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PELORUS ADVENTURES

THE FUTURE OF TRAVEL

COVID-19 HAS BROUGHT LIFE TO A SHUDDERING HALT IN 2020, AND FEW INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN HARDER HIT THAN TRAVEL. AS MANY OF US NOW APPROACH A FULL YEAR WITH LIMITED MOVEMENT, AND WITH MORE AND MORE COMPANIES ADAPTING TO THE NEW NORMAL, HERE WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE OF TRAVEL IN 2021 WITH THE LUXURY ADVENTURE EXPERTS AT PELORUS.

PHOTOS: © Pelorus





For many, at the start of 2020 it would have been impossible to imagine a life spent grounded in one place for a week, let alone months. And perhaps for those people, the surprising lack of travel has been a welcome break this year. Zoom and other applications have ripped ahead to fill the void of good communication and face to face contact, and the world has proven itself capable of performing at a distinctly different pace.

But travel is not only the necessity of getting from A to B in an increasingly international business and social landscape. Travel is about seeing the world. It's about embracing the journey, immersing yourself in different cultures, supporting local communities and creating lasting memories with the people you care for. Travel is about experiencing everything life has to offer to develop a deeper appreciation of the world we all live.

With that being said, it's evident that humankind's appetite for travel is too strong to be diminished. But with it unlikely that 2021 will see international travel completely return to normal, what does that mean when it comes to looking at

future travel? Should we, as desperate as we are to see something new, even be making plans to journey further than our home surroundings in 2021 or beyond?

Nobody really knows the definitive answers to those questions. But what is for sure is that it's not all doom and gloom. The past few months have demonstrated above all else the world's exceptional ability to adapt and innovate. After a rocky period of uncertainty, many have stepped up in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, thinking entirely outside the box to adjust their business to a completely new normal. Whether that be Michelin-star restaurants offering unique takeaway options to create an exclusive culinary masterpiece at home, or the multitude of conferences, webinars, and even fitness classes hosted over Zoom every day. The world has been playing catch up at an exponential rate.

However, for many travel companies, the solution has not been as straightforward as simply digitising the travel experience. Instead, many have had to take a step back, hunker down and rethink strategies, processes and policies that will cater to a rapidly evolving travel landscape.





Future trends

A significant policy change that may stick around after the pandemic is high flexibility in bookings and comprehensive health and safety regulations. But when it comes to what travellers are looking for out of their future trips, it's not just increased flexibility and insurance. People are increasingly looking for a safe haven to spend time with loved ones when they travel. Many luxury travel companies also note a trend towards slow travel, multi-generational trips and a high amount of personalisation.

This goes hand in hand with another current travel trend: increased investment in planning and preparation. The where, when and how we can travel is still frustratingly unpredictable, but produces a rare opportunity to dive deeper into the curation of the perfect travel experience. Concrete plans to complete bucket-list journeys - the kinds of trips that take multiple months of research and planning - are finally being made, many with the help of bespoke travel companies like Pelorus.

As a bespoke travel company offering curated adventures to the world's most discerning travellers, Pelorus is one of the many companies who have stepped up and rethought their game in 2020. They've launched a new website, and even hired a new permanent member of their staff - a medical professional equipped with the knowledge and experience to deal with travel health in a way that many of us hadn't imagined we'd ever have to.

