

Wilderness Travel

JOURNEYS FOR THE YEAR 2017





Dear Adventurer,

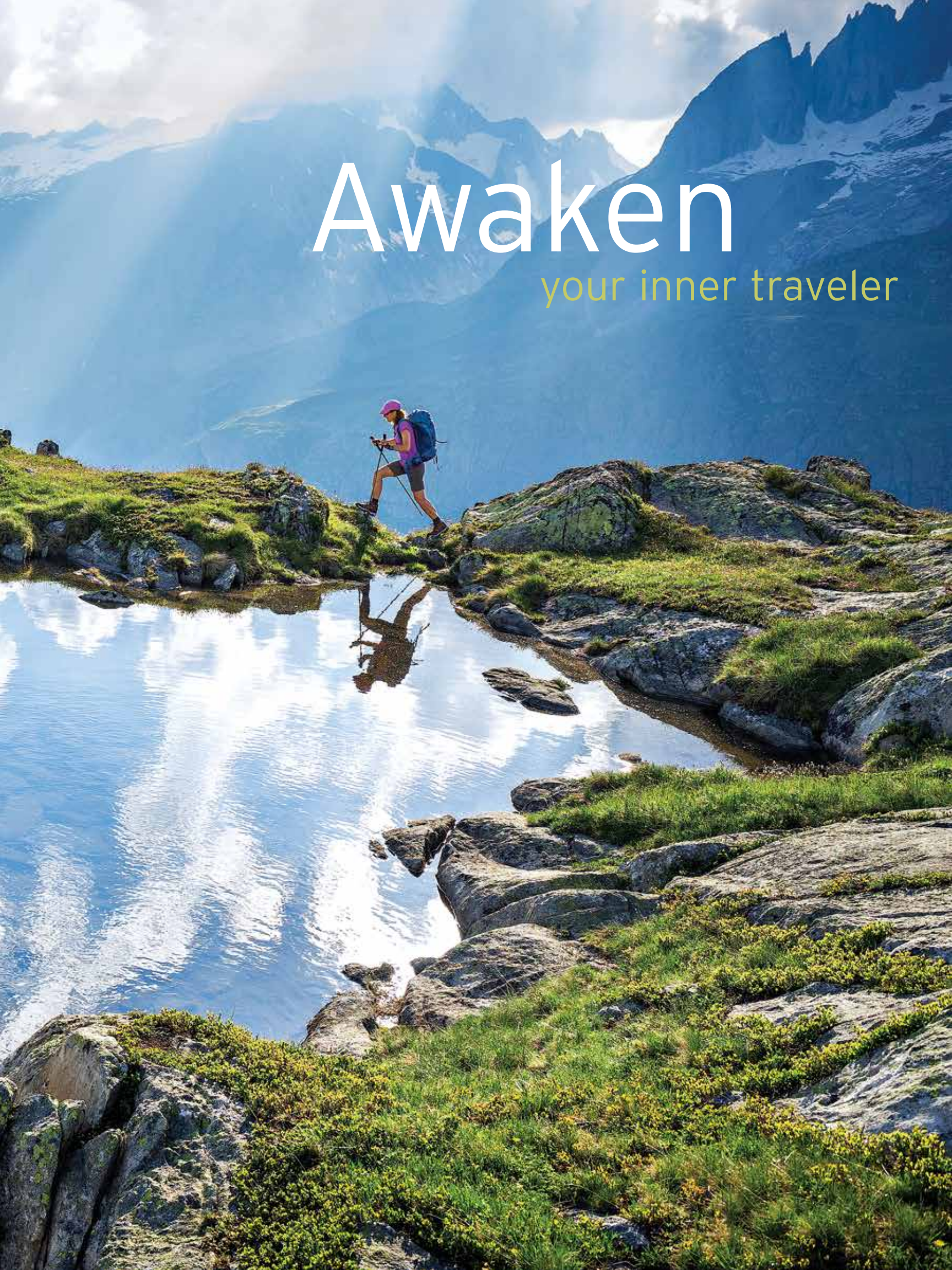
Wilderness Travel is made up of people who share an absolute passion for creating great travel adventures. There's nothing we love more than unrolling the maps and dreaming up new ways to experience this amazing planet. Our commitment is to create the best possible trips to share with kindred spirits and fellow explorers like you. In the pages ahead you'll find extraordinary journeys—classics that we've honed to perfection and delightful new adventures for 2017 that we've crafted in signature WT style. I invite you to join us!



Bill Abbott, Founder and President

Awaken

your inner traveler





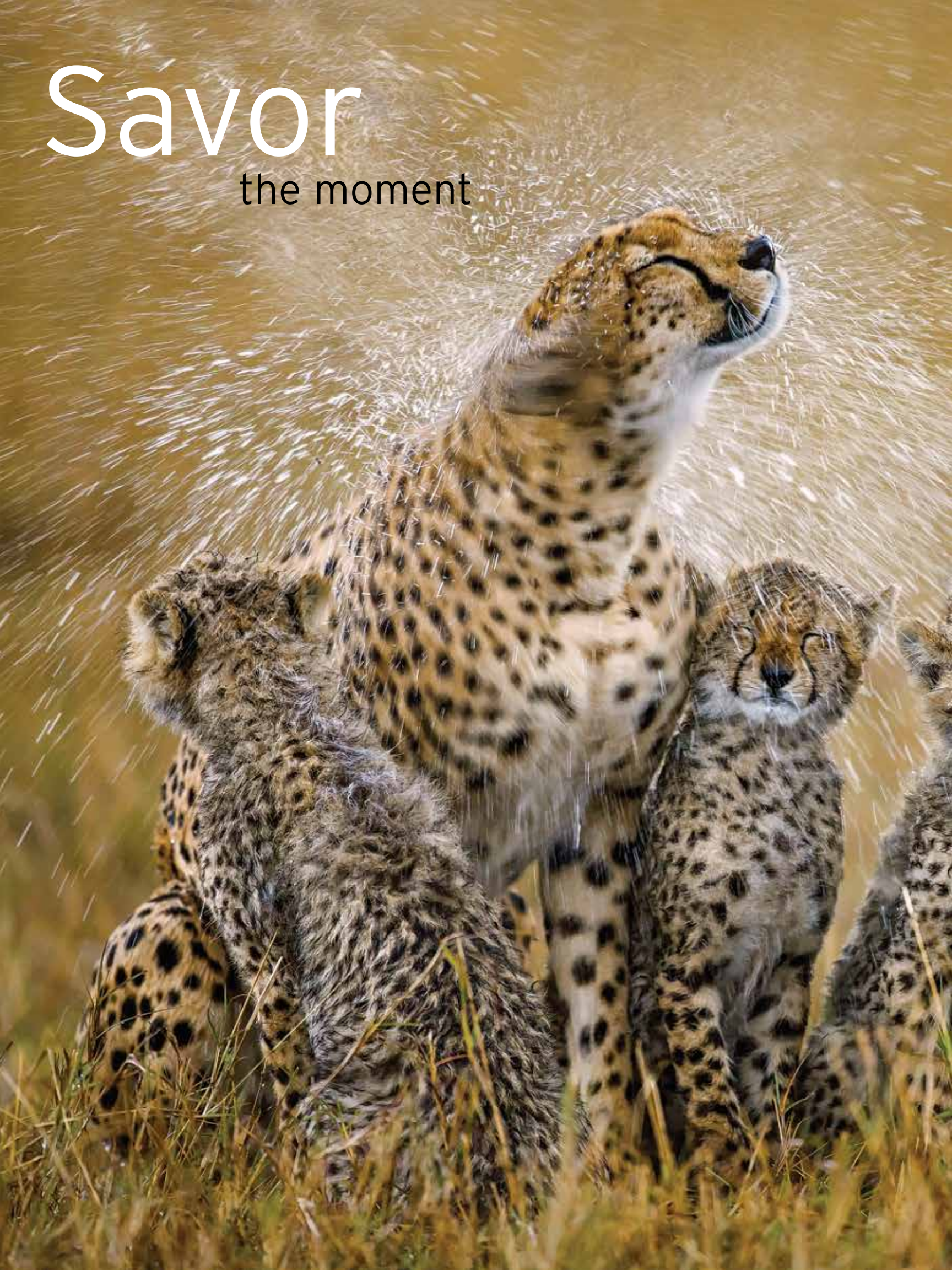
Explore

with adventuresome souls



Savor

the moment





"Thank you for creating such an amazing trip. From beginning to end, it was perfect in every way. We will treasure our memories of this journey for the rest of our lives."

Lawry M., Pacific Palisades CA



Just pack your bags—we've got the logistics covered! When you're on a WT adventure, every detail is taken care of for you, and you can relax and truly experience the moment. You'll find yourself standing in spots you've always dreamed of, and connecting with extraordinary people and places in genuine ways. These are the moments you'll remember long after you return home, and will have you dreaming of your next journey.



Our Area Managers are destination experts. They work with you directly on every aspect of your trip. Our mobile-friendly website is also filled with helpful features, including lodging photos, route maps, trip comparisons, Trip Leader schedules, and Detailed Itineraries you can download or email to a friend. Check it out at www.wildernesstravel.com, and be sure to read the Client Comments—they'll give you a great sense of the adventure ahead!





Connect

with our world

We have operated trips throughout the world for almost four decades—our staff and Trip Leaders are simply the most experienced in the business. We know how to bring you into the heart of every destination, sharing genuine cultural connections and wildlife encounters that are utterly breathtaking. Listen to whale songs as you snorkel amid a sea of humpbacks or share tea with a Tibetan monk—our adventures are up close and unforgettable.



"Words can't express what an experience this was. Our guide was simply amazing, he was like family by the time we left. Every day was an adventure and delivered a new thrill we didn't expect."

Will C., Seattle WA



Our lodging is carefully chosen and wonderfully comfortable. Find yourself in charming alpine chalets where you're welcomed like family, luxurious maharaja's palaces in India, and aboard beautiful yachts. Our African safari camps are downright indulgent, and on trek you'll hike lodge to lodge, or enjoy our celebrated Wilderness Travel camping style, waking each day to a hot cup of coffee and a jaw-dropping mountain view!



Small Group Adventures



With over 200 journeys worldwide, our Small Group Adventures offer a trip for every interest. You'll experience unparalleled leadership, the intimacy of a small group of like-minded people—just 12 to 16—and captivating itineraries. From exquisite African safaris and delightful hiking trips in Europe to high Himalayan treks and snorkeling odysseys in the Coral Triangle, our incredible collection of adventures explores the farthest reaches of the globe—in WT style.

Cruise Collection



"Our adventure was magical—the trip and itinerary were perfect! Even now, as I look through the photos, I am still smiling. Looking forward to many more trips with Wilderness Travel."

Jeff P., Paradise Valley AZ

We've searched the world over to find the finest small ships and the most intriguing itineraries. Our cruises explore off-the-beaten-path destinations by sea or river, with active on-shore adventures on foot and even by bike! You'll enjoy on-board presentations, the camaraderie of fellow guests, and an ever-attentive staff. Our Cruise Collection trips are on our website, and have their own special catalog. Give us a call or email to request your copy.



Private Journeys



Your family and friends, your chosen trip dates, your dream trip! Our Private Journeys are crafted with meticulous research, superb itinerary design, and hand-picked accommodations—the qualities of every WT adventure. We've designed them to include the most fascinating routes and must-do experiences. Book them as they are or tinker a bit, altering the order or extending your trip. Celebrate a birthday, graduation, or anniversary with your whole family, closest friends, or just that special someone.

A woman with a blonde braid, wearing a black t-shirt and patterned white pants, stands with her back to the camera, looking out over a lush tropical landscape. She is wearing a wide-brimmed straw hat. The landscape features terraced rice fields in the foreground, surrounded by dense green foliage and numerous palm trees. The background shows a steep, forested hillside under a bright sky.

Choose

how you travel

Follow

our leaders

Trip Leaders with passion and deep knowledge of their destination make all the difference to your experience. They take care of the details, of course, so you can savor the moment. But beyond that, they are experts in their fields—naturalists, art historians, photographers, mountaineers—who have a remarkable gift for sharing their knowledge and introducing you to their favorite places, people, and behind-the-scenes spots you won't find in any guidebook. Our leaders are highly skilled professionals, yet they are also wonderfully warm people who have endless energy, a great talent for creating fun, and genuine excitement about welcoming you. They have that special "it" factor that transforms a trip into an unforgettable journey. Here are just a few of our extraordinary leaders. You'll find our full team—and their schedules—on our website.

"WT continues to impress us with thoughtfully selected Trip Leaders who embody the spirit of adventure, supplemented with extraordinary knowledge and talent."

Bonnie B., Bakersfield CA



Onik Morrison developed a solid case of wanderlust at an early age, thanks to her adventurous parents. She graduated as a Naturalist Guide from the Costa Rica Biodiversity Institute and earned her degree in Tropical Biology from Costa Rica University.

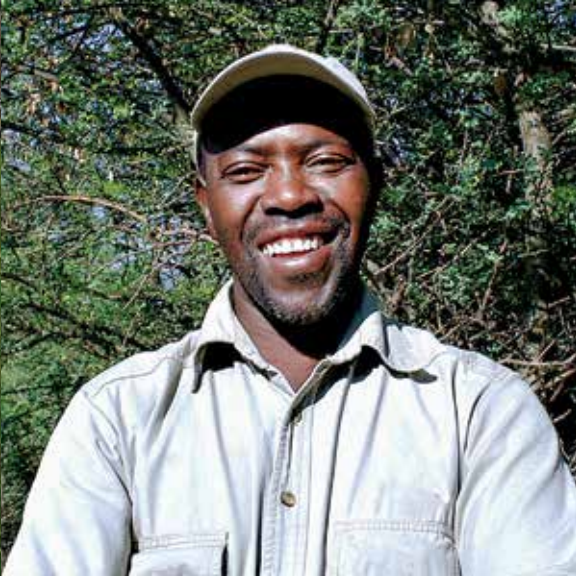
Little known fact: Onik trekked from the Pacific to the Caribbean side of Costa Rica across the wild Talamanca Mountains—the toughest journey of her life.



Mingma Temba Sherpa was born in Chukhung (15,551') at the foot of Mt. Everest. He has guided throughout the Everest and Annapurna regions, and during the off season, works as a Medical Assistant at Khunde Hospital, the only medical facility that operates year-round in the Khumbu region of Nepal.

Fan club: "It was a treat to have Mingma with us. He must know half of the Sherpas in the Khumbu!"

Chris J., Edmonton AB



Tania Masi has always been a traveler. Born in Florence, Italy, to an American mother and Florentine father, she was raised with an appreciation for both American and European cultures. On hikes, you can often find her stopping to speak to locals, and she loves to share the beauty and flavors of Europe with visitors.

Claim to fame: Tania speaks nine languages and has a Master’s degree in Geography—not to mention a parallel career as a journalist and documentary film director.

Stanley Dube grew up on the edge of Hwange National Park, where his natural affinity for wildlife began at an early age. Stanley is known for his eagle-like vision—his favorite part of safari is “to track and find the elusive wild dogs.” He has been a WT guide in Botswana for more than 15 years.

Fan club: “Stanley is an amazing individual and we felt honored to be part of his trip. We would go anywhere with him!”
Lynn & Kellan H., Palo Alto CA

Kate Ulberg led her first hiking tour in Japan in the 1980s and quickly fell in love with the country’s aesthetics, the kindness of the people, and the beauty of the mountains, temples, and gardens. After more than three decades of exploring Japan’s hidden treasures, she remains deeply connected to this ancient land.

In her words: “Every trip to Japan for me is like returning home and bringing new friends.”



Ali Ait Ichou is the perfect ambassador for Morocco’s treasured wonders. He spent his childhood in a Berber village in the high mountains, has been a trekking leader since he was 18 years old, and now makes his home in the modern side of the Moroccan Kingdom in Marrakesh.

In his words: “It was always my dream and is still my passion to share everything I have learned about my Moroccan culture with travelers.”

Americo Romaineville was raised in Cusco, Peru, learning about the myths, legends, and treasures of the Inca civilization from a young age. He holds a degree in Tourism from San Antonio Abad del Cusco, one of the oldest universities in Latin America, and has been introducing travelers to the wonders of Peru since 2005.

Little known fact: Americo loves sharing how the rich heritage of Inca culture influences present-day Peru.

Laurence Frison is a graphic designer by trade and a guide by passion. She specializes in guiding in the French Alps, and you can often find her leading groups on tasty detours through the French markets.

Fan club: “She consistently went the extra mile, sharing with us honey from her own beehives, researching questions we had about local flora, and pointing out interesting features that we would otherwise not have noticed.”

Jim C., Greenwich CT

SPECIAL EVENT

World of the Maya

NEW DISCOVERIES IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

DECEMBER 28, 2017-JANUARY 8, 2018



WOLFGANG KAEHLER



KENNETH GARRETT

The new millennium has brought many exciting discoveries to light in northern Guatemala that have significantly altered our understanding of the Maya. The size and sophistication of El Mirador, at its height during 300-150 BC, make it one of the largest and earliest of the Maya cities; mural paintings at San Bartolo, carbon dated to 100 BC, make them the oldest known Mayan paintings; and La Corona is now proven to be the long-sought "Site Q," solving one of the great mysteries of Mayan archaeology. Our symposium is a wonderful opportunity to discuss these finds in the company of distinguished experts who will greatly enhance our understanding of this remarkable civilization, whose secrets are still being revealed.

The Symposium

Our symposium presentations will also discuss Xultun, site of the oldest Mayan astronomical tables, which contradict the 2012 "end of the world" theories, and Holmul, a small but strategic kingdom with an enormous inscribed frieze dating to the 6th century. Although we are unable to visit these very remote sites themselves, we will discuss their significance and enjoy special access to the Mirador, Corona, and Holmul laboratories in Antigua and Guatemala City, where artifacts from the sites are stored and studied. Additional symposium excursions bring us to the ceremonial center of Yaxhá and incomparable Tikal, with the symposium based at a lovely hotel on the shores of the Petenche Lagoon.

The Guest Speakers

Dr. Richard D. Hansen, an archaeologist specializing in the early Maya, is Director of the Mirador Basin Project and Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at the University of Utah. He has written extensively on his work and been featured in many documentaries on the Maya. **Dr. Marcello Canuto** is Director of Tulane University's Middle American Research Institute and an Associate Professor of Anthropology. He is co-director of the La Corona Regional Archaeological Project, a multi-disciplinary study of the heart of lowland Maya civilization. **Dr. Francisco Estrada-Belli** directs a multi-disciplinary archaeological project at Holmul, Guatemala, and teaches archaeology and geographic

information systems at Tulane University. A National Geographic Explorer, he is the author of a book on the origins of Maya civilization. We will also be joined two other prominent archaeologists associated with the recent exciting discoveries in northern Guatemala.

Post-Symposium Tours

each accompanied by a Guest Speaker

- **Classic Kingdoms of the Maya**
Caracol, Dzibanche, Kohunlich, Calakmul, Palenque
- **The Artistry of the Ancient Maya**
Tikal, Holmul, Quiriguá, Copán, Kaminaljuyú
- **Splendors of Mayan Mexico**
Yaxchilán, Bonampak, Palenque, Uxmal, Chichén Itzá
- **Hidden Treasures of Mayan Guatemala**
Ceibal, Aguateca, Cancuén, Mixco Viejo, Iximché

Program Cost: TBA



CRAIG LOVELL



SPECIAL EVENT

Alaskan Dreams

WITH BARRY LOPEZ AND RICHARD NELSON • JULY 22-29, 2017

Southeast Alaska's stunning fjords and waterways, including magnificent Glacier Bay, are the extraordinary setting for our Special Event with renowned nature writers Barry Lopez and Richard Nelson. We'll journey from Sitka to Juneau aboard the 74-guest *Wilderness Explorer*, with hiking, whale watching, sea kayaking, exploring by skiff, and paddle boarding adventures all along the way, and enjoy unforgettable presentations by our Special Guests. Their thoughtful insights into our relationship with the natural world bring even greater depth to our explorations.

Our Journey

Boarding the *Wilderness Explorer* in Sitka, we head into Peril Strait, a great place to watch for otters and whales, scan the shoreline for bears, and look skyward for bald eagles. We may hike on Kuiu Island for broad perspectives of the stunning Tongass National Forest, and kayak in the glacier-carved fjords surrounding Chichagof Island. In sublime Glacier Bay, we uncover coves and corners of the bay that most visitors miss, and keep an eye out for puffins and oystercatchers, along with sea lions, mountain goats, bears, and eagles. Icy Strait has one of the richest concentration of whales in Southeast

Alaska, and we search for humpbacks and orcas in the nutrient-rich waters before ending our voyage in Juneau.

Our Guest Speakers

Barry Lopez explores the complex relationship between physical landscapes and human culture in his renowned works. His best-selling book, *Arctic Dreams: Imagination and Desires in a Northern Landscape*, received the National Book Award for nonfiction. **Richard Nelson** is a cultural anthropologist and author whose work focuses on the indigenous cultures of Alaska and the relationships between humans and nature. His literary works include *The Island Within*, winner of the John Burroughs Medal for distinguished nature writing.

The *Wilderness Explorer*

The 74-guest *Wilderness Explorer* is fully equipped for adventure, with open deck areas for wildlife viewing, an easy launch platform for the on-board kayaks, inflatable skiffs, and paddle boards, hydrophone and camera to capture the underwater world, and a full staff of naturalist guides.

Trip Cost: From \$6,395, depending on cabin category.



RYAN MCNAMEE



RYAN MCNAMEE / JOHN VICTORY



PHOTO: JO OVERHOLT



Tour du Mont Blanc

ON FOOT FROM FRANCE TO ITALY TO SWITZERLAND

Circling Mont Blanc, the crown jewel of the Alps, is one of the “Great Hikes of the World,” and we’ve honed this classic journey to perfection. Our well-designed

“What an amazing trip! The scenery, the trails, the food, the guides—all were incredible. I just got home and I want to go back!”

Megann Y., Fresno CA

hiking days bring you to high cols flanked by peaks, past epic glaciers that feed glistening streams, across meadows carpeted with wildflowers, and into culturally distinct valleys radiating into France, Italy, and Switzerland. Each day unfolds with new delights as we cross from one country to the next, savoring meals that reflect each region’s specialties, with a special visit to a cheesemaker, and overnights in cozy hotels and hiker’s inns. Our experienced guides (up to three on each departure!) are the best in the Alps, and they’ll share the wonders of this mountainous realm with you in style!

DISCOVER THE WT DIFFERENCE IN THE ALPS

- **Our guide-to-guest ratio.** It’s unmatched—at least two and often three Trip Leaders means you have the opportunity to hike at your own pace (with more time for those special photos), and have more fun!
- **Hand-picked hotels!** We’ve selected the most welcoming accommodations, from historic inns and chalets to hike-in lodges in breathtaking settings.
- **Our expert Trip Leaders.** They offer wonderful introductions to special people and places you would never find on your own. They know these regions inside out and absolutely love sharing their “backyard” with you.
- **The best selection of trips in the Alps.** From one week getaways with daily hiking options to in-depth two-week hikes, we offer it all.



Days 1-2 Chamonix / Les Contamines In the mountaineer’s paradise of Chamonix, our warm-up hike brings you to the jagged needles of the Aiguilles Rouges and mountain-ringed Lac Blanc. From the Col de Voza, we descend to Bionnassay Glacier, with great views of the Dômes de Miage, before descending to charming Les Contamines.

Days 3-4 Into Italy Crossing the Col de la Croix-du-Bonhomme, we reach remote Les Chapieux, where we overnight at a family-run auberge. After visiting a local cheesemaker (superb Beaufort!), we hike across the border and enjoy fantastic vistas of Mont Blanc’s 11,000-foot-high southern face. On one festive evening we may find ourselves passing the traditional *grolla* bowl (espresso and grappa—*flambé!*) to toast our day’s adventures.

Days 5-6 Val Ferret, Switzerland / Champex / Trient Glacier / Col de la Forclaz Our hike into Switzerland via the Grand Col Ferret traverses the Val Ferret, with its flower-filled meadows and charming chalets. From lakeside Champex, hike switchback trails up to the dramatic pass overlooking the magnificent Trient Glacier, and descend right along its edge to Col de la Forclaz.

Days 7-8 Col de Balme / Chamonix Climbing through larch forests to the Col de Balme, we cross back into France. We’ll savor jaw-dropping views of Mont Blanc as we come full circle to the Chamonix Valley. Depart on Day 8.

Snowy peaks, sprawling glaciers, alpine meadows, and amazing sunsets from our mountain lodges—this is what hiking in the Alps is all about! PHOTO: R TYLER GROSS



FRANCO COGOLI



HIGHLIGHTS

- One of the world’s classic hikes—and we do it in style!
- Enjoy magnificent mountain and glacier views and hike across three international borders on foot
- Delicious regional cuisine, from French *tartiflette* and Italian pasta to Swiss fondue
- Overnights in mountain villages with great charm and character

DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins and ends in Chamonix
- 5 nights hotels, 2 nights small inns with semi-private rooms
- All meals included
- All transport during the trip included (cable cars, etc.)

DATES

Jun 18-25, 2017	Jul 30-Aug 6
Jul 2-9	Aug 11-18
Jul 14-21	Aug 25-Sep 1
Jul 22-29	Sep 8-15

TRIP COST

\$4495 (11-14 members)
\$4895 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$450

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
7 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 6-8 hours a day, altitudes between 4,000-8,800 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders



TANYA PERRET





We bring you to the most spectacular parts of this classic high trail from Chamonix to Zermatt. PHOTO: BENJAMIN BARTHELEMY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience one of the world's great mountain hikes—in WT style!
- Discover remote and pristine trails amid the highest peaks in the Alps
- Savor the distinctive alpine cultures and cuisines of France and Switzerland
- Enjoy our charming hand-picked hotels, some with spa facilities

DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins in Chamonix, France, and ends in Zermatt, Switzerland
- 4 nights four-star hotels, 3 nights mountain inns
- All meals included
- All transport during the trip included (cable cars, etc.)

DATES

- Jul 1-8, 2017
- Jul 28-Aug 4
- Aug 13-20

TRIP COST

- \$4495 (11-14 members)
- \$4895 (6-10 members)
- Single supplement: \$320

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

7 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes between 6,000-9,600 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders

Hiking the Haute Route

HIGH ALPS TRAVERSE FROM CHAMONIX TO ZERMATT

The celebrated Haute Route is a high-level hiking traverse across the French and Swiss Alps from Chamonix, France, to Zermatt, Switzerland. Ten of the 12 highest peaks in the Alps, including Mont Blanc and the Matterhorn, rise along this magnificent "high route," along with glaciers, cool mountain tarns, and meadows full of wildflowers. Our unique version of this classic route provides a nonstop panorama of stunning alpine scenery and a quintessential hiking experience of the Alps. En route, we hike over seven dramatic passes, including the wild and rocky Fenêtre d'Arpette (8,750'). We combine our well-paced hiking days with overnights in charming hotels, including the 4-star family-run Bella Tola, a spa hotel with delightful Old World ambiance.

Days 1-2 Chamonix, France / Champex, Switzerland From Chamonix, we hike over the Col de Balme and descend to the Col de la Forclaz. A steep but gorgeous hike skirting the Trient Glacier brings us to the top of the Fenêtre d'Arpette, then down to the rugged Val d'Arpette.

Days 3-4 Grande Dixence / Arolla Our hikes lead to the Col des Roux, with good chances of seeing ibex and chamois, then along Lac des Dix and up to the Col de Reidmatten (9,577'), with its dazzling mountain-and-glacier views.

Days 5-6 St-Luc / Gruben Hiking through the traditional Valais canton, we cross the Col de Torrent (9,570'), where superb vistas include the Mont Blanc chain and the most impressive summits and glaciers in the Swiss Valais, including the towering limestone pyramid of the Dent Blanche (14,290'). We hike into German-speaking Switzerland by crossing the Meidpass (9,154') to descend into the peaceful hamlet of Gruben.

Days 7-8 Zermatt After our climb to the top of Augstbordpass (9,495'), we descend into the green Mattertal, where we catch a cable car and local train to storied Zermatt, surrounded by 13,000-foot peaks and famed for its awe-inspiring views of the Matterhorn. Depart on Day 8.

ON OUR WEBSITE CLASSIC HAUTE ROUTE

Our classic traverse, with extra nights in Chamonix and Zermatt, plus two hike-in lodges where you'll savor sunset alpenglow on the high peaks. Jul 12-23, Sep 3-14, 2017. From \$5995.

Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA ALONG THE GR5



HIGHLIGHTS

- Our unique route from the mountains to the sea through a range of cultures and landscapes
- Secluded mountain villages and less-traveled national parks
- Small groups—maximum 7 people!

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins in Megève and ends in Nice
- 13 nights charming hotels and inns
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

Aug 6-19
Aug 20-Sep 2
Sep 3-16

TRIP COST

\$6895 (6-7 members)
\$7395 (4-5 members)
Single supplement: \$660

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 ⑤ 6 7
12 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 5-7 hours a day, altitudes between 6,000-9,200 feet, van support



Each day's hike reveals new vistas and dramatic changes in the local culture in this stunning corner of France.

This hiker's dream journey brings you from mighty Mont Blanc, with its eternal glaciers, to the palm-fringed beaches of the Côte d'Azur, where the Maritime Alps plunge into the blue Mediterranean. Setting off with

sweeping panoramas of Mont Blanc, we hike in high alpine meadows where cowbells echo and blue gentian blooms, and through age-old villages that are a step back in time. Heading south, we follow the legendary GR5 trail across remote national parks of singular beauty, then enter brightly colored hill villages that announce the Mediterranean

is near. Arriving on the coast, we kick off our hiking boots and head for a celebratory dip in the sea!

Days 1-7 Megève / Vanoise National Park

Our first hike reveals the splendor of the French Alps and Mont Blanc, and in the Vanoise, we follow dramatic trails with views of the glaciated



FRANK FELL

Pralognan Valley and the ice cap of the Dôme de la Vanoise. A ramble along an old Roman road leads us beneath the granite peaks of the Grande Casse (12,648') to Col de la Vanoise (8,255'), with three gleaming alpine lakes along the way.

Days 8-11 Queyras Regional Park / St. Martin-Vésubie / Mercantour National Park

In Queyras, one of the most untouched areas of France, we hike across emerald meadows to the Col Cross, where mountain sheep roam. A relaxed Mediterranean atmosphere comes to life in St. Martin-Vésubie, where men play *pétanque* in the square and sip Pastis. Mercantour National Park, with its tiny perched villages, is the setting for spectacular and remote hikes with vast views.

Days 12-14 Menton / Nice After exploring the Vallée des Merveilles, with its Bronze Age rock art, we follow a trail with views of the sea up to the Col de Razet, then head to the coast for a well-earned swim in the Mediterranean. Depart on Day 14 via Nice.

"I loved it all. Extraordinary views, great company, delicious meals, cozy inns, and dramatic scenery. To end with a swim in the Mediterranean was perfection!"

Cathy C., Sonoma CA



Great Alpine Traverse

HIKING ADVENTURES THROUGH FIVE COUNTRIES



Hiking in five alpine countries with our amazing team of Trip Leaders is an unforgettable adventure. PHOTO: ANDY TROWBRIDGE



FRANCO COGOLI



HIGHLIGHTS

- Great hikes, the perfect team of Trip Leaders, and Europe's best mountain scenery—nobody else offers a journey like this!
- Experience the distinctive cultures and cuisines of five alpine countries
- Hand-picked hotels include the Grand Hotel des Alpes (Chamonix) and Hotel Walther (Pontresina)

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins in Chamonix, France, and ends in Salzburg, Austria
- 5 nights hotels, 5 nights charming inns, 3 nights alpine lodges with semi-private rooms, shared baths, and hot showers
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners
- All transport during the trip included (*Glacier Express* train, cable cars, etc.)

DATES

- Jun 26-Jul 9, 2017
- Jul 26-Aug 8
- Aug 27-Sep 9

TRIP COST

- \$7695 (11-14 members)
- \$8195 (7-10 members)
- Single supplement: \$820

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4+ 5 6 7

- 13 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes between 6,000-11,500 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders

The ultimate Alps odyssey? It's our unique five-country adventure on the best trails of

"This was such an incredible trip! I cannot describe how wonderful the leaders, itinerary, and other hikers were. The best travel experience I have ever had!"

Sara H., Calabasas CA

France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Austria! You'll cross five borders on foot, with extraordinary hikes below Mont Blanc, to the Matterhorn from both the Italian and Swiss sides, and across the Tyrolean Alps of Germany and Austria. We connect one

hiking realm to another with cog rails, cable cars, and Switzerland's famed *Glacier Express*. Our team of Trip Leaders brings style, camaraderie, and fun to this incredible experience of the Alps.



CHRISTOF SONDEREGGER

Days 1-4 Chamonix, France / Aosta, Italy / Zermatt, Switzerland In Chamonix, a breathtaking gondola ride brings us across the Vallée Blanche Glacier for a close look at the icy flanks of Mont Blanc. Heading from Italy into Switzerland, a dazzling amphitheater of mountains surrounds us on our hike along the Grand Balconeta trail to Cervinia, right at the foot of the Matterhorn, and down the Theodul Glacier for amazing views of this pyramidal peak.

Days 5-7 Upper Engadine A spectacular rail journey on the *Glacier Express* carries us to St. Moritz in the Upper Engadine Valley. After a hike along the edge of the Morteratsch Glacier, we take a cable car to our high lodge for an alpine sunset and an overnight right among the high peaks.

Days 8-14 Maria Alm, Austria / Funtensee, Germany / Salzburg, Austria Our hike along the Inn River leads among classic Swiss hamlets, then brings us over the remote Futschol Pass from Switzerland to Austria. From Maria Alm on the mountainous Austria-Germany border, hike into Germany to a lovely lakeside lodge. A descent through a glacier-carved landscape brings us to crystalline Lake Königssee, encircled within near-vertical rock walls, and we conclude our five-country odyssey in beautiful Salzburg. Depart on Day 14.



On many days, enjoy a choice of two hiking options to explore the beauty of the Tyrolean Alps.

Hiking the Tyrolean Alps

EDELWEISS, TRADITIONAL VILLAGES, AND SNOW-CAPPED PEAKS

Soaring limestone peaks, gleaming alpine lakes, meadows bright with summer flowers, and welcoming villages with geranium-bedecked chalets make the Tyrolean Alps a hiker's paradise. Our journey through this classic alpine world cuts a swath from the twin villages of Garmisch-Partenkirchen, nestled at the foot of the mighty Zugspitze in the heart of Bavaria, to Austria's historic Innsbruck, with its Baroque architecture. Our team of Trip Leaders offers two hiking options on many days, allowing you to experience this splendid realm at moderate or challenging levels. Fine dining and overnights in traditional hotels, including a historic 5-star spa in a spectacular setting, top off each unforgettable day.

Days 1-3 Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany / Hollentalklamm Gorge From Garmisch-Partenkirchen, head out on ridgetop hikes for panoramic views of alpine summits. We'll follow trails through lush, wildflower-covered alpine meadows and stop in at chalet-style farmhouses that serve delicious local cheeses and other specialties. One breathtaking trail

leads us through the winding riverside paths of the sheer Hollentalklamm Gorge. Our accommodation, the historic Kranzbach, is set on 32 acres of protected mountain meadows in the heart of the Bavarian Alps.

Days 4-5 Seefeld, Austria / Heimgarten / Leutasch Valley We hike up to Heimgarten (5,577') for spectacular views, with the Tyrolean Alps stretching out before us, and below us, turquoise Lake Walchensee. Heading into the Leutasch Klamm, the gorge Napoleon traveled to invade Tyrol in 1805, our trail leads us right into Austria's classic Leutasch Valley, with its ancient farming hamlets with fresco-painted wooden houses.

Days 6-8 Innsbruck From charming Innsbruck, one of our hikes begins in the tiny hamlet of Lehner and heads up into the forested Puittal Valley to a dramatic mountain pass. In the impressive Wetterstein and Karwendel Mountains, we make an exhilarating traverse of a ridge high above Seefeld, with fantastic 360-degree panoramas, and we'll follow the Zirbenweg ("Eagle's Walk") trail through the oldest stone-pine forest in the Alps to reach the summit of the Viggarspitze (7,566'), with its incredible views of Innsbruck and the Nordkette Mountains. Depart on Day 8.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Choose either moderate or challenging hiking options on many days
- Distinctive traditional Tyrol culture and cuisine
- Ideally located hotels with traditional hospitality
- On the September departure, stay on to enjoy Oktoberfest!

DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins in Kranzbach, Germany, and ends in Innsbruck, Austria
- 7 nights hotels
- All meals included except 1 dinner
- All transport during the trip included (cable cars, etc.)

DATES

Jul 10-17, 2017
Jul 30-Aug 6
Sep 10-17

TRIP COST

\$5095 (11-14 members)
\$5495 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$380

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
6 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 4-8 hours a day (depending on option), altitudes between 4,000-8,650 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders

Switzerland: The Via Alpina

ONE OF THE GREAT HIKES OF THE WORLD



Oeschinensee is one of the spectacular lakes we hike to on our journey.
PHOTO: DAN HELLER

The Via Alpina, Europe's first trans-Alps trail, links a network of age-old footpaths along the backbone of Europe's greatest mountain range. We've chosen the most spectacular section—a 75-mile stretch across Switzerland's legendary mountains—for a true "hiker's hike" from lakeside Lucerne to the alpine village of Kandersteg. You'll follow airy balcony trails below ice-crowned peaks, stay in welcoming inns in historic hamlets, savor hearty meals (raclette, anyone?), and enjoy up-close views of the big massifs of the Swiss Alps, including the Eiger (13,025'), the Monch (13,401'), and the Jungfrau (11,401')—the celebrated North Face of the Alps.

Days 1-6 Lucerne / Meiringen / Grindelwald / Kleine Scheidegg Beginning in lakeside Lucerne, our trails explore classic Swiss Alps as we hike the slopes of Mt. Rigi and ice-crowned Mt. Titlis (10,684') and into the picturesque village of Engelberg. We follow a balcony trail along the Gental Valley and descend to lovely Meiringen, home to Reichenbach Falls of Sherlock Holmes fame. From Grindelwald, set beneath



GIOVANNI SIMEONE

the Eiger, we head up to the dramatic Eiger Nordwand trail for amazing views of the Eiger's sheer North Face.

Days 7-8 Lauterbrunnen / Murren Our riverside hike in the otherworldly Lauterbrunnen Valley, inspiration for Tolkien's Middle Earth outpost of Rivendell, takes us past dozens of lacy waterfalls. In the mountain village of Murren (5,413'), enjoy a day to explore, with optional hikes including a route into a beautiful hanging valley dotted with hay barns and chalets.

Days 9-11 Sefinenfurke Pass / Kandersteg Views of the rocky ramparts of the Swiss Alps from Sefinenfurke (8,600'), the highest pass on the Via Alpina, are breathtaking, and we make a spectacular descent into the hamlet of Griesalp. From Hohturli Pass (9,120'), hike past icefalls and glaciers to mountain-ringed Lake Oeschinensee. Depart on Day 11.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Feast your eyes on stunning views of the North Face of the Alps, including the mighty Eiger
- Hike in the sheer-sided Lauterbrunnen ("Many Fountains") Valley, with its 72 cascades
- Explore mountain-ringed Swiss villages, from Engelberg and Murren to Kandersteg
- Enjoy ancient Swiss mountain culture and beautiful chalet architecture
- Overnights in lovely hotels, including a historic inn set right on the pass in Kleine Scheidegg

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Lucerne and ends in Kandersteg
- 10 nights hotels and mountain inns
- All meals included except 2 lunches and 2 dinners

DATES

Jul 24-Aug 3, 2017
Aug 20-30

TRIP COST

\$6695 (11-14 members)
\$7195 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$860

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 (5) 6 7

10 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes up to 9,120 feet, van support, team of up to three Trip Leaders



Glacier Express

SWISS CLASSICS: ZERMATT, PONTRESINA, AND GUARDA

Zermatt, home of the pyramidal-shaped Matterhorn, and the storybook realm of the Engadine Valley, with its age-old villages and pure mountain air, are the setting for this splendid Swiss journey. We designed the trip with two different hiking options each day (your choice!). Whichever you choose, you'll enjoy high balcony trails with stupendous vistas of glaciers, ice cliffs, cool lakes, sheer valleys, and snowy summits. We use the country's ingenious transportation system—from funicular railways to cable cars—to whisk you high up into the mountains for unbelievable views on each hike, and our wonderful team of Trip Leaders makes each day a delightful adventure.

“Every day was filled with not only grand hikes, but cultural and gastronomic delights. Looking forward to our next adventure with WT!”

Barbara H., Berkeley CA

Days 1-2 Zermatt / Matterhorn In car-free Zermatt, with its ancient barns and horse-drawn carriages, all our hiking choices offer show-stopping Matterhorn panoramas. One ramble brings us through stone-pine forest to a charming hamlet of slate-roofed wooden houses with good views of the northeast

This Swiss journey offers two hiking options a day—the choice is yours!



ridge of the Matterhorn. We can take the Gornergrat Railway up to 10,135 feet for surpassing views of a ring of some 50 peaks, including the Matterhorn and Monte Rosa, or head out for a high-level hike across the Matterhorn Glacier Trail, close enough to the glacier to see the meltwater running out.

Day 3 Glacier Express / Engadine

An exhilarating rail journey (and a champagne lunch) on Switzerland's most famous train, the *Glacier Express*, carries us to scenic Pontresina in the Engadine Valley, where we are warmly welcomed at the 4-star yet family-run Hotel Walther, a Belle Epoque gem.

Days 4-8 Pontresina / Guarda

In the deep Engadine Valley, the heartland of Romansch culture, our trails lead to classic mountain villages where traditional homes are adorned with ancient floral designs called *sgraffitti*. Alpine farming is still done here the traditional way, as it has been for centuries. From Pontresina, one hiking option brings us along the moraine of the Morteratsch Glacier, and another follows the Via Engadina, a long-distance footpath along the Inn River leading through the graceful little towns of Zernez, Susch, and Lavin. From the beautiful village of Guarda, set a thousand feet above the valley floor, we hike past meadows grazed by pampered Brown Swiss dairy cattle to reach Tarasp, a dreamy medieval castle and a perfect spot for our picnic lunch. Depart on Day 8.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Zermatt and the Matterhorn, the icon of Switzerland
- The Engadine Valley, with its classic stone-built villages
- Spectacular *Glacier Express* rail journey from Zermatt to Pontresina
- Wonderfully atmospheric hotels, Swiss culinary specialties from *rösti* to Engadiner torte

DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins in Zermatt and ends in Guarda
- 7 nights hotels
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

Jul 11-18, 2017
Aug 5-12
Sep 11-18

TRIP COST

\$4995 (10-14 members)
\$5495 (6-9 members)
Single supplement: \$690
Swiss transportation pass: \$420 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

6 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 2-6 hours a day (depending on chosen option), van support



JOHN WARBURTON-LEE

Heart of Switzerland LAKE LUCERNE, THE BERNESE OBERLAND, AND LAKE GENEVA'S LAVAUX WINE COUNTRY

In a land of fairytale mountain beauty, we've crafted a fantastic journey using the remarkable Swiss system of cable cars and cogwheel trains

"Of our many WT trips, this may be our favorite—great leaders, spectacular scenery and hikes, wonderful hotels and food, and an experience of Switzerland that will remain with us forever."

Joe M., San Antonio TX



HIGHLIGHTS

- Cable cars and gondolas do the steep climbing—you enjoy hiking and top-of-the-world views!
- Spectacular rock peaks and glaciers of the Bernese Oberland, heart of the Swiss Alps
- Picturesque alpine villages of Grindelwald, Murren, and Kandersteg
- Wine country of Lavaux above Lake Geneva, charming Old Town of Vevey

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Lucerne and ends in Vevey
- 8 nights hotels
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

Jun 29-Jul 7, 2017 Aug 6-14
Jul 20-28 Aug 31-Sep 8

TRIP COST

\$6295 (11-14 members)
\$6795 (5-10 members)
Single supplement: \$720
Swiss transportation pass: \$550 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 hiking days on moderate trails, 2-6 hours a day, altitudes up to 7,900 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders



to bring you high into the Alps for spectacular—yet moderate—hiking adventures. Near enchanting Lucerne, hike the panoramic trails of Mt. Rigi and craggy Mt. Pilatus, and in the Bernese Oberland, follow stunning pathways that bring you to the Eiger, Monch, and Jungfrau—the magnificent North Face of the Alps—and to the otherworldly Lauterbrunnen Valley. Our grand finale is in charming Vevey, in classic Swiss wine country, for wine tasting and hikes along terraced vineyards above Lake Geneva.

Days 1-4 Lucerne / Pilatus and Rigi / Murren We hike the high trails of Pilatus and Rigi amid classic Swiss farmsteads, visit an artisan cheesemaker, and make a scenic return to Lucerne by cogwheel train and boat. In the dramatic Bernese Oberland, the sheer faces of the Eiger, Monch, and Jungfrau are the reward for our hike to Männlichen (7,687'). Another hike brings us into the immense, U-shaped Lauterbrunnen Valley, with its 3,000-foot-high walls. Overnights are in charming Lucerne and car-free Murren, where the only sounds are of cowbells and waterfalls.

Days 5-6 Kandersteg / Lake Oeschinensee From the gorgeous Swiss village of Kandersteg, a cable car whisks us to a high viewpoint for a delightful picnic



before we head out on the trail above Oeschinensee, a turquoise lake nestled in an amphitheater of jagged peaks. Our hike in the deep Gasterntal Valley brings panoramas of the summits and glaciers of the Jungfrau-Aletsch World Heritage Site, home to the Aletsch, the largest glacier in the Alps.

Days 7-9 Vevey / Lake Geneva A beautiful train ride changes the scene entirely, bringing us to Lake Geneva and beguiling Montreux, with its lakeshore lined by Belle Epoque villas and a grand backdrop of the Savoy Alps. Ancient vineyards rise high above Lake Geneva's Lavaux wine country, and we hike through vineyards from St-Saphorin to a lovely chateau above Villette. Depart on Day 9.

This hiking journey is the quintessential experience of everything that's magical about Switzerland. PHOTO: TOM DEMPSEY



From the Swiss Valais to Italy's Gran Paradiso

ALPINE HIKES IN TWO COUNTRIES!

Switzerland and Italy meet in a spectacular way in the Alps, and we've picked the best hikes on both sides of the alpine divide for our lively adventure. In Switzerland's Valais, known for its snowy peaks, medieval villages, and herds of prized Herens cows, cable cars whisk us to high ridges for panoramic hikes. We make our way into Italy by way of the historic St. Bernard Pass, where we'll enjoy a walk with the famous rescue dogs, then hike right down into Italy's Val d'Aosta amid the gorgeous mountain-and-glacier scenery of Gran Paradiso National Park. Great food and wines abound on both sides of the pass, and our overnights are in delightful alpine settings,



IRIS KÜRSCHNER

including the medieval Swiss hamlet of Commeire and the lovely Italian village of Etroubles, one of the *piu belli borghi d'Italia*.

Days 1-4 Martigny, Switzerland / Val de Bagnes / Commeire We hike among the picturesque villages of the Val des Bagnes and in the valley's upper region,

one of Switzerland's great nature reserves. One hike brings us to the tiny hamlet of Commeire, where our hotel is in beautifully restored ancient farm buildings. The Val des Bagnes is prime cheese-making territory, and we'll sample the rustic local tomme, raclette, and goat cheeses.

Days 5-7 Champex / Grand St. Bernard Pass / Val d'Aosta, Italy From lakeside Champex, our hike to the Cabane d'Orny, just below the Orny Glacier, offers breathtaking Mont Blanc views. Atop the Grand St. Bernard Pass (8,100'), the oldest and most famous of the great alpine crossings (traversed by Caesar and Napoleon), we walk with the legendary St. Bernard dogs, visit the 11th century pilgrim hospice, then follow a pilgrim trail that leads us down into Italy and the Val d'Aosta, a deep valley tucked away in Italy's northwestern alpine region. Bordered by Europe's highest peaks, the Val d'Aosta is renowned for its castles and Roman monuments. We'll visit the pretty town of Aosta to see its Roman theater and intact original Roman town gate.

Days 8-10 Val d'Aosta / Gran Paradiso National Park We head out across the high trails of Gran Paradiso National Park, savoring the backdrop of glaciers and craggy peaks. For one hike, a cable car carries us up to Lago di Chamole, where our trail has sweeping panoramas of the great peaks of the Alps—Mont Blanc, Grand Combin, Monte Rosa, and the Matterhorn—all in one view! Our hotel in charming Gressoney-La-Trinité, an ancient center of Walser culture, is at the foot of magnificent Monte Rosa. Depart on Day 10.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Best alpine hikes in the Swiss Valais, Italy's Val d'Aosta, and Gran Paradiso
- Savor wine, cheese, and prosciutto tastings, and the cuisines and cultures of two alpine nations
- Charming hotels in beautiful mountain settings, including boutique inns and restored historic buildings
- Walk with the famed rescue dogs at the St. Bernard Pass

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins in Martigny, Switzerland, and ends in Torino, Italy
- 9 nights in historic hotels and inns
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

Jul 24-Aug 2, 2017
Aug 16-25

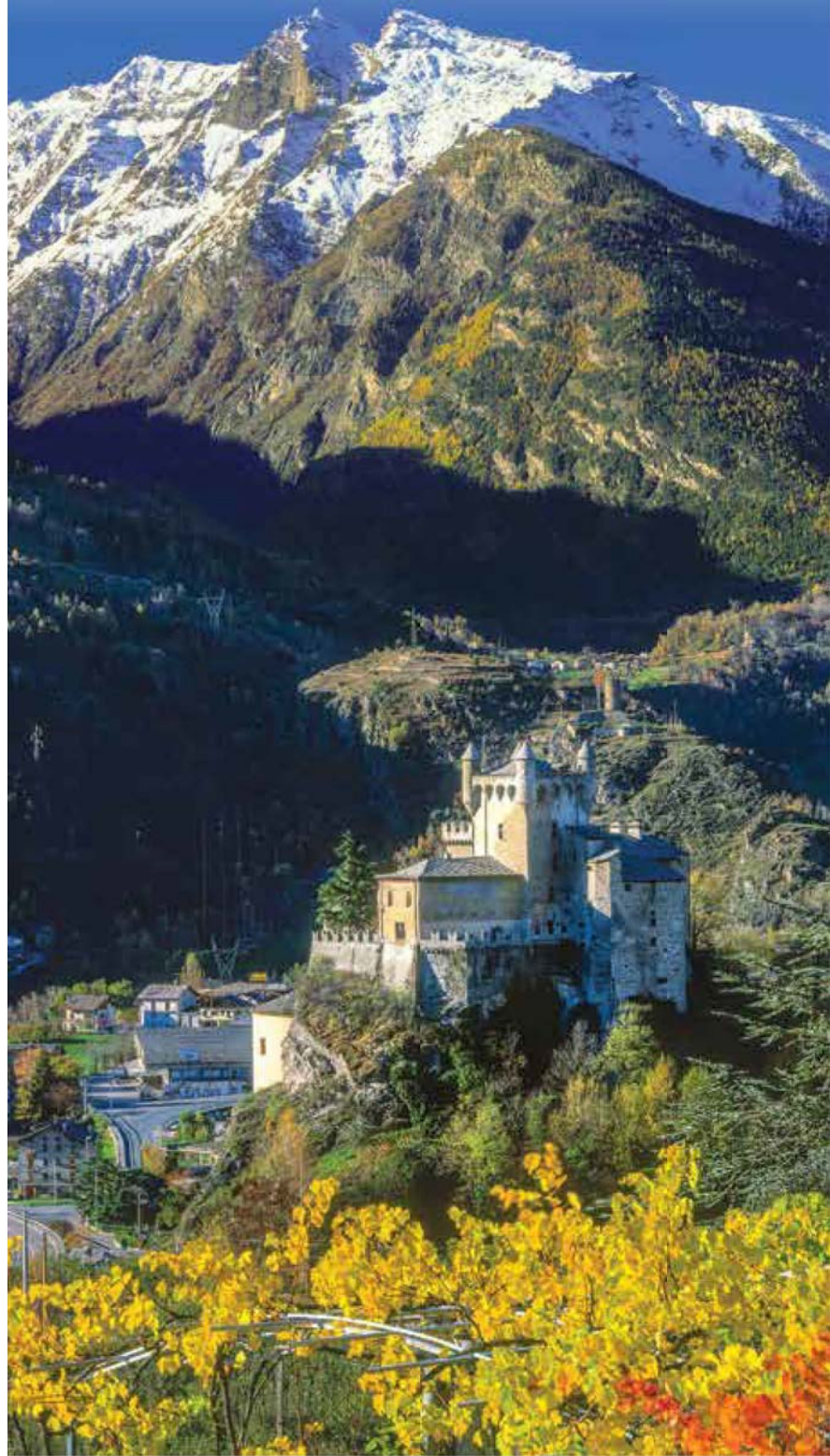


TRIP COST

\$5495 (11-15 members)
\$5995 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$580

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4 5 6 7
9 hiking days on moderate trails, some steep sections, 3-7 hours a day, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders

Follow legendary trails from Switzerland to Italy, including the Val d'Aosta, with its Roman monuments and medieval castles. PHOTO: MASSIMO RIPANI



Hiking in Slovenia

ADVENTURES FROM THE JULIAN ALPS TO THE ADRIATIC SEA

Slovenia is the “hidden” Alps, a spellbinding world of spectacular mountains, lovely villages, and gorgeous lakes still remarkably undiscovered. Our hiker’s dream journey brings you deep into this secluded European gem, with hikes through dramatic gorges laced with meandering rivers, lush glacier-carved valleys flanked by the sheer peaks of the Kamnik-Savinja Alps, and unforgettable towns and villages, including Piran on the blue Adriatic, where you’ll enjoy Venetian Gothic architecture and savor fresh seafood at waterfront cafes. Our Trip Leaders’ passion for their country, contagious enthusiasm, and extraordinary knowledge of place and culture make this an exceptional experience.



DAN HELLER

Days 1-4 Ljubljana / Ptuj / Logarska Dolina National Park After exploring Ljubljana’s charming squares and arched stone bridges, we head to Ptuj, dating from Roman times, for a hike in vineyard country, lunch at an organic farm, and a private wine tasting. In Logarska Dolina, a stunning valley dotted with tiny churches and traditional farmsteads, we hike through meadows and forests to the 300-foot-high Rinka waterfall with views of the towering Kamnik-Savinja Alps.

