# Wilderness Travel



### Dear Adventurer,

We are thrilled to share our new Catalog of Adventures, celebrating Wilderness Travel's 40th Anniversary. As it has been from the very beginning, WT is made up of people with an absolute passion for creating great travel experiences. There's nothing we love more than unrolling the maps and dreaming up new ways to share this amazing planet with you, our travelers. Our commitment is to create the best possible trips for kindred spirits and fellow explorers, led by the world's most accomplished Trip Leaders. In the pages ahead you'll find extraordinary journeys: classics that we've honed to perfection and delightful new adventures that we've crafted in signature WT style. I invite you to join us!

Biv And

Bill Abbott, Founder and President

# Awaken your inner traveler

# Explore with adventuresome souls



"You have got to be the best tour operator on the planet. Impeccably organized, tremendously interesting—I can't wait for the next trip!"

Christine W., Pittsburgh PA

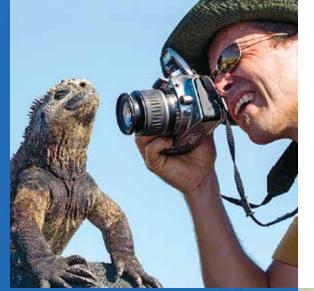




Our Area Managers are destination experts. They work with you directly on every aspect of your trip. Our mobilefriendly website is also filled with helpful features, including lodging photos, route maps, trip comparisons, Trip Leader schedules, and Detailed Itineraries you can download or email to a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

# Savor the moment

# Connect with our world



This is our 40th year of offering trips throughout the world; 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 breathtaking wildlife encounters. Hike across high passes to a remote monastery in a mountain kingdom, swim with humpback whales or track desert lion on a world-exclusive safari—our adventures are up close and unforgettable.



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!



"You are a fantastic organization providing an overall authentic experience through beautiful accommodations, excellent meals, varied and impressive itineraries, and extremely knowledgeable guides!"

Jenny C., Calgary Alberta

## Choose how you travel

### **Small Group Adventures**

With over 300 journeys worldwide, our Small Group Adventures offer a trip for every interest. You'll experience unparalleled leadership, the intimacy of a small group just 12 to 16 travelers—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 reaches of the globe—in WT style.

"This is at least my 20th trip with WT. I continue to be impressed with the quality of your trips and the talents of your Trip Leaders."

William V., London England



### **Cruise Collection**

We've searched the world over to find the finest small ships with the most intriguing itineraries. Our cruises explore off-the-beaten-path destinations with active on-shore adventures on foot and even by bike! You'll enjoy fascinating on-board presentations, great camaraderie, and an 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 or friends, your dates, your dream trip! Our Private Journeys are crafted with meticulous research, superb itinerary design, and hand-picked accommodations. 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 family, friends, or just that special someone.

# 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 so that you can savor the moment. And our Trip Leaders 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 a fun experience, and genuine excitement about welcoming you to their beloved corner of the world. 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, their schedules, and our clients' comments about them, on our website: www.wildernesstravel.com



**Claire Michael,** an avid skier, hiker, and rock climber, leads our trips in Norway and the Alps. A native of Dublin, Ireland, she loves exploring the world's mountain ranges and climbing areas (her favorite spot? Norway's Lyngen Alps). Claire lived in Chamonix for 10 years before moving to the west coast of Sweden, where the granite

offers world-class rock climbing and the coastline makes for outstanding sea kayaking. When not in the mountains, she can be found working in her garden and tending to her bees. With her impressive understanding of the local environment, our guests find her a generous teacher along the trail.



whose name means "revered elder" in Swahili, has been a professional safari guide for over 20 years and leads our exclusive adventures on the plains of the Serengeti. His prowess as a spotter is truly remarkable. "He must be an eagle reincarnated," one guest reported. Mzee is one of our safari-goers'

favorites, with a wonderful combination of charm, humor, a wealth of knowledge, and magical storytelling skills. Active in every aspect of his home country's conservation efforts, he encourages awareness among his fellow Tanzanians of the huge value that wilderness and natural history can play in Tanzania's progress.



Florencia Savanti has a deep connection to the Basque culture and countryside, having led hiking trips in the Basque Country and the Pyrenees for more than a decade. An anthropologist by training, she worked as an archaeologist in the wilderness of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego for 15 years, researching hunter-gatherer

diets. Flor is fluent in the Basque language, and loves sharing her insights on the history, gastronomy, architecture, and ecology of the region. "I especially love to lead WT hikers across the trails of La Sierra de Anboto—truly my backyard in the Basque Country—I love to share my secret spots."



Kevin Floerke has a love for exploration, conservation, and photography that has allowed him to become intimately familiar with the exquisite landscapes and fascinating history of the Andean regions. An expert on the Inca world, he has mapped the Inca Road System, excavated newly discovered Inca sites, studied high

altitude ceremonial sites in the cloud forests of Peru's Vilcabamba, and made the ascent of a glacial peak that was venerated by the Incas from the site of Choquequirao. Kevin is a wonderful travel companion whose encyclopedic knowledge of the lost world of the Incas makes for an intellectual feast as well as a superb hiking trip!



Devendra Basnet has been leading our cultural and hiking journeys in the Himalayas and across India for three decades. His university studies in Zoology launched him into his career as a naturalist guide, tracking tigers and spotting rare birds in Nepal's renowned Royal Chitwan National Park, and collecting elusive Himalayan

butterflies for the British Natural History Museum. "I especially love being in the high Himalayas, from Tibet to Bhutan to India, and in areas rich in nature and wildlife," he says. "I want to help my trip members take back wonderful memories of the wild places and rich cultures we visit."



Simone Simpson taught outdoor education in the Snowdonian mountains of Wales for 13 years before moving to the southern French Alps, where she leads our hiking adventures around Mont Blanc. Along with her adventurous career as a guide, she is also an advanced paraglider pilot and competes at a national level, racing in

the skies above the Alps and other regions. When not leading trips, she spends time with her husband and two sons and lives off the grid in a solar-powered house that she and her husband built. Simone always has a smile on her face, and, as one guest put it, "her joy of life is just so apparent."



**Pemba Rita Sherpa** was born in the tranquil village of Phortse (12,467') in the Khumbu region of Nepal. He has been leading treks across his beautiful homeland for more than 30 years, from remote Dolpo in the west to dramatic Makalu in the east. He also has extensive trekking experience in Tibet, including

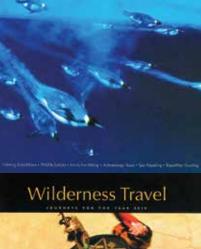
treks to the source of the Brahmaputra and to Camp II on Everest's northern face. Pemba participated in the 1983 American and German Joint Everest Expedition, reaching Camp III on the Nepal side, and the 1991 Belgian Everest Expedition, where he climbed up to Camp IV at 26,000 feet. Our guests find him a true inspiration!



Vicky Sotriffer is fluent in a handful of languages, and has been a tour guide for nearly 15 years, with stints in such off-the-beaten-path locales as the desert and coast of Oman. Originally from South Tyrol, Italy, she now lives in Ibiza, Spain, and leads our hiking trips in Italy and the Alps. When not guiding, she enjoys

photography, rock climbing, horseback riding, skiing, surfing, and fencing. Our guests love her high energy, enthusiasm, and joy of the mountains that she cheerfully shares every step of the way. "Such a sweetheart—knowledgeable, caring, and a favorite everywhere we went," one guest told us. "A shining star!" Wilderness Travel 2001

Wilderness Travel





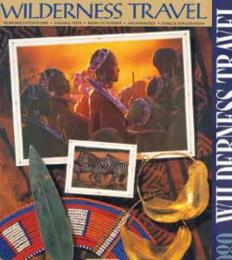
Wilderness Travel

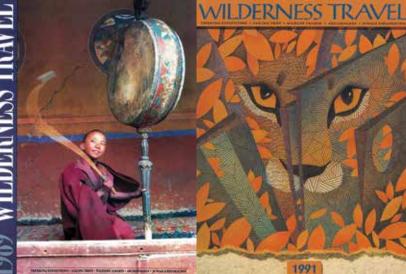
### 40 Years of Extraordinary Adventure Travel

198,

Wilderness Travel

We are both humbled and guite proud that the dream launched four decades ago in a small office in Berkeley, California (with a desk made of a spare door set across two filing cabinets!), has evolved into the award-winning leader of the adventure travel industry. Our commitment has always been, and always will be, to create superb journeys that inspire our guests while respecting and ideally benefiting the communities and wildlife we are visiting. As we celebrate this landmark year our deepest thanks go to you, our loyal fellow travelers. Your tremendous curiosity, your delight in experiencing the natural wonders and fascinating cultures of our world, and your understanding that travel can have a meaningful, positive impact give us the chance to do our very best at what we love to do. You have made every step of this journey an absolute joy. We look forward to sharing many more years of great adventures with you!







Wilderness Travel



Wilderness Travel

## Experience travel at its best

### **Our Philosophy**

Our core philosophy is elegantly simple and timeless: it's not just where you travel, but how you travel that makes our trips unique. The magic of the "how" comes from a meticulously planned and artfully executed itinerary; our expert Trip Leaders—the undisputed best in the business; and the camaraderie and just plain fun of traveling with a small group of kindred spirits. We are honored to have been recognized with the top awards in the business, including **#1 Outfitter in the World** in *AFAR* magazine's Traveler's Choice Awards, *Travel* + *Leisure's* **World's Best Tour Operators,** and *Outside* magazine's **Best Outfitter in the World.** 





### **Perfectly Designed Itineraries**

There is an art to creating a great travel experience, perfectly paced and with the ideal balance of activities. We are renowned for our distinctive itineraries that reveal the best of each destination, giving you a unique experience of the cultures, history, landscapes, and cuisines you've come so far to explore. Everywhere we travel we bring along our own special Wilderness





Travel style: small, locally owned hotels where we are welcomed as family; luxurious safari camps with phenomenal access to wildlife; meals that give you a chance to experience the best of local cuisine, and more. Let our 40 years of expertise give you an unforgettable journey.

### As You Wish— A Trip for Every Interest

You'll find the most extraordinary collection of adventures in these pages, ranging from challenging treks in the Himalaya to thrilling African safaris and enchanting hiking trips in Europe. Choose from our Small Group Adventures (no more than 16 travelers), Private Journeys, Small Ship Cruises, and fascinating Special Events.



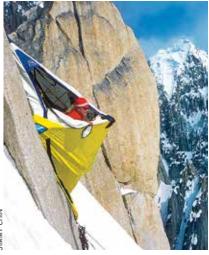
A Positive Impact Responsible travel can be an exceptional force for good in the world. We are committed to environmentally conscious, locally focused travel, and we believe passionately that our journeys can help preserve the natural places and cultures we visit. We are founding members of several conservation groups and actively support the Galápagos Conservancy, American Himalayan Foundation, Jane Goodall Institute, World Monuments Fund, Tompkins Conservation, and several other organizations including local schools in Africa, reforestation on the slopes of Kilimanjaro, coral reef protection in Palau, and other projects that help sustain these remarkable destinations.



### PERSPECTIVES ON Climbing & Conservation in Patagonia

### A SPECIAL EVENT WITH KRIS TOMPKINS, RICK RIDGEWAY, CONRAD ANKER, AND ALEX HONNOLD NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2018







Patagonia! This realm of sculpted rock towers at the "uttermost ends of the earth" has drawn the greatest climbers in the world, who have pioneered breathtaking routes and daring traverses of its sheer walls and needle-like peaks. Patagonia is stunningly beautiful, but it is also fragile. The late climber Doug Tompkins, founder of the North Face, and his wife Kris, former CEO of Patagonia, Inc., moved to Chile 25 years ago with a bold plan to preserve Patagonia's environment by purchasing vast estancias, "rewilding" them, and donating the land back to Chile and Argentina as national parks. When big, wild landscapes thrive, nearby human communities can flourish too, gaining economic vitality from sustainable tourism. Our celebration of Patagonia is a benefit for Tompkins Conservation, and will bring together climbers who have accomplished extraordinary feats here, and the visionaries who are preserving this incredible land. At our symposium in magnificent Los Glaciares National Park, we'll have fascinating talks, film screenings, hiking excursions, *asados*, and time with these inspiring people who dream beyond what is believed to be possible.

### **Our Guest Speakers**

Kris Tompkins is a passionate conservationist and former CEO of Patagonia, Inc. During her 20 years there she helped Yvon Chouinard build it into the beloved "anti-corporation" it is today. Kris and her husband, the late Doug Tompkins, undertook an extraordinary conservation project that recently resulted in "the largest land donation in history from a private entity to a country," as one million acres of land was donated to Chile, realizing Doug and Kris' vision of a 1,500-mile "Great Route of Parks" stretching from Puerto Montt to Cape Horn. Conrad Anker, one of the world's most renowned expeditionary mountaineers, has scaled the three towers of Patagonia's famed Cerro Torre group, ascending new routes on both Torre Egger and Cerro Standhardt. In the high Himalaya, Conrad has summited Everest three times, located the body of George Leigh Mallory on Everest's North Face, and summited the Shark's Fin, as documented in the acclaimed film Meru. Alex Honnold is known for his free-solo ascents of the most challenging rock routes in the world, including his astonishing record-breaking free solo of Yosemite's El Capitan in under four hours. With Tommy Caldwell,

Alex made the first successful traverse of Patagonia's Fitzroy Massif, and with Colin Haley, set a speed record for the north-to-south traverse of the sheer granite spires of Patagonia's Cerro Standhardt, Punta Herron, Torre Egger, and Cerro Torre. **Rick Ridgeway** is one of the world's most accomplished mountaineers, having climbed new routes and explored little-known regions on six continents. He is also a deeply committed environmentalist, author, and filmmaker, and was honored by National Geographic with the "Lifetime Achievement in Adventure" award. Rick is Vice President of Environmental Affairs for Patagonia, Inc., where he oversees sustainability initiatives. He is the author of six books, including The Shadow of Kilimanjaro and The Last Step, a mountaineering classic chronicling his extraordinary experiences on the first American ascent of K2.

### Symposium Trips

- In Patagonia
- Patagonia's Wild North
- Whales to Jaguars: from Peninsula Valdez to Ibéra
- Chile from Top to Bottom
- Torres del Paine and Tierra del Fuego

Program Cost: TBA



### **PERSPECTIVES ON** Wildlife & Community in Namibia A SYMPOSIUM & SAFARI PROGRAM • APRIL 2019

The spectacular desert country of Namibia is an arid Eden—and an inspiring model of wildlife conservation. Over 40% of this young nation's land is protected, much of it in partnership with local communities. Our symposium brings together Garth Owen-Smith, who created this innovative strategy, and leading conservationists whose dedicated work with leopard, cheetah, giraffe, desert-adapted rhino, and the world's only population of desert lion give hope for the survival of some of Africa's most iconic species. Join us to explore the creative integration of wildlife and community in Namibia in the company of these leading experts in the field.

### The Symposium

Our four-day symposium is a moveable feast, from Windhoek to Etosha National Park, with presentations by expert Guest Speakers, behindthe-scenes access at the AfriCat Foundation, and incredible game viewing in renowned Etosha National Park. Our accommodations include Okonjima and Mokuti Etosha Lodge. Eight thrilling safaris complement the symposium.

### **Our Guest Speakers**

Garth Owen-Smith, the pioneer of Namibia's wildlife and community conservancies, is a winner of the Goldman Environmental Prize. Author of *An Arid Eden*, he was awarded the Prince William Award for Conservation in Africa. Tammy Hoth-Hanssen's family ranch was in a human-wildlife conflict zone. She co-founded the AfriCat Foundation to find creative solutions to the problem, and it is now the largest carnivore rescue and release program in the world. Simson Uri-Khob, a rhino conservationist and master tracker, is CEO of Save the Rhino Trust, which protects desert-

adapted black rhino. He is a winner of the

Namibia Nature Foundation Environmental Award. Julian Fennessy, PhD, is director and conservation scientist of the Giraffe Conservation Foundation, dedicated to saving this species that is on the verge of "silent extinction." His work includes groundbreaking genetic research and field studies. Philip "Flip" Stander, PhD, the world's leading authority on desert lion, spends 300 days a year in the field, tracking and studying these extraordinary creatures. Founder of the Desert Lion Conservation Project, he was honored with the Thomas Huxley Award by the London Zoological Society.

### Symposium Safaris

- Namibia Expedition
- In the Realm of the Desert Lion
- Giraffe Conservation Safari
- Botswana Wildlife Safari
- Southern Africa Wildlife Safari
- Botswana San Tribes Safari
- Wild Zimbabwe
- Zambia: Walking and Wildlife Safari

Program Cost: TBA









### Serengeti Wildlife Safari MIGRATION IN THE SERENGETI AND TARANGIRE, PLUS NGORONGORO CRATER



Below: Our years of experience in the magical realm of the Serengeti bring you a finely tuned itinerary adjusted to ensure the best wildlife viewing at any time of the year. PHOTO: KONRAD WOTHF

Imagine your own private safari camps on game-rich savannas far from the lodge circuit! We'll explore the

"I have dreamed of taking this trip for years, and it truly exceeded all expectations—the wildlife, Trip Leader, camp staff, and my fellow trip mates made it an adventure to treasure." Paula C.

Mount Arlington NJ

om the lodge circuit! We'll explore the legendary Serengeti, land of famed migratory herds and their predators, and Tarangire National Park, with its epic baobab woodlands and river that attracts big herds of elephants year-round. Our private camps are in gorgeous locations we select for their incredible game viewing and where you can enjoy activities not possible elsewhere: exciting game walks with your tracker guides, night game drives, off-road travel, and cultural encounters with the Masai. A day in the stunning

wildlife amphitheater of Ngorongoro Crater, a sunset walk topped by a glass of champagne, nights by the campfire with a billion stars overhead—this is the way safari was meant to be.

### (December-March "Green Season" itineraries)

**Days 1-5 Arusha / Serengeti** During these five unforgettable days, we enjoy the privilege of exploring the Serengeti by 4WD vehicle from our own private camp in a secluded section of Serengeti National Park, far from the lodges and other park facilities. Our special location gives us access to a rich mosaic

of habitats crisscrossed by the rivers that run through this world-famous preserve. Dawn and late-afternoon game drives bring us from the open plains and rock *kopjes* to river habitats for maximum wildlife experiences. Our atmospheric camp offers roomy walk-in tents with attached bathrooms and hot showers, and cozy beds made up with linens and a duvet—this is safari comfort, WT style!

Days 6-8 Lake Manyara / Ngorongoro Crater At Olduvai, we visit the fascinating archaeological site where Mary Leakey discovered the Zinjanthropus skull, then explore lush Lake Manyara National Park, home to tree-climbing lions and troops of baboons and blue monkeys. Ngorongoro Crater's beauty must be seen to be believed: on the crater's 105-square-mile grassy floor lives Africa's largest permanent concentration of wildlife in a phenomenally scenic setting. Our day on the crater floor brings us a magnificent array of wildlife, including the chance to see black rhino.

### Days 9-13 Tarangire / Arusha

It is astounding to see Tarangire National Park's tremendous seasonal concentrations: elephant clustered in the hundreds, huge herds of zebra, wildebeest, buffalo, eland, and impala, smaller groups of oryx, kongoni, and Grant's gazelle, and troops of baboons. Our very private camp, set within the territory of one of Tarangire's largest lion prides, offers us all the creature comforts. While here, we savor the thrilling experience of exploring on foot and enjoy night drives in search of nocturnal wildlife as well as visits with the local Masai. Feeling adventurous? One of our options here is a night in a special lightweight camp, and another is an exciting balloon safari, complete with a champagne brunch. 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











### HIGHLIGHTS

- Exclusive activities: off-road travel, night drives, walking safaris, meet Masai in their *bomas*
- 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
  Scenic bush flight directly to the Serengeti

### DETAILS

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

### DATES

Dec 20, 2017-Jan 1, 2018 Jan 9-21, 2018 Jan 30-Feb 11 Feb 18-Mar 2 Mar 12-24 Jun 15-27 Jul 18-30 Aug 12-24 Sep 7-19 Dec 22, 2018-Jan 3, 2019

### TRIP COST

\$8595 (10-15 members) \$8995 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$600 Charter flight: \$395 Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$600 Park fees: \$1650 Zanzibar extension: from \$1325 Gorilla Tracking in Rwanda's Parc National des Volcans extension: from \$2395

### TRIP LEVEL

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



### Climb Kilimanjaro! TREK TO THE SUMMIT OF AFRICA'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN



### THE ULTIMATE ROUTE UP KILI

- Climb with the experts on Kilimanjaro—we have over 25 years of experience
- Our stunning Lemosho-Crater Camp Route is the best route, away from crowded trails, with no retracing of steps, and with magnificent glacier and crater scenery
- We do not summit Kili from Barafu (15,311'), as most other companies do. Our route avoids this crowded and bleak camp, allowing you a short summit day!
- Maximum acclimatization (the key to a successful climb) with a full 7 days on the ascent. We have a 98% summit success rate!
- Summit day is a short and spectacular 2-hour ascent, avoiding the 9-hour climb on other routes
- Full-service camp amenities, delicious and nutritious food, full porter support

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

"The climb could not have been better—the team was fantastic and the location of the campsites allowed us to make the summit without difficulty. A truly memorable time." Geoff S. Richmond VA southwest flanks. With seven days on the ascent for maximum altitude acclimatization, you'll have the best chance of peak success—plus just a short climb to the summit to view the sunrise (not the grueling 9-hour climb in the dark required on other routes!). On our route, we also have the opportunity to hike right to the rim of Kili's astonishing inner crater, a surreal moonscape. Our camps

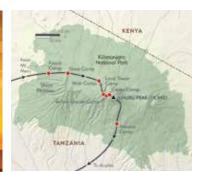
have the finest amenities on the mountain, and for extra security we always carry oxygen and a Gamow bag. Our legendary, highly skilled guides and crew bring experience, camaraderie, and fun to your climb.

**Days 1-2 Arusha National Park / Acclimatization** Enjoy a game drive en route to our private camp at 6,500 feet in lush Arusha National Park and an acclimatization hike to look for bushbuck, giraffe, black-and-white colobus monkeys, and a host of avian life.

Days 3-11 Kilimanjaro / Lemosho-Crater Camp Route / Summit Day From the Lemosho trailhead, we hike up through fascinating forest, 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. Ascending higher through the alpine desert zone, we reach our Crater Camp (18,500'), an extraordinary spot by









the Furtwangler Glacier (an optional hike from this camp brings you right to the rim of Kili's inner crater). From Crater Camp, our two-hour summit climb is short, bringing us to Uhuru Peak (19,340'), Kili's summit, the roof of Africa. On a clear day, the sunrise views are surreal, with the vast African plains spread beneath our feet. A descent along the Mweka Route brings us back to our lodge for a well-deserved shower and victory celebration with fellow trekkers. Depart in the evening of Day 11, or join our post-climb safari extension.

### EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Continue your journey with our thrilling 5-day Ngorongoro & Serengeti Safari Extension, head out to track mountain gorillas in the forests of Rwanda's Parc National des Volcans, or relax on the spice-scented isle of Zanzibar.



Below: Our extraordinary route is the best one on Kili, with uncrowded campsites and seven full days on the ascent for maximum acclimatization.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Climb the best route to the summit of Africa's highest mountain!
- Uncrowded trails, no retracing of steps, vital extra days for maximum acclimatization
- Sunrise on the summit of Africa, unique alpine flora (five 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
- Porter gratuities include

### 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, 2017 Jan 13-23, 2018 Feb 2-12 Jul 1-11 Aug 10-20 Aug 31-Sep 10 Dec 22, 2018-Jan 1, 2019 Jan 12-22, 2019 Feb 1-11 Mar 1-11

### TRIP COST

\$4995 (10-14 members) \$5395 (5-9 members) Single supplement: \$400 VAT fee: \$500 Park fees: \$1550 Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti Safari extension: from \$3295 Gorilla Tracking in Rwanda's Parc National des Volcans extension: from \$2395 Zanzibar extension: from \$1325

### 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



### Mountain Gorilla Safari

GORILLAS, CHIMPS, AND A BIG GAME SAFARI



Our adventure has two full days for tracking the gorilla families of Bwindi Impenetrable National Forest. PHOTO: ANDY ROUSE

Tracking gorillas in the wild is one of the planet's most awe-inspiring experiences, and it's important to do it right! Our journey brings you to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, home to half the remaining mountain gorillas in the world. With two days of tracking, you'll have extraordinary opportunities to observe these magnificent creatures. Tracking involves a steep climb, but the experience of sitting amid a silverback and his family is unforgettable. We'll also have you tracking chimps in the equatorial forests of Kibale and enjoying a big-game safari on the luminous savannas of Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Days 1-3 Kibale Forest National Park / Wild Chimpanzees We head through Uganda's tropical countryside to Kibale Forest National Park, home to one of the greatest varieties of primates anywhere in East Africa. Here we track bands of chimpanzees as they play, feed, and scamper through the treetops. Five groups of chimpanzees in Kibale have been habituated to human presence by researchers. Other denizens of this green ecosystem include grey-cheeked mangabeys, and vervet, colobus, and red-tailed monkeys.



### Days 4-6 Queen Elizabeth National Park

**Safari** Queen Elizabeth National Park, a gorgeous 770-square-mile section of the western Great Rift Valley, has as its stunning backdrop the Ruwenzoris, Africa's fabled "Mountains of the Moon" and its highest mountain range. The park teems with diverse wildlife. We safari by 4WD vehicle on lake-dotted savannas, walk shady trails, 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 tented lodge, we have two full days of tracking, hiking up through dense forests at altitudes of 3,800 to 7,500 feet for the incredible experience of coming face to face with gorilla families in the wild. Depart on Day 11 via Entebbe.





### HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy thrilling encounters with mountain gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
- 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, 2018 Feb 8-18 Jul 19-29 Aug 15-25

### TRIP COST

\$6695 (6-7 members) \$7095 (4-5 members) Single supplement: \$1390 Internal airfare: \$420 (subject to change) Chimp permits (2 treks): \$300 Gorilla permits (2 treks): \$1200 Masai Mara National Reserve extension: from \$3895

**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



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Choice of hiking options, fascinating night walks, early morning walks for birders
- Outstanding Malagasy Trip Leaders
- Extra local naturalist guides at each park so you can choose from a range of hiking options
- Visit local villages and a reforestation project, and sample traditional Malagasy cuisine
- Comfortable AC vehicles with guaranteed window seats
- Extensions include Ankarana park, South Africa game viewing, Rwanda gorilla tracking

### DETAILS

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

### DATES

Apr 15-30, 2018 May 20-Jun 4 Sep 2-17 Sep 23-Oct 8 Oct 14-29

#### TRIP COST

\$5695 (9-12 members) \$5995 (5-8 members) Single supplement: \$895 Internal airfare: \$895 (subject to change) Ankarana and Amber Mountain National Parks extension: from \$1790

### TRIP LEVEL

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



### Madagascar: Off the Beaten Path WHERE NATURAL HISTORY ABOUNDS WITHOUT LIMITS

Isolated from Africa since the time of the dinosaurs, Madagascar shelters exotic life forms found nowhere else on earth, from captivating lemurs (over 100 species) to wildly colorful

chameleons that range from thumbnail-sized to two feet long! We bring you into five diverse national parks and reserves, from deserts to rainforests, and maximize your experience each day with your choice of guided hikes, whether you want a photo-paced ramble, a challenging hike, or an early morning bird walk to hear the dawn chorus. You won't find a more comprehensive Madagascar journey anywhere else!

### Days 1-4 Antananarivo / Avenue of

**the Baobabs / Kirindy Forest** Explore Antananarivo, then head to the famously photogenic Avenue of the Baobabs to sip Malagasy sundowners and watch sunset amid these majestic trees. We also enjoy walks in remote Kirindy Forest Reserve, home to Verreaux's sifaka lemur and colorful endemic chameleons.

Days 5-8 Antsirabe / Ranomafana In Antsirabe,

we visit artisan workshops, then head out for hikes

and nature walks in pristine Ranomafana National

Park, home to 12 lemur species including the

rare golden bamboo lemur. On one evening

here, we enjoy a private talk with a

Zombitse-Vohibasia We get eye

to eye with the friendly ring-tailed

Days 9-12 Anja / Isalo /

**ON OUR WEBSITE** 

MAGICAL MADAGASCAR Discover renowned Andisabe, the ring-tailed and sifaka lemurs of Berenty, and the spectacular landscapes of Ankarana and Amber National Parks, with optional Seychelles extension. Apr 1-13, May 6-18, Jul 1-13, Sep 9-21, Sep 30-Oct 12,

wildlife researcher.

lemurs at community-run Anja Reserve, hike in the sandstone gorges of Isalo National Park, and enjoy the baobabs, birds,

and lemurs of Zombitse-Vohibasia Park, a rare example of Madagascar's dry deciduous forest.

"Such an interesting

trip, with a great

variety of sights

and experiences,

and an absolutely

phenomenal

Trip Leader."

Escondido CA

Joe C.

Days 13-16 Andisabe (Perinet) / Lemur Island Our grand finale is Andisabe (Perinet) National Park, a vibrant rainforest teeming with exotic birdlife, colorful reptiles such as the two-foot-long Parson's chameleon, and home to the famous *Indri indri*, the largest species of lemur. Depart on Day 16 via Antananarivo.

Enjoy your choice of naturalist-led hikes (easy, moderate, or photo-paced) in five of Madagascar's most fascinating wildlife reserves. PHOTO: INGO ARNDT





WWW.WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM/TRIPS/AFRICA

### Zambia Walking Safari WALK ON THE WILD SIDE IN UNTOUCHED AFRICA

Zambia, birthplace of the walking safari, is remote and untamed, and we've created an adventure that's a match for its wonders. With our consummate safari guide Jason Alfonsi, we appreciate the African wilderness with all our senses—up close and in a magical

"We especially loved the walking safari, which really gives you a taste of life in the African bush."

Peter and Henry H.

New York NY

way that is impossible in a vehicle. Tracking game on foot is always a thrill, from seeing a family of elephant taking a mud bath to watching puku, waterbuck, kudu, and impala leaping through

the bush. South Luangwa National Park
is as wild as it gets, but our lodges
and Hemingway-style mobile camps ensure
comfort. Bush walks, night game viewing,
4WD exploration, and magenta sunsets
make this an amazing safari.

Days 1-2 Nkwali Camp, South Luangwa

**National Park** From Mfuwe, our game drive brings us to Nkwali Camp, a lovely lodge on the banks of the Luangwa River and a great setting for wildlife viewing in prime riverine woodlands. As the sun sets, a different world awakens and our evening game drives reveal the nocturnal world of leopard, lion, and hyena.

### Days 3-6 Walking Safari / Luangwa Valley

We're up at sunrise each day for an exciting bush walk in the early light of dawn, with the chance to see elephant, waterbuck, hippo, and zebra at close quarters, and, with luck, the full complement of predators. From examining a bird's nest to tracking a lion, we'll get a deeper understanding of the fascinating bush ecosystem and how it works—a true experience of Africa and its wildlife that you 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 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 4WD game drives bring us along stunning oxbow lakes and through ebony forests. Depart on Day 10 via Mfuwe.

### 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



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience an incredible walking safari in a pristine 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 6!) 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, 2018 Aug 20-29 Sep 8-17

### TRIP COST

\$6595 (2-6 members) Park fees: \$730 No extra charge for singles! Victoria Falls extension: from \$795 Lake Malawi: Pumulani Beach Lodge extension: from \$1695 Lower Zambezi Canoe and Walking Safari extension: from \$2695

 TRIP LEVEL
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7

 4-day walking safari in Luangwa Valley,
 6-8 miles a day over uneven terrain,

 6-8 miles a day over uneven terrain,

 4WD game viewing

Leopard sightings are frequent in the wilderness areas around our camps. Seeing these gorgeous animals in the wild is a thrill! PHOTO: JO CREBBIN







Our Zimbabwe safari brings us fantastic lodges and big game viewing at its best, and helps support community and conservation projects.

### Zimbabwe! THRILLING SAFARI AND SPECTACULAR LODGES

Zimbabwe is a phenomenal safari destination, with its luxurious lodges, abundance of big game, and community-based ecotourism that benefits the local villages as well as the wildlife. We'll begin by experiencing the wonder of Victoria Falls (including an optional heli-ride), then fill our days with amazing wildlife adventures in magnificent Hwange National Park, the third largest national park in Africa and home to some 40,000 elephants along with lion, hippo, cheetah, and more. Come along and savor lantern-lit dinners in the bush, sundowners aboard a vintage railway car, walks to school with the local kids (you'll even learn a few words of their click language), game drives with the flexibility to get out and walk, and game viewing by canoe on the great Zambezi. This is adventure—WT style!

Days 1-5 Victoria Falls / Batoka Gorge / Hwange National Park / Camelthorn Lodge We hike the spectacular mile-long trail facing Victoria Falls, fly over it by helicopter (optional), and enjoy panoramic views from our sumptuous lodge above the Zambezi River's Batoka Gorge. In Hwange, we explore by open-sided 4WD vehicle along the game-rich Ngamo Plains. We'll be on the lookout for zebra, giraffe, wildebeest, jackal, leopard, wild dog, cheetah, and more. Game viewing by vintage rail car, night drives, a unique "look up" blind at a waterhole, and village visits are among our delights at Hwange.

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

A game drive amid northern Hwange's wildlife brings us to dreamy Nehimba Lodge, with its woodland and sand river environment. We enjoy a game walk here. Our thatched chalets circle a waterhole beloved by elephants—you'll see them up close! In Zambezi National Park, our award-winning Zambezi Sands lodge positions us well for a canoe safari on the river at sunset, looking for elephant, hippo, crocodile, and a great variety of birdlife as crimson colors reflect off the waters. Depart on Day 10 via Victoria Falls.

### 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



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Magnificent Victoria Falls, one of the wonders of the world
- 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 viewing 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, chalets, and villas
- All meals included

### DATES

Jul 2-11, 2018 Aug 3-12 Sep 14-23

### TRIP COST

\$5595 (7-12 members) \$6095 (4-6 members) Single supplement: \$1020 Mana Pools extension: from \$3495 Victoria Falls extension: from \$795

### TRIP LEVEL

1  $(2^{\frac{1}{2}})$  3 4 5 6 7 Game viewing by 4WD vehicle and rail car, bush walks, canoeing, cultural explorations



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Specialist guides for tracking leopard and cheetah at Okonjima
- World-class game viewing in Etosha National Park
- Track desert rhino on foot in Damaraland with the Save the Rhino Trust
- Climb and photograph some of the world's highest dunes in Sossusvlei
  Hike across the NamibRand Nature
- Reserve's magnificent 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 guesthouse
- All meals included

### DATES

May 3-16, 2018 May 17-30 Jun 28-Jul 11 Jul 19-Aug 1 Aug 9-22 Sep 6-19

### TRIP COST

\$7295 (4-12 members) Single supplement: \$520 Internal airfare: \$630 (subject to change) Low season discount (May): \$400 Cape Town extension: from \$1195

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 (3) 4 5 6 7 4WD game viewing, easy to moderate hiking

### Namibia Expedition etosha, HIMBA TRIBES, SOSSUSVLEI DUNES, AND A DESERT HIKE

Namibia is one of the most hauntingly beautiful safari destinations on earth, brimming with jaw-dropping geological wonders and exotic species found nowhere else. Join us to track

"Couldn't have asked for a more interesting trip and outstanding guides, lodges, and meals. Our 4th trip with WT and one of the best (although we always say that!)."

Jerry W. Santa Rosa CA cheetah and leopard on foot with big cat specialists, view 6,000-year-old rock art on the flanks of sandstone peaks, search for big game in Etosha, track desertadapted rhino on foot, climb the colossal Sossusvlei Dunes of the Namib Desert, and meet traditional Himba nomads. Our grand finale is a three-day trek across the stunning NamibRand Nature

Reserve, with nights spent beneath a spectacular star-studded sky surrounded by distant mountains and wondrous desert silence.

Days 1-2 Windhoek / Okonjima At delightful Okonjima, we visit AfriCat, a rescue and rehabilitation center for threatened cheetah and leopard. Here we learn about conservation efforts and track these captivating species on foot. **Days 3-4 Etosha National Park** On the salt pans of world-renowned Etosha National Park, we head out by 4WD vehicle to look for elephant, lion, giraffe, blue wildebeest, gemsbok (oryx), and more, with a good chance to spot elusive black rhino.

Days 5-8 Huab Under Canvas / Himba / Twyfelfontein Explore the table-top mountains of Damaraland, visit a remote Himba settlement, track desert-adapted rhino on foot, and walk the trail at Twyfelfontein—a World Heritage Site with one of the most extensive rock art sites in Africa.

**Days 9-10 Swakopmund / Sossusvlei Dunes** From the coastal town of Swakopmund, a scenic flight brings us into Namib-Naukluft National Park, where we can climb the towering Sossusvlei Dunes.

Days 11-14 NamibRand Nature Reserve / Tok Tokkie Trail Hike across the private NamibRand Nature Reserve, where the immense diversity of the desert world comes to life, and sleep in open-air "dune beds" under a brilliant canopy of stars. Depart on Day 14 via Windhoek.

### EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Explore romantic Cape Town, historic Cape wine country, and the spectacular Cape of Good Hope.

Our journey brings you the full wonder of Namibia, from its breathtaking landscapes and desert-adapted wildlife to its traditional cultures.



26 FOR MORE DETAILS ON OUR AFRICA TRIPS, VISIT WWW.WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM/TRIPS/AFRICA

### Namibia: Giraffe Conservation and Safari

### WORLD-EXCLUSIVE SAFARI WITH GPS RADIO-COLLARING OF GIRAFFES



Enjoy an incredible safari plus special access to Namibia's landmark conservation projects and the wildlife biologists working on them. PHOTO: JP SURAUD

Stick your neck out for the conservation of the world's tallest animal! We invite you to join Dr. Julian Fennessy, Africa's leading giraffe authority, and his Giraffe Conservation Foundation team as they conduct a long-term study of this beloved species, which is facing a "silent extinction" due to poaching and habitat loss. For two thrilling days with the GCF team, you'll assist in fitting wild giraffe with GPS radio collars. Our safari also includes tracking leopard and cheetah at famed AfriCat, world-class game viewing in Etosha, visiting the World Heritage Site at Twyfelfontein, and tracking desert rhino in stunning Damaraland. This is a world-exclusive safari!

### Days 1-2 Windhoek / Leopard Tracking /

AfriCat We head out for Okonjima, home of AfriCat, a sanctuary focused on research and rehabilitation of Africa's big cats. We search for leopard, track cheetah on foot, and enjoy remarkably close encounters with these elusive big cats.

### Days 3-4 Etosha National Park / Ongava

Lodge Explore magnificent Etosha, a haven for an immense variety of wildlife in a concentrated area, including elephant, lion, giraffe, blue wildebeest, eland, kudu, gemsbok (oryx), zebra, rhino, cheetah, and leopard.



### Days 5-6 Damaraland / Himba / Huab Under **Canvas** After visiting the Himba in remote Damaraland, we continue to our private "under canvas" camp (expect comfort!) to look for desert-adapted wildlife, including rhino. Wilderness Travel is proud to support the vital work of the Save the Rhino Trust here-Namibia now has the only growing black rhino population in all of Africa!

### Days 7-8 Damaraland / Twyfelfontein

Deeper in Damaraland, we search for desertadapted elephant and view the extraordinary rock art sprawled across the red sandstone hills of Twyfelfontein, a World Heritage Site.

Days 9-13 Kaokoveld / Giraffe Collaring / Hoanib Mobile Expedition Camp Moving to our private mobile camp in Kaokoveld, we join field biologists of the Giraffe Conservation Foundation for two exciting days of tracking and GPS radio-collaring giraffe in the wild with Dr. Julian Fennessy, a pioneer of giraffe conservation. Our time in the field with these dedicated conservationists and vets will be incredible as they track and immobilize giraffe and we help fit them with GPS radio collars, working as an integral part of the ground team. Depart via Windhoek on Day 13.



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Just 6 participants—with Jason Nott, one of Namibia's most respected naturalist safari guides
- World exclusive: hands-on participation in GPS giraffe-collaring with Dr. Julian Fennessy
- Track cheetah and leopard at AfriCat and endangered rhino in Damaraland with the Save the Rhino Trust
- Stay in gorgeous game lodges and wonderfully remote camps

### DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Windhoek • 9 nights hotels, lodges, and camps,
- 3 nights mobile camp
- All meals included

DATES Jul 7-19, 2018

Jul 19-31 Reverse Itinerary

### TRIP COST

\$10,895 (5-6 members) \$11,295 (3-4 members) Single supplement: \$1080 Internal airfare: \$680 (subject to change) \*Please note: \$3000 of the tier price is tax deductible

### TRIP LEVEL

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



### ON OUR WEBSITE

IN THE REALM OF THE DESERT LION Exclusive safari to track desertadapted black rhino, be part of the "vet check" at AfriCat Foundation, and join the world's only field study of desert lion. Jun 23-Jul 5, Sep 2-14, 2018. From \$9995.

### Botswana Wildlife Safari "UNDER CANVAS" IN MOREMI, OKAVANGO, & CHOBE, AND VISIT VICTORIA FALLS

Experience the untamed beauty of Botswana as few travelers ever do-on an authentic mobile camping safari, far away from the lodges and deep in the wildlife-rich habitats of Moremi Game Reserve,

"Trulv the trip of a lifetime. We saw so much wildlife, up front and personal-way beyond our imagination."

Ronnie G. Las Vegas NV

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Thrilling game tracking by 4WD vehicle in the savannas and woodlands of Moremi, Okavango, and Chobe
- Private boat excursions and game viewing in the Okavango Delta, an amazing miracle of water in an otherwise arid landscape
- Comfortable mobile camps, including en suite bathrooms with hot showers! Grand 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 • 7 nights private camps, 3 nights hotels
- and game lodges All meals included except 1 lunch

#### DATES

Apr 15-28, 2018 Kalahari Explorer May 20-30, 2018 Jun 10-20 Jun 24-Jul 7, 2018 Okavango Explorer Jul 15-25 Jul 29-Aug 11 Okavango Explorer Aug 19-29 Sep 2-12 Sep 23-Oct 3

#### **TRIP COST**

\$7595 (8-10 members) \$7995 (4-7 members) Single supplement: \$995 Internal airfare: \$580 (subject to change) Park fees: \$270 Kalahari Explorer from: \$8695 Okavango Explorer from: \$8895 Cape Town extension: from \$1195

**TRIP LEVEL** 1(2) 3 4 5 6 7 Game viewing by 4WD vehicle, boat, and mokoro (canoe)



Okavango Delta, and Chobe National Park. Our mobile camps are set in perfect locations to give you the best access to the wildlife—and in complete comfort. Game drives bring you right into the action, and by night, you'll sleep in a comfy bed in your tent with a private bathroom and shower, and drift asleep to the sounds of the African night. Exploration by 4WD vehicle, private canoe and riverboat journeys, and our combination of camps and lodges make this a varied and active adventure, and our grand finale is Days 6-11 Chobe National Park / Private Mobile Victoria Falls. It's pure safari magic!

### Days 1-3 Maun / Moremi Game Reserve / Private

**Mobile Camp** Our scenic private charter flight whisks us into the stunning Moremi Game Reserve, which protects almost a third of the islands and lagoons that make up the vast Okavango Delta. We head right out to explore by 4WD vehicle and by boat, searching for game such as tsessebe and Burchell's zebra and tracking predators including wild dog and cheetah. Moremi is also an ornithologist's delight, home to almost every species of central-southern African bird. Our remote mobile camp is set up for us at Xakanaxa in a beautiful setting of secret pools, tall forest, and open grassland. The camp is very comfortable (you'll even have your own tent steward!), and we are sometimes joined here by hippo that come out at night to feed on the grass near our tents. It's not uncommon for grazing elephant to pass through camp-you won't see that at a lodge!

### Days 4-5 Okavango Delta / Xugana Lodge A river

journey brings us to the remote western corner of the Okavango Delta, where we stay at welcoming Xugana Lodge, with its reed-and-thatch chalets overlooking a tranquil lagoon. The lodge is the perfect place for exploring on foot and by motorboat and mokoro (a dugout canoe navigated by a skilled guide). During our excursions, we should see bushbuck, a plethora of birds, the shy sitatunga and semi-aquatic lechwe antelope, and perhaps even buffalo and elephant. As we glide the water lily-filled waterways aboard our mokoro, we enjoy the calm solitude of this quintessential Delta setting.





Camp / Victoria Falls Our spectacular private flight across the Okavango Delta sets us down in Chobe National Park, a legendary elephant refuge and also one of the best places to find lion, leopard, and other predators and their prey-large herds of giraffe, kudu, vervet monkey, and baboon. This park is truly one of the greatest wildlife destinations on the continent. At night, the park comes to life with animal sounds-the "whooping" calls of wild dog, the rumbles of elephant, and even the cackling cries of hyena. Our mobile camps in Chobe are in the Savuti and Serondella areas. From our Serondella camp, we enjoy a memorable private cruise on the Chobe River to see and photograph the big herds of tuskers who amble down to the river at sunset. Our safari ends at stunning Victoria Falls, where we can marvel at the spectacle of the mile-wide Zambezi River's thundering cascade. Depart on Day 11.

Right: Our mobile camping safari brings you incredible wildlife experiences that you just won't get on a lodge safari. PHOTO: MIKE WILKES





### 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 15-28, 2018. From \$8695.

**Okavango Explorer:** Extended explorations (and birding) in the wildlife paradise of the Okavango. Includes Moremi and Chobe national parks. Jun 24-Jul 7, Jul 29-Aug 11, 2018. From \$8895.



