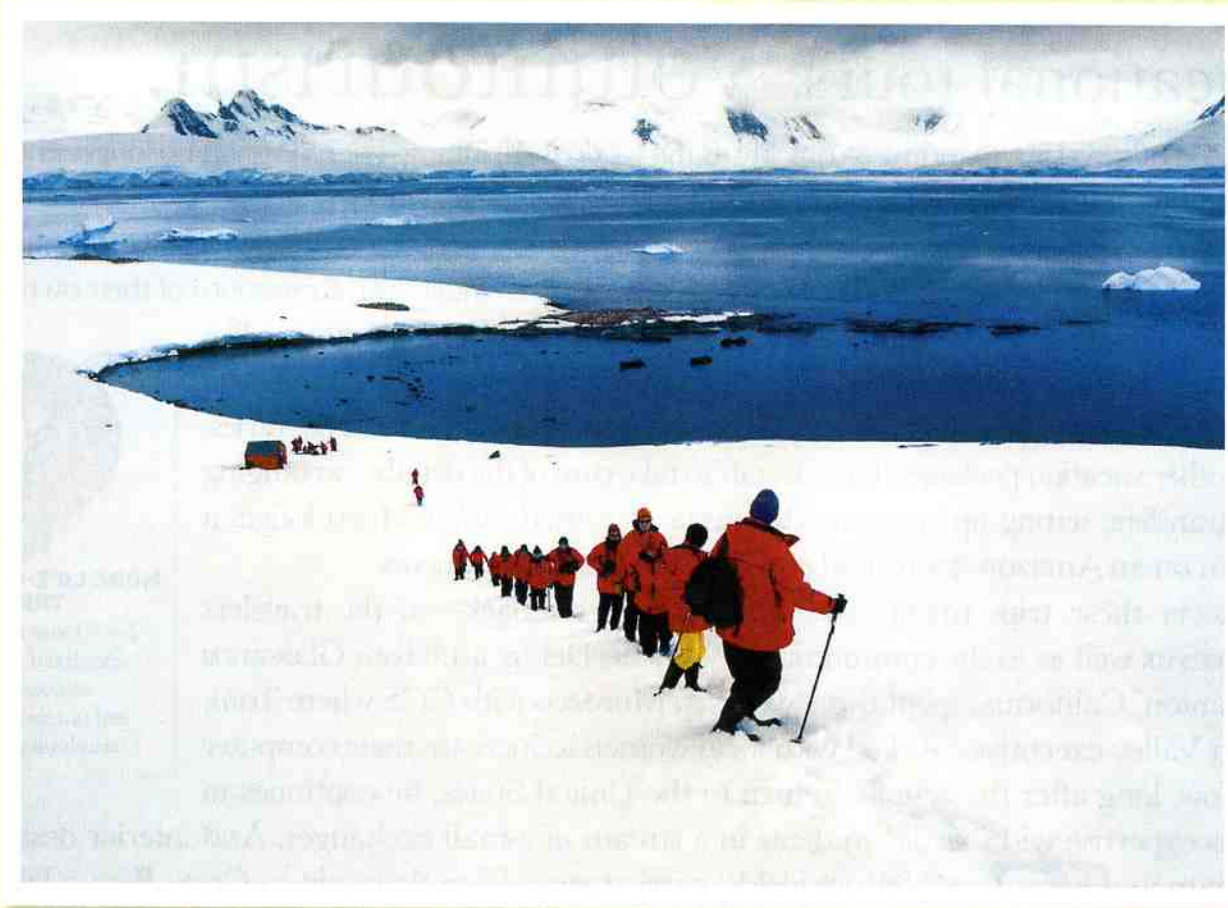


# 20 ~ TRIPS

THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR WORLD



Whether it's building houses in *JORDAN* or meeting the feathered residents of Antarctica's *PENGUIN ISLAND*, these dream journeys are guaranteed to *make a difference* in your life, and the lives of those you help along the way 🏹

*Edited by* STIRLING KELSO, JOHN NEWTON, *and* CLARA SEDLAK





A bungalow at Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort.