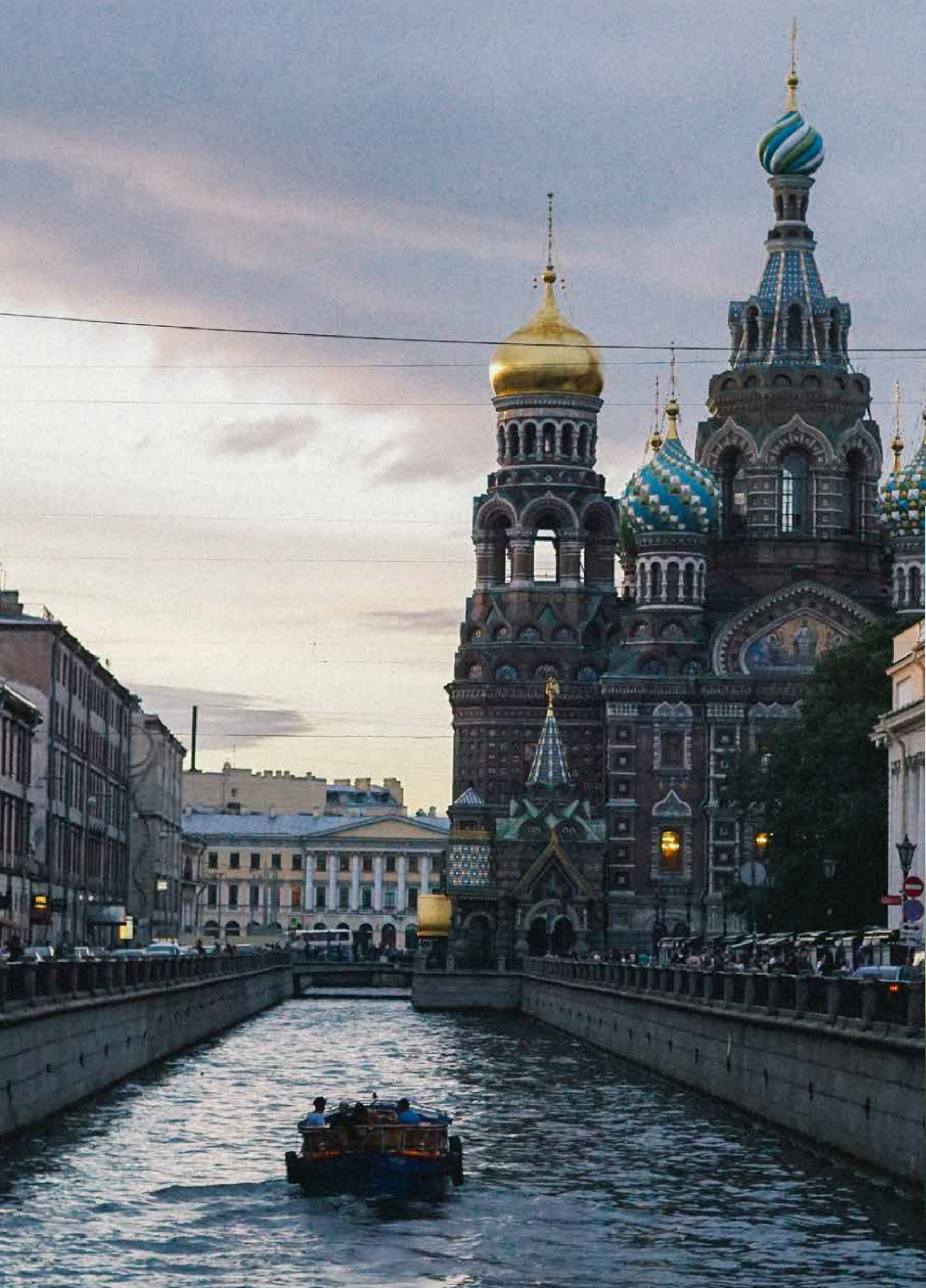
Here we talk to the luxury travel experts at Pelorus to discover how they have faced the challenges of 2020 and why travel is still so important as we look ahead to the future.

Q&A

WITH PELORUS

SD: "How have global travel restrictions impacted luxury travel this year?"





PELORUS: “Coronavirus has obviously affected a lot of businesses and most certainly the travel industry when much of the world came to a stop for a large part of 2020. Luckily, with Pelorus, we’ve created a company that is very agile, and so we’ve been able to evolve and innovate quickly, creating strategies that put us in an incredibly strong position for 2021 and beyond. We’ve also had time to work with our clients on planning future experiences to destinations such as Antarctica with permitting and key logistics that need to be arranged well in advance”.

SD: “What do you see as the new normal when it comes to travel in 2021?”

PELORUS: “2020 has given most of us time to reflect on how we travel and on what is truly important to us. Pelorus is driven by purpose, to inspire meaningful experiences that transform our perspective of the world and the luxury travel industry’s impact on the planet. As we head into 2021, we feel this is even more critical, and we believe even more travellers, as well as travel and yacht businesses, will understand the need for more considered travel”.

SD: “What are your clients looking for in their future travel plans?”

PELORUS: “Many of our clients have missed out on hugely important celebrations this year so looking forward to 2021 we’re planning some exciting experiences to mark key milestones in style, helping to make the most of valuable time away together. We are also seeing an increase in demand for remote locations and travel that is more private than ever, so naturally, we’ve seen a big increase in enquiries for yacht experiences, particularly in quieter areas of the globe where Pelorus has expertise”.

SD: “With the pandemic still ongoing, how can we safely travel in the age of COVID-19?”

PELORUS: “Our clients and the Pelorus team’s safety is hugely important to us, which is why earlier this year we took several steps to make sure we could continue to offer exceptional experiences that are fully safe and secure, whether for the near future or later next year”.





"We firstly appointed an Infection Prevention and Control Advisor, Dr Helen Evans RGN. Dr Helen has contributed extensively to the review of national guidance and governance programmes for the UK, including the management of healthcare settings throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. She has been working alongside our team to offer expert advice and help build a policy document to guide our decisions. We've also introduced a COVID promise to give our clients the reassurance that they can book and travel with 100% confidence, with booking flexibility and information on our continued military precision planning".

SD: "Travel may be seen as an unnecessary luxury in the current climate. Why is travel important?"

PELORUS: "Travel is and will continue to be hugely important for us all; it gives us the opportunity to explore and to learn more about our planet. We can connect with communities needing support through tourism and immerse ourselves in challenges that are facing some of the world's ecosystems, driving luxury travellers to make a significant change to the future of our planet".

SD: "What does Pelorus have in store for 2021?"

PELORUS: "We are very excited for 2021. We've recently launched a new website. We've also announced the establishment of the Pelorus Foundation charity, which will continue to grow and fundraise for some ground-breaking sustainability projects worldwide. We have also been working on some incredibly exciting new experience inspiration to share and some world-first client projects too. 2021 also gives us the opportunity to meet our clients and our partners in person again, something we've all hugely missed this past year".



