

# LGBTQ+ IN THE SEYCHELLES 2023

- Aboard the 21-cabin M/Y Pegasos
- 28 Oct. 2023
- 8-day cruises from Mahe to Mahe, Seychelles





# AT A GLANCE

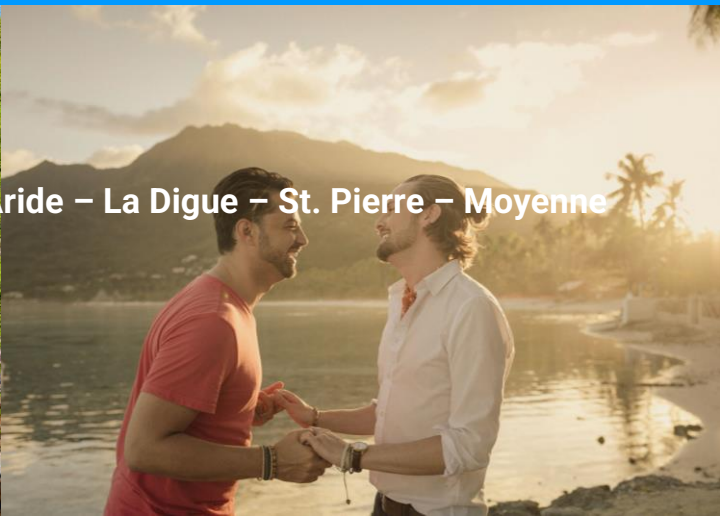
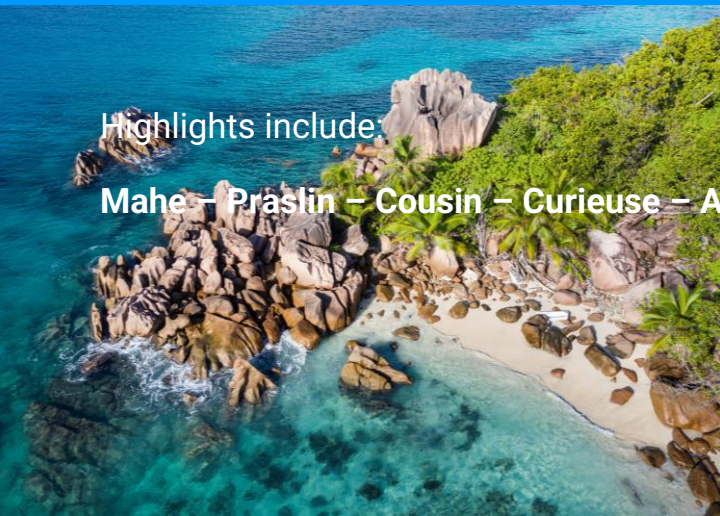
As a tourist visitor to Seychelles, your gender identity and your sexual preferences are your business. If you don't identify as a gender-binary, heterosexual person, that should not be of any interest to anybody. It is only if your behavior is deemed unacceptable that you might face reproaches, which could also apply to heterosexual couples behaving inappropriately. To date, we have never heard of any issues experienced by our travelers due to their sexuality. That said, along with just a smattering of other African nations, Seychelles is also one of the few to have passed laws that actively protect lesbian, gay and bisexual employees from discrimination in the workplace on the basis of their sexual orientation.

OCTOBER 28 marks a special occasion for Variety Cruises as LGBTQIA+ activist Constantine Venetopoulos and part of the 3rd generation of the family that founded Variety Cruises in 1949 joins our "STRAIGHT FRIENDLY" 7-day adventure in the Seychelles, offering insight into what it's like to lead the cruise company with the vision A BETTER WORLD AT SEA. Guests will have ample time to connect with others from the LGBTQIA+ community and allies, discover the historic and cultural links the Seychelles have to offer in terms of gender history and together explore and understand the destination's approach on such matters. Constantine and guests on board will be joined by a host who will ensure signature activities including classic highlights such as a OFF-BROADWAY AT SEA night and more.