Days 5-6 Radovljica / Lake Bled / Mostnica Gorge Explore Radovljica, with its Renaissance-era architecture, and taste honey at its enchanting museum of beekeeping. A gondola brings you across the fairytale setting of Lake Bled to reach its exquisite 17th century island-church, then enjoy a hike through sun-dappled beech forests, following trails along the tumbling, jade-green river that cuts through the Mostnica Gorge.

Days 7-8 Mt. Krn / Dreznica / Kobarid After a hike to the face of the glorious North Triglav Wall (Triglav is Slovenia’s highest peak), we head to the Soca Valley, an Old World realm of tiny villages, translucent rivers, and deep forests that formed the infamous Soca Front during World War I. One of our hikes traces a route below snow-capped Mt. Krn (7,300’), with a descent to the peaceful village of Dreznica. Our base is in Kobarid, a historic town where little has changed since Ernest Hemingway set his 1929 novel *A Farewell to Arms* here.

Days 9-11 Piran Slovenia’s coastal Karst region is famous for its ruby-red Teran wine and air-dried *prsut* ham. We savor these local specialties at lunch, then walk through the vast underground world of the Skocjan Caves, an amazing UNESCO World Heritage Site. In Piran, a tangle of cobbled streets nestled close to the sea, we boat to the nature reserve at Secovlje, with its marshes and wading birds, and visit the fascinating Saltworks Museum, ranked as one of the top 12 museums in Europe. Depart on Day 11.

COMBINE ANY TWO EUROPE TRIPS FOR A \$500 PER PERSON DISCOUNT!



DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Ljubljana
- 10 nights hotels and country inns
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

- May 16-26, 2017
- Jun 13-23
- Jun 27-Jul 7
- Sep 5-15
- Sep 19-29

TRIP COST

- \$4795 (11-15 members)
- \$5295 (6-10 members)
- Single supplement: \$560

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 hiking days on moderate trails (some steep sections), 3-5 hours a day, van support

HIGHLIGHTS

- The spectacular alpine realm of the Julian Alps, where emerald meadows lie beneath sheer limestone peaks
- Logarska Dolina National Park, home to nearly 20 waterfalls
- Enchanting Ljubljana, exquisite Lake Bled (we cross by gondola), beautiful Piran on the Adriatic shore
- Renowned local wines and a delightful cuisine including savory *žlikrofi* (Slovenian ravioli)

Great hikes, amazing scenery, charming villages—we’ve crafted a fantastic adventure in this uncrowded jewel of a country. PHOTO: JAN WLODARCZYK





WILLIAM STEVENSON



DANILO DONADONI



On this unique multi-country ramble, hike across four international borders—Italy, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Austria! PHOTO: DARRYL MONTREUIL

Bergamo to Innsbruck

A HIKING ADVENTURE ACROSS FOUR COUNTRIES

Our unique four-country hiking journey begins in lovely Bergamo, brimming with exquisite architecture and nestled in the Italian Alps. Our route, with super day hikes and cozy hotel overnights, leads us all the way to mountain-

“Lovely hikes, wonderful guides, great food and drink—what could be better?!”

Sharon T., Abingdon VA

ringed Innsbruck, Austria, crossing four international borders—on foot! We hike through Italy’s traditional Valtellina region, into Switzerland’s sunny Engadine Valley, across the vineyards of Liechtenstein, and into Austria on the historic Eschnerberg Trail, enjoying high trails and historic towns at every turn. Along the way, we savor delicious farm-to-table meals and local delights including *polenta taragna*, tangy alpine cheeses, and aromatic regional wines, with a special wine tasting at the cellars of the Prince of Liechtenstein.

Days 1-3 Bergamo, Italy / Bormio From Bergamo, we hike among the ancient stone carvings at Capo di Ponte, a World Heritage Site, and follow trails in the serene Valtellina Valley

to medieval Bormio, once a Roman spa town. Our lunch in a family-run agriturismo in Valtellina introduces us to regional specialties and we’ll sip some Braulio, the local herbal liqueur, at a local cellar.

Days 4-7 Livigno, Valle di Fraele / Engadine, Switzerland / Davos In the Valle di Fraele, we hike to sparkling lakes where ibex roam and up to a mountain rifugio with splendid views of the Alps. Heading through larch and pine woodlands, we cross the border into the pristine wilderness of Switzerland’s Parc Naziunal Svizzer and take the funicular up Weissfluhjoch (8,835’) for a breathtaking hike.

Days 8-9 Liechtenstein / Vaduz Our Liechtenstein hikes bring us across a network of trails into vineyards, mountains, and charming towns including Vaduz, the capital, with its atmospheric castle perched high on a hill. The Prince of Liechtenstein lives in Vaduz and we’ll have dinner at his winery one evening.

Days 10-12 Innsbruck, Austria A historic alpine trail brings us on foot from Liechtenstein into the medieval Austrian town of Feldkirche. We cap off our adventure in the dramatic setting of Innsbruck, exploring its cobbled streets, then catching the funicular up to 7,400 feet for a final hike with panoramic views. Depart on Day 12.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Exclusive hiking journey through four countries, crossing all borders on foot
- Wine tasting, delicious meals in agriturismos and family farms
- Serene mountain valleys, tiny alpine villages, the snowy peaks of the Alps
- Exquisite Bergamo Alto, encircled by 16th century walls, medieval Innsbruck, cradled by mountains

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in Bergamo, Italy, and ends in Innsbruck, Austria
- 11 nights hotels
- All meals included except 3 dinners
- All transport during the trip included (funiculars, cable cars, etc.)

DATES

Jul 11-22, 2017
Aug 27-Sep 7

TRIP COST

\$5695 (11-15 members)
\$6195 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$590

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
9 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 3-6 hours a day, van support

Hiking in the Cortina Dolomites

EXPERIENCE EUROPE'S MOST DRAMATIC MOUNTAINS



Great hikes by day, wonderful food and wine at night—the perfect trip! PHOTO: ANNIE HAWKINS

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike through a surreal landscape of splintered spires, huge rock walls, and picturesque villages
- See the Dolomites at your own pace, with moderate or challenging hiking options
- Delight in Italian-Austrian alpine culture and hearty cuisine—be sure to try *canederli*, a bread dumpling unique to the area, and *speck*, the local cured, smoked ham

DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins and ends in Venice
- 6 nights 3- and 4-star hotels and inns, 1 night comfortable alpine lodge with semi-private or dorm-style rooms, shared baths, and hot showers
- All meals included except 1 dinner
- All transport during the trip included (cable cars, etc.)

DATES

Jun 23-30, 2017
Jul 3-10
Jul 17-24
Aug 6-13
Sep 1-8

TRIP COST

\$4495 (11-15 members)
\$4895 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$320

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
6 hiking days, choice of moderate to steep trails, 3-7 hours a day, altitudes from 5,000-9,100 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders

Nothing quite prepares you for the awesome spectacle of the Dolomites, where enormous rock spires soar above an enchanting realm of deep green valleys and tiny villages. Our exhilarating journey brings you into the stunning Cortina Dolomites, justly famed for the regal Tofane Massif and the ghostly pillars of the Tre Cime di Lavaredo. With a choice of moderate or challenging hiking options, you'll experience incredible mountain scenery and delight in northern Italy's delectable cuisine, including creamy polenta with porcini mushrooms or *casunziei* (beet and poppy-seed ravioli). Our special overnight in a remote hike-in lodge gives you a perfect perch for watching the sunset paint the massive pinnacles an extraordinary palette of ever-changing, luminous hues.



SEAN MORRISSEY

Days 1-3 Venice / Passo Giau / Civetta

Massif From Venice, we head to the heart of the Dolomites and our chalet-style mountain hotel at Passo Giau, with its wonderful views of the Tofane, Croda Rossa, Cristallo, and Croda da Lago massifs. Our hikes lead right from the hotel, including one that brings you through beautiful meadows to Ambrizolla Pass, with a descent past waterfalls and stunning views of the Tofane Massif. Other hikes lead into the magnificent Civetta Massif, with its famous six-mile-wide north face known as “the wall of walls,” while a lovely ramble through meadows and woodlands carries you beneath the soaring Tofane peaks to a lakeside restaurant for a cappuccino and fresh pastry.

Day 4 Rifugio Lagazuoi A challenging hike (with easier options) rewards you with panoramas stretching from Tofane to Marmolada (10,965'), the “Queen of the Dolomites,” as we head to Rifugio Lagazuoi, one of the most awesome spots in the world to experience the sunset. Here we are on top of the world, above the clouds and the birds, amid the silence of the mountains.

Days 5-8 Cortina d'Ampezzo / Tre Cime di Lavaredo

Our hikes from stylish Cortina include a challenging option featuring the “secret” valley behind the Tofane Massif that few hikers explore. Walking right from our rifugio, we traverse around the peaks of the Tofane via the remote Val d' Travenanz amid lovely, sweet-scented wildflowers, crystal-clear springs, and alpine meadows. Our moderate option leads along a trail below the great spires of the Tofane di Roses and continues along the Alta Via 1, a long-distance footpath traversing the Dolomites from north to south. You'll also enter the world of the famous Tre Cime di Lavaredo, three yellow-pink spires that offer quintessential Dolomites hiking and an iconic setting. No matter which hikes you choose, the views are simply out of this world. Depart on Day 8 via Venice, or extend your stay in this glorious city.



ROBERT HARDING



Ultimate Dolomites

SPECTACULAR PEAKS AND SOUTHERN TYROLEAN HERITAGE



The soaring peaks of the Dolomites are a phenomenal setting for our moderate to challenging hikes. PHOTO: TOM DEMPSEY



SEAN MORRISSEY



“Outstanding itinerary, great leaders. We enjoyed it so much that we booked another trip with WT a week after we returned home!”

Marilyn H.
Barnstable MA

Our friend Reinhold Messner, one of the world's greatest mountaineers, calls the Dolomites “the 8th wonder of the world,” and we couldn't agree more! Our journey in this surreal realm brings you from the pinnacles of the Pale di San Martino in the south and the rose-tinted spires of the Rosengarten Massif to the striking pillars of the Tre Cime di Lavaredo in the north. You'll have a choice of hiking options most days, and fuel your explorations with sumptuous meals topped by lovely wines (try the rich, red Teroldego). Two special overnights are in hike-in lodges nestled high among the peaks.



ANDREAS STRAUSS

Days 1-3 Venice / Pale di San Martino From Venice, head to the rocky plateau of the Pale di San Martino for hikes including a high-level circuit of the *altipiano*, with its crown of grand peaks and vivid alpine flora.

Days 4-5 Rosengarten / Latemar Massif Hike among the towering rock faces and eerie pinnacles of the Rosengarten Dolomites, a spectacular collection of peaks named for their luminous rose-red hues at dusk and dawn. One of our hikes brings you through the Latemar Labyrinth, an enchanting maze of needles and massive blocks of rock. In Bolzano, view the mummy of Otzi, the Copper Age Iceman, or visit Reinhold Messner's museum.

Days 6-8 Alpe di Siusi / Corvara / Sella Massif A hike to the Alpe di Siusi, an alpine plateau surrounded by spires and high peaks, leads to a mountain hut serving delicious strudel. From the delightful town of Corvara, we head into the stronghold of the Sella Massif for exhilarating hikes along its high trails.

Days 9-12 Rifugio Lagazuoi / Cortina d'Ampezzo Passing evocative fortifications from World War I, we reach the Rifugio Lagazuoi for our overnight, then descend below the Tofane Massif into enchanting Cortina. Our wonderful hiking options include a circuit of the enormous limestone peaks of the Tre Cime di Lavaredo. Depart on Day 12.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover an enchanting blend of Italian and Tyrolean mountain cultures and cuisines (and *grappa* tasting!)
- Enjoy a choice of moderate or challenging hiking options most days
- Two special overnights in comfy hike-in lodges set high among the peaks
- In Bolzano, view the mummy of Otzi, the Iceman, or visit the Messner museum, housed in a medieval castle

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Venice
- 9 nights 4- and 5-star mountain hotels, 2 nights comfortable alpine lodges with semi-private or dorm-style rooms, shared baths, and hot showers
- All meals included except 2 dinners
- All transport during the trip included (cable cars, etc.)

DATES

Jul 1-12, 2017
Jul 25-Aug 5
Aug 16-27
Sep 2-13

TRIP COST

\$6195 (11-15 members)
\$6695 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$380

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

10 hiking days, choice of moderate to steep trails, 3-7 hours a day, altitudes between 5,000-9,100 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders



MATS SILVAN



DAN HELLER



SUSY MEZZANOTTE



CRAIG LOVELL

Join us on this wonderful adventure—winner of *National Geographic Traveler's* 50 Tours of a Lifetime!



Great Hikes & Chefs of Northern Italy's Gourmet Trail

PIEMONTE, LOMBARDIA, AND THE VENETO

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Piemonte, home to the Slow Food movement; Lombardia, with its mountains and sparkling lakes; the Veneto, renowned for its art and architecture—and Prosecco!
- Savor delicious gourmet meals, several in Michelin-starred restaurants, enjoy delightful villas and exquisite hotels
- Hike among rolling vineyards, taste fine wines including Franciacorta Brut

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Torino and ends in Verona
- 8 nights 4- and 5-star inns, villas, and hotels
- All meals, drinks, and wine included except 2 dinners

DATES

May 10-18, 2017
Sep 6-14
Oct 4-12

TRIP COST

\$6095 (11-16 members)
\$6595 (7-10 members)
Single supplement: \$720

TRIP LEVEL 1 (2+) 3 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes, 2-4 hours a day, van support

Northern Italy is renowned for its exquisite scenery and culinary delights, and is the perfect setting for our award-winning journey combining lovely day hikes with elegant meals created by some of Italy's legendary chefs. Our travels bring you on a breathtaking

"The guides were wonderful, the food incredible, the hotels first class and the views beautiful. This adventure was 'over the rainbow'."

Martie T., Salinas CA

arc from Torino, nestled against the Alps, through Lombardia, with its dazzling mountain-ringed lakes, to Verona in the Veneto, whose towns are treasure troves of fine art and architecture. Glorious walks across rolling hills, around sparkling lakes, and through flourishing vineyards and lush woodland groves are perfectly paired with superb meals featuring a bevy of delectable wines, prosciutto and cheese tastings, a cooking class, and overnights in hotels of charm and elegance. It's a delicious adventure!

Days 1-3 Torino / Ivrea / Orta San Giulio

Our culinary discoveries begin at a Michelin-starred restaurant in elegant Torino. From enchanting Orta San Giulio, we hike in the Mottarone Mountains, with their marvelous panoramas of the Swiss Alps, and lunch at the Luigi Guffanti cheese grottos, family-run since 1876.

Days 4-5 Monferrato / Antica Corte

Pallavicina After hiking across the gentle rolling hills of Piemonte's Monferrato and along the Po River, we head to Antica Corte Pallavicina, a family farm producing fine *salumi*. We visit its cellar where prosciutto is aged, enjoy a cooking lesson, and dine at its Michelin-starred restaurant.

Days 6-9 Franciacorta / Lago d'Iseo / Lago

di Garda / Verona Hike among the vineyards of Franciacorta, known for its fine sparkling wines, and lunch at a wine producer's restaurant. The next day, we follow lakeshore paths on a serene island in Lago d'Iseo. Our trail along Lago di Garda leads to a Roman villa set on the Sirmione Peninsula, and we explore Verona, fabled home of Romeo and Juliet, before departing on Day 9.



Our trail brings us through San Quirico d'Orcia, one of the major stations along the Via Francigena. PHOTO: FABIO MUZZI

Italy's Pilgrim Trail

FROM SIENA TO ROME ALONG THE VIA FRANCIGENA

Lace up your hiking boots and join us on the Via Francigena, the legendary pilgrim trail to Rome. We've selected the most beautiful sections of this mystical route, linking historic towns including San Quirico d'Orcia and ancient Viterbo and ending with a hike right into stunning St. Peter's Square. This pilgrimage is an experience of the senses as well as the heart. You'll hike alongside serene Lago di Bolsena, taste wines from renowned vineyards, and explore the peaceful Etruscan ruins at Sutri. The delightful cuisines of Tuscany and Lazio, accompanied by deep Chianti and Brunello wines, will keep you well-fueled for the journey. *Buon cammino!*



ANNIE HAWKINS

Days 1-4 Siena / Buonconvento / San Quirico d'Orcia / Lago di Bolsena / Montefiascone

From ravishing Siena, hike trails lined by fields of sunflowers and tall cypress trees to the medieval walled town of Buonconvento. Contouring golden wheat fields, we reach hilltop San Quirico d'Orcia, and walk above deep blue Lago di Bolsena to the citadel town of Montefiascone, with its papal fortress. Sampling regional dishes, from *ribolitta* to *panzanella* and *carciofo romanesco*, adds to our pleasures en route.

Days 5-8 Viterbo / Sutri / Monterosi Hiking through vineyards where grapes for some of the best Italian wines are grown, we reach the beautifully preserved medieval city of Viterbo, then walk to Sutri, with its spectacular Roman amphitheater, a masterpiece excavated from tufa rock. You'll also explore Monterosi, once a major stop on the pilgrim trail, and the picturesque village of Isola Farnese, perched on a rock outcrop.

Days 9-10 Rome From the countryside, we hike into Rome, pausing for an incredible panorama from Monte Mario, a hill just above the city. The last steps of our pilgrimage lead us to Bernini's masterpiece, St. Peter's Square. Leaving our pilgrim staffs by the door, we enter the revered sanctuary of the Basilica. We can watch Sunday mass right from our hotel before departing on Day 10.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike historic routes used by wayfarers since the Middle Ages
- Discover medieval villages on foot, savor Tuscany's and Lazio's mouth-watering culinary treats
- Enjoy panoramas of stunning Lago di Bolsena from a balcony trail
- Enter Rome on foot, from the hills above, and walk to the great St. Peter's Basilica

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins in Siena and ends in Rome
- 9 nights hotels, including historic properties
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

Apr 28-May 7, 2017
Sep 15-24
Oct 6-15

TRIP COST

\$4995 (11-15 members)
\$5495 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$580

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes, some steep trails, 4-7 hours a day, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders

Tuscany & the Cinque Terre

FROM MEDIEVAL HILLTOWNS TO THE LIGURIAN SEA



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike to charming medieval hilltowns, explore Etruscan ruins
- Stroll through Siena, with its exquisite scallop-shaped piazza
- Discover San Gimignano, the quintessential walled Tuscan town
- Visit local wineries, taste fine wines including Vernaccia and Brunello di Montalcino
- Hike seaside trails to the most beautiful villages of the Cinque Terre, explore Portofino
- Delight in charming hotels, from a restored palazzo to a welcoming seaside hotel
- Savor picnics of local culinary treats, including zesty *salumi*, aged cheeses, and *focaccia al stracchino*

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins in Rome and ends in Pisa
- 9 nights fine hotels, including a restored palazzo
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

May 3-12, 2017
May 24-Jun 2
Sep 6-15
Sep 26-Oct 5
Oct 16-25

TRIP COST

\$5695 (10-14 members)
\$6195 (5-9 members)
Single supplement: \$1080

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

A mix of easy to moderate walks and hikes, 3-6 hours a day, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders



The villages of the Cinque Terre are set amid some of the most dramatic coastal scenery in the world.

In Tuscany, ochre-colored hilltowns rise above a painterly landscape of cypress and olive groves. Our cultural hiking adventure pairs the beauty of this enchanting region with the Cinque Terre, five lovely villages tucked beside the sparkling sea. To savor these dreamy landscapes, we'll explore the medieval Tuscan gems of Sovana and Siena, and enjoy a sunset hike into legendary San Gimignano. In the Cinque Terre, home of fabulous seafood and sweet Sciacchetrà wine, our hikes bring you to tiny villages of pastel-hued *palazzi*. Gourmet picnics, wine tastings, and a cooking class round out our captivating experience of Italy's *la dolce vita*.

Days 1-5 Rome / Tuscan Villages From Rome, we head to medieval Pitigliano, then hike along ancient Etruscan pathways to Sovana, with its impressive Etruscan tombs. After exploring tiny Pienza, a perfect window into 15th century Italy, we hike to San Quirico d'Orcia, an exquisite walled town of Etruscan origin, and on to Montalcino, known for its ruby-red Brunello di Montalcino (with a wine tasting, of course!). We explore Siena's scallop-shaped *campo*, then hike through vineyards right into San



FRITTS MEYST

Gimignano, just as the late afternoon sun burnishes its medieval stone towers in golden light.

Days 6-10 Trails of the Cinque Terre / Italian Riviera The five hamlets of Cinque Terre are wedged into a rocky coast terraced with ancient vineyards. Our trails lead to the fishing village of Riomaggiore, and from the sandy beaches of Monterosso to Vernazza's tiny picturesque harbor and cliff-perched Corniglia. We also explore the Riviera resort town of Sestri Levante, where we have a lesson in making the area's famous—and absolutely delicious—pesto, visit below-the-radar Camogli, and enjoy famed Portofino, where we hike to an isolated village reached only on foot or by boat. Depart on Day 10.

ON OUR WEBSITE ITALY'S LAKE DISTRICT

Our hiking and cultural journey brings you to gorgeous lakes and the captivating towns of Varenna, Bellagio, and Orta San Giulio. May 25-Jun 2, Sep 21-29, 2017. From \$5395.



MARCO SCATAGLINI

Great Hikes & Cuisine of Umbria and Le Marche

PERUGIA, MONTEFALCO, SPOLETO, AND NORCIA

Blessed with rich culinary traditions and picturesque medieval hilltowns set above a verdant countryside, Umbria and Le Marche are the perfect destination for a culinary hiking adventure. From the winding, cobblestone streets of Perugia in the heart of Umbria to rolling hills stretching to the Adriatic Sea, our trails lead you to tranquil lakes, spectacular vineyards, and ancient travertine-colored towns steeped in history. We've timed these trips in harmony with the spring and fall seasons for the peak of wildflowers blooms and the olive harvest. Along the way, learn to cook traditional Italian dishes, visit a chocolate maker, taste award-winning wines from small-production vineyards, savor local delicacies including divine truffle risotto and exceptional seafood fresh from the sea, and sample olive oils—some of the best in Italy are produced here!

The villages of Umbria and Le Marche shelter some of Italy's most enduring culinary traditions, along with stunning art and architecture.



Days 1-2 Perugia / Lago di Trasimeno / Spello From Perugia, we hike a forested trail to serene Lago di Trasimeno. We explore the lovely hilltown of Spello, known for its excellent olive oil, and enjoy a tasting at an olive mill.

Days 3-4 Montefalco / Bevagna / Spello We hike through Montefalco's picturesque vineyards and visit a winery to sip the once-sacred Sagrantino di Montefalco—wine created by monks in the 1800s for church celebrations. Explore the Roman city of Bevagna before heading to Spello, where we hike along an ancient Roman aqueduct.

Days 5-6 Norcia / Castelluccio Norcia is known for its culinary delights, including savory salamis and cheeses, and we'll try our hand at creating local dishes at our own cooking class. Our spring departure witnesses the wildflowers in Castelluccio, while our fall trip is timed for the truffle, olive, and grape harvests, all quintessential Italian traditions.

Days 7-10 Colli del Tronto / Parco del Conero From Colli del Tronto, our hike leads to a small vineyard and winery where we taste their award-winning vintages. After a gorgeous coastal hike, we enjoy a boat ride tracing the edge of the Adriatic Sea. In Portonova, we stay in a seaside hotel that was once a Napoleonic fort. Depart on Day 10.



MAURIZIO RELLINI



HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the cuisines of two of Italy's renowned regions: Umbria and Le Marche
- Hike through medieval towns and villages that offer spectacular views
- Meet local winemakers and taste wine from celebrated regions including the award-winning Kurni by Oasi Degli Angeli in Cupra Marittima
- Enjoy an authentic Italian cooking class and sample world-class olive oils and delicacies like black truffles and *salumi*

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins in Perugia and ends in Ancona
- 9 nights 4- and 5-star inns, villas, and hotels
- All meals included except two dinners

DATES

May 9-18, 2017
Sep 26-Oct 5

TRIP COST

\$5095 (11-15 members)
\$5595 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$920

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

A mix of daily walks and hikes, 3-4 hours a day, van support



Amalfi & Capri

RAVELLO, MT. VESUVIUS, AND SPECTACULAR COASTAL HIKES



BRIAN MCGILLOWAY



FRANZ MARC FREI

"Magical from start to finish. One of the other trip members had been on eight WT trips, and we can understand why! Stunning scenery, great local guides, and phenomenal Trip Leaders."

Niles and Linda B.
Madison WI

The Amalfi Coast has long been exalted as the most dazzling coastline in all Europe. Across the Bay of Naples lies seductive

Capri, a sun-splashed jewel set in a sparkling sea. We've combined these two glorious settings with wonderful hikes from top-of-the-world Ravello to enchanting Positano, and along the crater rim of Mt. Vesuvius. You'll watch *mozzarella di bufala* being made (and sample it, of course!), visit a family-run olive oil farm, and explore the haunting remains of Herculaneum and Paestum.

Our Trip Leaders are simply incomparable, with a true passion for sharing their love of *la bella Italia*.

Days 1-3 Naples / Paestum / Ravello

Our adventures begin with a visit to Naples' archaeological museum and the eerie remains of the Roman city of Herculaneum, destroyed when Mt. Vesuvius erupted in AD 79. After a visit to the majestic ruins of Paestum, where Doric temples still convey an exquisite grandeur, hike airy trails from Ravello, with its stunning vistas of the shimmering Mediterranean.

Days 4-7 Sentiero degli Dei / Positano / Capri / Sorrento

Soaring above the sea, the spectacular Sentiero degli Dei ("Pathway of the Gods") brings you past ancient stone huts and across steeply terraced hillsides. From Positano, with its brightly painted houses draped in bougainvillea, ferry to the storied isle of Capri. Our hikes here lead along stone-paved lanes to the ruins of imperial Roman villas and to the summit of Mt. Salero, with its eye-popping views across the azure sea. In sunny Sorrento, we enjoy a pasta-making class, visit an olive oil farm run by the same family since 1849, and hike through lemon and walnut groves.

Days 8-9 Mt. Vesuvius / Naples Our last hike is on Mt. Vesuvius, with a chance to peer into the steaming abyss of the volcanic caldera, followed by lunch and wine tasting at a winery on its slopes. After exploring Naples, depart on Day 9.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Villa Rufolo and Cimbrone Gardens of Ravello
- Two overnights on Capri, with magnificent coastal panoramas from our hikes
- Storied Mt. Vesuvius and ancient Herculaneum
- Regional delights including Sorrento's famed *limoncello*, *mozzarella di bufala*, wine from the slopes of Mt. Vesuvius

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Naples
- 8 nights small inns and hotels
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

Apr 19-27, 2017
May 15-23
Sep 18-26
Oct 6-14

TRIP COST

\$5195 (11-14 members)
\$5595 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$780

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes, some steep staircases, 3-6 hours a day, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders



Panoramic vistas of the shimmering sea are a constant on our hikes along the Amalfi Coast. PHOTO: MAURIZIO RELLINI



Hiking in Sicily

GREEK AND ROMAN RUINS, COASTAL AND MOUNTAIN HIKES



Our intriguing journey explores Sicily's vibrant cultures and extraordinary heritage. PHOTO: CHAD EHLERS



LEON WERDINGER



Sicily is a sun-drenched world all its own, with a fascinating 3,000-year-old history and flourishing traditional culture. On this captivating island, you'll hike coastal trails above a turquoise sea, explore ancient Greek ruins in Siracusa and Taormina, and head into Sicily's wild inland mountains, a pastoral world of tiny farms and villages. Our adventures include a breathtaking hike on Mt. Etna, the rock tombs of the Pantalica Gorge, and the phenomenal mosaics of the Villa Romana del Casale. Along the way, you'll feast on fragrant cuisine infused with a tangy mélange of flavors—wonderful *frutti di mare*, *arancini*, *caponata*. This is Sicily!

Days 1-4 Palermo / Segesta / Zingaro Nature Reserve / Monreale / Cefalù Our exploration of Segesta's stunning Greek temple is followed by a cove-to-cove hike above isolated beaches at Zingaro Nature Reserve. After a hike through vineyards and fruit orchards, we visit Monreale's 12th century cathedral, one of Europe's medieval treasures, to see its dazzling Greek and Byzantine mosaics. From the seaside town of Cefalù, we head to the Madonie Mountains, where Sicily's deeply rustic culture still thrives, for a hike through oak, maple, and holly woodlands.



ALESSANDRO SAFFO

Days 5-8 Piazza Armerina / Pantalica Gorge / Siracusa View the extraordinary mosaics of the Villa Romana del Casale, then enjoy a cooking class and wine tasting at a local winery. A hike in the Pantalica Gorge reveals thousands of rock-hewn Neolithic tombs adorning the canyon walls, and in Siracusa, we explore breathtaking Greek and Roman ruins on foot.

Days 9-11 Mt. Etna / Taormina Our hike on Mt. Etna leads across extraordinary lava landscapes, and in Taormina, perched high above two sweeping bays, we explore the town's palazzi-lined streets and 3rd century BC Greek amphitheater, still in use today for concerts. Depart on Day 11.

ON OUR WEBSITE

VOLCANOES OF SOUTHERN ITALY

Explore and hike the dramatic volcanic isles of Stromboli, Vulcano, Lipari, and tiny Panarea, as well as fiery Mt. Etna. Jun 12-22, Sep 25-Oct 5, 2017. From \$5395.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the spectacular coastal trails of Zingaro Nature Reserve, the mountain gorge of Pantalica, and on fiery Mt. Etna
- Explore Neolithic rock tombs, the gilded mosaics of Monreale, Norman cathedrals, the Greek temple of Segesta
- Discover seaside Cefalù, the ancient amphitheater of picturesque Taormina, amazing mosaics of Villa Romana del Casale, a World Heritage Site
- Delight in Sicily's unique cuisine, fresh from the land and sea
- Overnights in fine hotels and a charming agriturismo

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Palermo and ends in Catania
- 10 nights small inns and hotels
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 4 dinners

DATES

Apr 14-24, 2017
May 13-23
Jun 3-13
Sep 9-19
Sep 23-Oct 3
Oct 7-17

TRIP COST

\$5395 (11-15 members)
\$5895 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$890

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes, some steep trails, 2-4 hours a day, altitudes up to 10,000 feet, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders

Corsica & Sardinia

HIKING THE EXQUISITE ISLAND WORLDS OF FRANCE AND ITALY



Experience the landscapes—and cuisines—of the Mediterranean worlds of Corsica and Sardinia. PHOTO: STEVE HATHAWAY

The wildly beautiful island of Corsica possesses one of the most diverse landscapes in Europe. Miles of untouched coastline, rugged granite peaks, sun-splashed villages, and ancient, mysterious standing stones are among its many enchantments. Sardinia is an island realm with a colorful pageant of folk traditions, churches where Christianity and paganism intermingle, and cuisine and wines that reflect its strong character. Our exquisite hiking journey combines these two cultures with a great mix of coastal and mountain hikes, evocative prehistoric sites, wine and cheese tastings, and a delightful cuisine born of the land and sea.

Days 1-4 Ajaccio, Corsica / Col de Bavella / Bonifacio Gorgeous hikes on Corsica bring us among the ancient standing stones at Filitosa and Cauria, to a deserted beach (the wonderful setting for our elegant picnic lunch), and around the mountaintop setting of the Col de Bavella (4,000'). In Bonifacio, we'll hike along limestone cliffs above the sea and enjoy a private lunch at a goat herder's farm, where we'll sample a variety of cheeses, including *brocciu*, made with fresh goat milk.



Days 5-11 Alghero, Sardinia / Monte Ferru / Sinise Peninsula / Tiscali In Sardinia, our trails lead along a granite promontory with dramatic bays and sea-sculpted rocks, to a 2,500-year-old stone *nuraghe*, and through the cork oak forests and herb-scented *maquis* of Monte Ferru. A hike on the Sinise Peninsula reveals 360-degree views of the dazzling clear blue sea, and after a traditional lunch prepared by local fishermen, we taste wines at the prestigious Contini winery. Our final hikes bring us to mysterious nuraghic ruins tucked in a chasm near the top of Monte Tiscali, and through a remote canyon filled with pink oleander to a tiny half-moon beach accessible only on foot or by boat. Depart on Day 11.

ON OUR WEBSITE

PAGAN FESTIVALS OF SARDINIA

In rural Sardinia, discover ancient festivals that celebrate the cycle of life. Feb 22-Mar 3, 2017. From \$4895.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike among Corsica's craggy peaks and spectacular cliffs above the sea
- Sardinia's blue lagoons, fishing villages, and ancient traditions
- Prehistoric sites include Corsica's standing stones and Sardinia's nuraghic villages
- Fine wines and regional delicacies, from freshly caught seafood to *brocciu* and *pecorino* cheeses to *pane carasau* (Sardinian cracker bread)
- Enjoy elegant picnics and a private lunch at a goat herder's farm

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Ajaccio, Corsica, and ends in Olbia, Sardinia
- 10 nights 3-, 4-, and 5-star hotels
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

- Apr 26-May 6, 2017
- May 23-Jun 2
- Sep 12-22

TRIP COST

- \$5795 (11-15 members)
- \$6195 (6-10 members)
- Single supplement: \$680

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

- 9 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails, 3-7 hours a day, van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders



FRASER HALL

Normandy & Brittany

COASTAL TRAILS, ANCIENT ABBEYS, AND LEGENDARY CUISINE

With a dramatic coastline of pink granite cliffs and a renowned cuisine of fresh-caught seafood and delectable cheeses, Normandy and Brittany are the perfect settings for our

“We had a lot of fun, visited so many interesting sites, and the pilgrim walk across the sands to Mont St. Michel was unforgettable.”

Kathy C., Houston TX

captivating hiking and cultural adventure. We've crafted a wonderfully varied journey—you'll walk the D-Day beaches with an expert historian, cross tidal flats on an amazing walk to iconic Mont St. Michel, and explore Carnac, one of the largest megalithic sites in the world, with its mysterious

standing stones dating from 4500 BC. Culinary forays along the way include sipping Calvados at an apple orchard, visiting a historic oyster farm, tasting scallops fresh from the Bay of St. Brieuc, and sampling the tangiest Camembert and Pont l'Eveque cheeses. *C'est merveilleux!*

Days 1-5 Bayeux / D-Day Beaches / Mont St. Michel / Côte d'Émeraude After viewing the famed medieval tapestry at Bayeux, we head to the high cliffs between Utah Beach and Omaha Beach to experience the dramatic D-Day landing

The magnificent abbey of Mont St. Michel has been a pilgrimage site since the 8th century—and we'll have special access into a private chapel here. PHOTO: JAN WLODARCZYK



sites of June 6, 1944. We'll walk this evocative trail with an expert historian, passing German bunkers and shell holes. An unforgettable hike brings us across the tidal flats (conditions permitting) to Mont St. Michel, a pilgrim site since the 8th century. On Brittany's ravishing Côte d'Émeraude, we hike to Cancale, where France's best oysters are harvested (with a tasting, of course!).

Days 6-8 Dinan / Cap Fréhel / Île de Bréhat Contouring along the River Rance, our hike brings us past half-timbered houses, and we'll walk the ramparts of Dinan's perfectly preserved 13th century town. On Cap Fréhel, our trail leads to the ruined abbey of Beauport, and a boat crossing brings us to enchanting Île de Bréhat, sheltering a variety of rare wildflowers. We'll explore this car-free island on foot, with stunning vistas back to the dramatic pink cliffs of the Côte de Granit Rose.

Days 9-11 Bay of Morbihan / Carnac / Côte Sauvage From the Bay of Morbihan, our hike leads to Poul-Fétan, the perfect place to enjoy a lunch of traditional *galette Bretonne* (savory buckwheat pancakes). In Carnac, we walk among ancient standing stones that stretch for miles amid burial mounds. Our journey ends with a spectacular coastal walk at the Côte Sauvage, with its windswept line of cliffs braving the Atlantic waves. Depart on Day 11 via Rennes.



FRANCESCO CAROVILLANO



HIGHLIGHTS

- See the extraordinary Bayeux Tapestry, a 230-foot-long embroidery depicting the Norman Conquest of England in 1066
- Visit the evocative D-Day sites of Pointe du Hoc and Omaha Beach with a historian
- Hike to spire-topped Mont St. Michel, France's famous island-abbey
- Explore Carnac, one of the most important prehistoric sites in Europe
- Savor fresh seafood (and famous oysters!), legendary cheeses, crisp ciders and wines of Brittany and Normandy

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Caen and ends in Rennes
- 10 nights charming hotels and country inns
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

May 15-25, 2017
Jun 12-22
Sep 4-14

TRIP COST

\$5995 (13-15 members)
\$6295 (7-12 members)
\$6595 (6-9 members)
Single supplement: \$650

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Easy to moderate trails, 3-6 hours a day, van support



Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country

MOUNTAIN TRAILS AND ANCIENT CULTURES OF EUSKADI



Limestone peaks, high trails, savory specialties, and fine wine make for the perfect hiking adventure. PHOTO: JUAN CARLOS MUÑOZ



MATTEO CARASSALE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the unique Basque heritage with visits to pilgrimage sites and local bodegas
- Hikes include forested trails that lead to monasteries and ridge walks past fascinating stone monuments
- Cross the borders of Spain and France—on foot!
- Savor a Welcome Dinner in a Michelin-starred restaurant
- Private wine tastings, cooking class, and picnics including renowned Basque cheeses
- Charming hotels, including a Baroque manor house, a historic grain mill-turned-hotel, and a family-run riverside inn
- Join the local pastime of *txikiteo*, going from bar to bar, snacking on small delicacies and a drink before moving on to the next place!
- Enjoy an insider's experience with native Basque Trip Leaders

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins in Bilbao and ends in Hondarribia
- 9 nights historic hotels and inns
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

May 30-Jun 8, 2017
Jun 27-Jul 6
Aug 28-Sep 6
Sep 18-27

TRIP COST

\$5495 (11-15 members)
\$5895 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$550

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

9 hiking days on moderate trails, some steep sections, 3-6 hours a day, van support

The free-spirited Basque country is a world apart, with its own ancient language, celebrated cuisine, and emerald mountains

"It was a great trip. The hikes were spectacularly beautiful, the food and wine very special, and the Basque villages so cozy and fun."

Barry P.,
Virginia Beach VA

offering some of the most gorgeous hiking in all Spain. On our captivating hiking and cultural adventure, we follow smugglers' paths into hidden valleys, and cross spectacular high trails to travel from Spain into France on foot. Eating well is the second religion

of the Basques, and we'll enjoy a cooking class, sip superb red Rioja wines, and savor dinner in a Michelin-starred restaurant.

Ongi etorri!



ROBERT FRIED

Days 1-5 Bilbao / La Rioja / Navarre High Country / Arbizu Basque lore and legend is all around us on hikes amid the hidden rock labyrinths of Gorbea and the limestone peaks and lush meadows of Urkiola. In Navarre's high country, our trails lead along ridges in the footsteps of mountain tribes who settled here 6,000 years ago, and to a remote monastery for a picnic lunch. On one afternoon, you'll join a private cooking class of La Rioja specialties and taste wines with a master winemaker, the owner of our charming hotel.

Days 6-7 High Route of the Pyrenees From Roncesvalles Pass, where the Basques defeated Charlemagne's army in 778, hike right into France on the spectacular Pyrenees High Route, passing mysterious stone megaliths, then head back into Spain and the remote Aldudes Valley, where a much-prized cured ham is made.

Days 8-10 Bidarray, France / Hondarribia, Spain On the grassy slopes of Mt. Atxuria, retrace the smugglers' trail used by armies that fought in the 19th century Spanish civil wars. Our last hike is along the cliffs of Hendaye, France, where mountains spill into the sea amid hidden islands and coves that were once the secret refuge of Basque witches. From our hotel in the colorful fishermen's quarter of Hondarribia, we join the locals for the tradition of *txikiteo*, or *pintxo*-bar-hopping, in the town's tavernas. Depart on Day 10.

Pilgrim's Way ANCIENT TRAILS AND PARADORS OF NORTHERN SPAIN'S CAMINO DE SANTIAGO



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the best sections of Europe's most revered pilgrimage route
- Complete the pilgrimage at Finisterre, the westernmost point on the Iberian Peninsula
- Enjoy Galician cuisine, famous for its seafood, and some of Spain's most delicious meats and cheeses
- Overnight in historic hotels and inns, including the 5-star Parador Los Reis Católicos, a 15th century monastery on Santiago's main square

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Burgos and ends in Santiago de Compostela
- 8 nights inns, manor houses, and paradors
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

May 2-10, 2017
May 23-31
Jun 6-14
Sep 8-16
Sep 26-Oct 4

TRIP COST

\$4195 (11-15 members)
\$4595 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$480

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

7 hiking days on easy to moderate trails, some steep sections, 3-8 hours a day, van support

Trace a thousand-year-old pilgrimage route—the Way of St. James—to the holy city of Santiago de Compostela through some of Europe's most intriguing landscapes. We've selected the most evocative portions of this footpath for your journey, from the ancient kingdom of Castile to lush, mystical Galicia, a hidden corner of Spain alive with legends and Celtic heritage. Hike along sunny country lanes marked with the scallop shell, the symbol of St. James, through mist-shrouded forests of gnarled oaks, and along the beach at Finisterre, the mythical spot of Kilometer 0 on the pilgrim trail. Along the way you'll relish superb Romanesque architecture, meet fellow pilgrims, and enjoy splendid accommodations in quaint guesthouses and spectacular paradors.

Days 1-2 Burgos / León / Astorga Meet in historic Burgos, then head to the Castilian *meseta* (high plain) and hike to the remote village of Hontanas. We explore León's leafy squares and 12th century frescoes before continuing to the walled city of Astorga.

Days 3-5 Cruz de Hierro / O'Cebreiro / Portomarin Entering rural Galicia, hike past thriving farmsteads and tiny abandoned villages to Cruz de Hierro, a towering iron cross where



FRANCK CHARTON

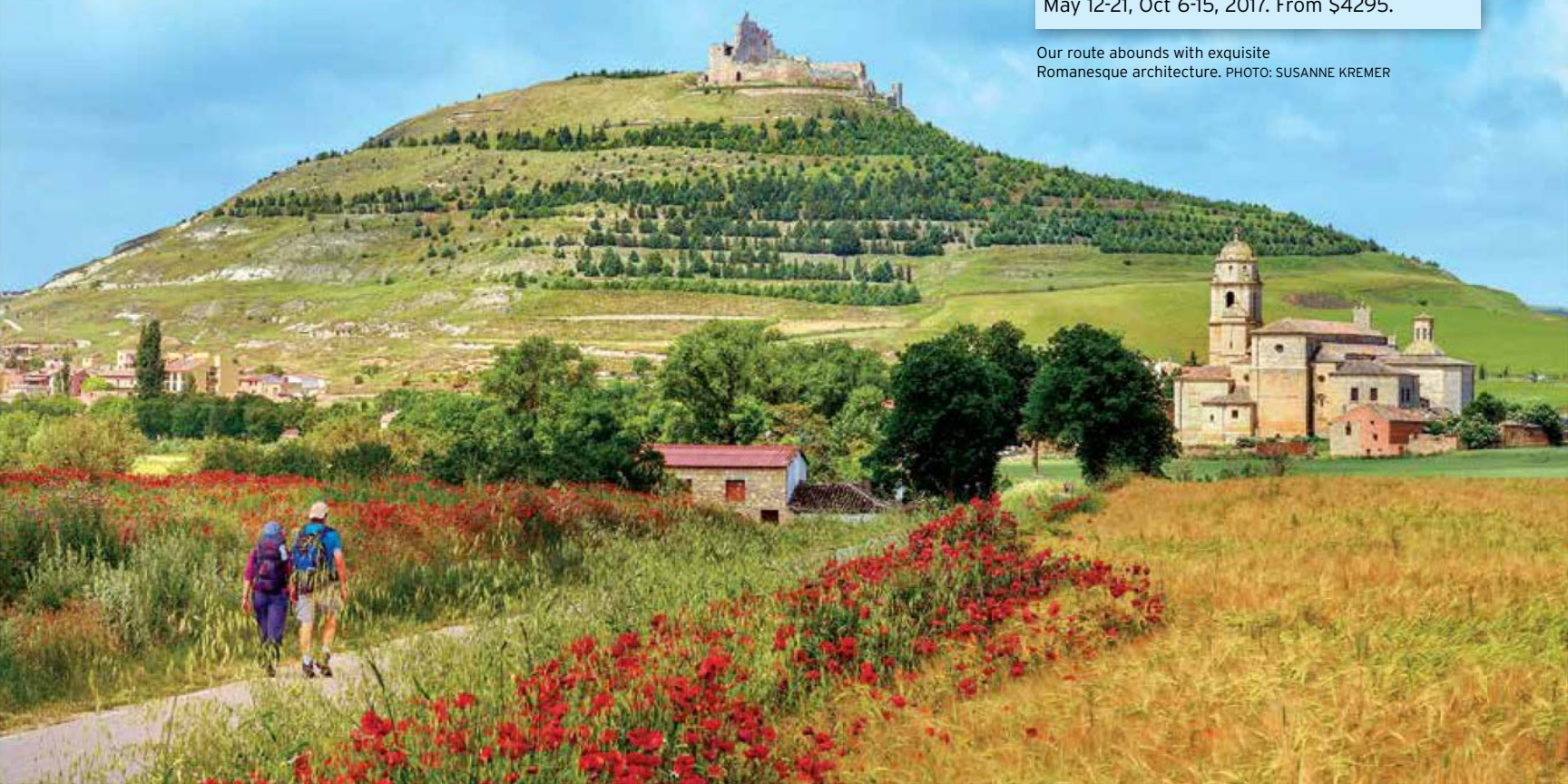
for a thousand years pilgrims have carried a single stone from their homeland to make a wish (don't forget to bring yours!). In the mountaintop village of O'Cebreiro, visit a tiny church whose chalice is linked in legend with the Holy Grail, then hike to the whitewashed village of Portomarin.

Days 6-9 La Coruña / Santiago de Compostela / Finisterre Following trails through hamlets and farms flanked by ancient grain silos, arrive in Santiago, where you'll join the spectacle of the Pilgrim's Mass in the twin-towered cathedral that reputedly contains the remains of St. James. We complete our pilgrimage with a hike to Finisterre—the “End of the Earth,” walking the last part of the trail barefoot along the beach, as tradition dictates. Depart on Day 9.

ON OUR WEBSITE GRANADA TO SEVILLA

Hiking and cultural journey to the Alhambra, Ronda, and the whitewashed villages of southern Spain.
May 12-21, Oct 6-15, 2017. From \$4295.

Our route abounds with exquisite Romanesque architecture. PHOTO: SUSANNE KREMER

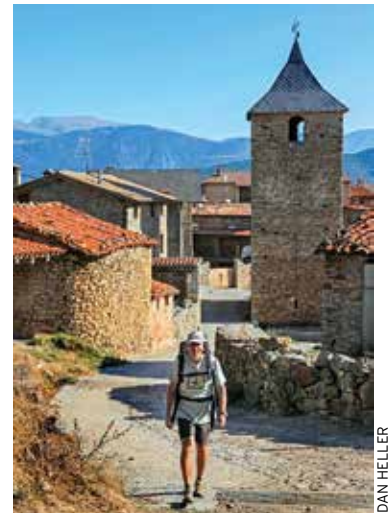


Across the Pyrenees

AN INSIDER'S JOURNEY FROM PAMPLONA TO BARCELONA



Our hikes bring us to the best settings in the Pyrenees, including magnificent Ordesa National Park. PHOTO: MIKEL BILBAO



DAN HELLER



The peaks of the Spanish Pyrenees soar above a realm of ancient oak and fir forests, stone

bridges, and villages linked by shepherds' paths. Our hiking journey traces an arc across the best trails in northern Spain, exploring verdant valleys where the ancient Aragonese dialect is still spoken, heading up to craggy alpine heights where mountain goats scramble, and rambling along the back lanes of

stone-built Pyrenean towns. Along the way, we enjoy fantastic local cuisine (both on and off the trail!) and meet the welcoming Basque, Aragonese, and Catalan people who make northern Spain so intriguing.

Days 1-3 Pamplona / Ordesa National Park From Pamplona, we head into the Aragonese Pyrenees for a hike to Siresa, a mountain village of cobbled streets and splendid old stone houses. In Ordesa National Park, one of the most spectacular mountain settings in all



SIMON REDDY

Europe, we savor 360-degree mountain splendor on our hike up to the Cola de Caballo, a waterfall just below the sheer face of Monte Perdido (11,000').

Days 4-6 Aiguestortes We find a serene landscape of jagged granite peaks, meandering streams, and crystalline tarns in Catalonia's Aiguestortes National Park. One of our hikes leads us up a riverside trail amid granite rock formations to stunning Sant Maurici, where craggy peaks are mirrored in blue-green waters, and we enjoy a delicious lunch in a high mountain refuge.

Days 7-9 Andorra / Barcelona In Andorra, the tiny principality nestled in the peaks between France and Spain, our ridge trail brings us to medieval Bescaran, graced by a Romanesque bell tower. After a pastoral hike in Catalonia's green hills amid the sound of sheep and cattle bells, we head to beautiful Barcelona to explore its Old Quarter and Gaudi's fanciful architecture. Depart on Day 9.

"The hikes were beautiful—each one was beautifully designed to allow us to experience a variety of landscapes. Thank you for a fantastic trip across the Pyrenees!"

Mary Beth W.,
Fayetteville NY

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike in breathtaking Ordesa National Park, with its sheer limestone canyons and network of dramatic *fajas* (trails)
- Discover hidden stone-built villages and high trails all across the Spanish Pyrenees
- Stay in charming and historic mountain inns
- Savor northern Spain's wonderful gastronomy, from *jamón serrano* to grilled Pyrenees lamb
- Enjoy Barcelona's exceptional artistic and architectural heritage

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Pamplona and ends in Barcelona
- 8 nights hotels
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

Jun 11-19, 2017
Jul 16-24
Sep 5-13
Sep 24-Oct 2

TRIP COST

\$4995 (11-15 members)
\$5395 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$480

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

7 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails, 3-7 hours a day, altitudes between 4,500-8,000 feet, van support

Hiker's Journey to Portugal

PILGRIM TRAILS, SLATE VILLAGES, CASTLE TOWNS, AND ENCHANTING DOURO VINEYARDS

Portugal's exquisite landscapes and rural villages are perfect for a hiking adventure—WT-style! We'll head out on trails to discover the *aldeais do xisto* villages, taste wine in a family-owned *quinta*, see prehistoric rock art, hike medieval pilgrim routes, and explore 13th century castle towns and Peneda-Gerês National Park, with its craggy peaks and wild horses. Fine regional cuisine and aromatic port wines are a delightful part of our journey, too, accompanied by the haunting sounds of *fado*. We end our journey in Porto, a World Heritage Site of centuries-old lanes and port wine cellars. Our lodgings are enchanting, including a former wine warehouse in picturesque Pinhão and the 17th century Paço de Calheiros, a Douro Valley palace where we are welcomed by the dapper Count of Calheiros himself.

Days 1-4 Serra da Lousã / Serra da Estrela From Lisbon, we head into the rock-built slate villages known as *aldeais do xisto*, stopping in at a local home for tea and walking village-to-village to soak up views of the deep green valleys spread below. We'll also roam Lousã's

lively covered market (a chance to sip herb-based *licor beirão*) and hike in the Serra da Estrela below the rock towers of the glacier-carved Zêzere Valley.

Days 5-7 Belmonte / Douro Wine Tasting / Pinhão / Peneda-Gerês We explore castle-topped Belmonte's medieval Jewish Quarter, view the Paleolithic paintings in the Côa Valley, then take a rail journey along the tranquil Douro River to lovely Pinhão. Our hike across a dreamscape of Douro Valley vineyards leads to the family-owned Quinto do Crasto wine estate on the banks of the Douro, and we return by traditional wooden port barge. In mountainous Peneda-Gerês National Park, our hike leads from verdant forests into grasslands where we may encounter goat herders and their trusty *castro laboreiro* sheepdogs.