We bring you into the diverse ecosystems of South Africa, Zambia, and Botswana, all on one adventure! PHOTO: VINCENT GRAFHORST

### Southern Africa Wildlife Safari BOTSWANA, SOUTH AFRICA, AND VICTORIA FALLS

We've combined three extraordinary destinations for this wonderfully varied safari. In South Africa, we'll be on the trail of

"Perfect from start to finish. The itinerary, camps, and activities couldn't have been better. Thank you!" the Big Five on the vast savannas of Timbavati, an exclusive private reserve in the renowned ecosystem of Greater Kruger National Park. In Zambia, we marvel at the roaring spectacle of mighty Victoria Falls and

Pam M., Louisville KY

take a sunset cruise on the great Zambezi River (expect hippos!). Our adventure concludes with a flourish as we explore Botswana's legendary Chobe National Park, a true wildlife paradise famed for its massive herds of elephant, and the wildlife Eden of the Okavango Delta.

### Days 1-3 Timbavati Private Game Reserve, South Africa From our atmospheric lodge, we

head off-road in open-sided vehicles for up-close views of lion, elephant, buffalo, rhino, and leopard. Special activities here include night drives to look for elusive genet and leopard on the hunt.

### Days 4-6 Johannesburg / Victoria Falls,

**Zambia** We get astounding views as we hike along the escarpment directly across from famous Victoria Falls, and later, with a sundowner in hand, we cruise the Zambezi at sunset to look for wildlife and listen to the cries of African fish eagles.

### Days 7-8 Savuti / Chobe National Park,

**Botswana** One of the best-known wildlife regions of Chobe, the Savuti area is 1,900 square miles of prime game viewing territory. We 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 our remote water lodge on a private island in the Okavango Delta, we head out to view game 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 via Maun.

### EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Explore vibrant Cape Town, including Table Mountain and Kirstenbosch Gardens
- Discover Namibia's magnificent Sossusvlei Dunes



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Our safari guide's incredible knowledge of and passion for Africa's wildlife
- The best game viewing in Southern Africa
- Delightful safari lodges that keep you close to the wildlife

#### DETAILS

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

#### DATES

May 17-27, 2018 Jun 15-25 Jul 19-29 Aug 17-27 Sep 3-13

### TRIP COST

\$8995 (6-8 members) \$9595 (3-5 members) Single supplement: \$440 Internal airfare: \$1580 (subject to change) High season surcharge (July): \$1300 High season single supplement: \$1320 Cape Town extension: from \$1195 Sossusvlei Dunes extension: from \$3595

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7 Game viewing by 4WD vehicle, boat, and *mokoro* (canoe), optional bush walks



On this South African dream journey, we've combined beautiful coast and mountain hikes with a world-class wildlife safari. PHOTO: PETE OXFORD

### Great Hikes & Game Parks of South Africa EXPLORE THE GARDEN ROUTE, DRAKENSBERG MOUNTAINS, AND GREATER KRUGER

With perfect hikes, superb safari adventures, and fantastic lodging, this active journey is the ultimate way to experience South Africa. Our hikes bring us along the spectacular coastal Garden Route and into the breathtaking Drakensberg of Zulu country. For our safari, we enjoy one of the most exclusive private reserves in the world, Timbavati, part of vast and justly famed Greater Kruger National Park. The wildlife viewing here is unmatched, and we head out on foot and by open 4WD vehicle for incredible sightings of lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, and Cape buffalo—Africa's legendary Big Five.

Days 1-3 Cape Town / Phantom Forest Reserve / Tsitsikamma From Cape Town, we head to lovely Phantom Forest on the Tsitsikamma Coast for hikes along the towering bluffs, beaches, and aquamarine seas of the Indian Ocean.

Days 4-6 Drakensberg Mountains Amid the tabletop peaks of the Drakensberg ("Dragon's



Mountains"), we hike from our mountain lodge to dramatic rock formations, stunning gorges, and ancient rock art sites that depict elephants, lions, and hunters with bows and arrows.

**Days 7-10 Safari at Timbavati Private Game Reserve** Incredible game viewing awaits us at game-rich Timbavati, an unforgettable grand finale for our journey. Depart on Day 10.

### EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Savor the historical and natural wonders of Cape Town—with adventurous options!
- Game view in Thornybush Game Reserve and enjoy 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 in luxurious hotels and deluxe lodges
- All meals included

### DATES

Nov 21-30, 2017 Apr 21-30, 2018 Sep 22-Oct 1 Nov 13-22 Dec 8-17

### TRIP COST

\$5595 (6-8 members) \$5995 (4-5 members) Single supplement: \$350 Internal airfare: \$1100 (subject to change) Cape Town extension: from \$1195 Shumbalala Game Lodge extension: from \$2295

**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



Our cultural odyssey brings us into remote villages in the Omo Valley where some of Africa's most fascinating tribal cultures thrive. PHOTO: CHRIS LEWINGTON

Ethiopia is a world unto itself, from its Orthodox Christian heritage, revealed in

"My third trip with WT and it certainly won't be my last. The itinerary was fascinating, our Trip Leader delightful, and the office wonderfully responsive." the famed 12th century rock-hewn churches of the highlands, to its array of animistic tribes in the Great Rift Valley. Our in-depth adventure takes in the full sweep of this storied land, from fascinating Axum, once home to the Queen of Sheba, to the amazing tribal heritage in the

Sandra C., New York NY

Omo Valley, where we'll meet groups like the Mursi, with their clay lip plates. Each trip is timed for a festival—January trips attend Timkat, the exuberant Epiphany celebration, and the September trip witnesses Meskel, with its carpets of meskel daisies.

Days 1-6 Addis Ababa / Axum / Lalibela / Gondar / Lake Tana In Ethiopia's rugged mountain highlands, Christianity has been part of the culture since the 4th century. We visit the holy city of Axum, where according to Ethiopian



legend, the original Ark of the Covenant resides within the Church of St. Mary of Zion. We also explore Lalibela's World Heritage churches, carved into volcanic rock in the 12th century, and Gondar's medieval castles.

Days 7-12 Tribes of the Omo River Valley For the semi-nomadic peoples of the Omo River, body adornments such as scarification, face painting, and lip plates hold rich cultural symbolism. We visit many villages, including those of the Karo, with their elaborate hairstyles, and the Bume, known for their huge necklaces.

Days 13-15 Addis Ababa / Timkat or Meskel Festival Our private charter flight (avoiding a two-day drive!) whisks us to Addis, and we witness Timkat's lively processions of Orthodox priests and parishioners in dazzling traditional dress (January), or the dancing and celebratory bonfires of Meskel (September). Depart on Day 15.



### 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, 2018 Timkat Festival Jan 11-25 Timkat Festival Sep 13-27 Meskal Festival Jan 6-20, 2019 Timkat Festival Jan 11-25 Timkat Festival

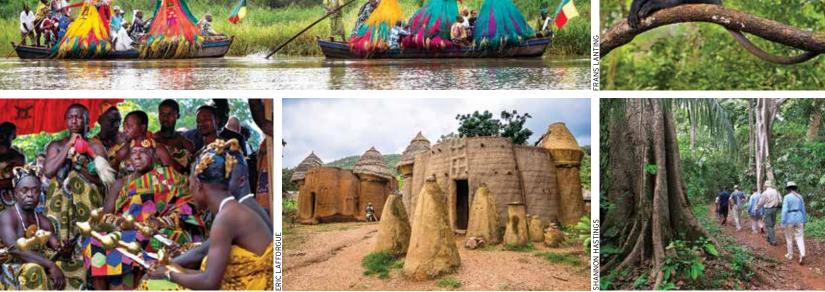
### TRIP COST

\$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





Exuberant festivals, unique architecture, voodoo ceremonies-we explore a kaleidoscope of cultural wonders in West Africa

### Tribal Ghana, Togo, and Benin ROYAL FESTIVALS, MASK DANCES, VOODOO SPIRITS, CASTLES OF CLAY

Traditional cultures, renowned art forms, flamboyant festivals, mask dances, and a dazzling ethnic mosaic are the golden gems of West Africa. Our cultural odyssey brings us across Ghana, Togo, and Benin to discover lost tribal worlds guided by ancient spirits. Along the way, we meet unforgettable tribes including the Tamberma, whose fairytale clay castles are spectacular examples of uniquely African architecture. We finish on the coast, the heart of voodoo country, visiting practitioners, watching trance-dances, and learning about the awesome power the voodoo spirits still hold over people. Our journeys witness the Akwasidae Festival in Kumasi, honoring the Ashanti king, and the exuberant mask dances of an Egun Mask Festival in Benin.

Days 1-3 Accra, Ghana / Elmina Castle After a visit to Ghana's National Museum, with its striking ethnographic collection, we head along the palm-fringed coast to the 15th century Portuguese fortress of Elmina, entering its eerie slave dungeons and peeking through the "Door of No Return," where captives were taken to awaiting ships.

Days 4-5 Kumasi / the Ashanti The Ashanti Kingdom was once one of the most powerful nations in Africa. In Kumasi, the Ashanti "capital," we explore the lively market and enjoy the pageantry of the traditional Akwasidae Festival.

Days 6-9 Traditional Tribes of the Savanna / Castles of Clay In a baobab-dotted landscape that was once a caravan route between Ghana's Gold Coast and the Sahara, we call at traditional villages that rarely see outsiders. We meet northern Benin's Dagomba people, with their round clay huts, and the isolated Tamberma and Somba, famous for their defensive architecture of fortified adobe castles, complete with turrets. We also visit a very remote Taneka village of fetish priests and the encampments of Fulani herders.

### Days 10-15 Voodoo Priests and Fetish

**Markets of the Coast** On Benin's coast, we explore Abomey and its eerie Royal Palace of the Dahomey king. Near Lomé, Togo's capital, we meet traditional healers at a "voodoo hospital," visit a fetish market, and head out to a village to witness a real voodoo ceremony accompanied by the hypnotic rhythm of chanting and drums. Depart on Day 15 via Accra.



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Traditional Ashanti culture, with its kente cloth, bead-makers, and elaborate funerary rites
- The surreal voodoo world of the Togo and Benin coasts
- Elmina Castle, fetish priests of Taneka, the Tamberma people and their castles of clay
- Vibrant Akwasidae and Egun Mask festivals on every departure

#### DETAILS

- 15-day trip begins and ends in Accra, Ghana
- 14 nights hotels and guesthouses
- All meals included

### DATES

Feb 21-Mar 7, 2018 Sep 19-Oct 3 Mar 6-20, 2019

**TRIP COST** \$6195 (6-12 members) \$6395 (3-5 members)

Single supplement: \$995 **TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Rugged road travel, cultural exploration,

easy walks

### In the Wake of Cleopatra SAILING TO THE TEMPLES OF THE NILE

This is a traveler's dream journey: exploring the Nile by *dahabiya*, a traditional two-masted Nile sailing yacht that hosts just 10 guests. With our expert Egyptologist, we sail the Nile from Luxor to Aswan, discovering stunning pharaonic monuments including Nile-side Kom Ombo, with its crocodile motif, and Nekbet, abode of the vulture goddess. We'll also bring you to fascinating out-of-the-way sites where bigger vessels can't go, including peaceful Nile villages with a timeless



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Sail aboard the *Lazuli III*, a traditional Nile sailing vessel, complete with airconditioned cabins and en suite facilities
- Experience Egypt in-depth with the cultural insights of our superb Egyptologist guide
- Discover magnificent temples from Luxor to Aswan, and see the great temple of Ramses at Abu Simbel
- Explore special temple sites that larger boats can't visit

### DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Cairo
- 4 nights 5-star hotels, 5 nights aboard vacht with air-conditioned cabins
- All meals included except 1 dinner

#### DATES

Feb 8-17, 2018 Oct 11-20

#### TRIP COST

\$5695 (8-10 members) \$6195 (6-7 members) Single supplement: \$460 (hotels only) Single supplement: \$690 (boat only, limited availability) Internal airfare: \$560 (subject to change) *Lazuli III* Suite cabin upgrade: \$500 Jordan: Petra and Wadi Rum extension: from \$2895 Alexandria extension: from \$990

**TRIP LEVEL** (1+) 2 3 4 5 6 7 Cultural exploration and walking tours



way of life. The breathtaking royal tombs of New Kingdom pharaohs, awe-inspiring Abu Simbel, the romantic ambiance of our private sailing vessel they're all on our unique odyssey amid the eternal wonder that is ancient Egypt.

Days 1-3 Great Pyramids / Sphinx / Luxor / Karnak Temple We marvel at the Great Pyramids at Giza as well as the inscrutable Sphinx, carved from the bedrock of the Giza Plateau. Flying to Luxor, we visit stupendous Karnak, with its forest of stone columns, and the graceful Luxor temple.

### Days 4-8 Valley of the Kings / Sailing the Nile /

**Aswan** After exploring the Valley of the Kings, including the grand Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, which merges with the sheer limestone cliffs as if nature herself had built it, we embark aboard our dahabiya and settle into our air-conditioned cabins. Our sailboat gives us access to lesser-known sites such as El-Kaab, home of Nekbet, the vulture goddess of Upper Egypt, along with famed

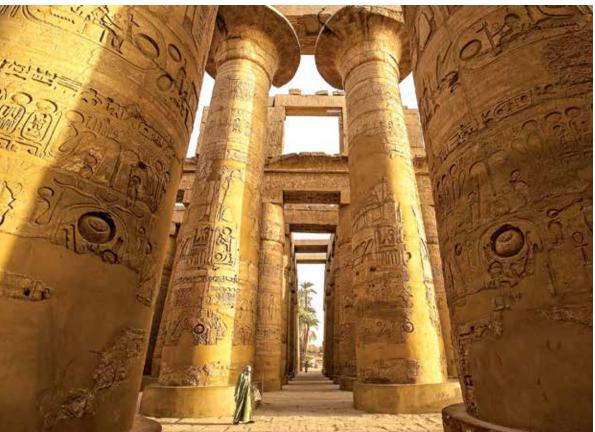


CHARLES TOMALIN

Nile-side temples including mammoth Edfu, dedicated to the falcon-headed god Horus who served as the protector and patron of the pharaoh. Along the way, we enjoy a candlelit barbecue at Maniha Island, and one evening, we moor at Cobania Island for a visit with local villagers. Our river journey concludes with a visit to the Aswan High Dam, an exploration of romantic Philae Temple—a pilgrimage site for thousands of years—and a walk through Aswan's outdoor market.

**Days 9-10 Abu Simbel** We disembark and fly to Abu Simbel to see the colossal Nile-side temples of Ramses, carved into cliff faces in the 12th century BC and still radiating power across the landscape. Depart on Day 10 via Cairo, or join one of our trip extensions.

Our Nile journey by traditional sailboat brings you into the heart of the ancient world of the pharaohs. PHOTO: PATRICK FRILET



34 FOR A DETAILED ITINERARY: 1.800.368.2794 OR EMAIL AFRICA@WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM

### Pyramids to Petra A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY IN EGYPT AND JORDAN

From the treasures of the pharaohs to Jordan's fabled "lost city" of Petra, our in-depth journey reveals the glorious monuments of the ancient world. Our five-day cruise from Luxor to Aswan aboard the *Sun Boat IV*, with its relaxed, yacht-style ambiance, is a wonderful way to explore Egypt's riverside temples and enjoy the captivating beauty of life along the Nile, with its passing scenes of graceful *feluccas*, fishermen, and villages inhabited

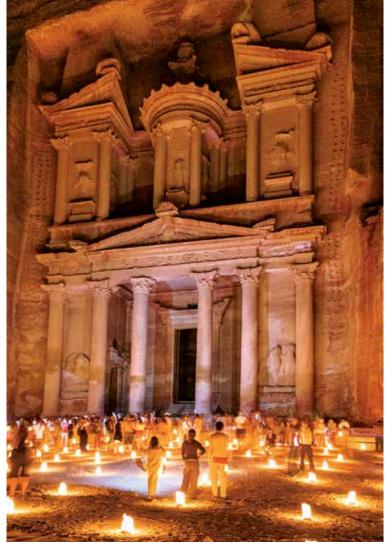
"It was like being whisked around on a magic carpet. Doors opened, every wish fulfilled, customs breezed through. Amazing service!"

Marney G. Montgomery AL since the time of the pharaohs. At Abu Simbel, we see the four colossal statues of Ramses II gazing out over the Nile Valley, and at dazzling Petra, we feast our eyes on a 2,000-year-old metropolis carved from solid red sandstone in the 3rd century BC. For our grand finale, we overnight amid the sheer magnificence of the desert canyon of Wadi Rum, famed haunt of Lawrence of Arabia.

Days 1-8 Cairo / Nile Cruise / Aswan / Abu Simbel Many treasures await us in Cairo: the wondrous Great Pyramids, the enigmatic Sphinx, and the Egyptian Museum, with its golden treasures from King Tut's tomb and famed Mummies Room. Flying down the Nile to Luxor, we walk among the massive stone columns of the Temple of Karnak and explore the legendary tombs of the Valley of the Kings and Queens. Aboard the *Sun Boat IV*, one of the most elegant ships plying the Nile River, we sail to the bewitching temples at Edfu, Esna, and Kom Ombo. At Abu Simbel, we take in the grand scale of the four massive statues of Ramses II hewn on the face of cliffs above the Nile.

Days 9-12 Amman / Jerash / Kerak / Petra Outside Amman, Jordan, we enjoy lunch with a local family in their home, then explore the Roman city of Jerash and great Crusader fortress at Kerak. At the spellbinding "lost city" of Petra, set in a dramatic canyon on the edge of the Wadi Araba, we enter on foot through the narrow slot canyon called Al Siq and behold the lavish temples, theaters, and palaces chiseled into solid rock, including the iconic Al-Khazneh ("Treasury"), with its elaborate Greek-style façade. In the evening, we experience Petra by the light of a thousand candles.

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





Above: From the Great Pyramids to fabled Petra, our odyssey reveals the wonders of the ancient world. PHOTO: DAVIDE CAMESASCA



#### HIGHLIGHTS

• 5-day Nile journey aboard the 40-cabin Sun Boat IV

- 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

Nov 3-17, 2017 Jan 26-Feb 9, 2018 Mar 9-23 Nov 9-23

### TRIP COST

\$6895 (10-15 members) \$7295 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$1790 Internal airfare: \$920 (subject to change) Alexandria extension: from \$990

**TRIP LEVEL** (1+) 2 3 4 5 6 7 Cultural exploration and walking tours



Our journey brings you to the most alluring sites in Morocco, from the golden Sahara to the labyrinthine lanes of medieval Fez. PHOTO: YAVUZ SARIYILDIZ

### Morocco: Camels to Casbahs IMPERIAL CITIES, ATLAS MOUNTAINS, AND THE GOLDEN DUNES OF THE SAHARA

Fabled casbahs, medieval medinas, royal cities, shimmering dunes, red-rock canyons— Morocco has a mystique all its own. We

"The Desert Camp was simply gorgeous outstanding in comfort. Thanks to the expertise of our Trip Leader Ali and WT, we have gotten to know—and love— Morocco."

Steven A., New York NY

discover this land in full as we roam the magical bazaars of the walled city of Fez, visit tiny seaside Essaouira, an 18th century gem, explore the craggy Todra and Dades canyons, and meet welcoming Amizagh (Berber) people in their villages. One special

experience is our time in the breathtaking Moroccan Sahara, where we overnight in a private luxury tented camp cradled in the towering dunes of Erg Chebbi. Days 1-3 Casablanca / Rabat / Moulay Idriss / Volubilis From Casablanca, we head along the coast to Rabat, Morocco's capital, for a stroll through the picturesque Oudaya Kasbah, a 12th century fortress surrounded by French-designed gardens. Traveling into Morocco's inland valleys of rolling wheat fields, vineyards, and olive groves, we visit the hill town of Moulay Idriss and walk through the striking Roman ruins of Volubilis, a World Heritage Site.

**Day 4 Fez** One of the most perfectly preserved medieval cities in the world, Fez is hauntingly beautiful with its Arabic-Moorish architecture and honeycomb of twisting alleys. In this most evocative of Morocco's imperial capitals, we enter the dazzling 9th century medina through one of its four medieval gates and discover a mile-long network of *souks* (markets), open-air cafes,

courtyards, *hammams* (traditional steam baths), and gardens.

### Days 5-7 Middle Atlas Mountains /

Sahara Camel Safari Crossing the Middle Atlas, we descend a winding road into the Sahara to our exclusive private luxury camp at the foot of Erg Chebbi, one of the country's greatest natural wonders, whose golden, rolling sand dunes are continually reshaped by the wind. Our activities during two days here are flexible, and we can explore on foot or ride a camel to experience this dramatic desert landscape. We'll feel as if we have the Sahara all to ourselves as we savor the silence, watch the sunset, and stargaze under a brilliant sky.

Days 8-10 Todra / Dades / Ait Ben Haddou / Marrakesh In the High Atlas, we explore the rugged Todra Gorge, with its 900-foot-high limestone walls, and the Dades Gorge, a magnificent









#### 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 nomads 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 and bestavailable hotels, 2 nights luxury
- tented camp
  All meals included except 1 lunch and 3 dinners

### DATES

Nov 5-18, 2017 Feb 17-Mar 2, 2018 Mar 17-30 Apr 14-27 Sep 15-28 Oct 13-26 Nov 3-16

### TRIP COST

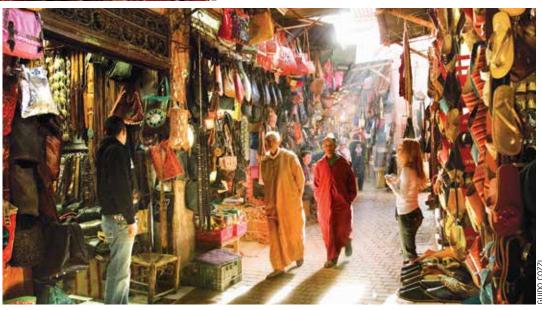
\$4895 (11-15 members) \$5295 (5-10 members) Single supplement: \$720

**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

landscape of red cliffs, fig orchards, and sculpted red-rock formations. En route, we should see nomad families camped with their flocks of sheep. On our way to Marrakesh, we visit the spectacular mud-brick citadel of Ait Ben Haddou, a World Heritage Site.

Day 11 Essaouira Whitewashed houses with blue shutters and ornate doors give the 18th century walled town of Essaouira a decidedly Mediterranean atmosphere. We explore the port, where bright blue fishing boats lie at anchor, and the bustling fish market. This charming town has cast its spell on many artists over the years—Orson Welles filmed scenes for the film *Othello* here in 1949.

