precisely these areas that offer a more authentic experience.

## **UNDERESTIMATE THE ROLE OF ACCOMMODATIONS IN THE EXPERIENCE**

In these destinations, the stay is an integral part of the journey. A ryokan in Kyoto, a resort on an atoll in the Maldives, or a Nile cruise in Egypt aren't just accommodations, but elements that define the experience itself. Choosing accommodations that don't fit the context means missing out on a fundamental part of the trip.

## **APPLYING A SINGLE MODEL TO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT REALITIES**

Egypt, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and Japan don't follow the same travel patterns. The desert, contemporary metropolises, tropical islands, and Asian cultural contexts require different approaches. A common mistake is to treat them as if they were interchangeable, when the quality of the trip depends precisely on the ability to adapt to the specifics of each territory.



## QUALITY AND SERVICE UPDATES

The experiences and services presented in this brochure have been selected based on qualitative criteria focused on comfort, accessibility, and the personalization of the travel experience.

As operational conditions, dedicated services, and policies may be subject to updates or changes over time, each proposal will be reviewed and confirmed at the quotation stage, in order to ensure full alignment with the traveler's specific requirements and the expected quality standards.



# EGYPT – BETWEEN RIVER VALLEYS, CONTINUOUS DESERTS AND A HISTORICAL STRATIFICATION THAT CONNECTS AFRICA, THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST



Located in northeastern Africa, Egypt extends along one of the world's most recognizable and continuous geographic systems: the Nile Valley, which crosses the country from south to north, creating a stark contrast between fertile land and desert environments. The territorial structure is defined by the interaction between the river's narrow arable strip, the vast Western Desert (part of the Sahara), the Eastern Desert extending to the Red Sea, and the northern delta area opening onto the Mediterranean Sea. From a morphological perspective, the Nile Valley represents the central axis of the country, with an alluvial plain that progressively widens into the Nile Delta, one of the most fertile and densely populated agricultural areas. To the west, the territory is dominated by desert plateaus interrupted by depressions such as the Siwa Oasis, while to the east, mountain ranges develop parallel to the Red Sea, characterized by arid reliefs and rugged coastlines. Finally, the Sinai Peninsula represents a geographical link between Africa and Asia, with mountainous and desert environments extending to the Gulf of Aqaba. To understand Egypt's identity, it is necessary to begin with the Pharaonic civilization, which developed from the 3rd millennium BC along the Nile, with centers such as Memphis and Thebes. During this period, monumental structures such as the pyramids of Giza and the great temples of Upper Egypt emerged, evidence of a highly organized civilization on religious, political, and technical levels. Subsequently, the territory entered the orbit of the Hellenistic world with the founding of Alexandria by Alexander the Great, becoming one of the main cultural centers of the Mediterranean. Subsequently, with its annexation to the Roman and then Byzantine Empires, Egypt maintained a strategic role until the Arab conquest in the 7th century, which introduced the Islamic language and culture, which still predominate today. Over the centuries, the country went through Ottoman, colonial, and modern periods, until the formation of the contemporary state.

In this framework, the Egyptian territory is divided into distinct but interconnected geographical macro-areas:

- NILE VALLEY AND UPPER EGYPT – THE RIVER AXIS THAT RUNS ALONG THE NILE, CHARACTERIZED BY A NARROW, FERTILE STRIP NESTLED BETWEEN DESERT LANDS. THIS AREA IS HOME TO IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND HISTORIC CITIES SUCH AS LUXOR AND ASWAN, WHICH REPRESENT ONE OF THE HEARTLANDS OF PHARAONIC CIVILIZATION
- LOWER EGYPT AND THE NILE DELTA – THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY, WHERE THE RIVER BRANCHES OUT TO FORM ONE OF THE MOST FERTILE AND POPULOUS DELTAS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. IT INCLUDES LARGE URBAN CENTERS SUCH AS CAIRO, LOCATED BETWEEN THE VALLEY AND THE DELTA, AND ALEXANDRIA, DIRECTLY OVERLOOKING THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA
- WESTERN DESERT AND OASES – A LARGE PORTION OF THE EGYPTIAN SAHARA, CHARACTERIZED BY ARID ENVIRONMENTS, DUNES, AND DESERT DEPRESSIONS. THIS AREA CONTAINS ISOLATED SYSTEMS SUCH AS SIWA AND OTHER INLAND OASES, WHICH REPRESENT CENTERS OF LIFE AND SETTLEMENTS IN AN OTHERWISE EXTREMELY INHOSPITABLE TERRITORY
- EASTERN DESERT AND RED SEA COAST – THE AREA STRETCHING BETWEEN THE NILE VALLEY AND THE RED SEA, CHARACTERIZED BY ARID RELIEFS, DESERT MOUNTAIN RANGES, AND A COASTLINE RICH IN CORAL REEFS. IT IS AN IMPORTANT GEOGRAPHICAL AREA FOR BOTH NATURAL AND TOURISTIC REASONS, WITH MARINE AND DESERT ENVIRONMENTS IN CLOSE CONTACT
- SINAI PENINSULA - A REGION LOCATED BETWEEN AFRICA AND ASIA, OVERLOOKING BOTH THE RED SEA AND THE GULF OF AQABA. IT IS A PREDOMINANTLY MOUNTAINOUS AND DESERT AREA, WITH PEAKS SUCH AS MOUNT SINAI AND COASTAL AREAS OF GREAT SCENIC AND NATURAL INTEREST

As for the main access points, the airport network connects the different areas of the country:

- Cairo International Airport – Main hub and gateway to the Nile Valley
- Hurghada International Airport – Access to the Red Sea Coast
- Sharm el-Sheikh International Airport – Access to the Sinai Peninsula
- Luxor International Airport – Direct access to archaeological Upper Egypt
- Marsa Alam International Airport – Access to the southern coastal areas

In short, Egypt is a unique territorial system, where the continuity of the Nile, the expanse of deserts, and the presence of two seas create a balance between extreme environments and highly anthropized areas. It is precisely this relationship between nature and civilization, combined with one of the world's oldest historical stratifications, that defines the country's identity within the African, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern contexts.

# PET-FRIENDLY TRAVEL ITINERARIES AMONG OPEN COASTLINES, NATURAL PARKS AND SPACIOUS, ACCESSIBLE CITIES

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A pet-friendly journey in Egypt can be designed by focusing on wide open landscapes, walkable waterfronts, less crowded natural environments, and accommodation areas that allow pets, particularly along coastal zones and protected parks.

One of the most suitable destinations is Dahab, on the Gulf of Aqaba. Its informal and continuous waterfront features open beaches and wide sandy areas such as Laguna Beach, known for its shallow waters and expansive shoreline. The urban layout is relaxed and low-density, with pedestrian paths that blend directly into the coastal environment, making it especially suitable for travelling with pets.

Another highly suitable area is Wadi El Rayan National Park in the Fayoum region. The park includes natural lakes, waterfalls, and vast desert landscapes where movement takes place in controlled open spaces. The Upper and Lower Lakes of Wadi El Rayan offer extensive natural environments ideal for outdoor activities in non-urban settings with minimal restrictions.

On the eastern Mediterranean coast, Port Said is a linear and open urban destination, with a long Corniche along the Suez Canal providing continuous and spacious pedestrian areas. The Port Said National Museum presents the city's maritime and canal-related history, while the waterfront and port areas extend without high-density urban congestion.

Another ideal destination is Ras Sudr along the Gulf of Suez. The area is characterised by wide beaches, steady winds, and low urban development, with long open coastal stretches and dispersed resorts set within large natural spaces. This makes it particularly suitable for travel where mobility and the presence of pets are easily accommodated.

Finally, in the southern Red Sea region, Shalateen is a remote and open destination near Wadi El Gemal National Park. The landscape is defined by coastal desert environments, sparsely populated settlements, and vast natural spaces, offering a strong balance between environment and limited human density.

Taken together, these destinations define a pet-friendly Egypt shaped by open spaces, low urban density, and direct contact with coastal and desert nature, allowing a travel experience that is flexible, fluid, and compatible with the presence of animals.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In the heart of the Western Desert lies the Siwa Oasis, one of the most isolated places in the country and historically linked to the Berber culture of the Siwi. Here you can visit the Temple of the Oracle of Amun, famous because, according to tradition, Alexander the Great went there to be recognized as the son of Zeus-Amun. Also in the same area is the Shali Fortress, an ancient citadel built of kershef (salt and mud), now partially in ruins but still accessible through its alleys and traditional structures.

In southern Sinai, at the foot of Mount Sinai, lies the Monastery of Saint Catherine, one of the oldest active monasteries in the world. The complex houses an extraordinary collection of Byzantine icons and ancient manuscripts, while the surrounding natural setting is characterized by a mountainous desert landscape linked to ancient pilgrimage routes.

Along the Red Sea coast, in the Marsa Alam area, lies the Shaab Samadai (Dolphin House Reef), a horseshoe-shaped marine ecosystem known for the stable presence of dolphins in a protected natural environment, far from the more urbanized tourist areas such as Hurghada and Sharm el-Sheikh.

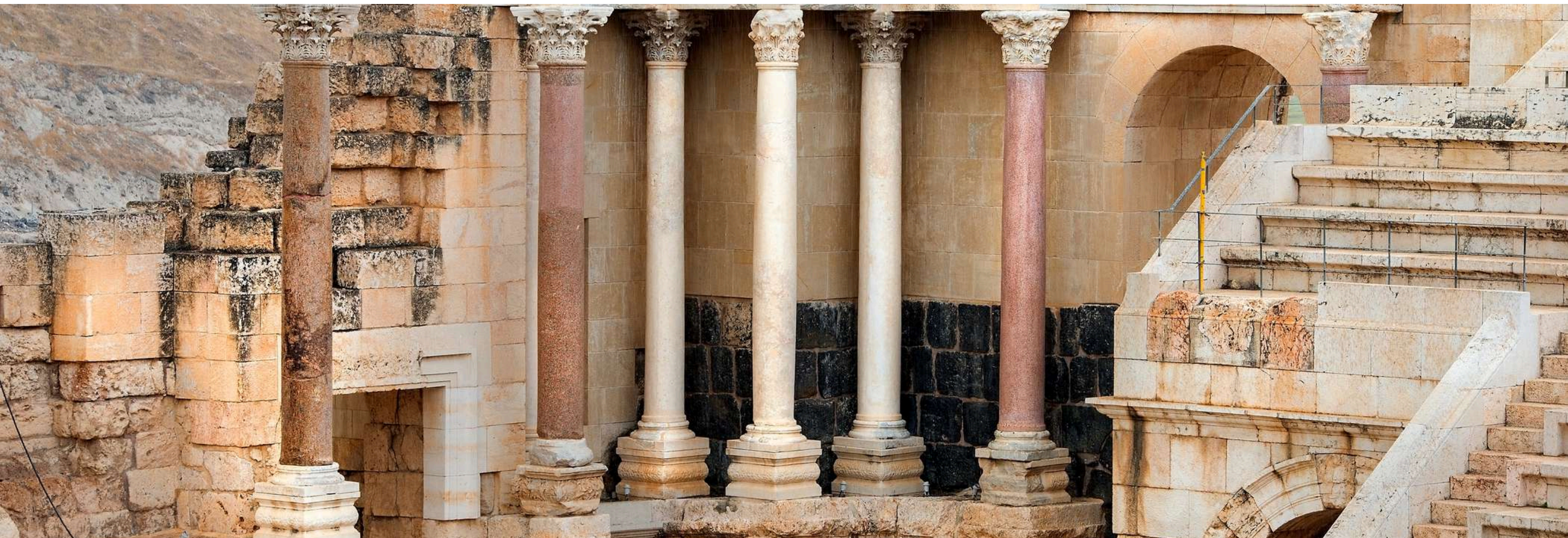
In the Nile Delta, the city of Rosetta (Rashid) preserves an Ottoman-era architectural heritage with historic red-brick houses and river canals. It is the site where the Rosetta Stone was discovered, a key artifact for deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphics, now housed at the British Museum in London.

