



VARIETY CRUISES



# RIVERS OF WEST AFRICA 2020-21

ABOARD THE 25-CABIN MEGA YACHT *HARMONY V*

January – February 2021 | 8-day cruises

Saturdays | From Dakar, Senegal

Mondays | From Banjul, Gambia

## Highlights include:

Dakar (Senegal), the most western city of the African Continent, the Saloun and Gambia Rivers, the Djiffere fishing village, Tendaba Nature reserve, Banjul and the Abuko and Makasutu Nature Reserves



## THE HARMONY V MEGA YACHT

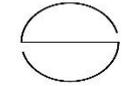
The **M/Y HARMONY V** is a modern elegant yacht with a sleek high-tech look very similar to the private yachts to be found in the famous ports of the world.

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

Length: 55 m  
 Rebuilt/Launched: 2009  
 Cabins: 25  
 Capacity: 49 passengers  
 Crew: 16-18

The **M/Y HARMONY V** is a 183 ½ ft-wide elegant yacht and was rebuilt/launched in July 2009. The HARMONY V complies with EUROSOLAS safety regulations, ISPS (International Ships Port Safety Code) ISM, (International Safety Management), while its powerful engines, generators and state of the art stabilizers will allow for safe and comfortable cruising.

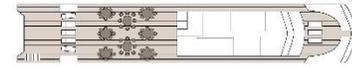
Service on board is provided by your Captain, the Cruise Coordinator and your experienced Marine and Hotel crew members. Service will be attentive or unobtrusive according to your requirements and priority is always given to the safety and comfort of passengers. Organized excursions are available for most ports of call and can be pre-booked or reserved 24 hours in advance.



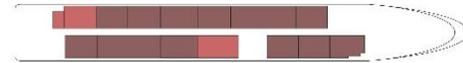
**HARMONY V**  
OUR PUMP INFINITY



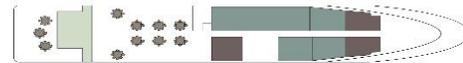
**360°**  
SUN DECK



**INFINITY**  
UPPER DECK



**RIVIERA**  
MAIN DECK



CATEGORY PREMIUM



CATEGORY A



CATEGORY B



CATEGORY C



DINING & BAR



LOUNGE





## THE MEGA YACHT HARMONY V

### CABIN SPECIFICATIONS

The 25 cabins of the M/Y HARMONY V are located on the Main deck (9 cabins) and on the Upper Deck (16 cabins). All cabins are premium and contemporary, decorated with soft color furnishings. All 16 cabins on the Upper Deck offer flexible bedding configuration, which can be set to offer either two twin beds or a double bed. All cabins offer large windows and en suite bathrooms with shower and elegant Corian finishing on walls and floors. The cabins are equipped with flat screen TV sets, DVD players, mini fridge, hairdryers, individually controlled A/C and safe deposit boxes.

### LIFE ON BOARD

During the day, life on board centers around the Bar Lounge and Dining Room at the Main Deck and meals are also served "al fresco" depending on the weather and the ship location. The Mega Yacht accommodate all guests at one single seating and provide a high standard of cuisine, always with some local flavor. The classy dining room is surrounded by large windows providing beautiful views of the ports of call. The Sun Deck is the ideal place to bask under the sun, read a good book or just gaze at the scenery.

### MAIN DECK LOUNGE & DINING ROOM

The classy dining room is surrounded by large windows providing beautiful views of the ports of call. The spacious dining room seats all passengers in a single, unassigned seating and food is served at the table or displayed on the state of the art hot & cold buffet which also includes an "a la minute cooking" section.

### SUNDECK

#### OUTDOOR/INDOOR DINING ROOM & LOUNGERS

Located on the Upper Deck, the outdoor dining area, also convertible into indoor area provides beautiful views of the ports of call visited and meals are served alfresco weather permitted. Sun loungers are available to bask under the sun, read a good book or just gaze at the scenery.



## Rivers of West Africa Cruise – 2020/21 on the M/Y Harmony V Saturday embarkation | 7-night cruises

### Dakar to Dakar on the Saloun and Gambia Rivers

#### **Day 1 | Saturday: Dakar/Senegal**

Late afternoon embarkation at 14:00-18:00. After dinner, we set sail southward towards the Saloun River Delta. Overnight at sea, south along the coast.