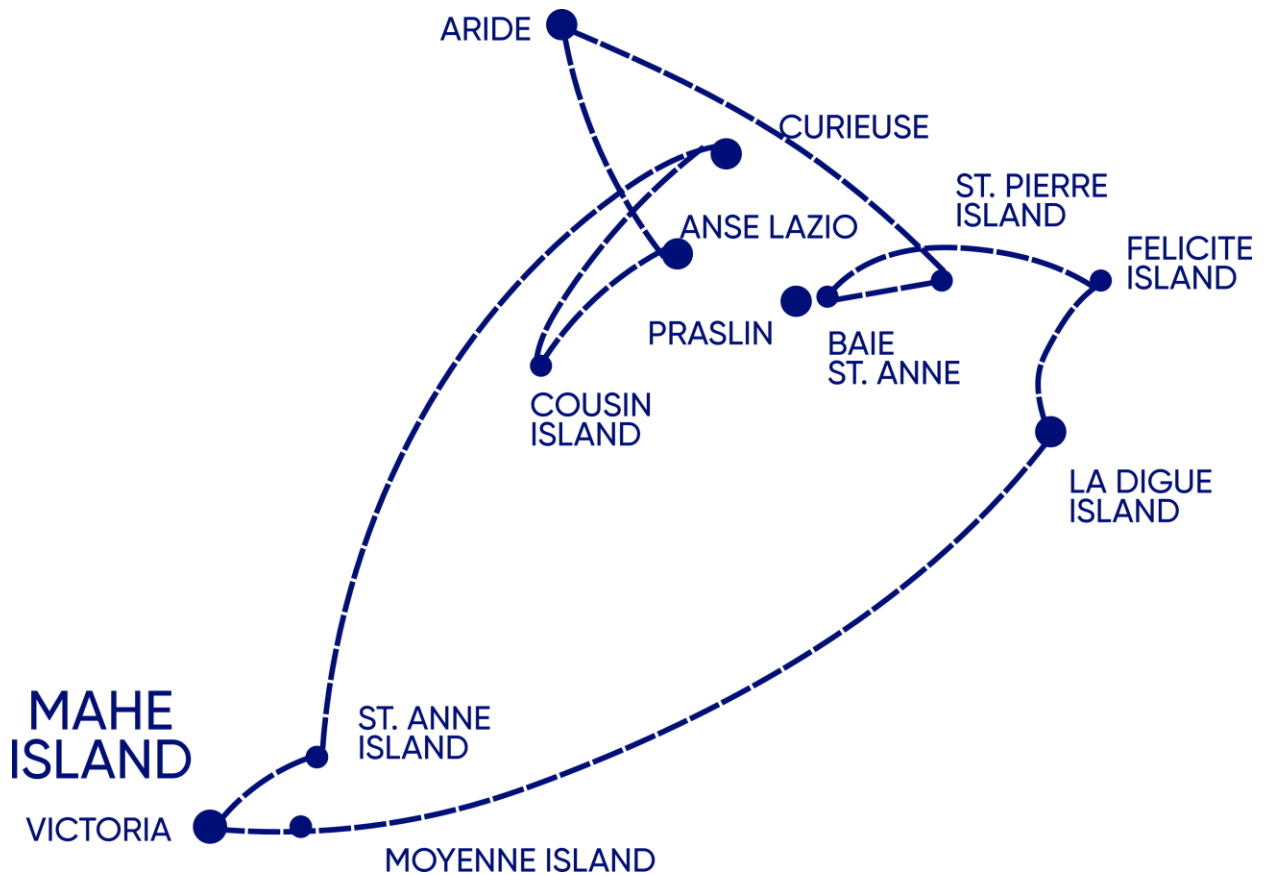
Constantine helps lead the GENDER EQUALITY pillar of VARIETY CARES' foundation, has been a volunteer councilor for THE TREVOR PROJECT since 2011 (the leading suicide prevention line for LGBTQIA+ youth) and is the director of the film DRAW WITH ME which was the first documentary on transgender history to be presented at THE UNITED NATIONS during the 50th anniversary of the Stone Wall riots.