In the Western Desert, White Desert National Park boasts one of the most unusual landscapes in the country. In the Farafra Depression, wind-shaped limestone formations take on sculptural, pure white forms, creating an almost surreal desert environment completely devoid of urbanization.

These places reveal a lesser-known Egypt, made up of isolated deserts, protected coasts, historic oases, and urban centers in the Delta, where nature, archaeology, and local culture intertwine away from the main tourist circuits.



# ISRAEL AND PALESTINE – BETWEEN THE LEVANT MEDITERRANEAN, THE JUDAE-SAMARITAN AXIS, COASTS, DESERTS, AND A STRATIFIED HISTORICAL-RELIGIOUS LANDSCAPE



The region of Israel and the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip is located in the heart of the Mediterranean Levant, in a transitional area between Western Asia and the Mediterranean basin, where geography and history are closely intertwined. The territory is defined by the coexistence of a narrow coastal strip, inland hills, a large tectonic depression, and vast southern desert areas, which together create a highly diverse environmental mosaic despite their relatively small size. Physically, the territorial structure is organized along clearly recognizable axes. The Mediterranean coastal strip represents the main urban and infrastructural space, with cities such as Tel Aviv and Haifa, developed on narrow but heavily populated coastal plains. Proceeding inland, the landscape transforms into the hills of Galilee and Samaria, characterized by gentle hills, agricultural valleys, and scattered settlements. Continuing southward, the Negev desert system opens up, occupying much of the southern territory and marking the transition to increasingly extreme arid environments. In parallel, one of the most significant geographical features is the Jordan Valley, part of the larger Dead Sea Rift, which constitutes one of the deepest depressions on Earth. This system contains the Dead Sea and Sea of Galilee, central elements both from a water, historical, and symbolic perspective. To understand the complexity of this territory, it is necessary to consider its long historical stratification. The first Canaanite and Israelite civilizations developed in the area as early as the Bronze Age, followed by Assyrian, Babylonian, and Persian dominations. Subsequently, the territory entered the Hellenistic sphere with the campaigns of Alexander the Great and was subsequently integrated into the Roman Empire, a period during which Jerusalem assumed a central role in the Abrahamic religious traditions. Subsequently, the region became part of the Islamic world starting in the 7th century, maintaining a strong spiritual centrality for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, until the Ottoman and British Mandate periods, which precede the contemporary political configuration.

In this framework, the territory is divided into distinct but closely interconnected geographical macro-areas:

- **MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL STRIP - REPRESENTS THE MOST URBANIZED AND DYNAMIC AREA, WITH MAIN CENTERS SUCH AS TEL AVIV AND HAIFA, WHERE ECONOMIC, PORT AND INFRASTRUCTURAL ACTIVITIES ARE CONCENTRATED**
- **HILLS OF GALILEE AND SAMARIA - CONSTITUTE AN INTERMEDIATE AREA, CHARACTERISED BY RELIEFS, VILLAGES AND AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES THAT CONNECT THE COAST TO THE INLAND VALLEY**
- **THE JORDAN VALLEY AND THE DEAD SEA DEPRESSION - FORM A UNIQUE GEOLOGICAL SYSTEM, WITH THE DEAD SEA, LAKE TIBERIAS AND THE COURSE OF THE JORDAN AS ITS MAIN ELEMENTS**
- **NEGEV DESERT - OCCUPIES MUCH OF THE SOUTH OF THE COUNTRY, WITH ARID ENVIRONMENTS, CANYONS AND DESERT PLATEAUS THAT MARK THE TRANSITION TO THE SINAI**
- **WEST BANK - IS A HILLY INTERNAL REGION WITH STRONG HISTORICAL AND SETTLEMENT CONTINUITY, CHARACTERIZED BY CITIES SUCH AS RAMALLAH, NABLUS AND HEBRON**
- **GAZA STRIP - REPRESENTS A NARROW COASTAL STRIP ON THE MEDITERRANEAN, HIGHLY URBANIZED AND WITH AN EXTREMELY COMPACT TERRITORY**

As for the main access points, the airport network connects the different areas of the territory directly and functionally:

- **Ben Gurion Airport – The country's main international hub, located in the area between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, the primary entry point for intercontinental and regional air traffic**
- **Ramon Airport – Main gateway to the south of the country and the Negev Desert area and Eilat, used for domestic and international connections**
- **Haifa Airport – Regional airport located in the north of the country, useful for internal connections and for the northern coastal area and the Galilee**

In short, Israel and the Palestinian territories form a highly concentrated yet extremely complex territorial system, where the Mediterranean coast, tectonic depressions, inland mountains, and desert areas coexist in a small yet geographically and historically stratified space. It is precisely this density of landscapes and the continuous overlap between natural and cultural elements that define the identity of the Mediterranean Levant.

# PET-FRIENDLY TRAVEL ITINERARIES AMONG MEDITERRANEAN COASTLINES, OPEN PARKS AND CITIES WITH EQUIPPED GREEN SPACES

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR- LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A pet-friendly journey in Israel and the Palestinian Territories can be designed by prioritising wide open outdoor areas, continuous seafront promenades, large urban parks, and accessible natural landscapes, where the presence of pets fits naturally into the environment and walking routes are easy to navigate.

One of the most suitable destinations is the city of Ashdod on the Mediterranean coast. Ashdod Yam Park offers expansive open green areas, flat walking paths, and shaded zones, while Lido Beach and the urban beaches feature wide sandy stretches and continuous promenades, making them ideal for travelling with pets.

Moving north, Netanya is particularly well-suited thanks to its long Netanya Promenade, which runs along the cliffs with wide, continuous paths overlooking the sea. The beaches below, accessible via public elevators, offer large sandy areas and relatively uncrowded natural spaces.

In the central region, Herzliya is one of the most organised coastal cities for relaxed travel. Herzliya Marina and its adjacent promenade provide wide, continuous walking routes, while Sidna Ali Beach offers more open and less urbanised areas with direct sea access and natural surroundings suitable for longer walks.

In the Palestinian Territories, the Jericho area represents one of the most accessible and flat environments. The Jordan Valley landscape provides open rural spaces with low traffic, while the archaeological site of Tell es-Sultan allows controlled visits through clearly defined and simple walking routes.

On the northern coast, Haifa offers a balance between urban environment and nature. The Bahá'í Gardens feature large, carefully maintained green terraces, while Mount Carmel National Park provides accessible natural trails and extensive wooded areas suitable for slow-paced walks.

Finally, in the north of the country, the Sea of Galilee region offers open shoreline spaces with natural parks and areas such as Ein Gev and surrounding zones, characterised by flat waterfront walks and natural environments where pets can comfortably accompany visitors.

Taken together, these destinations outline a pet-friendly itinerary that is accessible and well distributed, where open coastlines, extensive urban parks, and controlled natural environments enable a free, safe, and barrier-friendly travel experience for both travellers and their four-legged companions.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In northern Israel, in the Galilee region, lies the city of Safed, one of the most important centers of Jewish mysticism (Kabbalah). Its historic center is characterized by blue and white stone alleys and is home to historic synagogues such as the Ari Ashkenazi Synagogue, as well as small art galleries and local artists' workshops occupying old Ottoman houses.

On the Mediterranean coast, in the north of the country, lies Akko (Acre), a fortified Crusader city whose urban layout is still perfectly recognizable. Here you can visit the Ottoman walls, the tunnels of the Knights Hospitaller, and the ancient port, one of the busiest in the eastern Mediterranean during the Middle Ages, today integrated into a vibrant urban landscape.

In the Negev Desert, in the Makhtesh Ramon area, lies one of the largest erosional craters in the world. The Ramon Crater Visitor Center explains the desert's geology and the history of early human settlement, while scenic trails offer views of rock formations, canyons, and completely desert landscapes.

In the West Bank, in the city of Hebron, lies the Tomb of the Patriarchs (Ibrahimi Mosque), one of the holiest sites in Judaism and Islam. The building retains an imposing Herodian structure, with divided interior spaces and historic courtyards that bear witness to centuries of religious and cultural stratification.

Southern to the Gaza Strip, in the coastal area of Rafah, the landscape is dominated by sand dunes and traditional agricultural tracts, with a history linked to the ancient trade routes between Egypt and the Levant. The area is characterized by strong cultural continuity and a flat coastal geography.

Finally, in the mountainous region of central Palestine, the city of Nablus retains an Ottoman-era historic center with the old souk, historic mosques such as the An-Nasr Mosque, and artisanal traditions linked to the production of olive oil soap, still made today using traditional methods.

Taken together, these places reveal a complex and layered region, where historic cities, geological deserts, religious sites, and Mediterranean coastlines tell an intertwined story of vastly different civilizations, spiritualities, and natural landscapes.



