Circumnavigation of
Iceland

Cruising aboard the
Exclusively Chartered Small Ship
Five-Star m.s. Le Soléal

August 1 to 9, 2017
Round-Trip Air Included from Select Cities†
Dear Alabama Traveler:

Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime exploration of a land of incredible natural wonder, where glittering glaciers cap simmering volcanoes, ancient Viking ruins exist alongside the latest in geothermal technology and prolonged daylight melds into the lingering twilight. This is Iceland—a spectacular and ever-changing landscape that serves as a testament to the powerful natural forces that shape our planet.

During our specially designed seven-night circumnavigation of this extraordinary Nordic island nation, experience unimaginable scenery that exists nowhere else on Earth and encounter Iceland’s wondrous sights at close range. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, small ship M.S. Le Soleal, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms, with the ability to cruise into small ports inaccessible to larger vessels and to alter course and launch its Zodiac excursion vessels as a kaleidoscope of wild, ethereal landscapes and mystery unfold before you.

Look for rare migratory birds, orcas and humpback whales; admire steaming geysers, rugged coastline and pristine beauty; and touch ice fragments calved from one of Europe’s largest glaciers. Visit Grimsey Island, crossing into the Arctic Circle, and cruise up close to Surtsey, Earth’s youngest island and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the majestic and rocky vista of a former lava lake and marvel at dramatic Goðafoss, the “Waterfall of the Gods.” Discover centuries of mythic lore and epic sagas forged upon the land, and learn more about the enduring spirit of generations of coastal Icelanders—a warm and friendly people whose love of nature, respect of resources and resilient character have kept them thriving here for centuries.

Don’t miss this unforgettable adventure through the wonders of Iceland, featuring included round-trip air from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Philadelphia and Washington-Dulles; or Low Air Add-Ons for an additional $200 per person from Chicago and Minneapolis or an additional $300 per person from Denver, Seattle and Portland, Oregon.* Make your reservation before January 9, 2017, while Early Booking Savings are still available!

Sincerely,

Ashley Olive
Alumni Tour Coordinator
University of Alabama National Alumni Association

*Included airfare and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.
Tuesday, August 1
Depart from the U.S.

Reykjavík, Iceland
Wednesday, August 2
This morning, arrive in Reykjavík, the world’s northernmost capital, inhabited by one-half of the country’s total population of 300,000. See the idyllic recreational sports area of Laugardalur, or Hot Spring Valley, where geothermal water keeps an Olympic-sized outdoor swimming pool open year round. Continue to the Pearl, Reykjavík’s remarkable landmark glass dome built atop six 10-story hot water tanks—an architectural wonder as well as an amazing feat of engineering—and admire a captivating view across the city from the dome’s observation deck. Tour the impressive National Museum for a comprehensive overview of Iceland’s history, culture and heritage. It exhibits nearly 3000 objects and artifacts dating from the A.D. 874 settlement through the present day. Visit the iconic Hallgrímskirkja, a towering Lutheran church and the tallest building in Iceland. Pass by the colorful, picturesque houses of central Reykjavík before boarding the M.S. LE SOLÉAL.

Please note that the ship’s cruising pattern and direction are dependent on weather conditions and are subject to change.

Vigur Island/Ísafjörður
Thursday, August 3
Enjoy the morning cruise to the awe-inspiring Westfjords. On charming Vigur Island—home to one single farming family and thousands of puffins, Arctic terns, black guillemots and eider ducks—where time seems to stand still, see the birds in their natural habitat and Iceland’s only windmill, built in 1840.

Visit the country’s smallest post office and enjoy coffee and cakes served by our island hosts in their well-preserved, 19th-century house.

This afternoon, cruise up the dominant fjord of this distinct and remote 14-million-year-old region, Ísafjörður’s Djúp (“deep”), defined by ruggedly stunning mountains. Near the town of Ísafjörður, visit the open-air museum of Ósvör to see restored traditional 19th-century fisherman’s huts and fishing equipment that vividly depict the harsh reality of the lives of generations of Iceland’s fishermen. Tour Ísafjörður’s Westfjords Heritage Museum to learn more about the vibrant coastal art and culture and fascinating maritime history of this remote outpost. Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception this evening.