Days 8-12 The Pilgrimage Route / Ponte de Lima / Porto After dipping a toe into Spain, we join the pilgrim trail to the sanctuary at Peneda, with its staircase adorned with statues representing faith, love, and charity. After a visit to charming Ponte de Lima, our final hike leads us across the gorgeous Camino Portuguese, which once brought medieval pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela. We end in Porto, exploring the historic quarter and listening to soulful *fado* songs. Depart on Day 12.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore from Lisbon to Porto, tasting port wines and *vinhos verdes*, savoring rich local specialties
- Hike among the slate villages of the Serra da Lousã and along medieval pilgrim routes, including the Camino Portuguese
- Meet a Douro Valley vintner, ride the Linha do Douro (Portugal's loveliest train ride), discover castle-topped towns
- Enjoy unique lodgings, including a traditional spa hotel, a converted pilgrimage hostel, and a palatial 17th century manor house

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in Lisbon and ends in Porto
- 11 nights charming accommodations
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

Apr 19-30, 2017
Sep 4-15
Oct 9-20

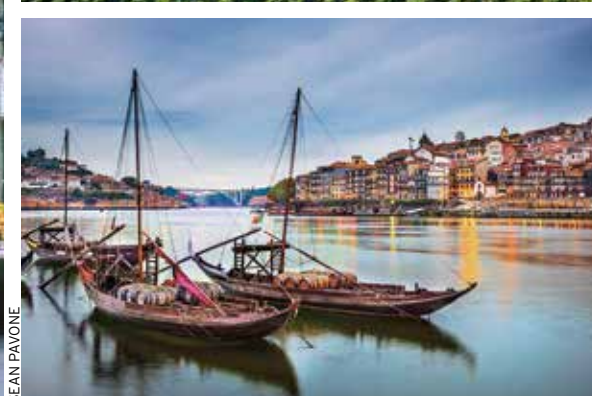
TRIP COST

\$5395 (11-15 members)
\$5895 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$640

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

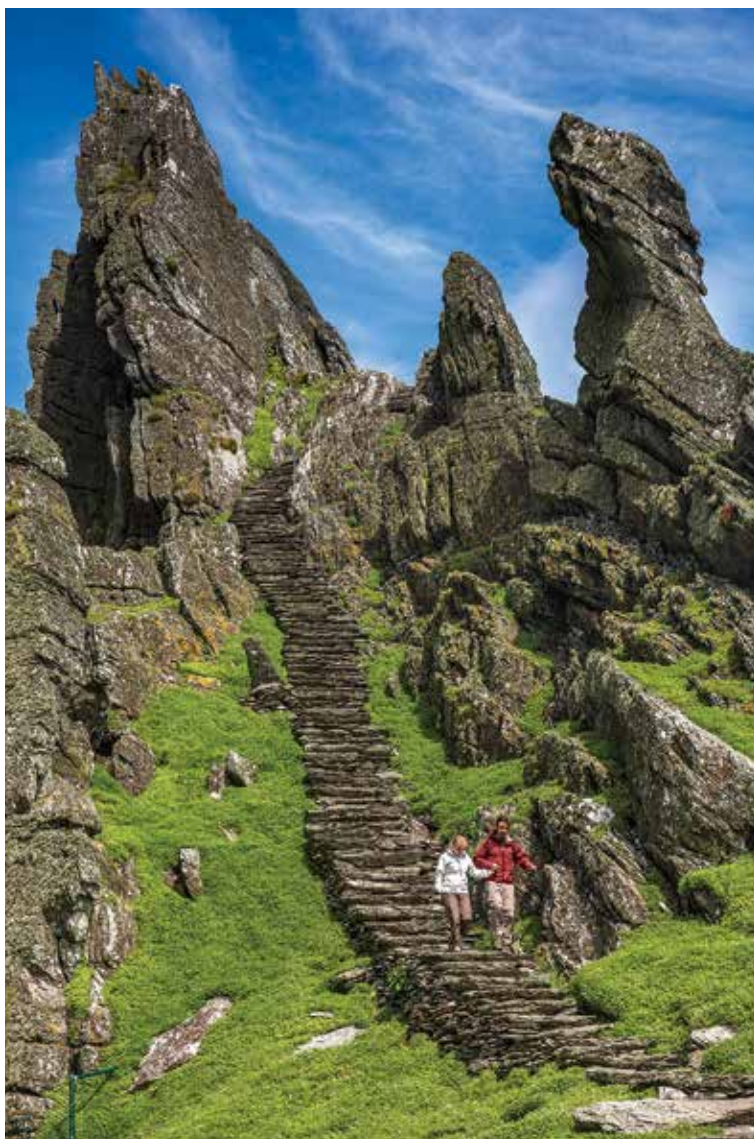
9 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails (some steep sections), 3-6 hours a day with two longer days, van support

Our journey combines village-to-village hikes, medieval pilgrim trails, wine-tasting in ancient Douro vineyards, and enchanting accommodations. PHOTO: MICHAEL HOWARD



Spirit of Ireland

COASTAL, MOUNTAIN, AND ISLAND HIKES IN CORK AND KERRY



We'll journey out to the enigmatic monastic outpost of Skellig Michael, one of Ireland's spectacular sacred sites. PHOTO: CHRIS RYAN

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the Kerry Way, Dingle Peninsula, mystical Blasket Islands, Sheep's Head Peninsula, and boat to Skellig Michael
- Enjoy an insider's introduction to Ireland's rich folklore, traditions, and colorful history
- Whiskey tasting with an expert, meet a shepherd and his border collies
- Traditional music, lively pub evenings, charming hotels in great locations

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Cork
- 8 nights charming inns and hotels
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

May 6-14, 2017
Jun 3-11
Jul 8-16
Aug 19-27
Sep 16-24

TRIP COST

\$4695 (11-15 members)
\$5195 (7-10 members)
Single supplement: \$510

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes, 4-6 hours a day, van support

Crashing seascapes, emerald valleys, the twining music of the fiddle, the lilting rhythm of the language, and a people who offer one of the warmest welcomes in the world—this is the magic of Ireland. In the exuberant company of our beloved Trip Leaders Con Moriarty and Ann Curran, you'll enjoy an insider's view as you hike and explore the most spectacular mountains and coasts of Southwest Ireland. Remote Sheep's Head Peninsula, the ancient woodlands of Killarney National Park, the stone circles and pilgrim trails of the Dingle Peninsula, extraordinary Skellig Michael (seen in the recent *Star Wars* film)—they're all on this journey. Along the way, hear tales of clans and chieftains, enjoy pub evenings among new friends, savor the emerging Irish food scene, and meet artists, shepherds, singers, and more. Come experience the true Ireland with us!



ANDREAS BERTHOLD

Days 1-2 Cork / Sheep's Head Peninsula

We breathe in the freshest mountain air on our hike into a spectacular valley on the Cork-Kerry boundary, perhaps meeting a shepherd along the way. On the narrow spine of the Sheep's Head Peninsula, our airy trail offers incredible views at every turn, and among the day's highlights will be meeting with members of this vibrant community.

Days 3-5 Beara Peninsula / Killarney National Park / Kerry Way

The Beara Peninsula holds some of Ireland's wildest land, and our hike straddles a high ridge. As early as 4,000 years ago, Bronze Age people recognized the power and sanctity of this peninsula and located some of Ireland's most beautiful stone circles in the deep valleys. We follow the Kerry Way to Killarney Lakes, with a spectacular descent into the Gap of Dunloe, a narrow mountain pass between Macgillycuddy's Reeks and Purple Mountain. Con's family has lived in the shadow of these hills for generations and he describes this as "a powerful place of great shapes, nature, history, and stories." His grandfather guided Victorian travelers through this stunning landscape.

Days 6-9 Skellig Michael / Dingle Peninsula / Great Blasket Islands

We boat out to dramatic Skellig Michael, a remarkable Christian monastic outpost set atop a rock pinnacle, then head to the Dingle Peninsula, a misty spine of sandstone mountains notched with beaches, bays, and troves of pre-Christian antiquities. On Mount Brandon, one of the great spiritual anchor points on Ireland's Atlantic seaboard, we follow a pilgrim route past a spectacular line of sea cliffs. Our grand finale finds us in the ethereal Great Blasket Islands. Hiking along the ancient green roads of mesmerizing Great Blasket, the westernmost point in Europe, we'll have a sense of walking near the edge of the world. Depart on Day 9 via Cork.



JACKIE ELLIS



Ireland: The Wild Atlantic Way

THE BURREN, COUNTY MAYO, CONNEMARA, AND THE ARAN ISLANDS



Hike some of the finest Irish trails imaginable, meet friendly locals, and enjoy welcoming pubs along the way. PHOTO: BRIAN MCGILLOWAY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike on gorgeous Clare Island, with its iconic lighthouse and dramatic cliffs
- Explore Connemara on a hike with a local scholar, meet a sheep farmer and his border collies
- Hear the lilting sounds of the Gaelic language in the Aran Islands
- Savor the Irish food scene, with local specialties from oysters and seared scallops to grass-fed Irish beef
- Enjoy lodgings of character: an 18th century manor house, a Victorian-era fishing lodge, and a guesthouse on the Aran Islands

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Galway
- 8 nights charming inns and hotels
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

May 20-28, 2017
Jun 24-Jul 2
Jul 22-30
Sep 2-10

TRIP COST

\$4695 (11-15 members)
\$5195 (7-10 members)
Single supplement: \$510

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes, 3-6 hours a day, van support



BRIAN MCGILLOWAY

Contouring 1,500 miles along Ireland's western shores, the Wild Atlantic Way brims with

"I would do this trip again in a flash—spectacular itinerary, well-organized, great hikes."

Andy W., Oakland CA

all that makes Ireland so enchanting. We've chosen a stunning section—County Clare, the Burren, County Mayo, Joyce Country, Connemara, and the Aran Islands—for our unique cultural and hiking journey. Our Trip Leaders

Con Moriarty and Ann Curran know this region by heart and have a passion for sharing their favorite secret trails, sacred peaks, and lively villages. Their enduring friendships with local historians, shepherds, island folk, and musicians enliven our adventure and offer an insider's perspective as we explore.

Days 1-2 Galway / The Burren In the spectacular karst landscape of the Burren, we hike into hidden glens that hold a treasure trove—Bronze Age burial sites, standing stones, Iron Age forts, and Celtic high crosses—and we savor a sunset view from the towering Cliffs of Moher.

Days 3-4 County Mayo / Westport / Clare Island Ancient trails lead us up Ireland's holiest mountain, Croagh Patrick. Ferrying to Clare Island, once the domain of a powerful Gaelic clan and their fierce pirate-queen, Grace O'Malley, we hike dramatic cliff ramparts and visit a sheep farmer to see his border collies in action.

Days 5-6 Connemara / Joyce Country / Omey Island / Clifden In Connemara's Joyce Country, a local archaeologist joins us for a hike to evocative Omey Island, accessible over the sands at low tide. Omey holds many of Ireland's stories, with its shell middens and tiny medieval church. On one evening, we explore lively Clifden, the "capital" of Connemara, where a pub can surely be found!

Days 7-9 Aran Island / Galway In the otherworldly Aran Islands, where Gaelic is heard as often as English, our hikes are amid a labyrinth of stone-walled fields. Back on the mainland, our trails lead along Killary Harbour to the Twelve Bens and we enjoy an evening in the company of musicians. Depart on Day 9.



Adventures in Wales

COASTAL HIKES, MEDIEVAL CASTLES, AND MOUNT SNOWDON



HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover historic Caernarfon Castle and the ruins of Tintern Abbey
- Hike the best trails of the Pembrokeshire Coast Path
- Savor the views from the summit of Mt. Snowdon, England's highest peak
- Enjoy wine and cheese tastings and delightful meals with fresh local ingredients, including Gower mussels and Welsh lamb
- Meet scholars, weavers, climbers, and historians

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Cardiff and ends in Manchester
- 8 nights hotels
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

Jun 2-10, 2017
Aug 7-15

TRIP COST

\$5195 (10-14 members)
\$5695 (6-9 members)
Single supplement: \$650

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

5 hiking days on sometimes uneven or muddy terrain with some short steep sections, 2-6 hours a day, van support

BACK-TO-BACK SAVINGS

Combine any two Europe trips for a \$500 per person discount!



Wales may be small, but it is brimming with coastal hiking paths, glacier-carved mountains, and Celtic heritage. PHOTO: ADAM BURTON

Ancient Celtic traditions, a deep cultural heritage, and a gorgeous landscape happily converge in Wales. We've created a fantastic hiking journey into the verdant Wye Valley, along the wild sandstone bluffs of the Pembrokeshire Coast Path, and to craggy Mt. Snowdon, the highest peak in the British Isles. As we explore from the castle-topped ridges of the Brecon Beacons to the mountains of Snowdonia, we'll hear the unique Welsh language, one of Europe's oldest living tongues, meet local scholars, and enjoy wonderful meals bursting with local flavor and tradition. Overnights are in historic coaching inns and a country house nestled between rugged mountains and the Irish Sea.

Days 1-2 Wye Valley / Tintern Abbey / Brecon Beacons National Park A hike across the Anglo-Welsh border brings us to the tranquil Wye Valley, where the River Wye reveals castles around every bend. This beautiful valley has been a source of inspiration to many artists and writers, Wordsworth and Coleridge among them. Our hike ends at the ruins of magnificent 12th century Tintern Abbey, where a historian leads us through the haunting halls. Another hike brings us to the delightful booklover's mecca of Hay-on-Wye, nestled in the Black Mountains. We'll be sure



BRENDT UEBEL

to stop in for a local craft beer or afternoon cream tea.

Days 3-5 Laugharne / Pembrokeshire Coastal Path At Laugharne, we visit the home of the poet Dylan Thomas with a farmer-turned-scholar as our guide, and from St. David's at the westernmost tip of Wales, our trails lead along the dramatic Pembrokeshire Coastal Path and across the cliff tops as we keep watch for seals basking on the rocks below.

Days 6-9 Snowdonia National Park / Capel Curig / Snowdon / Caernarfon Castle In Snowdonia National Park, we hike from Capel Curig to the lush Conwy Valley, where Sir Edmund Hillary's team trained for the 1953 Everest Expedition. At mighty Snowdon (3,560'), with its wild cirques and glacier-carved tarns, a classic rail car brings us to the summit, and we enjoy Snowdon's breathtaking scenery on our hike down. After exploring 13th century Caernarfon Castle, our final hike begins on a beach on the Isle of Anglesey (a honeymoon walking spot for Prince William and Kate) and ends at tiny Llanddwyn Island, home to the ruins of a 13th century church dedicated to the patron saint of Welsh lovers. Depart on Day 9.

Hiking in Cornwall

HIDDEN COVES, FISHING VILLAGES, AND HIKING THE CORNISH COAST

Set on the far western edge of Great Britain, Cornwall is an ancient Celtic haven filled with legends of pirates and smugglers and surrounded by the sea. We've chosen the

"Outstanding hiking combined with cultural experiences. The South West Coast Path was stunning, and we LOVED Tintagel, the tin mine, and the Lost Gardens of Heligan."

Nancy P.
Newton Upper Falls MA

most spectacular sections of the Cornish Coastal Path for our adventure, with overnights in some of Cornwall's loveliest coastal villages, including Fowey and St. Ives. Many of our hikes start right from our hotel's front door! We'll hike along towering cliffs and golden beaches, explore fascinating sites including Tintagel, legendary home of King Arthur, pass trailside Neolithic stone circles, and enjoy talks with local historians. We'll take full advantage of the flourishing local dining scene, including a feast at Jamie Oliver's innovative "Fifteen" restaurant—signature dishes with a Cornish twist!

Days 1-3 Padstow / Port Isaac From the little fishing port of Padstow, our hikes lead to the ruins of Tintagel Castle, forever linked with King Arthur, and to tiny St. Enodoc, a 15th century church nestled in the sand dunes. We'll walk

the sands of Constantine Bay past the isolated lighthouse at Trevose Head, and explore the whitewashed "higgledy piggledy" cottages of Port Isaac, a fishing village since the 14th century. One of our dinners will be at St. Petroc's Bistro, the acclaimed seafood restaurant of chef Rick Stein.

Days 4-6 Porthcothan / Land's End / Lamorna Cove / St. Ives At the horseshoe-shaped bay of Porthcothan, we walk on high sea cliffs to the spectacular volcanic rock stacks called the Bedruthan Steps, and past rugged coves to famed Land's End, the westernmost point in England. In the sheltered south Cornish coast, our trails lead from the "Merry Maidens," a Neolithic stone circle more than 4,000 years old, to Lamorna Cove. Our base is in St. Ives, haunt of artists for generations.

Days 7-10 Fowey / Polperro / Saints' Way From the coastal village of Gorran Haven, our paths lead along the headlands to Chapel Point and we explore the Lost Gardens of Heligan, a vast estate with extensive botanical collections from the Victorian plant hunters. We'll hike from Polperro, with its ancient cottages and fishermen's lofts, to Polruan, with our paths never far from the sea, and pass Menabilly, Daphne Du Maurier's estate, which she reimagined as Manderlay in her haunting novel *Rebecca*. We bid farewell to Cornwall with a beautiful hike along The Saints' Way, a long-distance footpath marked with Celtic crosses, a legacy of early Christian travelers. Depart on Day 10.

We hike the most beautiful pathways of Cornwall's spectacular and historic coastline. PHOTO: SEBASTIAN WASEK



PIETRO CANALI



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the most spectacular stretches of Cornwall's north and south coasts, including renowned "Land's End"
- Explore ancient sites and colorful fishing villages, including Port Isaac
- Dine at the restaurants of celebrated chefs Rick Stein and Jamie Oliver
- Learn about Cornwall's Celtic heritage and spirited present

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Bodmin
- 9 nights seaside hotels
- All meals included except 2 lunches and 3 dinners

DATES

May 8-17, 2017 Jul 10-19
Jun 5-14 Sep 11-20

TRIP COST

\$5695 (11-14 members)
\$6195 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$980

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 hiking days on moderate trails with some short steep sections, 4-6 hours a day, van support



TINA AND HORST HERZIG

England Coast to Coast

ONE OF THE BEST LONG-DISTANCE HIKES IN THE WORLD

The coast-to-coast journey across England from the Irish Sea to the North Sea is one of the great hikes of the world. We've perfected this classic walk,

hiking the most spectacular stretches as we cut a swath across England's historic and literary landscape and through three magnificent national parks. We bring you from west to east, putting the prevailing wind at your back, from the romantic Lake District into the upland pastures of the Yorkshire Dales and across the dramatic purple-heather moors of Bronte Country to reach Robin Hood's Bay on

the wild North Sea. En route, we visit delightful villages and ancient castles, stay at welcoming inns, and sip a pint or two at friendly country pubs—this is hiker's England at its best!

"I would be hard-pressed to pick a favorite day because they were all so wonderful and unique. It was a superb trip!"

Carol T., Kingston PA

We've chosen the very best sections of England's famed coast-to-coast trail for this adventure.
PHOTO: JON SPARKS



Days 1-6 Irish Sea / Lake District National Park

At Ravenglass, we christen our boots in the Irish Sea (a coast-to-coast tradition), then hike the Lake District's famously scenic landscapes of sapphire lakes and craggy peaks. After we visit Wordsworth's Dove Cottage in Grasmere, we make the classic Lake District jaunt over Grisedale Hause, with a descent along ancient stone walls and the long, blue ribbon of Ullswater, one of the most beautiful of all English lakes. Our final Lake District hike brings us over the highest Roman road in England.

Days 7-9 Yorkshire Dales National Park

Entering James Herriot country, we cross the watershed of England, with the Lake District behind us and the Yorkshire Dales ahead. Our hikes bring us to a ruined Benedictine nunnery, through wooded Yorkshire valleys, and into charming villages. In ancient Richmond, poised majestically above the River Swale, we explore narrow cobbled alleys below a massive Norman castle.

Days 10-14 North York Moors National Park / North Sea

Our hike along moorland escarpments evokes images from the Bronte sisters' masterpieces, and the dramatic play of light and color here can give you the feeling that you are hiking through an 18th century landscape painting. Following paths to Robin Hood's Bay, we let the North Sea lap our boots and celebrate the culmination of our hike. On Day 14, depart for Manchester via the medieval city of York.



PETE GODING



HIGHLIGHTS

- Savor the tranquil landscapes of the Lake District, the limestone country of the Yorkshire Dales, and the rolling moors of North York
- Visit Wordsworth's lovely Dove Cottage, historic Richmond, with its Norman castle on the River Swale, and take the heritage steam train to Pickering
- Overnights in village inns and historic hotels, lively pub lunches

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins and ends in Manchester
- 13 nights inns, hotels, and B&Bs
- All meals included except 2 lunches and 2 dinners

DATES

May 21-Jun 3, 2017
Jun 11-24
Jul 23-Aug 5
Aug 20-Sep 2
Sep 10-23

TRIP COST

\$6195 (11-14 members)
\$6695 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$650

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4+ 5 6 7

13 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 6-8 hours a day, van support





MARTIN ZWICK



PD BURNETT



RICHARD WHEELER



P. TOMKINS



NATALIYA HORA

Otherworldly scenery, ancient legends, and Gaelic hospitality await us on this spectacular journey.

Highlands & Islands of Scotland

HIKING THE OUTER HEBRIDES AND ISLE OF SKYE

In Scotland, a realm of mist-shrouded crags, heathered moors, and brooding castles, we've designed a hiking adventure that reveals the most stunning settings, from the glistening lochs of Glen Affric to the wild seascapes of the Outer Hebrides and breathtaking Isle of Skye. Our trails bring us through historic Glencoe, among the rock pinnacles of the Quiraing and mystical Callanish Standing Stones, and to the jagged mountains called the Black Cuillins. Along the way, we listen to a local storyteller, meet a weaver on the Isle of Harris, sample fresh-caught scallops and salmon, sip fine single-malt whisky at a traditional distillery, hear tales of the Campbells and the Macdonalds, and enjoy the warm welcome of the Scots. Our accommodations include two elegant country mansions.

Days 1-2 Loch Ness / Glen Affric Our hikes bring us along Loch Ness, where we keep an eye out for Nessie, and into Glen Affric, Scotland's most beautiful glen, with its ancient Caledonian pinewoods encircling silver lochs (lakes). On one evening, we'll be entertained by a local

storyteller—joining a beloved tradition of Scottish culture.

Days 3-5 Outer Hebrides / Harris and Lewis / Callanish Standing Stones Ferrying to the beautifully wild Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides, we hike along coastal cliffs to a village of traditional thatched houses, then end our day at the magical Callanish Standing Stones, a monumental site older than Stonehenge and steeped in legend. On Harris Island, the beaches, *machair* (flower-carpeted meadows), and mountain tracks all offer us delightful hiking, and we meet a Harris Tweed weaver to learn about the island's traditional hand-loomed fabric.

Days 6-7 Isle of Skye / Quiraing / Cuillins Skye is an extraordinary place, with its fairytale landscapes and haunted castles, and our hikes explore the spires of the Quiraing and the brooding Black Cuillins, among the most spectacular mountains in all Britain. Famous full-bodied single malt whisky is made on this island and we'll head to a traditional distillery to sample it.

Days 8-10 Glencoe The hidden glacial valley of Glencoe was the site of the epic battles of the Campbell and MacDonald clans, and we soak up the legends as we hike among the valley's mystical moors, waterfalls, and woodlands. Depart on Day 10 via Inverness.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike along Loch Ness, in beautiful Glen Affric, and in the "lost valley" of Glencoe
- Discover the wild landscapes of the Outer Hebrides and Isle of Skye
- Gaelic legends, heather-covered hills, dramatic seascapes, and stunning mountains, including the incredible rock pinnacles of the Quiraing
- Visit the amazing Callanish Standing Stones, one of the most complete stone circles in Europe
- Enjoy atmospheric accommodations, including two magnificent country estates
- Taste whiskies, meet a traditional weaver, hear a local storyteller

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Inverness
- 9 nights hotels and historic inns
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

May 15-24, 2017
 Jun 19-28
 Jul 10-19
 Sep 11-20

TRIP COST

\$6395 (11-14 members)
 \$6695 (5-10 members)
 Single supplement: \$980

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4 5 6 7

9 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 3-7 hours a day, van support

Hiking Norway's Fjord Country

MOUNTAINS, GLACIERS, AND NORDIC CULTURE

Mighty glaciers carved Norway's epic landscapes and the grand-scale majesty is everywhere, from soaring, snow-capped peaks to plunging

"Norway is a beautiful country, but our Trip Leaders made it come alive for us with experiences we could never have had on our own."

Linda G., W. Hartford CT

river valleys, roaring waterfalls, and cobalt-blue fjords. The fjords are enormous, and we've chosen three of the most spectacular—Sognefjord, Hardangerfjord, and ethereal Naerøyfjord—for our unique hiking journey in this beautiful Nordic realm. Connecting our journey with ferries, railways, funiculars, and private boats, we hike across high ridgetop trails, on the blue ice of a magnificent glacier, along the dramatic coast, and through waterside apple orchards. Along the way, we visit historic sites and welcoming family farms, attend a private concert, and enjoy hotels set right at water's edge for enchanting views.

Days 1-3 Bergen / Sognefjord / Flåm From Bergen, a funicular carries us up Mt. Fløyen for a hike with panoramic vistas, and we ferry to the beautiful town of Flåm through dramatic Sognefjord, with its 3,000-foot-high rock walls. After a visit to the 12th century Borgund Stave Church, built during the height of the Viking era, we boat through narrow, steep-walled Naerøyfjord, a World Heritage Site. One hike brings us to a goat farm where the owner, a cheesemaker, will invite us in for a lunch that includes her hand-crafted variety of goat cheeses.



LUCAS VALLECILLOS

Days 4-6 Hardangerfjord / Ulvik / Lofthus Our hike down a mountain trail brings us right to our hotel in Ulvik, nestled on the shores of Hardangerfjord in the heart of Norway's apple-growing country. After lunch and cider tasting at a family-run apple farm, we boat to Lofthus, where we visit the cottage of composer Edvard Grieg and hike the coast to the Opo waterfall, Norway's third highest. Our lovely hotel in Lofthus offers kayaks and rowboats for exploring the fjord.

Days 7-11 Utne / Folgefonna Glacier / Bergen One of our hikes brings us along the Kinso River to two massive waterfalls, and we use crampons and hiking poles (provided!) for our fantastic day of hiking on the Folgefonna Glacier (weather permitting), with views stretching out over magnificent Hardangerfjord. Depart on Day 11 via Bergen.

Magnificent landscapes, picturesque villages and family farms, fascinating lore and legend—we explore it all on this journey. PHOTO: BILL ABBOTT



HIGHLIGHTS

- Our creative use of ferry rides, railways, and private boats allows us to explore this stunning region
- Hike amid breathtaking mountains and fjords, visit family farms
- Discover Norway's thriving cultural heritage in quaint waterfront towns
- Enjoy charming hotels with spectacular views

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Bergen
- 10 nights hotels
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

Jun 7-17, 2017
Jun 21-Jul 1
Jul 4-14
Jul 28-Aug 7
Aug 18-28

TRIP COST

\$5895 (11-14 members)
\$6395 (5-10 members)
Single supplement: \$890

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

9 hiking days on moderate trails with some steep sections, 3-5 hours a day, with one optional 6-hour glacier hike



DAN HELLER





DAVE STAMBOULIS



DAN HELLER



Although they are above the Arctic Circle, the magical Lofoten Islands have a mild climate—making them ideal for hiking! PHOTO: ORSOLYA HAARBERG



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the Arctic islands of Norway: Lofoten, Vesterålen, and Senja
- Enjoy the long summer light that allows for kayaking and picnics under the midnight sun
- Go whale watching—a chance to track sperm whales
- Dine at a renowned seafood restaurant in the Lofoten Islands and enjoy a farm-to-table meal at an organic farm
- Enjoy hands-on experiences at the Viking Museum and a midnight concert at Tromsø's Arctic Cathedral

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in Bodø and ends in Tromsø
- 11 nights rustic hotels
- All meals included

DATES

Jun 18-29, 2017
Jul 15-26

TRIP COST

\$6795 (11-14 members)
\$7295 (5-10 members)
Single supplement: \$890

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

11 hiking days on moderate to steep trails in sometimes rugged terrain, 4-6 hours most days

Norway's Lofoten Islands

HIKING ABOVE THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

Northern Norway is a dreamlike realm where jagged mountains rise out of crystalline seas and exquisite islands, bays, and fjords shelter tiny villages and a deep Viking heritage. High above the Arctic Circle, we've created a spirited adventure in the incredibly spectacular Lofoten and Vesterålen islands, the jewels of Arctic Norway. Breathtaking coastal hikes, Viking culture, Sámi reindeer herders, tracking whales at sea, and kayaking under the midnight sun are all part of the journey. Overnights are in historic *rorbuer*—traditional seaside fishermen's stilt-cottages converted into charming (though rustic!) lodges. Along the way, we'll meet the welcoming islanders, dine on the bounty of the sea, and revel in majestic mountains and seascapes, all in the glorious northern summer light.

Days 1-3 Bodø / Lofoten Islands From Bodø, Norway, we ferry across cobalt-blue waters to the Lofotens, enjoying striking panoramas of the magnificent Lofoten Wall, an 80-mile stretch of sheer mountains rising above a string of fishing villages. In the picturesque town of Reine, with its red and white fishermen's cottages, we hike

to the tiny hamlet of Kjerkfjorden, nestled at the head of a deep fjord, for a beach picnic in a spectacular setting.

Days 4-5 Lofoten / Svolvær After a farm-to-table lunch at an organic farm, we explore the Viking heritage of Lofoten, which dates to 500 AD. At the Viking Museum, we can try our hand at axe-throwing or rowing a traditional boat, then settle in for a feast in a longhouse, complete with mead, stories, and song.

Days 6-9 Vesterålen / Senja / Sámi Culture / Midnight Kayaking We hike to the ancient village of Nyksund and visit a reindeer farm to learn about the culture of the reindeer-herding Sámi, Europe's oldest indigenous people. If the weather is on our side, we'll head out by boat to look for sperm whales. On one evening, we'll kayak at midnight under the Arctic night sky, watching as the sheer cliff faces glow with pink light.

Days 10-12 Tromsø After a hike along Husfjellet, a spectacular ridge above the sea, we head to Tromsø, Norway's northern capital. One evening, we visit the Arctic Cathedral for a midnight—yes, midnight—concert featuring Norwegian composers, including Edvard Grieg, and we'll explore the Polar Museum, with its artifacts from the life of legendary explorer Roald Amundsen. Depart on Day 12.

Expedition to Lapland

NORTHERN LIGHTS AND REINDEER HERDERS



PAVAN ALDO



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Rovaniemi, the official hometown of Santa Claus
- Visit a castle made entirely of snow and enjoy a drink at its Ice Bar
- Search for the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) during a reindeer sleigh ride
- Experience Finnish culture with seasonal cuisine and relaxing saunas
- Meet traditional Sámi reindeer herders and learn to Nordic ski, ice fish, and snowshoe

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Rovaniemi
- 11 nights hotels
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

Feb 22-Mar 5, 2017
Mar 7-18

TRIP COST

\$6495 (11-15 members)
\$6995 (7-10 members)
Single supplement: \$790

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate to strenuous hiking and snowshoeing, 1-3 hours most days



Be sure to pack your camera for this adventure as we search for the extraordinary Northern Lights.

Stretching across the Arctic Circle in northern Finland, Lapland is the perfect realm for winter adventures. With our beloved Trip Leader Ingrid Cercek, this unique—and action-packed—journey will have you taking a polar plunge (in a dry suit, of course!), snowshoeing through snowy mountains, riding a sleigh pulled by reindeer, and racing across the snow in a sled pulled by huskies. You'll be immersed in Lapland culture, too, meeting Sámi reindeer herders, tasting local specialties inspired by the seasons, and with luck, seeing the surreal Aurora Borealis dance across the night sky. Our lodges are set in prime locations along the path of this incredible phenomenon. At day's end, unwind in a soothing wood-fired sauna—a truly Lappish experience.

Days 1-2 Rovaniemi / Snow Castle / Boat Ride From Rovaniemi, we visit the magical Snow Castle, enjoying a drink at their Ice Bar. As we explore aboard the mighty icebreaker *Sampo*, we have a chance for a dip in polar waters.

Days 3-4 Pyhä-Luosto National Park / Luosto Strap on snowshoes to hike through Pyhä-Luosto National Park, with its spectacular polar scenery, and enjoy a sleigh ride by reindeer.

Days 5-7 Tankavaar / Saariselkä / Ice Fishing / Nordic Skiing Lapland has the largest gold deposits in Europe and we'll pan for this precious metal before experiencing Finnish food culture with a cooking class over a wood fire. We'll also have a chance to try Nordic skiing, ice fishing, and relaxing in saunas—authentic traditions of Lapland.

Days 8-12 Inari / Kakslauttanen / Rovaniemi With the help of our Sámi friends, we'll learn to dogsled, then explore the famous sites of Sámi culture by sturdy Sámi horses. From our "glass igloo" cabins in Kakslauttanen, we set out on a safari by husky and marvel at the Northern Lights. In Finnish legend, they were created by a fox running across the fell, sweeping the snow with its tail and sending sparks into the sky. Depart from Rovaniemi on Day 12.



Hiking the Faroe Islands

JOURNEY TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC'S BEST KEPT SECRET



Our hikes lead to plunging waterfalls, soaring sea cliffs, and Viking settlements—and our evenings are topped with excellent meals featuring cuisine fresh from the land and sea. PHOTO: ADAM BURTON

Set on the Viking's route from Norway to Iceland, the Faroe Islands are remote, stunning, and the ideal setting for our hiking adventure. In this otherworldly island landscape, we'll hike ridge trails to tiny fishing villages of turf-roofed houses and to sea cliffs where puffins number in the thousands. The views in every corner of this island realm are breathtaking. Along the way, you'll see how renowned Faroese woolen knits are made at a family-run mill on Vidoy Island, and enjoy a round of beers at the oldest brewery in the Faroes. The seafood here is outrageously fresh—we'll savor meals in the company of knitters, chefs, and artists, and experience traditional Faroese singing and dancing at a charming guesthouse.

Days 1-2 Vágur Island / Mykines Island From Vágur, we head out to Mykines for a hike to see colonies of puffins preening themselves on grassy tussocks. We'll also visit a red-topped lighthouse, a great vantage point to see gannets nesting on the southern sea stacks.

Days 3-4 Vestmanna / Eysturoy Island / Hike Slaettaratindur We cruise beneath 1,000-foot-



ALDO PAVAN

high cliffs at Vestmanna, home to guillemots, razorbills, and puffins—and daring sheep that graze on near-vertical grassy patches along the cliff. On Eysturoy, we'll meet a local artist and have the chance to hike to the top of Slaettaratindur, the highest mountain in the Faroes.

Days 5-6 Bordoy and Vidoy Islands / Snaeldan Wool Mill After a visit to the oldest brewery in the Faroes, we hike up the steep slopes of Vidoy for spectacular views of five islands. We'll watch wool be transformed into delicate yarn at a classic wool mill. One evening, we enjoy a celebratory dinner with traditional Faroese dancing and song.

Days 7-8 Tórshavn In Tórshavn, Europe's smallest capital, we'll explore the Old Town, with its turf-roofed buildings, and enjoy dinner in a family home featuring local ingredients from the family's farm, accompanied by local Faroese schnapps. Depart on Day 8 via Sørvágur.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Wild coastal and mountain hikes
- Discover ancient valleys sheltering rich Viking heritage
- Sample traditional Faroese fare including *skerpikjot* (wind-dried lamb)
- Enjoy a beer at the oldest brewery on the islands
- Meet artisans, enjoy our Farewell Dinner with a local family
- Welcoming hotels and guesthouses, including a stay in Tórshavn, the smallest capital city in Europe

DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins and ends in Sørvágur
- 7 nights hotels and guesthouses
- All meals included except 1 lunch

DATES

Jun 14-21, 2017
Jun 30-Jul 7

TRIP COST

\$4295 (11-14 members)
\$4695 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$550

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

6 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails, some steep sections, 2-4 hours most days



NANO CALVO

Iceland Expedition

MASSIVE GLACIERS, VIKING SAGAS, AND THE MIDNIGHT SUN



Our hiking journey brings you deep into the surreal natural wonder of a country unlike any other on earth. PHOTO: ERIC NATHAN



DAN HELLER



Nature reigns supreme in Iceland, a world of spouting geysers, blue lagoons, massive glaciers, and multicolored valleys stretching to the sea. We've created a spectacular adventure that immerses you in the full wonder of Iceland's extraordinary landscapes, with a mix of fantastic coastal and mountain hikes (and plenty of summit options!). The glacier kingdom of Skaftafell National Park, the geologic wonders of Thingvellir National Park, the high valleys and brooding heaths of ancient "saga" country where the rich history of Viking clan warfare played out in the Middle Ages, culinary delights from arctic char to fresh-caught salmon—they're all on this epic journey!



Days 1-2 Reykjavík / Höfn / Vatnajökull Glacier Vatnajökull, Europe's largest glacier, is the dramatic backdrop for our hike on a remote path among fascinating geologic formations with spectacular views across the wild coast.

Days 3-6 Jökulsárlón / Skaftafell National Park / Skógar / Vík Our hikes bring us along stunning Jökulsárlón Lagoon, with its powder-blue icebergs, across Skaftafellsheidi Heath, past the tumbling Svartifoss waterfall, and below the Skaftafellsjökull Glacier. In the gorgeous hamlet of Skógar, we sample beers from a local microbrewery, discover one gorgeous waterfall after another, and visit the black-sand beach at the tiny village of Vík.

Days 7-8 Thingvellir National Park / Blue Lagoon We hike in the Reykjadalur Valley, with its steaming hot springs, and marvel at the spectacular terrain of Thingvellir National Park, a World Heritage Site renowned for its dramatic rift walls. After a soak in the famed thermal waters of the Blue Lagoon in Keflavík, depart on Day 8.

ON OUR WEBSITE

NORTHERN ICELAND EXPEDITION

Explore Iceland's wild northern reaches, including Lake Mývatn and the Snaefellsnes and Tröllaskagi Peninsulas. Jul 3-10, Jul 24-31, 2017. From \$5795.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike in an unearthly landscape of fjords, iceberg-filled lagoons, geysers, and moss-covered lava fields
- Explore Skaftafell and Thingvellir, with their glaciers, waterfalls, and chasms
- Take a fascinating glacier walk (with crampons provided!) on Iceland's most impressive glacier in a magical setting of crystal-blue ice and ice sculptures
- Soak in Iceland's famous Blue Lagoon, marvel at the midnight sun
- Taste savory Icelandic cuisine, from fresh local fish to marinated lamb
- Enjoy our small intimate lodges in beautifully remote settings

DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins and ends in Reykjavík
- 7 nights hotels
- All meals included

DATES

Jun 23-30, 2017
Jul 14-21
Aug 4-11
Aug 11-18
Aug 18-25

TRIP COST

\$5995 (13-15 members)
\$6295 (11-12 members)
\$6695 (8-10 members)
Single supplement: \$790
Internal airfare: \$260 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails, some steep sections, 3-8 hours a day, optional glacier walking, van support

Expedition to Greenland

ANCIENT CULTURES, GLACIAL LANDSCAPES, AND ADVENTURES UNDER THE MIDNIGHT SUN



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike on the Greenland Ice Sheet and across the tundra in search of muskox
- Experience Inuit culture and history, visit an ancient Viking settlement
- Discover the glacier-carved wonder of the pristine Western Fjords
- Cruise past towering icebergs under the midnight sun
- Enjoy a special Inuit barbecue, sample Greenland's fresh local seafood

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Nuuk and ends in Ilulissat
- 8 nights rustic hotels
- All meals included

DATES

Jul 22-30, 2017
Aug 1-9

TRIP COST

\$6595 (10-12 members)
\$6995 (6-9 members)
Single supplement: \$610

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes over varying terrain, 1-5 hours a day, boating excursions, cultural exploration

With icebergs spilling out of its fjords, humpback whales spouting in its waters, and a fascinating Inuit culture, Greenland is perfect for WT-style adventure, and we've created a magnificent one brimming with great activities. We boat deep into the Western Fjords, walk on the incredible Greenland Ice Sheet, enjoy an Inuit barbecue, and hike the tundra in search of muskox. In Ilulissat, north of the Arctic Circle, we hike alongside icebergs on the shores of Kangia Icefjord, are welcomed into a local home for *kafeemik*, and marvel at the incredible light and color of the long Arctic twilight on a midnight cruise. This journey is made for adventure—if you've ever wanted to experience one of the planet's most jaw-droppingly beautiful places, this is the trip for you!

Days 1-3 Nuuk / Western Fjords / Qooqut Nuan

In Nuuk, Greenland's tiny capital, we explore the historic waterfront, hike up Ukkusissat Mountain for incredible views, and enjoy a traditional Inuit barbecue by the sea. On a boat cruise below soaring granite cliffs in the

Western Nuuk Fjords, we'll fish along the way and bring our catch to a great boat-in lodge, where the chef will transform it into our delicious dinner while we hike to a Viking ruin.

Days 4-5 Kangerlussuaq / Hike the Ice Sheet / Muskox Safari Heading north to Kangerlussuaq, we have the extraordinary experience of hiking across the Greenland Ice Sheet, then set out on foot across the tundra with our local guides to search for Greenland's iconic wild muskox.

Day 6 Ilulissat / Midnight Cruise North of the Arctic Circle, the colorful community of Ilulissat is home to more sled dogs than people. Here at the mouth of the colossal Kangia Icefjord, we'll explore on a midnight cruise beneath the towering face of the Sermeq Glacier, the most active in the world (said to have spawned the iceberg that sank the *Titanic*).

Days 7-9 Ilimanaq / Sermermiut Boating past massive icebergs, we reach the tiny village of Ilimanaq—accessible only by plane, boat, or dog sled. We'll have lunch with a local family here, and the next day, hike among icebergs along the wild shores of Kangia Icefjord as we make our way to the ancient Inuit settlement of Sermermiut. Depart on Day 9.

With a hike on the ice, spectacular boat journeys, and even a muskox safari, this is a wonderfully varied adventure. PHOTO: HENRI VANDELANOTTE



Russia: Land of the Czars

MOSCOW, THE GOLDEN RING, AND ST. PETERSBURG



Our cultural adventure reveals Russia's glorious past as well as insights into its present-day life. PHOTO: YOSHIO TOMII

Our journey into Russia is a true insider's discovery, with our native-born Trip Leader sharing an invaluable perspective of the country. Our explorations lead from Moscow's monumental Red Square to the spectacular and well-preserved "Golden Ring" towns along the Volga River, where we get an intimate look into Russia's medieval heritage. In romantic St. Petersburg, we marvel at the treasures of the famed Hermitage and the resplendent Amber Room in Catherine's Palace, and cruise its celebrated canals by private boat. Along the way through this intriguing land, we get "inside" Russia with special experiences, including lively lunches with families in their homes in Suzdal and Plyos, and options for the opera or Bolshoi ballet.

Days 1-3 Moscow In cosmopolitan Moscow, we discover St. Basil's Cathedral, the Kremlin Armory, whose artistic treasures include Fabergé's bejeweled eggs, the Tretyakov, the world's largest collection of Russian art, and Izmailova Park, with its flea market full of Soviet memorabilia.



Days 4-6 Sergiev Posad / Rostov / Yaroslavl / Plyos / Suzdal Sergiev Posad is graced by blue-domed Trinity Monastery, and in Rostov, we view its ancient Kremlin, a sweeping ensemble of monasteries and churches. From Yaroslavl, we take a boat excursion on the historic Volga River, and after a walk through the birch forests surrounding Plyos, we are welcomed for lunch in a private home. Ancient Suzdal is a gorgeous country town of wood-and-stone houses, and we dine with a local family and sample mead, the ancient honey wine.

Days 7-11 St. Petersburg / Pushkin The Hermitage's astounding art collection is one of the highlights of St. Petersburg. We'll take a private boat ride on the city's legendary canals and visit the Usupoff Palace where Rasputin met his end. In Catherine the Great's favorite summer palace in Pushkin, we'll see the unforgettable Amber Room, whose wall panels have been meticulously recreated. Depart on Day 11, or join our Baltic States extension.



CUNTER GRÄFENHAIN



HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover Old Russia in history-filled medieval towns along the Volga River
- Explore romantic St. Petersburg, capital of the Czars, with its palaces and Hermitage Museum
- Special cultural experiences including private lunches with families in their homes

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Moscow and ends in St. Petersburg
- 10 nights hotels
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 4 dinners

DATES

May 26 - Jun 5, 2017
Jul 14-24

TRIP COST

\$4795 (12-15 members)
\$5195 (8-11 members)
\$5595 (4-7 members)
Single supplement: \$640
Baltic States extension: from \$2595

TRIP LEVEL ① 2 3 4 5 6 7

Cultural exploration, city walking tours, and easy country walks

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Discover the charms of the Baltic States—Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia—with their Old World style and exquisite architecture, including Riga's huge collection of Art Nouveau buildings, the finest in the world.

Czech Castles & Country Walks

ENCHANTING HIKES, CESKY KRUMLOV, AND GLORIOUS PRAGUE

The Czech Republic is a walker's paradise, and our enchanting journey leads you on hikes through thriving vineyards, past 13th century monasteries, and to massive stone castles that reign over the sylvan countryside. The nation's medieval heritage is remarkably intact in places like Telc, which we'll encounter when we walk through the arched town gates at the end of a lovely hike, and Slavonice, whose burgher houses are decorated with colorful *sgraffiti*. In beguiling Cesky Krumlov, a World Heritage Site whose castle towers above stately 15th century mansions, we'll explore backstage at its perfectly intact Baroque theater before ending our journey in Prague. Our Trip Leaders are spirited Czech natives who share their country's heritage, culture, and cuisine with great style.



DAN HELLER

Days 1-2 Vienna, Austria / Moravia, Czech Republic / Palava

We meet in Vienna, then hike across the border into the Czech Republic's Moravian wine country. Grand castles dot the countryside of the Czech Republic and provide dramatic beginning and ending points for many of our hikes, including one through the Palava Highlands Nature Reserve, with its limestone outcrops and beech forests.

Days 3-4 Telc Castle / Slavonice From 14th century Castle Rostejn, a Gothic apparition that seems to rise straight up from the rock outcrop, our hike across fields brightened by poppies ends with a walk through the gates of medieval Telc, a World Heritage Site with an exquisitely intact town square. Another hike brings us through verdant forests (you may encounter mushroom gatherers!) to Slavonice, where *sgraffiti* adorns the facades of its ancient buildings.

Days 5-7 Cesky Krumlov / Sumava / Rozmberk Crossing into southern Bohemia, we head to Cesky Krumlov, a vision from medieval times with its dreamy pink-and-green castle, and we enjoy a private backstage tour of its Baroque theater set in the castle complex. In the Sumava Forest, our trail leads from serene Vyssi Brod, a 13th century Cistercian monastery and pilgrimage site, across sun-splashed fields to the castle-town of Rozmberk.

Days 8-9 Prague In Prague, the jewel of Bohemia, our walking tour leads through the Old Town, where 600 years of glorious architecture is on display, and into the ancient Jewish ghetto, with its haunting graveyard and Europe's oldest active synagogue. Depart on Day 9, or extend your stay in this beautiful city.

ON OUR WEBSITE GREAT CARPATHIAN TRAVERSE

Join our five-country hiking and cultural adventure through Ukraine, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland. Aug 27-Sep 10, 2017. From \$5495.



Our journey pairs delightful hikes with the Czech Republic's magnificent architectural heritage. PHOTO: PIETRO CANALI

HIGHLIGHTS

- Delightful countryside walks between hilltop castles
- Perfectly preserved Renaissance town of Telc
- Baroque city of Cesky Krumlov, a World Heritage Site of labyrinthine alleys
- Exquisite Prague, with its incomparable architecture, lively cafés—and excellent Pilsners!

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Vienna, Austria, and ends in Prague, Czech Republic
- 8 nights 3- and 4-star hotels and country inns
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

May 11-19, 2017
Jun 1-9
Sep 7-15
Sep 21-29

TRIP COST

\$3995 (11-15 members)
\$4395 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$390

TRIP LEVEL

1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7
A mix of easy to moderate walks and hikes, 2-5 hours a day, van support



BRIAN MCGILLOWAY

Montenegro & the Adriatic Coast

MOUNTAIN HIKES AND MAGNIFICENT COASTAL TOWNS

Within tiny Montenegro lies a world of dramatic mountains, deep forests, and ancient cities set along the stunning Adriatic Sea. Our cultural hiking adventure in this hidden corner of Europe brings us from the limestone peaks and alpine setting of Durmitor National Park and the primeval forests and glacial lakes of Biogradska Gora National Park to captivating Kotor, the seaside gem of Montenegro's sun-splashed Adriatic Coast. Our cultural encounters are unforgettable as we explore mountain villages with age-old traditions and sample wonderful cuisine, including the regional Vranac, a dry red wine of unique taste and character.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Tour storied Sarajevo, with visits to Sebilj Square and the ancient Latin Bridge on the Miljacka River
- Hike amid the wild limestone mountains of Durmitor National Park, a World Heritage Site
- Explore the ancient woodlands of Biogradska Gora National Park and the stunning Tara River Canyon, Europe's deepest
- Discover Kotor, one of the most beautiful medieval towns in the world, set on a gorgeous bay

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and ends in Dubrovnik, Croatia
- 10 nights hotels and inns
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

May 30-Jun 9, 2017 Aug 24-Sep 3
Jul 10-20 Sep 17-27

TRIP COST

\$4495 (11-15 members)
\$4895 (7-10 members)
Single supplement: \$780

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4 5 6 7

A mix of moderate walks and hikes, some steep trails, 2-5 hours a day, optional rafting, van support



Days 1-4 Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina /

Durmitor, Montenegro / Tara River From Sarajevo, a melting-pot city of ancient influences from the time of the Silk Road, we head to Durmitor National Park for hikes below saw-toothed peaks and alongside gleaming lakes. The breathtaking Tara River Canyon, Europe's longest and deepest gorge, with its aquamarine waters coursing between 3,000-foot cliffs, invites us for a fun rafting trip (optional, and no experience needed!).

Days 5-7 Biogradska Gora National Park / Mrtvica

Canyon / Lake Skadar In Biogradska Gora, our hike leads past glacial lakes to the spectacular twin peaks of Mt. Komovi, revealing views that stretch clear to Albania. Moraca Monastery, with its superb Byzantine frescoes, offers a peek into medieval history, and we'll hike to the rocky hideaway of Mrtvica Canyon. At serene Lake Skadar National Park,

Our hikes in this storied landscape reveal stunning views, and our overnights include charming mountain inns and a seaside hotel set on a private beach.

we explore one of the continent's most important bird sanctuaries. On one evening, we'll cruise by boat to a restaurant set on a secluded beach that serves fresh catch of the day.

Days 8-11 Cetinje / Kotor / Dubrovnik, Croatia

After visiting romantic Cetinje, we hike high above Kotor, once a trading post for the Venetian Empire, on a shepherds' trail offering breathtaking views of the sapphire-blue bay below. We'll also boat across the bay and walk along Kotor's ancient town walls. Depart on Day 11 via Dubrovnik.

ON OUR WEBSITE

HIKER'S JOURNEY TO THE CAUCASUS

Lodge to lodge hikes through Georgia's spectacular mountains, ancient villages, and famed wine regions. Jun 20-30, Jul 1-11, 2017. From \$4095.



Croatia: Istria & the Dalmatian Coast

IDYLIC ISLANDS, MEDIEVAL HILLTOWNS, AND CULINARY DELIGHTS

A dazzling mosaic of tiny coves and beautiful islands makes up the coast of Croatia. We've crafted a superb hiking journey that brings you to legendary wine-growing regions, medieval hilltowns, and along the sunny shores of the enchanting Dalmatian Coast. We'll explore the picture-perfect port of Rovinj, once an outpost of the Venetian Empire, charming Veli Losinj, where pastel houses line the sheltered bay, and the immense Roman

amphitheater at Pula, built during the reign of Emperor Augustus. Along the way, you'll sip fine Malvasia and Teran wines and savor mouth-watering prosciutto and local cheeses. Our journey begins in Slovenia's jewel-like capital, Ljubljana, and ends in Trogir, Croatia, a World Heritage Site.

"We loved the trip. The itinerary was so well designed, with a perfect mix of culture, hiking, and swimming!"

Marcella S.
Los Altos CA

Days 1-3 Ljubljana, Slovenia /

Motuvun, Croatia In enchanting, red-roofed Ljubljana, we stroll through narrow cobblestone streets past open-air markets and cafés, then cross into Croatia for a hike through ancient vineyards to the timeless fortified town of Gracisce. Our base is Motuvun, a classic medieval hilltop village offering spectacular views over the rolling countryside of the Mirna Valley, Istria's wine country.

Days 4-5 Groznanj / Rovinj / Pula After exploring the thriving art community of Groznanj, we'll visit Porec's majestic cathedral, a World Heritage Site known for its exquisite Byzantine mosaics. From the church's high bell tower, you can savor glorious views of the red-tiled roofs contrasting perfectly with the blue Adriatic. Rovinj is a dreamy town of Venetian townhouses set on a peninsula jutting into the sea, and we'll explore its labyrinthine streets and the ancient Roman amphitheater in Pula. Built 2,000 years ago, it's still in use for plays and concerts.

Days 6-7 Cres On the rugged isle of Cres, our hike leads across hills scented with wild lavender and along the *lungomare* (promenade) en route to Veli Losinj, with opportunities to take a dip in the Adriatic, of course! We'll also savor a picnic lunch on a ridgetop with sweeping views of the bay.

Days 8-11 Rab / Trogir A private wooden sailboat brings us to the Renaissance-era island of Rab, and we'll hike wooded trails in Krka National Park, an ethereal realm of pristine waterfalls, towering cliffs, and deep canyons. Our final explorations are in Trogir, with its Romanesque churches and Baroque buildings. Depart on Day 11 via Split, or extend your stay with a visit to Dubrovnik.



From stunning ancient sites and impeccably preserved hilltowns that look straight out of a painting to sumptuous cuisine and fine wine—this is the world of Croatia's Dalmatian Coast. PHOTO: ROB KAVANAGH

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike to the evocative hilltowns of Motuvun, Gracisce, and Ljubnice, with glorious panoramas above terraced vineyards
- Visit the amphitheater at Pula, whose amazing state of preservation makes the Roman world come to life
- Explore picturesque Rovinj, Veli Losinj, and seldom-visited islands of the northern Dalmatian Coast
- Savor grilled calamari and the hand-picked truffles of Motuvun, and sample crisp, locally produced white wines

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and ends in Split, Croatia
- 10 nights hotels and inns
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

May 3-13, 2017 Sep 20-30
Jun 28-Jul 8 Oct 4-14
Aug 24-Sep 3



TRIP COST

\$4895 (11-15 members)
\$5395 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$720

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
A mix of easy to moderate walks and hikes, 2-5 hours a day, van support

Greece: Zagoria & Mt. Olympus

THE VIKOS GORGE, METEORA, AND THE ABODE OF ZEUS

A hidden world of traditional Greece is found in Zagoria, where thousand-year-old villages are perched above the magnificent UNESCO-protected Vikos Gorge in the craggy Pindos Mountains. We've chosen wonderful hikes to explore these unique hamlets, following

"I loved the entire experience! The 'Big Greek Kostas' showed us the country he loves—with style!"

Diane G., Vista CA

shepherds' trails and soaring arched bridges across the gorge. Heading to the spectacular monasteries of Meteora, we walk the monks' paths up to these airy medieval sanctuaries. For a grand finale, we hike up Mt. Olympus (9,600'), storied home of the gods, where we gaze out over the ancient world from the abode of Zeus, ruler of the sky.

All along the way, we'll fuel our hikes with an enticing array of northern Greece's delicious culinary treats and sample the renowned local red wines.

Days 1-5 Ioánnina / Zagoria From Ioánnina, we head to Zagoria to hike amid the villages of the Vikos Gorge, including Pápingo, nestled beneath limestone towers, and the leafy mountain hamlet of Koukouli. One hike brings

us up to gleaming Dragon Lake (6,800'), below the striking peaks of the Pindos Mountains. Between hikes, we'll swim in natural springs, relax in ancient village squares, and enjoy the local wines and herb-infused cuisine of these remarkable hamlets.

Days 6-8 Dodóna / Meteora Monasteries

We explore Dodóna, home to the impressive amphitheater of the Oracle of Zeus, Greece's first oracle, then head to the magnificent World Heritage Site of Meteora. In Greek, Meteora means "suspended in the air," and monks of the Eastern Orthodox church built these hermitages atop sheer sandstone pinnacles in the 13th and 14th centuries. We follow the paths to the top of these seemingly inaccessible sanctuaries, where some 60 monks still reside.