#### **Day 2 | Sunday: Djiffere/Senegal – Banjul/the Gambia**

This morning we reach the Sine – Saloun Delta in Senegal, an UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and also an Important Birding Area, as designated by Birdlife International and natural habitat for many bird species but also such aquatic animals as marine turtles, dolphins, West African manatees and crocodiles. Our **Joal Fadiout optional excursion** starts at the fishing village of Djiffere from where we reach the village of Joal Fadiouth, set on an island of clam shells that also are used in local buildings and crafts. In the afternoon, we leave Senegal and the Saloun Delta and sail south to Gambia to reach Banjul, the capital of Gambia and gateway to the 700-mile Gambia River.

#### **Fishermen Night - Overnight in Banjul.**

#### **Day 3 | Monday: Banjul - Abuko Nature Reserves/the Gambia**

The morning in Banjul will give you the opportunity to take the **optional 1/2 day excursions** offered to Bakau with its crocodile "katchikaly", its Botanic Garden and a short Banjul Tour. Mid-afternoon, we leave Banjul and sail upstream to Tendaba. We reach Tendaba late into the evening.

#### **Mediterranean Night in Africa - Overnight at dock in Tendaba.**

#### **Day 4 | Tuesday: Tendaba/the Gambia**

From the ship we take motor pirogues in order to reach Tendaba, located on the South Bank in the Lower River Division, our starting point of our **Tendaba morning optional excursion**. It is a small fishing village of mainly Muslim faith with approximately 600 inhabitants whose main occupation is fishing. From there we will walk through to Batelling, a small village at the entrance to Kiang West National Park. The area boasts of over 250 species of birds; many of which are difficult to observe anywhere else. Other residents include Guinea baboons, bushbuck, warthogs, Senegal bushbaby and marsh mongoose. After a refreshing stop in Batelling, we will board an open safari truck which brings us back to Tendaba. On the way we pass again local villages where you get an impression of local life in The Gambia. In the afternoon, we are picked-up from the ship by motor pirogues for the **afternoon Tendaba optional excursion** to the Bao Bolong Wetland Reserve. This reserve, lying across from Kiang West National Park features six major bolongs (creeks) that provide great birding and boating opportunities. Numerous rare and migratory birds also reside here including the Pel's fishing owl, African fin foot and brown-necked parrot. **Overnight docked in Tendaba.**

#### **Day 5 | Wednesday: Gambia River – Kuntaur - River Gambia National Park/the Gambia**

Early morning we leave Tendaba and sail upstream on the Gambia River all morning to reach Kuntaur. Early afternoon arrival to the bustling Gambian port town of Kuntaur, the last inland stop along the river that is navigable for ocean-going ships. Later in the afternoon we board a large motor pirogue for a **3 hours optional excursion cruise on The Gambia River**. First we head to the southernmost tip of Baboon Island, one of the five islands of The Gambia National Park. There a local national park ranger is joining us onboard in order to give more information about the park and its fauna & flora. Then we turn, the motor pirogue slows down and sails slowly back to Kuntaur following closely the shores

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of Baboon Island. This island is home of the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Project. If we are lucky from our motor pirogue we can closely observe the chimps with minimal intrusion. There is also the possibility of seeing hippos, crocodiles, Red Colobus, Green Vervet monkeys and also The Gambia's famous birdlife.

We return to Kuntaur where we are met by the "Kankurang" and a local dance group on the pier. Believed to have spiritual powers the "Kankurang" dispenses justice and wards off evil spirits.

#### **Overnight docked in Kuntaur.**

#### **Day 6 | Thursday: Kuntaur – Janjanbureh- Kaur/the Gambia**

This morning, our **optional excursion by bus takes us to the ferry station of Janjanbureh**. There we board the local ferry for a short cruise over The Gambia River to Janjanbureh. We continue our excursion with a visit of one of the oldest towns of The Gambia, formerly called Georgetown. During the walk you get an impression of this laidback town and see the residence of the governor, the market and the Methodist church with its school. Afterwards we take the ferry back and re board the bus to reach Lamin Koto. Through the generosity of Variety Cruises and of many of its clients, a new school building is being built. Later in the morning we stop at the mysterious stone circles in Wassu, a megalithic site believed to be a burial ground thousands of years ago. You will visit the little museum of this archaeological site, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. In the afternoon, after lunch, we sail downstream to Kaur a small fishing village on the banks of the Gambia. You will have the opportunity to walk around this small community and see how Gambians live today. In the evening we leave Kaur and sail downstream towards Banjul.