Siglufjörður/Akureyri
Friday, August 4
Iceland’s northernmost town, picturesque Siglufjörður is a small, historic fishing hub built from the success of the herring industry. Here, visit the award-winning Herring Era Museum and enjoy a lively, music-filled performance of historical herring salting methods. Afterward, sample traditional local herring and Icelandic schnapps.

Return to the ship for lunch and the unforgettable approach to lively Akureyri, nestled beneath the mountains of Eyjafjörður, Iceland’s longest fjord. Visit the monumental hilltop Akureyrarkirkja (Church of Akureyri), which showcases an intricate stained-glass central window that once graced England’s Coventry Cathedral, and walk amid the extensive collection of flora blooming in the open-air Botanical Gardens.

Cover photo: The perpetual expansion of majestic Jökulsárlón lagoon is fed by the recurrent calving and gradual melting of luminous-blue icebergs from Breidamerkurjökull glacier.

Photo this page: Divine waterfall Goðafoss punctuates the craggy lava fields and rich green pastures of northern Iceland’s Bárðardalur valley, its cascades misting the crystal clear waters of the glacial Skjálfandafljót River.
Húsavík for Lake Mývatn/
Arctic Circle/Grímsey Island
Saturday, August 5
Explore northern Iceland’s unique and extraordinary natural landscapes, stopping at Námaskarð, an unearthly, steaming field of boiling, sulfurous mud pots, and the distinctive pseudo craters at Skútustaðir, formed when hot lava flowed over the wetlands 2300 years ago. Walk among the surreal, almost eerie lava formations of Dimmuborgir, the mythic source of Icelandic folklore, and drive along the shores of cerulean Lake Mývatn, a birdwatcher’s paradise and a haven for many rare migratory birds and 14 species of Iceland’s bountiful wild ducks. Look for broods of the sleek harlequin duck and the black-and-white Barrow’s goldeneye, a remarkable bird species that nests nowhere else. Continue to Goðafoss, “Waterfall of the Gods.” According to legend, this spectacular waterfall earned its name when an Icelandic chieftain threw wooden statues of his Norse gods into its crashing waters, signifying his conversion to Christianity.

This afternoon, cruise to Grímsey Island, bisected by the Arctic Circle and the northernmost inhabited territory in Iceland. Visit quaint Grímsey Church, built out of driftwood in 1867. Officially cross the Arctic Circle, the top of the world, where the island is treeless but lush with grasses and mosses. Despite the remote Arctic latitude, its weather is mild year round. See thriving populations of seabirds, especially auks—their black and white coloring is similar to a penguin’s, but auks have the distinctive ability to fly above and dive into the Arctic water.

Day at Sea
Sunday, August 6
Today delight in a cruise along the east coast of Iceland, characterized by beautiful fjords, and attend educational lectures on board.

Djúpivogur for Jökulsárlón
Monday, August 7
Enjoy a full-day scenic excursion along Iceland’s stunning east coast from Djúpivogur to Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon.

The picturesque coastal town of Húsavík is claimed locally to have been the first settlement in Iceland, reached by a Swedish Viking in A.D. 870, four years before Norwegia Ingólfs Arnarson arrived in what is now Reykjavík.
Board a small boat for a private cruise amongst the breathtaking icebergs of this spectacular lagoon and actually touch the ice that has calved off the outlet tidewater glacier, Breidamerkurjökull. On clear days, look for the awe-inspiring Vatnajökull Ice Cap, Europe’s largest glacier.

Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant near the lagoon before a panoramic tour of historic Höfn, a small fishing village known for its stunning mountain views.