Days 9-12 Mt. Olympus From the village of Prionia at 3,600 feet, we hike through beech forests to the Spilio Agapitos Refuge (7,200') for an overnight, then ascend to the rocky summit of Skala (9,403'), the main peak of this majestic sacred mountain. Depart on Day 12 via Thessaloniki.



KOSTAS VASILEIOU



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike to the traditional stone-built villages of Zagoria in the Pindos Mountains
- Explore the surreal cliff-top monasteries of Meteora
- Climb to the summit of one of Mt. Olympus's main peaks

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in Ioánnina and ends in Thessaloniki
- 10 nights hotels and traditional guesthouses, 1 night in mountain refuge
- All meals included except 1 lunch

DATES

May 7-18, 2017
Jun 1-12
Oct 3-14

TRIP COST

\$3495 (10-16 members)
\$3795 (4-9 members)
Single supplement: \$340
Classical Greece extension: from \$1650

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4+ 5 6 7

9 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 2-8 hours a day, altitudes between 3,000-9,400 feet



Our journey brings you on hikes to the spectacular monasteries at Meteora, to the villages of Zagoria, and to the summit of Skala, one of Olympus's main peaks!





RENE MATTES



KHONDEH MIRSHEK



DON HRYCYK



STEFANO BROZZI



ANNA SERRANO

Our insider's hikes bring you to the most charming villages and spectacular coves on the dreamy isles of Tinos, Naxos, and Amorgos.

Hiking in the Greek Isles

HIDDEN TRAILS AND GOLDEN BEACHES OF THE CYCLADES

Greece casts a spell, with its honey-colored isles fragrant with frangipani and encircled by azure seas. In the stunning beauty of the Cyclades, the archipelago named for the circle it forms around the sacred island of Delos, we've created a hiking journey that explores Tinos, Naxos, and rugged Amorgos, each island a tranquil realm of bougainvillea-draped villages set above the gleaming Aegean. As we hike on ancient stone paths, past blue-domed churches, up to cliff-perched monasteries, and through tiny whitewashed villages, the good life of sunny Greece surrounds us, with picnics on wildflower-covered hills, swims in the sea, and delightful local cuisine and wine *al fresco* on the verandas of tavernas. At trip's end, enjoy our extension to legendary Santorini, with its white villages clinging to the cliffs.

Days 1-5 Athens / Tinos From Athens, we ferry to Tinos, an island of beautiful beaches and traditional hamlets. We hike the *kalderimias*, or cobbled mule paths, to picturesque villages, up the old Roman road to the great Venetian fortress of Exombourgo,

and from the charming town of Falatados to the beach at Livada, with a stop to swim in inviting crystal-clear waters.

Days 6-8 Naxos / Delos / Mykonos Crossing the blue Aegean to Naxos, Lord Byron's favorite Greek island, we explore the twisting lanes of Chora, the main town, and hike up Mount Zas (Zeus) to a sacred cave with a marvelous view. In Greek mythology, this cave is where the mighty god Zeus was born. On Delos, holy island of the ancient Greeks, we'll stroll in a vast open-air archaeological museum of wildflower-covered ruins and return to Naxos via glamorous Mykonos Island.

Days 9-13 Amorgos Easternmost of the Cyclades, Amorgos is a gorgeous island of dramatic mountain scenery. We hike traditional stone-paved paths between villages, past frescoed churches, and along spectacular coasts. One ramble leads us to the 11th century monastery of Chosoviotissa, set high above the Aegean. Depart on Day 13, or extend to Santorini Island.

ON OUR WEBSITE **HIKING IN CRETE**

On foot across Greece's mythical island with our own Greek god, Kostas Vasileiou. Apr 26-May 6, Oct 15-25, 2017. From \$4695.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike village to village on ancient pathways of Tinos, Naxos, and Amorgos
- Visit sacred Delos, holy island of the ancient Greeks, and cosmopolitan Mykonos Island
- Charming hotels, delightful Greek cuisine, from grilled octopus to ratatouille of fresh summer vegetables

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Athens
- 12 nights hotels and country inns
- All meals included except 2 dinners and 1 lunch

DATES

- May 19-31, 2017
- Jun 14-26
- Jun 29-Jul 11
- Sep 1-13
- Sep 17-29

TRIP COST

- \$4395 (8-16 members)
- \$4695 (4-7 members)
- Single supplement: \$380
- Santorini Island extension: from \$1050
- Classical Greece extension: from \$1650

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails, some steep sections, 4-6 hours a day, van support



With hikes to hidden archaeological sites, wonderful cultural encounters, and the good life aboard our welcoming *gulet*, this is a magical adventure in the Mediterranean.
PHOTO: ROSSI GUIDO ALBERTO

The Turquoise Coast A MEDITERRANEAN VOYAGE

WITH HIKES TO HIDDEN RUINS AND SEASIDE VILLAGES

Sun-drenched skies, a warm, translucent sea, a dream world of astounding Greek, Byzantine, and Roman treasures, expert Trip Leaders who bring history alive—

“This is one of the most outstanding trips we have ever taken. The depth of information, the comfort of the boat, the culture we learned about... all added up to a perfect trip.”

Lynn B., Portland OR

our idyllic journey reveals all the enchantments of the Turquoise Coast! Traveling cove to cove by traditional *gulet* (motor-sailing yacht), we snorkel above the ruins of ancient Aperlae, hike to spectacular Lycian rock tombs, stroll the lanes of magnificent Ephesus, enjoy lunch with a farm family in Bezirgan, and savor on-board cuisine that’s beyond fabulous. Don’t miss this trip!

Days 1-4 Istanbul / Ephesus / Kaunos / Gocek (Eastbound) Our insider’s experience of Istanbul brings us to its Ottoman gems, including the amazing Topkapi Palace, and we cruise by private boat at sunset along the Bosphorus. At astounding Ephesus, we walk the marble-paved Arcadian Way, feeling transported back to ancient times. Traveling by local boat along the Dalyan River, we explore Kaunos, an ancient harbor city with Greek temples, Roman baths, and a Byzantine church, then board our elegant *gulet* in the sailing haven of Gocek.

Days 5-8 Lydae / Kaya Koy / Xanthos / Patara / Kas We hike across a peninsula marked by the hidden ruins of Lydae, accessible only by foot, swim in “Cleopatra’s Sunken Baths,” then head to Gemiler Island for a hike to the striking Byzantine ruins of a 4th century monastery dedicated to St. Nicholas. We stroll in the eerie Greek ghost town of Kaya Koy, then enjoy a home-cooked lunch with a family in the

farming village of Bezirgan. After visiting ancient Xanthos, a World Heritage Site, we relax with a swim in azure seas at Patara before continuing to the harbor town of Kas, with its charming streets lined with pink bougainvilleas.

Days 9-10 Aperlae / Myra At Aperlae, we see the mysterious submerged remains of a Byzantine city, and at Myra, we’ll find fine examples of Lycian rock tombs set high on the hillsides.

Days 11-14 Chimaera / Termessos / Antalya / Istanbul Sailing across the Bay of Finike to Cape Gelidonya, the southernmost point of our voyage, we contour a coastline that is among the wildest and most beautiful on the Turquoise Coast. We hike to the legendary eternal flames of Chimaera, visit haunting Termessos, a mountain-top acropolis, and depart Istanbul on Day 14, or join our “insider’s” extensions to Istanbul or Cappadocia.



TURKEY'S TURQUOISE COAST—THE WT DIFFERENCE!

- 10-day cruises aboard the finest *gulets* (motor-sailing yachts)—the ideal way to experience this incredible coast. Shorter cruises miss the best sites.
- Roomy cabins with private baths—single cabins available! Sumptuous cuisine served *al fresco* on deck
- Wonderful daily hikes to hidden ruins, delightful anchorages each night
- Phenomenal Trip Leaders who bring the ancient world to life
- More than three decades of experience perfecting this cruise
- Short on time? We offer a Private Journey with a 5-night cruise

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Istanbul, gem of the Ottoman and Byzantine world
- Discover amazing Ephesus, Lycian rock tombs, ancient Xanthos
- Hike to hidden ruins, swim and snorkel in the warm Mediterranean
- Superb Trip Leaders, experts on the history of the region and engaging traveling companions
- Enjoy the good life aboard the finest *gulet* yachts in Turkey, with gourmet meals prepared by on-board chefs and overnights in scenic coves
- Optional extensions to Cappadocia and in-depth explorations of Istanbul

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins and ends in Istanbul
- 9 nights aboard yacht (single cabins available), 4 nights first-class hotels
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

May 10-23, 2017	Sep 13-26
May 24-Jun 6	Sep 20-Oct 3
Jun 7-20	Sep 27-Oct 10
Sep 6-19	Oct 4-17

TRIP COST

\$5995 (9-11 members)
 \$6395 (7-8 members)
 Single supplement: \$475 (hotels only)
 Single supplement: \$1300 (hotels and boat)
 Internal airfare: \$420 (subject to change)
 Inside Istanbul extension: from \$1195
 Cappadocia extension: from \$1350

TRIP LEVEL 1 (2+) 3 4 5 6 7
 6 days easy to moderate optional day hikes, 1-4 hours, some steep sections



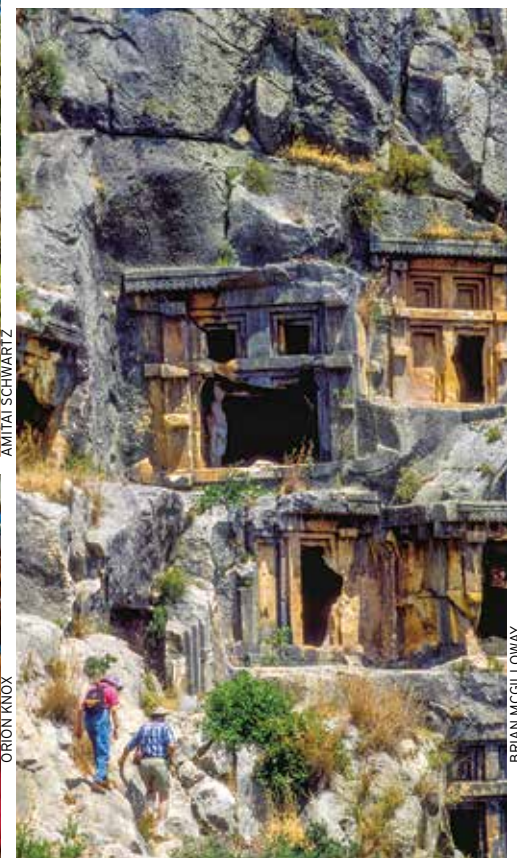
AMITAI SCHWARTZ



DAN HELLER



ORION KNOX



BRIAN MCGILLOWAY

Private Journeys in Europe

YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR TRIP DATES, YOUR DREAM TRIP • DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE

Perfect for Families, Friends, or Just the Two of You! Celebrating an anniversary, big birthday, or just dreaming of a great adventure with your family, close friends, or significant other? WT's Private Journeys in Europe bring you the world of this diverse continent, from hiking and cultural adventures in enchanting Ireland to discovering the wonders of ancient Greece and its Mediterranean Islands.

Ready to Book—or to Customize—It's Your Choice! Book them as they are, or tinker a bit, altering the order of the itinerary or extending your adventure. Either way, WT Private Journeys offer you a fantastic experience and great value.

Request a Detailed Itinerary You can download a Detailed Itinerary for any Private Journey at www.wildernesstravel.com. Contact us for availability, with questions, or to book your adventure!

"This was truly one of the best travel experiences I have ever had. No need was overlooked. Every detail was planned and executed effortlessly."

Debra G., Miami FL



Switzerland

Ticino, Engadine, *Glacier Express*, and the Matterhorn



Scotland

Castles, Lochs, the Highlands, the Inner Hebrides, and the Isle of Skye



Croatia

Hiking, Biking, and Optional Sea Kayaking along the Dalmatian Coast



Italy's Lake District

Lago Como, Maggiore, and Orta San Giulio



Greece

Corinth, Mycenae, and the Cyclades Islands



Discover Turkey

Istanbul, Ephesus, the Aegean Coast, and Cappadocia



Turkey

Istanbul, Cappadocia, and Cruise the Turquoise Coast by *Gulet*



Ireland

The Ring of Kerry, the Dingle Peninsula, and the Aran Islands



Spain

Barcelona and the Catalanian Coast



Russia

Moscow, the Golden Ring, and St. Petersburg





With more than 35 years' experience in this magical realm, we offer the quintessential safari, with a finely tuned itinerary adjusted seasonally to ensure the best wildlife viewing possible. PHOTO: TODD GUSTAFSON

Serengeti Wildlife Safari **THE ULTIMATE SAFARI:** **TARANGIRE, NGOROGORO CRATER, AND THE SERENGETI**

Experience the best of East Africa on a safari of incredible variety and stunning settings. We've combined exquisite Tarangire National Park, with its lovely woodlands and winding rivers that attract abundant wildlife year-round, with Eden-like Ngorongoro Crater and the legendary

Serengeti, where vast herds of migratory plains animals and their predators roam.

Our private camps are set in gorgeous locations, specially chosen to bring you extraordinary up-close game viewing, and you'll enjoy activities not possible elsewhere: exciting game walks with your tracker guides, night game drives, off-road travel, fascinating cultural encounters with the Masai, and more.

Special breakfasts in the bush, a sunset hike topped by a glass of champagne, nights by the campfire, a billion stars overhead, our wonderfully comfy camps—this is the way safari was meant to be!

"The trip was life-changing on so many levels! We saw the animals so close up, and had a deep connection with the people. Fantastic!"

Gena C., Santa Cruz CA

Days 1-5 Arusha / Tarangire (December-March "Green Season" itineraries) Tarangire National Park is a haven for wildlife, home to the richest concentration of animals outside the Serengeti ecosystem. Elephant in the hundreds, as well as migratory herds of wildebeest and zebra, are drawn to the permanent waters of the Tarangire River, which meanders dreamily through a lovely landscape dotted with baobab trees and high grasses. Our very private camp, set within the territory of one of Tarangire's largest lion prides, offers all the creature comforts. While here, you'll savor the thrilling experience of exploring on foot, night drives in search of nocturnal wildlife, and visits with the local Masai. Feeling adventurous? You can even spend a night in a "fly camp!" As an

added treat, enjoy the option of an exciting balloon safari, complete with a champagne breakfast!

Days 6-8 Lake Manyara / Ngorongoro Crater Head out for game viewing in lush Lake Manyara National Park, home to tree-climbing lions and troops of baboons and blue monkeys. The birdlife is astounding—more than 350 species of birds dwell around its soda lake. Ngorongoro Crater hosts a magnificent array of wildlife—zebra, wildebeest, and plenty of lion. This is also one of the best places to see the endangered black rhino—more than 20 currently reside in the crater, where they are carefully monitored by biologists. While at Ngorongoro, we stay at a lovely lodge on the crater rim at a cool 6,000 feet.



DATES

- Dec 23, 2016-Jan 4, 2017
- Jan 15-27, 2017
- Feb 4-16
- Feb 23-Mar 7
- Jun 16-28
- Jul 19-31
- Aug 11-23
- Sep 10-22
- Dec 22, 2017-Jan 3, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Exclusive activities: off-road travel, night drives, walking safaris, meet Masai in their *bomas*, optional “fly” camp in Tarangire
- Secluded private camps, uncrowded game viewing, candle-lit dinners, a canopy of stars against a velvet sky
- Witness the great migration in the Serengeti, massive elephant herds in Tarangire, and Ngorongoro Crater—superb at any time of the year
- Olduvai Gorge, the cradle of mankind
- Bush flight avoids long drive back to Arusha

TRIP COST

- \$8195 (10-15 members)
- \$8595 (4-9 members)
- Single supplement: \$680
- Charter flight : \$395
- Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$600
- Park fees: \$1550
- Zanzibar extension: from \$1595
- Rwanda Gorilla extension: from \$1995

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Arusha
- 4 nights deluxe game lodges, 8 nights exclusive private camps
- All meals included

TRIP LEVEL

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
- 4WD game viewing, optional guided game walks, evening game drives



Days 9-13 Olduvai / Serengeti / Arusha At Olduvai, you'll visit the small but fascinating archaeological site where Mary Leakey discovered the *Zinjanthropus* skull, then enjoy game viewing en route to our private camp in a secluded section of the Serengeti. Under vast African skies, you'll witness an age-old wildlife spectacle as enormous herds of plains animals play out a battle of life and death with their predators while migrating across the endless savannas. A steaming cup of tea, coffee, or hot chocolate is brought to your tent each morning, and you're up before the sun to search a rich mosaic of habitats for lion, cheetah, and leopard among the gazelle, zebra, hyena, giraffe, and thousands of wildebeest. Our

camp is set just outside of the park, and we are granted easy access to the short grass plains where cheetah are abundant and lion prides have their territory. Exclusive and remote, our private camp features roomy walk-in tents with attached bathrooms and hot showers, and cozy beds made up with linen and a duvet—this is ultimate comfort, WT-style! Depart on Day 13 via Arusha.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Experience tropical Zanzibar's white-sand beaches and exotic Swahili culture
- Track mountain gorillas on foot in Rwanda's Parc National des Volcans





Climb Kilimanjaro!

TREK TO THE SUMMIT OF AFRICA'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN

HIGHLIGHTS

- Climb the best route to the summit of Africa's highest mountain!
- Vital extra days for maximum acclimatization, uncrowded trails, no retracing of steps
- Sunrise on the summit of Africa, unique alpine flora (5 eco-zones!), camp by the glaciers on Kili's crater rim
- Led by the most experienced guides with specialized high altitude training
- Porter gratuities included

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Arusha
- 8 nights mountain camps, 2 nights private acclimatization camp
- All meals included

DATES

Dec 16-26, 2016	Sep 1-11
Jan 7-17, 2017	Dec 16-26
Feb 3-13	Jan 13-23, 2018
Jul 4-14	Feb 2-12
Aug 4-14	

TRIP COST

\$5195 (10-14 members)
 \$5695 (5-9 members)
 Single supplement: \$400
 Park fees: \$1450
 Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti Safari extension: from \$3095

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Physically demanding 9-day trek to 19,340 feet, difficult terrain including scree (loose rock) and snow, extreme altitudes

We've perfected the climb to the celebrated "snows of Kilimanjaro" on the stunning Lemosho-Crater Camp Route, a beautiful, uncrowded trail on Kili's remote southwest flanks. With seven days on the ascent for maximum acclimatization, you'll have the

"Thank you for designing a trip that made it possible for me to complete this climb with such high spirits and all happy memories!"

Candace S., Palo Alto CA

best chance of "peak" success—plus a short climb to the summit to view the sunrise (not the grueling 9-hour climb in the dark required on other routes!). Our camps have the finest amenities on the mountain, and for extra security we always

carry oxygen and a Gamow bag. Our legendary, highly skilled guides and crew make this an unforgettable experience.

Days 1-2 Arusha National Park /

Acclimatization Enjoy a game drive en route to our private camp at 6,500 feet in Arusha National Park. Our acclimatization hike offers a chance to see bushbuck, giraffe, a host of avian life, and the unique

black-and-white colobus monkeys of the park.

Days 3-11 Kilimanjaro / Lemosho-Crater Camp Route / Summit Day

From the Lemosho trailhead, trek through forests, heath, and moorland zones to the rim of the Shira Plateau, an immense crater and World Heritage Site with glorious views of Kili's glaciated southern face. Ascend through the alpine desert zone to Crater Camp (18,500'), an extraordinary spot by the Furtwangler Glacier (an optional hike brings you right to the rim of Kili's inner crater). From camp, your summit climb is short and dramatic (just 840 feet!), bringing you to Uhuru Peak (19,340'). On a clear day, the sunrise views are surreal, with the vast African plains spread beneath your feet. A quick descent along the Mweka Route brings you back to our lodge for a well-deserved shower and victory celebration with your fellow trekkers. Depart in the evening of Day 11, or join our post-climb safari extensions.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Experience a terrific 5-day wildlife safari amid lion, elephant, zebra, and more in Ngorongoro Crater and the famed savannas of the Serengeti. It's also a great "safari-only" option for friends and family who want to join your Africa adventure.

Our extraordinary climb takes us along the best route, with the most acclimatization days (read: summit success!), the finest guides and crew, uncrowded campsites, and the fantastic scenery of Kili's five eco-zones. PHOTO: FRANCESCO TREMOLADA



Legends of East Africa

ELEPHANTS OF TSAVO, LIONS OF SAMBURU, AND CHEETAHS OF THE MASAI MARA

In the magnificent land where safaris were born, we experience phenomenal game viewing and an insider's look at conservation in three renowned national parks. Our charter flight brings us to vast Tsavo East and a wilderness camp that gives us special access to orphaned baby elephants being reintroduced to the wild by the David Sheldrick Elephant Trust. Among the red mountains of Samburu Game Reserve, we'll look for Kenya's northern species, encounter Samburu warriors, and meet an expert on lion conservation. Our grand finale is the Masai Mara Game Reserve, where we revel in the super-abundance of the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem from our spectacular camp and learn about the latest in cheetah conservation from a Mara researcher. Up-close wildlife encounters, spectacular bush flights, tribal cultures, incredible national parks—this is an unforgettable journey in Kenya.

Days 1-3 Nairobi / Tsavo East National Park A spectacular bush flight whisks us to Tsavo East for our stay at the David Sheldrick Elephant Trust's wilderness camp. Here we'll be introduced to the charismatic baby elephants of Tsavo, watching them as they bottle-feed, mud wallow, and interact with the older elephants. This is probably the closest a traveler could ever come to mingling right among African elephants and our special access is amazing.

Days 4-5 Tsavo East National Park Exploring Tsavo bushlands by 4WD vehicle, we keep an eye out for big herds of "red" elephants along with Tsavo endemics such as desert warthog and Peter's gazelle. The Tsavo ecosystem hosts the world's last surviving viable gene pool of giant tuskers, and we'll meet with a Tsavo Trust conservationist to hear about strategies to protect these elephants and the communities of Tsavo.

Days 6-7 Samburu Game Reserve Flying north to Samburu, a picturesque land of red earth and palm-fringed, cocoa-brown rivers, we'll meet the Samburu people, cousins to the Masai, and head out to look for big game species rarely seen elsewhere, including Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe, Somali ostrich, and Beisa oryx. We also meet with a researcher from Ewaso Lions, which works to protect Africa's lion population.

Days 8-11 Masai Mara Game Reserve A scenic charter flight takes us right to the Mara's rolling grasslands amid striking volcanic scenery. Our camp in a magnificent location overlooking the Talek River offers some of the world's finest Big Five game viewing in the world's best-known wilderness. Depart on Day 11, or extend your journey with exciting gorilla tracking in Rwanda's Parc National des Volcans.



JOHN WARBURTON-LEE



HUGH SITTON



JON ARNOLD

Meet orphaned baby elephants, learn how cheetah researchers work, and search for the Big Five from our atmospheric safari camps.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the wonder of the Masai Mara Game Reserve from our superbly located camp
- Meet the orphaned baby elephants of the David Sheldrick Elephant Trust at our Tsavo camp
- Look for Kenya's rare northern species in Samburu Game Reserve
- Learn about the latest conservation successes in protecting Kenya's elephants and lions

DETAIL

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Nairobi
- 1 night hotel, 9 nights luxury tented camps
- All meals included

DATES

Jan 3-13, 2017
Jul 11-21

TRIP COST

\$7995 (6-7 members)
\$8495 (4-5 members)
Single supplement: \$980
Internal airfare: \$1750-\$2600 (subject to change)
Rwanda Gorilla extension: from \$1995

TRIP LEVEL

1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7
4WD game viewing, easy walking

Mountain Gorilla Safari

GORILLAS, CHIMPS, AND A BIG GAME SAFARI

With its mystical forests sheltering half the world's population of magnificent mountain gorillas, sun-dappled savannas brimming with wildlife, and the enchanting snow-capped Ruwenzori Mountains, Uganda truly has it all! On this epic adventure, we've paired two amazing experiences—a classic big game safari and tracking chimpanzees and mountain gorillas on foot. To observe these endangered creatures in the wild is one of the world's most unforgettable experiences. Our guides know the gorilla families well, and with two days of tracking, you'll have the extraordinary chance to observe them at close hand.

"An experience I will never forget—the beauty of Uganda and its people, and the extraordinary viewing of primates and other wildlife—it couldn't have been better. Many, many thanks."

Joseph B., Portsmouth RI

And our safari? It offers incredible sightings of elephant, lion, and leopard, not to mention the largest concentration of hippos in the world!

Of the 36 known gorilla families in Bwindi, just 9 are habituated to visitors.



Days 1-3 Kibale Forest National Park / Wild Chimpanzees

Head through Uganda's lush countryside to Kibale Forest National Park, where you'll track bands of chimpanzees as they play, feed, and scamper across the treetops. Other denizens of the park include grey-cheeked mangabeys, and vervet, colobus, and red-tailed monkeys.

Days 4-6 Queen Elizabeth National Park Safari

In the Great Rift Valley, Queen Elizabeth National Park, designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, features stunning ecosystems teeming with diverse wildlife and some 500 avian species. Safari by 4WD vehicle on lake-dotted savannas, walk shady trails and go birding in the Maramagambo Forest, and boat on the Kazinga Channel, with its huge population of hippos—up to 30,000!

Days 7-11 Bwindi Impenetrable National Park / Gorilla Tracking / Entebbe

Bwindi, the remnant of a once-vast primeval forest, is home to 11 primate species including some 400 magnificent mountain gorillas, half the world's population of this highly endangered mammal. From our lovely tented lodge, hike at altitudes of 3,800 to 7,500 feet for the spine-tingling experience of coming face to face with them in the wild. With two full tracking days with our expert guides, you'll have the best opportunities to encounter them. Depart on Day 11 via Entebbe.



JAN FRITZ



HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy thrilling encounters with mountain gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest
- Track chimpanzees on foot in Kibale Forest National Park
- Phenomenal game viewing safari in Queen Elizabeth National Park in the Great Rift Valley
- Comfortable forest lodges with superb access to the wildlife

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Entebbe
- 7 nights hotels and lodges, 3 nights tented lodge at Bwindi
- All meals included

DATES

Jan 9-19, 2017 Jul 5-15
Feb 20-Mar 2 Aug 2-12

TRIP COST

\$6495 (6-7 members)
\$6895 (4-5 members)
Single supplement: \$1050
Internal airfare: \$400 (subject to change)
Chimp permits (2 treks): \$300
Gorilla permits (2 treks): \$1200
Masai Mara extension: from \$3495

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2 days of gorilla tracking (3-7 hours on steep and sometimes muddy trails), 2 days chimpanzee tracking on forested trails (3-4 hours each day), 4WD game viewing



TODD GUSTAFSON

Madagascar: Off the Beaten Path

WHERE NATURAL HISTORY ABOUNDS WITHOUT LIMITS



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hikes in five national parks and reserves, fascinating night walks, and special early morning walks for birders
- Phenomenal Malagasy Trip Leaders whose insider knowledge brings you the best wildlife experiences
- Extra local guides at each park for avid photographers and easier hiking options
- Cozy lodges chosen for their proximity to wildlife reserves
- Private dinner with a wildlife researcher
- Comfortable AC vehicle with guaranteed window seats
- Optional extension to Ankarana and Amber parks

DETAILS

- 16-day trip begins and ends in Antananarivo
- 15 nights hotels and wildlife lodges
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

Apr 30-May 15, 2017
Jul 23-Aug 7
Sep 3-18
Sep 24-Oct 9
Oct 15-30

TRIP COST

\$5495 (10-12 members)
\$5895 (6-9 members)
Single supplement: \$995
Internal airfare: \$795 (subject to change)
Ankarana and Amber Mountain extension:
from \$1590

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Easy to moderate nature walks, rugged road travel



We've perfected our Madagascar itineraries to give you an insider's perspective of the island's extraordinary wildlife and culture. PHOTO: HJ IGELMUND

Watching lemurs leap from tree to tree or dance across your footpath is one of the delights awaiting you in Madagascar. With our superb Trip Leader to unlock the island's secrets, hike fantastic trails in a dazzling array of wildlife reserves and national parks, be welcomed by local villagers, and search for exotic endemic species. Discover the magical cloud forest of Ranomafana, see the surreal limestone landscapes of Isalo, attend a healing ceremony where a local shaman calls upon ancestors for medicinal cures, and experience world-famous Andisabe (Perinet). If you're a nature lover, this trip is a must!

Days 1-3 Antananarivo / Avenue of the Baobabs Explore Antananarivo, then head to the majestic Avenue of the Baobabs and enjoy a Malagasy sundowner. Special activities include nature walks in remote Kirindy Forest or a boat excursion and village visit.

Days 4-7 Antsirabe / Ranomafana In Antsirabe, visit artisan workshops, then explore Ranomafana's rainforest, home to the rare golden bamboo lemur. On one evening, you'll enjoy a private talk and dinner with a wildlife researcher.



PETE OXFORD

Days 8-11 Anja / Tribal Ceremony / Isalo / Zombitse-Vohibasia Community-run Anja Reserve is the ideal place to get eye to eye with ring-tailed lemurs. You'll witness a tribal ceremony with the Bara tribe and hike in the dramatic canyons of Isalo before exploring Zombitse-Vohibasia National Park.

Days 12-16 Andisabe (Perinet) / Lemur Island Walk in the lush montane landscapes of Andisabe National Park, a vibrant rainforest teeming with fantastic birdlife, colorful reptiles, and home to the famous *Indri indri*, the largest species of lemur. Depart on Day 16.

ON OUR WEBSITE **MAGICAL MADAGASCAR**

Discover renowned Andisabe (Perinet), Berenty, with its ring-tailed and sifaka lemurs, and the spectacular landscapes of Ankarana and Amber National Parks. May 21-Jun 2, Jul 2-14, Aug 6-18, Sep 3-15, Sep 24-Oct 6, Nov 5-17, 2017. From \$4595.



LOIC POIDEVIN

Zambia Walking Safari

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE IN UNTOUCHED AFRICA

Zambia, birthplace of the legendary walking safari, is remote and untamed, and we've created an adventure that's the perfect match for its wonders. With consummate safari guide Jason Alfonsi, you'll set out on foot to explore the incredible sights, sounds, and scents of the African bush firsthand. Seeing big game this way is a whole different experience (you won't be a bystander here!). And though 3,500-square-mile South Luangwa National Park is as wild as it gets, welcoming lodges and Hemingway-style mobile camps ensure total comfort. Bush walks, night game viewing, 4WD safaris by open vehicle,

and magenta sunsets over an unspoiled African wilderness—if you're looking for excitement, it's all here!



HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience an incredible walking safari in an unspoiled African wilderness
- Great leopard sightings and the possibility of predator-prey interactions
- Night drives allow us to get closer to many nocturnal creatures
- Small groups (maximum six) provide an authentic and intimate experience
- Welcoming lodges, full-service private camps in the wild

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Mfuwe
- 4 nights mobile tents, 3 nights semi-permanent tented camp, 2 nights game lodges
- All meals included

DATES

Jul 20-29, 2017 Sep 8-17
Aug 20-29

TRIP COST

\$6295 (2-6 members)
Park fees: \$650
No extra charge for singles!
Victoria Falls extension: from \$660
Lake Malawi extension: from \$1495
Lower Zambezi extension: from \$2695

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

4-day walking safari in Luangwa Valley, 6-8 miles a day, 4WD game viewing



ROBIN POPE

wildlife that you simply can't get from a vehicle. Our full-service mobile camps provide wonderful comfort, from cozy walk-in tents with camp beds to delicious meals served *al fresco*.

Days 1-2 Nkwali Camp, South Luangwa National Park A bush flight brings you to Nkwali Camp, a lovely lodge on the banks of the Luangwa River, for 4WD game viewing in prime riverine woodlands. As the sun sets, a different world awakens and evening game drives reveal the nocturnal world of leopard, lion, and hyena.

Days 3-6 Walking Safari / Luangwa Valley You're up at sunrise each day for an exciting bush walk with your tracker guide, with the chance to see elephant, waterbuck, hippo, zebra, and, if your luck holds, the full complement of predators. From examining a bird's nest to tracking a lion, you'll learn the many facets of the bush—a true experience of Africa and its

Days 7-10 Tena Tena Camp In the countryside around Tena Tena, leopard sightings are frequent and famous, and the birdwatching is out of this world. Bush walks and game drives bring us along stunning oxbow lakes and through ebony forests. Depart on Day 10.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Cap off your safari at majestic Victoria Falls, "The Smoke That Thunders"
- Swim, snorkel, and sail from a waterfront lodge at Lake Malawi
- Safari on foot and by canoe along the wildlife-rich Zambezi River

The wild lands around our camps are famous for their thriving population of leopard—it's a thrill to see one of these gorgeous cats padding through the shadows! PHOTO: SUZI ESZTERHAS





Our safari in Zimbabwe brings you a host of experiences—uncrowded game viewing, cultural encounters, stays in lovely lodges, and much more!
PHOTO: TONY HEALD



Zimbabwe!

THRILLING SAFARI AND SPECTACULAR LODGES

HIGHLIGHTS

- Victoria Falls, a World Heritage Site
- Open vehicles, game drives, night drives, game walks—the freedom of safari in Southern Africa!
- Exclusive “look up” blind for incredible wildlife photography
- Sundowners and game drives aboard a vintage railway car
- Support the work of the best community conservation projects in the country
- Enjoy beautiful tented camps and lodges with amazing access to the wildlife

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Victoria Falls
- 9 nights luxury tented camps and chalets
- All meals included

DATES

Mar 11-20, 2017 Aug 5-14
Jul 8-17 Sep 16-25

TRIP COST

\$5295 (7-12 members)
\$5795 (4-6 members)
Single supplement: \$980
Internal airfare: \$440 (subject to change)
Green Season discount (Mar): \$300
Mana Pools extension: from \$1595
Victoria Falls extension: from \$660

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Game viewing by 4WD vehicle and rail car, bush walks, canoeing, cultural explorations

Zimbabwe is the ultimate safari destination—wonderfully wild and still utterly uncrowded. Our exciting—and active—adventure brings you to an extraordinary array of environments, with phenomenal wildlife experiences throughout. From an exclusive lodge set high above the Batoka Gorge to gorgeous tented camps in the great elephant refuge of Hwange National Park and Zambezi National Park, we explore the realm of lion, hippo, cheetah, and more. Come along and savor lantern-lit dinners in the bush, sundowners aboard a vintage railway car, visits with local schoolkids (you’ll even learn a few words of their click language), game drives with the flexibility to get out and hike, and paddling canoes on the Zambezi. This is adventure—Zimbabwe style!

Days 1-5 Victoria Falls / Batoka Gorge / Hwange National Park / Camelthorn Lodge

From our lodge perched above the Zambezi’s Batoka Gorge, watch black eagles soar on the evening thermals and hike the mile-long trail facing Victoria Falls. A charter flight to Hwange gives us bird’s-eye views of some of the park’s

more than 40,000 elephants. Our lodge is front row to the game-rich Ngamo Plains, with the highest densities of lion in all Hwange, as well as zebra, giraffe, wildebeest, jackal, leopard, wild dog, and cheetah, including two famous males called the “Bomani Boys.” Game drives, thrilling walks, night drives, and a unique “look up” blind at a waterhole are among our adventures here, as well as visiting a local village.

Days 6-10 Hwange / Nehimba Lodge / Zambezi National Park / Zambezi Sands

A wonderful game viewing ride aboard our vintage railway car brings us to dreamy Nehimba Lodge, where our raised tented chalets circle a waterhole that is very popular with elephants! Wildlife abounds at award-winning Zambezi Sands on the banks of the upper Zambezi, and includes hippo, croc, elephant, and buffalo. We paddle canoes to the nearby Siansimba islands and enjoy an elegant brunch in the bush. Depart on Day 10.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- **Wild and remote Mana Pools National Park, with its remnant oxbow lakes, terrific birdlife, and hippos and crocs**
- **Extra days in Victoria Falls for bungee jumping, ultralight flights, and other adventures**

Namibia Expedition

ETOSHA, HIMBA TRIBES, SOSSUSVLEI DUNES, AND A DESERT HIKE



Enjoy incredible game viewing of unique wildlife including gemsbok and desert-adapted elephant. PHOTO: THEO ALLOFS



JACK SWENSON



With its ochre-colored sand dunes and unique desert-adapted wildlife, Namibia is utterly bewitching. In this incredibly photogenic country, you'll track cheetah and leopard

"I love WT! You select the best guides, special places to stay, the food is always great, and the adventure is top drawer!"

Nancy D., Little Rock AR

traditional Himba nomads. The grand finale of your adventure is a three-day trek across the stunning NamibRand Nature Reserve, with nights spent beneath a spectacular star-studded sky amid distant mountain ranges, endless dunes, and wondrous desert silence.

Days 1-5 Windhoek / Okonjima / Etosha National Park At delightful Okonjima Bush Camp, thrilling up-close encounters with cheetah await, and we may have the chance to track them on foot. Radio-track leopard with a specialist, then head to the salt pans and savannas of Etosha National Park, home to elephant, lion, giraffe, and

with a big-cat specialist, explore 6,000-year-old rock carvings on the flanks of sandstone peaks, search for the Big Five in Etosha's wild western reaches, climb the colossal Sossusvlei dunes of the Namib Desert, and meet



GASTON PICCINETTI

the endemic black-faced impala. There is also a good chance to spot elusive black rhino here.

Days 6-10 Damaraland / Twyfelfontein / Sossusvlei Explore the table-top mountains of Damaraland, visit a remote Himba settlement, and walk the trail at Twyfelfontein—Namibia's first World Heritage Site—to view the most extensive rock etchings in Africa. In the heart of magical Namib-Naukluft National Park, climb the shimmering dunes at sunrise and sunset, capturing the colors of Sossusvlei in perfect light.

Days 11-14 NamibRand Nature Reserve / Tok Tokkie Trail Hike across the private NamibRand Nature Reserve as your guide brings the immense diversity of the desert world to life, and sleep under a brilliant canopy of stars. Depart on Day 14 via Windhoek.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Explore from romantic Cape Town to the Cape of Good Hope, taste wines in historic wine country.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Specialist guides for tracking leopard and cheetah at Okonjima
- World-class game viewing in a remote section of Etosha
- Himba villages in Damaraland, desert-adapted wildlife
- Climb some of the world's highest free-standing dunes in Sossusvlei, optional Skeleton Coast overflight
- Trek across NamibRand Nature Reserve, a stunning desert landscape

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins and ends in Windhoek
- 8 nights deluxe wildlife camps, 2 nights open-air camping, 1 night hotel, 2 nights B&B
- All meals included

DATES

May 5-18, 2017
May 22-Jun 4
Jul 4-17
Jul 20-Aug 2
Aug 12-25
Sep 12-25

TRIP COST

\$6195 (4-12 members)
Single supplement: \$520
Low season discount (May): \$300
Cape Town extension: from \$1195

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

4WD game viewing, easy to moderate hiking

In the Realm of the Desert Lion

AN EXCLUSIVE CONSERVATION SAFARI IN NAMIBIA

Have you ever dreamed of getting up close to Africa's wildlife? How about helping firsthand on conservation projects that protect these species for future generations? On this spectacular and unique adventure, we bring you behind the scenes to conservation groups that are pioneering ways to protect Namibia's amazing wildlife, including endangered black rhino, the world's greatest population of free-roaming cheetah, and the magnificent desert lion, which exists nowhere else on earth! You'll track leopard and cheetah, meet with biologists of Save The Rhino Trust, and help contribute directly to Namibia's preservation. Our groups have the exclusive experience of tracking desert lion alongside renowned conservationist Dr. Flip Stander. With only six participants per departure, this is the safari of a lifetime!

Days 1-3 Windhoek / Okonjima From Windhoek, head to Okonjima Bush Camp and visit the AfriCat Foundation, the largest cheetah and leopard rescue-and-release program in the world. Setting off at dawn in open vehicles, you'll search for leopard, track cheetah on foot,

and keep an eye out for the many bird species found here. On our June departure (two extra days), enjoy the exclusive opportunity of being the only observers (and assistants!) of the annual "Vet Check"—an incredible experience with the big cats.

Days 4-6 Damaraland / Desert Rhino Camp In the heart of Damaraland, with its magnificent mesas and bizarre vegetation, explore the prehistoric rock art at Twyfelfontein—the largest petroglyph site in all Africa, with thousands of images, both animal and spirit, carved into the cliff face. At lovely Desert Rhino Camp, home to Save the Rhino Trust, meet some of the guardians of the rare black rhino and enjoy an insider's look at the extraordinary work being done to ensure the survival of this species. You'll track rhino by 4WD vehicle and on foot, and search ephemeral riverbeds for desert elephant.

Days 7-12 Desert Lion Project / Damaraland / Windhoek From our mobile camp in the heart of the Kunene, which stretches to Namibia's legendary Skeleton Coast, search for desert lion, with the chance to meet (and even track with) Dr. Flip Stander. His work has been critical in ensuring the survival of this unique species. Our days may be long, with early starts and late finishes, but the overall experience is unforgettable! After a final night in the wilds of Damaraland, depart on Day 12 via Windhoek.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Go behind the scenes at AfriCat for close encounters with cheetah and leopard, including our special "Vet Check" Departure
- Exclusive safari—just 6 participants—with expert tracker and naturalist safari guide Jason Nott
- Track desert-adapted elephant and the world's only population of desert lion
- Walk among prehistoric rock engravings at Twyfelfontein
- Meet with field staff of Save the Rhino Trust, responsible for saving Namibia's black rhino from extinction
- Special bush breakfasts, lantern-lit dinners

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Windhoek (June departure is 14 days)
- 8 nights hotels and lodges, 3 nights mobile camp
- All meals included

DATES

May 14-25, 2017
Jun 23-Jul 6 *Vet Check Departure*
(14 Days)
Sep 3-14

TRIP COST

12-day Itinerary: from \$6495
14-day Vet Check departure: \$7495
Single supplement: from \$1190
Internal airfare: \$570 (subject to change)
Donations to conservation projects:
\$900-\$2350, depending on departure

TRIP LEVEL 1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7
4WD game viewing, bush walks

Opportunities to assist vets at AfriCat and track desert lion with a renowned conservationist are just some of the highlights of this unique safari.



DONAL MULLINS

MARY McDONALD

Botswana Wildlife Safari MOREMI GAME RESERVE, THE OKAVANGO DELTA, CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, AND VICTORIA FALLS



FRANS LANTING

Experience the ultimate thrill of feeling the rumble of elephant feet as they walk near your tent or hearing the spine-tingling roar of a lion at night. On one of the last true mobile safaris in southern Africa, we'll bring you into a realm that is rich in wildlife and filled with raw encounters. This special journey features delightful private

"Fabulous, fantastic, once-in-a-lifetime adventure. We saw more wildlife in one day than I imagined we would see the entire trip!"

Cathy B.
Ann Arbor MI

camps in the remote grasslands of Moremi and in magnificent Chobe, which shelters the world's largest herds of elephant. In the Okavango Delta, a gorgeous oasis cradled by the Kalahari sands, relax at a lovely lodge, game view by foot, boat, and—a Botswana specialty—by *mokoro* (canoe). At journey's end, find yourself hiking a dramatic trail facing glorious Victoria Falls.

ON OUR WEBSITE

SPECIAL SEASONAL EXPEDITIONS

Kalahari Explorer: Ideal seasonal game viewing in Botswana's Central Kalahari Game Reserve. Includes Chobe National Park and the Okavango Delta. Apr 9-22, 2017. From \$8295.

Okavango Explorer: Extended explorations (and birding) in the wildlife paradise of the Okavango. Includes Moremi and Chobe national parks. June 25-July 8, Aug 5-18, 2017. From \$8595.

Kalahari San Tribe Expedition: Incredible cultural encounters with the San, the skilled hunter-gatherers of the Kalahari. Includes Central Kalahari and Moremi Game Reserves, and the Okavango Delta. Mar 2-18, 2017. From \$ 11595.

Days 1-3 Maun / Moremi Game Reserve / Private Camp From Maun, head to Moremi, an exquisite mosaic of mopane scrub and wetlands set on the northeastern section of the Okavango Delta. Explore by 4WD vehicle in search of tsessebe and Burchell's zebra, and track predators including wild dog and cheetah before returning to our special camp, set near secret pools and open grasslands with no one else around—except perhaps vervet monkeys in the trees. Our mobile safari camping is ruggedly comfortable (you'll even have your own tent steward), and grants you the amazing experience of seeing and hearing wildlife right from camp. It's not uncommon for grazing elephant or hippo to pass through, and it's exhilarating to see lion and leopard prints outside your tent in the morning.

Days 4-5 Okavango Delta / Xugana Lodge Welcoming Xugana Lodge, with its reed-and-thatch chalets overlooking a tranquil lagoon frequented by hippo, is the base for our explorations in the Okavango Delta. Enjoy special excursions by *mokoro* and have the chance to stretch your legs on a guided walking safari. Unforgettable moments here include seeing

Discover the wonders of a true mobile safari—delightfully comfortable accommodations and incredible wildlife experiences. PHOTO: MARTIN ALMQVIST



MARTIN HARVEY



ARIADNE VAN ZANDERBERGEN



ADAM HEDGES



BRENDAN BELL



ANTHONY MEDICI



HIGHLIGHTS

- Thrilling game tracking by 4WD vehicle in the savannas and woodlands of Moremi and Chobe Parks
- Boat excursions and game viewing in the Okavango Delta, an amazing miracle of water in an otherwise arid landscape
- Mobile camping at its finest—including en suite bathrooms with hot showers!
- Awesome finale at Victoria Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Maun, Botswana, and ends in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
- 6 nights private camps, 4 nights hotels and game lodges
- All meals included except 1 lunch

DATES

- Mar 2-18, 2017 *Kalahari San Tribe Expedition*
- Apr 9-22, 2017 *Kalahari Explorer*
- Apr 29-May 9, 2017
- May 20-30
- Jun 10-20
- Jun 25-Jul 8 *Okavango Explorer*
- Aug 5-18 *Okavango Explorer*
- Aug 19-29
- Sep 2-12
- Sep 16-26

TRIP COST

- \$7395 (8-10 members)
- \$7895 (4-7 members)
- Single supplement: \$1250
- Internal airfare: \$275 (subject to change)
- Park fees: \$210
- Kalahari Explorer: from \$8295
- Okavango Explorer: from \$8595
- Kalahari San Tribe Expedition: from \$11,595
- Cape Town extension: from \$1195

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Game viewing by 4WD vehicle, boat, and mokoro (canoe)

parading troops of baboon, spotting an array of birdlife including Pel's fishing owl, discovering unique animals including the semi-aquatic lechwe and sitatunga antelope, and enjoying a sundowner on Xugana's waterfront deck.

Days 6-11 Chobe National Park / Private Camp / Victoria Falls A private charter flight whisks you to Chobe National Park, a legendary refuge full of wildlife, from elegant gemsbok to sleeping crocodile. We'll watch hundreds of elephant make their way to the river's edge to drink, swim, play, and give themselves a mud bath—and they may even swim near our boat during our river cruise! Our safari ends at stunning Victoria Falls, where the mile-wide Zambezi River drops 300 feet in a thundering cascade. Depart on Day 11.



Southern Africa Wildlife Safari

BOTSWANA, SOUTH AFRICA, AND VICTORIA FALLS

Journey through southern Africa, a kingdom of extraordinary ecosystems and wildlife, on this wonderfully varied safari in three diverse countries. You'll explore South Africa's enchanting Timbavati, part of famed Greater Kruger National Park (and home to the famous Timbavati white lions), and in Zambia, view game along the Zambezi River and marvel at the stunning views of thundering Victoria Falls. Your grand finale is Botswana's magnificent Chobe National Park and the Okavango Delta. Exhilarating game viewing by day, candlelit dinners at stylish safari camps and lodges by night, and the expertise of our safari guide extraordinaire—this is what safari is all about.

Days 1-3 Timbavati Private Game Reserve, South Africa On savannas surrounding our atmospheric lodge, head off-road in open-sided vehicles for close views of the Big Five—lion, elephant, buffalo, rhino, and leopard. Special activities include bush walks with an expert tracker and night drives to look for elusive genet and leopard on the hunt.

Days 4-6 Johannesburg / Victoria Falls, Zambia Savor magnificent views as you hike along the escarpment directly across from Victoria Falls, and search for wildlife, including crocodile, along the banks of the Zambezi during a sunset cruise (and with a sundowner in hand).

Days 7-8 Chobe National Park, Botswana In the legendary game-rich Savuti region of Chobe, track lion, leopard, hyena, and their prey, including large herds of giraffe, zebra, and antelope, and savor unparalleled elephant viewing, with herds numbering in the thousands.

Days 9-11 Okavango Delta Flying right to remote Xugana Lodge, set on a private island in the heart of the Okavango Delta, game view by *mokoro* (canoe) in lily-filled waterways and enjoy open-air dining and crimson sunsets over the Delta. At night, listen to hippo sounds from the nearby lagoon. Depart on Day 11.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Explore vibrant Cape Town, including Table Mountain and Kirstenbosch Gardens
- Swim, snorkel, or just relax at a beachside lodge in Mozambique
- Discover Namibia's magnificent Sossusvlei Dunes



HIGHLIGHTS

- Our safari guide's incredible knowledge of and passion for Africa's wildlife
- Diverse landscapes, from savannas and woodlands to the Okavango's emerald lagoons
- Delightful accommodations that place you close to the action

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Johannesburg, South Africa, and ends in Maun, Botswana
- 10 nights game lodges and deluxe camps
- All meals included

DATES

May 4-14, 2017 Jul 19-29
May 31-Jun 10

TRIP COST

\$8195 (6-8 members)
\$8695 (4-5 members)
Single supplement: \$440
Internal airfare: \$1560 (subject to change)
High season surcharge (Jul): \$1300
High season single supplement: \$1320
Cape Town extension: from \$1195
Mozambique extension: from \$1495
Sossusvlei Dunes extension: from \$3295

TRIP LEVEL 1 (2+) 3 4 5 6 7

Game viewing by 4WD vehicle, boat, and *mokoro* (canoe), optional bush walks



Incredibly diverse ecosystems and wildlife of three distinctive countries in southern Africa, all in one journey! PHOTO: SUZI ESZTERHAS

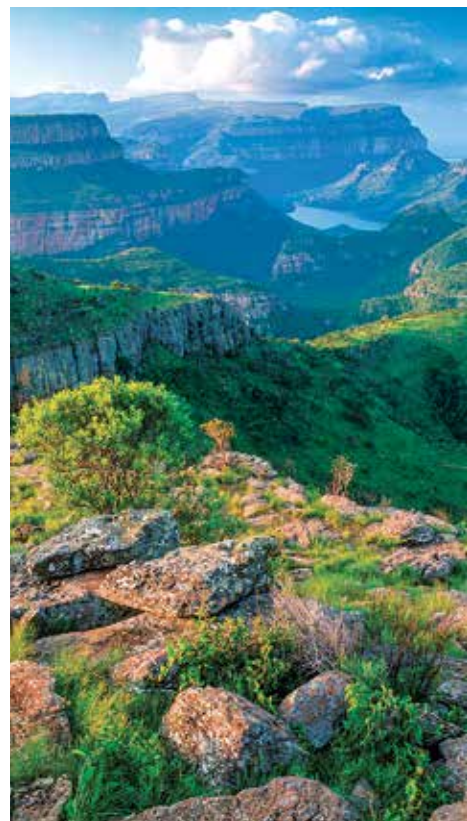




OSCAR MAX



BOB KRIST



We paired some of the best hiking trails with a grand safari on this multifaceted adventure in South Africa. Round it out with our extension to romantic Cape Town or gorgeous Shumbalala.

Great Hikes & Game Parks of South Africa

THE GARDEN ROUTE, DRAKENSBERG MOUNTAINS, AND GREATER KRUGER

With perfect hikes, delicious meals, superb safari adventures, and fantastic lodging, our active adventure is the ultimate way to experience South Africa. Exhilarating hikes bring you through phantom fern forests brimming with birdlife, and along the coast

of the turquoise Indian Ocean (with a stop for delicious oyster-tasting), then across the dramatic paths of the craggy Drakensberg Mountains of Zulu country. Experience the thrill of Big Five encounters in renowned

Greater Kruger National Park and Timbavati, one of the most exclusive private reserves in the world. Wildlife roams freely between these gamelands, and you'll head out on foot and by open vehicle for incredible sightings of lion resting in savannas, herds of buffalo and elephant grazing through woodlands, and you may even spot endangered rhino.

"The most varied, well organized and fascinating trip we have taken. South Africa is a beautiful, spectacular country."

Jean D., Tucson AZ

Days 1-3 Cape Town / Phantom Forest Reserve / Tsitsikamma

From Cape Town, head to our base at Phantom Forest, with its treehouse suites overlooking a tranquil lagoon. You'll hike in Afromontane forests and along towering bluffs, beaches, and bays of the Tsitsikamma Coast, where dramatic formations of lava rock jut out into the aquamarine sea.

Days 4-6 Drakensberg Mountains In one of the most beautiful mountain massifs in the world, hike from our mountain lodge to dramatic rock formations, stunning gorges, and ancient rock art sites depicting elephant, lion, hunters with bows and arrows, and more.

Days 7-10 Safari at Timbavati Private Game Reserve This wildlife haven grants us exceptional game viewing by 4WD vehicle and on foot. Our lodge is set near a waterhole attracting members of the Big Five—an unforgettable safari experience. Depart on Day 10.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- **Savor the historical and natural wonders of Cape Town—with adventurous options!**
- **Game view in Thornybush while enjoying the amenities of Shumbalala Game Lodge**



HIGHLIGHTS

- Small group—maximum 8!
- Hike South Africa's most breathtaking landscapes, from the mountains to the coast
- Up-close game viewing, including the Big Five in Greater Kruger National Park
- Superb accommodations include Phantom Forest and Montusi Mountain Lodge

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins in Cape Town and ends in Johannesburg
- 9 nights luxurious hotels and deluxe lodges
- All meals included

DATES

Apr 22-May 1, 2017
Oct 14-23
Nov 21-30

TRIP COST

\$4795 (6-8 members)
\$5195 (4-5 members)
Single supplement: \$350
Internal airfare: \$1030 (subject to change)
Cape Town extension: from \$1195
Shumbalala Game Lodge extension: from \$2095

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Easy to moderate hiking, 4WD game viewing, bush walks

Lost Worlds of Ethiopia

TRIBES OF THE OMO VALLEY AND SPECTACULAR FESTIVALS

Ethiopia is truly a world unto itself, from its Orthodox Christian heritage, revealed in stunning rock-hewn churches, to its kaleidoscopic array of animistic tribes that coexist in a harsh land all but forgotten by the rest of the world. We've created an in-depth adventure that takes in the full sweep of this storied land, uncovering its mystique at such intriguing places as Axum, Ethiopia's holy city and a World Heritage Site, and encountering thriving indigenous tribal cultures including the Mursi, famous for their striking clay lip plates. Each of our trips is timed for a unique festival—January departures attend Timkat, the exuberant Epiphany celebration; in September you'll witness Meskel, with its flickering bonfires and carpets of meskel daisies.