Days 12-14 Marrakesh Once known as the "red city" for its rose-tinted buildings, Marrakesh has Berber rather than Arab origins. We explore the 11th century medina and the central square called the Djemaa el Fna, replete with snake charmers, fire-eaters, and fortune tellers. In the fabled souks, we find traditional artists on every corner and everything from pottery and fabrics to silver and spices on display. Depart on Day 14.





### on our website MOROCCO: THE HIGH ATLAS TREK

Join us for a six-day trek through the striking High Atlas Mountains, with an optional hike up M'Goun (13,343'), the third highest peak in North Africa. Our hike brings us through picturesque mud-brick villages, and higher up, we meet nomadic shepherds. We often visit homes to share a cup of mint tea with these friendly, open, mountain people. Our journey also explores the medieval walled city of Fez and the storied bazaars of Marrakesh, where artisans beckon. Jul 28-Aug 11, 2018. From \$4395.



We bring you from France to Italy to Switzerland on foot as you circle the glorious "crown jewel" of the Alps. PHOTO: RUTH TOMLINSON

# Tour du Mont Blanc ON FOOT FROM FRANCE TO ITALY TO SWITZERLAND

One of the "Great Hikes of the World" is the walk that encircles Mont Blanc from France to Italy to Switzerland. We've honed this hiker's classic to perfection with impeccably designed days that bring

"I had an amazing time. Everything had been thought of and the trip ran perfectly. It was a superb adventure."

Bridget G. Wanaka New Zealand you to epic glaciers, across wildflowercarpeted meadows, and into mountain hamlets as we hike in to discover each valley's cultural delights. Overnights are in cozy mountain hotels and hikers' inns, and

our team of Trip Leaders (up to three on each trip) brings *esprit de corps* to the adventure. Days 1-2 Chamonix / Col de Tricot The charming alpine town of Chamonix sits right at the foot of glacier-clad Mont Blanc (15,770'), western Europe's highest mountain. One of our warm-up hikes brings us up to the Col de Tricot (7,000') for panoramic views of the snow-covered Dômes de Miage, one of the most spectacular ridges on the Mont Blanc massif.

### Days 3-4 Into Italy / Col de la Croix-

**du-Bonhomme** From the lovely chapel of Notre Dame de la Gorge, an ancient pilgrimage site, we hike through gentle glades and forests and up through the superb gorge called the Nant Borrant as we make our way to the top of the Col de la Croix-du-Bonhomme. The next day, crossing into the Aosta region of Italy on foot, we 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* (a bowl of espresso and grappa, flambé!) to toast our day's adventures.

Days 5-6 Into Switzerland / Champex / Trient Glacier / Col de la Forclaz Crossing into Switzerland on foot, we traverse the Val Ferret, with its flower-filled meadows and charming chalets. From lakeside Champex, our hikes take us along the edge of the magnificent Trient Glacier to Col de la Forclaz.

**Days 7-8 Col de Balme / Chamonix** Our trail climbs through a serene larch forest to the Col de Balme (7,234'), the border between Switzerland and France. With the glory of the Mont Blanc massif before us, we look over the beautiful Chamonix Valley and descend, coming full circle on this classic adventure. Depart on Day 8.





### HIGHLIGHTS

- One of the world's classic hikes—and we do it right!
- Hike across three international borders on foot and enjoy magnificent mountain and glacier views
- 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 17-24, 2018 Jul 1-8 Jul 13-20 Jul 28-Aug 4

Aug 9-16 Aug 24-31 Sep 1-8 Sep 9-16

### TRIP COST

\$4495 (10-14 members) \$4895 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$390

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









### DISCOVER THE WT DIFFERENCE IN THE ALPS

- Our guide-to-guest ratio is unmatched. With at least two (and often three) Trip Leaders, you have the opportunity to hike at your own pace.
- · 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 offer 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 have the expertise to offer hiking trips for every level and interest.

# Hiking the Haute Route

HIGH ALPS TRAVERSE FROM CHAMONIX TO ZERMATT



The iconic spire of the Matterhorn is one of the great peaks on the Haute Route. PHOTO: ILHAN EROGLU

The Haute Route is the celebrated high-level hiking traverse 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," the airy realm where the sport of mountaineering was born in the 19th century. Our unique version of this famous hike provides nonstop alpine panoramas as we cross seven dramatic passes, including the rocky Fenêtre d'Arpette (8,750'). We combine our well-paced hiking days with overnights in charming hotels.

Days 1-2 Chamonix, France / Champex, Switzerland From Chamonix, we hike over the Col de Balme on the French-Swiss border and descend to the Col de la Forclaz. A steep but gorgeous hike right along the edge of 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 hike over the Col des Roux (9,197') reveals the legendary summits and glaciers of the Valais Alps, and when we cross the Col de Reidmatten, we'll have breathtaking views across the Arolla Valley to Pigne D'Arolla, Mont Collon, and the massive west face of Mont Blanc de Cheillon.

**Days 5-6 St-Luc / Gruben** A hike through the traditional Valais canton and over the Col de Torrent rewards us with superb vistas of the towering limestone pyramid of the Dent Blanche (14,290'). Entering German-speaking Switzerland by crossing the Meidpass (9,154'), we make our way down into the peaceful hamlet of Gruben.

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

### ON OUR WEBSITE CLASSIC HAUTE ROUTE

Do the classic! If you have the time, join our 12-day Haute Route journey, including two hike-in lodges where you'll savor alpenglow on the high peaks. Jul 11-22, Sep 4-15, 2018. From \$5995.







### HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience one of the world's great mountain hikes—in WT style!
- Discover spectacular trails and alpine hamlets surrounded by the highest peaks in the Alps
- Savor the distinctive alpine cultures and mountain 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

Jun 30-Jul 7, 2018 Jul 27-Aug 3 Aug 11-18

### TRIP COST

\$4495 (11-14 members) \$4895 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$280

**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

# Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA ALONG THE GR5

This hiker's dream journey brings you from mighty Mont Blanc 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



"We traveled to places that we would never have been able to find without the expertise of Wilderness Travel and our great Trip Leaders."

Penny A. Los Angeles CA near. Arriving on the coast, we kick off our hiking boots and head for a celebratory dip in the sea. This trip has been featured as one of Outside Magazine's "Trips of a Lifetime," and we agree that it is!

Days 1-3 Megève / Mont Blanc Massif

Our hike begins amid the splendor of Mont Blanc and the French Alps. Hiking up to Mont Joly, we follow a spectacular ridge with breathtaking views of the icy Mont Blanc massif in all its glory, and our crossing of the Col de Bresson brings us impressive panoramas of the south-facing flanks of Mont Blanc and the monolith of Pierra Menta.

Days 4-7 Vanoise National Park Entering the Vanoise, we follow dramatic trails above treeline with views of the glaciated 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 to Col de la Vanoise (8,255'), with three gleaming alpine

lakes along the way. One of our hikes brings us into the Vallée Etroite ("Narrow Valley"), a remote Italian-speaking valley used long ago as a passage into France from Italy. The pastoral hamlets in this region seem more Italian than French.

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 Corsican mouflon sheep roam. A relaxed Mediterranean atmosphere comes to life in St. Martin-Vésubie, where men play pétanque in the square and sip Pastis. In Mercantour National Park, with its tiny perched villages and forests of holm oak and olive, we hike to the Col de Fenestre (8,115') on the border with Italy. Here we stand between two national parks, one in Italy and one in France, savoring fantastic views of vast glaciated mountains.

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.



We bring you new vistas every day on this unique hiking adventure from the mountains to the sea. PHOTO: PIERRE JACQUES

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Our unique route leads through a range of
- cultures and landscapes
- Secluded mountain
- villages and less-traveled national parks
- Small groups-maximum
- 7 people!

Aug 5-18 Sep 2-15

DETAILS.



### TRIP COST

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

DATES Jul 8-21, 2018 \$6895 (6-7 members) \$7395 (4-5 members) Single supplement: \$610

### 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



# Great Alpine Traverse



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Great hikes, the perfect team of Trip Leaders, and Europe's best mountain scenery—nobody else offers a journey like this!
- Unique experience of the distinctive cultures and cuisines of five alpine countries—you can't do this on your own
- 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 25-Jul 8, 2018 Jul 25-Aug 7 Aug 26-Sep 8

### TRIP COST

\$7595 (11-14 members) \$8095 (5-10 members) Single supplement: \$730

**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





Experience five alpine countries and Europe's most famous peaks on this unique journey. PHOTO: BENJAMIN BARTHELEMY

The ultimate Alps odyssey is our unique five-country adventure on the best trails of

"My 21st WT trip had it all—a great variety of gorgeous hikes, picturesque villages in 5 countries, wonderful cuisine, and hotels with lots of character. The perfect trip!"

Diane S., Vista CA

France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Austria. And in true WT style, we'll have you crossing these international borders all on foot. Our hikes bring us to epic Mont Blanc, the Matterhorn (from both the Italian and Swiss sides!), and across the Tyrolean Alps of Germany

and Austria. We connect one glorious hiking realm to another with cog rails, cable cars, and Switzerland's famed *Glacier Express* train. Our team of two to three Trip Leaders brings style, camaraderie, and wonderful fun to this incredible experience of the Alps.

Days 1-4 Chamonix, France / Courmayeur, Italy / Zermatt, Switzerland From Chamonix, a breathtaking gondola ride carries us above the icy flanks of Mont Blanc up to Point Helbronner, then down to Courmayeur. Heading into Switzerland, we hike along the airy Grand



Balconeta trail to Cervinia on the Italian side of the Matterhorn. We'll have up-close views of the Swiss side of this famed peak as we descend to Zermatt.

### Days 5-7 Upper Engadine, Switzerland A

spectacular rail journey on the *Glacier Express* brings 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 We trace along the Inn River through classic Swiss hamlets, then hike across the remote Futschol Pass into Austria. After crossing into Germany, we overnight at Karlingerhaus, set amid limestone towers, then descend through a glacier-carved landscape to spectacular Königssee, a vast turquoise lake enclosed by rock walls. We celebrate our five-country odyssey in beautiful Salzburg. Depart on Day 14.

# Hiking the Tyrolean Alps HIGH TRAILS THROUGH A SPECTACULAR MOUNTAIN REALM

Soaring limestone peaks, turquoise lakes, a bounty of summer wildflowers, and geranium-bedecked chalets make the Tyrolean Alps a hiker's paradise. Our journey through this high alpine world traces a route 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 medieval center. Our team of Trip Leaders offers two hiking options on many days, allowing you to experience this splendid realm at moderate or challenging levels—your choice! Mouth-watering farm-to-fork cuisine 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** Our ridgetop hikes offer panoramic views across hundreds of summits as we follow trails through wildflower-covered alpine meadows and stop in at chalet-style farmhouses that serve delicious local cheeses. One memorable

In this high alpine realm, we have our choice of moderate or challenging hiking options on many days. PHOTO: PRITZ



hike leads us along the riverside paths of the sheer Hollentalklamm Gorge, with the river tumbling below. Our hotel, 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 the Heimgarten Hutte 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 Leutasch Valley, with its 26 ancient farming hamlets with fresco-painted wooden houses.

### Days 6-8 Innsbruck From

the charming alpine capital of Innsbruck, with its Baroque architecture and sheer mountain backdrop, we hike from the tiny hamlet of Lehner up into the forested Puittal Valley, tucked away behind the towering cliffs of the nearby Wetterstein range. In the impressive Wetterstein and Karwendel Mountains, we make an exhilarating traverse of a ridge high above Seefeld, with fantastic 360-degree panoramas. Another hike is on 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

### 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, 2018 Jul 29-Aug 5 Sep 9-16

### TRIP COST

\$5295 (11-14 members) \$5695 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$480

**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







Our journey crosses Switzerland's Alps on the most spectacular section of Europe's Via Alpina. PHOTO: DAN PATITUCC

We've chosen the most spectacular section of the Via Alpina for this journey. Europe's first trans-alpine trail, the Via Alpina links a network of age-old footpaths along the backbone of Europe's greatest mountain range. Our "hiker's hike" brings us from lakeside Lucerne to the alpine village of Kandersteg. Along the way, we 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 We get our first immersion into classic Swiss Alps landscapes as we hike winding trails to Engelberg (3,248'), a picturesque village set beneath ice-crowned Mt. Titlis. Following a balcony trail along the Gental Valley, we descend to beautiful Meiringen, site of Reichenbach Falls, where Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's beloved detective Sherlock Holmes plunged to his death in The Final Problem. From the village of Grindelwald, set beneath 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. From peaceful Murren (5,413'), the highest village in the Bernese Oberland, we enjoy a range of hiking options and our evenings include incredible sunset views of the world-famous trio of the Eiger, Monch, and Jungfrau.

### Days 9-11 Sefinenfurke Pass / Kandersteg

Views are stunning from the very start as we head through alpine pastures to the dramatic Sefinenfurke Pass (8,600'), and our spectacular descent brings us into the hamlet of Griesalp. From Hohturli Pass (9,120'), we hike past icefalls to mountain-ringed Oeschinensee (5,250'), a vast, turquoise-hued glacial lake set in an amphitheater of sheer cliffs and snow-clad peaks. Depart on Day 11.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Challenging hikes and stunning views of the North Face of the Alps, including the miahty Eiger
- Hike 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 23-Aug 2, 2018 Aug 20-30

### TRIP COST

\$6795 (11-14 members) \$7295 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$780

### 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

# Heart of Switzerland FROM LAKE LUCERNE ACROSS THE ALPS TO 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 to bring you high into the Alps for spectacular—yet moderate—hiking adventures. Around mountain-ringed Lake Lucerne, we'll hike the panoramic trails of

'The trip was brilliantly planned and executed from start to finish, with memorable picnics, fantastic travel companions, incredible trip leaders, and the most fantastic mountain hikes.''

Jane S. Santa Fe NM hike the panoramic trails of Mt. Pilatus and Mt. Rigi, and in the Bernese Oberland, where many of Switzerland's most legendary peaks are found, we'll bring you to stunning pathways below the towering peaks of the Eiger, the Monch, and the Jungfrau (the famed "North Face" of the Alps). Our trails high above pristine Lake Oeschinensee lead through fields of gentian and edelweiss, and our grand finale is in charming Vevey for wine

tasting and hikes through the historic terraced vineyards above Lake Geneva—a World Heritage Site.

**Days 1-4 Lucerne / Pilatus and Rigi / Murren** A classic lake steamer brings us across Lake Lucerne for our hike on the high trails of Pilatus and Rigi and past Swiss farmsteads. We'll visit an artisan cheesemaker and descend to lakeside Lucerne by cogwheel train (the oldest in the Alps). In the dramatic Bernese Oberland, where 37 peaks top 12,000 feet, we'll view the sheer faces of the Eiger, Monch, and Jungfrau as we hike to the top of 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 in 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 carries us to a high viewpoint for a picnic before we head out on the trail circling Oeschinensee, a turquoise lake nestled in an amphitheater of jagged peaks. Our hike above 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 / Lavaux

A beautiful rail journey changes the scene entirely, bringing us to Lake Geneva and beguiling Montreux, with its lakeshore lined by Belle Epoque villas. We walk the lakeside promenade to one of Europe's most spectacular castles, the 13th century Chateau de Chillon, and in ancient Lavaux wine country high above the lake, we hike through historic, terraced vineyards. Depart on Day 9.





# CHRISTOF SONDE

### 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
- Vevey's charming Old Town, wine country of Lavaux above Lake Geneva

#### DETAILS

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

#### DATES

Jul 19-27, 2018 Aug 5-13 Aug 30-Sep 7

### TRIP COST

\$6595 (11-14 members) \$7095 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$490

### **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



Our use of cable cars and cogwheel trains brings you high into the Swiss Alps for fantastic days on the trail. PHOTO: TOM DEMPSEY

# Italy: The Tour of the Giants HIKE EPIC ALPINE TRAILS OF THE VAL D'AOSTA BENEATH ITALY'S HIGHEST PEAKS



Our newest alpine adventure brings you to the "Roof of Europe" on a fabulous hiking journey designed by our superb Trip Leader Gianluca Canalicchio. Challenging hikes—with shorter options on many days—lead us across the craggy ridges of Italy's dramatic Val d'Aosta, through enchanting villages of the intriguing Walser culture, and right below the spectacular giants of the Alps: the iconic Matterhorn, Monte Rosa, Mont Blanc—the highest of them all—and the glaciated peaks of Gran Paradiso National Park. Cable cars and gondolas whisk us high into the mountains, and our route includes portions of the famed Alta Via, Italy's premier long-distance trail. At night, we are welcomed into cozy hotels in small villages where we'll savor the local cuisine.

Days 1-3 Aosta, Val d'Aosta / Breuil-Cervinia Cable cars bring us up into the mountains for hikes with breathtaking views of the Mont Blanc massif, Grand Combin, Monte Rosa, the Matterhorn, and countless other high peaks.

### Days 4-7 Cervinia / Gressoney-La-Trinité

One of our stunning hikes is along the Tour de Monte Rosa, and brings us into the glacially carved Val d'Ayas, a serene paradise full of rivers and streams, framed by the superb backdrop of the snowy Breithorn and two mountain-ringed lakes. Other hikes lead along the famed Alta Via, a rugged long-distance trail encircling the heights of the Val d'Aosta, and through alpine hamlets with traditional Walser architecture. Days 8-9 Gran Paradiso National Park Gran Paradiso National Park is a magnificent landscape of soaring snow-covered peaks, glacial cirques, alpine lakes, and remote valleys with charming traditional villages. Our hiking route brings us through Lillaz, famous for its beautiful waterfalls, and along ancient royal hunting roads built by King Vittorio Emanuele II (Gran Paradiso was once his private hunting grounds).

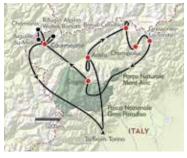
### Days 10-12 Courmayeur /

**Mont Blanc** From the town of Courmayeur, stunningly set beneath

Cable cars and gondolas carry us up onto the flanks of the highest mountains in Europe for our stunning hikes. PHOTO: GARETH MCCORMACK



the Mont Blanc massif, we ascend by cable car and hike to the Elisabetta Hut. Our last hike is in the Val Ferret, a lovely realm of alpine meadows and fast-flowing streams surrounded by the massive granite peaks of Mont Dolent, the Dent du Geant, and the Grandes Jorasses. We catch the cable car to savor spectacular views of the "Roof of Europe" at the Aiguille du Midi (12,678') in the heart of the Mont Blanc massif, then descend to Chamonix, France. Depart on Day 12 via Torino.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy exhilarating hikes beneath the giants of the Alps—the Matterhorn, Monte Rosa, and Mont Blanc—and in the vallevs of Gran Paradiso National Park
- A true hiker's hike on the Val d'Aosta's Alta Via, with shorter hiking options on many days
- Sample the distinctive cuisine of Italy's Val d'Aosta
- Discover tiny villages with distinctive architecture and ancient traditions

#### DETAILS

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

#### DATES Jul 10-21, 2018

Aug 21-Sep 1

**TRIP COST** \$5795 (10-15 members) \$6295 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$450

### TRIP LEVEL

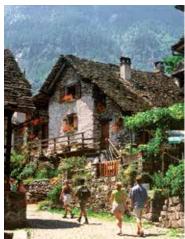
1 2 3 (4)(5) 6 7 11 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 4-6 hours a day, altitudes between 8,000-11,600 feet, van support



# Bergamo to Innsbruck

A HIKING ADVENTURE ACROSS FOUR COUNTRIES







Our exclusive hiking journey begins in enchanting Bergamo, Italy, a city brimming

"I've traveled all over the world with many outfitters and find my first experience with Wilderness Travel to be one of the highest caliber."

Lynda B. Villa Ridge MO with exquisite architecture, and leads all the way to Innsbruck, Austria. Our route (we cross all borders on foot!) brings us 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. Along the way, we savor delicious farm-totable meals and local delights including *sciatt*, a beignet filled with tangy cheese, and aromatic 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 nearby cellar.

### Days 4-7 Livigno, Valle di Fraele / Engadine,

**Switzerland / Davos** In the Valle di Fraele, we hike past sparkling lakes to the alpine village of Livigno, surrounded by mountains and offering a wonderful "end of the road" ambiance. A narrow trail brings us across the border into the pristine wilderness of Switzerland's Parc Naziunal Svizzer, and from Davos, we 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 here 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. In the dramatic setting of Innsbruck, we explore its cobbled streets and Baroque architecture, then catch 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 footWine tasting, delicious meals in
- agriturismos and at family farms
- Serene mountain valleys, tiny alpine villages, the snowy peaks of the Alps
- Exquisite Bergamo Alto, encircled by 16th century walls, beautiful Bormio, renowned for its natural hot springs, medieval Innsbruck, cradled by mountains
- Wonderful accommodations, from an atmospheric spa hotel to a mountain-top aerie we reach by funicular

### DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in Bergamo, Italy, and ends in Innsbruck, Austria
- 11 nights hotels
- All meals included except 2 dinners
- All transport during the trip included (funiculars, cable cars, etc.)

### DATES

Jul 10-21, 2018 Aug 7-18 Aug 28-Sep 8

### TRIP COST

\$5895 (11-15 members) \$6495 (5-10 members) Single supplement: \$790

### 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

One of Europe's most spectacular settings is the Dolomites, where enormous rock spires soar dreamlike

"This was our first Wilderness Travel trip. It won't be the last. We loved the quality of the leaders, the food and wine, and the many little surprises that WT includes."

Randy and Sarah L.

Denver CO

exhilarating journey brings us into the heart of the stunning Cortina Dolomites, renowned for the regal Tofane Massif and the ghostly pillars of the Tre Cime di Lavaredo. With a choice of moderate or challenging hiking options each day, we'll experience incredible mountain scenery and delight in northern Italy's savory cuisine, including creamy polenta with porcini mushrooms or *casunziei* (beet and poppyseed ravioli). Our special overnight in a

above enchanting valleys and villages. Our

remote hike-in lodge gives us a perfect perch for watching the sunset paint the massive pinnacles an extraordinary palette of ever-changing, luminous hues.

Our trails lead to wonderfully secluded spots and stunning views of the dramatic peaks of the Dolomites. PHOTO: BARBARA BANKS



### Days 1-3 Venice / Passo Giau /

**Civetta Massif** Our hikes start right from our delightful Passo Giau hotel and bring us through beautiful meadows to Ambrizolla Pass, with stunning views of the Tofane Massif. Other hikes lead into the magnificent Civetta Massif, with its famous six-mile-wide north face, "the wall of walls," while an easier ramble through meadows and woodlands carries us beneath the soaring Tofane peaks to a lakeside restaurant for a cappuccino and pastry.

### Day 4 Rifugio Lagazuoi A

challenging hike (with easier options) rewards us with panoramas stretching from Tofane to Marmolada (10,965'), the "Queen of the Dolomites," as we head to Rifugio Lagazuoi, where we'll experience a wondrous sunset from a top-of-theworld setting.