TOP 5 TRAVEL EXPERIENCES 2021

Pelorus recommends their top five travel trips worth planning for in 2021



1

Get off-the-beaten-track in Timor-Leste

The island-nation of Timor-Leste in Southeast Asia is one of the world's unsung tourist destinations, with visitor numbers consistently low despite its impressive natural credentials. The coast's famous reefs plunge to unbelievable depths just a short distance from shore, revealing the beautiful country's key attraction: thriving waters of unparalleled biodiversity. The perfect destination to travel in comfort and safety by yacht, travellers can expect an active adventure filled with diving, jungle caves and unique natural wonders.



2

Watch the solar eclipse in Antarctica

Antarctica is an explorer's paradise, and one of the driest, coldest and most isolated places on the planet. Led by a professional expedition leader, cruise the icy waters between November and March and marvel at icebergs from the comfort of a luxury yacht, kayak amidst the magnificent wildlife, and soar over glittering glaciers by helicopter. A bucket-list-worthy trip whenever you go, 2021 also offers the opportunity for a once in a lifetime sight: a spectacular total solar eclipse that will only be seen in Antarctica on December 4th 2021.



3

Swim with Minke Whales in Australia

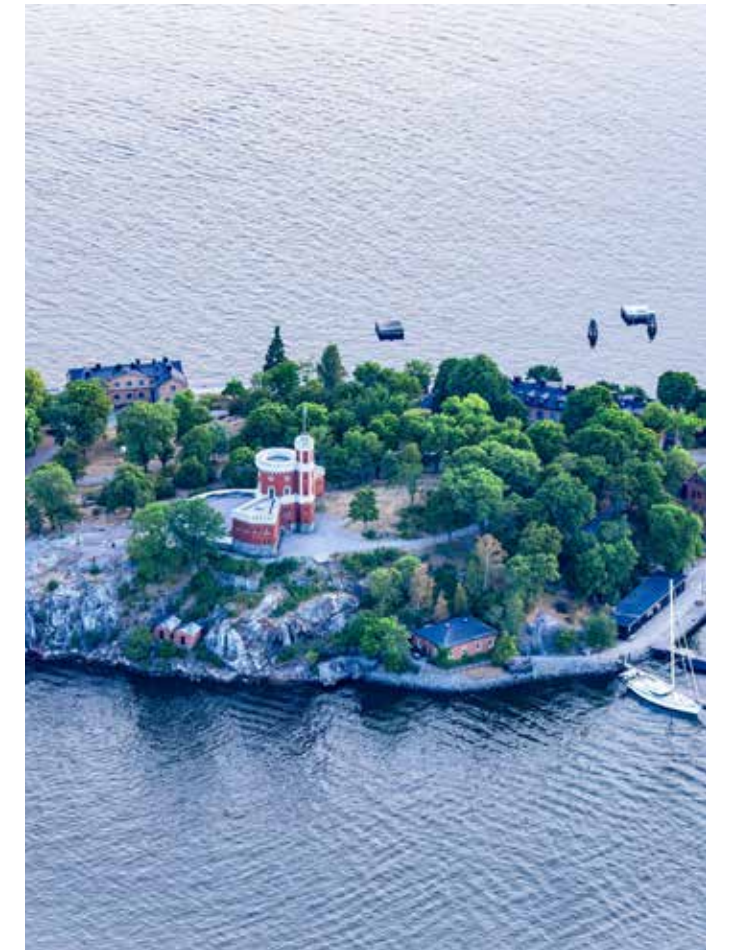
Australia has been at the top of must-travel lists for decades. Teaming with biodiversity from shore to sea and boasting sunshine all year round, it's not hard to see why the Land Down Under continues to capture the hearts of so many. Those looking for an extra memorable trip to Australia should head to see the Minke Whale migration on the Great Barrier Reef with Pelorus in June and July. Led by an expert researcher and staying on board the 34.7-metre superyacht Beluga, prepare for incredible close encounters with these curious creatures for a trip never to forget.



4

Embark on a Baltic Sea coastal discovery

With a rich cultural offering, magnificent natural landscapes and plenty of opportunity for world-class adventure, cruising the Baltic coast by superyacht is one of the most diverse travel experiences out there. From peacefully cruising down the winding fjords of Norway to watching the Northern Lights dance across the sky in Finland to spending a magical evening at the opera in St Petersburg, Pelorus recommends an itinerary including Russia, Finland, Sweden and Norway, but a custom trip that ticks all of your individual boxes is always possible.



5

Heli-ski across Greenland

For those wanting to go where few have ventured before, there are few better destinations than the icy waters of Greenland. And for the truly adventurous at heart, Greenland certainly delivers. Board a private helicopter from your yacht in the fjords with Pelorus, and prepare for awesome heli-skiing or boarding throughout awe-inspiring, untouched landscapes. A stunning land of Arctic pack ice complete with intense wildlife activity and fascinating Inuit culture, a Greenland custom yachting trip from Pelorus delivers an experience that redefines 21st-century exploration.