# UNITED ARAB EMIRATES – BETWEEN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA, THE PERSIAN GULF COAST, INTERNAL-CONTINENTAL DESERTS, AND HYPER-MODERN CITIES BORN FROM OIL AND GLOBAL TRADE



The United Arab Emirates is located in the southeastern part of the Arabian Peninsula, along the Persian Gulf coast, in a region characterized by a stark contrast between vast inland desert areas and a densely urbanized and highly developed coastal strip. The country, despite being relatively compact, has a complex geographical structure and a highly differentiated distribution of settlements between the coast, inland, and eastern mountainous areas. Physically, the territory is dominated by the Arabian Desert, with extensive sandy and gravelly areas occupying much of the country's surface, representing the natural continuity of the Arabian Peninsula's desert systems. However, along the Persian Gulf coast, a continuous urban belt develops, where the country's main cities, economic infrastructure, and business centers are concentrated. Dubai and Abu Dhabi stand out in particular, constituting the two main hubs of the national urban system. Dubai stands out for its vertical and coastal development, playing a central role in the sectors of trade, tourism, and global finance. Abu Dhabi, on the other hand, is the federal capital and is characterized by a more expansive and institutional urban plan, with large administrative and residential areas. Historically, the area was inhabited by Bedouin communities dedicated to navigation and trade along the Gulf routes. Before the establishment of the modern state, the territory was known as the "Trucial States" under British protection. With the discovery of oil and the formation of the federation in 1971, the country underwent a rapid and profound transformation, becoming one of the world's major economic and logistics hubs.

In this context, the territory is divided into the following geographical macro-areas:

- PERSIAN GULF COASTAL STRIP – MAIN AREA OF URBANIZATION, WHERE DUBAI, ABU DHABI AND THE OTHER WESTERN EMIRATES ARE CONCENTRATED, WITH PORTS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC CENTERS
- CENTRAL DESERT HINTERLAND – VAST ARID AREA CHARACTERIZED BY DUNES, SANDY PLATEAUS, AND SPARSELY POPULATED LANDS
- NORTHERN EMIRATES – INCLUDING SHARJAH, AJMAN, UMM AL QUWAIN AND RAS AL KHAIMAH, WITH MORE COMPACT URBAN CENTERS AND LOWER INFRASTRUCTURE DENSITY
- EASTERN FUJAIRAH AND GULF OF OMAN COAST – A DISTINCT REGION BORDERING THE INDIAN OCEAN, CHARACTERISED BY THE HAJAR MOUNTAINS AND A MORE RUGGED COASTLINE

As for air connections, the country's airport network is highly developed and allows direct access to all macro-areas:

- Dubai International Airport – Major international hub and gateway to the city of Dubai and the western coastal strip
- Abu Dhabi International Airport – The capital's hub and hub for the central and western regions of the country
- Sharjah International Airport – Serves the northern area and the urban area near Dubai
- Ras Al Khaimah International Airport – Connecting to the Northern Emirates
- Fujairah International Airport – Gateway to the eastern coast of the Gulf of Oman

In short, the United Arab Emirates represents a highly integrated territorial system in which desert, coast, and advanced urbanization coexist in dynamic equilibrium. The rapid transformation of the territory, combined with the strong differentiation between inland and coastal areas, defines a unique model of geographical and urban development within the Arabian Peninsula.

# PET-FRIENDLY ITINERARIES AMONG LESS-URBAN COASTS, NATURE RESERVES AND OPEN DESERT OASES

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR- LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A pet-friendly journey in the United Arab Emirates can be designed away from the major tourist hubs, focusing on open natural areas, secondary coastlines, and desert environments where wide spaces, low congestion, and outdoor-friendly settings make travelling with pets more manageable.

One of the most suitable destinations is Umm Al Quwain. The Khor Al Beidah Lagoon offers vast natural areas of mangroves and shallow waters, ideal for relaxed walks in quiet surroundings. The Al Sinniyah Island viewpoint area also allows observation of local wildlife in open, low-density environments with ample outdoor space and minimal urban development.

On the eastern coast, Kalba is one of the most pet-friendly destinations. The Kalba Mangrove Reserve features long, flat boardwalks immersed in nature, while Kalba Corniche Park offers continuous green spaces and waterfront walking paths with low urban density and calm surroundings.

In Fujairah, the natural landscape is shaped by the Gulf of Oman and the Hajar Mountains. Beaches such as Umbrella Beach, along with less urbanised coastal stretches, provide wide sandy areas suitable for walks, while the surrounding region offers open spaces where pets can be more easily accommodated compared to dense urban centres.

Further south, Dibba Al-Fujairah is a quieter coastal destination. Its wide, less crowded beaches and natural coastal viewpoints allow easy movement in open environments, with direct access to the sea and extensive undeveloped areas.

Finally, in the western desert region of Al Dhafra, the landscape is dominated by dunes and oases. The peripheral areas of the Liwa Oasis offer long but simple road routes and vast open desert spaces where movement is easy in low-traffic, non-urban environments.

Taken together, these destinations outline a pet-friendly itinerary in the UAE based on natural lagoons, lightly developed coastlines, and open desert environments, where abundant outdoor space and low urban density create a flexible and pet-compatible travel experience.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In the northern part of the United Arab Emirates, in the emirate of Ras Al Khaimah, lies the archaeological site of Julfar, an ancient medieval trading port now partially buried. Excavations have uncovered remains of dwellings, Islamic ceramics, and structures linked to trade routes between Arabia, Persia and the Indian Ocean, in an area that today appears as a coastal desert landscape.

In the inland area of the emirate of Sharjah lies the oasis city of Al Dhaid, surrounded by agricultural fields and traditional irrigation systems (falaj). This region represents one of the country's most important agricultural zones, with local markets selling dates, citrus fruits and desert produce, in striking contrast to the urbanised coast.

In the desert of Dubai, the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve stretches across vast golden dunes and is the largest protected area in the country. It is home to native wildlife such as the Arabian oryx and offers controlled routes to experience the desert in a relatively untouched state compared to the surrounding coastal urbanisation.

In the emirate of Abu Dhabi, on Sir Bani Yas Island, lies one of the region's most significant natural reserves. The island hosts the Arabian Wildlife Park, where reintroduced species such as gazelles and giraffes roam alongside the remains of an ancient monastery from the late antiquity period, a rare example of pre-Islamic religious presence in the region.

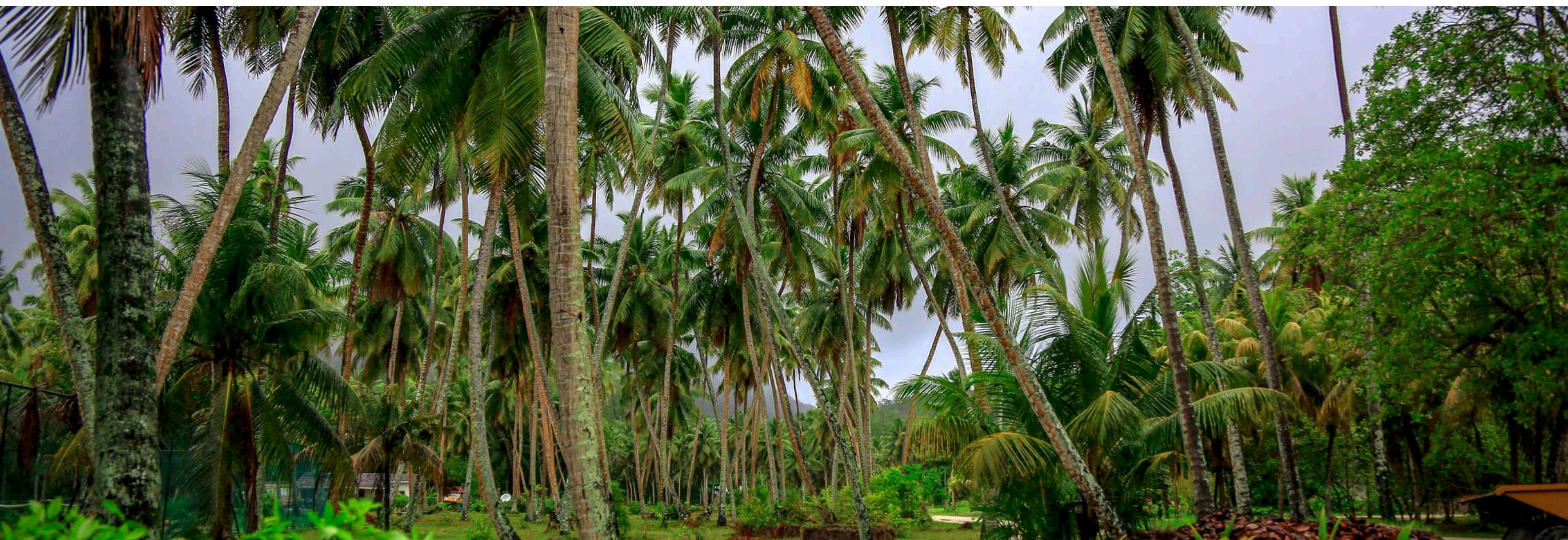
In the emirate of Fujairah, on the eastern coast, stands the historic Al Badiyah Mosque, considered the oldest mosque still in use in the country. Built in stone and mud, it features a simple structure with four domes, set between the mountains and the waters of the Indian Ocean.

Also in Fujairah, the Wadi Wurayah National Park represents one of the few protected mountain ecosystems in the country. The wadi features seasonal waterfalls, natural pools, and rare biodiversity, offering a landscape completely different from the urban coasts and central desert.

Taken together, these places reveal a lesser-known side of the United Arab Emirates—one made of archaeological sites, agricultural oases, desert reserves and coastal mountains, where ancient history, traditional culture and nature intertwine beyond the modern image of its great cities.



# SEYCHELLES – BETWEEN THE INDIAN OCEAN, AN INTERNAL GRANITE ARCHIPELAGO, AND PERIPHERAL CORAL ISLANDS IN AN ANCIENT AND HIGHLY FRAGMENTED MARINE SYSTEM



The Seychelles is located in the western Indian Ocean, northeast of Madagascar, in an isolated yet strategically important geographical position along the sea routes between Africa and Asia. It is an archipelago of over one hundred islands, characterized by a clear distinction between the inner granite islands and the outer coral atolls, which define two profoundly different environmental systems within the same country. Physically, the territory is unique in the Indian Ocean: the inner islands are of granite origin, with hilly reliefs, dense tropical vegetation, and rugged coastlines, while the outer islands are of coral origin, low and flat, often surrounded by lagoons and coral reefs. This geological duality makes the country a rare case globally, with extremely diverse terrestrial and marine ecosystems in a small space. The main inhabited areas are concentrated in the so-called Inner Islands, where the urban centers and main infrastructure are located. Here, Mahé, home to the capital Victoria, Praslin, and La Digue, represent the country's residential and tourist hub. Mahé is the largest island and home to the majority of the population, while Praslin and La Digue are smaller and boast highly natural landscapes. Meanwhile, the Outer Islands comprise a collection of remote atolls and islands, including the Amirantes group, the Alphonse Archipelago, and more isolated areas such as Aldabra, one of the world's largest coral atolls and a globally significant natural site. These areas are characterized by low population density and high ecological value, with limited access and virtually pristine marine environments. Historically, the Seychelles were long uninhabited in pre-colonial times, although they likely gained indirect knowledge of them through Arab navigators and merchants who plied the Indian Ocean routes. The islands were subsequently sighted and recorded by Europeans in the 16th century, but permanent colonization did not occur until the 18th century, when France formally took possession of them in 1756, initiating a process of settlement and agricultural exploitation based on plantations, initially with slave labor from East Africa and Madagascar. Following the Napoleonic Wars and the redefinition of the colonial balance in the Indian Ocean, the Seychelles came under British control in 1814 with the Treaty of Paris, while retaining many administrative and cultural structures of French origin. This Franco-British dualism had a lasting impact on local society, contributing to the formation of a hybrid cultural identity, in which Seychellois Creole, French, and English coexist. Throughout the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century, the economy remained strongly tied to plantation agriculture (particularly coconut and vanilla), while the archipelago maintained a peripheral position within the British Empire. Only after World War II did a process of progressive political autonomy begin, culminating in 1976 with independence and the creation of the Republic of Seychelles within the Commonwealth. In the post-independence period, the country experienced an initial phase of political instability, followed by the gradual establishment of a more stable and centralized institutional system. Today, the Seychelles is a democratic republic, characterized by a heavy dependence on international tourism and an environmental policy geared towards protecting terrestrial and marine ecosystems, which represent one of the country's key strategic resources.