### Days 5-8 Cortina d'Ampezzo /

Tre Cime di Lavaredo Walking right from our rifugio, we circle the peaks of the Tofane via a remote valley dotted with wildflowers and crystal-clear springs, and with chamoix grazing 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. We also enter the world of the famous Tre Cime di Lavaredo, three yellow-pink spires that offer quintessential Dolomites hiking. Depart on Day 8 via Venice, or extend your stay in this glorious city.





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 dinnerAll transport during the trip included
- (cable cars, etc.)

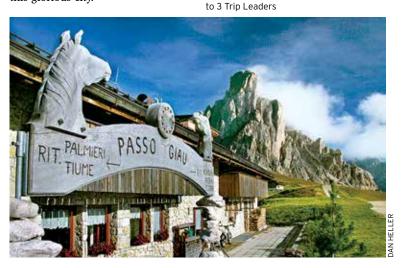
### DATES

Jun 23-30, 2018 Aug 25-Sep 1 Jul 14-21 Sep 10-17 Aug 4-11

TRIP COST

\$4395 (10-15 members) \$4795 (4-9 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



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Craggy peaks, high mountain trails, pristine lakes, a fascinating blend of cultures—the Dolomites are a hiker's wonderland

## Ultimate Dolomites SPECTACULAR PEAKS AND SOUTHERN TYROLEAN HERITAGE

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! We've crafted the ultimate experience of this epic realm, a breathtaking hiking journey that brings us from the pinnacles of the Pale di San Martino in the south to the rose-tinted spires of the Rosengarten Massif and the Tre Cime di Lavaredo in the north, where three ethereal pillars soar to the heavens. Along the way we'll fuel our 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. With up to three Trip Leaders and a choice of hiking options most days, mountain hiking doesn't get more spectacular than this!

**Days 1-3 Venice / Pale di San Martino** From Venice, we head to San Martino di Castrozza for hikes across three mountain summits and a high-level circuit of the altipiano of the Pale di San Martino, with its crown of grand peaks and vivid alpine flora. Days 4-5 Rosengarten / Latemar Massif / Alpe di Siusi 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 us through the Latemar Labyrinth, an enchanting maze of needles and massive blocks of rock. In Bolzano, we view Otzi, the mummy of a Copper Age hunter, or visit Reinhold Messner's museum, housed in a medieval castle. High mountain trails bring us to a wonderfully situated hike-in lodge set among the peaks of the Alpe di Siusi, Europe's largest high alpine plateau.

### Days 6-8 Alpe di Siusi / Corvara / Sella

**Massif** A traverse across the Alpe di Siusi brings us down into the Val Gardena, where the ancient Ladin language is still spoken in a few remaining enclaves. 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 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 or
- visit the Messner museum

### 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 2-13, 2018 Jul 23-Aug 3 Sep 3-14

### TRIP COST

\$5995 (11-15 members) \$6495 (4-10 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



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Superb hikes in an uncrowded alpine realm, where emerald meadows lie beneath sheer limestone peaks
- Logarska Dolina National Park, where waterfalls abound in a sheer amphitheater of stone
- Enchanting Ljubljana, exquisite Lake Bled (we cross by gondola), beautiful Piran on the Adriatic shore

 Renowned local wines, a delightful cuisine including savory *žlikrofi* (Slovenian ravioli), dinner at one of the "World's 50 Best Restaurants"

#### DETAILS

11-day trip begins and ends in Ljubljana
10 nights hotels

All meals included except 2 dinners

### DATES

May 15-25, 2018 Jun 15-25 Jul 24-Aug 3 Sep 6-16

**TRIP COST** \$4895 (11-15 members) \$5395 (4-10 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

Our hiking journey reveals Slovenia's exceptional beauty, including Lake Bled, framed by the craggy peaks of the Julian Alps. <code>PHOTO: JAN WLODARCZYK</code>



# Hiking in Slovenia ADVENTURES FROM THE JULIAN ALPS TO THE ADRIATIC SEA

From enchanting Ljubljana to the high peaks and mountain lakes of the sharp-edged Julian Alps and the unforgettable towns and villages of the sun-splashed Mediterranean coast, Slovenia offers a spellbinding—and largely undiscovered world of adventure. Our exclusive journey brings us deep into this stunning realm, with hikes through dramatic gorges laced with meandering rivers and glacier-carved valleys flanked by steep limestone peaks, and a boat ride to an island in dreamy Lake Bled. Along the way we savor fresh seafood at charming

waterfront cafes and overnight at welcoming hotels, including Hisa Franko, where we dine at its acclaimed restaurant—the chef, Ana Ros, was recently named the "World's Best Female Chef!"

### 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 towering snow-dusted peaks.

### 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 us across the fairytale setting of Lake Bled to reach its exquisite 17th century island-church, followed by a hike through sun-dappled beech forests along the tumbling jade-green river that cuts through Mostnica Gorge.

**Days 7-8 Mt. Krn / Dreznica / Kobarid** After a hike below the face of the glorious North Triglav Wall, 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.

**Days 9-11 Piran** Slovenia's coastal karst region is renowned 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, a 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.

### WWW.WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM/TRIPS/EUROPE



"Slovenia should be on everyone's list of places to travel. It's so beautiful and WT's itinerary couldn't be better, a rich combination of hiking, culture, and adventure."

CB B., Santa Fe NM

# Corsica & Sardinia HIKING THE EXQUISITE ISLAND WORLDS OF FRANCE AND ITALY



Our hikes have been designed to reveal the best of these two island realms.

The beautiful Mediterranean islands of Corsica and Sardinia are a world apart from the rest of Europe, and offer gorgeous hiking country, vibrant traditions, and savory cuisines born of the land and sea. We'll discover the islands' unique enchantments as we follow trails along turquoise bays ringed by whitesand beaches, hike into secluded mountain enclaves where wildflowers flourish, and uncover mystical prehistoric sites that evoke a storied past. With charming picture-postcard villages, special private lunches with the locals, hearty red wines and tasty cheeses, and Trip Leaders who utterly adore this corner of the world and know it well, this is an unforgettable journey!

Days 1-4 Ajaccio, Corsica / Col de Bavella / Bonifacio Exhilarating hikes on Corsica bring us from the ancient standing stones at Filitosa and Cauria, created by a Neolithic people some 8,000 years ago, to a deserted beach (the wonderful setting for our delightful picnic lunch), and around the mountaintop setting of the Col de Bavella (4,000'), with its sharp pinnacles and far-reaching views of the sea. In the cliff-perched town of Bonifacio, we'll hike along limestone bluffs above the sea, discover its maze of tiny streets with a Renaissance flavor, 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 5-7 Alghero, Sardinia / Monte Ferru In Sardinia, our trails lead along a granite promontory with dramatic coves, sea-sculpted rocks, and the remains of a Roman quarry, to a 2,500-year-old stone megalithic tower. In the wild interior, we hike up the flanks of Monte Ferru, with its forests of cork oak and herb-scented maquis.

Days 8-11 Sinis Peninsula / Tiscali A hike on the Sinis Peninsula reveals 360-degree views of the dazzling clear blue sea, and after a traditional lunch prepared by local fishermen, we taste wines at a nearby winery or view the Phoenician ruins of Tharros. Our final hikes bring us to mysterious 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. A stay at the incomparable Hotel Su Gologone is a glorious grand finale to our adventure. Depart on Day 11.

### ON OUR WEBSITE PAGAN FESTIVALS OF SARDINIA

In rural Sardinia, discover ancient festivals that celebrate the cycle of life. Feb 27-Mar 8, 2019.



### 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 24-May 4, 2018 May 22-Jun 1 Sep 11-21

### TRIP COST

\$5595 (10-14 members) \$5995 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$610

### 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



# Great Hikes & Chefs of Northern Italy's Gourmet Trail PIEMONTE, LOMBARDIA, AND THE VENETO

Renowned for its exquisite scenery and culinary delights, Northern Italy is the perfect setting for our award-winning journey combining lovely day hikes with elegant meals

"We loved the varied hikes, cultural activities, fabulous dining, and great atmosphere created by our guides. Our second WT trip and we're looking forward to more." created by some of Italy's Michelin-starred chefs. Our travels bring you on a breathtaking arc from Torino, nestled against the Alps, through Lombardia, with its dazzling mountainringed lakes, to Verona in the Veneto, with its artistic and cultural heritage. Glorious walks across rolling

hills, along lakeshore trails,

Pam B., Newton Center MA

and through flourishing vineyards are perfectly paired with superb meals featuring delectable wines, prosciutto and cheese tastings, a cooking class, and overnights in elegant hotels. It's a delicious adventure!

Days 1-3 Torino / Ivrea / Orta San Giulio Our culinary discoveries begin at a Michelin-starred restaurant set in an ancient castle in elegant Torino. From enchanting Orta San Giulio, set on Lake Orta in the famed Italian Lakes District, we hike in the Mottarone Mountains, with their panoramas of the Swiss Alps, and lunch at the Luigi Guffanti cheese grottos, family-run since 1876 and named one of the 10 best cheese-producing operations in the world by the *Wall Street Journal*.

### Days 4-5 Monferrato / Antica Corte

**Pallavicina** After hiking across the rolling hills of Piemonte's Monferrato, one of Italy's most important wine districts, we head to the lovingly restored Antica Corte Pallavicina, a family farm producing fine *salumi*. We visit its venerable 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, whose thermal springs have made it a spa destination since Roman times. Beloved by artists and poets through the ages, the peninsula has been called "a corner of paradise on earth." We explore Verona, fabled home of Romeo and Juliet, before departing on Day 9.

### ON OUR WEBSITE TRUFFLES & BAROLO

Villages and hikes, perfectly paired with the cuisine of Piemonte, with Stefano Baldi. Oct 22-29, 2018. From \$4795.

Enchanting Orta San Giulio is just one of our breathtaking stops on this alluring journey of landscapes and fine cuisine. PHOTO: DAVIDE ERBETTA









#### 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 Proseccol
- Savor delicious gourmet meals (several in Michelin-starred restaurants), enjoy
- delightful villas and exquisite hotelsHike 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, 2018 Sep 13-21 Oct 11-19

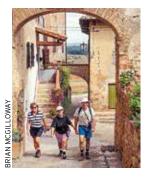
**TRIP COST** \$5995 (11-16 members) \$6495 (5-10 members) Single supplement: \$630

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 (2+) 3 4 5 6 7 A mix of moderate walks and hikes, 2-4 hours a day, van support



# Italy's Pilgrim Trail FROM SIENA TO ROME ALONG THE VIA FRANCIGENA

Lace up your hiking boots and join us on the legendary Via Francigena, the medieval pilgrimage trail that led from northern Europe to Rome. We'll be following the most beautiful sections of this route, with hikes linking historic towns including San Quirico d'Orcia, arguably one of Italy's loveliest hilltop villages, 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. We'll follow trails 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!* 

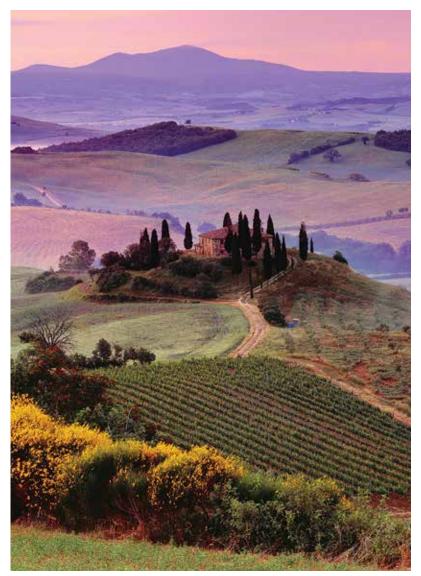
Days 1-4 Siena / Buonconvento / San Quirico d'Orcia / Lago di Bolsena / Montefiascone From ravishing Siena, we

hike trails lined by fields of sunflowers and

avenues of tall cypress trees to the medieval walled town of Buonconvento, one of the *piu belli borghi d'Italia* (most beautiful villages in Italy). Contouring golden wheat fields, we reach the unspoiled village of San Quirico d'Orcia, where our hotel is a beautifully restored 15th century building. Our trail crosses a small section of cobbled Roman road as we head above deep blue Lago di Bolsena to the citadel town of Montefiascone, with its papal fortress offering stunning views across the lake. 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 (the region known as Est! Est! Est! di Montefiascone), we reach Viterbo, whose historic city center is surrounded by still-intact medieval walls. In Sutri, with its well-preserved Etruscan, Roman, and Renaissance treasures, we see the spectacular Roman amphitheater, a masterpiece excavated from tufa rock. We also explore Monterosi, once a major stop on the pilgrim trail, the Parco Valle del Treja, which protects a stretch of rocky gorges and mixed oak forest, and the picturesque village of Isola Farnese, perched on a rock outcrop. This tiny village has a fascinating history—a member of the Farnese family became Pope Paul III.

**Days 9-10 Rome** From our castle-hotel nestled in the countryside, we hike into Rome, pausing for an incredible panorama of the Eternal City 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, flanked by the Vatican and St. Peter's Basilica. Leaving our pilgrim staffs by the door, we enter the revered sanctuary of the Basilica. We can watch Sunday mass right from our hotel—the only one right in front of the Basilica—before departing on Day 10.



Our hikes on this historic route lead to enchanting villages and fascinating ruins. PHOTO: OLIMPIO FANTUZ

• 10-day trip begins in

historic propertiesAll meals included except

Apr 27-May 6, 2018

Siena and ends in Rome

• 9 nights hotels, including

DETAILS

2 dinners

Sep 28-Oct 7

DATES

### 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



### TRIP COST

\$4995 (11-14 members) \$5495 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$560

### TRIPLEVEL

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



### FOR MORE DETAILS ON OUR EUROPEAN TRIPS, VISIT WWW.WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM/TRIPS/EUROPE 53

# Tuscany, Portofino & the Cinque Terre FROM MEDIEVAL HILLTOWNS TO THE LIGURIAN SEA

The ochre-hued hilltowns of Tuscany, Cinque Terre's spectacular coastal hamlets, and the cypress-clad harbors of the Italian Riviera are the perfect settings for our stunning hiking and cultural adventure. Experience these enchanting regions the WT way, with unique hikes, bountiful picnics, wine tasting, and savoring the joys of Italian life and culture. Between Tuscany and the sparkling sea, we visit private wine cellars, hike to an organic farm, climb balcony trails, learn the secrets of pesto-making, and have a private alfresco dinner at our own exclusive villa. Our Trip Leaders bring this land to life for us every day, sharing their passion for *la dolce vita*.



**Day 1 Fiesole / Florence** From Fiesole, overlooking Florence, we hike to the gorgeous town of Settignano, once home to the artist Michelangelo, with views stretching down to Brunelleschi's grand Duomo.

Days 2-3 Chianti / Casali Val di Chio / Cortona The green hills, stone villages, and famous vineyards of Chianti surround us on our hike (with a stop for wine tasting!), and we explore the classic hill town of Cortona of *Under the Tuscan Sun* fame. Our overnights are in a Tuscan dream: stone-built villas that are part of a 15th century private estate. We'll be welcomed to the olive orchards and the estate's wine cellar for a taste of its robust red wine.

**Days 4-5 Pienza / San Gimignano / Volterra** We savor the beauty of medieval Pienza, hike to a family farm for lunch, explore the Renaissance town of Montepulciano, and visit Etruscan Volterra. One hike brings us through olive groves and fields of sunflowers right through the gates of San Gimignano as the late afternoon sun casts its glow on the medieval towers.

Days 6-7 Cinque Terre / Vernazza / Corniglia Our trails lead through Cinque Terre's vineyards to a chapel overlooking the sea, and along the rocky coast from impossibly picturesque Vernazza, with its brightly painted homes and cobbled piazze, to tiny Corniglia, on a promontory 300 feet above the Mediterranean.

Days 8-10 Italian Riviera / Portofino From elegant Portofino, with its pastel-colored tower-houses, a balcony trail brings us to the picturesque village of San Fruttuoso for a seaside lunch—perhaps steamed mussels or fresh grilled calamari—and a chance for a post-hike dip. Depart on Day 10.

From Tuscany to the sea, we discover the beauty of Italy in the most exquisite settings imaginable. PHOTO: FRANCESCO RICCARDO IACOMINO





### HIGHLIGHTS

- Fiesole, an ancient town overlooking magnificent Florence
- Medieval hilltowns of Montepulciano, Pienza, and San Gimignano
- Cliff-perched coastal villages of Cinque Terre
- The Italian Riviera's charming towns, including elegant Portofino
- Delightful accommodations, including a private estate owned by an Italian noble family

### DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins in Fiesole and ends in Pisa
- 9 nights fine hotels, including a restored palazzo
- All meals included except 2 dinners

### DATES

May 1-10, 2018 May 23-Jun 1 Sep 5-14 Sep 19-28

TRIP COST

\$5595 (11-14 members) \$6095 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$1050

### 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



# Italy's Lake District HIKES, LAKES, VILLAS, AND ISLANDS

One of the world's most exquisite landscapes is Italy's enchanting Lake District, beloved by poets, writers, and artists since the days of the Roman Empire. Our journey in this incredibly scenic setting brings us to verdant mountains sheltering gleaming deep blue lakes, captivating towns like Varenna spilling down the hillsides, and to Bellagio's opulent villas and gardens with rose-laden promenades. We explore the environs of four of these magical lakes—Como, Lugano, Maggiore, and serene Orta—as we hike age-old paths to hidden stone villages with tiny chapels, boat to Isola Bella, with its magnificent palatial villa (with an overnight at neighboring Isola dei Pescatori), and hike high above the

### "Magical, magnificent—this trip is an absolute 'must-do'."

Nancy S., San Diego CA

lakes for unforgettable top-of-the-world views of the Alps-é perfezione!

**Days 1-2 Varenna / Villa Balbianello / Bellagio** In Varenna, a beguiling town of pastel-colored houses hugging the shores of Lake Como, we explore the medieval Castle of Vezio, once a Roman fortress, and

the Villa Balbianello, with its exquisite gardens and fascinating artifacts. Ferrying across Lake Como, we hike up Monte San Primo (5,528') to a mountain rifugio for spectacular lake views and a lunch of local delicacies that often include *miascia*, a cake made with fresh mint and walnuts. We then visit Bellagio, a storybook town of gracious villas and terraced gardens.

Days 3-4 San Salvatore / Cannobio / Carmine Superiore A funicular brings us to the top of San Salvatore, 3,000 feet above Lugano, with magnificent views of the Swiss and Savoy Alps (and in clear weather, Lakes Como, Lugano, Maggiore, and Varese). From the top, we hike through forests and meadows to Carona, with its historic center and delightful botanical gardens. After exploring Cannobio and its beautiful waterfront promenade, we hike to Carmine Superiore, a tiny medieval village accessible only on foot.

**Days 5-6 Isola Bella and Isola dei Pescatori / Mottarone Mountains / Orta San Giulio** We visit the splendid Villa Borromeo on Isola Bella, and walk the cobbled alleys and seaside promenade of Isola dei Pescatori, with an overnight right on the island. In the Mottarone Mountains, we enjoy a loop hike with 360-degree views of the Alps, including Monte Rosa, Monviso, and the Jungfrau in Switzerland.

**Days 7-9 Orta San Giulio** From Orta San Giulio, a jewel of a town set on tranquil Lake Orta, we hike on an ancient footpath through villages on the slopes of Monte Alto, passing farmhouses, a 13th century tower, and the impressive Villa Broglio, followed by a memorable lunch at the family-run Luigi Guffanti cheese grottoes. Our last hike brings us along historic paths beneath old chestnut trees and through pristine villages that look as if they came straight out of a painting. Depart on Day 9.





Lovely lakeside towns and great hikes create a wonderful adventure! PHOTO ABOVE: SCOTT S. WARREN

### DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins in Varenna and ends
- in Milan
- 8 nights charming hotels
- All meals included except 2 dinners

DATES Jun 3-11, 2018 Sep 23-Oct 1

### TRIP COST

\$5095 (11-15 members) \$5495 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$620

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

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### HIGHLIGHTS

- Exhilarating hikes with spectacular views of mountains and sparkling lakes
- Undiscovered Varenna, the magnificent town of Bellagio, Orta San Giulio, with its cobbled streets and lakeside views
- The delights of northern Italian cuisine, including trailside picnics in idyllic locations
- Overnights in beautiful lakeside hotels, including a night on Isola dei Pescatori, a tiny island in Lake Maggiore



Our journey brings you through lovely seaside towns with exquisite views of the Mediterranean, and on village to village hikes on age-old trails.



### 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 16-24, 2018 May 14-22 Sep 17-25 Oct 10-18

TRIP COST

\$5295 (7-14 members) \$5695 (3-6 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

### Amalfi & Capri RAVELLO, MT. VESUVIUS, AND SPECTACULAR COASTAL HIKES

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, to the

fantastic vistas of the sea, and

along the brooding crater rim

of Vesuvius. In addition to our

hikes, we'll watch mozzarella

sample it, of course!), visit a

family-run olive oil farm, and

explore the haunting remains

di bufala being made (and

summit of Monte Solaro for

"Unbelievable! We enjoyed every minute and could never have experienced any of it without our Trip Leader's expertise. I rate this trip a 10+++++!"

Denise M. Colorado Springs CO

> 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 adventure begins 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, we hike a steep trail that winds up staircases and paths to the entrancing hillside town of Ravello, set 1,200 feet above the sea. This elegant town, with its sunny climate, has attracted writers, artists, and musicians for centuries. Our next day's hike is a leisurely descent from Ravello to the seaside town of Amalfi.

### Days 4-7 Sentiero degli Dei / Positano /

**Capri / Sorrento** The spectacular *Sentiero degli Dei* ("Pathway of the Gods") brings us past ancient stone huts and across steeply terraced hillsides to Positano, with its brightly painted houses draped in bougainvillea. Ferrying to the storied isle of Capri, we set off on hikes that lead along stone-paved lanes to the ruins of imperial Roman villas and to the summit of Monte Solaro, with its eye-popping views across the azure sea. In sunny Sorrento, we visit an olive oil farm run by the same family since 1849 and hike through lemon and walnut groves.

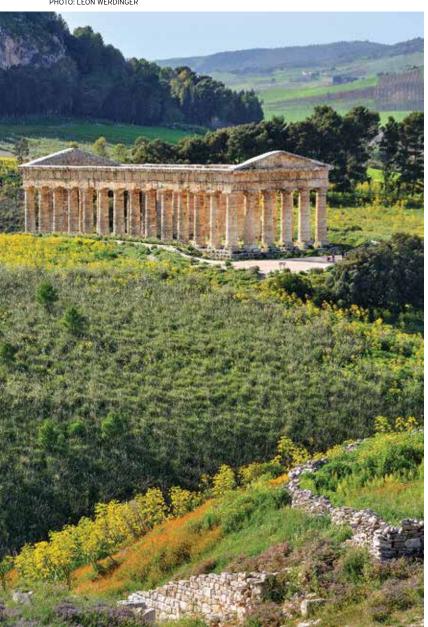
**Days 8-9 Mt. Vesuvius / Naples** Our last hike is on Mt. Vesuvius, with a chance to peer into the steaming abyss of the volcanic caldera, followed by lunch and wine tasting at a winery on its slopes. Depart on Day 9 via Naples.