**17 NEW ZEALAND**

Spend two weeks in a rugged, diverse landscape. Led by a seasoned naturalist, search for the elusive Brown Kiwi on Stewart Island and trek to Westland National Park—a World Heritage Area covered by vast icefields.

**\* Trip Tip** Watch the waves from the Tasman Sea exploding through Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks at high tide.

**\* Luxury Level** Guests stay at the stylish George Hotel ([thegeorge.com](http://thegeorge.com)) in Christchurch and the intimate Old Convent Bed & Breakfast ([theoldconvent.co.nz](http://theoldconvent.co.nz)) in Kaikoura.



*Natural Habitat Adventures; 800/543-8917; [nathab.com](http://nathab.com); from \$6,395, all-inclusive; January 8–21; February 12–25; March 13–26; November 19–December 2; December 24–January 6.*

**AUSTRALIA & SOUTH PACIFIC**

**15 COOK ISLANDS**

Get to know this lush South Pacific archipelago while lending a hand to the Maori people. Volunteers give children reading lessons; clear trails in the bird sanctuary; or assist scientists at the local Whale Research Center. Rarotonga island's crystal-blue waters are ideal for snorkeling, and its jungle-covered volcano is a good hiking spot, as long as you have a seasoned guide.

**\* Trip Tip** Don't miss the Saturday morning Punanganui market, where stands overflow with tropical fruits.

**\* Luxury Level** The KiiKii Motel has simple yet clean rooms, with kitchenettes and a pool outside.



*Global Volunteers; 800/487-1074; [globalvolunteers.org](http://globalvolunteers.org); two-week trips from \$2,295 per person, all-inclusive; departures year-round.*

**16 FIJI** Anyone can hike through the rain forests and dive along the coral reefs of Fiji's Vanua Levua island, but participants in a Seacology expedition can preserve

them. The nonprofit helps conserve the island's biodiversity by funding the building of schools and community centers for Fijians, who in exchange, create no-fish marine zones and forest reserves.

**\* Trip Tip** Seacology's weekly diving trips to Namena Island are a must. The miles of reefs make it one of the top diving spots in the world.

**\* Luxury Level** Accommodations are at the Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort ([fjiresort.com](http://fjiresort.com)), where 25 private thatched bungalows overlook Savusavu Bay.



*Seacology; 510/559-3505; [seacology.org](http://seacology.org); eight-day trips from \$2,360 per person, all-inclusive; August 11–18, 2008.*

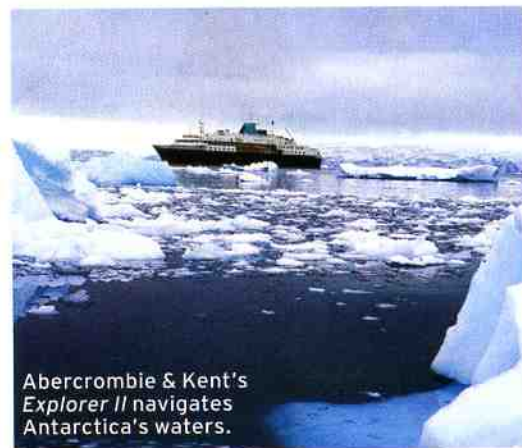
**CRUISING**

**18 ANTARCTICA**

With its 14-day itinerary to Antarctica, Abercrombie & Kent gives the climate-conscious an opportunity to assist with global-warming research as passengers deliver equipment to scientists at the Palmer Station. Explore the South Shetland Islands along the way, includ-

ing remote Penguin Island. The only prerequisite: a \$500 donation to the Climate Change Challenge, an A&K initiative in partnership with Friends of Conservation.

**\* Trip Tip** Pack your suit for a soak in the thermal waters of Deception Island's Pendulum Cove. »



Abercrombie & Kent's Explorer II navigates Antarctica's waters.