In this framework, the territory is divided into two main macro-systems:

- **INNER ISLANDS – INCLUDE MAHÉ, PRASLIN, LA DIGUE AND NEARBY SMALLER ISLANDS, CHARACTERISED BY GRANITE RELIEFS, TROPICAL FORESTS AND A STRONG URBAN AND TOURIST CONCENTRATION**
- **OUTER ISLANDS – INCLUDE REMOTE ATOLLS AND CORAL ISLANDS SUCH AS THE AMIRANTES AND ALDABRA, WITH EXTENSIVE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS AND VERY LOW HUMAN IMPACT**

The Seychelles airport network is mainly concentrated on the inner islands, with limited but functional connections that allow access to the main areas of the archipelago:

- **Seychelles International Airport – Located on the island of Mahé, it is the main international entry point to the country and connects the archipelago with Europe, Africa and the Middle East**
- **Praslin Airport – Domestic airport connecting Mahé with the island of Praslin, essential for internal mobility of the archipelago**

In summary, the Seychelles is an extremely complex island system, where the distinction between inner granitic islands and outer coral atolls defines not only the physical geography but also the distribution of settlements and human activities. The constant relationship between land and ocean, combined with marked geographic isolation and highly valuable marine ecosystems, contributes to defining a unique territory within the Indian Ocean. It is precisely this combination of geographic fragmentation, exceptional biodiversity, and strong integration between the natural environment and limited human presence that makes the Seychelles a key archipelago for understanding contemporary tropical island systems.

# PET-FRIENDLY ITINERARIES AMONG REMOTE ATOLLS, OUTER ISLANDS AND PRISTINE NATURAL COASTLINES

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR- LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A pet-friendly journey in the Seychelles can be designed outside the main islands, focusing on remote atolls and outer islands where human presence is minimal, open spaces are extensive, and the natural environment remains dominant. In these areas, travel is more flexible thanks to continuous beaches, low vegetation, and very limited tourism pressure.

One of the most suitable destinations is Farquhar Atoll, one of the most remote island systems in the archipelago. The landscape is formed by sand spits, shallow lagoons, and extensive coral reefs. The islands are almost entirely natural, with wide open zones and non-urbanised coastlines, allowing for direct and continuous contact with the environment.

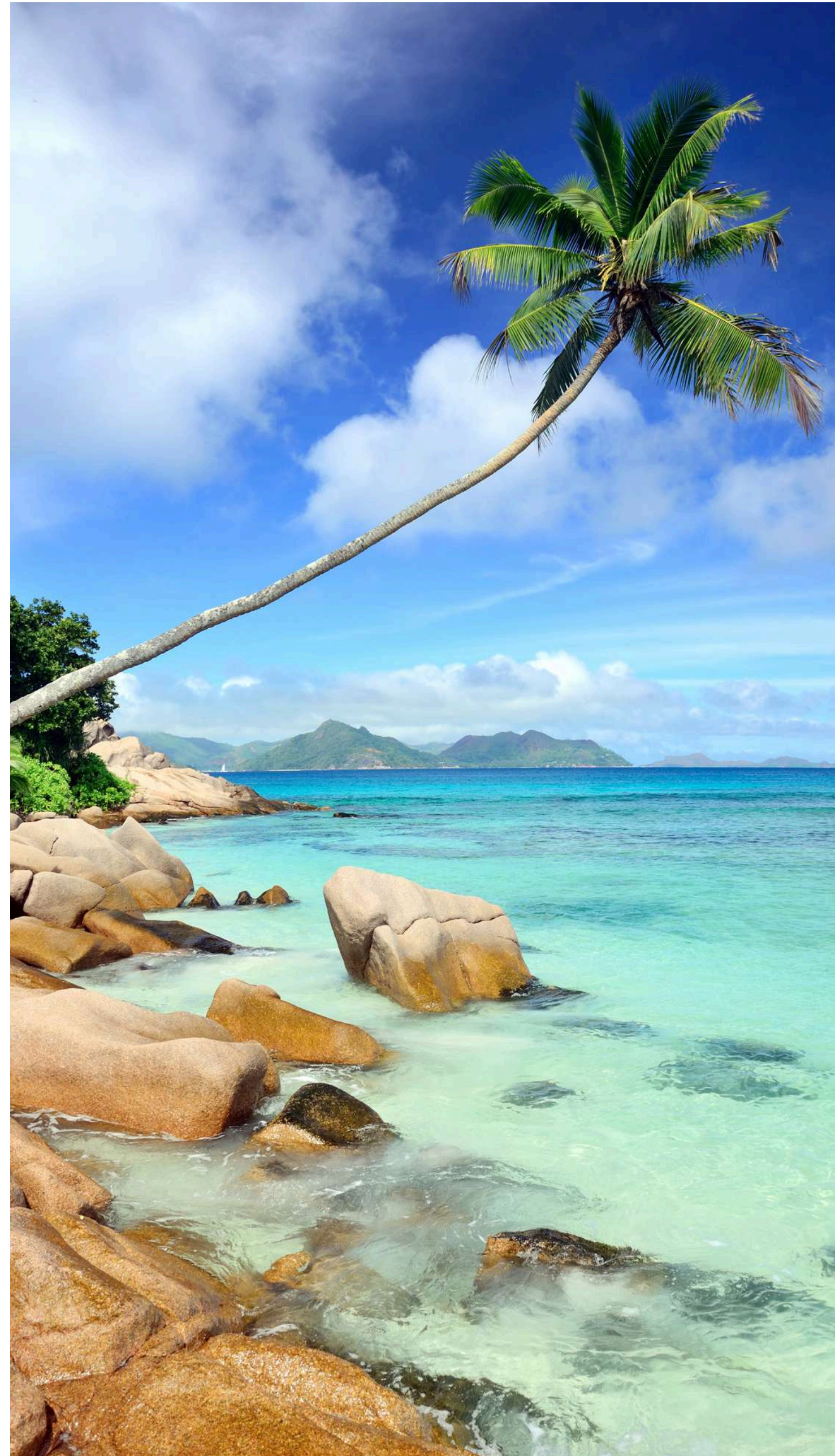
Another particularly isolated area is Alphonse Island. This atoll consists of a single main island surrounded by a coral lagoon. Its beaches are wide and flat, with direct sea access and continuous natural spaces that support slow-paced movement in open, uncrowded surroundings.

In the outer islands, Desroches Island offers a very flat and extensive environment, with a continuous coastal ring of sandy beaches and low tropical vegetation. The absence of compact urban centres and the distribution of facilities across large areas create a flexible setting more adaptable to travelling with pets.

Another destination is Denis Island, known for its strong isolation and almost untouched natural environment. Its coastlines are wide and free from urban development, while internal paths cross open natural areas with very low infrastructure density, resulting in a simple and linear landscape for movement.

Finally, Silhouette Island provides a highly natural setting, combining mountainous terrain, tropical forest, and isolated beaches accessible via trails or short coastal sections. The combination of spacious terrain and low urbanisation makes the island particularly suitable for slow-paced and flexible travel.

Taken together, these destinations outline a pet-friendly itinerary in the Seychelles that differs significantly from the main routes, focusing on remote atolls and outer islands where nature, isolation, and open space allow for a freer and more immersive travel experience.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In the heart of the Seychelles archipelago, on the island of Mahé, lies the small historic site of Mission Lodge, one of the key landmarks of colonial and post-slavery memory. The site preserves the ruins of a school built for children freed from slavery, along with a panoramic viewpoint overlooking the central mountains and the western coast of the island.

Still on Mahé, within the mountainous region of Morne Seychellois National Park, much of the island's interior is protected. Here, forest trails cross dense tropical vegetation, former abandoned tea plantations and scenic viewpoints over the ocean, offering a rare balance between biodiversity and agricultural history.

On the island of Praslin, the Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve represents one of the oldest ecosystems on Earth. This UNESCO-listed park preserves the endemic coco de mer palm and an almost untouched undergrowth, with trails through a primeval forest often described as a “window into the Jurassic era.”

On the island of La Digue, the historic settlement of L'Union Estate preserves a former colonial plantation. Visitors can explore the old coconut oil mill, the restored colonial house, and traditional agricultural areas, while reaching the famous Anse Source d'Argent beach via natural paths between granite rock formations.

