

Dear Sailor,

With less than a month to go before we embark on our exciting Flock at Sea AGAIN! 2017 cruise, we would like to share some more useful information with you.

Shuttle service

A shuttle service will be available between the airport and harbour. The cost is R140 per person one way or R280 per person return. MSC Cruises has advised that you should book and pay for this service in advance. Please phone their call centre on one of the following numbers to make a booking: 011 798 3600, 0860 11 44 11, 087 075 0850 or 011 807 5111.

South African electrical appliances

The MSC Sinfonia runs on both 110 V and 220 V. The plug sockets are American (110 V) and European round 2 pin (220 V). The South African 3 pin plug will require a European 2 pin round adapter. Please note that hairdryers are available in the cabins.

Boarding Tickets

Be sure to print out **two** copies of tickets for embarkation. **PLEASE NOTE: Make sure that you travel with the document that you used to make your booking (either your ID or your passport).**

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of BirdLife South Africa will take place on the afternoon of Thursday 27 April in the main auditorium of the Sinfonia.

We do, however, have a minor problem. There will be over 1800 birders on board (although not all will be members of BirdLife South Africa) and the venue is only able to accommodate 1,000 people at an absolute maximum.

On the previous cruise to Walvis Bay we were able to live-stream to other venues on the ship but, for reasons beyond our control and despite our best endeavours, we are not going to be able to do so on this occasion.

We therefore have to politely ask all non-members if they would kindly not attend the AGM. To those members who may find themselves unable to gain access, we apologise most sincerely in advance.

In mitigation, some of the proceedings (such as the presentation of the financials) is technical and the key item, namely the report of the Chief Executive Officer, appears in the Annual Report that will be available to all on board and will also appear on our website. We would however love to have 1,000 BirdLife South Africa members at the AGM.

We fully expected to be able to accommodate everyone, as we did previously, and had not anticipated this predicament. We do, nevertheless, offer our apologies in advance.

Conservation League Membership

You can show your commitment to conservation and, by doing so, stand a chance to win a R47,000 pair of Swarovski binoculars. If you sign up to become a BirdLife South Africa Conservation League Member or upgrade your membership to Conservation League status before or during the Flock at Sea AGAIN! 2017 cruise, you will stand a chance to win this fantastic prize. Existing Conservation League Members who are present on the Flock at Sea AGAIN! cruise will also be entered into the lucky draw. Please visit our website by following the below link if you would like to download the form prior

to the cruise. Please note that one copy of the form will be included in the welcome envelope in each cabin. See <http://birdlife.org.za/events/flock/flock-at-sea-again-2017>

Other useful tips

Remember to bring warm clothing as the weather where we will be heading can be quite boisterous.

There is no cover from the sun at the Cape Town port, so suitable protection is suggested (such as sunscreen and a hat).

Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions for more useful information which can be found at: <http://birdlife.org.za/events/flock/flock-at-sea-again-2017>

If you're on Facebook, don't forget to join our Flock at Sea AGAIN! 2017 group to join in with the conversation and to see interesting posts, discussions and updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/184051415289185/>

Should you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact Emma Askes, our Events Programme Manager, on emma.askses@birdlife.org.za

Best regards,

The Flock at Sea AGAIN! 2017 Organising Committee

Please note that this email is being sent to the main booking contact (i.e. the email address that was used to confirm your booking through MSC Cruises). Please ensure that the passengers with whom you are sharing receive this notification.