JOHN WARBURTON-LEE

"An awesome trip. The native tribes in the south were so interesting and the rock hewn churches of the north utterly fascinating."

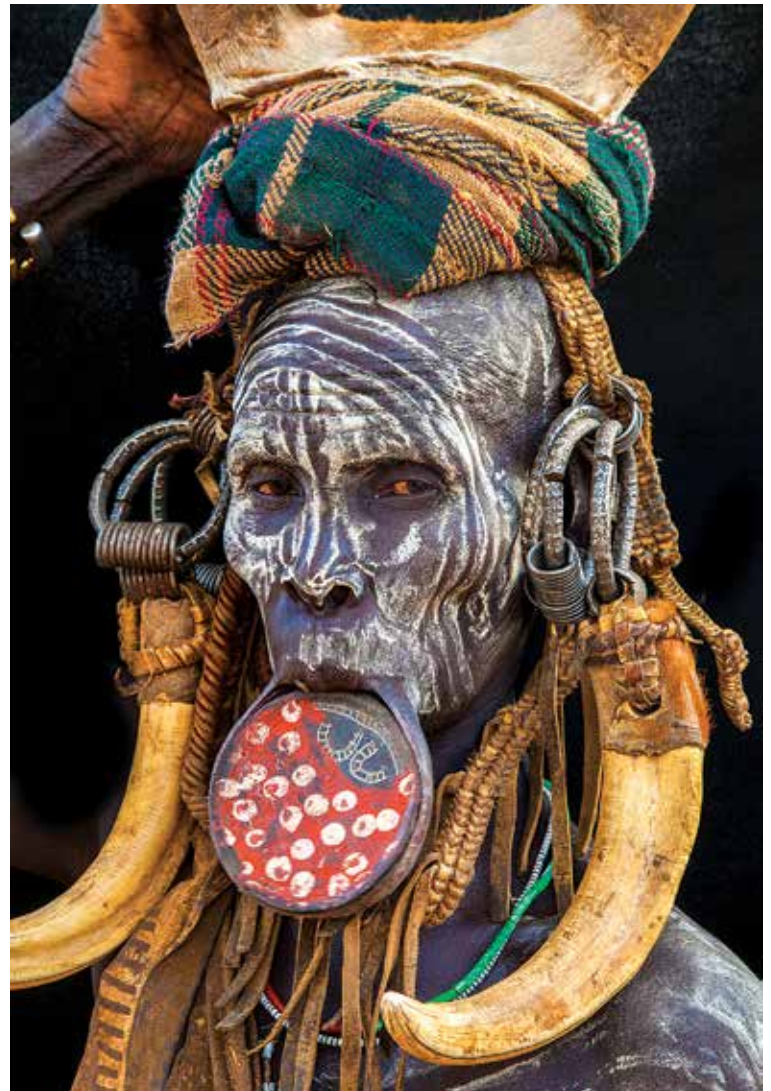
Barbara B. Sammamish WA

Days 1-6 Addis / Axum / Lalibela / Gondar / Lake Tana From bustling Addis, fly to Axum in the highlands, Ethiopia's most sacred city, where according to Ethiopian legend, the original Ark of the Covenant resides within a special chapel in the Church of St. Mary of Zion. Lalibela's astounding 12th century rock churches and Gondar's towering medieval castles offer a further glimpse into the history of Ethiopia, and we also bring you to an island-monastery on Lake Tana that's filled with religious paintings, illuminated manuscripts, and other treasures.

Days 7-9 Rift Valley / Jinka Heading south into vast Rift Valley savannas, we introduce you to Ethiopia's fantastic tribal country at the villages of the Dorze tribe, known for their cotton weavings and beehive huts, and we visit Lakes Chamo and Abaya and the lively market town of Jinka.

Days 10-12 Tribes of the Omo River Valley A fascinating mix of nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes reside in the savannas of the Omo River Valley. Our visits include the Karo, who use pulverized red and yellow chalk-like minerals to create elaborate face and body decorations for ceremonial dances. We also hike to a village of the Bume, famed for their singing and storytelling skills, and meet the Mursi, whose men are renowned warriors who practice scarification and shave their heads in geometric patterns.

Days 13-15 Addis / Timkat or Meskel Festival Our private charter flight whisks us back to Addis, avoiding a long drive. In Addis, we explore the fascinating museums and open-air markets, then witness Timkat's lively processions of Orthodox priests in vividly hued gowns and throngs of parishioners in dazzling traditional dress (January departures), or the dancing, feasting, and massive bonfires of Meskel (September departure). Depart on Day 15.



Journey with us into the many worlds of Ethiopia, from traditional tribal cultures to exuberant festivals. PHOTO: JIM ZUCKERMAN

HIGHLIGHTS

- The rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, the medieval city of Gondar
- Tribal villages of the Karo, known for their body painting, and Bume and Mursi tribes
- Spectacular festival on each trip: Timkat (January) or Meskel (September)
- See traditional dances of the Karo
- Small group size—maximum 8—for greater flexibility and cultural encounters

DETAILS

- 15-day trip begins and ends in Addis Ababa
- 3 nights at the 5-star Sheraton in Addis, 11 nights best-available hotels and lodges
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

- Jan 6-20, 2017 *Timkat Festival*
- Jan 11-25 *Timkat Festival*
- Jan 17-31 *Timkat Festival*
- Sep 13-27 *Meskel Festival*
- Jan 6-20, 2018 *Timkat Festival*
- Jan 11-25 *Timkat Festival*

TRIP COST

\$7695 (7-8 members)
 \$8195 (4-6 members)
 Single supplement: \$1490
 Internal airfare: \$1390-
 \$1890 (subject to change)
 Harar post-trip extension:
 from \$1190

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Rugged road travel by
 4WD vehicle, easy walks,
 cultural explorations



GILLES BARBIER

Expedition to Sudan

THE NILE VALLEY, NUBIAN DESERT, AND PYRAMIDS OF MEROE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Dramatic pyramids at Nuri and Meroe, both World Heritage Sites
- Our expert Trip Leader unlocks the secrets of the Kingdom of Kush
- Delightful accommodations right at archaeological sites
- Traditional dance performances, open-air markets, local specialties from lemon-laced kabobs to sweet ginger coffee
- Small group—maximum 11!
- Optional extension to Egypt

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Khartoum
- 6 nights hotels, 2 nights safari-style camp
- All meals included

DATES

Oct 28-Nov 5, 2016
Nov 11-19
Jan 6-14, 2017
Feb 10-18
Oct 27-Nov 4

TRIP COST

\$5395 (9-11 members)
\$5795 (6-8 members)
Single supplement: \$690
Sudan permits and fees: \$385

TRIP LEVEL 1+ 2 3 4 5 6 7

Overland desert touring by comfortable 4WD vehicle with guaranteed window seating, exploration with easy walking

Stunning and remote archaeological sites lie along the palm-fringed Nile River as it winds through Sudan's legendary Kingdom of Kush, an ancient rival to the better-known pharaohs to the north. Our fascinating cultural journey brings you to the confluence of the Blue Nile and White Nile for a private sunset cruise, then overland by 4WD vehicle to grand and seldom-visited monuments, from the painted tombs of Napata to the breathtaking Pyramids of Meroe, a World Heritage Site. Along the way, you'll enjoy desert picnics, hidden Nubian villages, visits to chai houses to sip cinnamon tea, a mystical Sufi dance, and even camel rides! Select accommodations, including a charming guest house and a safari-style tented camp, put you just steps away from the amazing ruins of a lost kingdom on the Nile.

Days 1-5 Khartoum / Nile Cruise / Jebel Barkal / Napata / Pyramids of Nuri After exploring Khartoum's historic sites and open-air market where artisans abound, we'll head through the open spaces of the Western Desert to Upper Nubia, where small villages are set among golden sand dunes and palm trees. Our explorations include the red sandstone mountain

of Jebel Barkal, a landmark in the desert and sacred to the Nubians since the time of the New Kingdom (1500 BC), and the fantastic Nile-side pyramids at Napata, with their multicolored hieroglyphics. A cruise on the Nile brings us to the steep-sided Pyramids of Nuri, burial place of 21 Kushite kings along with 52 queens and princesses. Our lodge is set at the foot of Jebel Barkal, and we'll enjoy a traditional Nubian dance performance.

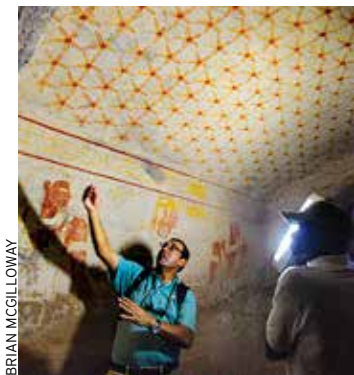
Days 6-7 Bisharin Nomads / Pyramids of Meroe

Crossing the Nile, we enter the volcanic Bayuda Desert, where we may meet Bisharin nomads roaming with their herds of camels and donkeys, and reach spellbinding Meroe, with its countless mysterious pyramids set on a hilltop, their sharp, angular shapes jutting into the clear blue sky. You can ride a camel (or walk if you prefer) to discover this astonishing site. From our permanent tented camp, savor amazing pyramid views right from the veranda of your safari-style tent.

Days 8-9 Naga and Mussawarat Temples / Whirling Dervishes

After exploring the temples of Naga and Mussawarat, with their wonderful bas-relief depictions, watch the spinning of the Sufi whirling dervishes at sunset at the Tomb of Ahmed al-Nil, as chanting and music fill the air in the Sufi expression of mystic union with God. Depart on Day 9.

Amazing pyramids, Coptic ruins, nomad visits, a desert sojourn—our journey delivers a full experience of a fascinating and remote land.





WALTER BIBIKOW



ALDO PAVAN



JUAN CARLOS MUNOZ



REN MATTES



JUAN CARLOS MUNOZ

Our magnificent journey brings you into Oman's varied landscapes, from rugged deserts to beautiful coastlines, and introduces you to its rich cultural heritage.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit colorful fishing harbors and ancient trading ports, meet a local archaeologist
- Encounter Bedouin tribes, explore golden dunes by camel and 4WD vehicle
- Roam the narrow alleys of Oman's traditional markets, enjoy a private *dhow* cruise
- Explore the cliff-hugging villages, lushly terraced gardens, and historic forts of the Hajar Mountains

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Muscat
- 9 nights hotels, 1 night deluxe desert camp, 1 night comfortable ecolodge
- All meals included

DATES

Jan 23-Feb 3, 2017
Oct 30-Nov 10

TRIP COST

\$7495 (11-15 members)
\$7995 (6-10 members)
Single supplement: \$1650
Internal airfare: \$240 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Cultural adventures with walking tours, light hiking, rugged off-road travel, and optional swimming and camel riding

Desert Kingdom of Oman

ADVENTURES IN THE LAND OF FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH

With its jagged peaks, dazzling mosques, mystical ruins, and lively souks laden with incense and fragrant oils, it's easy to fall under the spell of Oman. We've designed a captivating expedition that immerses you in this enchanting realm, from opulent sultan's

"I was thrilled to have the opportunity to visit such a hidden gem of a country."

Vivian L. Georgetown TX

palaces and historic Islamic forts to the towering Hajar Mountains, where mudbrick villages are nestled amid emerald palm forests and ancient irrigation channels spiral magically through the arid landscape. You'll mingle with village traders at a spirited goat auction, stay at a remote

desert camp for unforgettable visits to Bedouin camps and optional camel rides, ply the Arabian coast aboard a traditional *dhow*, watch tiny sea turtles hatch by moonlight, and savor a rich cuisine of succulent kebabs, saffron-infused rice, and cardamom coffee served with sweet dates—this is a true adventure into the heart of a mesmerizing land!

Days 1-5 Muscat / Western Hajar Mountains

After exploring Muscat, head to the rugged Western Hajar, where traditional cliff-hugging villages sit amid gardens and date palm forests. Here we meet a traditional beekeeper, explore historic forts, see vast Wadi Nakhr, Oman's "Grand Canyon," and hike to isolated villages.

Days 6-8 Wahiba Sands / Desert-to-Sea Crossing

At Wahiba Sands, we'll experience the life of a nomad—in WT style!—with camel rides amid the golden sand dunes, visits to Bedouin tribes, and an unforgettable evening under the stars, with the hypnotic sounds of Bedouin musicians transporting you back in time. A 4WD expedition carries us across the desert to the edge of the Arabian Sea, where we visit a turtle reserve and enjoy a cruise aboard a classic *dhow*, the vessels that once carried frankincense as far as India and Africa.

Days 9-12 Salalah and the Frankincense Trail

Along Oman's Frankincense Trail, we'll join an archaeologist in Salalah for in-depth discoveries of the nearby mythical ruins of Al Baleed, explore Nabi Ayub, storied resting place of the prophet Job, and visit the blowholes at Mugshail Beach, known to spout sea water as high as 100 feet during high tide. Depart on Day 12 via Muscat.

Pyramids to Petra

A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY IN EGYPT AND JORDAN

From Egypt's astounding treasures to Jordan's fabled Petra, "a rose-red city half as old as time," our superb journey explores some of the most glorious monuments of the ancient world. A five-day cruise aboard the *Nile Adventurer*—with its relaxed, yacht-style ambiance—brings you to ethereal riverside temples from Luxor to Aswan, and at Abu Simbel, you'll discover the enormous statues of the empire-builder Ramses II gazing out over the Nile Valley. At dazzling Petra, witness a 2,000-year-old metropolis carved into sheer rock walls, then head to the sandstone and granite canyons of Wadi Rum to explore by camel or on foot and watch a glorious sunset from our charming tented camp. Our phenomenal Trip Leaders are experts at unraveling the mysteries of these antique lands and transform your journey into an unforgettable experience.

Days 1-8 Cairo / Nile Cruise / Aswan / Abu Simbel After exploring the Great Pyramids, Sphinx, and the Egyptian Museum, with its golden artifacts of King Tut's tomb and the famed Mummies Room, fly to Luxor to walk among the massive stone columns of Karnak, the Temple of Luxor, and the spectacular Valley of the Kings and Queens. Boarding the *Nile Adventurer*, visit the bewitching temples at Edfu, Esna, and Kom Ombo. From Aswan,

fly to Abu Simbel to see the colossal statues of Ramses II.

Days 9-12 Amman / Jerash / Kerak / Petra We enjoy lunch with a Jordanian family, then explore the archaeological masterpiece of Jerash, Mt. Nebo, from which Moses glimpsed the Promised Land, and the great Crusader fortress at Kerak. At magical Petra, we enter this spellbinding ancient city on foot to behold its lavish temples, theaters, and palaces chiseled into solid rock, and in the evening, experience its wonder by the light of a thousand candles.

Days 13-15 Wadi Rum / Dead Sea The landscape of Wadi Rum, with its immensity, ever-changing palette of colors, and awe-inspiring rock spires, creates an otherworldly atmosphere. Our delightful Bedouin-style tented camp offers the perfect retreat for optional hikes and camel rides in this extraordinary desert setting. Our journey ends at the Dead Sea, where you can take a dip in its therapeutic waters. Depart on Day 15 via Amman.

ON OUR WEBSITE **IN THE WAKE OF CLEOPATRA**

With our expert Egyptologist, sail the Nile from Luxor to Aswan aboard a 12-guest *dahabiya*, a traditional two-masted river yacht that allows access to fascinating remote sites. Oct 12-21, 2017. From \$5695.



NEIL FARRIN



JURGEN HENKELMANN

HIGHLIGHTS

- 5-day Nile journey aboard the 32-cabin *Nile Adventurer*
- Explore the Great Pyramids, Abu Simbel, see Petra by candlelight
- Revel in the desert solitude and silence of Wadi Rum from a delightful tented camp
- Enjoy lunch in the home of a Jordanian family, explore Jerash

DETAILS

- 15-day trip begins in Cairo, Egypt, and ends in Amman, Jordan
- 4 nights aboard deluxe vessel with Nile-view cabins, 9 nights first-class hotels, 1 night tented camp
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners

DATES

Oct 28-Nov 11, 2016
Mar 24-Apr 7, 2017
Nov 3-17

TRIP COST

\$6695 (10-15 members)
\$7195 (5-9 members)
Single supplement: \$1790
Internal airfare within Egypt: \$590 (subject to change)
Alexandria extension: from \$1095

TRIP LEVEL **1** 2 3 4 5 6 7

Cultural exploration and walking tours



Experience the wonders of the ancient world on our splendid insider's journey. PHOTO: EDMUND NAGELE

Morocco: Camels to Casbahs

MYSTICAL CITIES, ATLAS MOUNTAINS, AND THE GOLDEN DUNES OF THE SAHARA

Fabled casbahs, medieval medinas, royal cities, golden dunes, red-rock canyons—Morocco has a mystique all its own and our journey perfectly captures its sensuous beauty. Discover the graceful walled city of Fez,

"We can depend on Wilderness Travel to offer exceptional trips and great attention to detail, and the quality of your Trip Leaders is unsurpassed."

Jocelyn S.
Arvada CO

suspended in a medieval dream, and cross the High Atlas Mountains amid an arresting landscape of colossal canyons. In Essaouira, an 18th century gem set by the sea, and vibrant Marrakesh, your senses are awakened by the sights of bustling markets and the scent of exotic spices. You'll be welcomed with Berber hospitality and meet nomads and artisans in ancient metropolises where time seems to stand still. And, our special two-day desert safari will bring you into the silent realm of the Sahara, a breathtaking experience of a world unto itself.

HIGHLIGHTS

- One of the most comprehensive experiences of Morocco!
- Ride a camel or hike (or even a vehicle option) across the Sahara's glistening sands
- Meet the Berbers of the High Atlas Mountains
- Roam the labyrinthine medinas of medieval Fez and Marrakesh

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins in Casablanca and ends in Marrakesh
- 11 nights first-class hotels, 2 nights luxury tented camp
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 3 dinners

DATES

Nov 13-26, 2016
Feb 19-Mar 4, 2017
Mar 19-Apr 1
Apr 16-29
Sep 17-30
Oct 15-28
Nov 5-18

TRIP COST

\$4895 (11-15 members)
\$5295 (5-10 members)
Single supplement: \$720

TRIP LEVEL 1 (2+) 3 4 5 6 7

Cultural exploration and walking tours, 2-day camel trek with optional 2-4 hours hiking a day, altitudes between 4,000-6,000 feet, 4WD vehicle support



Days 1-4 Casablanca / Rabat / Moulay Idriss / Volubulis / Fez

From Casablanca, head to Rabat to stroll through the picturesque Oudaya Kasbah, explore the hill town of Moulay Idriss and the striking Roman ruins of Volubulis, then enter magical Fez, Morocco's oldest city, with its Arabic-Moorish architecture and honeycomb of twisting alleys.

Days 5-7 Middle Atlas Mountains / Sahara Camel Safari

Crossing the Atlas Mountains, descend to Erfoud, then set off into the Sahara, riding a camel (or walk or ride in our vehicle). From our private luxury tented camp cradled in the dunes of Erg Chebbi, you'll feel you have the desert all to yourself as you stargaze under a brilliant night sky while listening to local musicians, and wake to an amazing sunrise.

ON OUR WEBSITE

MOROCCO: THE HIGH ATLAS TREK

Join us for a six-day trek through the striking High Atlas Mountains and an immersion into the culture of the Berber people, Morocco's original inhabitants. Drink tea in the homes of nomads, explore medieval Fez, the dreamlike walled city whose medina still looks as it did a thousand years ago, and wander through Marrakesh, where merchants and artisans beckon.

Jul 29-Aug 12, 2017. From \$4295.



MASSIMO RIPANI

Days 8-10 Todra / Dades / Ait Ben Haddou / Marrakesh

Meet friendly Berber nomad families and hike through red-rock canyons beneath towering limestone walls in the Todra and Dades Gorges. Visit the imposing mud-brick citadel of Ait Ben Haddou, an impeccably preserved World Heritage Site, en route to Marrakesh.

Day 11 Essaouira

In the picturesque artists' haven of Essaouira, with its Mediterranean atmosphere of whitewashed houses, blue shutters, and ornate doors, we'll wander through the medina, visit artisan workshops, and explore the fishermen's market in the tiny harbor.

Days 12-14 Marrakesh

Meander through a maze of souks where traditional artists are on every corner and everything from pottery and fabrics to silver and spices are on display. A visit to Djemaa el Fna, the central square, is the perfect place to experience Marrakesh's vibrant market life, with snake charmers, fire-eaters, and fortune tellers. Depart on Day 14.

The sight of endless dunes and scent of sweet spices fills your senses on this fascinating journey to Morocco.



RICHARD MASCHMEYER



HUGH SITTON



Private Journeys in Africa

YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR TRIP DATES, YOUR DREAM TRIP • DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE

Perfect for Families, Friends, or Just the Two of You! Celebrating an anniversary, big birthday, or just dreaming of a great adventure with your family, close friends, or significant other? WT's Private Journeys in Africa bring you the world of this great continent, from your own private safari on the plains of the Serengeti to tracking mountain gorillas in Uganda and experiencing the otherworldly landscapes of Namibia.

Ready to Book—or to Customize—It's Your Choice! Book them as they are, or tinker a bit, altering the order of the itinerary or extending your adventure. Either way, WT Private Journeys offer you a fantastic experience and great value.

Request a Detailed Itinerary You can download a Detailed Itinerary for any Private Journey at www.wildernesstravel.com. Contact us for availability, with questions, or to book your adventure!

"This was our first Private Journey (and 4th WT trip). We loved it! The itinerary was excellent and our guides were outstanding."

Michelle W., Johannesburg, South Africa

"Thank you very much! You enabled a fabulous adventure and unforgettable experience. Each family member was delighted."

Elizabeth T., Charlottesville VA

"We had the most amazing, memorable trip and wished we could have stayed longer. Once again, Wilderness Travel went above and beyond."

Alexia D., Upland CA



Namibia

Sossusvlei, Skeleton Coast, Damaraland, Himba Tribes, Etosha National Park



Uganda

Mountain Gorillas, Chimpanzees, and Queen Elizabeth National Park



Southern Africa

Cape Town, Kruger, Victoria Falls, and Chobe



Zambia

Walking Safari in South Luangwa National Park



South Africa

Beautiful Cape Town and a Classic Wildlife Safari



Morocco

Imperial Cities, the Great Sahara, and Marrakesh



Tanzania

Safari in Tarangire, Ngorongoro Crater, and the Serengeti



Botswana & Victoria Falls

Okavango Delta, Chobe's Elephant Kingdom, and Victoria Falls



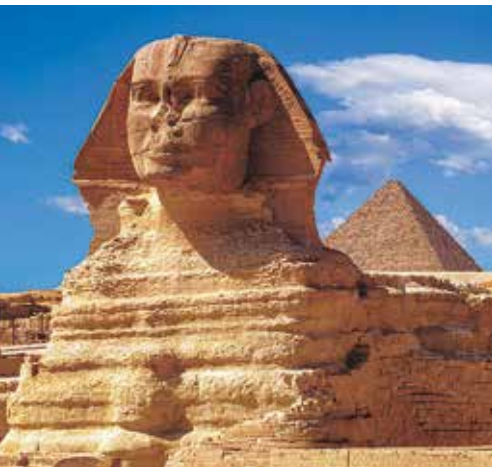
Kenya

Family Safari: Masai Mara Migration and Cultural Encounters



Zimbabwe

Victoria Falls, Active Game Viewing in Mana Pools and Hwange National Parks



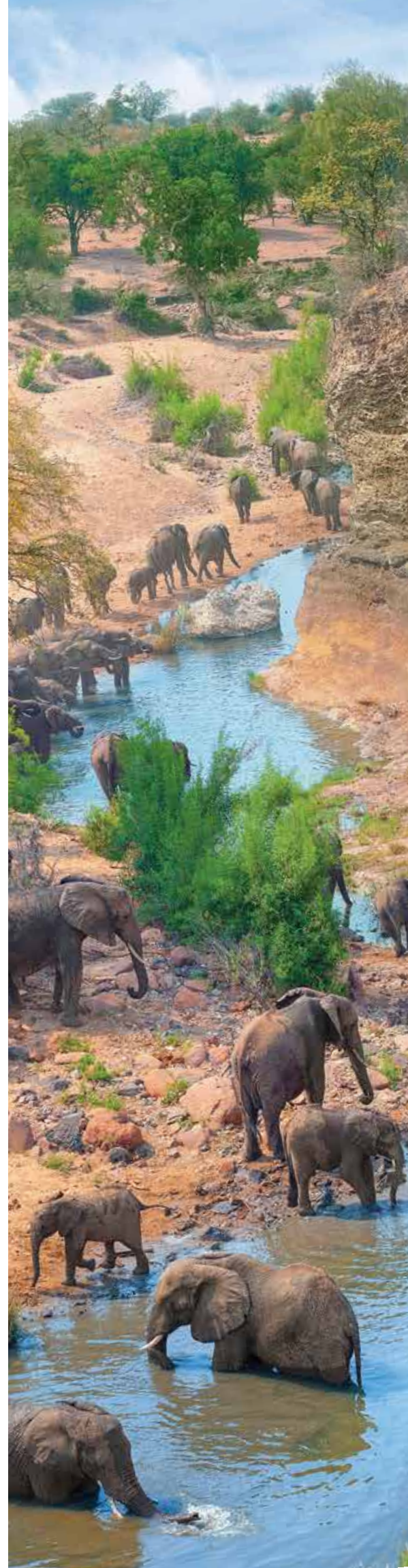
Egypt

Great Pyramids, Nile Cruise from Aswan to Luxor, Abu Simbel



Jordan

Jerash, Petra, Wadi Rum, and the Dead Sea



Temples, Treasures & Teahouses

HIDDEN WORLDS OF JAPAN



Learn about the centuries-old traditions that still thrive in modern Japan.
PHOTO: SEAN PAVONE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy Trip Leader Kate Ulberg's cultural insights and passion for Japanese culture
- Explore Kyoto, with its Zen gardens, majestic palaces, welcoming teahouses, food markets, and artisan districts
- Discover Kanazawa's Edo-period geisha quarter, visit Himeji's famous castle and mountaintop temple
- Experience traditional ryokans, the serene inns that reflect Japanese culture in miniature

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins in Tokyo and ends in Osaka
- 12 nights ryokans and hotels, 1 night temple lodging
- All meals included except lunches and 2 dinners

DATES

Mar 20-Apr 2, 2017

Apr 4-17 *Alternate itinerary, call for details*

TRIP COST

\$8295 (11-12 members)

\$8595 (9-10 members)

\$8895 (7-8 members)

Single supplement: \$1480

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Walking, including some steep stairs, 6-7 hours a day, Japanese-style dining (sitting on floor)



ROBERT HARDING

Days 6-11 Kyoto View the mystical Zen rock garden at Ryoanji, and visit sublime Daitokuji, whose small Zen temples and gardens are associated with masters of the Japanese tea ceremony. In eastern Kyoto, walk the cherry-blossom-lined Path of Philosophy, and in western Kyoto, explore the lanes of the Sagano and Arashiyama districts, remnants of Kyoto's rural past with their thatch-roofed houses, welcoming teahouses, the poet Basho's hut, and rice paddies. We also explore Kyoto's incredible food markets and workshops with superbly crafted folk arts.

Days 12-14 Koyasan / Nara / Osaka A cable car brings us to the mountaintop monastery at Koyasan for an overnight in a *shukubo*, or temple lodging. After observing the prayers and chanting in the morning, we catch the train for Nara, home to many of Japan's most revered treasures. Walk Nara's back streets to marvelous 7th century Horyuji Temple and ramble the lanes of Naramachi. Depart on Day 14 via Osaka.



ROBERT HARDING

Japan is an enigmatic land, and the perfect way to unlock its secrets is on our walking

"We couldn't have asked for a better Trip Leader—Kate is so knowledgeable. Domo arigato!"

Marli K.
Larkspur CA

journey with Trip Leader Kate Ulberg, who has an extraordinary gift for introducing people to Japan. Join her to explore the lantern-lit lanes of romantic Kyoto, a thousand-year-old city

of temples, gardens, and palaces. In seaside Kanazawa, stroll streets lined by immaculately preserved teahouses from the Edo and Meiji eras, and in Himeji, soak up the serenity of a 17th century mountaintop temple in an ancient forest. Most nights are in traditional ryokans, with one night in a Buddhist monastery perched on a mountaintop.

Days 1-5 Tokyo / Kanazawa / Himeji From Tokyo, head by train to Kanazawa on the Sea of Japan. This city's Edo-period samurai homes and geisha teahouses remain fully intact and are a delight to explore. At lovely Himeji, we make a pilgrimage to the atmospheric temple of Engyo-ji, which gained fame as a setting in *The Last Samurai*.

Hiker's Journey to Shikoku

ACROSS A SACRED TEMPLE ROUTE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF KOBO DAISHI

For 1,200 years, *o-henro-san* (pilgrims) have walked the 88-temple pilgrimage route across Shikoku Island, following in the footsteps of the great 8th century Buddhist saint Kobo Daishi, the most revered figure in Japanese Buddhism. We've selected the most beautiful temples—and hikes—to create a captivating journey across this legendary isle. You'll follow trails between venerated temples, climb one of Shikoku's highest peaks, and discover the remote Iya Valley, a vestige of old Japan with its *kazura-bashi* (vine bridges) and 300-year-old thatched farmhouses. Cultural adventures abound, from a soak in the thousand-year-old Dogo Onsen (hot spring) to stays at a temple lodging and a welcoming family-run ryokan in the mountains.

Days 1-4 Osaka / Koyasan Monastery / Temple Hikes

Our journey begins at Koyasan, the monastery where Kobo Daishi is buried. Pilgrims traditionally come here to ask for his "support" before starting their hikes and we'll do the same. After getting our pilgrim's "passport" (to be stamped at each temple), we boat to Shikoku and begin our pilgrimage at Ryozen-ji, the first temple on the circuit. We'll also visit Kakurin-ji, a mountain temple 1,500 feet above the sea, and a temple where pilgrims touch an ancient tree said to have been planted by Kobo Daishi.

Days 5-8 Iya Valley / Matsuyama / Dogo Onsen

In the Iya Valley, whose high peaks and deep gorges made it a safe haven for the Heike Clan during the civil wars of the 12th century, our hike brings us up sacred Tsurugi-san (6,412'), a peak steeped in legend. After a visit to the famed Taga-jinja Fertility Shrine, we hike to Iwaya-ji Temple, perched on a cliffside above the valley floor. In Matsuyama, explore Matsuyama-jo, a castle with bird's-eye views of the Seto Inland Sea, and soak in Matsuyama's Dogo Onsen hot springs, one of the oldest public bath houses in Japan, with a history dating back a thousand years.

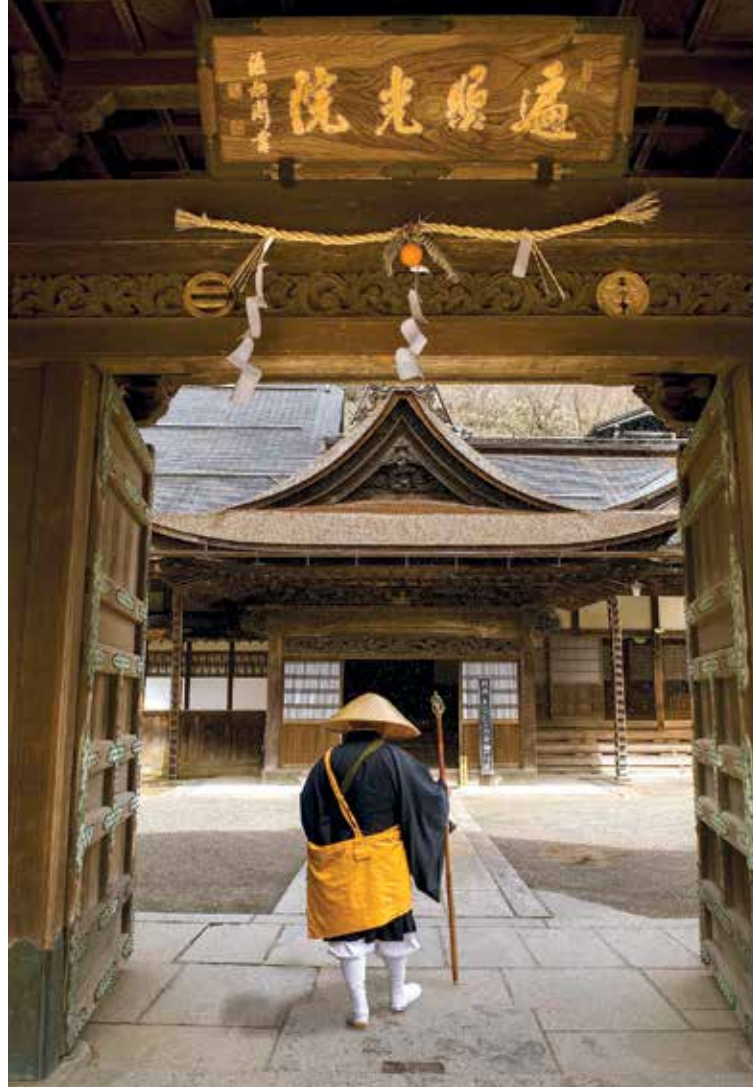
Days 9-11 Kompira-san / Okubo-ji / Awaji Island / Osaka

We visit Zentsu-ji Temple, where Kobo Daishi was born, walk through an underground tunnel that pilgrims must "feel" their way through, then climb the 1,368 steps to the Shinto shrines of Kompira-san, dedicated to sailors and seafarers. Our final stop is Okubo-ji, or Temple 88, the last temple on the pilgrimage trail and a must-see for us. After an overnight on Awaji Island, known in Japanese folklore as the birthplace of Japan, we depart on Day 11 via Osaka.

ON OUR WEBSITE **JAPAN: CASTLES, SAMURAI & LEGENDS**

Explore feudal Japan, with its soaring castles, samurai homes, pilgrim trails, and famed potters.

Nov 7-20, 2016; May 8-21, Nov 1-14, 2017. From \$7595.



We hike alongside Japanese pilgrims from all walks of life on this unique journey.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike pilgrim paths to the legendary temples of Shikoku
- Explore the traditional Iya Valley, with its thatched houses and vine bridges
- Meet pilgrims and hikers, sample Shikoku's delicious fresh seafood
- Visit Matsuyama-jo, one of the most famous original castles in Japan

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Osaka
- 9 nights hotels, inns, and ryokans, 1 night temple lodging
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES

May 21-31, 2017
Oct 15-25

TRIP COST

\$6695 (11-12 members)
\$7095 (9-10 members)
\$7495 (7-8 members)
Single supplement: \$1250

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

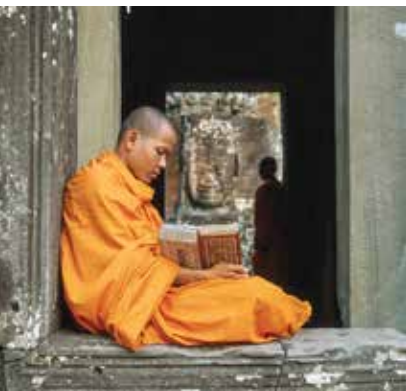
Easy to moderate hikes, 2-5 hours a day on hiking days, walking tours, many temple stairs



ANDREW WOODLEY



MACDUFF EVERTON



MARTIN PUDDY



PAOLO GIUCOSO



JOACHIM HILTMANN

Our journey brings you into three countries with intriguing cultures, beautiful scenery, and contemporary and ancient histories.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Walk the atmospheric lanes of Luang Prabang, a World Heritage Site
- Discover Hanoi by bicycle rickshaw
- Delight in the incredible beauty of Halong Bay aboard our private junk
- Roam the immense temple city of Angkor Wat

DETAILS

- 16-day trip begins in Luang Prabang, Laos, and ends in Siem Reap, Cambodia
- 14 nights deluxe hotels, 1 night aboard private traditional junk
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 4 dinners

DATES

Nov 5-20, 2016	Nov 4-19
Dec 17, 2016-Jan 1, 2017	Dec 20, 2017-Jan 4, 2018
Jan 7-22, 2017	Jan 6-21, 2018
Feb 4-19	Jan 27-Feb 11
Feb 11-26	

TRIP COST

FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
 \$6095 (15-16 members)
 \$6395 (11-14 members)
 \$6695 (8-10 members)
 Single supplement: \$1350
 Internal airfare: \$790 (subject to change)
 Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$330

TRIP LEVEL 1+ 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Cultural explorations and walking tours

Indochine AN EXTRAORDINARY CULTURAL JOURNEY TO LAOS, VIETNAM, AND CAMBODIA

The beguiling lands of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia offer a world of enchantment, with their traditional cultures, gorgeous scenery, elegant architecture, and mouth-watering cuisines. Our journey immerses you deeply in this stunning realm, beginning with a private

"This was my second time on this trip, and I found it as enchanting as the first time."

Judith M. Albuquerque NM

baci ("welcoming") ceremony with villagers, a scenic trip on the Mekong River, and a visit to a local silk-weaving community in Luang Prabang, Laos' regal town of gilded temples. In Vietnam, we explore the vibrant streets of Hanoi's Old

Quarter by bicycle rickshaw, overnight aboard a private junk in magical Halong Bay, watch fishermen bring their catch to market in the well-preserved 17th century trading port of Hoi An, and marvel at the natural caves and Buddhist sanctuaries near Hue. Our grand finale is at dazzling Angkor Wat, Cambodia's surreal jungle-shrouded city of temples lost in time.

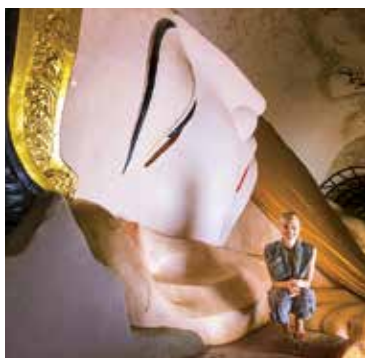
Days 1-4 Luang Prabang, Laos In Luang Prabang, we stroll among 15th century shrines, boat up the Mekong River to the Buddhist caves at Pak Ou, and visit Hmong and Khamu hilltribe villages.

Days 5-11 Hanoi, Vietnam / Halong Bay / Hoi An / Hue Taking in Hanoi's Old Quarter by bicycle rickshaw, we enjoy a lunch of *cha ca*, Hanoi's famous fish and noodle specialty, and visit the studio of a local artist. Halong Bay, a mystic realm of limestone islands set in a jade-green sea, is the setting for our overnight cruise aboard a traditional junk. In picturesque Hoi An, we visit a lively quayside market, then head to Hue to explore the royal tombs of the Nguyen emperors and their imperial citadel.

Days 12-16 Saigon / Temples of Angkor, Cambodia After experiencing bustling Saigon, we head to the temples of Angkor. Covered with intricate bas-reliefs and scattered across a tropical landscape, they are a lasting monument to the glory of a bygone Khmer civilization. Amid some of the world's architectural masterpieces, we explore majestic jungle-draped temples and structures with detailed carvings and colossal sculptured Buddha images. Depart on Day 16.

Myanmar: Wonders of the Golden Land

THE ANCIENT CITIES OF BAGAN AND MANDALAY, MAGICAL INLE LAKE



HIGHLIGHTS

- The golden spires of magical Shwedagon Pagoda, sunset at Bagan
- Meet fascinating hilltribe people in traditional villages
- Boat along the great Irrawaddy River
- Ethereal Inle Lake, with its stilt villages, floating gardens, and fascinating leg-rowers

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins and ends in Yangon
- 13 nights hotels
- All meals included except 3 dinners

DATES

Nov 7-20, 2016 Dec 20, 2017-Jan 2, 2018
Jan 9-22, 2017 Jan 6-19, 2018
Feb 1-14 Feb 13-26
Nov 4-17

TRIP COST

FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
\$6195 (15-16 members)
\$6495 (11-14 members)
\$6795 (8-10 members)
Single supplement: \$1450
Internal airfare: \$670 (subject to change)
Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$200
Optional balloon ride in Bagan: \$380
(subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Cultural explorations, optional hikes of 2-4 hours



The full magic, enchantment, and serenity of Myanmar come to life on our extraordinary journey. PHOTO: SEAN PAVONE

Long hidden from the outside world, Myanmar is “quite unlike any land you know about,” as Rudyard Kipling famously wrote. Its ancient history, deep cultural traditions, and extraordinary landscapes are utterly captivating. We’ll explore Yangon, where towering Shwedagon Pagoda glints in the sun, watch a magical sunset over a thousand splendid temples in Bagan, and journey along the peaceful waters of the great Irrawaddy River in Mandalay. In Shan country, our visits to remote hilltribe villages are fascinating, and we travel by boat to see bustling markets on the shores of Inle Lake. From one exquisite destination to another, along with excellent cuisine and friendly, deeply spiritual people, our cultural adventure is as enchanting to the eyes as it is to the soul.

Days 1-2 Yangon In Yangon, we join Buddhist pilgrims at the immense Shwedagon Pagoda, a golden, jewel-encrusted temple, and view the magnificent reclining Buddha at Kyaukhtatgyi, stretching some 230 feet and surrounded by offerings of incense and flowers. We’ll also stroll alongside shoppers in the lively Bogyoke Market and the fascinating Chinese street market.

Days 3-5 Bagan Once the capital of ancient kingdoms, Bagan is absolutely extraordinary—

two thousand pagodas and temples rise majestically here above emerald fields. The views from atop the temples are undeniably entrancing, especially at sunset. We explore the best of them, then take a private boat up the Irrawaddy River to visit a remote village not frequented by other travelers for a glimpse of rural Burmese life.

Days 6-7 Mandalay After “making merit” at the Maha Muni Pagoda, with its huge Buddha image covered with countless layers of gold leaf, we journey by local boat down the Irrawaddy to visit 14th century Sagaing, with its picturesque white hillside pagodas. After traveling by horse-cart to the ruins of Ava, the ancient Burmese capital from the 14th to the 19th centuries, we capture sunset photos at 200-year-old U Bein Bridge.

Days 8-14 Hilltribe Country / Inle Lake

In Shan country we walk village to village, meeting hilltribe people on the trails as they head to their fields and visiting an animist Ann village in the company of a local shaman. At vast Inle Lake, famous for its leg-rowers, we explore lakeside communities by longboat, visit a hilltribe market and silk weaving village, walk to caves filled with ancient Buddha images, and learn about Myanmar’s deep spiritual beliefs from the abbot of a Buddhist monastery. Our waterfront hotel—complete with spa—is a great place to unwind and savor the beauty of the setting. Depart on Day 15 via Yangon.



Trek to Everest Base Camp

ONE OF THE GREAT MOUNTAIN HIKES OF THE WORLD

A trek to the base of Mt. Everest (29,035'), "Mother Goddess of the Snows," is an incredible mountain adventure and the realization of a dream for many. Our perfectly paced trek brings us to the top of Kala Patar (18,365'), a hiker's peak with sensational views of Everest's Southwest Face, and to Everest Base Camp itself, by way of the great Khumbu Glacier. En route, we enjoy the delights of Sherpa culture and acclimatize with three special Exploration Days off the main Everest route for spectacular hikes to Ama Dablam Base Camp (15,400') and the Chukhung Valley. Sherpa lodges keep us comfortable as we experience this wondrous Himalayan realm.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Fantastic Exploration Days at Ama Dablam Base Camp and in the Chukhung Valley
- Hike up to a spectacular viewpoint on Kala Patar
- Paced for maximum acclimatization and led by the Khumbu's most experienced guides
- Overnights in family-owned Sherpa lodges—no camping!

DETAILS

- 20-day trip begins and ends in Kathmandu
- 4 nights first-class hotel, 15 nights family-owned Sherpa lodges
- All meals included except 3 lunches and 4 dinners

DATES

- Oct 4-23, 2016
- Nov 15-Dec 4
- Mar 7-26, 2017
- Oct 8-27
- Oct 31-Nov 19 *Mani Rimdu Festival*
- Mar 20-Apr 8, 2018

TRIP COST

- \$4895 (10-12 members)
- \$5195 (6-9 members)
- Single supplement: \$690
- Internal airfare: \$375 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

- 15-day trek on moderate to steep trails, 4-8 hours a day, altitudes between 9,000-18,365 feet



Days 1-6 Kathmandu / Lukla / Namche / Tengboche

We visit the temples and bazaars of Kathmandu, then fly to Lukla and trek to the Sherpa villages of Namche Bazaar, Khunde, and Khumjung. Trails through rhododendron forests lead us to beautiful ridgetop Tengboche Monastery, below the snow peaks of Kangtega and Thamserku. Overnights are in Sherpa lodges with private rooms and private or shared facilities.

Days 7-11 Pangboche / Ama Dablam Base Camp /

Chukhung Valley Our Exploration Days bring us to the wilds of Ama Dablam Base Camp and the high Chukhung Valley, with fantastic views of Lhotse, the fourth highest peak in the world, just south of Everest.

Days 12-13 Kala Patar / Everest Base Camp

Hike to the top of Kala Patar (18,365') for awesome views of Everest's Southwest Face and the enormous faces of Lhotse and



Nuptse. The next day, enjoy the option to hike farther to Everest Base Camp (17,600'), below the Khumbu Icefall.

Days 14-20 Lukla / Kathmandu We descend back to Pangboche, with its ancient monastery and views of Ama Dablam, then into the Imja Khola Valley to the charming village of Phortse. Continue to Namche and on to Lukla, fly to Kathmandu on Day 18, and depart on Day 20.

ON OUR WEBSITE **ULTIMATE EVEREST**

Our comprehensive Everest trek explores spectacular Gokyo, with its stunning glacial lake and top-of-the-world views from Gokyo Ri (17,500'). Nov 9-Dec 3, Nov 22-Dec 16, 2016; Mar 14-Apr 7, Oct 15-Nov 8, 2017; Mar 14-Apr 7, 2018. From \$5495.

From the top of Kala Patar, panoramas of the world's highest peak are absolutely stupendous. PHOTO: DAVE PORTER



Everest Lodge to Lodge

EXPLORING SHERPA VILLAGES AND HIMALAYAN PEAKS

Imagine trekking amid the glorious peaks of the Himalaya by day and savoring the comforts of a cozy lodge each night—you can do it on this superb trek! High trails bring you through traditional Sherpa villages nestled below the highest mountains on earth, to exquisite Tengboche Monastery, where Everest's unmistakable diamond summit is visible, to Pangboche, with its views of Ama Dablam, and to cloud-perched Phortse, with its traditional culture. Our circle trek also includes a special Exploration Day to hike up to Ama Dablam Base Camp for jaw-dropping views

of one the most revered mountains in the Khumbu. Fabulous Himalayan panoramas, wonderful encounters with the unforgettable Sherpa people, welcoming lodges—this is the best way to trek in the Himalaya.

Days 1-5 Kathmandu / Lukla / Namche Bazaar / Khumjung After exploring Kathmandu, fly to Lukla and hike to the Sherpa market town of Namche Bazaar. Namche holds the headquarters of Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) National Park, established in 1976 as the first national park in the Himalaya. From Namche, our acclimatization hikes bring us to the picturesque villages of Khumjung and Khunde, home to thriving Sherpa communities.

Days 6-7 Tengboche / Pangboche Hiking up to Tengboche Monastery (12,650'), we are in the spiritual center of the Khumbu and gloriously surrounded by spectacular mountains. Tengboche, always alive with activity, is festooned with prayer flags

in the five colors representing the five Buddhist elements: earth, wind, fire, water, and space. Our trails lead farther to Pangboche, site of the oldest monastery in the Khumbu and known for its incredible views of Ama Dablam. Here you have the option to hike to Ama Dablam Base Camp (15,400'). Throughout the trek, our overnights are in lodges, most with private facilities in the guestrooms.

Days 8-14 Phortse / Syangboche / Lukla / Kathmandu We circle down a high trail along the Imja Valley, enjoying views of Tengboche and Ama Dablam as we make our way to tranquil Phortse, a culturally well-preserved village off the main Everest trail. At Syangboche (12,730'), we soak up our last enchanting views of Everest, then hike to Lukla. Fly to Kathmandu on Day 12 and depart on Day 14, or join one of our extensions.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

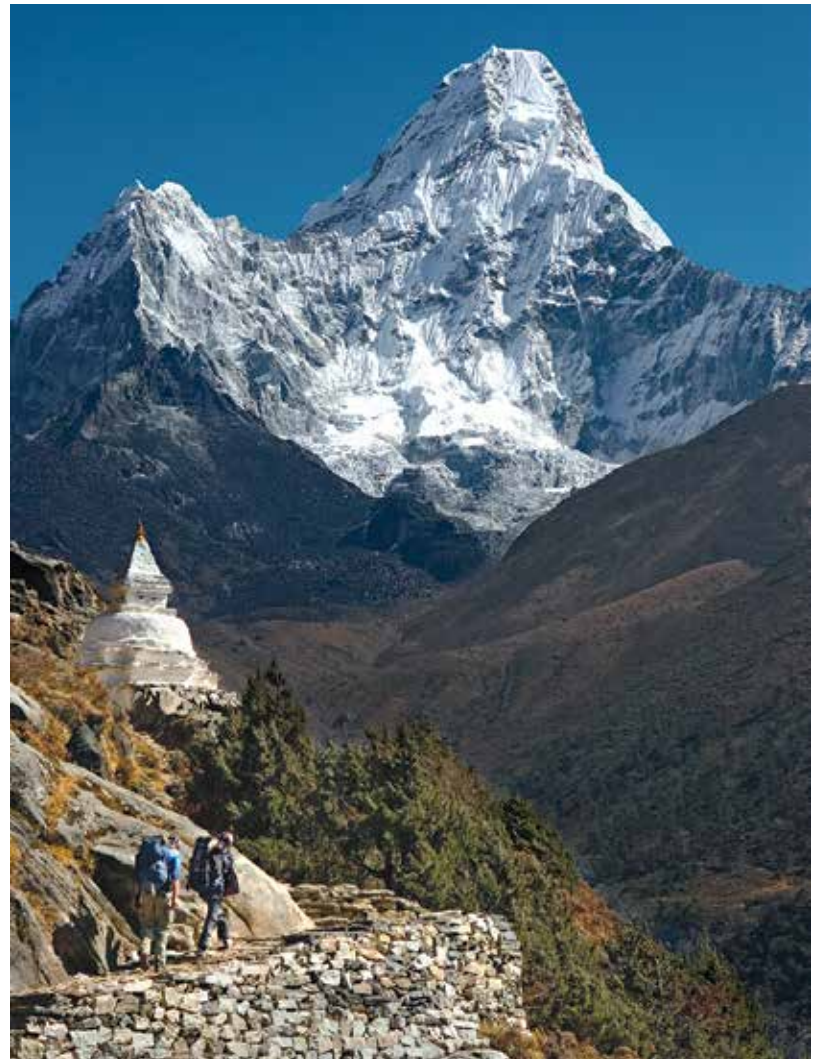
- Game viewing at Tharu Lodge near Chitwan National Park
- Scenic Everest flight—the best close-up views!
- Ankor, Cambodia's breathtaking city of temples



LEILA THOMPSON

"The trip was masterfully designed—we had an absolute ball. Nepal is such a beautiful country with wonderful people. We will cherish our memories of this journey."

Matthew F., Fort Worth TX



Sacred Ama Dablam is one of the most spectacular peaks in the Everest region. PHOTO: PATRICK YEUNG KAI PAK

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a spectacular trek among majestic giants of the Himalaya
- Overnights in the Khumbu's best lodges—no camping!
- Experience the renowned Sherpa culture, visit Tibetan Buddhist monasteries

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins and ends in Kathmandu
- 4 nights first-class hotel, 7 nights luxury lodges, 2 nights family-owned Sherpa lodges
- All meals included except 3 lunches and 4 dinners

DATES

- Nov 10-24, 2016
Mani Rimdu Festival
- Dec 6-19
- Dec 20, 2016-Jan 2, 2017
- Feb 7-20, 2017
- Feb 28-Mar 13
- Mar 14-27
- Apr 4-17
- Apr 18-May 1
- Oct 10-23
- Oct 31-Nov 14
Mani Rimdu Festival
- Nov 19-Dec 2
- Dec 4-17
- Dec 20, 2017-Jan 2, 2018
- Feb 12-25, 2018
- Mar 5-18
- Mar 27-Apr 9
- Apr 15-28

TRIP COST

- \$3995 (4-12 members)
- Single supplement: \$1225
- Internal airfare: \$375 (subject to change)
- Mani Rimdu Festival surcharge: \$200
- Tharu Lodge extension: from \$720
- Scenic Everest Flight extension: from \$275
- Temples of Angkor extension: from \$770

TRIP LEVEL

- 1 2 3 4 **5** 6 7
- 9-day trek on moderate to steep trails, 3-6 hours a day, altitudes between 9,000-13,035 feet





Our lodges are very comfortable and offer striking mountain views—especially during sunrise and sunset. PHOTO: COLIN MONTEATH



HIGHLIGHTS

- Trek in the Himalaya without very high altitudes!
- Enjoy a perfect balance of trekking and cultural immersion
- Relax in beautifully located lodges with breathtaking vistas

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Kathmandu
- 4 nights hotel, 7 nights luxury lodges
- All meals included except 4 lunches and 5 dinners

DATES

Oct 12-23, 2016
 Nov 11-22
 Dec 27, 2016-Jan 7, 2017
 Feb 15-26, 2017
 Mar 9-20
 Oct 15-26
 Nov 15-26
 Dec 27, 2017-Jan 7, 2018
 Feb 12-23, 2018
 Mar 12-23

TRIP COST

\$3295 (4-12 members)
 Single supplement: \$850
 Internal airfare: \$265 (subject to change)
 Scenic Everest Flight extension: from \$275
 Seti River and Tharu Lodge extension:
 from \$1285

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 6-day trek on moderate trails, 3-5 hours a day, altitudes between 3,000-7,300 feet

Annapurna Adventure

LODGE-BASED TREKKING IN THE HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS

This wonderful lodge-based trek explores the spectacular world of the Annapurna Himal, one of the most culturally rich and intensely scenic areas of Nepal. We've crafted a trek that grants superb views of the mountains (so close they seem within arm's reach) as you hike from one lodge to the next under the gaze of mighty Annapurna, Dhaulagiri, Machapuchare, and other soaring, ice-clad peaks. And it's all at a comfortable elevation—no higher than 7,300 feet! Our cozy mountain lodges are perfectly positioned to take full advantage of the amazing views. After our trek, you'll head to Temple Tree Resort & Spa, a delightful retreat near Phewa Lake in the Pokhara Valley, an ideal spot to relax after our exhilarating adventure.