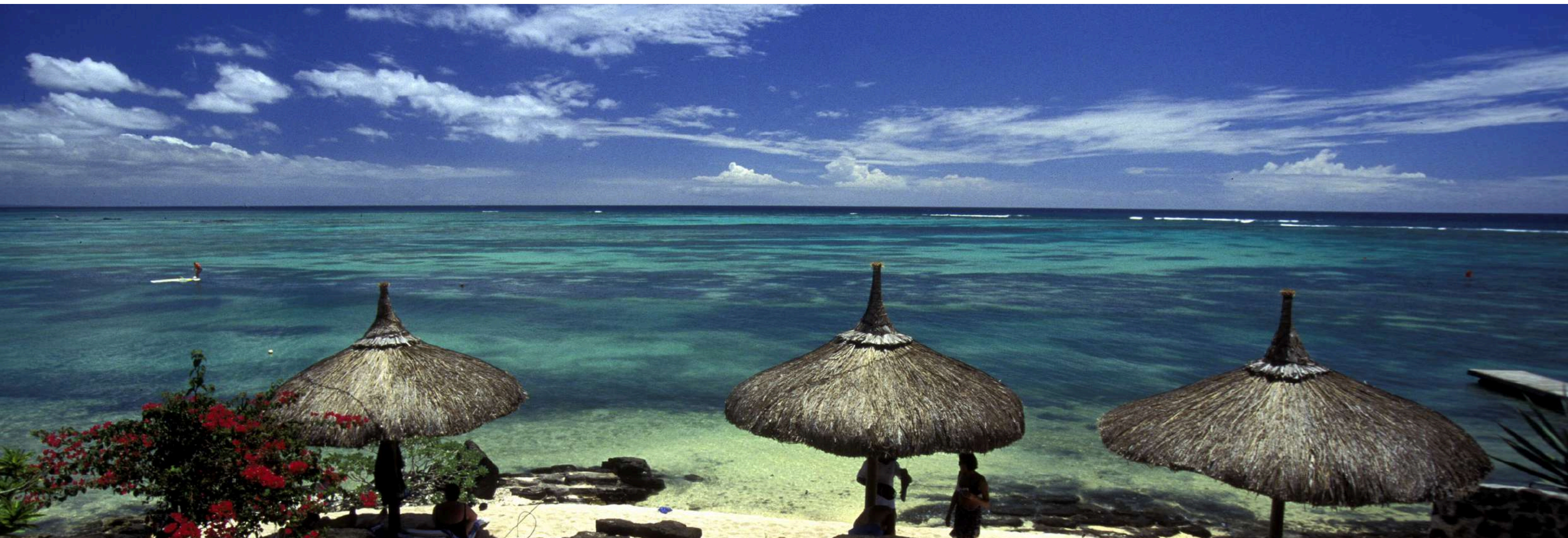
On the remote island of Silhouette Island, the surrounding Silhouette Island National Park protects one of the archipelago's most untouched forests. A small local settlement is surrounded by tropical wilderness, home to endemic species and former colonial residences now integrated into the natural landscape.

Finally, within the protected marine area of Aldabra Atoll, one of the most isolated places on Earth, lies one of the largest raised coral atolls in the world. It is home to the famous Aldabra giant tortoises and an almost entirely pristine ecosystem, accessible only through special permits.

Together, these destinations reveal the Seychelles beyond its iconic beaches: an archipelago of ancient forests, historic plantations, remote atolls and colonial heritage, where nature and history remain deeply intertwined in a remarkably preserved balance.



# MAURITIUS – BETWEEN THE INDIAN OCEAN, AN ANCIENT VOLCANIC PLATFORM, AND CORAL LAGOONS IN A HIGHLY BIODIVERSITY ARCHIPELAGO



Mauritius is located in the southwestern Indian Ocean, east of Madagascar, strategically positioned along the ocean routes between Africa, Asia, and Australia. The country comprises the main island of Mauritius and several smaller islands, including Rodrigues, the Agalega Islands, and the Cargados Carajos area, forming a volcanic island system surrounded by coral reefs. Physically, the territory is the result of an ancient, now inactive, volcanic hotspot. The main island has a relatively compact topography, with a central plateau, gentle relief, and an almost continuous coastline characterized by lagoons protected by a coral reef that surrounds much of the island. This natural system creates particularly stable marine conditions, with shallow waters and sandy beaches along almost the entire coastline. The main geographical areas are divided between the coast, the central plateau, and the mountainous interior. Among the most significant formations are the Black River Gorges National Park, which preserves the country's last indigenous forests, and the mountain range in the southwest, home to peaks such as the Piton de la Petite Rivière Noire, the island's highest point. Urban centers and tourist destinations, such as Port Louis, located on the northwest coast and the main administrative and economic hub, have developed along the coast. Rodrigues Island, located further east, has a smaller territorial scale and a less urbanized landscape, with a strong predominance of natural environments and rugged coastlines. The other smaller islands, such as Agalega and the Cargados Carajos Bank (also known as Saint Brandon), are largely uninhabited or sparsely populated and serve primarily conservation and ecological purposes, hosting marine ecosystems and birdlife of great naturalistic value. Historically, Mauritius was initially uninhabited and likely only indirectly known to Arab and Malay navigators who frequented the Indian Ocean. Europeans first discovered Mauritius in the 16th century, particularly the Portuguese, but the first stable colonization occurred with the Dutch starting in 1638. They introduced settlements and exploited natural resources, but were unable to maintain a stable presence over the long term. Subsequently, in the 18th century, the island came under French control in 1715, becoming Île de France. During this period, an agricultural economy based on sugar plantations developed, with the massive introduction of slave labor from East Africa and Madagascar, a factor that had a profound impact on the island's demographic and cultural composition. In 1810, Mauritius was conquered by the British during the Napoleonic Wars and, with the Treaty of Paris of 1814, it officially came under the rule of the United Kingdom, while retaining many administrative and cultural structures of French origin, including the spread of the French language and civil law derived from the Code Napoléon. During the British era, the economy remained heavily dependent on sugarcane plantations, while indentured labor from India and China was also introduced in the 19th century, further contributing to the island's ethnic and linguistic diversity. Mauritius gained independence in 1968 and became a republic in 1992, developing a stable political model and a highly multicultural society, in which African, European, Indian, and Chinese influences coexist. Today, the country is characterized by a diversified economy based on tourism, financial services, and light industry, with a strong focus on environmental protection and the sustainable management of island ecosystems.

In this framework, the territory is divided into well-defined geographical macro-areas:

- COASTAL STRIP AND CORAL LAGOONS – CONTINUOUS AREA SURROUNDING THE MAIN ISLAND, CHARACTERIZED BY SANDY BEACHES, CORAL REEFS AND STRONG TOURIST DEVELOPMENT
- CENTRAL PLATEAU – A SLIGHTLY ELEVATED INLAND REGION WHERE AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND INTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE ARE CONCENTRATED
- MOUNTAINOUS AREAS AND NATURAL PARKS OF THE SOUTHWEST – HIGHER AND MORE PRESERVED AREAS, WITH FOREST ECOSYSTEMS AND RESIDUAL VOLCANIC RELIEFS
- RODRIGUES ISLAND AND SMALLER ISLANDS – SECONDARY ISLAND SYSTEM TO THE EAST, WITH LOW POPULATION DENSITY AND STRONG NATURALISTIC VALUE

Mauritius' airport network is concentrated on the main island, with a single international airport serving as a hub for the entire territory and for regional connections in the Indian Ocean:

- Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport – The country's main entry point, located in the southeast of the island, connects Mauritius with Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

In short, Mauritius is a volcanic archipelago in the Indian Ocean where inland mountains, central highlands, and coastal coral lagoons coexist in a compact yet distinct geographical space. The long colonial era and subsequent independence have helped define a multicentric cultural identity, today strongly linked to tourism and the enhancement of the natural environment.

# PET-FRIENDLY ITINERARIES AMONG OPEN COASTLINES, RURAL VILLAGES AND LESS URBANIZED NATURAL LANDSCAPES

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A pet-friendly journey in Mauritius can be designed by focusing on less densely developed coastal areas, rural inland regions, and open natural environments where wide beaches, uncrowded spaces, and low tourism pressure make it easier to travel with animals and allow for a more flexible, relaxed experience of the island.

In the southwest region, Chamarel offers a particularly suitable natural setting. The landscape of the Seven Coloured Earths (Terres de Sept Couleurs) unfolds across open, easily viewable terrain with controlled access paths, while nearby viewpoints provide wide panoramas over forests and the coastline. The relatively low level of urban development makes the area calm and naturally spacious.

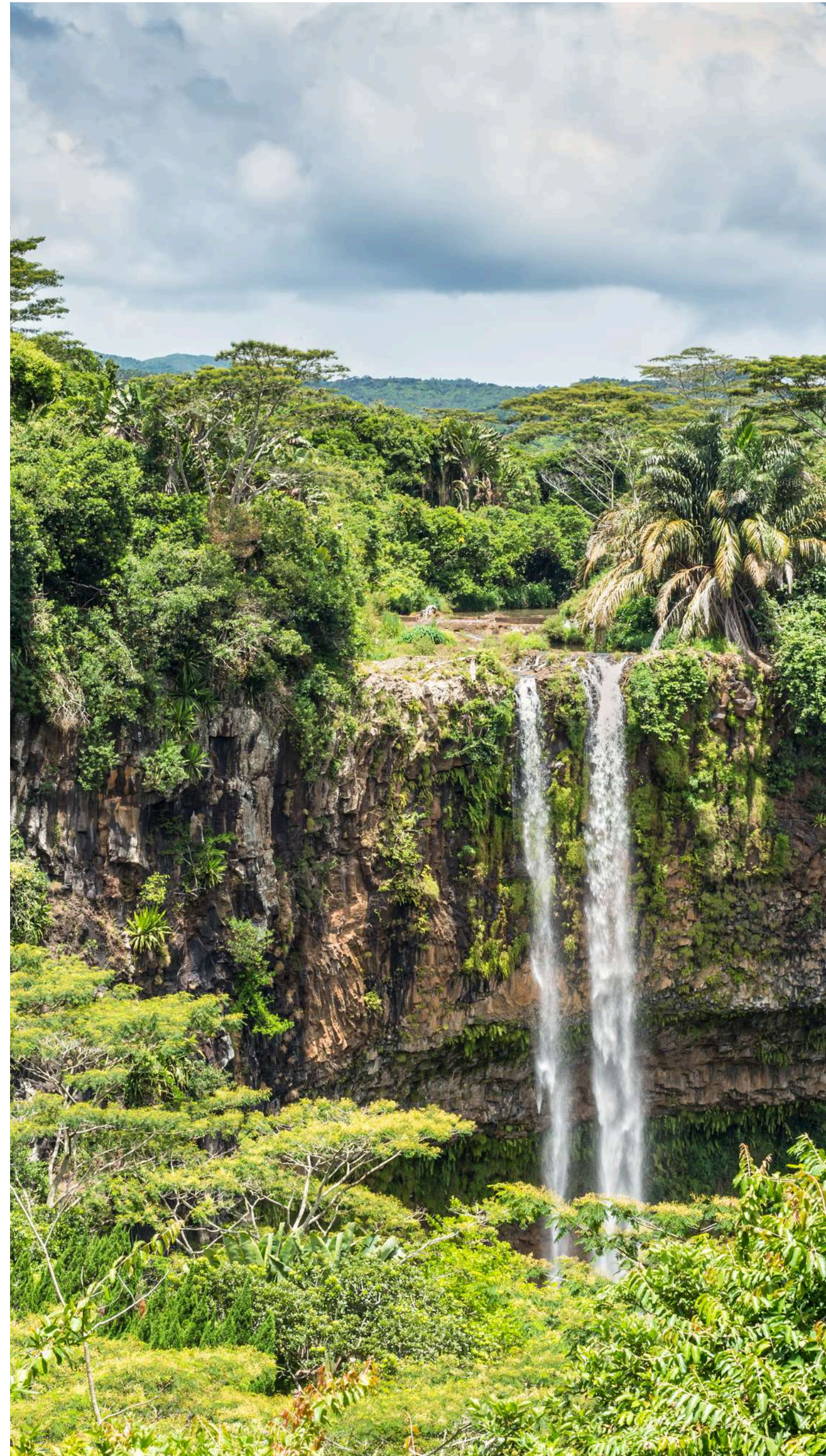
On the southern coast, Riambel stands out for its long, quiet shoreline. The beaches are wide, sandy, and largely undeveloped, offering uninterrupted coastal stretches where movement is easy and open spaces are abundant, ideal for low-stress outdoor experiences.