#### **Captains Farewell Dinner**

#### **Day 7 | Friday: Kunta Kinteh Island - Banjul/the Gambia**

This morning we anchor at St. James Island in the middle of the Gambia River, which was an important slave trading post under the British rule in The Gambia. In 1976 James Island became famous due to the author Alex Haley and its bestseller book "Roots" and the story of a slave, called Kunta Kinteh. The island is now called and is a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. **Optional walking tour:** After disembarking by local tenders your local guide will tell you more about the history of James Island and afterwards you will have some time to explore this island by yourself. After lunch, we leave "Kunta Kinteh" to reach Banjul around 4pm. After formalities, later in the evening, we will sail out of the Gambia estuary into the Atlantic Ocean northwards to Dakar.

#### **Gambian Night with Kora instrument Concert - Overnight at sea to Dakar.**

#### **Day 8 | Saturday: Dakar/Senegal**

Early morning arrival in Dakar. Disembarkation after breakfast.

## **The Rivers of West Africa – 2020/21**

**7 nights cruise Banjul - Banjul Gambia River program  
Monday-Monday program**

#### **Day 1 | Monday: Banjul - Abuko Nature Reserves/the Gambia**

Embarkation 4pm. We leave Banjul and sail upstream to Tendaba. We reach Tendaba late into the evening.

#### **Mediterranean Night in Africa - Overnight at dock in Tendaba.**

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**Gambian Night with Kora instrument Concert - Overnight at sea to Dakar.**

### **Day 6 | Saturday: Dakar/Senegal**

Early morning arrival in Dakar. After breakfast, we will take you in an **optional excursion to Goree Island and Dakar city tour**, an exploratory adventure of Dakar surroundings, inviting you to discover the traces of slave trading, and its transformation into today's African modernity. The history makes room for the present development. Lunch outside the ship. Returning to the ship in late afternoon and preparing for dinner. After dinner, we set sail southward towards the Saloun River Delta. Overnight at sea, cruising south wards along the coast.

### **Day 7 | Sunday: Djiffere/Senegal – Banjul/the Gambia**

This morning we reach the Sine – Saloun Delta in Senegal, an UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and also an Important Birding Area, as designated by Birdlife International and natural habitat for many bird species but also such aquatic animals as marine turtles, dolphins, West African manatees and crocodiles. Our **optional excursion starts at the fishing village of Djiffere** wherefrom we reach the village of Joal Fadiouth, set on an island of clam shells that also

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**Fishermen Night. Overnight in Banjul.**

**Day 8: | Monday: Banjul/the Gambia**

Disembarkation after breakfast.

*Itineraries can be changed at the discretion of Variety Cruises and of the Vessel's Captain in case of adverse weather conditions - winds of 6/7 beaufort or more depending on the vessel- on port authorities not allowing a vessel to leave port or in case of other extraordinary conditions. Such itinerary changes do not entitle automatically passengers to any refunds but Variety Cruises guarantees that passengers are disembarked at the advertised port of disembarkation on time for their flights.*

The Rivers of West Africa 2020/21 on the M/Y Harmony V SAILING DATES & GROSS EURO RATES	
<b>From Dakar to Dakar On: Saturdays</b>	09, 16, 23, 30 <b>January 2021</b> 06, 13 <b>February 2021</b>
<b>From Banjul to Banjul On: Mondays</b>	11, 18, 25 <b>January 2021</b> 01, 08 <b>February 2021</b>
<b>CABIN CATEGORIES</b>	<b>Official Gross Euro Rates per person in DBL/TWIN</b>
<b>Cat C</b> Main Deck Double bedded Cabins	<b>€ 1,500</b>
<b>Cat B</b> Main Deck, Twin or double bedded Cabins	<b>€ 1,850</b>
<b>Cat A</b> Upper Deck, Twin or Double bedded Cabins	<b>€ 2,200</b>
<b>Cat P</b> Upper Deck, Twin or Double bedded Cabins	<b>€ 2,900</b>
Single Supplement	30%
3rd Person Discount in Cat A	30%
<b>Port Charges</b>	<b>€ 290</b>

**OFFERS:**

**1) EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT**

- **-20% TO ALL reservations made until MAY 31, 2020**
- **-10% To ALL reservations made between JUNE 1-OCTOBER 10, 2020**

**EBD Conditions & Restrictions:**

- Bookings must be secured by paying upon confirmation 35% deposit on cruise fares per passenger.
- Balance - max 30 days before departure.
- All reservations are on request and on first-come-first-served basis.
- THEY DO NOT APPLY FOR ANY EXISTING BOOKINGS!!
- The offers do not apply a/ for the Owner's Suite on Variety Voyager programs and b/ for group bookings.
- Port charges are excluded from these discounts.
- Please mention "EBD WINTER 2020 – 2021" at the moment of your booking. Otherwise, Full Rates will apply.
- Offers cannot be combined with any existing or future offers.
- EBD is subject to occupancy levels and maybe withdrawn at any time.
- The EBD -20% is valid for all reservations made until May 31, 2020.
- The EBD -10% is valid for all reservations made June 1-October 10, 2020.