# Hiking in Sicily GREEK AND ROMAN RUINS, COASTAL AND MOUNTAIN HIKES

Sicily is a sun-drenched world all its own, with a fascinating 3,000-year-old history and a flourishing blend of cultures. On this captivating island, we'll hike coastal trails above a turguoise 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, we'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 / Coastal Nature Reserve / Monreale / Cefalú Our exploration of Segesta's stunning, well-preserved Greek temple is followed by a cove-to-cove hike above the turquoise sea at either the Monte Cofano or Zingaro nature reserves. A hike through vineyards and fruit orchards ends at a welcoming agriturismo, where we lunch on regional

Built in the 5th century BC, Segesta is one of the most inspiring Doric temples in the world. PHOTO: LEON WERDINGER



specialties. Monreale's 12th century cathedral is one of Europe's medieval treasures, and we see its dazzling collection of gilded Greek and Byzantine mosaics. From the seaside town of Cefalú, we head to the Madonie Mountains, the "true" Sicily of tiny mountain villages, farms, and shepherds, for a hike through oak, maple, and holly woodlands.

### Days 5-8 Piazza Armerina / Pantalica Gorge / Siracusa

We view the extraordinary Roman-African mosaics of the Villa Romana del Casale near Piazza Armerina, then enjoy wine tasting at our agriturismo and a cooking class (we'll savor the results at dinner!). A hike in the Pantalica Gorge reveals thousands of Neolithic tombs carved into the canyon walls, and in Siracusa, once a very powerful city-state, we explore breathtaking Greek and Roman ruins.

### Days 9-11 Mt. Etna / Taormina

On Mt. Etna, we travel by cable car and 4WD bus to 9,500 feet, where our hike leads across extraordinary lava landscapes. Taormina is perched high above two sweeping bays, and we explore the town's palazzi-lined streets and 3rd century BC Greek amphitheater, still in use for concerts today. 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. Sep 24-Oct 4, 2018. From \$5395.





### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the spectacular trails of a coastal reserve, the mountain gorge of Pantalica. and the lavascapes of Mt. Etna
- Explore Neolithic rock tombs, the gilded mosaics of Monreale. Norman cathedrals. the Greek temple of Segesta
- · Discover seaside Cefalú, 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 13-23, 2018 Sep 7-17 May 11-21 Oct 6-16 Jun 2-12

TRIP COST \$5395 (11-15 members) \$5895 (4-10 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, 1 day hike to 10,000 feet (Mt. Etna), van support, team of up to 3 Trip Leaders



## Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country MOUNTAIN TRAILS AND ANCIENT CULTURES OF EUSKADI

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

"This was my first Wilderness Travel trip—I am impressed! I can't think of a better way to see this country. Everything about the experience was superlative."

Harry J., San Francisco CA



### 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 ancient stone monuments
- Savor a Welcome Dinner at a Michelinstarred restaurant
- Private wine tastings, cooking class, and picnics including renowned Basque cheeses
- Charming hotels, including a Barogue manor house, a historic grain mill-turnedhotel, and a family-run riverside inn

#### 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 22-31, 2018 Aug 28-Sep 6 Jun 19-28 Sep 18-27

TRIP COST \$5595 (11-15 members) \$5995 (4-10 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



of the most gorgeous hiking in all Spain. On our captivating hiking and cultural adventure, we follow smugglers' paths into hidden valleys where sheep and horses graze, and cross spectacular high trails to travel from Spain into France-on foot! Eating well is the second religion of the Basques, and between our hikes, we'll enjoy a cooking class, sip superb red Rioja wines, sample tangy cheeses, and savor dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant. Ongi etorri! (Welcome!)

Days 1-5 Bilbao / La Rioja / Cantabrian Mountains / Navarre High Country Basque lore and legend is all around us on hikes amid the hidden rock labyrinths of Gorbea Natural Park and the limestone peaks and lush meadows of Urkiola National Park. In the steep and craggy Cantabrian Mountains, our trails lead to a 1,000-year-old castle of the former kingdom of Navarre and in the footsteps of mountain tribes who settled here 6,000 years ago. On one afternoon, we'll join a private cooking class of La Rioja specialties or taste wines with a master winemaker, in the cellar of our charming hotel.

Days 6-7 High Route of the Pyrenees From Roncesvalles Pass, where the Basques defeated Charlemagne's army in 778, we hike right into France

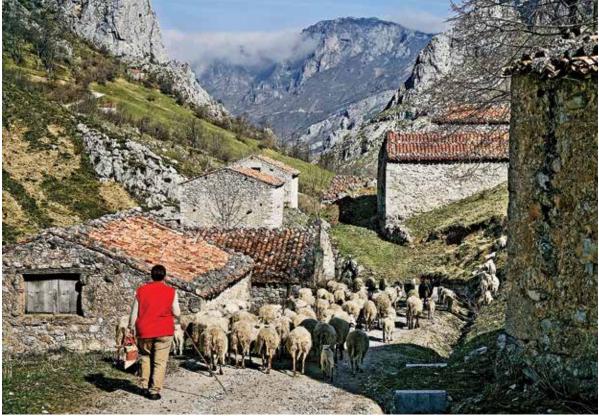


on the spectacular Pyrenees High Route, passing mysterious stone megaliths, then head back into Spain and the remote Aldudes Valley, where a much-prized cured ham is produced.

Days 8-10 Bidarray, France / Hondarribia, Spain

On the grassy slopes of Mt. Atxuria, we 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.

Our native Basque Trip Leaders love sharing their regional culture and cuisine—and they'll make you feel right at home! PHOTO: JOAN MERCADAL





On this pilgrimage journey, we hike the best sections of this classic trail, ending at legendary Kilometer 0 at Finisterre.

# Pilgrim's Way Ancient trails and PARADORS OF NORTHERN SPAIN'S CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

Be part of a thousand-year-old pilgrimagethe Way of St. James-through some of Spain's loveliest landscapes. We've selected the most evocative portions for our journey, which brings us from the ancient kingdom of Castile to mystical Galicia, a hidden corner of Spain alive with legends and Celtic heritage, and on to the holy city of Santiago de Compostela. Our hikes lead along sunny country lanes marked with the scallop shell, the symbol of St. James, through mistshrouded forests of gnarled oaks, and we finish with a special hike along the beach at Finisterre, Kilometer O on the pilgrim trail. Along the way, we relish superb Romanesque architecture, meet fellow pilgrims, and enjoy splendid accommodations in quaint guesthouses and spectacular paradors.

**Days 1-2 Burgos / León / Astorga** We meet in historic Burgos, then head to the Castilian *meseta* (high plain) and join other pilgrims as we hike to the remote village of Hontanas. A journey across the sun-splashed plains of Castile brings us to the engaging city of Léon, and we explore its leafy squares and 12th century frescoes before heading to the walled city of Astorga.

### Days 3-5 Cruz de Hiero / O'Cebreiro /

**Portomarin** Entering rural Galicia, we hike past thriving farmsteads and tiny villages to Cruz de Hiero, a towering iron cross where for a thousand years pilgrims have carried a single stone from their homeland to make a wish (be sure to bring yours!). In the mountaintop village of O'Cebreiro, we visit a small church whose chalice is linked in legend with the Holy Grail. Some of the most beautiful stretches of the entire pilgrim trail—jewelgreen fields, ancient stone walls, and meadows where shepherds tend their herds—await us as we head to the whitewashed village of Portomarin.

### Days 6-9 La Coruña / Santiago de

**Compostela / Finisterre** Following trails through eucalyptus forests, hamlets, and farms flanked by ancient grain silos, we arrive in Santiago, a beautiful medieval city of golden granite. We explore this sacred site, and in the extraordinary twin-towered limestone cathedral that reputedly contains the remains of St. James, have a chance to attend the noon mass with a jostling crowd of pilgrims from around the world. We complete our pilgrimage with a hike to Finisterre—the "end of the earth," following tradition by walking the last part of the trail barefoot along the beach. Depart on Day 9.



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the most beautiful sections of one of Europe's revered pilgrimage routes
- Complete the final hike at Finisterre, the westernmost point on the Iberian
- Peninsula

  Enjoy Galician cuisine, famous for its seafood, and some of its delicious cheeses including creamy tetilla
- 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

Apr 24-May 2, 2018 May 29-Jun 6 Sep 7-15 Sep 25-Oct 3

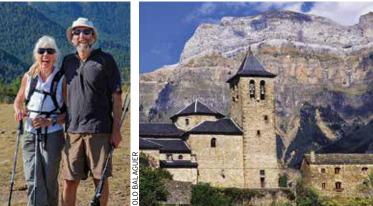
TRIP COST

\$4295 (10-15 members) \$4695 (4-9 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





Our trails lead to glacier-carved valleys and to stone-built villages lost in time. PHOTO: SEBASTIAN WASEK



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike in breathtaking Ordesa National Park, with its sheer limestone canyons and network of dramatic *fajas* (trails)
  Discover hidden stone villages and high
- trails of 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

 May 20-28, 2018
 Sep 2-10

 Jul 22-30
 Oct 7-15

### TRIP COST \$5095 (11-15 members)

\$5495 (4-10 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

## Across the Pyrenees AN INSIDER'S JOURNEY FROM PAMPLONA TO BARCELONA

The high peaks of the Spanish Pyrenees soar above an enchanting realm of ancient oak and fir forests, stone bridges, and remote villages linked by shepherds' paths. We've selected the best hikes for our journey that traces an arc across this storied land. Our trails bring us through verdant valleys where the ancient Aragonese dialect is still spoken, up to craggy alpine heights where mountain goats scramble, and to stone villages where age-old traditions still flourish. Along the way, we enjoy fantastic local cuisine *"I loved this* 

(both on and off the trail!) and meet the welcoming Basque, Aragonese, and Catalan people who make this area of northern Spain so intriguing. "I loved this trip, from the guides to the hikes, to the food and wine, all among beautiful landscapes and an enriching culture. A spectacular trip!"

### Days 1-3 Pamplona / Ordesa National Park From Pamplona, we head right to

the mountains for a hike from the remote medieval village of Anso, once so isolated that its inhabitants spoke their own

Leela H., Woodstock NY

dialect, to Siresa, a village of cobbled streets and splendid old stone houses. In Ordesa National Park, a spectacular glacier-carved valley crowned by steep 10,000-foot peaks, we savor 360-degree mountain panoramas on our hike to the Cola de Caballo, a waterfall just below the sheer face of Monte Perdido (11,000').

**Days 4-6 Aiguestortes National Park** 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 right from our hotel along the banks of the Ara River, with its tumbling rapids. Another hike brings us up a riverside trail amid granite rock formations to stunning Sant Maurici, where craggy peaks are mirrored in blue-green waters. On one day, we lunch in a bodega offering traditional *ternasco asado*, or grilled Pyrenees leg of lamb.

Days 7-9 Andorra / Barcelona In Andorra, the tiny principality nestled in the peaks between France and Spain, our panoramic 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.

### ON OUR WEBSITE ANDALUCIA AND THE ALPUJARRAS

Hiking and cultural adventure from Granada to Sevilla, including the whitewashed *pueblos blancos* of Andalucia. May 19-27, Sep 22-30, 2018. From \$4395.

# 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 gois 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 velvety 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, 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 gois, stopping in at a local home for tea and walking village-tovillage to soak up views of the deep green valleys spread below. We also roam Lousã's

lively covered market (a chance to sip herbbased licor beirão) and hike in the Serra da Estrela below the rock towers of the glaciercarved Zêzere Valley.

Days 5-7 Belmonte / Douro Wine Tasting / Pinhão / Peneda-Gerês We explore castletopped 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 We join the pilgrim trail to the sanctuary at Peneda, with its staircase adorned with statues representing faith, love, and charity, then visit charming Ponte de Lima. Our last 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 2 lunches and 1 dinner

#### DATES

Apr 24-May 5, 2018 May 14-25 Sep 4-15 Oct 2-13

### TRIP COST

\$5195 (9-15 members) \$5595 (5-8 members) Single supplement: \$580

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

Exhilarating hikes through an exquisite countryside, charming villages, delightful port wine tastings-come along and discover Portugal with us!



# Hiking in the Land of the Cathars MEDIEVAL VILLAGES OF THE LANGUEDOC

Discover the wild mountains and hidden history of Languedoc, one of southern France's most intriguing realms. We'll learn the long-lost tales of the medieval Cathars as we hike from castle to castle across vineyards and rosemaryscented hills, discovering rock-perched 13th century fortresses with views stretching to the snow-capped Pyrenees. Between hikes, we'll hear the songs of poet-troubadors in the fabulous Château des Ducs de Joyeuse, one of our atmospheric hotels, meet a traditional village baker and a goat-cheese maker, and join in the bustling weekly farmers' market in medieval Mirepoix. Come share the richness of this unique area of France with us!

Day 1 Toulouse / Carcassonne In Carcassonne, a magnificent World Heritage Site, we enjoy a day of exploration in the cobbled lanes and an overnight in our magnificent heritage hotel in the fairytale setting of La Cité, with its towering walls and turrets.



### Days 2-3 Queribus / Peyrepertuse /

**Cucugnan** Our first Cathar Trail hikes bring us through quiet villages and vineyards below the mighty Queribus Castle, perched like a bird's nest above the Roussillon plains, to Peyrepertuse Castle, stretching along the crest of a limestone cliff, and to the charming village of Cucugnan.

Days 4-6 Puilaurens / St-Julia-de-Bec We hike the open countryside to the quaint riverside village of Puilaurens, cross the Col du Vent to reach St-Just-et-le-Bezu, a tiny farming hamlet, then make our way to picturesque St-Julia-de-Bec, whose street names are in Occitan, the ancient Romance language also known as the Langue d'Oc.

### Days 7-8 Gorge de la Frau / Montsegur /

**Mirepoix** Panoramas stretch to the snowy Pyrenean Pic de St. Barthelemy (7,700') as we hike over the Col de la Gargante then through the Gorge de La Frau. Another hike starts at the most dramatic of all the Cathar castles, Montsegur, sitting 4,000 feet above the surrounding land. In Mirepoix, a Cathar stronghold and one of the most beautiful towns in southern France, we explore the weekly farmers' market in the square.

**Days 9-10 Roquefixade / Niaux Caves** Our last hike is below the ruined 13th century stronghold of Roquefixade Castle, with views of the jagged Pyrenees. Depart on Day 10 via Toulouse.

### ON OUR WEBSITE MEDIEVAL FRANCE: THE LOT VALLEY

Enjoy country walks, cliff-perched towns, and magnificent châteaux on this exquisite journey. Oct 6-14, 2018. From \$5795.



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Carcassonne, a striking Cathar citadel and World Heritage Site
  Hike to the lofty castles of Pevrepertuse.
- Queribus, and Puilaurens • Enjoy medieval Mirepoix, with its
- fantastic farmers' market, and charming Cucugnan
- Hear the romantic songs of the troubadors, sung in the ancient Occitan language
- Stay in welcoming auberges in historic villages

### DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Toulouse, France
- 9 nights hotels and auberges
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

DATES

May 28-Jun 6, 2018 Sep 17-26

### TRIP COST

\$4995 (10-14 members) \$5395 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$560

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 5-6 hours a day, van support







# Normandy & Brittany COASTAL TRAILS, ANCIENT ABBEYS, AND LEGENDARY CUISINE

With wild, dramatic coastlines, medieval towns, and a bounty of fresh-caught seafood, Normandy and Brittany are perfect for our hiking and cultural adventure. We'll walk the evocative D-Day cliffs and beaches with a historian, cross tidal flats on an amazing walk to iconic Mont

"This trip had an absolutely wonderful combination of history, beautiful coastal scenery, and divine food!"

Jane S., Albuquerque NM

St. Michel, and hike in the magical forests of Carnac, one of the most extensive megalithic sites in the world, with 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

Days 1-5 Bayeux / D-Day Beaches / Mont St. Michel / Côte d'Émeraude After viewing the thousand-year-old Bayeux Tapestry, housed in an 18th century seminary, we head out to Ponte du Hoc, the high cliffs between Utah Beach and

imagineable. C'est merveilleux!

Omaha Beach. To experience the dramatic D-Day landing sites, we'll walk the evocative trails, passing German bunkers and shell holes. In the Bay of Mont St. Michel, an unforgettable hike brings us across 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, home to the tastiest oysters in Brittany (which we'll sample, 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 stone ramparts of Dinan, a 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. We'll explore this car-free island on foot, with stunning vistas back to the 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 crepes). In Carnac, we walk among ancient standing stones that stretch for miles amid burial mounds. Our journey ends with a spectacular coastal walk along the Côte Sauvage, with its windswept line of cliffs braving the Atlantic waves. Depart on Day 11 via Rennes.



### HIGHLIGHTS

- See the 11th century Bayeux Tapestry, a 230-foot-long embroidery illustrating the Norman Conquest of England
- Visit the legendary D-Day sites of Pointe du Hoc and Omaha Beach with a historian
- · Walk to spire-topped Mont St. Michel, France's famous island-abbey
- Hike in the oak forests of Carnac, one of the most important prehistoric sites in Europe
- Savor fresh seafood (and famous ovsters!). 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 28-Jun 7, 2018 Jun 11-21 Sep 3-13

### TRIP COST

\$6295 (12-15 members) \$6695 (9-11 members) \$6895 (4-8 members) Single supplement: \$810

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Easy to moderate trails, 3-6 hours a day, van support

# Hiking in Cornwall HIDDEN COVES, FISHING VILLAGES, AND HIKING THE CORNISH COAST

Set on the western edge of Great Britain, Cornwall is an ancient cultural haven surrounded by the sea and filled with legends. We've chosen the most spectacular sections

### "This trip was AWESOME! Beautiful hikes, amazing seaside towns, great cuisine, fabulous lodging, and an epic Trip Leader with such incredible local knowledge."

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, and soak up the

Kate F., Santa Monica CA

local lore. We'll take full advantage of the flourishing dining scene, including Jamie Oliver's "Fifteen" restaurant—signature dishes with a Cornish twist.

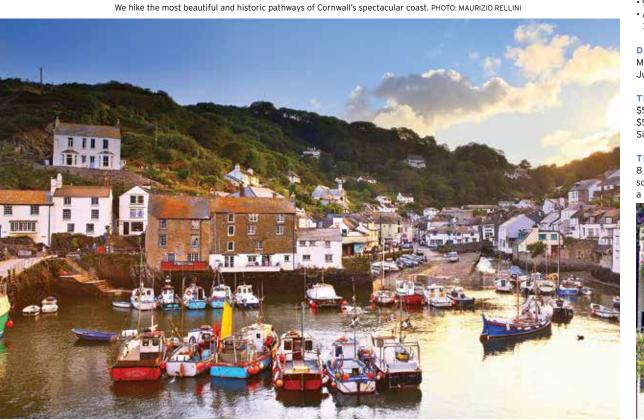
Days 1-3 Padstow / Port Isaac From the working fishing port of Padstow, one of our hikes brings us from the medieval harbor town of Bocastle to the ruins of Tintagel Castle, forever linked with tales of King Arthur. We walk the sands of Constantine Bay past the isolated lighthouse at Trevose Head, and explore the whitewashed "higgledy piggledy" cottages of Port Isaac, a fishing village since the 14th century. One of our dinners is at St. Petroc's Bistro, the acclaimed seafood restaurant of chef Rick Stein.

### Days 4-6 Porthcothan / Land's End / Lamora

**Cove / St. Ives** At the horseshoe-shaped bay of Porthcothan, we walk cliff trails to the impressive volcanic rock stacks called the Bedruthan Steps, and we hike to famed Land's End, the westernmost point in England. Following in the footsteps of pirates and smugglers, we take the trail through photogenic Lamora Cove, tucked beneath the headlands. Our base is St. Ives, a quaint seaside town and a haunt of artists for generations.

### Days 7-10 Fowey / Polperro / Saints' Way

We explore the Lost Gardens of Heligan, a vast estate with botanical collections from the Victorian plant hunters, then ferry across St. Austell Bay to the riverside port of Fowey. One of our hikes brings us from Polperro, with its ancient cottages and fishermen's lofts, to Palruan, with our paths never far from the sea. Another walk circles 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.







#### 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
- Three-night stay at each historic hotel less packing!

#### DETAILS

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

#### DATES

May 7-16, 2018 Jul 2-11 Jun 4-13 Sep 3-12

### TRIP COST

\$5095 (11-14 members) \$5295 (5-10 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



## Adventures in Wales MEDIEVAL CASTLES, COASTAL HIKES, AND MOUNT SNOWDON



Our journey brings you the most incredible coastal and mountain hikes in Wales. PHOTO: DAVID NORTON

A famed cultural and literary heritage and a gorgeous landscape happily converge in Wales. We've created a fantastic hiking adventure that journeys into the verdant Wye Valley, along the wild sandstone bluffs of the Pembrokeshire Coast Path, and up to craggy Mt. Snowdon, the highest peak in Wales and England. As we explore from the castle-topped ridges of the Brecon Beacons to the lakes and mountains of Snowdonia, we'll hear the unique Welsh language, one of Europe's oldest living tongues, meet local scholars, visit Dylan Thomas's home, 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 /

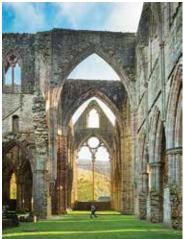
**Brecon Beacons National Park** A hike across the Anglo-Welsh border brings us to the tranquil Wye Valley, a source of inspiration to artists and writers, Wordsworth and Coleridge among them. Our hike ends at the ruins of magnificent 12th century Tintern Abbey, where a historian leads us through the haunting halls. Another hike brings us to the delightful booklover's mecca of Hay-on-Wye, where we 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 historian (with a poet's heart) as our guide, and from St. David's at the westernmost tip of Wales, we hike the dramatic Pembrokeshire Coastal Path, keeping watch for seals basking on the rocks below.

### Days 6-9 Snowdonia National Park / Capel Curig / Snowdon / Caernarfon Castle We

hike from Capel Curig to the lush Conwy Valley, where 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.







### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the best trails of the Pembrokeshire
   Coast Path
- Meet scholars, weavers, climbers, and historians
- Enjoy historic hotels and a home-cooked dinner with a Welsh family
- Savor meals with fresh local ingredients,
- including Gower mussels and Welsh lamb • Discover historic Caernarfon Castle and
- the ruins of Tintern Abbey

#### DETAILS

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

DATES Jun 1-9, 2018 Aug 6-14

### TRIP COST

\$4995 (10-14 members) \$5295 (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

# England Coast to Coast ON FOOT ACROSS ENGLAND'S LEGENDARY LANDSCAPES

The coast-to-coast journey 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 make our way across England's historic and literary landscape and through three

### "Stunning vistas, fun company, and great hikes. We had a blast!"

Barbara K. Kenilworth IL magnificent national parks. We bring you from west to east, putting the prevailing wind and weather at your back as we traverse the romantic Lake District, the upland pastures of the Yorkshire Dales, and the

dramatic purple-heather moors of Bronte Country. Our journey's end is at Robin Hood's Bay on the wild North Sea, where we dip our boots in the water, the traditional end to this grand hike. 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!