On the eastern side, Belle Mare features an extended sandy coastline with generally quieter sections compared to the island's main tourist hubs. The beach runs in a long, flat line with easy access points and more open, less urbanized stretches further away from the central activity zones.

In the southeast region, Grand Port provides a more rural and dispersed environment, where small villages are interspersed with agricultural land and coastal areas. Around Mahébourg, the bay area offers waterfront walks and open-air spaces with a noticeably calmer atmosphere than the northern tourist zones.

Finally, in the western inland region, Bambous represents a semi-rural setting with farmland, small settlements, and secondary roads connecting open green areas. This quieter inland environment supports slower travel rhythms and more adaptable outdoor movement with pets.

Taken together, these destinations outline a pet-friendly itinerary in Mauritius based on open coastlines, rural villages, and less urbanized natural landscapes, where space, calmness, and low-density environments create a flexible and comfortable travel experience for both visitors and their animals.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In the heart of Mauritius, in the inland district of Savanne, lies the UNESCO World Heritage Site Aapravasi Ghat, closely linked to the arrival of indentured labourers from India in the 19th century. The complex preserves remains of dormitories, administrative structures and landing areas, illustrating one of the most important chapters in the formation of the island's multicultural identity.

On the south-west coast, the area of Le Morne Brabant combines natural beauty with historical memory. Beyond its iconic mountain silhouette, the site is associated with the history of escaped enslaved communities. The Le Morne Cultural Landscape includes scenic trails and viewpoints over the lagoon, and is recognised by UNESCO for its powerful symbolic value.

In the north of the island, Cap Malheureux is known for the small church of Notre-Dame Auxiliatrice, with its distinctive red roof overlooking the sea. Beyond this iconic landmark, the area preserves less urbanised coastal stretches and views over the northern archipelago, including Coin de Mire.

In the central region lies the Black River Gorges National Park, the largest protected area on the island. It shelters endemic forests, deep canyons and rare species such as the Mauritius kestrel and the pink pigeon. Viewpoints like Macchabée and Alexandra Falls offer sweeping perspectives over the island's mountainous interior.

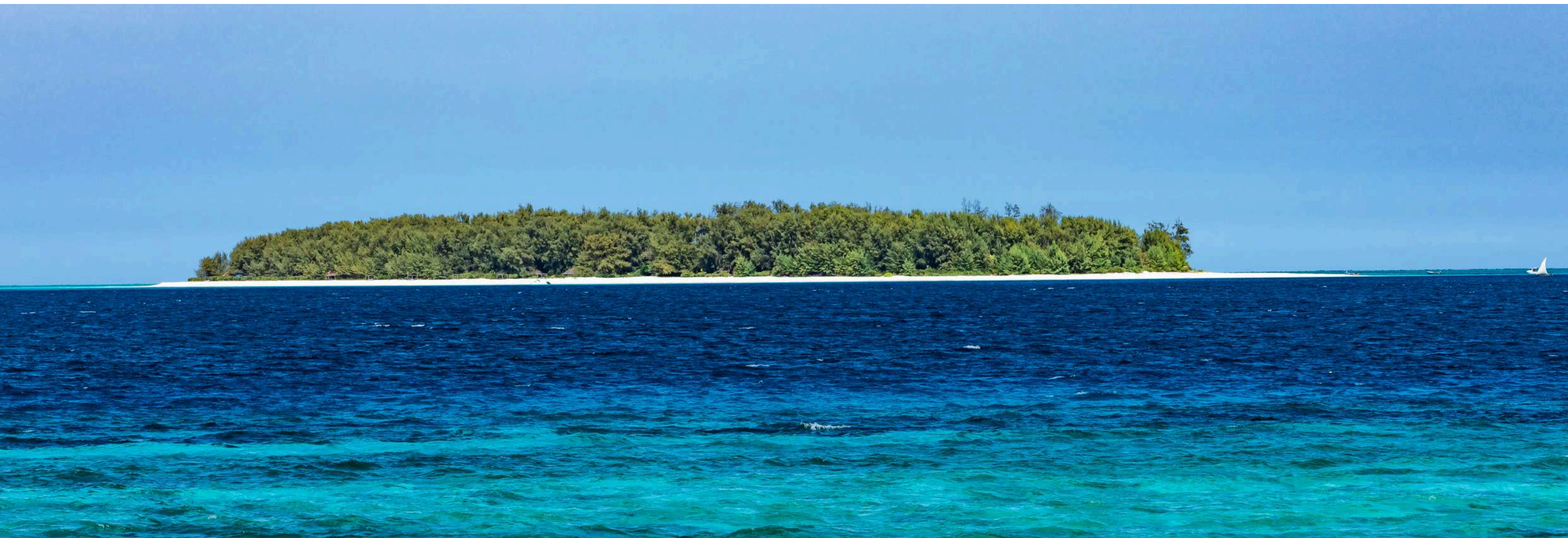
Along the eastern coast, Île aux Aigrettes represents a managed nature reserve dedicated to conservation. This limestone island hosts reintroduced native species such as the pink pigeon and the Aldabra giant tortoise, within a carefully controlled coastal ecosystem accessible only through guided visits.

Finally, in the south-east, the village of Mahébourg preserves a strong colonial heritage. The National History Museum of Mahébourg, housed in a former French château, recounts the naval battle of 1810 between France and the United Kingdom, while the waterfront bay offers calm views over one of the island's most authentic coastal settings.

Together, these destinations reveal Mauritius beyond its beach resort image: an island shaped by colonial memory, protected mountains, historic villages and nature reserves, where history, culture and biodiversity remain deeply intertwined.



# ZANZIBAR – BETWEEN THE INDIAN OCEAN, THE SWAHILI COAST ARCHIPELAGO, CORAL BARBERS AND HISTORICAL STRATIFICATION BETWEEN AFRICA, MONSOONS AND INDIAN OCEAN ROUTES



Zanzibar is located in the western Indian Ocean, off the coast of Tanzania, and is an archipelago composed primarily of two major islands, Unguja and Pemba, along with numerous smaller islands and coral atolls. The entire island system is characterized by coral and sedimentary origin, with low coasts, sandy beaches, and a strong ecological connection to the coral reefs of the Indian Ocean. Physically, the main island of Unguja has a relatively flat topography, with a sandy coastline and a slightly undulating interior covered in tropical vegetation. Pemba, located further north, is greener and hillier, with more fertile soils and a greater presence of forests and crops. The smaller islands, often uninhabited or sparsely populated, include coral atolls and islets that play a key ecological role in protecting marine biodiversity. The archipelago's main urban and historical center is Stone Town, located on the island of Unguja. This city represents a rare example of a stratified Swahili urban settlement, with Arab, Persian, Indian, and European influences, and is now recognized as a cultural heritage site for its historic architecture and its role as a commercial crossroads in the Indian Ocean. Historically, Zanzibar has been a central hub on Indian Ocean trade routes for centuries, particularly for the spice, ivory, and slave trade. From the first millennium AD, the archipelago entered the Swahili cultural sphere, influenced by exchanges with Arab and Persian merchants. In the 19th century, it became the center of the Sultanate of Zanzibar, closely linked to Oman, and assumed a strategic role in trade between East Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia. In 1890, it became a British protectorate, while maintaining strong cultural and administrative autonomy. After the 1964 revolution, Zanzibar united with Tanganyika to form the United Republic of Tanzania, while maintaining semi-autonomous status with its own government over certain local matters. This transition helped consolidate a unique political and cultural structure, in which Swahili identity, Arab influences, and African roots coexist in a layered way.

In this framework, the territory is divided into well-defined geographical macro-areas:

- **UNGUJA (MAIN ISLAND) – POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND TOURIST CENTER, WITH SANDY BEACHES, SPICE PLANTATIONS AND THE HISTORIC CORE OF STONE TOWN**
- **PEMBA – GREENER AND HILLIER ISLAND, WITH MORE RAINFALL, FORESTS AND TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURE**
- **MINOR ISLANDS AND CORAL ATOLLS – SECONDARY ISLAND SYSTEMS WITH STRONG ECOLOGICAL VALUE AND MARINE BIODIVERSITY, INCLUDING MNEMBA ISLAND, CHUMBE ISLAND, TUMBATU ISLAND AND THE MISALI ISLAND AREA, ALL CHARACTERISED BY CORAL ECOSYSTEMS, PROTECTED SEABEDS AND LOW HUMAN INFLUENCE**

ZANZIBAR'S AIRPORT NETWORK IS CONCENTRATED ON THE MAIN ISLAND, WITH AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONNECTING THE ARCHIPELAGO WITH EAST AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND EUROPE:

- **Abeid Amani Karume International Airport – The main gateway to the archipelago, located on the island of Unguja, serves the capital and the main tourist areas**

In short, Zanzibar represents an island system in the Indian Ocean characterized by the intersection of coral reefs, Swahili traditions, and a long history linked to ocean trade. The combination of complementary islands, marine biodiversity, and a strong cultural connection between Africa and the Arab-Indian world defines the archipelago's unique identity within East Africa.

# PET-FRIENDLY ITINERARIES AMONG QUIET COASTLINES, PROTECTED LAGOONS AND FLAT VILLAGES

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A pet-friendly journey in Zanzibar can be designed around wide beaches, lightly developed villages, and open natural environments where long coastal stretches and low urban density make travelling with pets more manageable and relaxed.

On the southeast coast, Bwejuu offers a long, continuous sandy shoreline with very low crowd density. The coastline is flat and regular, with scattered villages and a slow coastal rhythm. Nearby lagoon areas, influenced by tidal and protected marine zones, add open natural spaces that are suitable for calm outdoor movement.

In the same coastal belt, Dongwe presents a similarly quiet environment, but with even less urban development. The beaches are wide and directly accessible, while coastal vegetation and small settlements form an uninterrupted natural landscape with minimal fragmentation.

On the southwest coast, Kizimkazi offers a more remote setting compared to the northern tourist hubs. The area alternates between rocky and sandy shores, with wide open coastal spaces and a low population density, creating a calm and largely natural shoreline environment.