**Vestmannaeyjar (Westman Islands) for Heimaey Island/ Cruise along Surtsey Island**

**Tuesday, August 8**

Arrive at fascinating Heimaey Island, part of the Vestmannaeyjar archipelago, where the tall cliffs are inhabited by puffin, fulmar and guillemot bird species. Tour the fascinating Eldheimar Museum, which chronicles the fateful volcanic activity of 1973 that created Mount Eldfell. Then, see the incredible formation, also known as “Fire Mountain,” and its lava fields which are still warm to the touch even 40 years after its last eruption.

Stop at the precipitous headland of Stórhöfði to observe Heimaey’s largest puffin colony and see the ruins of ancient Viking farmhouses dating from A.D. 650.

This evening, cruise along the coast of Surtsey Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Created during volcanic activity between 1963 and 1967, it is the youngest island on Earth and one of the most fragile; scientists are carefully monitoring the evolution of its flora and fauna.

This evening, join your traveling companions for the Captain’s Farewell Reception.

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**Reykjavík/U.S.**

**Wednesday, August 9**

Disembark and transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.
**FIVE-STAR, SMALL SHIP**

**M.S. LE SOLÉAL**

**Small Ship, State-of-the-Art Design**

The exclusively chartered M.S. LE SOLÉAL represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

**Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies**

Each air-conditioned deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet), features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages; most have two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. Enjoy accommodation amenities including individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

**Chic and Casual Dining**

International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious L’Eclipse dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual Pytheas Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. Continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. **Wine is served with lunch and dinner.**

**Spacious Public Areas/World-Class Service and Facilities**

In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting, and they can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge, nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge and lectures, cultural performances and film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, two elevators and an infirmary staffed with a doctor and a nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

**Respect for the Environment**

The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” designation due to its advanced eco-friendly features, a rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has two tenders and 10 Zodiacs.
Included Features
◆ Round-trip air is included from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Philadelphia and Washington-Dulles.*

On board the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, small ship M.S. LE SOLÉAL
◆ Seven-night cruise featuring the circumnavigation of Iceland round-trip Reykjavík, with port calls at Vigur Island, Isafjôður, Siglufjörður, Akureyri, Húsavík for Lake Mývatn, Grímsey Island for the Arctic Circle, Djúpivogur for Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, and Heimaey Island.
◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
◆ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise.
◆ All meals—early continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.
◆ Wine is served with lunch and dinner.
◆ Opportunities to alter course and launch the ship’s Zodiac excursion vessels as natural wonders unfold before your eyes.
◆ City tour of Reykjavík, featuring the Pearl and the National Museum.
◆ Visit to idyllic Vigur Island to observe the natural habitat of thousands of puffins, Arctic terns and eider ducks.
◆ Tour of the charming fishing town of Ísafjörður, featuring the Westfjords Heritage Museum and Ósvör, one of Iceland’s oldest fishing stations.
◆ Visit to the herring boomtown of Siglufjörður, with a visit to the award-winning Herring Era Museum, featuring lively music demonstrations and sampling of Icelandic delicacies including herring and schnapps.
◆ Visit to the historic town of Akureyri, featuring a visit to the towering Church of Akureyri and the phenomenal Botanical Garden.
◆ Scenic excursion to legendary Goðafoss Waterfall, beautiful Lake Mývatn, the amazing lava towers of Dimmuborgir, the unique craters at Skútustaðir and the otherworldly geothermal field of Námaskarð.
◆ Crossing of the Arctic Circle (66°33’ N) on Grímsey Island.
◆ Full-day scenic excursion along Iceland’s stunning east coast from Djúpivogur to the Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, highlighted by an awe-inspiring private cruise amongst Jökulsárlón’s many spectacular icebergs.
◆ Visit to Heimaey Island for a tour of Eldfell, “Fire Mountain,” and to see ancient Viking ruins and lava fields.
◆ Cruise along the coast of Surtsey Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the youngest island on Earth.