Days 1-2 Kathmandu Kathmandu's intriguing sights include Bodhnath, a 1,400-year-old stupa attracting pilgrims from across Buddhist Asia, and Pashupatinath, a Hindu temple set on the riverbank with cremation *ghats* (platform steps) and wandering *sadhus* (holy men).

Days 3-9 Annapurna Foothills Trek In the foothills of the Annapurnas, our trek skirts picturesque mountain hamlets and lush rhododendron forests, with the snowy summits of Annapurna South, Hiunchuli, and Machapuchare gleaming beneath the sapphire sky. In Ghorethok, with its maze of cobbled lanes and welcoming Gurung hill people, an Exploration Day allows us to meet villagers and learn about their culture. We may pass donkey and mule caravans on the trail as they bring goods to and from the Gurung settlements. Along the way, experience the magic of the Himalaya while staying in cozy lodges offering stupendous mountain vistas. Private rooms feature comfortable beds, solar-heated showers, and en suite bathrooms. Our return trek leads through wooded hillsides and terraced farmlands to the floor of the Pokhara Valley, where we'll explore from the comfort of the Temple Tree Resort & Spa.

Days 10-12 Kathmandu Return to Kathmandu and depart on Day 12, or join one of our exciting extensions.

ON OUR WEBSITE ANNAPURNA SANCTUARY

A classic trek to a breathtaking mountain-ringed amphitheater. Sublime scenery, expert leaders, and family-owned Nepali lodges. Multiple departures Oct-Nov and Mar-Apr. From \$4295.

Dolpo: Expedition to the Crystal Mountain

TREKKING IN A LEGENDARY HIDDEN LAND

The surreal Dolpo region of northwest Nepal, isolated from the world by high passes, is a realm of ancient Tibetan culture, unclimbed peaks, mysterious canyons, and people who still live as barley farmers and yak herders as their Tibetan ancestors did. On our rugged 22-day trek, we cross passes to reach some of the highest villages on earth, learn about the spiritual traditions that enrich this remote land, and hike to vast, turquoise Phoksundo Lake and mystical Shey Gompa (15,500'), of *The Snow Leopard* fame, above which rises the white pyramid of Crystal ("Shey") Mountain, Dolpo's sacred peak. Take a step back in time and join us in a magical world where yak caravans still follow ancient trade routes and monasteries practice the pre-Buddhist Bon-po faith.



BILL ABBOTT



Days 1-9 Kathmandu / Jupal / Begin Trek / Dho Tarap From Kathmandu, we fly to Jupal and trek through juniper forests into the Tarap Valley, home to highland people known as the Kham Magars. We enjoy an Exploration Day in the Tibetan village of Dho Tarap (13,251').

Days 10-17 Panzang Valley / Shimen / Saldang Passing trailside chortens and walls of beautifully carved *mani* stones (Buddhist prayer stones), we make our way into Panzang, one of Dolpo's four major valleys. We trek farther to lovely Shimen, nestled amid terraced buckwheat fields, then to Saldang (15,250'), with its maze of ancient alleys and *amchi* (Tibetan medicine) hospital. Caravans of yaks may pass us on the trail—a photogenic sight! The ancient monasteries here practice Bon-po, the oldest spiritual tradition in Tibet.

Our trek brings us deep into an authentic Tibetan culture and a spectacular Himalayan landscape that few outsiders have ever visited.
PHOTO: BILL ABBOTT

Days 18-19 Shey Gompa (16,237') / Crystal Mountain Being at fabled Shey Gompa, a revered pilgrim destination, is a trek highlight. We'll join pilgrims on the *kora* (sacred circuit) encircling the monastery, hike to remote hermitages, and enjoy the rarified air and light that makes Shey Gompa like no other place on earth. Next to the gompa is the Crystal Mountain, Dolpo's sacred peak.

Days 20-22 Kang La / Phoksundo Lake Crossing our highest pass, the Kang La (18,830'), we come to the otherworldly setting of Phoksundo Lake (11,808'), a vast body of water encircled by peaks. We visit the Ringmo Gompa, a Bon-po monastery on the shores.

Days 23-28 Sepka / Jupal / Kathmandu Descend into the lowlands for our flight to Kathmandu on Day 26 and a final day in the city. Depart on Day 28.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Be one of the few Westerners who has ever visited this remote Himalayan realm
- Learn about Dolpo's thriving Tibetan culture where many still practice Bon, the pre-Buddhist faith
- Hike the sacred *kora* circuit around fabled Shey Gompa, a revered pilgrimage site
- Enjoy our wonderfully designed trekking route that allows for gradual altitude acclimatization

DETAILS

- 28-day trip begins and ends in Kathmandu, Nepal
- 22 nights camping, 4 nights in first-class hotels, 1 night lodge
- All meals included except 3 lunches and 2 dinners

DATES

Sep 16-Oct 13, 2017

TRIP COST

\$7795 (10-12 members)
\$8595 (8-9 members)
\$9195 (6-7 members)
Single supplement: \$740
Internal airfare: \$815 (subject to change)
Special Area permit: \$650

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

22-day trek on moderate to steep trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes between 7,000 and 18,830 feet



BILL ABBOTT



Journey to Ladakh

INTO THE SPECTACULAR HIDDEN WORLD OF "LITTLE TIBET"

Awe-inspiring Ladakh is an absolutely striking moonscape of 20,000-foot peaks sheltering stone-built villages and brilliant green fields of barley. An ancient Tibetan Buddhist culture thrives here, beautifully expressed in the traditional dress of the people, in thousand-year-old cliff-side monasteries, and in long walls of exquisitely carved *mani* stones (Buddhist prayer stones). In this former Buddhist kingdom hidden in the Western Himalayas, we'll walk among serene villages under a cobalt-blue sky, discover the grand hilltop monasteries of the Indus Valley, and experience a Tibetan Buddhist festival. One special highlight is the breathtaking Nubra Valley, where the ancient Nubra kings once reigned. Here we visit oasis-like villages, ride a Bactrian camel across dunescapes, and watch a golden sunset from a 7th century monastery.

Days 1-4 Delhi / Leh / Hemis / Thikse

(Lamayuru Festival Departure) From Delhi, we fly across the Himalaya to Leh (11,500'), Ladakh's striking capital, which sprawls down from the foot of a ruined Tibetan-style palace, with taupe-colored desert on one side and a swath of lush

farmland on the other. We roam the bazaar, which still has a Silk Road ambiance, and visit massive medieval monasteries, including Hemis and Thikse, living centers of worship perched on rocky hilltops.

Days 5-7 Indus River Valley / Alchi /

Lamayuru Festival After seeing rare Buddhist frescoes at Alchi, we head to Tingmosgang for a fascinating glimpse into traditional Ladakhi village life. At ancient Lamayuru Monastery, one of Ladakh's great cliff-perched landmarks, we witness the vibrant Lamayuru Yuru Kab-gya Festival, with its sacred dances and rituals performed by costumed monks representing guardian deities.

Days 8-12 Nubra Valley Motoring across the Khardung La (18,300'), we descend into the luminous, deep-cut Nubra Valley, where sand dunes carpet the valley floor. Here we have the chance to ride a Bactrian camel and visit tranquil villages, including Diskit, with its 700-year-old gumpa and huge statue of Maitreya Buddha that gazes serenely over this vast, ethereal valley. Depart on Day 12 via Delhi.

ON OUR WEBSITE THE TSO MORIRI TREK

Nomads, rare wildlife, and mystical lakes of the Changthang Plateau with Hashmat Singh. Jul 30-Aug 18. From \$6395.

Our journey in Ladakh reveals a world of ancient traditions, fascinating festivals, and captivating scenery.



BILL ABBOTT



HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience Ladakh's breathtaking landscapes and unique Tibetan Buddhist culture
- Stroll the atmospheric Leh bazaar, which still retains a Silk Road atmosphere
- Explore medieval monasteries of the Indus Valley including spectacular Hemis and Thikse
- Discover the once-forbidden Nubra Valley, with its ancient villages amid dunescapes
- Witness the Lamayuru Festival (June) or Leh Festival (September)

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Delhi
- 6 nights hotels, 5 nights guesthouses
- All meals included

DATES

Jun 16-27, 2017 *Lamayuru Festival*
Sep 17-28 *Leh Festival*

TRIP COST

\$5195 (12-16 members)
\$5595 (7-11 members)
Single supplement: \$880
Internal airfare: \$825 (subject to change)
Dharamsala and Amritsar extension:
from \$1895

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Rugged road travel with light hikes,
altitudes of 10,000-18,379 feet



HASHMAT SINGH



Magical Tibet

JOURNEY ACROSS THE ROOF OF THE WORLD



Experience Tibet's mystique from once-forbidden Lhasa, the holy city, to the snowy ramparts of Everest. PHOTO: HUNG CHUNG CHIH

On our magnificent overland adventure, we carve an arc across the soaring Tibetan Plateau from 8th century Samye, the oldest Buddhist temple in Tibet, to the sheer North Face of Mt. Everest, where the dazzling glaciers of the world's highest peak seem almost close enough to touch. Along the way, you'll find Tibet's immense magic revealed in places like the Barkhor market, where we mingle among pilgrims and swashbuckling Khampa traders, and in remote fortress-monasteries where flickering yak-butter lamps illuminate ancient Buddhist frescoes. At journey's end, we cross a high pass to descend into Nepal and explore the bazaars of Kathmandu.

Days 1-4 Lhasa, Tibet We join pilgrims who gather at the altars of the Jokhang, Tibet's most sacred temple, and explore the majestic Potala Palace, once the residence of the Dalai Lamas. At sprawling Ganden Monastery (13,700'), we'll be welcomed in to watch the monks in the great prayer halls and walk the *kora* (sacred circuit). In Lhasa, we witness a traditional Buddhist festival: Saga Dawa (June departure) or Shoton (August departure).



JON ARNOLD

Days 5-12 Tibetan Plateau / Everest Base Camp From Samye, our journey brings us to Gyantse, with its mandala-shaped stupa, and to turquoise Yamdrok Tso, one of Tibet's three holy lakes. Shigatse's gold-topped Tashilhunpo is a vast and active monastery and pilgrimage site. After our explorations at this fascinating place, we head to Rongbuk Monastery (16,500'), below Everest Base Camp, to gaze upon mighty Everest, where the legendary British mountaineers Mallory and Irvine disappeared into the mists of history.

Days 13-16 Lalung La / Zhangmu, Tibet / Kathmandu, Nepal Crossing the Lalung La (16,600'), we feast our eyes on massive Shishapangma (26,397') piercing the sky, and then make our descent along the southern flanks of the Himalaya into Nepal. Our final explorations in Kathmandu's bustling city bring us to some of the city's treasures including Bodhnath temple and Durbar Square, with its elaborate architecture. Depart on Day 16.



ORIENT FRANGENBERG



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the remote world of the Tibetan Plateau, with its soaring peaks and cobalt skies
- Visit the holy lake of Yamdrok Tso, a pilgrimage site
- Encounter Buddhist pilgrims, Tibetan farmers, yak-herding nomads
- Walk the *kora* (sacred circuit) around spectacularly located monasteries
- View the icy ramparts of the stupendous North Face of Everest from Rongbuk Monastery
- Enjoy a traditional Buddhist festival—Saga Dawa or Shoton—on each departure
- Explore Kathmandu's bustling bazaars and gold-roofed temples

DETAILS

- 16-day trip begins in Lhasa, Tibet, and ends in Kathmandu, Nepal
- 15 nights comfortable hotels and rustic lodges
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

- Jun 7-22, 2017 *Saga Dawa Festival*
- Aug 19-Sep 3 *Shoton Festival*

TRIP COST

- \$6295 (12-14 members)
- \$6595 (9-11 members)
- \$6995 (6-8 members)
- Single supplement: \$890
- Internal airfare: \$330 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

Rugged road travel with light walking, altitudes between 11,800-16,900 feet

Hiker's Journey to Bhutan

FESTIVALS AND HIKE IN THE LAND OF THE THUNDER DRAGON

"Loved this trip. Such a great combination of hiking and cultural activities, with the comfort of staying in hotels and lodges."

Andy C.
Carrboro NC

With its deep rhododendron forests, lush mountains, pilgrim trails, serene rural villages, and traditional way of life, Bhutan is a hiker's paradise. We've created a journey of inspiring day hikes that explore this rare Himalayan world and reveal its unique cultural heritage, from the pilgrimage sites of Bumthang, Bhutan's spiritual heartland, to the cliff-perched monastic retreat of Taktsang. Festivals are exuberant manifestations of the Tibetan Buddhist faith in this kingdom, and each trip will witness a colorful *Tsechu* festival, an event featuring an intricate Buddhist dance-drama retelling ancient tales of demons and deities. Our Bhutanese Trip Leaders add charm and expertise to the trip and are wonderful ambassadors for their extraordinary country.

Our hikes bring us to stunning settings including the Tiger's Nest, where Guru Rinpoche, the Second Buddha, is said to have meditated. PHOTO: DEVENDRA BASNET



Days 1-5 Paro / Thimphu / Punakha and Phobjikha Valleys

From Paro, we head to Thimphu for a hike up to Cheri, a 17th century monastery and Buddhist university where we'll see monks studying and carrying out their daily rituals. In the lush Punakha Valley, we hike through serene riverside villages and up to charming Chimi Lhakhang, a fertility temple dedicated to the Tibetan Buddhist saint known as "the divine madman" for his unconventional ways. After exploring the magnificent 17th century Punakha Dzong, seat of the head abbot of Bhutan, we head to scenic Phobjikha, a remote glacial valley and winter home of migrating black-necked cranes. We hike in the pine-forested hills and visit gold-spired Gangtey, an important monastery of the Nyingmapa sect of Buddhism.

Days 6-12 Bumthang / Tsechu Festival / Paro

The Bumthang region of central Bhutan is renowned for its extraordinary concentration of venerated temples and monasteries. We hike to some of the country's most sacred sites, including the 17th century Kurjey Lhakhang, whose three temples are the resting place of Bhutan's first three kings. This peaceful place also holds the earliest Buddhist site in the country, associated with Guru Rinpoche, the saint who brought Buddhism to Bhutan. Flying back to Paro, we take the pilgrimage hike up to Taktsang, known as the Tiger's Nest, a spectacular monastery clinging to a cliff at 3,000 feet above the Paro Valley. Depart on Day 12.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike and explore the ethereal Bumthang region, the spiritual center of Bhutan
- Attend a wildly colorful Buddhist festival
- Meet artisans, farmers, Buddhist pilgrims, and red-robed monks
- Overnights in a combination of deluxe hotels and welcoming lodges

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Paro
- 4 nights deluxe hotels, 7 nights lodges
- All meals included

DATES

Nov 2-13, 2016 *Jakar Festival*
Dec 7-18 *Nalakhhar Festival*
Mar 5-16, 2017 *Punakha Festival*
Apr 1-12 *Paro Festival*
Sep 30-Oct 11 *Thimphu Festival*
Oct 29-Nov 9 *Jambay Festival*
Nov 27-Dec 8 *Nalakhhar Festival*

TRIP COST

\$5795 (4-15 members)
Single supplement: \$1470
Internal airfare: \$950-\$1450 (subject to change)
Myanmar extension: from \$2495
Bangkok extension: from \$630

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
7 hiking days on moderate trails, 2-6 hours a day, altitudes between 4,100-12,000 feet



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HASHMAT SINGH



Sacred Chomolhari, home of the mother goddess Chomo, rises like a pyramid on the Bhutan-Tibet border. PHOTO: LINCOLN POTTER

Bhutan: The Chomolhari and Laya Trek

JOURNEY TO BHUTAN'S DIVINE MOUNTAIN

Our trek to majestic Chomolhari (23,977') and the unique villages of Laya and Lingshi is one of the great journeys of the Himalaya. You'll cross breathtaking passes to reach superbly isolated Laya and follow remote paths to Lingshi, with its ethereal cliff-top monastery. Sharing the trails with yak herders, you'll be surrounded by some of the most pristine and biodiverse landscapes in Bhutan, with a chance to see *bharal* (Himalayan blue sheep) and Bhutan's national animal, the sturdy *takin*. Arriving at Chomolhari, sacred abode of the goddess Chomo and forbidden to climbers, feast your eyes on a picture-perfect panorama from the amphitheater setting of Jangothang (13,340'), the mountain's spectacularly located base camp.

Days 1-3 Paro / Thimphu / Punakha Arrive in Paro, explore Thimphu, Bhutan's diminutive capital city, then travel to the subtropical valley of Punakha, where we hike to charming hilltop monasteries and visit imposing 17th century Punakha Dzong, set at the confluence of two rushing rivers.

Days 4-12 Laya / Chebisa / Lingshi Setting off on trek, our trail winds through rolling hillsides, then climbs up through bamboo, juniper, and rhododendron forests. Reaching Laya (12,610'), one of the highest settlements in Bhutan, we meet its yak-herding residents. With their own language and distinctive clothing, including conical bamboo hats with a center spike, they are a fascinating traditional people. We cross a high pass to reach remote Lingshi (13,156'), whose 500-year-old hilltop *dzong* (temple) is home to a dozen monks. A descent through high pastures where shaggy yaks graze brings us to the dramatic Chebisa Valley, with its huge waterfall and idyllic village.

Days 13-19 Jangothang / Paro We cross a 16,000-foot pass with soaring views of three massive ice peaks (Chomolhari, Jichu Drake, and Tsering Kang) en route to our base camp at Jangothang (13,340'). Enjoy an Exploration Day here to savor the Himalayan grandeur. The vision of Soi Dzong, a ruined fortress built to guard Bhutan against invasion from Tibet, adds to the mystique of the setting, and we may be able to spot wildlife including musk deer, Himalayan blue sheep, and many species of birds. At trek's end, return to Paro, with a day hike to Taktsang Monastery, the Tiger's Nest, before departing on Day 19.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience Bhutan, the "Kingdom of Happiness," and hike in its pristine Himalayan ecosystem
- Hike to Chomolhari, Bhutan's holy mountain, with an Exploration Day at spectacular Jangothang base camp
- Meet the villagers of remote Laya and Lingshi, learn about Buddhist tradition and mythology
- Enjoy comfortable full-service camping with our Bhutanese staff

DETAILS

- 19-day trip begins and ends in Paro
- 13 nights camping, 3 nights deluxe hotels, 2 nights rustic lodges
- All meals included

DATES

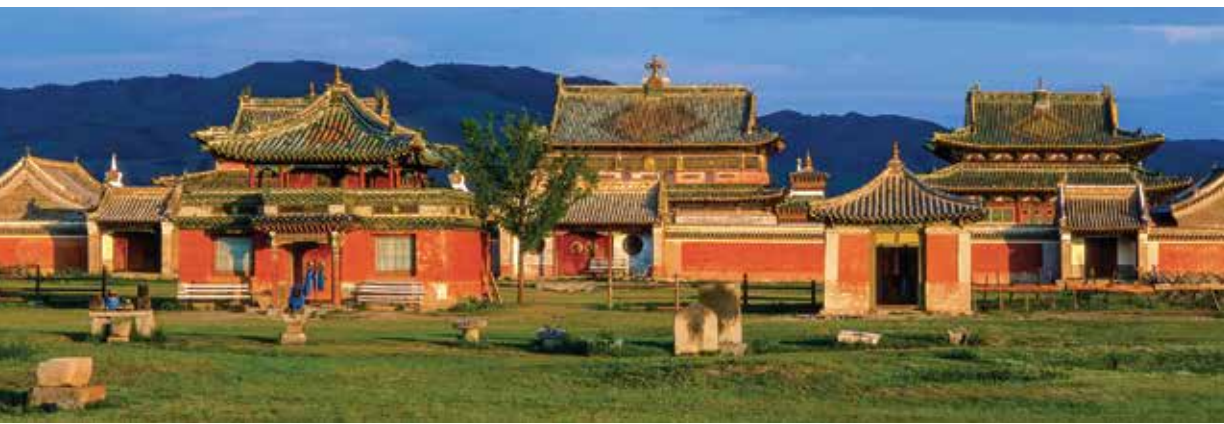
Apr 4-22, 2017
Oct 10-28

TRIP COST

\$7895 (4-15 members)
Single supplement: \$2295
Internal airfare: \$720 (subject to change)
Chiang Mai extension: from \$470

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

13-day trek on steep trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes between 7,300-16,400 feet



Under Mongolia's endless "great blue sky," discover a land of wide-open spaces and experience the traditional hospitality of its nomadic people.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Magnificent scenery, vast steppes, blankets of wildflowers, spectacular sunsets
- Soak in healing hot springs in Tsenkher Naadam Festival in Kharakhorum (July) or Hustain Nuruu National Park (August)
- Meet nomad families with their herds of horses, yaks, and goats
- Witness wild *takhi* horses in Hustain Nuruu National Park
- In the Gobi, explore Yol Valley National Park and the famous Flaming Cliffs

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Ulaanbaatar
- 9 nights ger camps, 3 nights hotels
- All meals included

DATES

Jul 5-17, 2017 *Naadam in Kharakhorum*
 Aug 1-13 *Naadam in Hustain Nuruu National Park*

TRIP COST

\$5795 (10-15 members)
 \$6295 (5-9 members)
 Single supplement: \$1435
 Internal airfare: \$255 (subject to change)
 Lake Hovsgol extension: from \$2955

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

Rugged road travel with light hiking on several days

In the Realm of Genghis Khan ADVENTURING FROM KHARAKHORUM TO THE GOBI DESERT

Mongolia is a magnificent land, its immense grasslands dotted with the gers of nomads, great herds of horses and yaks, and shamanic oovos—cairns that mark the way across this mesmerizing realm. On our far-flung journey, we'll explore ancient Kharakhorum, capital of Genghis Khan's empire, soak in hot springs in the exquisitely beautiful Arkhangai Province, and head overland to the Gobi Desert for hikes in the Yol Valley, a memorable sundowner at the fabled Flaming Cliffs, and even a ride on a Bactrian camel. Along the way, we'll stop to share a drink of *airak* (mare's milk) with nomad families, overnight in wonderful ger camps, and attend a Naadam, a quintessentially Mongolian celebration with archery, wrestling, and wild cross-country horse races.

Days 1-3 Ulaanbaatar / Hustain Nuruu

From Ulaanbaatar, we head across unfenced grasslands to Hustain Nuruu National Park, home to the last remaining species of wild horse, the *takhi*. A hike brings us through Ongot Monument, with its carved standing stones dating from 500 AD.

Days 4-5 Erdene Zuu Monastery /

Kharakhorum / Naadam In the Orkhon Valley, we are welcomed into the home of a nomad family. At 16th century Erdene Zuu Monastery, constructed from the ruins of the great warrior Genghis Khan's capital of Kharakhorum, we'll bring you into the chanting halls and to frescoed statue chambers, and may have a chance to meet with monks along the way. On our July departure, we'll attend a local Naadam celebration here, with spirited archery, wrestling, and thrilling horse races across the steppes (our August departure celebrates Naadam in Hustain Nuruu National Park).

Days 6-8 Tsetserleg / Tsenkher Hot Springs /

Ongyn Khiid From Tsetserleg, in a province renowned for its beauty, we hike in the hills, then soak in healing hot springs. En route to the Gobi, we walk among the haunting remains of Ongyn Khiid Monastery.

Days 9-13 Gobi Desert / Ulaanbaatar

In the vast Gobi, we hike in Yol Valley National Park and visit the renowned site of the "Fighting Dinosaurs," where fossils of a protoceratops and velociraptor locked in combat were discovered. We'll have the chance to ride a Bactrian camel and explore the legendary dinosaur site of the Flaming Cliffs—absolutely stunning when illuminated by the oranges and golds of a desert sunset. Depart on Day 13.

Wild Mongolia

THE GOLDEN EAGLE FESTIVAL AND GREAT GOBI DESERT

Our rare “back of beyond” adventure brings you from the fascinating eagle hunter cultures of the Altai Mountains in Mongolia’s wild west to the epic setting of the vast Gobi

“This was a fantastic trip, and not one we could have managed on our own.”

John S., Laurel MD

Desert. In the Altai, you’ll witness the thrilling Golden Eagle Festival as Kazakhs come from afar on horseback to show off the skills of their majestic trained eagles—a truly spectacular display of this ancient and vanishing art.

The opportunity to meet and mingle among them, watch their amazing horsemanship, and visit local families is an unforgettable experience. Heading to the Gobi, you’ll walk on the golden Moltsoq Els dunes and in the glacier-carved Yol Valley, then watch a blazing sunset at the legendary Flaming Cliffs, where the first dinosaur eggs were found.

Days 1-7 Ulaanbaatar / Ulgii / Golden Eagle Festival After exploring Ulaanbaatar, we head to the grasslands below the snow-dusted peaks of the High Altai to witness the Golden Eagle

Festival, where Kazakhs parade on horseback dressed in their traditional hunting finery, accompanied by magnificent golden eagles perched on their arms. We watch as the eagles fly down from cliffs to attack their decoy targets in the valley below, with the crowd erupting in cheers at a successful “kill.” While here, we have wonderful opportunities to visit nomad families in their gers and explore hidden archaeological sites with amazing petroglyphs.

Days 8-13 Gobi Desert / Three Camel Lodge

The remote Gobi was the site of some of the most important paleontological discoveries of the 20th century. With overnights at the award-winning Three Camel Lodge, we climb the dunes in the stunning Moltsoq Els, explore precious petroglyphs, and hike in Yol Valley National Park, habitat of Argali mountain sheep and soaring lammergeiers. For a grand finale, we head to the famed Flaming Cliffs, where in 1923 Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews and his exploration team from the American Museum of Natural History found the first nest of dinosaur eggs the world had ever seen. Scientific expeditions continue to make significant discoveries here, and we have a chance to experience an unforgettable sunset that paints the cliffs in a soft orange glow. Depart on Day 13.

Western Mongolia, one of the last true wildernesses on the planet, is home to the fascinating Kazakh eagle hunters.
PHOTO: JOSEF FRIEDHUBER



BOB KRIST



HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness the annual Golden Eagle Festival in Mongolia’s “wild west”
- Explore the Gobi’s celebrated Flaming Cliffs, hike in Yol Valley National Park
- Enjoy Three Camel Lodge, an award-winning ger camp in the heart of the Gobi

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Ulaanbaatar
- 8 nights ger camps, 4 nights hotels
- All meals included

DATES

Oct 3-15, 2017

TRIP COST

\$6495 (10-15 members)
\$6795 (5-9 members)
Single supplement: \$1730
Internal airfare: \$1225 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

Rugged road travel, walking and light hiking, cultural adventures



WOLFGANG KAEHLER

Royal Rajasthan ACROSS INDIA'S LEGENDARY DESERT KINGDOM



Brightly decorated camels are a highlight of the Pushkar and Nagaur Fairs. PHOTO: PETE OXFORD

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy songs, dances, and colorful camel races at the Nagaur or Pushkar Camel and Cattle Fair
- Game viewing in Ranthambhore National Park
- Markets of Jaipur, sunrise at the Taj Mahal
- Extend your adventure to Rohet, Ranakpur, and Udaipur for an in-depth look at Rajasthan's culture

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Delhi
- 2 nights maharajas' palaces, 4 nights first-class hotels, 2 nights tented camp, 2 nights deluxe tented jungle camp
- All meals included except 4 dinners

DATES

Nov 4-14, 2016 *Pushkar Fair*
 Jan 28-Feb 7, 2017 *Nagaur Fair*
 Oct 25-Nov 4 *Pushkar Fair*
 Feb 15-25, 2018 *Nagaur Fair*

TRIP COST

FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
 \$6995 (13-16 members)
 \$7295 (10-12 members)
 \$7695 (7-9 members)
 Single supplement: \$3095
 Internal airfare: \$335
 (subject to change)
 Villages of Rajasthan extension: from \$3295

TRIP LEVEL

① 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Overland travel with walking tours, cultural explorations

Fascinating desert tribes, festooned camels, princely fortresses, and airy palaces of marble and onyx are the enchanting lure of Rajasthan. We bring you into this colorful world with a camel ride and sunset dune walk amid herders' camps at the legendary Pushkar and Nagaur Fairs, a rickshaw ride through the markets of elegant Jaipur, an exquisite sunrise at the Taj Mahal, and game viewing in Ranthambhore National Park, a former maharaja's hunting ground and a great place to search for elusive Bengal tigers in the wild. From the hilltop forts and timeless bazaars of Jaipur, where we overnight at a maharajah's palace, to the tangled lanes of the blue-hued medieval city of Jodhpur, this is an unforgettable taste of India.



ANDY ROUSE

Days 1-4 Delhi / Agra / Fatehpur Sikri / Ranthambhore

From Delhi, we travel to Agra and rise early to see the Taj Mahal bathed in sunrise's soft light. In evocative and perfectly preserved Fatehpur Sikri, we explore exquisite palaces and courtyards, then head to our deluxe tented camp at Ranthambhore, where on game drives we'll search for tigers as well as other Asian wildlife, including 300 species of birds.

Days 5-6 Jaipur In Jaipur, an 18th century city of pink sandstone, we'll weave through the narrow lanes and lively outdoor markets, and explore the splendid City Palace, with its lavish, frescoed interiors. In a nearby valley, visit the mighty Amber Fort, a Rajput hilltop stronghold fortified by high ramparts. Our hotel, the Rambagh Palace, former home of the Maharaja of Jaipur, gives you a flavor of royal life.

Days 7-8 Pushkar or Nagaur Fair Rajasthan's flamboyant camel and cattle fairs are a feast for the senses and a riot of color, song, and dance. They are a great celebration, a coming together of traditional peoples to reaffirm their identity and rejoice in the richness of their culture. At this festive gathering, we enter by camel and later enjoy a sunset walk through the dunes among the traders and camel camps. Overnights at a superb tented camp.

Days 9-11 Jodhpur Explore mighty Mehrangarh Fort, perched atop a steep rocky eminence rising over the desert valley, and walk through Jodhpur's spice and textile markets. Depart on Day 11, or join our post-trip Villages of Rajasthan extension.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Enjoy a wonderful immersion into Rajasthan's less-traveled villages where traditional tribal cultures flourish, and savor the allure of romantic Udaipur, with its white palaces, blue lakes, and inviting gardens.

ON OUR WEBSITE TREASURES OF SOUTH INDIA

Exquisite temples, tropical landscapes, ancient spice ports, and legendary cuisine.

Jan 8-21, 2017; Jan 8-21, 2018. From \$7795.



JOCHEN TACK



Sri Lanka A CULTURAL ODYSSEY TO THE ISLE OF SERENDIB



Sri Lanka beckons with its glorious ancient cities, flamboyant festivals, lush scenery, and remarkable wildlife. PHOTO: RICHARD MASCHMEYER



BARTOSZ HADYNAK



HIGHLIGHTS

- Full-moon Poya Festival in Colombo, complete with processions of colorfully caparisoned elephants and percussion bands
- Accompany elephants to the river for their daily bath at an elephant sanctuary
- Evocative Anuradhapura, where Buddhist shrines date to the 3rd century BC
- Colonial Nuwara Eliya and the highland tea estates
- Visit six World Heritage Sites, including the cave temples of Dambulla
- Wonderful accommodations, from seaside hotels to a resort overlooking the rock fortress of Sigiriya

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Colombo
- 12 nights hotels
- All meals included except 1 lunch

DATES

Jan 10-22, 2017 *Duruthu Perahera Festival*
Feb 10-22 *Navam Perahera Festival*

TRIP COST

\$6295 (11-16 members)
\$6795 (7-10 members)
Single supplement: \$1450

TRIP LEVEL

1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7

A mix of easy to moderate walks and hikes, cultural explorations

“How lucky we were! Annie loves the country, and knows it as well. An amazing mix of culture, nature, and history.”

Lisa T., Hamden CT

The storied isle of Sri Lanka has always charmed travelers, and it teems with treasures, from rainforests where elephants roam and emerald-green tea estates to 2,000-year-old ethereal royal cities (and eight World Heritage Sites!). On our grand adventure, you'll explore the glorious legacy of an early Buddhist civilization, visit with tea planters and orange-robed monks, sample fragrant curries, and view the wildlife of Yala National Park, with its extraordinary birdlife and herds of elephant. Colorful festivals are a wonderful part of Sri Lanka's heritage, and in Colombo, you'll witness a vibrant Buddhist Poya Festival, celebrated around the full-moon day of each month.



JAN WLODARCZYK

Days 1-5 Colombo / Poya Festival / Dambulla / Anuradhapura / Polonnaruwa / Sigiriya

In Colombo, we attend the Poya Festival, a spectacular pageant of elephants, dancers, torch-bearers, drummers, and acrobats. At an elephant sanctuary, we accompany these gentle creatures to the river for their daily bath. After exploring the ancient cave temples at Dambulla, we see the island's oldest Buddhist shrines at Anuradhapura and visit Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka's lovely medieval capital, and the famed rock fortress of King Kashyapa at Sigiriya.

Days 6-10 Eco-Park Safari / Kandy / Pilimatalawa / Nuwara Eliya / Ella

Sri Lanka has incredible biodiversity and we enjoy it on a jeep safari in a nearby eco-park, set on the edge of the vast Hurulu Biosphere Reserve. Heading to Kandy, we explore its golden-roofed 16th century Temple of the Tooth and visit the 14th century temples near Pilimatalawa. From our charming tea-factory-turned-hotel above the lovely colonial town of Nuwara Eliya, a walk brings us through velvety green tea plantations and we learn the fine art of "tasting" tea and try to identify the subtle differences in flavor. A cooking demonstration of Sri Lankan curry and a *pooja* ceremony are some of the highlights of our visit to the lovely hill-country town of Ella.

Days 11-13 Yala National Park / Galle Heading to Yala National Park, we search for painted storks, troops of monkeys, and elephant herds (Sri Lanka is home to the last of the world's wild Asian elephants). Explore the ancient trading post of Galle, a World Heritage Site, before departing on Day 13 via Colombo.

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Gail L., Boulder CO



Mongolia

Adventures in the Land of Genghis Khan



China

Ancient Cultures & Magnificent Landscapes



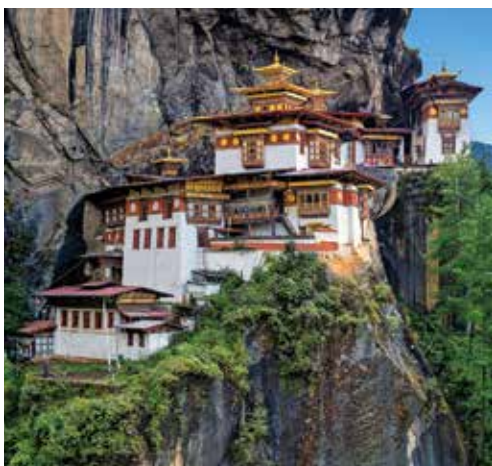
Annapurna Lodge Trek

Soaring Himalayan Views, Exquisite Hill Village Trek



India

Discover Romantic Rajasthan, Land of Princes



Bhutan

Discover the World's Last Shangri La



Everest and Annapurna

Lodge-Based Trekking in Nepal's Extraordinary Mountains



South India

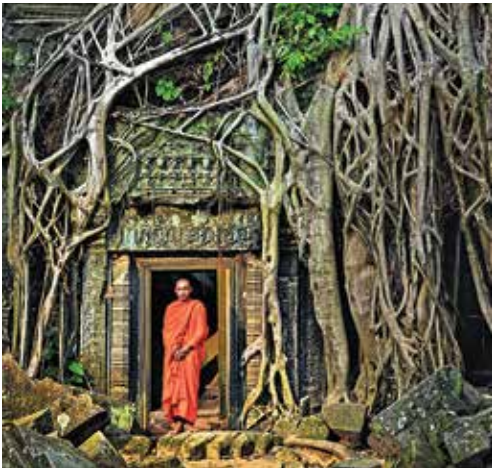
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the Pacific



Myanmar

Yangon, Bagan, Mandalay, and Inle Lake



Vietnam and Cambodia

Adventures in Indochine



Everest

Lodge-Based Trek in the Himalaya



New Zealand

South Island Adventures



Japan

Temples & Villages of an Ancient Land



THE CURRENTS AROUND RAJA AMPAT SUPPORT AN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY OF COLORFUL CORALS, SEA TURTLES, AND FISH—IT'S THE GREATEST SNORKELING IMAGINABLE! PHOTO: DANIELA DIRSCHERL



HIGHLIGHTS

- Once-in-a-lifetime expedition to one of the most biologically diverse and remote areas on earth
- World-class snorkeling above pristine coral reefs
- Travel aboard a traditional double-masted Indonesian schooner, enjoy spectacular stargazing, anchor in coves with no one else around

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Sorong
- 11 nights aboard yacht
- All meals included

DATES

- Nov 28-Dec 9, 2016
- May 7-18, 2017
- May 20-31
- Sep 17-28
- Oct 17-28
- Oct 31-Nov 11
- Nov 28-Dec 9

TRIP COST

- \$5595 (9-10 members)
- \$5995 (7-8 members)
- \$6495 (5-6 members)
- Single supplement: \$1995
- Internal airfare: \$490 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Snorkeling, exploring by dinghy, optional sea kayaking

Snorkeling Raja Ampat

ONE OF THE LAST WILD FRONTIERS ON OUR PLANET

Journey to the heart of the famed Coral Triangle on our off-the-map snorkeling adventure in Indonesia's remote Raja Ampat archipelago. Extravagant coral reefs shelter a lavish diversity of species here—technicolor

"The beauty of Raja Ampat has to be seen to be believed. It's hard to imagine that there is a place so remote, pristine, and beautiful left on the planet."

Vicki G., Oakland CA

soft corals, ghost pipefish, tasseled wobbegongs, hawksbill turtles, octopus, eight different species of anemonefish—the abundance is absolutely mind-bending! On shore, we'll explore dramatic limestone islands and watch for rare birds, including the red bird of paradise. Our 100-foot Indonesian schooner is a comfortable home base, with evenings spent in exquisite anchorages amid a realm of untouched natural beauty.

Days 1-6 Sorong / Penemu / Waigeo / Uranie Islands Boarding our yacht in Sorong, we cruise into the heart of Raja Ampat, one of the richest coral reef ecosystems in the world. Snorkeling excursions around the isle of Penemu reveal a brilliant spectrum hidden beneath the sea surface,



FRITS MEYST

from frogfish and opulent lionfish to reef sharks and pygmy seahorses. On Uranie Island, we visit a spectacular beach-lined bay and hike to the summit for a 360-degree view of lush jungle-covered islands. Each evening, we anchor in a serene setting and watch for manta rays gliding around our boat.

Days 7-12 Wayag Island / Gam Island At Wayag, a stunning island of jungle-covered rock outcrops, we snorkel through mangroves and among schools of silvery sardines and juvenile reef fish. We'll search for hawksbill turtles feeding on jellies at Gam Island and enjoy fabulous drift snorkeling near Manta Point. On an island hike, we look for the red bird of paradise, first made known to the Western world by pioneering naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace, who made his famous voyage here in 1860. Depart on Day 12.



FRITS MEYST



GEORGETTE APOL



RON LEIDICH



RON LEIDICH



SHAWN ODA

Amazing snorkeling, kayaking in turquoise seas, fascinating Palauan culture, great scenery, delightful camps—we've got it all!

Palau Snorkeling & Sea Kayaking

EXPERIENCE THE NATURAL HISTORY PARADISE OF THE ROCK ISLANDS

Palau's phenomenally scenic Rock Islands rise out of a vast serene lagoon like huge emeralds floating on a cerulean sea. Our unique snorkeling and kayaking expedition, a journey we pioneered—and still unmatched in the region—brings you to dramatic outer reef walls teeming with massive schools of fish (it's been called an "underwater Serengeti"), to rare old-growth coral gardens and salt-water waterfalls, and to hidden marine lakes surrounded by high limestone walls, which were first discovered by our expert Trip Leaders. Our private camps, tucked away on isolated beaches (we have exclusive permission to camp here), offer special access to this captivating paradise, along with delightful barbecues, sunrises and sunsets beyond the imagination, and wonderful stargazing.

Days 1-4 Koror / Nikko Bay / Risong Bay
In the Rock Islands, kayak and snorkel amid a glorious world of jewel-colored parrotfish and old-growth corals, including Blue Devil Gardens, where blue damselfish dart between the corals.

Days 5-6 Milky Way / Long Lake Snorkeling above the wreck of a Zero airplane from World War II, we look for colorful angelfish and butterflyfish, and paddle across a cove known as the Milky Way. A rushing current carries our kayaks through a mangrove forest alive with birdsong to a mile-long lake, a hidden oasis for nesting birds and baby fish.

Days 7-10 Jellyfish Lake / Big Drop-Off / Peleliu Jellyfish Lake is home to millions of non-stinging jellyfish, and you'll snorkel amid them—a surreal experience! At the Big Drop-Off (Palau's legendary Ngemelis Wall), a sheer rock face plunging nearly a thousand feet deep, we discover a vibrant world of tube sponges, sea fans, Moorish idols, pyramid butterflyfish, square anthias, sergeant majors, and yellowtail fusiliers. After visiting battle sites on Peleliu, the scene of fierce fighting during World War II, fly to Koror and depart on Day 10.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE
Enjoy rare encounters with Palau's "Big Five" marine species—pilot whales, spinner dolphins, dugongs, sharks, mantas—on kayaking, boating, and snorkeling excursions.



- HIGHLIGHTS**
- Snorkel and kayak the Rock Islands, a dream realm of hidden lakes, coral gardens, marine tunnels, and thousand-foot-deep walls teeming with sea life
 - Experience Palau's kaleidoscopic marine life, with 700 coral species and 1,500 species of reef fish
 - Visit a Palauan "men's house," snorkel in magical Jellyfish Lake, explore Peleliu Island with its World War II relics

- DETAILS**
- 10-day trip begins and ends in Koror
 - 3 nights beach resorts, 6 nights full-service camping
 - All meals included except Day 1

DATES

Nov 1-10, 2016	Oct 5-14
Jan 13-22, 2017	Nov 5-14
Jan 29-Feb 7	Jan 17-26, 2018
Feb 26-Mar 7	Feb 17-26
Sep 6-15	Mar 18-27

TRIP COST
\$5995 (4-9 members)
Single supplement: \$620
Internal airfare: \$175 (subject to change)
Palau's Big Five extension: from \$1795

TRIP LEVEL
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Snorkeling, easy to moderate sea kayaking on sit-on-top kayaks, 3-5 hours a day

Swimming with the Humpbacks of Ha'apai

TONGA'S REMOTE TROPICAL ISLES AND PRISTINE CORAL REEFS



Swimming with whales, fabulous snorkeling, sea kayaking in crystalline waters—put this adventure on your “must-do” list! PHOTO: YVES LEFEVRE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Swim with humpback whales—the experience of a lifetime!
- Snorkel over reefs with amazing geography—caves, canyons, caverns, tunnels, vertical walls, and colorful coral gardens with plenty of fish
- Sea kayak in a remote, untouched South Pacific paradise
- Enjoy warm Tongan hospitality and traditional feasts, listen to Tongan singing at a Sunday church service
- Relax at a beachside lodge with excellent snorkeling right at water's edge

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Tongatapu
- 7 nights Tongan-style beach resort, 1 night hotel
- All meals included

DATES

Sep 8-16, 2017
Sep 21-29

TRIP COST

\$4895 (7-8 members)
\$5195 (4-6 members)
Single supplement: \$675
Internal airfare: \$310 (subject to change)
Fiji extension: from \$1995

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Snorkeling, sea kayaking (no previous experience necessary), whale watching, swimming, beachcombing



JURGEN FREUND

In Tonga's enchanting Ha'apai Islands, we paddle sea kayaks, snorkel amid an abundance of dazzling tropical fish, and delight in encounters with humpback whales who migrate here annually to court, mate, and bear their young. This is one of the few places in the world where you can swim right alongside these majestic creatures, and our heart-pounding experiences will include witnessing

"The trip was everything we'd hoped for and more. We loved getting to know the Tongans, and snorkeling with the whales was spectacular."

Pam R.
University Place WA

mother-calf interactions. Along the way, we meet the Ha'apai islanders who welcome us with time-honored hospitality and a Polynesian 'umu feast. Our overnights are in a traditional beach lodge set on a white-sand beach—this is a South Seas idyll at its finest!

Days 1-2 Tongatapu / Snorkeling / Kayaking

From Tongatapu, fly to the remote Ha'apai Islands, a group of low coral isles with vibrant reefs and miles of deserted and utterly picture-perfect beaches. We enjoy excellent reef snorkeling right out the front door of our lodge, with colorful coral gardens featuring Moorish idol, butterfly fish, wrasse, and clown fish, as well as stingrays

and sea turtles. At night, we stargaze under the bright Milky Way and learn how early Polynesians used the stars to navigate.

Days 3-9 Whale Watching / Snorkeling / Kayaking

We're off on our search for humpback whales! To swim with a 40-ton whale in its natural environment is surely one of the biggest thrills and greatest privileges the natural world has to offer. We set out by boat in search of them, with the chance for up-close observations of the whales as they breach, "spy hop," and slap the water with their fins. Then, with snorkel, mask, and fins, we slip into the water and swim alongside them! (All appropriate protocol for safe whale interactions is observed.) In the late afternoons, we can snorkel, kayak, or enjoy a bike ride around the island. On Sunday, we'll have the opportunity to attend a church service at a nearby village and listen to the renowned harmonies of Tongan singing. Depart on Day 9.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Explore the wondrous underwater realm of Fiji's Yasawa Islands.



Komodo Snorkeling Expedition

CORAL GARDENS, TROPICAL REEF FISH, AND KOMODO DRAGONS

Indonesia's Komodo National Park is a glorious realm of translucent seas, glittering reefs, and lush volcano-islands. It's one of the top snorkeling spots on the planet, with a festival of marine life, from giant trevallies, groupers, and sweetlips to schools of tiny iridescent anthias. Drift snorkels bring you above exquisite coral gardens and to seamounts patrolled by rays and hawksbill turtles. Adding to our adventure are island hikes, including one to see the world-famed Komodo dragons in the wild. In the evenings, you'll return to our mother ship for tropical sunsets, stargazing, and the delights of shipboard life.

Days 1-2 Denpasar, Bali / Flores / Tatawa Besar / Siaba Kecil From Denpasar, fly to Flores, where we board our traditional two-masted sailing ship. On Sebayur Island, we enjoy an evening snorkel, then head to Tatawa Besar and Siaba Kecil, where drift snorkels over coral gardens and underwater canyons reveal groupers, mantas, green turtles, and rare mandarin fish.

Days 3-5 Gili Lawa Laut / Gili Darat / Makassar Reef A snorkel through a narrow

channel whisks us into a coral garden with more species of angelfish and butterflyfish than anywhere else in the world. At Makassar Reef, we snorkel among schools of mantas that congregate here to feed on plankton, and on Padar Island, we discover a pink beach colored by fragments of red corals washed ashore. We also take a sunset hike to the top of Gili Darat for golden panoramas over Komodo Island and down to long, white-sand beaches with breathtaking visible coral formations below.

Days 6-8 Komodo Dragons / Cannibal Rock On our naturalist-led hike, we'll look for the legendary Komodo dragons, the largest living lizards on earth, found nowhere else in the world. At Horseshoe Bay, we snorkel at Cannibal Rock, a submerged pinnacle with gold-striped fusiliers, scorpion fish, red snapper, surgeon fish, and purple gorgonian sea fans where pygmy seahorses hide.

Days 9-11 Batu Bolong / Kanawa / Bidadari With its near-constant current, Batu Bolong is a mind-blowing rock pinnacle with large schools of fish including jacks, anthias, and white-tip reef sharks. Napoleons and eagle rays inhabit the shallow waters of Kanawa, and we relax on Bidadari, with its inviting white-sand beach and crystalline waters. Depart on Day 11 via Denpasar.

This adventure was chosen as one of National Geographic Traveler's "50 Tours of a Lifetime"!



ANDY LERNER



HIGHLIGHTS

- Fantastic snorkeling in a remote corner of the world
- Travel aboard our 98-foot *phinisi* (a traditional Indonesian two-masted sailing ship) with comfortable en suite cabins and excellent service
- A chance to see the famous Komodo dragons on Komodo Island—up to 10 feet long and weighing 150 pounds!
- Trip Leader who offers an in-depth look into this area's unsurpassed marine biodiversity

DETAILS

Aug 29-Sep 8, 2017

TRIP COST

From \$5995, depending on cabin category
Internal airfare: \$300 (subject to change)
Single supplement: Call for details

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 ③ 4 5 6 7

Snorkeling, hiking, exploring by tender



J.W. ALKER



Discover New Zealand's astonishing beauty as you explore the full range of South Island environments, from mountaintop ridges to sublime Milford Sound.
PHOTO: COLIN MONTEATH

New Zealand: South Island Adventure

A DREAM JOURNEY IN NATURE'S WONDERLAND

From the mountains to the sea, New Zealand's South Island feels like one enormous national park. Snorkel and swim with dolphins on the Kaikoura Coast,

"The itinerary started out amazing and seemed to get more spectacular every day. I would encourage anyone to go on this trip!"

Candace S., Palo Alto CA

hike and kayak in Abel Tasman National Park, and savor world-famed Milford Sound on a breathtaking overnight cruise. Pinot noirs and crisp white wines, delightful picnics and barbecues, wonderful lodging, superb Trip Leaders who make things fun every step of the way—this is Kiwi adventure, WT style!

Days 1-3 Kaikoura Coast / Swim with Dolphins / Marlborough Sounds / Nelson Hike along the Kaikoura Peninsula, then swim and snorkel with its most famous local personalities—the playful dusky dolphins who frolic here in pods numbering in the hundreds. In Marlborough Sounds, renowned for its elegant Sauvignon Blanc wines, we enjoy wine tasting and a vineyard picnic lunch, then end our day in the artists' haven of Nelson.

Days 4-7 Abel Tasman National Park / Paparoa Our hikes in Abel Tasman National Park lead through mystical fern forests, along powdery beaches, past lagoons with turquoise waters, and up into headlands—all with fantastic coastal views. At Paparoa National Park, we explore water-sculpted limestone blowholes and hike through a magical "lost world" of subtropical rainforest.

Days 8-11 Fox Glacier / Mount Aspiring A walk near the terminus of the Fox Glacier offers up-close views of a dynamic river of ice, and we search for the rare Fiordland crested penguins at Munro Beach. In Mount Aspiring National Park, our hike leads to a natural amphitheater surrounded by hundreds of waterfalls pouring from hanging sheets of ice.

Days 12-13 Fiordland / Milford Sound With sheer 4,000-foot rock walls rising from the water's edge, Milford Sound is a dramatic meeting of mountains and sea. Our overnight cruise takes us out to an anchorage in a sheltered cove beneath towering Mount Pembroke, where we can explore the fjord by kayak or tender, or simply relax and enjoy the view. Depart on Day 13, or join our Queenstown or Hollyford Track extension.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike in Abel Tasman and Mount Aspiring National Parks
- Swim with dolphins, walk to the terminus of the Fox Glacier
- Wonderful cuisine and local wines
- Milford Sound overnight cruise, with spectacular sunset kayaking
- Queenstown and Hollyford Track extensions

DATES

- Nov 6-18, 2016
- Dec 4-16
- Jan 1-13, 2017
- Jan 15-27
- Jan 29-Feb 10
- Feb 12-24
- Feb 26-Mar 10
- Mar 11-23
- Nov 19-Dec 1
- Dec 10-22
- Jan 7-19, 2018
- Jan 21-Feb 2
- Feb 3-15
- Feb 18-Mar 2
- Mar 2-14
- Mar 17-29

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins in Christchurch and ends in Queenstown
- 11 nights hotels, historic inns, and beachside lodges, 1 night private cabins on boat
- All meals included except 4 dinners

TRIP LEVEL

- 1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7
- Moderate hiking, 3-4 hours a day on hiking days (4-7 hours a day on optional Hollyford Track extension), optional sea kayaking and Queenstown extension activities

TRIP COST

- FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
- \$5995 (11-14 members)
- \$6395 (6-10 members)
- Single supplement: \$1095
- Hollyford Track extension: from \$1920
- Queenstown extension: from \$840

ON OUR WEBSITE

NEW ZEALAND: OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Experience the wildest and most untouched corners of New Zealand, from the wine-growing region of Central Otago to remote Stewart Island, with its rare native birds. Along the way, you'll head out for wonderful hikes, including some on three of New Zealand's "Great Walks"—the Kepler Track, the Routeburn Track, and the Rakiura Track. Nov 21-30, 2016; Jan 15-24, Feb 12-21, Mar 12-21, Nov 6-15, 2017; Jan 22-31, Feb 19-28, Mar 19-28, 2018. From \$5495.

BILL ABBOTT



GARRY MOORE

FRANCK GUIZIOU

Wild Tasmania

COASTAL HIKES AND GREAT LODGES IN A MAGNIFICENT LAND DOWN UNDER



HIGHLIGHTS

- Spectacular Cradle Mountain, a World Heritage Site, and Freycinet, Tasmania's premier coastal park
- Exhilarating hikes amid ancient forests and exotic Down Under flora and fauna
- Yacht cruise in Macquarie Harbour with a historian aboard
- Stroll among fruit sellers, artists, and musicians at Hobart's Salamanca Market
- Welcoming lodges, great local food and wine
- Visit the Port Arthur penal colony, Australia's most historic site

DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Hobart
- 10 nights luxury lodges and fine inns
- All meals included except 1 lunch

DATES

Nov 4-14, 2016
Feb 17-27, 2017
Mar 3-13

TRIP COST

FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
\$5795 (8-10 members)
\$6295 (6-7 members)
Single supplement: \$1195

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Easy to moderate hikes, 1-5 hours a day, van support



Our explorations on the "island at the edge of the world" combine the best hiking with fine wine and cuisine for the ultimate Tasmanian adventure.

The spectacularly green island-state of Tasmania is secluded, pristine, and invites exploration. Our journey brings you to wild

"A fabulous trip with a great leader, itinerary, and variety—Tasmania is truly unique. This was my best trip yet!"