In the eastern inland area, Chwaka overlooks the large bay of the same name. This region includes mangrove ecosystems, small fishing villages, and undeveloped coastal stretches, where nature dominates and the terrain remains relatively open and easy to explore.

Finally, in the less crowded northern section, Matemwe stretches along a long coastline facing the Mnemba Atoll. The beaches are wide and continuous, with limited construction and an open seascape that allows long walks in a quiet, natural setting.

Taken together, these destinations outline a pet-friendly itinerary in Zanzibar based on coastal villages, protected lagoons, and continuous beaches, where low-density development and expansive natural spaces create a flexible, calm, and animal-friendly travel experience.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In the heart of Zanzibar, on the main island of Unguja, lies the Kizimkazi Dimbani Mosque, one of the oldest Islamic landmarks in East Africa. Built in simple coral stone, it preserves Arabic inscriptions and a small historic cemetery overlooking the southern coast.

In the central region of the island, the Jozani Chwaka Bay National Park is the only national park in the archipelago. It includes the Jozani Forest, habitat of the rare Zanzibar red colobus monkey, as well as a mangrove ecosystem crossed by wooden walkways that allow visitors to observe the coastal wetland environment without disturbing it.

On the north-eastern coast, Mnemba Island is a small private atoll surrounded by one of the most pristine coral reefs in the region. Its marine protected area is home to dolphins, sea turtles and tropical fish, making it one of Zanzibar's key biodiversity hotspots.

On the eastern coast, Mtende Beach offers one of the island's most secluded landscapes. Limestone cliffs and natural inlets create a largely undeveloped environment, where the ocean shifts with the tides and the scenery remains strongly natural.

Finally, Chumbe Island hosts one of the most important marine reserves in the western Indian Ocean. The Chumbe Coral Reef Sanctuary protects an intact coral ecosystem and a primary coastal forest, accessible only through controlled visits to preserve its ecological balance.

Together, these places reveal Zanzibar beyond its most famous beaches: an archipelago of tropical forests, ritual villages, historic mosques and protected marine reserves, where Swahili culture and nature intertwine in a deeply layered and continuous landscape.



# MALDIVES – BETWEEN THE INDIAN OCEAN, CORAL ATOLLS IN CHAINS AND AN ISLAND SYSTEM WITH A SEDIMENTARY STRUCTURE AND EXTREME TERRITORIAL FRAGMENTATION



The Maldives are located in the north-central Indian Ocean, southwest of India and Sri Lanka, and constitute one of the planet's largest and geographically complex island systems in relation to its land mass. The archipelago is composed of approximately 1,200 islands distributed across twenty or so natural atolls, organized along a double submarine chain that follows the Laccadive-Maldives-Chagos Ridge. Physically, the territory is entirely of coral and sedimentary origin, with extremely low altitude (averaging a few meters above sea level), sandy coasts, and inland lagoons protected by continuous coral reefs. This conformation makes the Maldives one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change and rising sea levels, but at the same time one of the most distinctive tropical atoll systems in the world. The islands are organized into natural and administrative atolls, some of the most significant of which are North Malé Atoll, South Malé Atoll, Ari Atoll, Baa Atoll, and Addu Atoll. These systems represent the main residential and tourist areas, with a highly dispersed population distribution across the various islands. The capital is Malé, located on a densely populated urban island, which concentrates administrative, port, and economic functions. Unlike most of the country, Malé features compact and intense urbanization, with a high concentration of infrastructure in a very small area. Historically, the Maldives exhibit a cultural stratification that reflects their strategic position along the Indian Ocean trade routes. The islands were inhabited since ancient times by populations linked to the maritime circuits of the Indian subcontinent and Sri Lanka, with strong cultural and linguistic influences from the Tamil and more generally Dravidian areas, complemented over time by Indo-Arabic contributions. These contacts contributed to the early development of an autonomous island culture, yet constantly open to the commercial and cultural flows of the ocean. A key moment occurred in the 12th century, when Islam was introduced to the archipelago, traditionally attributed to the arrival of the traveler Abu al-Barakat Yusuf al-Barbari. From this moment on, the Maldives transformed into a stable Islamic sultanate, with a centralized political structure that would last for several centuries. Islam became a fundamental element of identity, profoundly influencing language, law, and social organization. Between the 16th and 19th centuries, the archipelago gradually entered the orbit of European powers. The Portuguese briefly occupied the islands in the 16th century, imposing a military presence but without stable control. Subsequently, the Dutch, while dominating Ceylon, maintained an indirect influence over the area. In the 19th century, the Maldives became a British protectorate, while retaining the sultanate and a certain internal autonomy. During the British colonial period, the islands remained relatively marginal to major imperial interests, but were integrated into the Indian Ocean trade systems, particularly in fishing and the production of local goods. The process of political modernization was gradual and relatively stable compared to other colonies in the region. The Maldives gained independence in 1965 and became a republic in 1968. In the subsequent period, a significant economic transformation took place, with the transition from a traditional economy based on fishing and local trade to a model strongly oriented towards international tourism, which today represents the country's main income.

In this framework, the territory is divided into fundamental geographical macro-areas:

- NORTHERN ATOLLS – INCLUDE SYSTEMS SUCH AS HAA ALIF, HAA DHAALU AND SHAVIYANI, CHARACTERISED BY MORE REMOTE ISLANDS AND LOWER TOURIST DENSITY
- CENTRAL ATOLLS – INCLUDE NORTH MALÉ, SOUTH MALÉ AND ARI, WHICH REPRESENT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TOURIST HEART OF THE COUNTRY
- SOUTHERN ATOLLS – INCLUDE ADDU AND GAAFU, WITH GREATER TERRITORIAL EXTENSION AND A STRONG PRESENCE OF INHABITED ISLANDS
- OUTER ATOLLS AND PERIPHERAL SYSTEMS – MORE ISOLATED AREAS WITH LESS URBANIZATION AND STRONG ECOLOGICAL VALUE, INCLUDING HUVADHU ATOLL, ADDU ATOLL (IN ITS MOST PERIPHERAL PART), FUVAHMULAH AND THE REMOTE ATOLLS OF THE LAAMU ATOLL GROUP, CHARACTERIZED BY LOW POPULATION DENSITY AND STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY

The Maldives' airport network is concentrated mainly in the central atolls, with intercontinental connections and seaplanes allowing access to the more remote islands:

- Velana International Airport – The country's main airport, located on the island of Hulhulé near Malé, represents the international hub for all connections
- Gan Airport – Located in Addu Atoll, it serves the southern part of the country and acts as a second international gateway

In short, the Maldives is an extremely fragmented and delicate coral island system, where the geographic structure of the atolls is intertwined with a long history of cultural exchanges and external influences. Today, the country stands out for its balance between historical identity, environmental fragility, and strong tourism specialization.

# PET-FRIENDLY ITINERARIES AMONG LOCAL ISLANDS, INSULAR TRADITIONS AND OPEN LAGOONS

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR- LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

The Maldives are not a naturally pet-friendly destination. Due to strict sanitary and environmental regulations, the entry of domestic animals is highly restricted and, in most cases, not permitted in resorts or on many inhabited islands.

That said, a theoretical and highly selective itinerary can be outlined, focusing on inhabited islands, local community settings, and open natural environments where—subject to case-by-case approval from authorities and accommodations—conditions may be more flexible than in resort-only islands. This type of journey would revolve around local islands with resident populations, simple urban layouts, and expansive lagoon landscapes where daily life, Islamic traditions, and the marine environment coexist.

In the northern part of the archipelago, the atoll of Haa Dhaalu Atoll includes Nolvhivaranfaru, a long and narrow island with a continuous sandy coastline and a linear village structure along the shore. Daily life is closely tied to fishing and community activity, with open coastal spaces and an expansive lagoon environment that supports simple movement across a largely natural setting.

In the northwestern sector, Shaviyani Atoll includes inhabited islands such as Komandoo, a local community island (distinct from resort properties of similar name elsewhere). The island features a compact settlement pattern, local mosques, and a strong fishing tradition, all set within a low-density natural environment.

In the central Maldives, Meemu Atoll includes Dhiggaru, a notably elongated island where the narrow landform creates long, continuous beaches along both sides. The village structure remains simple and easily navigable, while the surrounding lagoon areas are open and relatively calm.

Further south, Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll includes Vaadhoo, a locally inhabited island with active community life and wide, lightly visited lagoon areas. The natural environment dominates the landscape, and tourism pressure remains limited compared to northern resort-heavy regions.

At the far southern end, Addu Atoll—particularly the island of Maradhoo—offers one of the rare semi-urban configurations in the country. The islands are interconnected by causeways, creating a continuous land route system with waterfront promenades, open spaces, and a distinct historical identity influenced in part by its former British presence in the 20th century.

Taken together, these destinations outline a highly selective and theoretical pet-friendly approach to the Maldives, focused on local islands, community life, and open lagoon environments—where space, simplicity, and low density would, in principle, offer the most feasible conditions within a country where pet travel remains heavily regulated.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In the heart of the Maldives, on the island of Utheemu in the Haa Alif Atoll, stands the historic residence Utheemu Ganduvaru, linked to Sultan Mohammed Thakurufaanu, a key figure in the resistance against Portuguese occupation in the 16th century. This perfectly preserved wooden house is one of the rare surviving examples of traditional Maldivian royal architecture.

In the Laamu Atoll, the island of Isdhoo preserves one of the country's most important archaeological sites, featuring ancient pre-Islamic Buddhist remains, including stupa foundations and carved stone blocks. These artefacts reflect a historical phase that predates the nation's conversion to Islam, still largely invisible across most of the archipelago.

In the Baa Atoll, Hanifaru Bay is one of the most significant marine protected areas in the Indian Ocean. It is known for seasonal gatherings of manta rays and whale sharks, driven by unique plankton-rich conditions that make it one of the most studied marine ecosystems in the region.

In the Addu Atoll, the island of Gan preserves infrastructure from a former British military base dating back to the Second World War. Its internal road network connects multiple islands within the atoll, creating an unusual semi-urban configuration for the Maldives, with remnants of airstrips and colonial-era buildings.

In the Noonu Atoll, the island of Kendhikulhudhoo is defined by a strong fishing tradition and a close-knit island community organised around local mosques, schools and small harbours, set within a relatively undeveloped lagoon rich in marine biodiversity.

Finally, in the Raa Atoll, the island of Alifushi is renowned for its traditional wooden boatbuilding (dhoni construction), one of the oldest nautical crafts in the Maldives, still practised today using artisanal techniques passed down through generations.

Together, these places reveal a side of the Maldives beyond its resort image: an archipelago of historic residences, pre-Islamic Buddhist traces, colonial outposts, natural atolls and maritime traditions, where culture, history and the ocean are deeply and quietly intertwined.