Highlights include:

**Mahe – Praslin – Cousin – Curieuse – Aride – La Digue – St. Pierre – Moyenne**



# LGBTQ+ IN THE SEYCHELLES ON THE M/Y PEGASOS | 2023



## DAY 1 - PORT VICTORIA, MAHE INTER ISLAND QUAY - SAINTE ANNE ISLAND

Join us and your fellow sailors for a welcome drink on board before we sail out of Port Victoria towards Sainte Anne. We know you're eagerly awaiting your first opportunity to swap clothes for swimwear, and to dive into the inviting ocean. This is it. Spend some time soaking up the sun before drying off in time for the evening's welcome dinner.

## DAY 2 - SAINTE ANNE ISLAND – CURIEUSE

From Sainte Anne to Curieuse, the latter an uninhabited island home to the Giant Tortoise. Get ready for a day of fun and exploration with our optional walking tour through mangroves, followed by a lunchtime beach barbecue under the trees. In the afternoon, enjoy the beach and sea activities, or simply lie back and take it all in. This evening join us for a beach party with DJ on board / a movie under the stars on deck. Overnight at anchor.

## DAY 3 - CURIEUSE - COUSIN ISLAND - ANSE LAZIO

This afternoon we'll visit Anse Lazio, one of the most beautiful beaches in the world. But first we'll swing by Cousin Island, a nature reserve since 1968 and home to quarter of a million birds, as well as turtle-friendly nesting beaches. Afternoon sail towards Anse Lazio, ready for suntanning and snorkelling. We'll spend the evening at anchor, and we invite you to join our on board tea dance. Come dressed to impress.



## **DAY 4 - ANSE LAZIO – ARIDE - ST. PIERRE - BAIE SAINTE ANNE, PRASLIN**

Morning sail to Aride, where island rangers will escort you to the top of this island. Bring your camera, the view from here is one to capture. Aride is home to many indigenous bird species which our guides will point out along the way. At lunch we'll sail onwards to St. Pierre Island for an afternoon of more swim and snorkel stops before cruising into the sunset - quite literally - on our way to Baie Sainte Anne. Here we'll spend the night at dock enjoying a Creole evening together.

## **DAY 5 - BAIE ST ANNE, PRASLIN – FELICITE OR GRAND SOEUR – LA DIGUE**

Vallee de Mai is known as the green heart of Praslin. It's often described as a Garden of Eden, brimming with nature including many endemic palms. Look out for the sea coconut weighing up to 20KG and sometimes called the 'coco fesse', or 'coco buttocks' because of the shape it resembles. We'll sail on from Baie Sainte Anne to either Felicite or Grand Soeur for snorkelling, followed by an evening sail to La Digue. Overnight in port, entertained by a dazzling laser and light show as part of an ultimate after-hours music themed experience.

## **DAY 6 - LA DIGUE - MOYENNE ISLAND**

Most of today is spent in La Digue with plenty of things to do, depending on your mood. Join our optional excursion to L'Union Estate Farm for a tour of a coconut oil mill, go on a souvenir shopping spree at the island's main village, La Passe, or soak up some rays at Anse Source d'Argent beach - another stretch of sand known as one of the world's most beautiful. What can we say, the Seychelles will treat you well. Late afternoon sail to Moyenne Island, overnight at anchor.

## **DAY 7 - MOYENNE ISLAND – MAHE, INTER ISLAND QUAY**

Doesn't time fly when you're having fun? Today is your final opportunity on this trip to dive into those sparkling waters as we take a guided tour around the island followed by a lunchtime barbeque on deck. Late afternoon we'll set sail back to Mahe and enjoy a Captain's Farewell Dinner with live music and lots of dancing. Overnight in Mahe.

## **DAY 8 - MAHE, VICTORIA (9AM)**

Rise and shine for a final breakfast together before it's time to disembark. Now's the time to share contact details with new-found friends, and perhaps to discuss booking another cruise with us to meet again. We'd love to see you on board again soon!