**Days 1-6 Irish Sea / Lake District National Park** At Ravenglass, we christen our boots in the Irish Sea, then hike the Lake District's famously scenic landscapes of sapphire lakes and craggy peaks. After we visit William 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. This is a milestone in our journey—the last vantage point to have a final look back at the fells of Lakeland.

### 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.



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Savor the exquisite 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

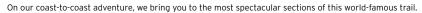
### DATES

May 20-Jun 2, 2018 Jun 17-30 Jul 22-Aug 4 Aug 19-Sep 1 Sep 9-22

### TRIP COST

\$6095 (9-14 members) \$6695 (6-8 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





# Great Peaks of Scotland, England, and Wales

STUNNING HIKES AND CULTURAL ADVENTURES



You'll enjoy challenging hikes, extraordinary landscapes, and three distinct cultures on our unique journey. PHOTO: STEWART SMITH

Three legendary peaks crown the British Isles: mighty Snowdon in the wild north of Wales, Scafell Pike in England's dreamy Lake District, and Ben Nevis (or "the Ben," as it is fondly known) in the Scottish highlands. We'll summit them all on our arc across three distinct regions of the British Isles. We also enjoy a "boats and boots" exploration of picturesque lakes, sip artisan Scottish whisky, and hear the unique Welsh language and the proud Scottish brogue. Challenging but rewarding hikes by day, historic accommodations by night, and a rich tapestry of landscapes and heritage make this a hiker's dream journey.

Days 1-3 Snowdonia National Park, Wales / Mt. Snowdon From Manchester, England, we



head to Wales for spectacular hikes in Snowdonia National Park, including Mt. Snowdon (3,560'), the highest peak in Wales and the first in our trilogy of highest peaks on this three-country adventure. Our hotel is an 18th century estate set on 150 acres.

### Days 4-7 England's Lake District / Scafell

**Pike** We head into England's glorious Lake District, where colorful fellsides swoop up from tranquil lakes surrounded by a great amphitheater of emerald-green mountains. Our hikes here bring us to Loughrigg Fell, with unrivaled panoramas across the heart of the Lake District, and up Scafell Pike (3,209'), England's highest peak. We also explore picturesque Derwent Water, boating across the lake and hiking up Cat Bells (1,480'), topped off by a visit to a distillery to sample the local gin—we've earned it!

Days 8-12 Scottish Highlands / Cairngorms National Park / Ben Nevis In Scotland's Cairngorms National Park, we hike a high-level trail above the rugged Northern Corries (mountain cirques), then tackle Ben Nevis (4,412'), the highest mountain in Scotland and the UK and the roof of Great Britain! If the summit is clear, our views stretch across a considerable part of Scotland's most spectacular scenery. Historic Glencoe House is our home away from home, where we're welcomed by a traditional piper and entertained by a local storyteller. Depart on Day 12 via Inverness.





#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Climb Snowdon, Scafell Pike, and Ben Nevis—the highest peaks of Wales, England, and Scotland
- Savor the glacier-carved scenery of Mt. Snowden, where Edmund Hillary and his team trained for the Himalayas
- Go fell-walking in the Lake District, including a "boats and boots" crossing of beautiful Derwent Water
- Hike in Scotland's Cairngorms National Park, with its lochs, wildlife, friendly villages, and artisan whisky distilleries and keep an eye out for Scotland's only herd of reindeer
- Enjoy welcoming hotels, including historic Glencoe House, built in 1896 for the governor of the Hudson Bay Company

### DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins in Manchester, England, and ends in Inverness, Scotland
- 11 nights hotels and country inns
- All meals included except 4 dinners

#### DATES Jun 6-17, 2018 Sep 5-16

**TRIP COST** \$7295 (5-14 members) Single supplement: \$1180

### 

1 2 3 (4+) 5 6 7 11 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 3-8 hours a day, van support



Enjoy Scotland's most magnificent coastal and mountain hikes and hear the legends of this timeless land. PHOTO: DAVID NOTON



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike along Loch Ness, in beautiful Glen Affric, and in the "lost valley" of Glencoe
- Enjoy atmospheric accommodations, including two magnificent country estates
- Taste whiskies, meet a traditional weaver, hear a local storyteller
- Discover the wild landscapes of the Outer Hebrides and Isle of Skye
- Gaelic legends, 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

#### DETAILS

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

#### DATES

Jun 18-27, 2018 Jul 16-25 Aug 20-29 Sep 17-26

### TRIP COST

\$6295 (5-14 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

# Highlands & Islands of Scotland

In Scotland's realm of mist-shrouded crags, heathered moors, and brooding castles, we've designed a hiking adventure that reveals this ancient land's most stunning settings, from the glistening lochs of Glen Affric to the seascapes of the Outer Hebrides. Our trails bring us through historic Glencoe and among the pinnacles of the Quiraing. Along the way, we listen to a storyteller, meet a tweed weaver, sample fresh-caught scallops, sip fine single-malt whisky, hear tales of the Campbells and 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. 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, older than



Stonehenge and steeped in legend. On the Isle of Harris, beaches and mountain tracks offer us delightful hiking, and we meet a Harris Tweed weaver to learn about the island's traditional

### Days 6-7 Isle of Skye / Quiraing / Cuillins

hand-loomed fabric.

Skye is extraordinary, 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 the United Kingdom. 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 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 and woodlands. Depart on Day 10 via Inverness.

# Hiking the Faroe Islands JOURNEY TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC'S BEST-KEPT SECRET

On the ancient Viking route from Norway to Iceland, the Faroe Islands are remote, stunning, and the ideal setting for our hiking adventure.

"A fabulous trip in such a beautiful country. I loved the hiking and I loved the cultural events—the artist, the brewery, the farm dinners and churches—it was great."

Vicki V., Baltimore MD



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the Faroes' most spectacular coastal and mountain hikes and 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 15-22, 2018 Jun 29-Jul 6

### TRIP COST

\$4495 (10-14 members) \$4895 (6-9 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



We'll hike ridge trails to tiny fishing villages of turf-roofed houses and to sea cliffs where puffins number in the thousands. As we explore this otherworldly island landscape, we'll see how renowned Faroese woolen knits are made at a family-run mill 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 Vágar Island / Mykines Island** Stretching out like a spine of glorious bluffs over sheer cliff faces, Mykines is a photographer's and ornithologist's paradise. We boat to the island, walk through fishermen's villages with grass-roofed houses, and spend time with the permanent residents—puffins!

### Days 3-4 Vestmanna / Eysturoy Island / Hike

**Slaettaratindur** We cruise beneath 1,000-foot-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 meet a



local artist at her studio, then hike up Slaettaratindur, the highest mountain in the islands, for views out across the Faroes' two most famous sea stacks.

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, and watch wool be transformed into delicate yarn at a classic wool mill. One evening, we savor a celebration dinner and enjoy Faroese circle dancing and song.

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

Our Faroe adventure comes complete with soaring sea cliffs, Viking culture, fantastic seafood, and a warm welcome.



# Hidden Treasures of Ireland's West Coast THE CLIFFS OF MOHER, ARAN ISLANDS, CROAGH PATRICK, AND CLARE ISLAND





#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike on gorgeous Clare Island, with its iconic lighthouse and dramatic cliffs
- Explore Connemara on a hike with a local historian, 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 including oysters, scallops, and 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

Sep 1-9

Sep 29-Oct 7

### DATES

May 19-27, 2018 Jun 24-Jul 2 Jul 21-29

### TRIP COST

\$4895 (11-15 members) \$5395 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$510

### TRIPLEVEL

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



We'll hike spectacular trails and get an insider's perspective as we discover the Ireland's rugged west coast. PHOTO: PETER COX The rugged west coast of Ireland, long the haunt of artists, holds some of the country's most dramatic scenery—and finest hiking.

"Is there a better rating than excellent? If so, that's our rating. Con clearly loves to envelop his guests in the magic that is Ireland—we're the richer for it."

Kathy L., Burlington CT

With beloved Trip Leaders Con Moriarty and Ann Curran, our cultural and hiking adventure brings you to the treasures of Croagh Patrick, the Cliffs of Moher, the Burren, and the spectacular Aran Islands. Con and Ann know this land as few others do, and love to share its ancient sites and pilgrim trails, introducing you to poets,

farmers, foodies, musicians, and people with deep community connections. Along the way, we savor the new Irish culinary scene, with picnics of the freshest locally sourced food and special meals from the kitchens of two of our welcoming guesthouses, and a stay at an enchanting Victorian-era lakeside lodge.

Days 1-2 Galway / The Burren Our hikes begin in the spectacular karst landscape of the Burren, whose limestone hills and hidden glens hold 10,000 years of human history—Bronze Age burial sites, standing stones, Iron Age forts, and Celtic high crosses, and we watch a magical sunset by the sea at the towering Cliffs of Moher.

Days 3-5 County Mayo / Clare Island / Westport In County Mayo, we hike up Croagh Patrick (2,500'), one of the world's most sacred mountains and a pilgrimage site for thousands of years. Ferrying to Clare Island, once the domain of a powerful Gaelic clan and their pirate queen, Grace O'Malley, we hike one of Ireland's finest cliff ramparts, visit a sheep farmer to see his border collies in action, and finish our hike at stunning Clare Island lighthouse. We join friends in a village for a special introduction to Irish poetry, and in the colorful market town of Westport, we have a special evening with musicians at a local pub.

Days 6-9 Connemara / Aran Islands / Galway / Clifden Crossing an ancient pilgrim route into the Maumturk Mountains, we hike right to our lakeside Victorian lodge in a wild region of Connemara. In the otherworldly Aran Islands, where Gaelic is still spoken, we explore a landscape of labyrinthine stone-walled fields and breathtaking sea cliffs. Back on the mainland, we'll follow trails in Connemara National Park and have a picnic on Omey, an intertidal island with spectacular archaeology. Our final trails lead along Killary Harbour and then to the rocky peaks of the Twelve Bens, with a farewell evening in the company of musicians. Depart on Day 9.



# Spirit of Ireland COASTAL, MOUNTAIN, AND ISLAND HIKES IN CORK AND KERRY



Our adventure includes a journey out to breathtaking Skellig Michael, a World Heritage Site.  $\mbox{PHOTO:}\ \mbox{DAVID LYONS}$ 

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 Trip Leaders Con Moriarty and Ann Curran, we'll enjoy an insider's view as we 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, the extraordinary island-monastery of Skellig Michael (now of Star Wars fame)they're all on this journey. Along the way, we hear tales of clans and chieftains, enjoy pub evenings among new friends, savor the fantastic Irish culinary scene, and meet artists, shepherds, singers, and more. Come experience the true Ireland with us!

### Days 1-2 Cork / Sheep's Head Peninsula

In the lush beauty of West Cork, we enjoy a spectacular hike and a warm welcome at our country manor house. On the narrow ridge of the Sheep's Head Peninsula, a place of breathtaking beauty and home to some 600 souls, a mix of farmers and fishermen, our airy trail offers views at every turn, from Dunmanus Bay in the south to Bantry Bay in the north.



Days 3-5 Beara Peninsula / Killarney National Park / Kerry Way As early as 4,000 years ago, Bronze Age people recognized the power and sanctity of the Beara Peninsula and located some of Ireland's most beautiful stone circles here. We hike through this wild valley, then follow the Kerry Way to Killarney Lakes, with a spectacular descent into the Gap of Dunloe, a narrow pass between Macgillycuddy's Reeks and Purple Mountain. Con's family has lived in these hills for generations and he describes this area as "a powerful place of great shapes, nature, history, and stories."

### Days 6-9 Skellig Michael / Dingle Peninsula / Great Blasket Islands We boat out to dramatic Skellig Michael, an 8th century monastic outpost set atop a rock pinnacle, then head to the Dingle Peninsula, a misty spine of mountains notched with beaches, bays, and pre-Christian antiquities. On Mount Brandon, a spiritual anchor point on Ireland's Atlantic seaboard, we follow a pilgrim route past spectacular sea cliffs. Our grand finale finds us hiking the ancient green roads of mesmerizing Great Blasket, the westernmost point in Europe, where we'll have a sense of

walking near the edge of the world. Depart on

Day 9 via Cork.





#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy an insider's introduction to Ireland's rich traditions and powerful history
- Hike the Kerry Way, Beara Peninsula, and legendary McGillicuddy Reeks, with easy or moderate options
- Cross the famed Lakes of Killarney by private boat
- Summit Corran Tuthail, Ireland's highest mountain, and hike sacred Mount Brandon
- Savor Ireland's superb culinary scene
  Hear traditional music and song
- (our leaders will take you to hear the finest musicians)

### DETAILS

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

#### DATES

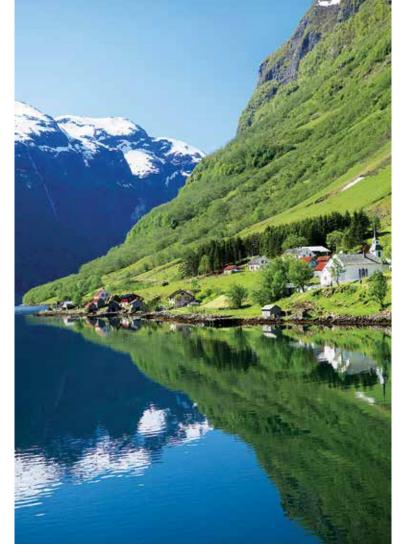
May 5-13, 2018 May 27-Jun 4 Jun 16-24 Jul 7-15 Aug 18-26 Sep 15-23

### TRIP COST

\$4895 (11-15 members) \$5395 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$255 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





DETAILS

DATES

Jul 3-13

10 nights hotels

Jun 8-18, 2018

Jul 28-Aug 7 Aug 28-Sep 7

TRIP COST

\$5995 (11-14 members) \$6595 (7-10 members)

Single supplement: \$990

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

• 11-day trip begins and ends in Bergen

· All meals included except 1 dinner

Our journey combines fantastic hikes along spectacular fjords, visits to family farms and villages, and a special look into Norway's fascinating cultural heritage. PHOTO: DAVID ROBERTSON

### Diversion ALEED/TIDD NORWAY Prom Unit Brogen Notime Aleense Listing Folgetonso Notional Park

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Our creative use of ferry rides, railways, and private boats brings you to Norway's most stunning realms
- Hike in breathtaking landscapes of mountains, glaciers, and tranquil fjords, visit welcoming family farms
- Savor a thriving cultural heritage in quaint fishing towns
   Enjoy charming waterride hetels with
- Enjoy charming waterside hotels with spectacular views

## Norway's Fjord Country Mountains, GLACIERS, AND NORDIC CULTURE

Mighty glaciers carved Norway's epic landscapes and the grand-scale majesty is everywhere, from snow-capped peaks to plunging river valleys, roaring waterfalls, and deep 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. Connecting our travels with an ingenious mixture of ferry, railway, funicular, and private boat rides, our trails bring us across high ridges, through lush, green farmlands, into deep forests, along the dramatic coast, and even onto the blue ice of a magnificent glacier. In between hikes, we explore lovely little coastal villages, taste the wares at a family-run goat farm and an apple farm that makes

delicious ciders, and enjoy a musical performance at a local museum. Our accommodations are in charming hotels right at water's edge for unrivaled views. "Outstanding leaders and an ingenious itinerary. I enjoyed the cultural aspects, especially the stave church, Naerøyfjord, and the family-run goat farm."

### Days 1-3 Bergen / Sognefjord / Flåm

From Bergen, a funicular carries us up Mt. Fløyen for a hike with panoramic David R., Arlington VA

vistas, and we ferry to beautiful Flåm through dramatic Sognefjord, with its 3,000-foot-high rock walls. After a visit to the evocative 12th century Borgund Stave Church, built during the Viking era, we travel by RIB (inflatable boat) through steep-walled Naerøyfjord, a World Heritage Site, to hike to a family farm where goats are raised. We learn about life on this lovely farm as we enjoy lunch and taste some delectable goat cheeses.

Days 4-7 Hardangerfjord / Ulvik / Lofthus After a quick ride on the Flåm Railway, our ridge hike through green farmlands brings us right down to our hotel in Ulvik, nestled on the shores of Hardangerfjord. This is Norway's lush orchard country, home to tens of thousands of fruit trees, first cultivated here by Cistercian monks in the 13th century. After lunch and cider tasting at a family-run apple farm, we boat to Lofthus, where we visit the cottage of composer Edvard Grieg, who wrote his Holberg Suite while staying in this village. Following in Grieg's footsteps, we hike along the Opo River to reach two magnificent waterfalls, the Opo and the Skriklo. Our hotel in Lofthus is a delight and offers kayaks and rowboats for exploring the fjord.

**Days 8-11 Utne / Folgefonna Glacier / Bergen** We hike along the Kinso River past massive waterfalls, and take a scenic drive up to the Folgefonna Glacier, the third largest icecap in Norway, for a fantastic day of glacier hiking, complete with helmets, ice axes, and crampons (no previous experience necessary). Views from atop the glacier stretch out over magnificent Hardangerfjord and, on a clear day, out to the North Sea. Depart on Day 11 via Bergen.



Although they are above the Arctic Circle, the Lofoten Islands have a mild climate, making them ideal for our hiking journey. PHOTO: RAINER MIRAU

# Northern Norway & the Lofoten Islands HIKING ABOVE THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

Northern Norway is an ethereal realm where jagged mountains sheer out of cobalt seas and deep fjords shelter a strong Viking history. On our unique adventure north of the Arctic Circle, we explore the staggeringly beautiful Lofoten and Vesterålen islands, the jewels of Arctic Norway, arcing from Bodø to Tromsø. To explore this mountainous archipelago. we'll take breathtaking coastal hikes, travel by ferry and inflatable boat, paddle sea kayaks in the amethyst light of the midnight sky, visit a Sámi reindeer farm, and go whale watching. Overnights are in historic rorbuerfishermen's waterfront cabins converted into rustic yet charming lodgings. As we explore, we'll meet the welcoming islanders, visit villages that date to the Viking era, and relish the majestic scenery and traditional culture of these unforgettable islands.



Days 1-4 Bodø / Lofoten Islands From Bodø, we ferry across the deep waters of the Norwegian Sea to the Lofotens, enjoying striking panoramas of the magnificent Lofoten Wall, a dramatic 80-mile stretch of granite mountains rising above a string of coastal villages. In picturesque Reine, with its red and white fishermen's cottages, we hike to a tiny hamlet nestled at the head of a deep fjord and visit charming Nusfjord, a quintessential Lofoten fishing village and a World Heritage Site. At the Viking Museum, a reconstructed longhouse next to a Viking archaeological site, we can try our hand at axe-throwing, and we enjoy a Viking-style feast in a longhouse, complete with mead, stories, and song.

Days 5-9 Vesterålen Islands / Senja / Sámi Culture / Midnight Kayaking Crossing northward to the Vesterålens, we hike to the restored fishing village of Nyksund, now an artists' haven, and visit a reindeer farm to learn about the culture of the Sámi, Europe's oldest indigenous people. We also go whale watching, looking for sperm whales in one of their major feeding grounds, and head out to sea kayak after dinner in the long evening light.

Days 10-12 Tromsø After a hike along Husfjellet, a spectacular ridge above the sea, we head to Tromsø, Norway's northern capital. A cable car brings us high up above this stunning city for a hike, we visit the city's Polar Museum, with its tales of legendary explorer Roald Amundsen, and attend a midnight concert in the city's Arctic Cathedral. Depart on Day 12.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike and explore the Arctic islands of Norway: Lofoten, Vesterålen, and Senja
- Explore by Zodiac-style inflatable boat
- and by sea kayak, enjoying the long summer light
- Visit a traditional Sámi reindeer farm
  Go whale watching to look for sperm
- whales
- Search for colonies of Arctic seabirds on sheer cliffs
- Stay in converted fishermen's
- stilt-cottages at water's edge
- Attend a midnight concert at Tromsø's impressive Arctic Cathedral

#### DETAILS

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

DATES Jun 20-Jul 1, 2018

Jul 15-26

#### TRIP COST

\$6995 (10-14 members) \$7395 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$960

**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



- Visit the spectacular SnowCastle, take a ride by icebreaker
- Meet traditional Sámi reindeer herders
   and dogsledders
- Look for the elusive northern lights flickering across the heavens
- Experience Finnish and Lappish culture, enjoy relaxing saunas
- Try Nordic skiing, ice fishing, snowshoeing, and other winter adventures

#### DETAILS

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

#### DATES

Feb 21-Mar 4, 2018 Mar 6-17 Mar 14-25 Alternative itinerary

TRIP COST

\$6995 (10-12 members) \$7395 (7-9 members) Single supplement: \$1195

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 (3) 4 5 6 7 A mix of moderate to strenuous hiking and snowshoeing, 1-3 hours most days



# Expedition to Lapland NORTHERN LIGHTS AND REINDEER HERDERS

Winter fun, WT style! We've chosen the pristine, snowy wilds of Lapland, stretching acrossFinland's northern realm, for this action-packed journey. We'll take an icebreaker into thepack ice (with an optional polar plunge, dry suit provided), snowshoe in deepwinter forests, ride a sleigh pulled by reindeer, pan for gold, and race acrossthe snowscapes in our husky-powered dogsled. Our journey gives us a trueinsider's look into Lapland's culture as we meet Sámi reindeer herders, tastetraditional specialties, spend a night in a glass-ceiling "igloo" cabin, and withluck, see the surreal northern lights dance across the night sky. Our hotelskeep us warm and comfy, and at day's end, we can unwind with a sauna.

#### Days 1-2 Rovaniemi / SnowCastle /

**Icebreaker Expedition** Getting right into the winter spirit of Lapland, we head to the spectacular SnowCastle, rebuilt from fresh snow and ice each winter in a new style. After a sip of hot cocoa or a cocktail at the castle's Ice Bar, we board the icebreaker *Sampo* to navigate through the pack ice that separates Finland and Sweden. We can walk out on the ice, or for the brave, take a dip in the bracing waters!

way of life, continuing reindeer husbandry and dogsledding. With their help,

we learn to work their dogsleds and take a ride on their sturdy horses. One evening, we set off by husky-drawn sled in hopes of seeing the northern lights, with an overnight in "glass igloos" that give us a planetarium feeling from our beds. Depart from Rovaniemi on Day 12.

te a dip in the bracing waters!

### Days 3-4 Pyhä-Luosto /

**Snowshoeing / Reindeer Sleigh** In the fells and rugged hills of Pyhä-Luosto National Park, we strap on

snowshoes for a hike with sweeping mountain views. We also travel these Arctic landscapes the age-old way—on sleighs pulled by reindeer.