# JAPAN – BETWEEN THE PACIFIC ARCHIPELAGO, AN ACTIVE VOLCANIC ARC, AND HISTORICAL STRATIFICATION BETWEEN ISOLATION, MODERNIZATION, AND CONTINUOUS CULTURAL IDENTITY



Japan is located in East Asia, in the northwestern Pacific Ocean, and consists of a vast archipelago of over 14,000 islands, the largest of which are Honshū, Hokkaido, Kyūshū, and Shikoku. The country's position is determined by the interaction between the Pacific Plate, the Eurasian Plate, and the Philippine Plate, which have created a highly mountainous, seismic, and volcanic territory, located within the so-called Pacific Ring of Fire. The landscape is dominated by mountain ranges and inland ranges that cross the main islands, giving way to limited but densely urbanized coastal plains. This configuration has fostered a strong relationship between communities and the natural environment, with continued adaptability to geographic and climatic conditions. Temperate and subtropical forests still cover large portions of the territory, alternating with alpine zones and volcanic environments, often protected by an extensive network of national parks. Climatic conditions vary significantly from north to south, ranging from harsh winters with heavy snowfall in the northern regions to subtropical climates in the southern areas, contributing to remarkable ecological diversity. This environmental variety makes Japan one of the most complex and naturally diverse island territories in the entire Asian continent. Historically, Japan has one of the longest political continuities in the world, with origins dating back to the Jōmon period (c. 14,000–300 BCE), characterized by hunter-gatherer societies and one of the oldest known ceramic traditions in the world. Subsequently, in the Yayoi period (300 BCE–300 CE), rice cultivation, metalworking, and a growing hierarchical social organization spread, likely influenced by contact with the Korean Peninsula and China. During this phase, the first proto-state political nuclei began to form. During the Kofun period (3rd–6th century AD), a centralized political structure was consolidated around the imperial figure, while between the 6th and 8th centuries, Japan deeply absorbed Chinese and Korean cultural influences, introducing Buddhism and structured administrative systems that strengthened the state. During the Nara period (710–794), a first stable capital was established and the bureaucratic organization was further formalized, while in the subsequent Heian period (794–1185), the capital was moved to Kyoto and a highly refined aristocratic culture developed, with a strong artistic and literary apogee. From the 12th century, political power fragmented and the feudal system led by the samurai class asserted itself, with a progressive centrality of military power over imperial power. Between the 17th and 19th centuries, the Edo period (or Tokugawa shogunate, 1603–1868) developed, a phase of strong political and social stability under the control of the shogunate with its capital in Edo (present-day Tokyo). This period was characterized by a rigidly hierarchical system, significant urban growth, and a policy of relative isolation (sakoku), which severely limited external contact while maintaining controlled trade with China, Korea, and the Netherlands. The end of the Edo period coincided with the Meiji Restoration of 1868, which marked the end of the feudal system and the beginning of rapid political, industrial, and military modernization. In just a few decades, Japan transformed into a modern imperial power. In the 20th century, the country underwent a phase of expansion and subsequently the Second World War, which ended in 1945 with defeat and Allied occupation. The postwar period marked a profound economic and institutional transformation, with the birth of a constitutional democracy and industrial growth that led Japan to become one of the leading contemporary world economies.

The division of the territory covers the whole of Japan without exclusions, including all the main islands and peripheral systems:

- HONSHŪ (MAIN ISLAND) – POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRAL AXIS OF THE COUNTRY, HOME TO TOKYO, OSAKA, KYOTO AND NAGOYA
- HOKKAIDO – A NORTHERN REGION WITH A COLD CLIMATE, VAST NATURAL AREAS, AND LOW POPULATION DENSITY
- SHIKOKU – A MOUNTAINOUS AND LESS URBANIZED AREA, WITH STRONG TRADITIONAL CULTURAL CONTINUITY
- KYŪSHŪ – SOUTHWESTERN REGION WITH HIGH VOLCANIC ACTIVITY AND HISTORICAL OPENNESS TO EXTERNAL CONTACTS
- OKINAWA AND THE RYUKYU ARCHIPELAGO – A SUBTROPICAL ISLAND SYSTEM WITH DISTINCT CULTURAL IDENTITY AND STRONG HISTORICAL SPECIFICITY
- MINOR OUTLYING ISLANDS – INCLUDE REMOTE SYSTEMS SUCH AS THE OGASAWARA ISLANDS, WITH STRONG ECOLOGICAL VALUE AND GEOGRAPHICAL ISOLATION

In this complex and highly interconnected geographical context, the air network plays a fundamental role in ensuring mobility between the different areas of the country and in relations with the rest of the world:

- Tokyo Haneda International Airport – The capital's main urban hub
- Narita International Airport – International hub for the Tokyo region
- Kansai International Airport – Gateway to Osaka, Kyoto, and the Kansai area
- Chubu Centrair International Airport – Serves central Japan (Nagoya)
- Fukuoka Airport – Main gateway to Kyūshū
- New Chitose Airport – Main gateway to Hokkaido

In short, Japan represents a complex and highly integrated island system, combining a mountainous and fragmented geographical structure with extraordinary historical and institutional continuity. The balance between main islands, peripheral regions, and subtropical areas, combined with a long history of political and cultural evolution, defines a unique territorial model within the context of East Asia and the Pacific.

# PET-FRIENDLY ITINERARIES AMONG COASTAL CITIES, ACCESSIBLE ISLANDS AND CONTROLLED NATURAL SPACES

## PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A JOURNEY WITH YOUR FOUR- LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A pet-friendly journey in Japan requires careful planning, as the country has strict regulations regarding the presence of animals in cultural sites and public transport. However, there are coastal urban environments, well-organized islands, and open parks where pets can be managed more easily, particularly in outdoor settings designed for public use.

A strong starting point is Fukuoka in Kyushu. Here, Ohori Park features a large circular lake surrounded by continuous pedestrian paths and wide green areas, making it ideal for relaxed outdoor walks. Nearby, Momochi Seaside Park offers a modern, flat waterfront with open seaside spaces and a contemporary urban skyline, providing a balanced coastal environment with ample room for outdoor activities.

Moving toward central Japan, Shizuoka offers a calm coastal setting at the foot of Mount Fuji. The area of Miho no Matsubara is particularly suitable, with its long coastal pine grove and panoramic views of Mount Fuji. The landscape is flat, natural, and spacious, especially in its less crowded outer sections.

In the Kansai region, Kobe stands out for its well-structured urban waterfront. Meriken Park provides large open pedestrian areas along the harbor, while the nearby Harborland district combines seaside promenades, green spaces, and modern infrastructure, all arranged in a highly accessible urban layout.

Another notable destination is Shodoshima in the Seto Inland Sea. The island is known for its relaxed pace and open coastal landscapes. The area around Angel Road is particularly distinctive: a sandbar that appears at low tide, surrounded by a wide, natural coastal environment with limited urban development, offering a quiet and open setting.

Finally, in Okinawa, the region of Onna Village provides extended coastal stretches and accessible seaside walks. Beaches such as Nabii Beach and surrounding cliffside paths offer open natural areas with easier outdoor mobility compared to more densely developed urban zones, making it one of the more flexible coastal environments in southern Japan.

Taken together, these destinations outline a pet-friendly itinerary in Japan based on coastal cities, Seto Inland Sea islands, and flat natural areas, where open spaces and structured urban planning allow for a more adaptable travel experience, while still respecting the country's regulations regarding animals.





## DID YOU KNOW?

In northern Japan, on the island of Hokkaido, lies the port city of Otaru, which flourished during the Meiji era as a key commercial hub. Its historic canal is still lined with stone warehouses (*kura*), now converted into museums and craft workshops, including the Otaru Music Box Museum, home to hundreds of antique music boxes and historical musical objects.

Also in Hokkaido, the area of Noboribetsu is famous for the volcanic valley of Jigokudani (Hell Valley), where fumaroles, sulphur springs and scenic trails reveal the island's geothermal origins. Nearby, the Noboribetsu Date Jidaimura recreates an Edo-period village with samurai residences and traditional theatres.

In the central region of Chubu, the city of Takayama preserves one of the best-maintained historic districts in the country. The Sanmachi Suji area features Edo-period wooden houses, active traditional sake breweries, and the Takayama Jinya, a former feudal government administrative building.

In western Japan, the city of Matsue is known as the “city of water” due to the canals surrounding its castle. The Matsue Castle, one of the few remaining original wooden castles in Japan, dominates the city alongside historic gardens such as the Gessho-ji Temple Garden, linked to samurai culture.

On the island of Kyushu, in Kumamoto, stands the iconic Kumamoto Castle, originally built in the 17th century and partially restored after the 2016 earthquake. The complex includes fortified walls, historical museums and feudal gardens such as Suizenji Jojuen Garden, designed to represent miniature landscapes of Japan.

Finally, in Aomori Prefecture, the Sannai-Maruyama Site is one of the most important Jomon-period archaeological sites. Its museum and excavation area showcase reconstructed prehistoric dwellings, communal structures and artefacts from one of the oldest known cultures in the Japanese archipelago.

Together, these places reveal a lesser-known but deeply layered Japan—made of historic ports, feudal cities, volcanic landscapes and prehistoric settlements, where history, culture and nature intertwine in a continuous and striking narrative.



## **CONTACT US**

**OUR EXCLUSIVE SUPPORT  
TO PERSONALIZE YOUR  
ITINERARY ACCORDING  
TO YOUR NEEDS AND  
WISHES**



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO REQUEST A QUOTE?

We hope this travel planner has been of interest to you and has provided inspiration for your next journey.

If you would like to organize your next trip, please click on the “Itinerary and Quotation Request” button.

Complete and submit the form, and we will contact you shortly to create your personalized travel quotation.

[ITINERARY AND QUOTATION REQUEST](#)



# Atlantic Travel & Tours Ltd

London, New York  
Los Angeles, Miami  
Denver

## **ATLANTIC TRAVEL & TOURS LTD**

**HEADQUARTERED IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM**

### **REGISTERED COMPANIES**

USA - DENVER - COLORADO - COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 202 110 96 014

UK - LONDON - COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 130 288 33

### **E-MAIL**

USA - [unitedstatesadministration@atlantictourstravel.com](mailto:unitedstatesadministration@atlantictourstravel.com)

UK - [unitedkingdomadministration@atlantictourstravel.com](mailto:unitedkingdomadministration@atlantictourstravel.com)

### **WEBSITE**

[www.visitatlantictraveltours.com](http://www.visitatlantictraveltours.com)

### **FULL CONTACT DETAILS**

[www.visitatlantictraveltours.com/contact](http://www.visitatlantictraveltours.com/contact)