## SAILING DATE

From Mahe to Mahe	28 Oct. 2023 (Sat.)
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YOUR SHIP



# M/Y PEGASOS

## Mega Yacht

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Length:** 45 m

**Launched:** 1990 | Rebuilt: 1997 | Renovated: 2019

**Cabins:** 21

**Capacity:** 44 passengers

**Crew:** 16-18

The twin-hulled Pegasus, built in 1990, completely refitted in the winter of 2012, and last renovated in 2019, accommodates up to 44 guests in a relaxed, congenial atmosphere. Service on board is provided by your Captain and his experienced marine and hotel crew members. It will be attentive or unobtrusive according to your requirements and priority is always given to the safety and comfort of passengers.



YOUR SHIP

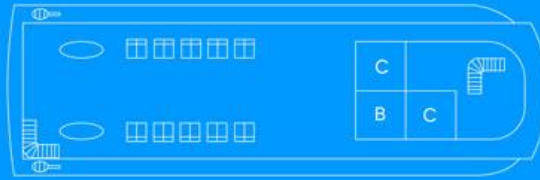


# M/Y PEGASOS

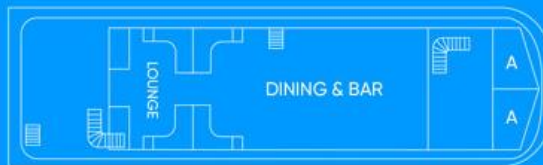
Mega Yacht

## PEGASOS

**360°**  
SUN DECK



**INFINITY**  
UPPER DECK



**RIVIERA**  
MAIN DECK



**OCEANS**  
LOWER DECK



Pegasus' experienced crew of 18 is trained with hospitality at heart to pamper her guests and guarantee the ultimate home away from home experience.

YOUR SHIP



# M/Y PEGASOS

## Mega Yacht

### CABIN SPECIFICATIONS

The M/Y PEGASOS outside cabins are located on the Sun Deck (3 cabins), Upper Deck (2 cabins) and Main Deck (16 cabins). All cabins feature large windows and offer en-suite bathrooms with shower, mini-fridge, TV/VCR units, music channels, hairdryers, individually controlled A/C and safe deposit boxes. They are large and comfortable, decorated with soft color fabrics. The cabins are equipped with twin or queen size beds with 2 cabins being triple.

### LIFE ON BOARD

During the day, life on board centers around the indoor/outdoor Lounge and its American Bar on Upper Deck. Al fresco breakfast or dining is provided as a choice. The spacious Sun Deck is the ideal place to bask under the sun, read a good book or just gaze at the scenery. We have also added for your relaxation a Zen mini spa located on the Lower Deck, but massage services can be also provided on the Upper Deck.

### **UPPER DECK INDOOR LOUNGE & DINING ROOM**

The main lounge, with comfortable sofas, has a full-service bar and is the hub of social activities, such as the daily briefings on the destinations visited, and other gatherings. This area is ideal for enjoying the company of your fellow travelers or simply for reading a good book from the library. The adjoining dining area is surrounded by large windows providing beautiful views of the ports of call. It accommodates all guests in one single seating and provides a high standard of cuisine, always with some local flavor. The area was beautifully renovated in 2019 to feature wood flooring and comfortable sofas with soft fabrics in warm beige and blue tones.





YOUR SHIP



# M/Y PEGASOS

## Mega Yacht

### UPPER DECK DINING AREA

Located on the Upper deck, the indoor and outdoor dining rooms seat all passengers in a single, unassigned seating and offer generous buffet space. The aft area at the Upper Deck provides generous semi-covered or sun-exposed areas where guests can enjoy meals al fresco, weather permitting. Unassigned seating allows easy mingling and the joy of sharing breakfast, lunch, or dinner with different new friends. Food is served at the table or displayed on the state of the art hot & cold buffets, also including an “a la minute cooking” section. The menu is international, with a focus on local specialties. You will enjoy magnificent sea views as you stroll our 2,500 square feet/240 m<sup>2</sup> of open deck furnished with comfortable deck chairs or enjoy the ocean-view dining in the convivial and spacious restaurant area.

### SUN DECK & OUTDOOR BAR AREA

The Sun deck provides generous space and comfortable sun loungers are available to sunbathe in total comfort. A platform on Pegasus stern enables you to swim when weather and anchorage conditions permit.