Enhanced Travel Services
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ Low Air Add-Ons are available for $200 per person from Chicago and Minneapolis and for $300 per person from Denver, Seattle and Portland, Oregon.*
◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced, English-speaking local guides.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
◆ The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.
◆ Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

*Included airfare and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.
Iceland is one of just a handful of places in the world to encounter the majesty of the geyser, a natural spring gushing steam and hot water. Generations of Icelanders have adapted their lifestyles and livelihoods to the country’s distinct and varied terrain.

**Land of Fire and Ice**

A land of unparalleled geological riches and home to some of the most diverse phenomena on Earth, Iceland is comprised of 4500 square miles of glaciers, 15 active volcanoes, 10,000 waterfalls and 800 hot springs. Born of the monumental forces unleashed in the movement of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, and at the same time carved out by majestic, slow-moving glaciers, the land is a combination of intense natural energy and total calm.

The island topography of Iceland as we know it continues to evolve, yet many of its landscapes have hardly changed since the first Viking settlers saw it more than 1100 years ago.

Iceland’s unique and beautiful geography is like nowhere else on Earth. During your circumnavigation, see volcanic craters and fissures; watch as bubbling hot springs send steam into the air against a backdrop of barren, Mars-like terrain; encounter snowcapped mountains and black lava desert; and come upon pristine, powerful waterfalls and the deep freeze of mammoth ice caps. Along the coast, Iceland’s characteristic fjords—deep inlets cut into the coastline—chronicle the pathways of its glaciers. All of these natural wonders are in constant flux, as glaciers calve and shift and new mountains emerge from the volcanoes’ lava flows.

The result is a startlingly beautiful portrait of Earth in process—a raw, primordial landscape hewn by the forces of fire and ice.

*Iceland is one of just a handful of places in the world to encounter the majesty of the geyser, a natural spring gushing steam and hot water.*
Singles are available in category 6 at $15,295* and in category 4 at $17,695* on or before January 9, 2017. Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 107-08/01/17-155

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit. Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category: 1st Choice ____ 2nd Choice ____

Debit Card Number                        Exp. Date

Title   Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)           Class Year

Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City                 State       Zip Code

Telephone: (Home)       (Mobile)

Email Address  (Business)

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 107-08/01/17-155

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Reykjavik Pre-Cruise Option

Double occupancy (two twin beds).

Double occupancy (one queen bed).

Single accommodations.

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s): Reykjavik Pre-Cruise Option

Double at $1,395 per person.

Single at $1,695 per person.

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

Please make my/our air arrangements to and from Reykjavik, Iceland.

Choose one and fill in departure city:

I included economy-class flights from select cities listed above.

Low Air Add-Ons are available for $200 per person from Chicago and Minneapolis and $300 per person from Denver, Seattle and Portland, Oregon.©

Per person, based on double occupancy

† Taxes are an additional $455 per person and are subject to change. 

‡ M.S. LE SOLÉAL has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

M.S. LE SOLÉAL

(800) 922-3088.

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.
required deposit, by over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must have minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over thresholds, climb over stairs or raised thresholds, travel in the rain, travel on uneven ground, breathe dust or fumes, or breathe insects or pests, strike or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind. Even if Gohagan has been notified in advance of any such increases, the traveler must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with assistance from a traveling companion. Travelers must be able to change their travel arrangements or cancel the trip, either for themselves or on behalf of other participants, leaders or third parties, or who agrees to change or cancel. Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be responsible for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Trip schedules, port calls, hotel accommodations, excursions, accommodations, meals, entertainment, special events, shore excursions, and all other features or services are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation using higher class cars or buses for any reason, including without limitation, events of force majeure. Baggage allowances are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. LUGGAGE: First-class and business-class may be limited and subject to change. Special room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line. Gohagan will provide you with an application upon receipt of your reservation. CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including PrePost Program(s) reservations will be effective only received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($30 $20 per Program(s)) per person for flying between 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $800 ($20 per Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 75% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 39 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply. TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation. RESPONSIBILITY: By agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury. Any applicable Illinois law and will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury. ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement. Photo Credits: Age Fotostock, Alamy, Getty Images, Shutterstock; all images are rights managed and cannot be used without permission.