**2) FAMILY OFFERS:**

- **SINGLE parent with 1 or max. 2 children in same cabin:** The parent pays Single cruise fare and children cruise for FREE.
- **COUPLE with 1 child sharing the same cabin:** Child up to 10 years old: No charges. Child 11-17 years old: 50% reduction.
- **COUPLE with 2 or 3 (regardless of age) children:** Both cabins will be charged at Single rate (single adult rate).
- **Discounts which only apply for the children 5-17 years old:** 25% reduction on all optional excursions.

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#### **Conditions & Restrictions for the Family Offers:**

- They apply for children 5-17 years old.
- They are valid for new bookings only.
- They are on request and on first come-first served basis.
- "Special Family Offer" to be mentioned at the time of booking so that the discounted rates apply for the reservation. Otherwise full rates will apply.
- No reduction offered on port charges which are additional for all participants.
- They cannot be combined with any existing or future early bird discounts or special offers, including Club offers.
- Standard payment and cancellation policies apply.

### **3) HONEYMOON PACKAGE: Please kindly ask us regarding our Honeymoon offers.**

#### **A/ Cruise fares are per person and week and include**

- Accommodation in double or twin cabins with private SH/WC & air conditioning.
- Full-board: Buffet breakfast and two meals daily, including a Welcome Cocktail, local Theme evening, and Captain's Dinner.
- Regular (filter) coffee, tea and drinking water free all day.
- Use of fishing and snorkelling equipment (subject to availability).
- English-Speaking Cruise Escort.

#### **Not included:**

- Beverages (except those mentioned above).
- Shore excursions or other land arrangements.
- Crew tips.
- Passenger personal expenses / Passenger Visas whenever required.
- Wi-Fi (available at charge).
- **VISA Requirements for Gambia – compulsory for select nationalities.**

#### **B/ Conditions and restrictions**

##### **PROOFREADING**

Tour Operators featuring our Cruises in their Catalogue or Internet site by itinerary, vessel's description and images, will send **VARIETY CRUISES** a draft for error-checking of the contents prior publication as well as two brochure copies when printed. In order to secure correct information given to our clients and keep our high customer satisfaction levels. **Variety Cruises will not bare any responsibility for inaccurate information or misrepresentation of our vessels or cruise itineraries without having accepted a draft prior to the brochure going to print or internet page published.**

##### **PAYMENT**

25% deposit is required 7 days from confirmation.  
75% Balance of payment no less than 60 days prior to day of embarkation.

##### **CANCELLATIONS**

240 days to 120 days from embarkation: €120 / US\$140 Administration fee (per booking)\*  
119 to 90 days from embarkation 15% of the cruise fare  
89 to 60 days from embarkation 25% of the cruise fare  
59 to 30 days from embarkation 50% of the cruise fare  
29 to 00 days from embarkation 100% of the cruise fare  
Cancellations must be confirmed by **VARIETY CRUISES** in writing in all cases.

**\*In case of cancellation the administration fee per booking will be converted to a future cruise credit redeemable on bookings made up to 12 months after cancellation, valid for any cruise and date of cruise.**

##### **AMENDMENTS**

There may be a charge for amendments of cruise date or decreasing pax number received less than 60 days prior to sailing. Amendments must be confirmed by **VARIETY CRUISES** in writing.

##### **NOT INCLUDED IN CRUISE FARE**

Such personal expenses as drinks (other than included in the rate), laundry, spa-where applicable-, boutique items and gratuities, (gratuities are optional but as a rule, satisfied clients are expected to give to the captain, at the end of the cruise, approximately Euro 13-15 per person per day for distribution among all crew members) medical expenses, port taxes, shore excursions (shore excursions are proposed and arranged on board by the tour leaders), use of the on board Wi-Fi (available at a charge), expenditures incurred ashore, and anything not mentioned in cruise program.

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