Kathy B.
Lafayette CA

mountains rising above the sea, magnificent rainforests of towering ferns, and tranquil harbors where charming villages host lively pubs. We'll hike in the Cradle Mountain wilderness, a World Heritage Site, and cruise the azure

bays of the Freycinet Peninsula. Along the way, you'll savor the island's fantastic food and wine, and enjoy the comforts of our wonderful accommodations that include wilderness lodges warmed by roaring fires and cozy cabins overlooking the deep blue Tasman Sea.

Days 1-3 Hobart / Mt. Field National Park

Stroll through the lively Saturday market in Hobart, then hike up Mt. Wellington for sweeping views of southeastern Tasmania. In Mt. Field National Park, hike amid lofty tree ferns to the



MITSUAKI IWAGO

"Land of the Giants," with its 250-foot-tall *Eucalyptus regnans* trees.

Days 4-6 West Coast / Cradle Mountain

We cross through temperate forests, sail across Macquarie Harbour with a local historian, and in the rugged mountains of Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair National Park, set out for day hikes right from our charming lodge.

Days 7-8 Trowunna Wildlife Park / Freycinet National Park

Meet koalas, wallabies, and kangaroos at Trowunna, then enjoy wine tasting en route to dramatic Freycinet National Park. Our hikes here reveal a landscape of unspoiled bays and sheer pink granite cliffs.

Days 9-11 Tasman National Park / Port Arthur

Sample fresh oysters in Dunalley, visit a historic penal colony, then boat along the shores of the dramatic coast to look for dolphins, humpbacks, and southern right whales. Depart on Day 11.



BRIAN MCGILLOWAY



RAFFAEL MELUCCI

Borneo Expedition

PRIMEVAL RAINFORESTS, ENDANGERED ORANGUTANS, SNORKELING ON A TROPICAL ISLAND

From lush primary rainforest and misty mountains to pristine coral reefs and mangrove forests at the edge of the sea, Borneo is a land of incredible biodiversity. On this fascinating expedition, we'll journey through extraordinary ecosystems that shelter more than 1,200 species of orchids and 400 species of birds, and search for unique wildlife including orangutans, pygmy elephants, and cloud leopards. Daily activities bring us deep into limestone caves, high in the treetop canopies, and along the Kinabatangan River. We'll also enjoy visits with conservation experts to learn about their work with orangutans and meet some of Borneo's fascinating indigenous people. At journey's end, we cap off our adventure with world-class snorkeling right from our beachfront chalets.

HIGHLIGHTS

- See Borneo's extravagant wildlife including the endangered Bornean orangutan
- Explore the Danum Valley's primary rainforest
- Visit the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre and the remote Tabin Wildlife Reserve
- Snorkel the fabulous coral reefs at Matakang Island

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Kota Kinabalu
- 8 nights lodges, 2 nights beachfront chalet, 2 nights hotel
- All meals included

DATES

Apr 24-May 6, 2017
Oct 9-21
Apr 23-May 5, 2018

TRIP COST

\$8195 (11-15 members)
\$8595 (7-10 members)
Single supplement: \$1150
Internal airfare: \$310 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Easy nature walks and light hikes, river excursions by speedboat and longboat, optional snorkeling



Days 1-2 Kota Kinabalu / Sepilok Forest Reserve

From Kota Kinabalu, we head to Sepilok Forest Reserve, habitat of the endangered orangutan. We'll visit with the experts who are reintroducing injured and orphaned orangutans back into the wild, and then set out at sunset for a canopy boardwalk high in the trees. Our lodge is nestled deep in the forest reserve, granting us fantastic access to this amazing bounty of wildlife.

Days 3-6 Kinabatangan Wetlands / Tabin Wildlife Reserve

Journeying upriver on the 350-mile-long Kinabatangan River, we'll keep an eye out for pygmy elephants, silver leaf langurs, and other tree-dwelling rainforest animals during river cruises at dawn and dusk. Our explorations in Tabin Wildlife Reserve find us on fascinating forest walks, with a stop at the limestone Gomantong caves and one of Tabin's "mud volcanoes," where a vast array of species can be spotted.

Days 7-13 Danum Valley Conservation Area / Matakang Island

In the Danum Valley, we'll enjoy forest canopy walks and guided night hikes amid bioluminescent

fungi. Resident species include the Sumatran rhino, endemic spectacled flowerpecker, and Borneo's beloved mouse deer. The snorkeling is out of this world on Matakang Island, and we'll have the opportunity to explore the teeming reefs, pristine islands, and the Bajau Laut sea gypsies of Tun Sakaran Marine Park, with their rainbow-colored boats. Fly to Kota Kinabalu for a final overnight, and depart on Day 13.

Treetop walks, encounters with unique wildlife, cultural explorations, and world-class snorkeling—this is Borneo at its best. PHOTO: MIKE HILL



CHARLES RYAN





JOHN HYDE



STEVE BLOOM



STEVE BLY



MARC LATREMOUILLE

A classic wooden motor yacht is the ultimate way to explore the wildlife-rich glacial wilderness of Southeast Alaska.



Alaska's Inside Passage

WHALES AND SEA KAYAKING IN A GLACIER-CARVED WORLD

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore one of Alaska's prime wildlife areas by historic small ship
- Sea kayak amid icebergs and beneath towering granite walls
- Hike on glacial moraine and in old-growth cedar, hemlock, and spruce forests
- Watch calving glaciers, bald eagles, and breaching whales

DETAILS

- 7-day trip begins in Juneau and ends in Petersburg (or reverse)
- 6 nights aboard a 75-foot historic boat with six cabins, some with private bath
- All meals included

DATES

Jun 4-10, 2017*	Jul 23-29**
Jun 11-17**	Jul 30-Aug 5*
Jun 18-24*	Aug 6-12**
Jun 25-Jul 1**	Aug 13-19*
Jul 2-8**	Aug 20-26**
Jul 9-15**	Aug 27-Sep 2*
Jul 16-22*	

*Juneau to Petersburg
**Petersburg to Juneau

TRIP COST

From \$4250, depending on cabin category
Denali extension: from \$2035

TRIP LEVEL ① 2 3 4 5 6 7

Easy to moderate sea kayaking and hiking (no previous kayaking experience necessary)

"The boat is beautiful, the food divine, the activities and the scenery unparalleled. We loved every minute."

Melissa A. San Francisco CA

In the storied wilderness of the Inside Passage, glaciers crackle in deep fjords and the sea is filled with whales, orcas, porpoises, and sea lions. Our discovery of this majestic Alaskan realm is aboard a historic 12-guest wooden vessel that brings us into hidden

places big ships can't even dream of entering. With our on-board naturalists sharing insights into the natural history and native cultures, we navigate to islands, bays, and coves, hike in old-growth forests, kayak in narrow inlets including spectacular Ford's Terror, and encounter a bounty of Alaskan wildlife, from humpback whales to brown bears and bald eagles.

At day's end, you'll savor the welcoming comfort of our boat and enjoy a delicious meal in a beautiful anchorage.

Days 1-2 Juneau / Ford's Terror (Southbound Departures) From Juneau, we head into Stephens Passage, keeping an eye out for bald eagles and orcas as we cruise to Limestone Inlet. Our skiff ride upriver often reveals bears, jumping salmon,

and nesting waterfowl. Navigating around icebergs, we enter Endicott Arm, on the lookout for whales as they dive for krill. At Ford's Terror, a spectacular natural amphitheater, we paddle beneath sheer 5,000-foot granite walls wreathed in ephemeral mists.

Days 3-5 Admiralty Island / The Brothers After a hike in the highlands above Ford's Terror, we head for Admiralty Island, with its plentiful brown bears. At The Brothers Islands, we hike and watch for humpbacks and orcas in this prime summer feeding ground. From our idyllic anchorages, the sound of breathing whales or the call of an eagle frequently drifts across the evening calm.

Days 6-7 Thomas Bay / Scenery Cove / Petersburg If the whales are around, we'll shadow them (and drop our hydrophone to listen to them!), then head to Thomas Bay, watching for black bears on the beaches. Anchoring at Scenery Cove, we ride upriver by skiff for a hike on the ice of the Baird Glacier. Depart on Day 7 from charming Petersburg, with its Norwegian and Tlingit heritage.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Look for moose, bear, and caribou from our lodge in the heart of Denali National Park.

Alaska: Journey to Sitka BY HISTORIC VESSEL, WITH KAYAKING, HIKING, AND CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS

Come aboard our historic wooden vessel (just 8 guests!) to discover the hidden bays, tiny islands, and fascinating villages between Sitka, Petersburg, and Juneau. Our week-long journeys (with slight differences between itineraries) include meeting with a Tlingit elder in the remote village of Angoon, watching brown bears feast on returning salmon, getting an inside look at the research done by whale biologists in Baranof Springs, listening to whale songs with our boat's hydrophone, or navigating through ice floes to view a tidewater glacier. On every adventure, you'll kayak in protected coves, hike in spectacular glacial landscapes, and see amazing wildlife, all in the company of our on-board naturalist. Each evening, watch wildlife from deck in the surreal Alaskan twilight and enjoy wonderful sea-to-table cuisine.

Days 1-2 Sitka / Peril Strait *(Sitka to Petersburg itinerary)*

From charming Sitka, the former capital of Russian Alaska (you'll see this heritage in its onion-domed churches), we navigate to remote Krestof Sound, cross Peril Strait between mountainous Baranof and Chichagof islands, and kayak or skiff along serene waterways for a close-up look at a bear habitat.

Days 3-4 Chatham Strait / Tenakee Inlet

Chatham Strait is a great place to spot humpback whales and we may see their signature "bubble netting." After a visit to a fascinating sustainable logging camp in Tenakee Inlet, we hike to a bridge that provides a remarkable vantage point for watching brown bears catch salmon in the roaring stream below.

Days 5-6 Angoon / Baranof / Frederick Sound / Scenery Cove

At the Tlingit village of Angoon, we are welcomed by a village elder for a rare opportunity to visit the village for an immersion into the Tlingit world. At tiny Baranof Hot Springs, we visit the researchers at the Alaska Whale Foundation to hear their insights into these magnificent creatures. We encounter Steller sea lions in Frederick Sound, and in Farragut Bay, the organic farmer who supplies our ship meets us with fresh produce. From Scenery Cove, we skiff across the Baird Glacier's outflow river to explore a remarkable landscape, at once lunar and lush.

Days 7-8 Le Conte Glacier / Petersburg

Navigating exquisite Le Conte Bay, we make our way through sculptured ice floes to view the Le Conte Glacier, the southernmost calving tidewater glacier in the Northern Hemisphere, 21 miles long and a mile wide. Arrive in Petersburg, a quintessential Alaskan fishing town, on Day 8 and depart.



WAYDE CARROLL

Enjoy up-close encounters with amazing wildlife that is as varied as the Alaskan landscape itself. PHOTO: RON NIEBRUGGE



DETAILS

- 8-day trip begins and ends in Sitka, Petersburg, or Juneau (depending on itinerary)
- 7 nights aboard a historic 86-foot vessel with en suite private facilities
- All meals included

DATES

- Jun 24-Jul 1, 2017 *Juneau-Sitka*
- Jul 3-10 *Sitka-Petersburg*
- Jul 12-19 *Petersburg-Sitka*
- Jul 21-28 *Photography Departure! Sitka-Juneau*
- Jul 30-Aug 6 *Juneau-Sitka*
- Aug 8-15 *Sitka-Petersburg*

HIGHLIGHTS

- Historic small vessel that brings you into incredible coves and inlets where the big ships can't go
- Get close to wildlife as you kayak and hike with our on-board naturalist
- Enjoy delicious fresh cuisine served in the cozy wood-paneled salon
- See brown bears feeding, humpback whales spouting, eagles soaring

TRIP COST

- From \$5250
- Single supplement: \$2625

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Easy to moderate sea kayaking and hiking (no previous kayaking experience necessary)

Ultimate Galápagos

A WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER ON THE PLANET



Face-to-face encounters with some of the Galápagos' exotic creatures are extraordinary—the wildlife has no fear of humans.
PHOTO: TUI DE ROY

"Loved the trip, the itinerary, the activities, and guide. The food was delicious!"

Eliza S., Los Altos CA

Snorkel with playful sea lions and Galápagos penguins, kayak among sea turtles, hike past dancing blue-footed boobies, and experience one of the greatest natural history destinations in the world! Our epic Galápagos journey aboard the 16-guest *Mary Anne* brings you to glorious white-sand beaches, across 100-year-old lava flows, and to up-close encounters with the exotic creatures that inspired Charles Darwin. We combined the best of the eastern and western islands for those who want to see and do as much as possible. Snorkeling? Kayaking? Hiking? We have it all! And life aboard a classic tall sailing ship is the perfect way to experience the islands. With spacious decks for relaxing, delightful meals served *al fresco*, a new anchorage each night, watching the sun set in a tropical sky, our active 15-day cruise aboard the *Mary Anne* is the "ultimate" Galápagos experience!

Days 1-3 Guayaquil / Baltra / Fantastic Birding From Guayaquil, fly to Baltra and board the *Mary Anne*. Cruise through mangroves, spotting sea turtles and gliding rays, then head to remote Genovesa (Tower), a paradise for birds—great frigatebirds, Nazca boobies, and red-billed tropicbirds nest along the cliffs.

Days 4-7 Bartolomé Hike / Rábida / Santa Cruz / Santa Fé Revel in the views from Bartolomé, then cross ancient lava flows to walk amid colonies of land iguanas. Rábida's saltwater lagoon is home to three types of herons, and you'll gain fascinating insights at the Darwin Research Station on Santa Cruz. On Santa Fé, watch sea lions strike a pose on a white-sand beach.





ROSANNE TACKBERRY



MICHAEL S. NOLAN



CHAD CASE



TUI DE ROY



CHRIS RYAN

Awesome wildlife encounters, welcoming accommodations, and photo opportunities at every turn—the Galápagos has it all!



HIGHLIGHTS

- Active 8-day cruise includes remote Genovesa—hardly any other visitors!
- Daily activities ideal for all ages
- With an expert naturalist guide, witness the diversity of wildlife that inspired Darwin

DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Guayaquil
- 7 nights aboard the *Mary Anne*, 2 nights hotel
- All meals included except 2 lunches and 2 dinners

DATES

Dec 23, 2016-Jan 1, 2017	Apr 14-23
Jan 6-15, 2017	Apr 28-May 7
Feb 3-12	May 12-21
Feb 17-26	Jun 9-18
Mar 3-12	Jun 23-Jul 2
Mar 17-26	Dec 22-31
Mar 31-Apr 9	

TRIP COST

\$6195 per person
 Hotel single supplement: \$225
 No single supplement on board (subject to availability)
 Internal airfare: \$540 (subject to change)
 Galápagos park fee and transit card: \$120
 Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$300
 Discounts for children: call for details

TRIP LEVEL ①+ 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Daily hikes, snorkeling, optional sea kayaking

Galápagos Adventure

EXPLORING THE EASTERN ISLANDS OF THE GALÁPAGOS

Imagine walking trails right among nesting seabirds and colonies of marine iguanas—it's an experience unlike any other! The green Eastern Islands of this famed archipelago have a wildly diverse ecosystem and a remarkable number of species found nowhere

"The Galápagos Islands are an extraordinary destination, and this was the perfect experience—the Mary Anne, our great Trip Leader, snorkeling and hiking amidst the unusual wildlife."

Lynne F. Hastings NE

else on earth. Our active adventure explores far-flung Genovesa Island, prime nesting site of countless birds including red-footed boobies, South Plaza, with its prehistoric-looking iguanas, and Santa Fé, home to such endemics as the Galápagos hawk and a great place to snorkel with spirited sea lions. The *Mary Anne*, catering to just 16 guests, is an absolute delight, with delicious meals savored on deck or in the salon, a glass of wine at sunset, and great talks with your naturalist guide. This is the Galápagos—WT style!

Days 1-4 Guayaquil / Explore by Zodiac / Remote Genovesa / Bartolomé From Guayaquil, fly to Baltra, and board the *Mary Anne*. Cruise to Black Turtle Cove for a Zodiac ride among golden rays. Landing at Genovesa (Tower), be on the lookout for red-footed boobies perched on prickly pear cactus. The summit of Bartolomé offers magnificent views of Pinnacle Rock, Galápagos' most famous icon. We'll also walk on *pahoehoe* lava formations at Sullivan Bay on Santiago Island.

Days 5-6 Flamingo Lagoon / Santa Cruz / Darwin Research Station Rábida features lagoons brimming with pink flamingos, and we'll see a land iguana nesting site at Cerro Dragón. Kayak along the shores of Santa Cruz and search for giant tortoises up in the highlands before a visit to Darwin Station's tortoise-breeding facility.

Days 7-10 Land Iguanas / Beach Walk with Sea Lions South Plaza and Santa Fé are home to their very own species of iguana, and a great place to get that up-close shot of these unique creatures. On fantastic Española, we'll follow flipper prints on a powdery white-sand beach to find lounging sea lions. Keep an eye out for Galápagos hawks, Galápagos doves, and Hood mockingbirds, endemic to the island. Fly to Guayaquil for a final overnight, and depart on Day 10.



JON ARNOLD



PETE OXFORD



PETE OXFORD



SHAWN ODA

Belize has a vast array of environments sheltering spectacular wildlife and ancient Mayan secrets, and we'll explore the best of them.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Snorkel from Turneffe Island Resort on Belize's Barrier Reef
- Discover the mysterious stone temples of Lamanai
- Cave hiking, swimming, river floats, nature hikes in the Maya Mountains
- Ride a zip line through the jungle
- Extend your journey to magnificent Tikal or the Guatemala Highlands

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Belize City
- 8 nights in hotels and lodges
- All meals included

DATES

Nov 5-13, 2016
 Jan 7-15, 2017
 Feb 18-26
 Mar 11-19

TRIP COST

\$5295 (7-12 members)
 \$5595 (4-6 members)
 Single supplement: \$1325
 Internal airfare: \$225 (subject to change)
 Guatemala Highlands extension: from \$1525
 Tikal extension: from \$725

TRIP LEVEL 1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7

Rainforest hikes, nature walks, river swims, snorkeling, zip lines

Belize: Reefs, Ruins & Rainforests

WORLD-CLASS SNORKELING AND MAYA TEMPLES

Tiny Belize is brimming with wildlife and history, and we've created an active adventure to explore the best of this jewel of the Caribbean. From the dazzling warm waters of Belize's Barrier Reef to jungle-draped Maya ruins, we'll revel in unforgettable

"What an excellent balance of experiencing nature, Mayan culture, and great relaxation."

Oleta M., Davis CA

experiences in the country's lush landscapes. Enjoy phenomenal snorkeling among tropical reef fish, just minutes from our enchanting resort on Turneffe Atoll, a World Heritage Site. We'll boat along a jungle-lined river to revered Lamanai, where majestic 10-story-high Maya temples emerge from the forest. And amid the nature reserves of the Maya Mountains, we'll explore a hidden ceremonial cave, ride a zip line, and float on a tropical river. At journey's end, extend your adventure in mystical Tikal, with its towering stone pyramids.

Days 1-4 Turneffe Island Resort / Belize Barrier Reef In the pristine waters of Turneffe Atoll, we'll enjoy world-class snorkeling above exquisite coral gardens, including the geological

wonder of the Blue Hole, discovered by Jacques Cousteau. Our resort, the only one on the island, has a breezy Caribbean style, wonderful fresh seafood, and opportunities to sea kayak, sail, or simply relax.

Day 5-6 Lamanai Archaeological Reserve

We'll explore the New River, watching for birdlife, including flashy kingfishers, on our journey upriver. The jungle-shrouded ruins of Lamanai rise straight out of the rainforest, and alongside a nearby lagoon is our welcoming lodge, with howler monkeys scampering overhead. Visit the ancient ruins of a major Maya city, discover the wetlands by airboat, and have the option of an evening excursion with researchers to tag crocodiles.

Day 7-9 Maya Mountains

A scenic charter flight brings us to the Maya Mountains, and from our lodge, we'll swim and hike our way through Actun Tunichil Muknal, a unique cavern system. Nature hikes, a zip line through the treetops, and a chance to float on the Caves Branch River fill our adventurous days. Depart on Day 9.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Explore Tikal, the most magnificent Maya site in Central America
- Discover the vibrant markets of the Guatemala Highlands

Baja: Exploring the Sea of Cortez

WHALES, SNORKELING, AND SEA KAYAKING



The Sea of Cortez, called “nature’s aquarium” by Jacques Cousteau, offers phenomenal adventure, and our classic wooden boat is the best way to explore its wonders. PHOTO: WENDY SHATTIL

Set between the brilliant turquoise waters of the Pacific Ocean and the exquisite Sea of Cortez, Baja is a remote realm and the perfect place for our odyssey. With a classic 86-foot wooden ship as our base, we’ll sea kayak alongside white-sand beaches, snorkel with playful sea lions, and track whales in the “Blue Triangle.” Two of our itineraries visit ancient cave paintings and track massive whale sharks, while two others bring you to the lagoons of the Pacific coast where we can come within an arm’s length of gray whales who migrate here every year—an unforgettable experience!

Days 1-3 11-day La Paz to Loreto Bahia Magdalena itinerary **La Paz / Bahia Magdalena** From La Paz, we head to Bahia Magdalena, a remote



MICHAEL S. NOLAN

lagoon for birthing and breeding gray whales. From our beachside hotel, we set out by *panga* (skiff) for remarkable up-close encounters with these gentle giants.

Days 4-5 Isla Espiritu Santo / Sea of Cortez

We embark on our historic wooden motor yacht in La Paz and navigate to enchanting Isla Espiritu Santo, with its white-sand beaches, keeping an eye out for pods of dolphins. Sea kayak past mangroves brimming with blue herons, and snorkel with playful sea lions near the tiny uninhabited islands that dot the Sea of Cortez.

Days 6-11 Sea of Cortez / Blue Triangle

Exploring along meandering shorelines, we’ll visit unique island and peninsula sites on land and in the water. Our intrepid vessel brings us to the “Blue Triangle,” where we’ll watch for breaching blue, sperm, and humpback whales feeding on plankton. We’ll also hike along the same beaches described by author John Steinbeck during his travels with legendary marine biologist Ed Ricketts in 1940. Depart from Loreto on Day 11.

ON OUR WEBSITE SNORKELING WITH THE HUMPBACKS OF THE SILVER BANK

A full week of encounters with humpback whales in the waters off the Dominican Republic. Mar 11-18, 2017; Mar 17-24, 2018. From \$4995.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Active adventures from aboard our classic wooden boat, with gorgeous sunsets, delicious sea-to-table cuisine, and the magic of the starlit desert sky at night
- Sea kayak amid mangrove lagoons and remote bays, and the beaches of Isla Espiritu Santo
- Snorkel with sea lions, watch pods of dolphins, observe nesting frigatebirds, and hike island trails
- Special departures to the gray whale breeding and birthing lagoons, with up-close whale encounters!

DETAILS

- 9-, 11- or 12-day trip begins in La Paz and ends in Loreto (or reverse, depending on itinerary)
- 6 nights aboard a historic 86-foot boat
2 nights hotels, 1 night camping (depending on itinerary)
- All meals included

DATES

Nov 19-27, 2016* *Whale Shark Swim*
Nov 27-Dec 8, 2016** *Cave Paintings*
Dec 10-18, 2016* *Whale Shark Swim*
Dec 18-29, 2016** *Cave Paintings*
Dec 29, 2016-Jan 6, 2017* *Whale Shark Swim*
Jan 27-Feb 7, 2017** *Gray Whale Watching*
Feb 7-17, 2017* *Gray Whale Watching*
Mar 10-21, 2017** *Gray Whale Watching*
Mar 21-31, 2017* *Gray Whale Watching*
Nov 24-Dec 2* *Whale Shark Swim*
Dec 2-13** *Cave Paintings*
Dec 13-20* *Whale Shark Swim*
*La Paz to Loreto
**Loreto to La Paz

TRIP COST

From \$5250, depending on itinerary

TRIP LEVEL (1+) 2 3 4 5 6 7

Hiking, swimming, snorkeling, sea kayaking, and whale watching excursions by skiff



PHOTO: CAROL BARRINGTON

Costa Rica Wildlife

A "NATURALLY" THRILLING TROPICAL ADVENTURE

Want to experience the best of Costa Rica's glorious tropical paradise? With our expert naturalist guide, we'll explore

"Such a wonderful trip—we saw an almost unbelievable variety of wildlife. Our leader was terrific, with extraordinary knowledge. Education, fun, adventure, plus exercise equals a great vacation."

Cathy and Richard L.
Portola Valley CA

the cloud forests of Monteverde, whose treetop canopies are home to the elusive quetzal and filled with blue morpho butterflies, follow hanging bridges suspended high in the forest near towering Arenal Volcano, hike to the breathtaking, 200-foot-high La Fortuna Waterfall, and even have the chance to ride a zip line. Our grand finale is Tortuguero National Park, where you'll journey through waterways sheltering a fantastic array of wildlife.

Days 1-3 Monteverde Cloud Forest After an overnight in San Jose, we head to magical Monteverde Cloud Forest, set in the highlands at a cool 4,700 feet. Our Trip Leader unlocks the secrets of the forest as we hike along paths amid ferns, mosses, and exquisite plants, while high above, the dense green canopy shelters countless tropical birds, including the resplendent quetzal, sacred bird of the Mayas and Aztecs. During our visit to the Jardin de las Mariposas, we discover more than 40 shimmering species of butterfly residing in this enchanting garden, and hike nature trails in nearby Curi-Cancha Reserve, noted for its phenomenal wildlife—keep your camera handy for sightings of white-faced capuchins and howler and spider monkeys. We also have the option of taking an exhilarating ride on the canopy zip line. Soaring along nearly two miles of cables, you'll see the forest from a whole new perspective. We unwind after our active days at welcoming Monteverde Lodge, set in lovely gardens surrounded by cloud forest.

Day 4-5 Arenal Volcano Crossing Lake Arenal by private boat, we take in our first views of magnificent—and still active—Arenal Volcano. A perfect cone shape rising 5,300 feet from gentle green hills, Arenal first became active in 1968 when it erupted in spectacular fashion. A series of hanging bridges brings us right into the high rainforest canopy, where more than 350 species of birds and a colorful array of butterflies reside. A hike through forests and meadows leads us to the base of stunning La Fortuna Waterfall, where you can take a dip in the cool waters. Soak in a gorgeous natural thermal spring, then watch for the nighttime glow and red lava flows of Arenal Volcano from our boutique resort nestled among 120 acres of primary rainforest overlooking the mountain.

Days 6-9 Tortuguero National Park Set along natural inland waterways of the Caribbean and accessible only by boat or air, Tortuguero protects one of the last large areas of tropical rainforest in Central



BOB KRIST

HIGHLIGHTS

- Boat in pristine rainforest, hike in cloud forest, and walk hanging bridges (and optional zip line) through a treetop canopy alive with birdlife
- Monteverde Cloud Forest, with its paths draped in orchids and bromeliads
- The inviting thermal springs and waterfalls of Arenal Volcano
- Tortuguero National Park, a wonderful realm of caimans, spider monkeys, and colorful toucans
- Our fantastic naturalist guide shares in-depth knowledge of Costa Rica's ecosystems

DATES

- Dec 18-26, 2016
- Dec 29, 2016-Jan 6, 2017
- Jan 7-15, 2017
- Feb 4-12
- Feb 25-Mar 5
- Mar 4-12
- Mar 20-28
- Jul 14-22
- Dec 18-26
- Dec 25, 2017-Jan 2, 2018
- Dec 30, 2017-Jan 7, 2018

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in San Jose
- 2 nights hotels, 6 nights well-appointed lodges in beautiful settings
- All meals included except Day 1



MAKE IT A PRIVATE JOURNEY

Choose your own dates and travel with your own group! On our special Private Journey, you can hike, mountain bike, explore a tropical rainforest, and paddle by sea kayak in azure Pacific waters, all with expert naturalist guides at your side. Your journey includes Arenal Volcano National Park, the waterways of Tortuguero National Park, and Manuel Antonio National Park on the Pacific Coast. You can also add in a day of rafting the wild Pacuare River! Call us or visit our website for details.



KEVIN SCHAFER

America. In this emerald world, we'll head out by boat to explore its maze of tranquil blackwater canals overhung with rainforest that provides a rich habitat for caimans, manatees, monkeys, three-toed sloths, river otters, and dazzling birdlife including all six species of kingfishers found in the New World, three species of toucans, eight species of parrots, and the slaty-tailed trogon. Green sea turtles nest here (July-October) as well as leatherbacks (March-May), and we'll be sure to visit the Green Turtle Research Station for fascinating insights about turtle migration and behavior. Our classic Caribbean-style lodge, set right at the river's edge, grants us the best access to explore this incredible wildlife haven. Fly to San Jose for a final overnight and depart on Day 9, or join one of our exciting extensions.



BENCE MALE



ROB CRANDALL



GREGORY BASCO



EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Explore the beaches and rainforests of Corcovado National Park, noted for its scarlet macaws and abundant tree species, with snorkeling at Cano Island included
- Exhilarating one-day rafting trip on the Pacuare through one of the most beautiful river canyons in the tropics (20 Class III and Class IV rapids!)

Experience the "Rich Coast" from all angles as we hike, zip line, and boat amid the wildly beautiful landscapes of Costa Rica. PHOTO BELOW: SUZI ESZTERHAS

TRIP COST

- \$3995 (11-15 members)
- \$4295 (5-10 members)
- Single supplement: \$920
- Internal airfare: \$530 (subject to change)
- Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$250
- Corcovado Rainforest extension: from \$1750
- One-Day Pacuare River Rafting extension: from \$150

TRIP LEVEL

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
- Easy forest hikes and nature walks, optional zip lines



Great hikes, wonderful hotels, delicious meals, fantastic Trip Leaders—this is the ultimate hiking adventure in the realm of the Incas.

Hiker's Journey to Machu Picchu

SPECTACULAR HIKES AND WELCOMING LODGES IN THE REALM OF THE INCAS

The Incas placed their revered sites high above the Sacred Valley, with mystical Machu Picchu perched on a promontory at its farthest reaches. Our exclusive journey is the perfect way to explore this realm, with fantastic hikes by day and overnights in comfortable hotels and lodges (no camping!). Our hikes bring you to hidden Inca ruins surrounded by granite crags and snowy peaks, a traditional Quechua village where you'll enjoy a *pachamanca* feast, and to Machu Picchu, with a hotel overnight right at the ruins. Gorgeous days on uncrowded trails, evenings in cozy lodges enjoying a great meal and a glass of wine—this is hiking in WT style!



BETH ROBIKOW

Days 1-4 Cusco / Sacred Valley / Pisac

Enter the world of the Incas with a hike from the fortress of Saqsayhuaman, with its perfectly fitted limestone blocks, right into Cusco. Above the mountain-ringed Urubamba Valley, hike from Chinchero past traditional farms to Urquillos, then descend past an ancient Inca cemetery and arrive at Pisac, an elaborate temple-ruin filled with astonishing Inca stonework.

Days 5-6 Sacred Valley / Ollantaytambo

Our hikes lead past the ancient terraces of Moray and to a remote Andean village where we are welcomed like family at a festive *pachamanca* (barbecue). In Ollantaytambo, where the rebel Manco Inca and his men held out against Pizarro's forces, discover the exquisite traditional village below the splendid ruin.

Days 7-9 Machu Picchu / Cusco At enchanting Machu Picchu, explore the ruins with our specialist guide and enjoy optional hikes with condor's-eye views. Staying at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, right at the ruins, gives you plenty of time to experience this celebrated site without the crowds. Return to Cusco and depart on Day 9.

"The trip was magical! It is impossible to choose the best experience—every day was unique and full of wonder and amazement."

Steve A., Pleasanton CA



HIGHLIGHTS

- Exhilarating day hikes and charming hotels—no camping!
- Hike to remote Inca sites, visit families in Quechua villages
- Explore magnificent Machu Picchu, with an overnight right at the ruins
- Enjoy a traditional *pachamanca*, a Peruvian feast

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Cusco
- 8 nights fine hotels, including the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

Apr 14-22, 2017	Jul 21-29
May 6-14	Aug 26-Sep 3
Jun 8-16	Sep 20-28
Jul 4-12	Oct 10-18

TRIP COST

- \$5295 (11-15 members)
- \$5795 (6-10 members)
- Single supplement: \$1350
- Internal airfare: \$475 (subject to change)
- Reserva Amazonica extension: from \$550
- Lake Titicaca extension: from \$970
- Arequipa & Colca Canyon extension: from \$995

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Moderate to steep trails, 2-6 hours a day, altitudes up to 12,000 feet

Peru Explorer COLONIAL AREQUIPA, ETHEREAL LAKE TITICACA, AND THE MYSTERIES OF MACHU PICCHU

Peru has always fired the traveler's imagination, and we've crafted a magnificent journey exploring its exquisite landscapes, the treasures of the Inca Empire, and the fascinating cultures of the Andes. We'll discover the colonial splendor of Arequipa and volcano-lined Colca Canyon, with its traditional Indian villages, and at breathtaking Lake Titicaca (12,500'), the mystical lake of Inca legend, our stay on a private island brings us into the world of the intriguing lake-dwelling Uru villagers. We'll follow the route of the Incas through the Sacred Valley to sublime Machu Picchu, where our stay at the Sanctuary Lodge, in a spectacular setting right at the ruins, offers unmatched access to one of the most legendary sites in the world. Our journey ends in Cusco, the cradle of Inca civilization.

Days 1-3 Arequipa / Colca Canyon We begin with an exploration of Arequipa, a World Heritage Site with a beautifully preserved colonial center of white stone architecture. In astonishing Colca Canyon, one of the deepest in the world, we visit traditional Indian villages and watch Andean condors circling up from the canyon

depths. Our lodge, perched at 10,000 feet on the edge of the roaring Colca River, has rustic charm and wonderful mountain views.

Days 4-6 Puno / Lake Titicaca Vast Lake Titicaca has an otherworldly, top-of-the-world feel, and we'll explore it on hikes and boat rides, and meet the lake-dwelling Uru, who live on floating reed islands and travel in *titora* reed crafts. Our elegant hotel, set on a private island in the lake, offers stupendous lake views from every room.

Days 7-8 Sacred Valley of the Incas Crossing the altiplano, a high and wild expanse backed by snow-capped peaks, we reach the Urubamba Valley, sacred to the Incas. We visit the villages of Pisac and Ollantaytambo, each with a majestic Inca fortress perched above and filled with intriguing stonework and engineering.

Days 9-12 Machu Picchu / Cusco We head by train to Machu Picchu, the archaeological wonder of the Americas, where we discover this awe-inspiring site with an expert guide and enjoy an overnight at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, right next to the ruins (you can't get any closer than this!). Cusco's cobbled streets are inviting, and we'll explore the Old Quarter, where ancient Inca walls were the foundation for colonial buildings, and hike amid imposing Inca monuments including Saqsayhuaman. Depart on Day 12.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Stunning Inca ruins, traditional and contemporary Quechua cultures
- The colonial heritage of Arequipa, the condors of Colca Canyon, and Lake Titicaca, sacred as the birthplace of the Incas
- The stronghold of Machu Picchu and Cusco, the Inca capital
- Superb hotels, including Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, Cusco's 5-star Hotel Monasterio, and Suasi Island, the only hotel on a private island in Lake Titicaca

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in Arequipa and ends in Cusco
- 11 nights hotels and inns
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners

DATES

Nov 2-13, 2016
 Mar 29-Apr 9, 2017
 May 27-Jun 7
 Jul 26-Aug 6
 Nov 1-12

TRIP COST

\$6995 (10-12 members)
 \$7395 (7-9 members)
 \$7795 (4-6 members)
 Single supplement: \$1980
 Reserva Amazonica extension: from \$550

TRIP LEVEL 1 ② 3 4 5 6 7

Cultural exploration and walking tours at altitudes up to 12,500 feet

Our fascinating journey explores the traditions and cultures of Peru, as well as incomparable Machu Picchu and Lake Titicaca. PHOTO: RICHARD MASCHMEYER



BRIAN MCGILLOWAY



RICHARD MASCHMEYER



SERGI REBOREDO



BARTOSZ HADYNYIAK

Inca Trail to Machu Picchu

THE ULTIMATE HIKING ADVENTURE TO A LEGENDARY LOST CITY

Ready for one of the world's "must-do" adventures? Join us on our trek along the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, Peru's glorious city of stone perched high above the Sacred Valley. This fabled lost city is the most magical of all the Inca sites, and its exquisite setting makes it utterly unforgettable. Our perfectly paced trek follows in the path of the ancient Incas and brings you to fascinating ruins accessible only on foot and through the legendary "Gate of the Sun" right into Machu Picchu itself. We've honed this journey to perfection with spectacular campsites, superb camp amenities, and an extraordinary team of Trip Leaders. If you've ever dreamed of hiking the Inca Trail, this is the way to do it!

"We were celebrating our 10th anniversary and this trip surpassed all our dreams. Everything was superb—the guides, the campsites, the organization, the porters, the FOOD (better than any restaurant)! Thank you!"

Margot M., Miami Beach FL

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike in the footsteps of the Incas and enter the citadel of Machu Picchu on foot
- Discover Peru's vibrant traditional culture and renowned archaeological treasures
- Enjoy the comforts of our legendary Inca Trail camping services—the best on the trail!
- Savor an overnight at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, with its extraordinary access to the ruins

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Cusco
- 4 nights beautiful hotels, 4 nights full-service camping
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

Nov 8-16, 2016	Aug 2-10
Dec 26, 2016-Jan 3, 2017	Sep 1-9
Apr 12-20, 2017	Sep 15-23
May 5-13	Sep 29-Oct 7
May 19-27	Oct 13-21
Jun 14-22	Nov 18-26
Jun 25-Jul 3	Dec 26, 2017-Jan 3, 2018
Jul 3-11	

TRIP COST

\$4995 (10-15 members)
\$5395 (6-9 members)
Single supplement: \$1275
Internal airfare: \$450 (subject to change)
Inca Trail permit: \$115 (subject to change)
Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$400
Extra overnight at Machu Picchu: from \$775
Reserva Amazonica extension: from \$550
Lake Titicaca extension: from \$970
Arequipa & Colca Canyon extension: from \$995

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

5-day trek on moderate to steep trails, 5-6 hours a day, altitudes between 8,000-13,650 feet



Days 1-2 Cusco / Urubamba Valley In Cusco, the Incas' imperial city, stroll cobbled streets and explore Saqsayhuaman, the enormous Inca fortress overlooking the city. Heading to the mountain-ringed Sacred Valley, we hike to Pisac, with its astounding Inca terracing.

Days 3-6 Inca Trail After exploring the traditional village of Ollantaytambo and the stunning ruin above it, we set off on the "royal trail" to Machu Picchu. Crossing two high passes, we reach fascinating Inca ruins and campsites where you'll feel like you're at the top of the world. Our unique route includes a section off the main Inca Trail—with two special private campsites—and gives you five full days (not four like most other companies) to savor its beauty, enjoy shorter hiking days, and have better acclimatization.

THE WT DIFFERENCE ON THE INCA TRAIL

- More than 30 years' experience and the best camp services on the Inca Trail
- A flawlessly paced itinerary, with 5 full days on trek (and shorter hiking days)
- Spectacular campsites, freshly-brewed coffee brought to your tent each morning, meals served in a comfy dining tent
- The most experienced—and fun—Trip Leaders
- Overnight at Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, the only hotel right at the ruins



CRAIG LOVELL

Days 7-9 Machu Picchu / Cusco Hiking up to Intipunku, the "Gate of the Sun," we reach the original entrance to Machu Picchu, with the dazzling ruins spread out before us in a mystical setting. With our specialist guide, we'll explore intriguing altars, terraces, fountains, and mysterious chambers filled with intricate stonework, and have a chance to hike up Huayna Picchu, the peak above the ruins. Our overnight at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, the only hotel right at the ruins, allows unparalleled access to this renowned site after the crowds are gone (and a fantastic sunset view!). Return to Cusco and depart on Day 9.

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Stay an extra night at Machu Picchu
- The wonders of the Amazon rainforest
- Mystical Lake Titicaca
- Colonial Arequipa, Colca Canyon

The storied citadel of Machu Picchu, the best campsites, wonderful cultural encounters—our finely tuned adventure is one of the great trekking experiences of the world.



BILL BACHMANN



DON HRYCYK



Machu Picchu Lodge to Lodge

LODGE-BASED TREK AND THE LOST CITY OF THE INCAS

Enjoy a spectacular Andean trek—without camping! Following ancient Inca trails in the Cordillera Vilcabamba, the precipitous mountain range that cradles Machu Picchu, you'll hike through an exquisite setting of gleaming glacial lakes, cloud forests full of orchids and waterfalls, and the dazzling peaks and glaciers of Salcantay (20,574') and Huamantay (19,239'). At the end of each exhilarating day, you'll be welcomed at mountain lodges in dramatic settings, each one featuring private rooms, hot showers, delightful cuisine—and even saunas! Your ultimate reward is an exploration of ethereal Machu Picchu, the crown jewel of the Inca world.

Days 1-3 Cusco / Salcantay Lodge After exploring the Incas' imperial city of Cusco, we head through the Soraypampa Valley to Salcantay Lodge (11,800'), ringed by the snowy peaks of the Cordillera Vilcabamba. An acclimatization hike to a turquoise glacial lake at 14,000 feet offers stunning views of Salcantay and Huamantay. Feeling adventurous? Go for a refreshing dip!

Day 4-6 Salcantay Pass / Santa Teresa Valley Enjoy a stunning backdrop of glaciers and icefalls as you cross Salcantay Pass (15,200'), a dramatic notch between the glacial moraines of Huamantay and Salcantay. Keeping an eye out for Andean condors, descend to Wayra Lodge (12,800'), where you can soak in the Jacuzzi beneath a starlit sky. We pass through delicate cloud forest vegetation on our way to Colpa Lodge (9,414'), and we'll be treated to a special *pachamanca* here, a traditional festive Peruvian meal. Hikes in an orchid-draped forest and among the waterfalls and bromeliads of the Santa Teresa Valley bring you to Lucma Lodge (7,000'), a delightful retreat set in its own avocado orchard.

Days 7-9 Machu Picchu / Cusco Crossing Pallyayacta Pass (8,974'), we arrive at the recently restored Inca ruins at Llactapata, set high on a ridge facing Machu Picchu. After enjoying this rarely seen view of the sanctuary, we descend to the banks of the Urubamba River and head by train to the bustling town of Aguas Calientes. Our riverside hotel offers spacious cottages in a tropical garden setting. We explore the evocative ruins of Machu Picchu with a specialist guide, then return to Cusco and depart on Day 9.



BETH ROBI DOUX



BETH ROBI DOUX

HIGHLIGHTS

- Trek in a high Andean realm, but stay in mountain lodges with private rooms and hot showers—no camping!
- View ice-clad Salcantay, Huamantay, and the diverse ecosystems of the Cordillera Vilcabamba
- Explore the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu with a specialist guide

DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Cusco
- 3 nights hotels, 5 nights mountain lodges
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners

DATES

Multiple weekly departures, March through December. Call us or visit our website for specific trip dates.

TRIP COST

High Season (Apr 1-Oct 31 and Dec 15-31)
\$4595 per person, double occupancy
Single supplement: \$1795

Low Season (Mar 1-31 and Nov 1-Dec 14)
\$4195 per person, double occupancy
Single supplement: \$1545

Additional overnight at Aguas Calientes
(call for details): \$465

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

5-day trek on moderate to steep trails, 6-8 hours a day, altitudes between 7,000-15,200 feet



Gorgeous hikes by day, comfortable lodges at night—now this is the way to trek!
PHOTO: BETH ROBI DOUX



Choquequirao: Trek to the Cradle of Gold

EXPLORING THE LOST CITIES OF THE INCAS INCLUDING MACHU PICCHU

Perched on a knife-edged promontory at 10,000 feet and ringed by the snow-capped Vilcabamba Mountains, Choquequirao is a true "lost city of the Incas." For its absolutely stunning location, it is often compared to Machu Picchu, yet this hidden Inca city has no road access, few visitors, and a haunting ambiance unmatched at other sites. In the company of our archaeologist Trip Leader, who has done extensive research and excavations in the region, our spectacular and challenging trek brings us to these breathtaking ruins, with their mysterious plazas and shrines, and onward across the entire



PETER FROST

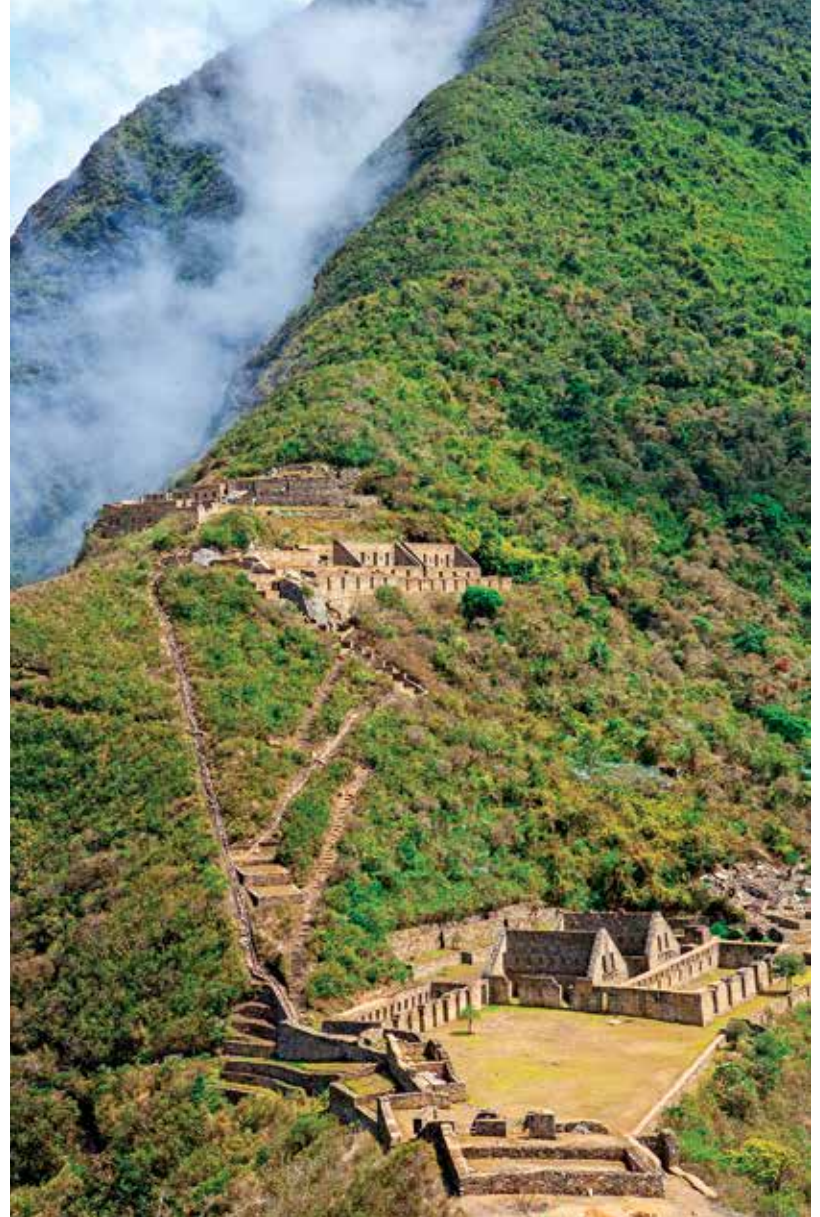
Vilcabamba range through deep-cut canyons and over high passes. Our final campsite offers stunning views of Machu Picchu, and our grand finale is an overnight at the Sanctuary Lodge, right at these celebrated ruins.

Days 1-2 Cusco / Saqsayhuaman / Tambo Machay We meet in Cusco, where we acclimate and enjoy a walking tour of the city, the ceremonial heart of the Inca Empire, and explore the magnificent nearby Inca sites on foot, including Saqsayhuaman, the majestic Inca fortress overlooking Cusco.

Days 3-6 Cachora / Choquequirao From the village of San Pedro de Cachora (9,500'), we hike to a lookout where we enjoy our first views down into the deep, forested canyon of the Apurimac River. Descending into the canyon, we cross the river on a footbridge and hike into a cloud forest that leads us to Choquequirao at 10,000 feet. The site is gradually being restored by a team of Peruvian archaeologists, and we'll explore this extraordinary complex, with its ceremonial buildings and grand staircase.

Days 7-10 Pincha Unuyoc / Qoriwayrachina / Minas Victoria / Lucmabamba Climbing to a pass just above Choquequirao, we descend to the Inca site of Pincha Unuyoc, with its fascinating shrine, and trek on to Qoriwayrachina, a site discovered by a WT Trip Leader. We follow an Inca road to Minas Victoria Pass (14,500'), with its soaring condors and stupendous views, and head to picturesque Yanama (12,000'), where we get a glimpse into life in a remote Andean village. A winding trail leads to the windy heights of Puerto Yanama (15,400'), and brings us to the town of Lucmabamba.

Days 11-13 Machu Picchu / Cusco A steep hike brings us to a lookout over Santa Teresa Valley where we can see Machu Picchu in the distance. After a short train ride, we spend a day at the renowned site, exploring the reconstructed staircases, altars, temples, and fountains, and enjoying the incredible setting. Our overnight is just steps away from the ruins at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge. An afternoon train whisks us to Cusco, and we depart on Day 13.



Discover a lost city of the Incas with our expert Trip Leader. PHOTO: JON ARNOLD

HIGHLIGHTS

- Challenging trek to a hidden Incan city that sees few visitors
- Camp along remote mountainsides, where we can savor peaceful nights beneath a star-filled sky
- Explore the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu with a specialist guide

DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Cusco
- 4 nights hotels, 8 nights camping
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES

Jul 24-Aug 5, 2017
Aug 11-23

TRIP COST

\$4695 (10-15 members)
\$4995 (6-9 members)
Single supplement: \$1250

TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8-day trek on moderate to strenuous trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes between 9,500-14,000 feet



BRIAN MCGILLLOWAY



Camping above the clouds and catching Peru's iconic massifs in the morning's light is one of the many delights you'll experience on our trek.
PHOTO: TOM DEMPSEY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Challenging trek circling the towering, ice-draped Huayhuash—one of Peru's most dramatic mountain ranges
- Exploration Day at Carhuacocho, a remote alpine lake
- Savor panoramic views from atop seven breathtaking passes
- Full-service camping, including a comfortable dining tent

DETAILS

- 18-day trip begins and ends in Lima
- 5 nights hotels, 12 nights full-service camping
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners

DATES

Jun 5-22, 2017
Aug 6-23

TRIP COST

\$4695 (12-15 members)
\$4995 (9-11 members)
\$5295 (6-8 members)
Single supplement: \$360
Machu Picchu extension: from \$2895

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

12-day trek on moderate to strenuous trails, 4-7 hours a day, altitudes of 11,000-16,400 feet

Cordillera Huayhuash EXPLORE THE HIGHEST TROPICAL MOUNTAIN RANGE IN THE WORLD

The spectacular ice range of the Cordillera Huayhuash is full of knife-edged 20,000-foot peaks that attract adventurers from around the world. Our magnificent trek circles this dramatic range, crossing seven high passes with sweeping panoramas of towering Andean giants, including Yerupaja (21,759'), the second highest mountain in Peru, and the icy fang of Jirishanca (20,099'). Along the way, our spectacular campsites and special Exploration Day allow you to discover the many turquoise lakes that bejewel the Huayhuash region. Vast blue skies and a profusion of edelweiss and purple lupine add to the allure of this alpine paradise.

Days 1-4 Huaráz / Wilcahuain / Lake

Churup From Lima, we head to Huaráz, where Huascarán (22,205'), Peru's highest peak, dominates the skyline. Our visit to the ruins of Wilcahuain grants us insights into this fascinating pre-Inca culture, while a hike to Lake Churup helps us acclimatize for the days ahead.

Days 5-8 Cordillera Huayhuash / Carhuacocho

Ascending through subtropical zones and mountain passes, we'll enter the remote eastern flanks of



TOM DEMPSEY

the Huayhuash massif. Following an ancient Inca trail, we'll discover Carhuacocho, a radiantly blue glacial lake at 13,600 feet.

Days 9-13 Cordillera Huayhuash / Laguna Jurau

From the village of Huayhuash, set at a lofty 14,200 feet, we'll cross three high mountain passes between glaciated pinnacles, and camp at Laguna Jurau, nestled in a cirque of massive snow peaks.

Days 14-18 Jahuacocho / Huaráz

The trail to our magnificent lakeside camp crosses Yaucha Pass (15,900') with incredible views of Rondoy and Ninashanca. Depart on Day 18.

ON OUR WEBSITE

TREKKING IN THE CORDILLERA BLANCA Trek among enormous ice-fluted peaks and flowering alpine meadows of Peru's Cordillera Blanca. Jun 9-25, Jul 27-Aug 12, 2018.

Bolivia!

ADVENTURES IN LA PAZ, LAKE TITICACA, AND THE SALAR DE UYUNI

Our newest cultural and hiking journey unlocks the secrets of Bolivia's dramatic landscapes and vibrant cultures. With veteran and beloved Trip Leader Dr. Andrea Heckman, we'll enjoy active days and welcoming accommodations, from a historic hacienda to a boutique ecolodge. Set out on an "urban trek" through the steep streets of La Paz, and hike on the Inca's mystical Isla del Sol. In the surreal Salar de Uyuni salt flats, we'll explore by 4WD vehicle and on foot, with overnights in a truly unique "salt" hotel. Andrea will introduce us to local Yampara artisans and we'll enjoy a special lunch with them at the colorful market in the mountain village of Tarabuco before capping off our adventure in the colonial gem of Sucre.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Travel with Trip Leader Dr. Andrea Heckman, who holds a PhD in traditional Andean arts and cultures
- Discover the enormous ruins of Tiwanaku, a pre-Inca masterpiece
- Hike to ancient Inca temples on the mystical Isla del Sol on sacred Lake Titicaca
- Explore by 4WD vehicle amid the dreamscapes of the Salar de Uyuni, a spectacular high desert
- Meet the artisan weavers of Tarabuco, enjoy lunch on a family farm near Sucre

DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins and ends in La Paz
- 13 nights hotels and estancias
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners

DATES

Jun 29-Jul 12, 2017
Oct 7-20

TRIP COST

\$5295 (13-15 members)
\$5595 (9-12 members)
\$5995 (6-8 members)
Single supplement: \$580

TRIP LEVEL 1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7

Cultural explorations and walking tours at altitudes up to 13,615 feet, some long drives on rugged terrain



KEREN SU



JESSE KRAFT

Days 1-2 La Paz / Tiwanaku In La Paz, the highest capital city in the world, we'll explore fascinating markets and neighborhoods, and visit the monumental pre-Inca ruins at Tiwanaku, a World Heritage Site.

Days 3-4 Lake Titicaca / Isla del Sol Crossing the altiplano to Lake Titicaca, our explorations bring us to the mystical Isla del Sol (Island of the Sun). Our overnights are in a spectacularly located ecolodge, and we'll enjoy hikes to Incan sites and visits to the traditional villages of this island lost in time.

Days 5-8 Explore the Salar de Uyuni Our journey leads to the spectacular Salar de Uyuni, a glittering white salt desert and one of the most astonishing landscapes on the planet, with bizarre stone formations, geysers, colored lakes, and massive flocks of flamingos. Sunsets

here are unforgettable, and we stay in comfortable hotels, including one made entirely of salt blocks!

Days 9-10 Hacienda de Cayara / Potosi From our historic rural 16th century hacienda, we'll visit the colonial treasures of the city of Potosi, where the Spanish mined silver to fund the extravagant ventures of their monarchy for nearly three centuries.

Days 11-14 Tarabuco / Sucre / La Paz In the mountain village of Tarabuco, we'll roam the famous Sunday market, learning about the incredible weaving traditions of the Yampara people. Sucre, known as the "White City" for its whitewashed buildings and red-tiled roofs, is a World Heritage beauty, and we'll hike in the countryside and visit local farms. Fly to La Paz for a final overnight, and depart on Day 14.

Bolivia's exotic landscapes are absolutely entrancing, and this journey explores some of its most stunning sites, including the unique Salar de Uyuni. PHOTO: SERGII BROSHEVAN



Chile from Top to Bottom

THE ATACAMA DESERT, CHILOÉ ISLAND, AND PATAGONIA



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the evocative landscapes of the Atacama Desert
- Enchanting Chiloé Island, with its lush rainforests and spiritual culture—voted Best Place to Visit by *Travel + Leisure*
- Hike to the famed Torres del Paine, to the foot of Cerro Paine Grande, and alongside the French and Serrano glaciers
- Cooking lesson in Patagonian cuisine, share a meal with a local family, dine on traditional feasts including an *asado*

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in San Pedro de Atacama and ends in Punta Arenas
- 11 nights hotels and lodges
- All meals included

DATES

Nov 27-Dec 8, 2016
 Mar 19-30, 2017
 Dec 3-14
 Mar 5-16, 2018

TRIP COST

FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
 \$6895 (13-15 members)
 \$7295 (10-12 members)
 \$7695 (7-9 members)
 Single supplement: \$910
 Internal airfare: \$460 (subject to change)

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4 5 6 7

10 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 2-5 hours a day, altitudes in the Atacama between 8,000-12,000 feet



M&G THERIN-WEISE



Our wonderfully varied journey brings us through the striking colors and textures of Chile's surreal landscapes, including the austere Atacama Desert. PHOTO: FABIO LAMANNA

From the Atacama Desert, the driest place on earth, to mystical Chiloé Island and the soaring peaks of Torres del Paine National Park, Chile offers a phenomenal range of landscapes and thrilling adventures that we've combined on this exciting journey. We'll hike among glittering salt flats and flocks of flamingoes in the Atacama, and explore the mystical forests of Chiloé Island. Way down south, we'll enter Paine National Park by Zodiac to hike spectacular trails in this glacier-carved realm. Sharing a meal with an Atacameñan family, savoring a traditional *curanto* feast and rich Chilean wines—this is a journey into the extraordinary landscapes and the cultural heart of Chile.

Days 1-3 San Pedro de Atacama Our hikes in the legendary Atacama Desert bring us through the Valle de la Luna for a sunset view of astonishing moonscapes, to a natural hot spring for a delightful soak, and to the Salar de Atacama to explore a flamingo reserve and the crystalline blue lagoons of the altiplano, with an option to hike amid stunning red rock formations in the Valle de La Muerte.



Days 4-7 Lake District / Chiloé Island Our walk through a forest of ancient alerce trees ends with by an *asado* (barbecue) at a local farm. On Chiloé Island, we'll enjoy great birdwatching including two species of penguins, hike along golden beaches and through temperate rainforests, and tuck into a traditional *curanto*, a Chilean feast cooked in an earthen pit.

Days 8-12 Patagonia / Torres del Paine National Park In Puerto Natales, learn to prepare distinctive Chilean Patagonian cuisine, such as smoked trout ceviche—accompanied by a glass of Chilean wine, of course! Take in amazing views of the Balmaceda Glacier and the great Paine Massif as we head into Paine National Park by boat along the Río Serrano, stopping for a hike to the glacier. Our hikes here lead into stunning Valle Frances and to the foot of Cerro Paine Grande, the highest peak of the range, and to the giant granite monoliths of the Torres del Paine. Depart on Day 12 via Punta Arenas.

Great Hikes & Estancias of Patagonia

ARGENTINA'S REALM OF PEAKS AND GLACIERS



Some of the most spectacular peaks on the planet are in Argentina's Los Glaciares National Park, and our hiker's journey reveals the very best of this grand-scale paradise, where rivers of ice pour down from the Southern Patagonian Ice Field and granite

"Sunny days, excellent Trip Leader, stupendous scenery, magnificent hikes, great food...what more could we ask for?"

Perry P., Durango CO

towers soar above the pampas. Our hikes—with two options each day—lead across wild steppes and along extraordinary

vistas of Fitzroy, Cerro Torre, and the park's exalted glaciers (some of the world's biggest), including the massive wall of Perito Moreno. At our welcoming estancias, including renowned Cristina and Helsingfors, both in superb and incredibly remote locations, you'll feast on savory Patagonian fare and enjoy hearty Argentine wines at the end of each fine day of hiking.

Days 1-4 Buenos Aires / Los Glaciares National Park From Buenos Aires, we head to Los Glaciares National Park, where our hiking

options bring us to Laguna de los Tres, with views of the jagged pinnacles of Fitzroy (11,703'), and to Laguna Torre, a glacial lake offering jaw-dropping vistas of the slender spire of Cerro Torre (10,280').

Days 5-7 Estancia Helsingfors / Perito Moreno

Lago Viedma is the setting for exhilarating hikes, including one that brings us to remote Lago Azul, a sublime glacial lake that truly earns its name. We stay at Estancia Helsingfors, a delightful retreat exclusive to our group, where we enjoy great food (delicious roast lamb and fresh-caught trout) and a warm family atmosphere. From Calafate, you'll get great up-close views of the Perito Moreno Glacier, walk along a boardwalk with phenomenal views of the towering wall of ice and the immense ice field stretching into the distance, and watch huge ice blocks plunge into Lago Argentino.

Days 8-12 Estancia Cristina / Calafate

From remote Estancia Cristina, surrounded by glaciers and snowy Andean peaks, our hikes bring us up Cerro Carnero for glorious views of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field, and through a fascinating canyon where marine fossils are embedded in the walls. At night we enjoy fine meals and warm hospitality in this estancia at the end of the world. Return to Calafate on Day 11 and depart on Day 12 via Buenos Aires, or join our extensions to Candelaria del Monte Estancia or Iguazú Falls.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fantastic day hikes—with two options a day—to Patagonia's most celebrated peaks, including Fitzroy and Cerro Torre
- Incredible mountain scenery, and an exciting hike with crampons on the Viedma Glacier
- Historic estancias and fine lodges—some of them exclusive to our group—and welcoming Patagonian hospitality

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Buenos Aires
- 6 nights hotels and lodges, 5 nights estancias
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

Nov 20-Dec 1, 2016	Nov 19-30
Dec 24, 2016-Jan 4, 2017	Dec 23, 2017-Jan 3, 2018
Jan 28-Feb 8, 2017	Jan 27-Feb 7, 2018
Feb 25-Mar 8	Feb 24-Mar 7

TRIP COST

FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
 \$6495 (10-14 members)
 \$6995 (6-9 members)
 Single supplement: \$830
 Internal airfare: \$580 (subject to change)
 Iguazú Falls extension: from \$940
 Candelaria del Monte extension: from \$875

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4 5 6 7

9 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails (some steep sections), 2-8 hours a day, altitudes below 5,000 feet

Patagonia's glacier landscapes are exquisite, and our stays in fantastic locations grant us incredible access to experience the sights (and sounds) of these crackling ice giants. PHOTO: COLIN MONTEATH



In Patagonia TIERRA DEL FUEGO AND THE MOUNTAIN SPLENDOR OF CHILE AND ARGENTINA



JOCK MONTGOMERY

From every angle and in every light, the magnificence of Patagonia is absolutely enthralling. PHOTO BELOW: KEREN SU

The granite-and-glacier realms of Paine and Fitzroy and remote Tierra del Fuego are like no other in the world.

"Impeccable itinerary and outstanding implementation. Every day delivered a new 'Oh My' due to the variety, scenery, and experiences. Thank you, Wilderness Travel!"

Jan D., Meyersdale PA

These unspoiled landscapes that shelter marvelous wildlife stretch to the ends of the continent. On our insider's journey, explorations in Tierra del Fuego reveal penguin colonies, secluded islands, and sweeping views of the Beagle Channel, while in Patagonia, inspiring day hikes—many starting right from our lodges—grant spectacular panoramas of the great shark fin of Fitzroy and the needle-like

spire of Cerro Torre, the crown jewels of Argentina's Los Glaciares National Park, and the soaring rock towers of Chile's Torres del Paine National Park. This is the ultimate hiking adventure to the "uttermost ends of the earth."

Days 1-3 Buenos Aires / Ushuaia / Tierra del Fuego After exploring Buenos Aires, we head to Ushuaia for hikes along the secluded bays of Tierra del Fuego, keeping an eye out for the abundant birdlife including the Magellanic woodpecker and the regal Andean condor. On the Beagle Channel, a Zodiac ride brings us to a remote island for a hike and lunch

at a shepherd's hut (complete with a locally produced red wine!) and a visit to a Magellanic and Adélie penguin colony.

Days 4-7 Los Glaciares National Park Up-close perspectives of Fitzroy (11,703') and the slender granite pinnacle of Cerro Torre (10,280') are the thrill of our adventures in this famed park. One hike brings us through a valley of native lenga trees to Laguna Torre, a serene glacial lake with the spire of Cerro Torre soaring directly above it. We also journey across deep Lago Viedma by boat, navigating amid floating icebergs, then head out on foot right on the vast Viedma Glacier for a chance to peer into its fantastic ice caverns.

Days 8-9 Estancia Helsingfors From renowned Estancia Helsingfors, a former sheep ranch set on the shores of glacier-fed Lago Viedma, our trails bring us through beech forests to stunning Lago Azul, a pristine lake with magnificent Fitzroy



views, and possible sightings of Patagonia's exotic creatures, including guanacos and rheas.

Day 10 Moreno Glacier / Lago Argentino / Calafate Crossing rolling Patagonian steppes to turquoise Lago Argentino, we follow a boardwalk with phenomenal views of the spectacular 20-story-high icewall of the Moreno Glacier, with its icebergs calving right into the lake—the sounds are as amazing as the views.

Days 11-16 Torres del Paine National Park, Chile With its granite spires, azure lakes, and massive glaciers, Chile's Torres del Paine National Park is one of the natural masterpieces of the planet. Our lodges give us great access to the best areas of the park, with hikes starting right outside our front door, including the trail through the Ascencio Valley to the base of the three giant monoliths of the Paine Towers, a landmark of the park. Depart on Day 16 via Punta Arenas.



DMITRY SAPAROV



KEITH KAPPLE

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE
Start your journey with an exploration of Iguazú Falls, a UNESCO World Heritage Site stretching between Argentina and Brazil and plunging hundreds of feet into a mist-shrouded subtropical landscape. It's one of the most stunning natural wonders in the world!



HIGHLIGHTS

- See the best of Patagonia, from Tierra del Fuego to its greatest national parks
- Amazing views of Fitzroy and Paine, choice of hiking options on many days
- Remote islands of Tierra del Fuego
- Comfortable inns, including Estancia Helsingfors, a historic Patagonian estate

DETAILS

- 16-day trip begins in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and ends in Punta Arenas, Chile
- 15 nights hotels and lodges
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

Nov 12-27, 2016	Dec 17, 2017-Jan 1, 2018
Dec 18, 2016-Jan 2, 2017	Jan 2-17, 2018
Jan 3-18, 2017	Jan 6-21
Jan 7-22	Jan 11-26
Jan 19-Feb 3	Feb 4-19
Feb 5-20	Feb 8-23
Feb 16-Mar 3	Feb 12-27
Mar 3-18	Mar 2-17
Nov 11-26	

TRIP COST

FALL 2016 / SPRING 2017
 \$8195 (13-15 members)
 \$8595 (10-12 members)
 \$8995 (7-9 members)
 Single supplement: \$1650
 Internal airfare: \$480 (subject to change)
 Iguazú Falls extension: from \$940

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 ④ 5 6 7
 10 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes below 5,000 feet



CHRISTIAN GOUPI



DAN HELLER



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YOUR TRIP DATES,
YOUR DREAM TRIP

Perfect for Families, Friends, or Just the Two of You! Celebrating an anniversary, big birthday, or just dreaming of a great adventure with your family, close friends, or significant other? WT Private Journeys in Latin America bring you the world of this fascinating continent, from exploring the Galápagos Islands on your own private yacht to a trek on the fabled Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

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"Wilderness Travel put together the PERFECT adventure. The guides were excellent, transportation perfect, and everything worked exactly as described and planned. We couldn't possibly have asked for more."

Bonnie J., Newport Beach CA

"The trip was extraordinary and my hiking companion and I agreed, as we watched the other guides and groups, that we had clearly chosen the best in the field."

Drew C., Albany NY

"You enabled a fabulous adventure and unforgettable experience. Each family member was delighted—thank you!"

Elizabeth T., Charlottesville VA



Argentina
Patagonian Peaks and Glaciers



Chile
The Lake District and Paine National Park



Peru
Mystical Machu Picchu



Inca Trail
Trek to Machu Picchu



Galápagos
Exploring Darwin's Enchanted Islands



Baja
Todos Santos, Whale Encounters, and the Sea of Cortez

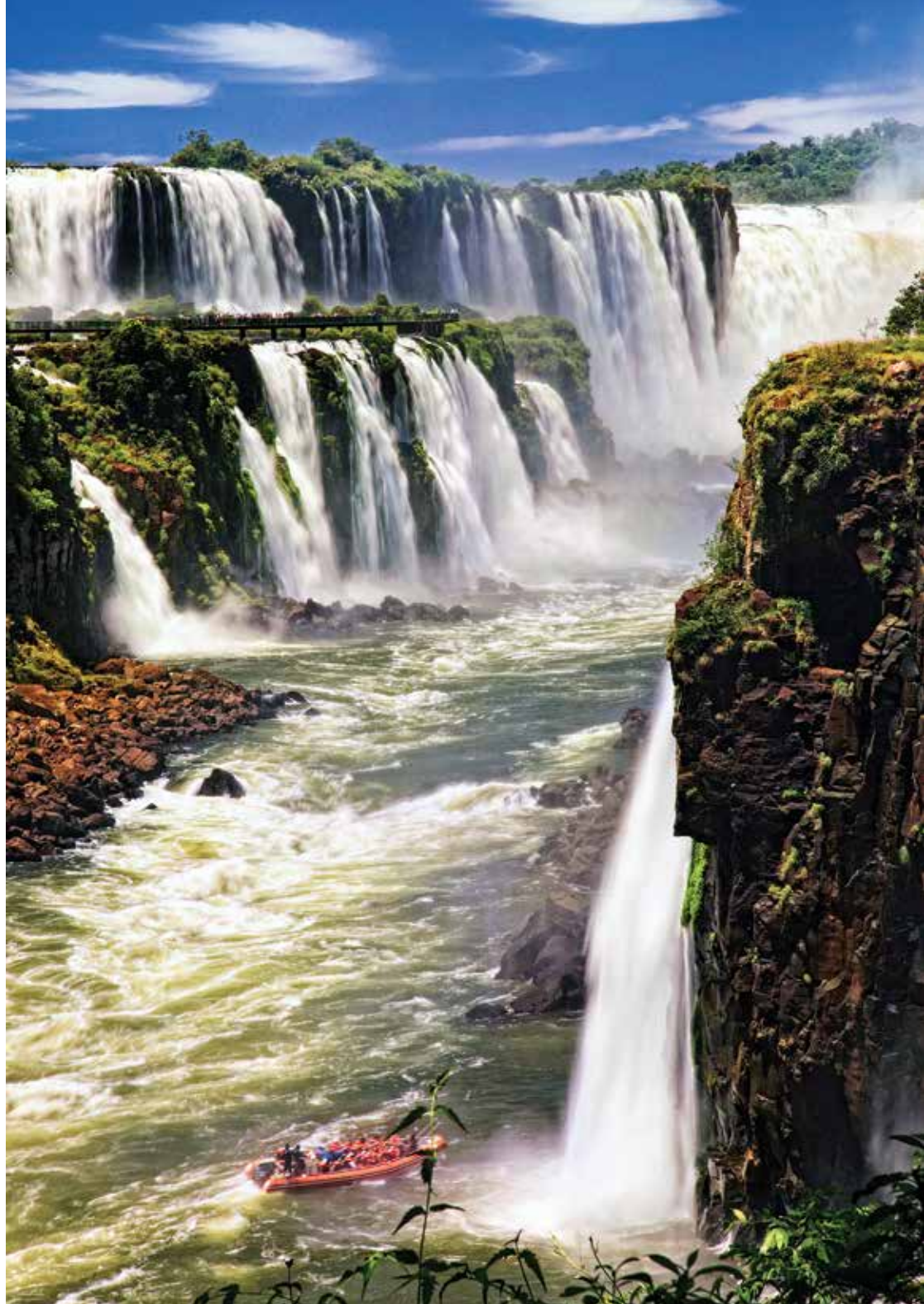
DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE



Costa Rica
Adventuring in Nature's Playground



Brazil
Iguazú Falls and the Northern Pantanal



Belize & Tikal
Rainbow Reefs and Mystical Temples



Guatemala
Tikal and the Land of the Mayas



Colombia
Adventures in El Dorado

Antarctica, South Georgia & the Falklands

PENGUINS, TOWERING ICEBERGS, AND LEGENDS OF SHACKLETON



South Georgia's extraordinary wildlife colonies are a match for its wondrous glacier-clad landscape. PHOTO: FLIP NICKLIN



BILL BACHMANN

HIGHLIGHTS

- Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia, and the Falklands—all on one fantastic journey!
- Epic wildlife experiences including South Georgia's thousands of king penguins
- Expert Antarctic naturalists and historians to enrich your experience
- Sea kayaking and snowshoeing options on several departures

DETAILS

- 20-day trip begins and ends in Ushuaia
- 18 nights aboard an expedition ship, 1 night hotel
- All meals included

DATES

Dec 22, 2016-Jan 9, 2017
Jan 6-25
Feb 22-Mar 13
Oct 29-Nov 18
Nov 20-Dec 8
Dec 18, 2017-Jan 5, 2018
Jan 3-23, 2018
Jan 25-Feb 13

TRIP COST

From \$10,995
Cruise length, itinerary, embarkation and disembarkation cities, and pricing vary by departure.

TRIP LEVEL ①+ 2 3 4 5 6 7

19-day expedition cruise, nature walks on uneven ground, Zodiac cruising with wet landings, possibility of rough seas and cold weather

Experience three epic destinations of the Southern Ocean: the wildlife oasis of the Falkland Islands, breathtaking South Georgia

Island, with its legends of Shackleton and spectacular colonies of stately king penguins, and the celebrated Antarctic Peninsula, a dazzling realm of glistening icebergs and towering peaks rising straight from the sea. On this small-ship expedition, set out for adventures by go-anywhere

"It was the thrill of a lifetime! The Zodiac rides were great and the staff made sure we could see and do everything."

Joanne G.
Denver CO

Zodiacs amid drifting bergs, hike on remote shores amid throngs of chattering penguins and basking elephant seals, and learn from expert naturalists who illuminate the dream world of the Antarctic.

Days 1-7 Ushuaia / Falkland Islands From Ushuaia, voyage to the rugged Falklands, a famously British outpost with spectacular seabird colonies and charismatic rockhopper penguins.



Days 8-11 South Georgia Island This stunning island holds one of the greatest concentrations of wildlife on the planet. Walk black-sand beaches among tens of thousands of king penguins and basking elephant seals, look for nesting albatross, and visit the evocative grave of the great explorer Shackleton at the old Norwegian whaling station of Grytviiken.

Days 12-20 Scotia Sea / South Shetland Islands / Antarctic Peninsula

Cross the Scotia Sea to the wildlife-rich Antarctic Peninsula. Walk amid teeming penguin colonies, visit a research station, explore by Zodiac, and take a bracing dip in the hot springs at Deception Island. Return to Ushuaia and depart on Day 20.



Antarctica!

SPECTACULAR EXPEDITION CRUISE TO THE WHITE CONTINENT

Antarctica is hypnotically beautiful, with its towering blue-white icebergs, mountains sheering from the sea, and spectacular pageant of wildlife. This small-ship expedition brings you all the glories of the Antarctic Peninsula, the most wildlife-rich part of the continent. You'll walk among rookeries thronged with penguins and their fuzzy chicks, look for spouting whales in iceberg-filled bays, spot incredible Antarctic birds including the fabled wandering albatross, explore by Zodiac, and marvel at the nearly 24-hour daylight. There are even options to sea kayak or camp on some journeys! Expert naturalists bring the Antarctic world to life for you as they share their in-depth knowledge and passion for this miraculous realm.

Days 1-4 Ushuaia / Embark / Drake

Passage From Ushuaia, navigate the historic Beagle Channel, traveled by Charles Darwin aboard the *HMS Beagle* in 1835. Huge albatross and Cape petrels soar above the wake of the ship as you cross the Drake Passage to the Antarctic Peninsula.

Days 5-12 Antarctic Peninsula / Drake

Passage / Ushuaia You'll have five exciting

days to absorb the pristine beauty and extraordinary wildlife of the Peninsula. Set out for guided walks among thousands of clamorous penguins, explore historic outposts, look for humpback whales, and take Zodiac excursions to towering icebergs and ice floes where seals laze. Destinations include Paulet Island, home to some 200,000 Adélie penguins, Paradise Bay, a spectacularly scenic setting of glaciated mountains, ice cliffs, and icebergs, and the narrow Lemaire Channel, where the ship navigates a smooth-as-glass waterway between sheer 3,000-foot peaks. Some departures have options for camping or sea kayaking, weather permitting. The ship will also sail into the sea-flooded crater of Deception Island, the largest active volcano in Antarctica, where hardy souls have a chance to take a dip in a small natural hot spring on the rocky shoreline. In the true spirit of expedition cruising, the expedition leader and captain will determine the best course for the weather and ice conditions and for maximizing your wildlife encounters. On Days 10-11, keep an eye out for whales and seabirds as the ship returns across the famed Drake Passage to Ushuaia. Disembark on Day 12 and depart.

ON OUR WEBSITE **ANTARCTICA AIR CRUISE**

From Punta Arenas, fly right to the South Shetland Islands for a five-day cruise along the Antarctic Peninsula.

Dec 2017-Feb 2018. From \$10,795.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Active expedition cruise to the Antarctic Peninsula, a breathtaking wildlife paradise
- Cruise past icebergs of the South Shetland Islands and Paradise Bay, take a dip in the thermal waters at Deception Island, see the stunning Lemaire Channel
- With expert naturalists, hike amid colonies of penguins and explore ice-strewn bays by Zodiac

DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Ushuaia
- 10 nights aboard an expedition ship, 1 night hotel
- All meals included

DATES

Nov 19-30, 2016	Nov 17-28
Nov 24-Dec 5	Nov 24-Dec 5
Dec 2-12	Nov 27-Dec 8
Dec 4-16	Dec 4-15
Dec 12-22	Dec 14-25
Dec 15-27	Dec 24, 2017-Jan 4, 2018
Dec 26, 2016-Jan 6, 2017	Jan 5-16, 2018
Jan 15-26, 2017	Jan 15-26
Jan 24-Feb 4	Feb 13-25, 2018
Feb 12-23	Feb 25-Mar 8
Feb 14-25	

TRIP COST

From \$5995
Cruise length, itinerary, and pricing vary by departure.

TRIP LEVEL **1+** 2 3 4 5 6 7

12-day expedition cruise, nature walks on uneven ground, Zodiac cruising with wet landings, possibility of rough seas and cold weather

A small-ship expedition is the ideal way to experience Antarctica's ethereal beauty and rare wildlife. PHOTO: MICHAEL S. NOLAN



MICHAEL S. NOLAN



CHRIS HOWARTH



General Information

Reservations

Early reservations are recommended, since group sizes are limited and airlines often sell out of their best fares many months in advance. For immediate confirmation on a trip, you can call us at 1-800-368-2794 and charge the initial \$600 deposit to your Visa, MasterCard, or American Express credit card, or download the Trip Application from our website and mail it along with a check. Each participant must submit a separate application and signed Release of Liability, Assumption of All Risks, and Binding Arbitration Agreement prior to departure.

Upon receiving your deposit we will send you a confirmation letter, Detailed Trip Itinerary, links for visa applications (if required) and a travel insurance application, and a pre-departure information booklet with a clothing and equipment list, suggested reading list, and general information needed to prepare for your trip. Rendezvous instructions and final trip details will be sent about three weeks prior to departure.

Payment Schedule*

At time of reservation	\$600
75 days prior to departure	Balance

*Payment schedules for certain trips vary (including but not limited to cruises, private departures, extensions, and certain Special Events). These exceptions are clearly indicated in the Detailed Itineraries printed separately for each of these trips.

Prices are quoted in US dollars and all payments must be made in US dollars whether by check or credit card. All payments submitted less than 15 days prior to departure must be by credit card or cashier's check.

Pricing

To offer the lowest possible price, all of our tours are priced according to the number of full-price participants on the trip. Wilderness Travel staff or guests of Wilderness Travel (travel writers, photographers, leaders-in-training) are not included in the tier pricing count.

Prices are per person based on double occupancy and do not include airfare, unless otherwise noted. A full list of Included and Not Included Trip Costs are noted in the Detailed Itinerary.

Prices listed in this brochure are subject to change because the trip dates and prices have often been published more than a year in advance. Between that time and the time of the trip's actual departure, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases or currency fluctuations that we cannot absorb. We do everything we can to keep our prices the same as published. Please note that for trips in certain areas of the southern hemisphere such as Patagonia, New Zealand, and Australia, prices are seasonal. In such cases, the prices quoted in our catalog are for Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 only, and are so noted on the catalog trip page and in the Detailed Itinerary. Prices for Fall 2017 would not normally be available until early 2017.

Single Supplements

A single supplement is paid by participants who specifically request single accommodations, subject to availability. If you are traveling alone and wish to share accommodations, we will try to match you with a roommate. However, if a roommate is not available, the forced single supplement will be charged, which is 50% of the regular single supplement unless otherwise noted in the Detailed Itinerary.

Cancellations and Refunds

If it becomes necessary for you to cancel your trip, the following fees will apply, computed as of the date of receipt of written cancellation notice, which can be sent by email, fax, or standard mail.

Cancellation Fee Schedule*

Up to 91 days prior to departure	We don't charge one!
61-90 days prior to departure	25% of land cost
46-60 days prior to departure	50% of land cost
45 days or less	100% of land cost

*Cancellation and transfer schedules for certain trips including cruises, private departures, extensions, and certain Special Events are often more strict. These exceptions are clearly indicated in the Detailed Itineraries printed separately for each of these trips.

Rates are based on group participation and no partial refunds will be given for unused trip arrangements for any reason whatsoever. Once you have been confirmed on a trip that requires a medical certificate signed by a doctor, normal cancellation fees apply if your doctor does not sign the certificate. We highly recommend that all clients purchase trip cancellation insurance.

Transfers

You may transfer to another trip without penalty by notifying us of your wish to transfer 91 days or more prior to departure. After that time, you are subject to the cancellation fees outlined above. Special Events, cruises, certain group departures, and private trips are subject to special terms outlined in the Detailed Itinerary.

Cancelled Trips

Wilderness Travel reserves the right to cancel any trip prior to departure for any reason whatsoever, including insufficient signup or logistical problems that may impede trip operations. The refund of all land payments received shall release Wilderness Travel from any further liability. A trip with insufficient sign-ups would normally be cancelled a minimum of one month prior to departure.

Wilderness Travel must normally make substantial payments to its suppliers (hotels, transportation companies, etc.) far in advance of the scheduled embarkation date. If a trip is cancelled due to force majeure (acts of God, war, labor strikes, earthquake, flooding, etc.), Wilderness Travel will promptly refund the portion of the trip cost not already advanced to suppliers and use good faith efforts to recover and refund the balance as promptly as possible. However, Wilderness Travel does not guarantee recovery of any or all of the advance payments made, and our use of good faith efforts to recover these payments will not include the institution of any legal proceedings in foreign jurisdictions.

Wilderness Travel is not responsible for expenses incurred by trip members in preparing for a cancelled trip (e.g., nonrefundable advance purchase air tickets, visa fees, inoculations, equipment, etc.) or for any additional arrangements should the trip member have departed prior to the scheduled group departure date.

Trip Member's Responsibility

Trip members have the responsibility to select a trip appropriate to their abilities and interests. In order to assist you, we grade each trip with a Trip Level. We are also happy to discuss the trip with you, as well as provide you with names of past participants who can discuss their experience with you. Trip members must be in sufficient good health to undertake the trip. Trip members are responsible for preparing for the trip by studying the itinerary and pre-departure information packets sent by Wilderness Travel, and for bringing the appropriate clothing and equipment as advised therein.

California Seller of Travel Registration No.: 1007696-40

Registration as a Seller of Travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. Wilderness Travel is not a participant in the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires certain Sellers of Travel to have a trust account or bond. Wilderness Travel has such a trust account.

Wilderness Travel Staff THE HOME OFFICE: BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

We are a company of travelers, dedicated to creating superb travel experiences throughout the world. As a family-owned company since 1978, we approach every guest's trip as if it is our own. Our staff's field experience and travel expertise are phenomenal, with literally centuries of travel experience among us, on every continent. We look forward to welcoming you to the world of WT, and to making your travel dreams come true!



STEVE ZWETSCH

Back Row, left to right: Barbara Banks-Altekruse, *Director of Marketing and New Trip Development*; Bianca Beggs, *Client Services*; Diana Poindexter, *Europe Operations*; Steve Lanza, *Office Systems*; Mackenzie O'Connell, *Client Services*; Lisa Laferte, *Pacific Operations*; Caryn Dombroski, *Client Services*; Carmen Gomez, *Expedition Cruise Operations*; Vince Nibler, *Information Systems*; Jennifer Mahoney, *Client Services*; Ray Rodney, *Special Projects Manager*; Barbara Wright, *Private Groups Manager*; Sommer Antrim, *Information Systems*; Oakii the Dog; Dena Bartolome, *Writer*; Angela Beggs, *General Manager*; Lauren Takahashi, *Accounting*; Tana Hakanson Monsalve, *Client Services*; Marcy Avery, *Client Services*; Brian McGilloway, *Photo Editor*; Hyun Jung, *Information Systems* **Middle Row, left to right:** Lisa Filippini, *Asia Operations*; Jennifer (Jeffi) Norris, *Africa Operations*; Marsha Atkinson, *Expedition Cruise Operations*; Shannon Hastings, *Marketing / Graphic Designer*; Molly Tallman, *Latin America Operations*; Sugarbear the Dog; Merrill Guzman, *Latin America Operations*; Linnea Peterson, *Latin America Operations*; Bill Abbott, *President* **Front Row, left to right:** Brendt Uebel, *Europe Operations*; Fredrika Odelstierna, *Client Services*; Erica Schleimer, *Information Systems*; Kirstina Bolton, *Writer*; Michael Vance, *Operations Manager*; Nicole Duke, *Asia Operations*; Beth Robidoux, *Latin America Operations*; Lyndsey Reynolds, *Europe Operations*; Cooper the Dog; Nicole Abbott, *Vice President*; Shawn Oda, *Accounting* **Not pictured:** Barb Hollenbach, *Client Services*; Pam Shandrick, *Writer*

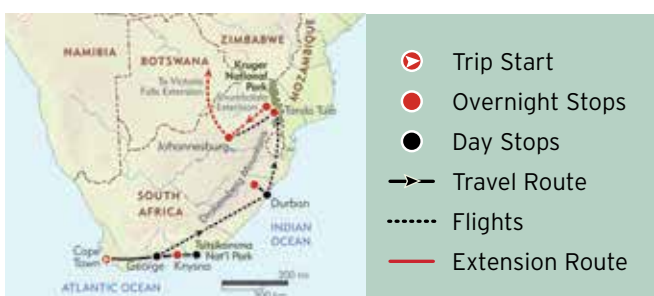
Trip Level FINDING THE TRIP THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU

With more than 250 different adventures to choose from, we want to help you find the trip that's right for you. Our Trip Level system ranks each trip in two ways: a number rating from 1 to 7 according to the activity and general travel rigors. 1 is the easiest and 7 the most difficult—see descriptions at right for explanations of each number. A plus (+) sign means the trip is a bit more strenuous than other trips of that level. The detailed explanation of each trip—below the bar with the number rating—is perhaps more important, specifying activities, altitudes, hiking, and travel conditions. The Detailed Itinerary, available by download or mail, gives further information. Our Area Managers can also answer questions and guide you to the trip that best suits your interests.

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
7-day trek on moderate to steep trails,
5-8 hours a day, altitudes between
8,000-10,000 feet

- ① **Easiest:** Non-camping journeys, optional walks, little elevation gain or loss. Example: *Royal Rajasthan* and *Indochine*, our Cultural and Natural History Cruises.
- ② **Easy to Moderate:** Hotel nights and/or safari-style camping, hikes of two to four hours on some days. Other physical activities are sometimes included, such as optional sea kayaking. Examples: *New Zealand: South Island Adventure*, our African safaris, *Costa Rica Wildlife*.
- ③ **Moderate:** Half- to full-day hikes (3-6 hours) over rolling countryside on most days, occasional steep trails. Many of our hotel-based walking tours are in this category, as are our snorkeling adventures. Examples: *Tuscany & the Cinque Terre*, *Great Hikes and Estancias of Patagonia*, *Palau Snorkeling & Sea Kayaking*. Some trips with minimal hiking but rugged travel conditions or long drives, such as *Magical Tibet*, are Trip Level 3.
- ④ **Moderate to Strenuous:** Full-day hikes (4-6 hours), mountainous terrain, significant elevation gains and losses (hiking up or down as much as 3,000 feet) on many hikes. Altitudes no greater than about 10,000 feet. Examples: *In Patagonia*, *Across the Pyrenees*.
- ⑤ **Strenuous:** Full-day hikes (4-8 hours), mountainous, steep terrain (hiking up or down as much as 3,500 feet) on many hikes. Trips with hiking at average altitudes of 10,000 to 12,000 feet are in this category. Examples: *Inca Trail to Machu Picchu*, *Everest Lodge to Lodge*.
- ⑥ **Very Strenuous:** Full-day hikes (5-8 hours), mountainous, steep terrain (hiking up or down as much as 3,500 feet) on many days. Most hikes take place at altitudes above 10,000 feet, with some days ascending as high as 18,000 feet. Example: *Ultimate Everest*.
- ⑦ **Most Strenuous:** Full-day hikes in mountainous terrain, camping and hiking at extreme altitudes. Example: *Climb Kilimanjaro!*

Our Maps LEGEND



Wilderness Travel Trip Calendar

PAGE	DESTINATION	# OF DAYS	TRIP LEVEL	COST FROM	2016 DEC	2017 JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	2018 JAN
SPECIAL EVENTS																		
14	World of the Maya	NEW	12	1+	TBA												28	
15	Alaskan Dreams	NEW	8	2	\$6395							22						
EUROPE																		
16	Tour du Mont Blanc		8	5	\$4495						18	2,14,22,30	11,25	8				
18	Hiking the Haute Route		8	5	\$4495							1,28	13					
18	Classic Haute Route		12	5+	\$5995							12		3				
19	Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean		14	5	\$6895								6,20	3				
20	Great Alpine Traverse		14	4+	\$7695						26	26	27					
21	Hiking the Tyrolean Alps		8	4+	\$5095							10,30		10				
22	Switzerland: The Via Alpina		11	5+	\$6695							24	20					
23	Glacier Express		8	2/3	\$4995							11	5	11				
24	Heart of Switzerland		9	3	\$6295							29	20	6,31				
25	From the Swiss Valais to Italy's Gran Paradiso		10	3+	\$5495							24	16					
26	Hiking in Slovenia		11	3	\$4795					16	13,27			5,19				
27	Bergamo to Innsbruck		12	3+	\$5695							11	27					
28	Hiking in the Cortina Dolomites		8	4/5	\$4495						23	3,17	6	1				
29	Ultimate Dolomites		12	4/5	\$6195							1,25	16	2				
30	Great Hikes & Chefs of Northern Italy		9	2+	\$6095					10				6	4			
31	Italy's Pilgrim Trail		10	3	\$4995				28					15	6			
32	Tuscany & the Cinque Terre		10	3	\$5695					3,24				6,26	16			
32	Italy's Lake District		9	3	\$5395					25				21				
33	Great Hikes & Cuisine of Umbria & Le Marche		10	3	\$5095					9				26				
34	Amalfi & Capri		9	3+	\$5195				19	15				18	6			
35	Hiking in Sicily		11	3	\$5395				14	13	3			9,23	7			
35	Volcanoes of Southern Italy		11	4	\$5395						12			25				
36	Corsica & Sardinia		11	3+	\$5795				26	23				12				
36	Pagan Festivals of Sardinia		10	2	\$4895		22											
37	Normandy & Brittany		11	3	\$5995					15	12			4				
38	Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country		10	3+	\$5495					30	27		28	18				
39	Pilgrim's Way		9	3	\$4195					2,23	6			8,26				
39	Granada to Sevilla		10	3	\$4295					12					6			
40	Across the Pyrenees		9	4	\$4995						11	16		5,24				
41	Hiker's Journey to Portugal		12	3+	\$5395				19					4	9			
42	Spirit of Ireland		9	3	\$4695					6	3	8	19	16				
43	Ireland: The Wild Atlantic Way		9	3	\$4695					20	24	22		2				
44	Adventures in Wales		9	3	\$5195						2		7					
45	Hiking in Cornwall		10	3+	\$5695					8	5	10		11				
46	England Coast to Coast		14	4+	\$6195					21	11	23	20	10				
47	Highlands & Islands of Scotland		10	3+	\$6395					15	19	10		11				
48	Hiking Norway's Fjord Country		11	3	\$5895						7,21	4,28	18					
49	Norway's Lofoten Islands		12	4	\$6795						18	15						
50	Expedition to Lapland	NEW	12	3	\$6495		22	7										
51	Hiking the Faroe Islands	NEW	8	4	\$4295						14,30							
52	Iceland Expedition		8	3+	\$5995						23	14	4,11,18					
52	Northern Iceland Expedition		8	3+	\$5795							3,24						
53	Expedition to Greenland		9	3	\$6595							22	1					
54	Russia: Land of the Czars		11	1	\$4795					26		14						
55	Czech Castles & Country Walks		9	2+	\$3995					11	1			7,21				
55	Great Carpathian Traverse		15	3+	\$5495								27					
56	Montenegro & the Adriatic Coast		11	3+	\$4495					30		10	24	17				
56	Hiker's Journey to the Caucasus		11	4	\$4095						20	1						
57	Croatia: Istria & the Dalmatian Coast		11	2+	\$4895					3	28		24	20	4			
58	Greece: Zagoria & Mt. Olympus		12	4+	\$3495					7	1				3			
59	Hiking in the Greek Isles		13	3+	\$4395					19	14,29			1,17				
59	Hiking in Crete		11	3+	\$4695				26						15			
60	The Turquoise Coast		14	2+	\$5995					10,24	7			6,13,20,27	4			
WEB	France: Hiking the Land of Cathars	NEW	14	4	\$5195					■								

Numbers in calendar months indicate starting date of trip. For Detailed Itineraries and information on trips listed as "web," please see our website: www.wildernesstravel.com. For WT Expeditions, a ■ indicates which month the trip takes place.

PAGE	DESTINATION	# OF DAYS	TRIP LEVEL	COST FROM	2016 DEC	2017 JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	2018 JAN
EUROPE continued																		
web	Italy: The Tour of the Giants NEW			TBA							■							
web	Best of Great Britain NEW			TBA							■							
web	Iceland and Eastern Greenland NEW			TBA							■							
web	Hiking in Macedonia & Albania	13	3+	\$3795									28					
web	Medieval France: The Lot Valley	9	2+	\$5795										16				
web	Iceland's Northern Lights NEW			TBA												■		
web	Southern Spain to Morocco	12	2+	TBA														May 2018
web	Italy North to South (Part One)	13	4+	TBA														Jul 2018
web	Private Journeys offered in the following countries: Croatia, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Russia, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey—see our website																	
AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST																		
64	Serengeti Wildlife Safari	13	2+	\$8195	23	15	4,23				16	19	11	10			22	
66	Climb Kilimanjaro!	11	7	\$5195	16	7	3					4	4	1			16	13
67	Legends of East Africa NEW	11	2+	\$7995		3						11						
68	Mountain Gorilla Safari	11	3+	\$6495		9	20					5	2					
69	Madagascar: Off the Beaten Path	16	2+	\$5495					30			23		3,24	15			
69	Magical Madagascar	13	2+	\$4595						21		2	6	3,24		5		
70	Zambia Walking Safari	10	3	\$6295								20	20	8				
71	Zimbabwe!	10	2+	\$5295				11				8	5	16				
72	Namibia Expedition	14	3	\$6195						5,22		4,20	12	12				
73	In the Realm of the Desert Lion	12-14	2+	\$6495						14	23			3				
74	Botswana Wildlife Safari	11	2	\$7395					29	20	10		19	2,16				
74	Botswana: Kalahari Explorer	14	2	\$8295					9									
74	Botswana: Okavango Explorer	14	2	\$8595							25		5					
74	Kalahari San Tribe Expedition	17	2	\$11595				2										
76	Southern Africa Wildlife Safari	11	2+	\$8195						4,31		19						
77	Great Hikes & Game Parks of South Africa	10	2+	\$4795					22						14	21		
78	Lost Worlds of Ethiopia	15	2	\$7695		6,11,17								13				6,11
79	Expedition to Sudan	9	1+	\$5395		6	10								27			
80	Desert Kingdom of Oman	12	2+	\$7495		23									30			
81	Pyramids to Petra	15	1+	\$6695				24								3		
81	In the Wake of Cleopatra	10	1+	\$5695											12			
82	Morocco: Camels to Casbahs	14	2+	\$4895			19	19	16					17	15	5		
82	Morocco: The High Atlas Trek	15	4	\$4295								29						
web	Zambia: Blue Wildebeest Liuwa Plains NEW			TBA												■		
web	Tribal Ghana, Togo & Benin	15	3	\$6195			8							6				
web	Namibia: Khaudum, Bushmanland, Caprivi	10	2+	TBA														Jun 2018
web	Private Journeys offered in the following countries: Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco—see our website																	
ASIA																		
86	Temples, Treasures & Teahouses	14	2	\$8295				20	4									
87	Hiker's Journey to Shikoku	11	3	\$6695						21					15			
87	Japan: Castles, Samurai & Legends	14	2	\$7595						8						1		
88	Indochine	16	1+	\$6095	17	7	4,11									4	20	6,27
89	Myanmar: Wonders of the Golden Land	14	2	\$6195		9	1									4	20	6
90	Trek to Everest Base Camp	20	6	\$4895				7							8,31			
90	Ultimate Everest	25	6	\$5495				14							15			
91	Everest Lodge to Lodge	14	5	\$3995	6,20		7,28	14	4,18						10,31	19	4,20	
92	Annapurna Adventure	12	4	\$3295	27		15	9							15	15	27	
92	Annapurna Sanctuary	16	5+	\$4295				13	3						13	19		
93	Dolpo: Expedition to Crystal Mountain NEW	28	6	\$7795										16				
94	Journey to Ladakh	12	3+	\$5195							16			17				
94	The Tso Moriri Trek	20	6	\$6395								30						
95	Magical Tibet	16	3	\$6295							7		19					
96	Hiker's Journey to Bhutan	12	3+	\$5795	7			5	1					30	29	27		
97	Bhutan: The Chomolhari & Laya Trek	19	6	\$7895					4						10			
98	In the Realm of Genghis Khan	13	3	\$5795								5	1					
99	Wild Mongolia	13	3	\$6495											3			
100	Royal Rajasthan	11	1+	\$6995		28									25			
100	Treasures of South India	14	1+	\$7795		8												8

Wilderness Travel Trip Calendar CONTINUED

PAGE	DESTINATION	# OF DAYS	TRIP LEVEL	COST FROM	2016 DEC	2017 JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	2018 JAN
ASIA																		
101	Sri Lanka	13	2+	\$6295		10	10											
web	The Best of Southeast Asia	28	2	\$12195		30												
web	Hidden Rajasthan & the Holi Festival	19	2	\$9495			28											
web	Central Asia Explorer	24	3	\$10195					19									
web	Eastern Iran: Mashhad to Caspian Sea NEW	14		TBA						13								
web	Hidden Treasures Sichuan & Yunnan NEW	24	3	\$13695							9							
web	Ultimate Karakorum	30	7	TBA										1				
web	Tibet: Trek to Kangshung Face of Everest	21	6	TBA										9				
web	Hanoi to Luang Prabang NEW	26	2	\$10195										27				
web	Japan: The Road to the North NEW	13		TBA											16			
web	Kaziranga, Nagaland, & Hornbill Festival	13	2+	\$7095												25		
web	Private Journeys offered in the following countries: Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Vietnam—see our website																	
PACIFIC & ALASKA																		
104	Snorkeling Raja Ampat	12	3	\$5595						7,20				17	17,31	28		
105	Palau Snorkeling & Sea Kayaking	10	3	\$5995		13,29	26							6	5	5		17
106	Swimming with Humpbacks of Ha'apai	9	3	\$4895										8,21				
107	Komodo Snorkeling Expedition	11	3	\$5995									29					
108	New Zealand: South Island Adventure	13	2+	\$5995	4	1,15,29	12,26	11								19	10	7,21
109	New Zealand: Off the Beaten Path	10	2+	\$5495		15	12	12								6		22
110	Wild Tasmania	11	2	\$5795			17	3										
111	Borneo Expedition	13	2	\$8195					24						9			
112	Alaska's Inside Passage	7	1+	\$4250							Multiple Departures Weekly							
113	Alaska: Journey to Sitka NEW	8	1+	\$5250							24	3,12,21,30	8					
web	Vanuatu: Islands of Happiness NEW			TBA							■							
web	Private Journeys offered in New Zealand—see our website																	
GALÁPAGOS																		
114	Ultimate Galápagos	17	1+	\$10390	23	6	3,17	3,17,31	14,28	12	9,23							22
116	Galápagos Adventure	10	1+	\$6195	23	6	3,17	3,17,31	14,28	12	9,23							22
117	Enchanted Isles	10	1+	\$6195	30	13	10,24	10,24	7,21	5,19	16,30							29
web	Private Journeys offered in the Galápagos—see our website																	
CENTRAL AMERICA																		
118	Belize: Reefs, Ruins & Rainforests	9	2+	\$5295		7	18	11										
119	Baja: Exploring the Sea of Cortez	9-12	1+	\$5250	10,18,29	27	7	10,21								24	2,13	
119	Snorkeling with Humpbacks of Silver Bank	8	2	\$4995				11										
120	Costa Rica Wildlife	9	2	\$3995	18,29	7	4,25	4,20				14						18,25,30
web	Private Journeys offered in the following countries: Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico—see our website																	
SOUTH AMERICA																		
122	Hiker's Journey to Machu Picchu	9	3+	\$5295					14	6	8	4,21	26	20	10			
123	Peru Explorer	12	2	\$6995				29		27		26				1		
124	Inca Trail to Machu Picchu	9	5	\$4995	26				12	5,19	14,25	3	2	1,15,29	13	18	26	
126	Machu Picchu Lodge to Lodge	9	5	\$4195					Multiple Departures Weekly									
127	Choquequirao: Trek to the Cradle of Gold	13	6	\$4695								24	11					
128	Cordillera Huayhuash	18	6	\$4695							5		6					
128	Trekking in the Cordillera Blanca	17	6	TBA														Jun 2018
129	Bolivia! NEW	14	2+	\$5295							29				7			
130	Chile from Top to Bottom	12	3+	\$6895				19										3
131	Great Hikes & Estancias of Patagonia	12	3+	\$6495	24	28	25									19	23	27
132	In Patagonia	16	4	\$8195	18	3,7,19	5,16	3								11	17	2,6,11
web	Salta! Canyonland & Estate Wines NEW			TBA											■			
web	Patagonia's Wild North NEW			TBA													■	
web	Private Journeys offered in the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru—see our website																	

Numbers in calendar months indicate starting date of trip. For Detailed Itineraries and information on trips listed as "web," please see our website: www.wildernesstravel.com. For WT Expeditions, a ■ indicates which month the trip takes place.

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PHOTOS PG. 8/9: GERRY ELLIS, FRIEDRICH KLAUS-WERNER, DAVE STAMBOULIS **PHOTOS PG. 10/11:** JOHN BOOTH, ULRICH DOERING

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PHOTOS PG. 84/85: YURI ARCURS, TOBIAS BISCHOF, SÉBASTIEN BOISSE, JOHANNES GERHARDUS SWANEPOEL, SERGEY GORSHKOV, JEFF GRIFFIN, ADAM JONES, FANTUZ OLIMPIO, ALEJANDRO PALACIO, MICHEL UYTTEBROECK, HEDRUS VAN DER MERWE

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PHOTOS PG. 134/135: ANTONINO BARTUCCIO, NACHO CALONGE, KIP EVANS, MICHAEL & PATRICIA FOGDEN, DAN HOLZ, INGE JOHNSON, BARRY LEWIS, NICK VAN ZANTEN, KONRAD WOTHE

PAGE	DESTINATION	# OF DAYS	TRIP LEVEL	COST FROM	2016 DEC	2017 JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	2018 JAN	
ANTARCTICA & THE ARCTIC																			
136	Antarctica, S. Georgia & the Falklands	20	1+	\$10995	22	5,6	22								29	20	18	3,25	
137	Antarctica	12	1+	\$5995	2,4,12,15,26	15,24	12,14									17,24,27	4,14,24	5,15	
137	Antarctica Air Cruise	8	1+	\$10795	— Multiple Departures —														
CRUISE COLLECTION																			
web	The Adriatic Odyssey	8	1	\$2350									— Multiple Departures —						
web	Around the Sea of Okhotsk NEW	19	1	\$12550									29						
web	Amazon River Expedition	8	1	\$7770	— Weekly Departures Year-Round —														
web	The Arctic in Focus NEW	11	1	\$5995							28								
web	Asia's Subtropical Isles NEW	19	1	\$16980				11											
web	Australia's Kimberley	15	1	\$13580					14										
web	Baltic Odyssey: Eastern Itinerary NEW	10	1	\$7980								21							
web	Baltic Odyssey: Western Itinerary NEW	11	1	\$6980								14							
web	The Best of New Zealand NEW	21	1	\$15990	20														
web	Blue Danube Discovery NEW	13	1	\$2899					— Multiple Departures —										
web	Circumnavigation of Iceland NEW	12	1	\$8980							1								
web	Circumnavigation of Sicily NEW	13	1	\$8980										26					
web	Cuba Cultural Adventure	8	1	\$5590	— Weekly Departures —														
web	Discovering the New World NEW	10	1	\$8980					10										
web	The Enchanting Rhine	12	1	\$2499				— Multiple Departures —											
web	Enticing Douro	11	1	\$3099				— Multiple Departures —											
web	Faces of Polynesia: Fiji to Tahiti NEW	17	1	\$14980											22				
web	Golden Treasures of Myanmar	14	1	\$4799	— Multiple Departures —									— Multiple Departures —					
web	Grand Danube	20	1	\$5898				— Multiple Departures —											
web	Incredibly on the Ganges	12	1	\$7295	— Multiple Departures —										— Multiple Departures —				
web	In the Wake of the Bounty	21	1	\$13295												21			
web	Jewels of the Cyclades NEW	8	1	\$2290				— Multiple Departures —											
web	Marquesas, Tuamotus & Society Islands	15	1	\$7245		28										18			
web	Melodies of the Danube	11	1	\$2499				— Multiple Departures —											
web	New Zealand's Natural Wonders NEW	20	1	£7995		5													
web	North Pole	14	1	\$26995								9,20,31							
web	Papua New Guinea Explorer NEW	13	1	\$6500					17										
web	Paris & Normandy	10	1	\$2899				— Multiple Departures —											
web	Patagonia & the Chilean Fjords NEW	11	1	\$8580												1			
web	Port Louis to Mahé NEW	15	1	\$9650		16													
web	Portsmouth to Leith NEW	12	1	\$6650							8								
web	Provence & Spain	14	1	\$2899				— Multiple Departures —											
web	Reykjavik to Kangerlussuaq NEW	10	1	\$7350									22						
web	The Romantic Danube	11	1	\$2499				— Multiple Departures —											
web	Santo Domingo to Antigua NEW	11	1	\$7125		20													
web	Seychelles Cruise in the Garden of Eden	8	1	\$2290	— Weekly Departures Year-Round —														
web	Sub-Antarctic Islands of New Zealand	18	1	\$14980		17													
web	Summer in the Isles NEW	15	1	£5995									17						
web	Tahiti to Easter Island	20	1	\$19980												5			
web	Three Arctic Islands	14	1	TBA									26						
web	Timeless Japan	13	1	£6695						7,16									
web	Treasures of Costa Rica & Panama Canal	10	1	\$3590	— Weekly Departures —														
web	Unexplored Greenland NEW	11	1	\$8480								31							
web	Valparaiso to Ushuaia NEW	13	1	\$6350												8			
web	Vietnam, Cambodia & Riches of Mekong	15	1	\$2399	— Multiple Departures Year-Round —														
web	Vietnam: Culture and Cuisine NEW	16	1	\$14980		31													
web	Voyage to the Arctic NEW	15	1	\$7395							15							4	
web	Wild Alaska NEW	15	1	\$14980								6							
JOURNEYS BY RAIL																			
web	Caspian Odyssey NEW	16	1	\$21495											17				
web	Heart of Persia NEW	14	1	\$16495					6							13			
web	A Taste of the Silk Road NEW	13	1	\$16995										22	4				

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