Days 5-7 Cooking Class / Ice Fishing / Nordic Skiing These days are for ice fishing, sampling Finnish specialties cooked over a wood fire, and Nordic skiing, all authentic traditions of Lapland.

Days 8-12 Sámi Culture / Husky Sledding / Glass Igloo The only indigenous population of Finland, the Sámi embrace their traditional



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 $\label{eq:laplanders} Laplanders \ really \ know \ how \ to \ make \ winter \ fun-we'll \ join \ them \ in \ the \ adventure! \ {\tt PHOTO: \ MIKKO \ KARJALAINEN}$ 



"AMAZING! An incredible itinerary that showcased the Lapland culture, cuisine, and landscape beautifully. So very fortunate to experience this trip!"

Dianne B., Evanston IL

# Expedition to Greenland

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



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike on the moonscape of the Greenland Ice Sheet
- Cross wilderness valleys to look for herds of shaggy musk ox
- Experience the culture of the Inuit, who have lived in Greenland for hundreds of years
- Walk to an ancient Viking settlement along iceberg-strewn shores
- Discover the glacier-carved wonder of the pristine Western Fjords
  Cruise past towering icebergs under the
- long evening light of the Arctic summer • 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
- · All meals inclu

#### DATES

Jul 22-30, 2018 Aug 1-9

#### TRIP COST

\$6695 (10-12 members) \$7095 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$350

#### TRIP\_LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A mix of moderate walks and hikes over varying terrain, 1-5 hours a day, cultural exploration, travel by small boat, access to the Ice Sheet by rough dirt road





This wonderfully varied journey includes a hike on the Greenland Ice Sheet, spectacular boat rides, and even a musk ox safari. PHOTO: PEARL BUCKNALL

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 stunning Western Fjords, walk on the surreal Greenland Ice Sheet, enjoy an Inuit barbecue, and hike the tundra in search of musk ox. In Ilulissat, north of the Arctic Circle, we hike right alongside icebergs on the shores of Kangia Icefjord, discover an ancient Inuit settlement, and during our midnight cruise, marvel at the incredible dance of light and color of the Arctic twilight reflected on massive icebergs. If you've ever wanted to experience one of the planet's most jaw-droppingly beautiful places, Greenland is the place.

#### Days 1-3 Nuuk / Western Fjords / Qooqqut

**Nuan** In Nuuk, Greenland's capital, we hike up Ukkusissat Mountain and enjoy a traditional Inuit-style barbecue by the sea. On our boat cruise below the granite cliffs of the Western Nuuk Fjords, we'll fish along the way, bringing our catch to a boat-in lodge where the chef will transform it into our dinner while we hike to a Viking ruin.



Days 4-5 Kangerlussuaq / Musk Ox Safari / Hike the Ice Sheet We hike across ice-carved valleys to search for Greenland's wild musk ox herds (this is the best place in the country to see them), then have the extraordinary experience of hiking on the moon-like terrain of the Greenland Ice Sheet, with ice crunching beneath our feet.

Day 6 Ilulissat / Midnight Cruise North of the Arctic Circle, we visit the community of Ilulissat, home to more sled dogs than people. We'll explore colossal Kangia Icefjord 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 Disko Bay / Sermermiut Boating out through Disko Bay, on the lookout for humpback whales, we enjoy a coastal hike and picnic lunch with a panorama of floating icebergs and distant Disko Island. Our last hike brings us right among the giant icebergs along the wild shores of Kangia Icefjord as we make our way to the ancient Inuit settlement of Sermermiut. Depart on Day 9.



- Unique hikes in an unearthly landscape of fjords, iceberg-filled lagoons, geysers, and lava fields
- Explore Skaftafell and Thingvellir, with their glaciers, waterfalls, and Viking history
- Take a fascinating glacier walk (no experience necessary!) on Iceland's most impressive glacier
- Soak in Iceland's famous Blue Lagoon, marvel at the long twilight of the midnight sun
- Taste savory Icelandic cuisine, from local fish to fresh lamb and crisp Icelandic beer
- Enjoy our intimate lodges in beautifully remote settings

#### DETAILS

• 8-day trip begins and ends in Reykjavík

Aug 10-17

Aug 17-24

- 7 nights hotels
- All meals included

#### DATES

Jun 22-29, 2018 Jul 13-20 Aug 3-10

#### TRIP COST

\$7495 (13-15 members) \$7795 (10-12 members) \$8095 (8-9 members) Single supplement: \$845 Internal airfare: \$300 (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

# Iceland Expedition HIKING ADVENTURES IN A SURREAL LAND

Nature has outdone herself in Iceland, a world of spouting geysers, blue lagoons, moss-covered lava fields, and multicolored valleys stretching to the sea—the geographic diversity and fantasy landscapes must be seen to be believed. On our journey of coastal,

"Loved the trip, loved the challenge of the hikes, the scenery, and getting to know Iceland and its culture. I'd go back!"

Margie C., Lake Forest IL

mountain, and glacier adventures, we explore UNESCO-listed Thingvellir National Park and the brooding heaths of ancient "saga" country, where Viking clans created the world's first parliament. We'll hike onto

Lake Forest IL parliament. We li nike onto the Svinafellsjökull Glacier

(crampons provided!), high above breathtaking Skógarfoss waterfall, across the spectacular Dyrholaey headland, and to the otherworldly black-sand beach at Reynisfjara. We'll also experience the welcoming Icelandic culture, sampling local delights from arctic char to fresh-caught salmon, and enjoying soaks in geothermally heated mineral waters—join us!

#### Days 1-2 Reykjavík / Höfn / Vatnajökull

**Glacier** Flowing to the sea through a narrow fjord, Vatnajökull is Europe's largest glacier and

Our hiking journey brings you into the surreal landscapes of a country unlike any other on earth. PHOTO: ROBERT LEON

our dramatic backdrop as we hike to the coast among fascinating geologic formations.

Days 3-6 Jökulsárlón / Skaftafell National Park / Skógar / Reynisfjara Waterside trails bring us along stunning Jökulsárlón Lagoon, with its powder-blue icebergs calved from the Breidamerkurjökull Glacier, and we boat between the bergs as we cross the lagoon for our picnic lunch. We also hike across Skaftafellsheidi Heath, past the tumbling Svartifoss waterfall, and across the ice of the Skaftafellsjökull Glacier. In tiny Skógar, we sample beer from a microbrewery, hike up above the breathtaking Skógarfoss cascade, with its legends of buried treasure, and visit the black-sand beach at Reynisfjara, considered one of the 10 most beautiful beaches in the world.

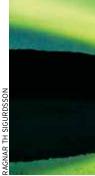
**Days 7-8 Thingvellir National Park / Blue Lagoon** We follow trails through the Reykjadalur Valley, with its steaming hot springs, and marvel at the spectacular terrain of Thingvellir National Park, a World Heritage Site, where we can walk right between tectonic plates. After a soak in the famed thermal waters of the Blue Lagoon, depart on Day 8.

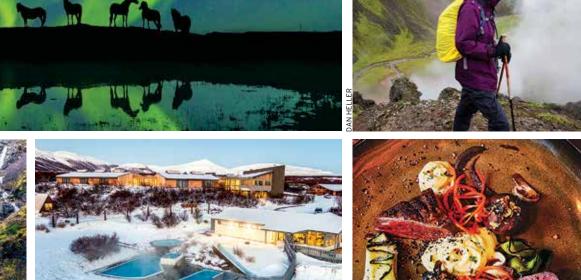
## ON OUR WEBSITE WONDERS OF ICELAND

Hike a volcano, see bubbling mudpots, explore the Snaefellsnes and Tröllaskagi Peninsulas. Jul 2-9, Jul 23-30, 2018. From \$7495.









The northern lights are a great show, but Iceland is also the place to hike in some of the most spectacular landscapes in the world

# Iceland's Northern Lights SNOWSHOEING, HIKING, AND SKY GAZING

The celestial phenomenon of the aurora borealis is one of the most sublime wonders of the natural world. We've designed an adventure brimming with winter escapades and wonderful chances to see the lights, and we've timed it to give us plenty of daylight to enjoy great outdoor adventures and dark night skies for the aurora. We'll snowshoe across lava fields, cross a glacier with crampons (no experience necessary!), and hike to-and behind—some of Iceland's most legendary waterfalls, including Seljalandsfoss and Skógarfoss. We'll also hike right in the rift between the European and Atlantic plates, and down inside a giant lava tube with stalactites and ice formations. As night falls, we'll search for the spectacular blue, green, and violet arcs shimmering across the sky above us. This is winter adventure, WT style!

Days 1-2 Snowshoeing / Skógar / Skógarfoss / Glacier Walk Heading to the Blue Mountains outside Reykjavík, we snowshoe from crater to crater across a lunar landscape (snowshoeing is like hiking—no previous experience is necessary). At Skógar, we visit the folk museum and hike to Skógarfoss, a waterfall that bursts out of the mighty Myrdalsjökull Glacier and plunges 200 feet off a rock shelf. At night, we'll be on "northern lights alert," and our countryside hotel gives us great viewing prospects far from the city lights.

Days 3-5 Great Geysir / Snowshoeing / Thingvellir / Mt. Hengill We watch the spouting plumes of Great Geysir, which gave its name to all the world's geysers, then hike and snowshoe in Thingvellir National Park and right between the dramatic rift between the North American and European continental plates. We also hike or snowshoe on Mt. Hengill, and by night, enjoy soaks in geothermal pools at our hotel (the "Northern Lights Lounge" has floor to ceiling windows and is our cozy spot for viewing).

#### Days 6-8 Mt. Strutur / Surtshellir Lava

Tube / Reykjavík / Blue Lagoon Snowshoeing brings us up Mt. Strutur and onward to the Hallmundarhraun lava field, with its giant lava tube. We hike right down into the earth as we explore the spectacular 1.5-mile Surtshellir lava tube, with its intricate ice formations. We also hike to the hidden Glymur waterfall, one of Iceland's highest. Our hotel's location has the clearest skies in Iceland, perfect for our prospects of seeing the lights. After a soak in the famous Blue Lagoon, depart on Day 8.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hunt for the elusive northern lights in Iceland's prime viewing locations
- Snowshoe and hike in Iceland's otherworldly landscapes—glaciers, waterfalls, volcanic craters, moss-covered peaks
- Explore the geological wonders of Thingvellir National Park, a spectacular UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Savor utterly fresh Icelandic cuisine, relax in the mineral-rich hot springs of the famous Blue Lagoon

#### DETAILS

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

#### An medis Inclu

DATES Nov 11-18, 2017

Feb 17-24, 2018 Mar 17-24 Nov 10-17

**TRIP COST** \$7895 (9-12 members) \$8495 (4-8 members) Single supplement: \$1060

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 (3+) 4 5 6 7 Moderate to steep snowshoeing and hiking, 2-6 hours a day



- Discover Old Russia in history-filled medieval towns along the Volga River
- Explore romantic St. Petersburg, capital of the Czars, with a private boat ride on the canals
- Enjoy meals with local families in their homes for a true experience of Russian culture

#### 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 11-21, 2018 Jul 6-16 Jun 1-11 Sep 7-17

#### TRIP COST

\$5195 (10-15 members) \$5595 (7-9 members) \$5995 (4-6 members) Single supplement: \$610 Baltic States extension: from \$2895

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Cultural exploration, city walking tours, and easy country walks

Our cultural adventure brings you the treasures of Russia's heritage and inside its culture. PHOTO: BLAINE HARRINGTON



# Russia: Land of the Czars MOSCOW, THE GOLDEN RING, AND ST. PETERSBURG

Our journey into Russia is a true insider's experience, with our native-born Trip Leaders sharing the treasures of their homeland. We'll see Red Square on a nighttime walking tour and hear the shimmering tones of bell ringing in the medieval towns of the Golden Ring. In romantic St. Petersburg, we have a special early admission to the opulent Hermitage, see the famed Amber Room, and enjoy a private boat ride on the atmospheric canals of this World Heritage city. We'll enjoy the long summer twilight of Russia's "White Nights," and our cultural odyssey is filled with unique opportunities to meet Russians and learn

about their lives, including lively meals with families in their homes.

Days 1-3 Moscow Along with visiting Moscow's grand monuments, we also take a stroll among the artisans on Arbat Street, ride to ornate metro stations, have lunch with an artist at a local gallery cafe, explore the Novodevischy Convent, whose icons date from the time of Boris Godunov, and walk in Izmailova Park, with its flea market full of Soviet memorabilia.

Days 4-6 Golden Ring / Volga River / Plyos and Suzdal / Family Meals In the small town of Sergiev Posad, we visit the blue-domed Trinity Monastery and have a chance to paint our own matroyska dolls in an art class. We view Rostov's ancient Kremlin, a sweeping ensemble of

monasteries and churches, and the golden domes of World Heritage-listed Yaroslavl. After a private boat ride on the Volga, we head to the Holy City of Suzdal, where we learn about the ancient Russian tradition of bell ringing and hear the melodies of the giant bells. In Suzdal and the tranquil town of Plyos, we are welcomed in for meals with families in their homes.

Days 7-11 St. Petersburg / Pushkin Our early admission to the Winter Palace, better known as the Hermitage, lets us explore ahead of the crowds and visit the Gold Room, and we enjoy a private boat ride on the city's legendary canals. We also visit Usupoff Palace, where Rasputin met his end, and Catherine the Great's summer palace in Pushkin, with its dazzling Amber Room. Depart on Day II, or join our Baltic States extension.

# EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Explore the charms of the Baltic States—Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia—with their Old World style and exquisite architecture.



"One of the most inspiring WT trips I have ever been on. The Russian history and culture we experienced was fascinating."

#### Jerry T., Laredo TX

COMBINE ANY TWO EUROPE TRIPS FOR A \$400 PER PERSON DISCOUNT!



Our hiking journey is the perfect combination of country walks, historic castles, and a celebration of Czech heritage

# **Czech Castles & Country Walks** ENCHANTING HIKES, CESKY KRUMLOV, AND GLORIOUS PRAGUE

The Czech Republic is a walker's paradise, and this spirited journey brings us on hikes through the idyllic countryside to fairytale stone castles and gorgeous Baroque towns. Medieval heritage is remarkably intact in places like Telc, which we'll encounter on a hike whose grand finale brings us on foot through the town's arched gates, and we'll follow trails through Moravia's pristine woodlands to reach Slavonice, a medieval gem just a mile from the once-forbidden border with Austria. In the UNESCO-protected town of Cesky Krumlov, our private backstage tour brings us inside the town's perfectly preserved Baroque theater, and we celebrate our journey's finale in Prague, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Our Trip Leaders are exuberant Czech natives who share their country's heritage and cuisine in WT style.

### Days 1-2 Vienna, Austria / Moravia, Czech Republic / Lednice Castle / Palava We meet in Vienna, and our first hike brings us across the border into the Czech Republic's Moravian wine country. At Lednice Castle, we walk its grounds,

one of the largest designed landscapes in Europe, then explore Palava Highlands Nature Reserve.

#### Days 3-4 Castle Rostejn / Telc / Slavonice

After a picnic at 14th century Castle Rostejn, a Gothic apparition, we hike across fields brightened by poppies and into the medieval town of Telc, with a delightful dinner on the terrace in the historic town square. The next day we're off through pristine woodlands to remote Slavonice, with its triangular-shaped Renaissance plazas.

#### Days 5-7 Cesky Krumlov / Sumava /

Rozmberk Crossing into southern Bohemia, we're immersed in the unique atmosphere of Cesky Krumlov, with its dreamy pink-and-green castle. In the Sumava Forest, we hike from a 13th century Cistercian monastery to the castle-town of Rozmberk, set on a bend on the Vltava River.

Days 8-9 Prague Bohemia's jewel of a city had a golden age that lasted from the 14th to the 18th centuries. We walk Prague's narrow Baroque lanes and cross medieval stone bridges amid the glorious architecture, and explore the Jewish ghetto, which dates to medieval times. Depart on Day 9, or extend your stay.

### ON OUR WEBSITE GREAT CARPATHIAN TRAVERSE

Join our five-country adventure through Ukraine, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland. Aug 26-Sep 9, 2018. From \$5495.



#### 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

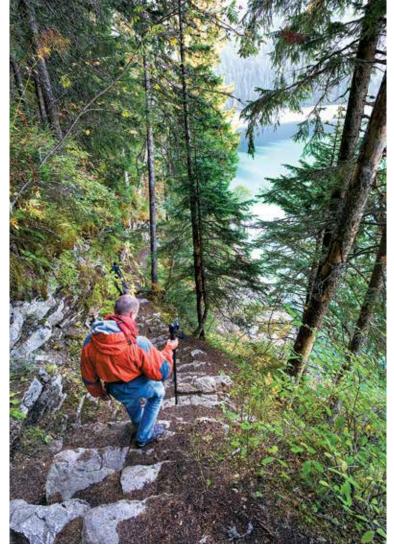
May 10-18, 2018 Sep 6-14 Sep 20-28

#### TRIP COST

\$3895 (11-15 members) \$4295 (6-10 members) \$4395 (4-5 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





From the mountains to the sea, we'll hike and explore one of the most beautiful countries on the Adriatic. PHOTO: VLADIMIR POPOVIC



- Enjoy 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 gorge
- 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 29-Jun 8, 2018 Jul 9-19 Aug 24-Sep 3 Sep 17-27

#### TRIP COST

\$4495 (10-15 members) \$4895 (2-9 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

# Montenegro & the Adriatic Coast MOUNTAIN HIKES AND MAGNIFICENT KOTOR BAY

With a rugged coastline, soaring limestone peaks, and red-roofed Venetian towns nestled along the blue Adriatic, Montenegro is one of Europe's hidden gems—and perfect for a WT hiking journey. We'll hike our way from the breathtaking alpine world of Durmitor National Park and Biogradska Gora National Park to the gorgeous coast at Kotor Bay, Europe's southernmost fjord. Along the way, we discover Montenegro's diverse cultural influences, sample a

cuisine that reflects the region's blend of east and west, and sip Vranac, the deep red wine made from the ancient native grape. A grand finale finds us in medieval Kotor, one of the most spectacular towns on the entire Adriatic Coast.

Days 1-3 Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina /

Durmitor, Montenegro / Tara River In

fascinating Sarajevo, a cultural melting pot since the Silk Road era, we stroll the

lanes of the 16th century Ottoman quarter.

"Exceeded our expectations! Hiking in the mountains and then along the coast was tremendous. Jaw-dropping scenery, so much local interaction, and great meals."

Lois B., Concord CA

Crossing the mountainous border to enter Montenegro, we head for the trails of dramatic Durmitor National Park, home to saw-toothed limestone peaks and glistening lakes. The wild Tara River Canyon, with its 4,000-foot-high walls, invites us for a fun morning of rafting (optional—you can hike instead).

**Days 4-6 Biogradska Gora National Park** Biogradska Gora protects one of the last stands of old-growth woodlands in all Europe. One of our hikes brings us through the park's flower-filled meadows to the twin peaks of Komovi (8,100'), with clear-day views stretching to Albania.

Days 7-8 Mrtvica Canyon / Lake Skadar Moraca Monastery, with its superb Byzantine frescoes, offers us a peek into Montenegro's medieval history, and we hike to the rocky hideaway of Mrtvica Canyon amid soaring white cliffs and along the serene shores of Lake Skadar National Park. One evening, we boat to a restaurant on a secluded beach to taste the fresh catch of the day.

**Days 9-11 Cetinje / Kotor / Dubrovnik, Croatia** We visit the romantic mountain town of Cetinje, the former royal capital, and make our way to the Adriatic shores to hike a trail high above medieval Kotor, with its beautifully preserved Old Town. 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 18-28, Jul 9-19, 2018. From \$4295.

# Croatia: Istria & the Dalmatian Coast IDYLLIC ISLANDS, MEDIEVAL HILLTOWNS, AND CULINARY DELIGHTS



We've crafted a superb hiking journey on the northern Dalmatian Coast—far from the cruise ships—and filled it with vineyard hikes, walks in truffle and olive oil country, seaside rambles along the crystal-clear Adriatic, island hopping, and enjoying the good life of this history-filled coast. We'll hike up to the castle-topped hill town of Motuvun, go truffle hunting with a local guide and his dog, explore an immense Roman amphitheater, visit picture-perfect Croatian hamlets, and enjoy private farm-to-table culinary tastings. Along the way, our Trip Leaders introduce you to local people, great wines, and regional specialties (think grilled fresh calamari, enjoyed waterside!). Our journey begins in Slovenia's jewel-like capital, Ljubljana, and ends in Trogir, a World Heritage Site.

Days 1-3 Ljubljana, Slovenia / Motovun, Croatia / Istria In red-roofed Ljubljana, we stroll the cobbled streets, then cross to Croatia's Istria Peninsula for a hike through ancient vineyards and a walk through truffle country to the fairytale town of Motovun, entering through the town's original gates. Here we head out with a truffle hunter and his dog to search for these prized mushrooms.

Days 4-5 Groznjan / Rovinj / Pula We visit medieval Groznjan, a town of artists and music, and Porec, where we climb the cathedral's bell tower for superb views. After a visit to the immense Roman amphitheater overlooking Pula's harbor, we hike a coastal path through pine forests and rocky coves. Overnights are in Rovinj, a dreamy town of Venetian townhouses on a peninsula jutting into the sea. Local specialties we can try here include Istrian sheep cheese and egg-noodle pastas.

**Days 6-7 Cres** On the rugged isle of Cres, we hike across lavenderscented hills and along the seaside to Veli Losinj, with opportunities for a swim. We also relax with a picnic and sweeping bay views.

**Days 8-11 Rab / Trogir** A private sailboat brings us to the Renaissance-

Vineyard and coastal hikes, island hopping, medieval hilltowns, and mouth-watering cuisine and wines make this a perfect WT adventure. PHOTO: JASMINA MIHOC



era island of Rab, and we hike in Krka National Park to enjoy its karst landscape of cliffs and canyons. Our trip ends in Trogir, whose medieval Old Town is surrounded by the sea. Depart on Day 11 via Split, or extend to Dubrovnik.

# DUBROVNIK EXTENSION

Discover the beauty of this ancient city and the surrounding countryside with hikes, an insider's walking tour of the city, biking or kayaking, oyster farms, and more. Call for details.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike to the stunning hilltowns of
- Motovun, Gracisce, and Lubenice • Discover the amphitheater at Pula, whose
- amazing state of preservation makes the Roman world come to life • Explore exquisite Rovinj, Veli Losinj, and
- islands of the northern Dalmatian Coast
- Go truffle hunting with a local guide, enjoy private tastings of local artisan products

#### DETAILS

 11-day trip begins in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and ends in Split. Croatia

Sep 19-29

Oct 2-12

- 10 nights hotels and inns
- All meals included except 3 dinners

### DATES

May 3-13, 2018 Jun 26-Jul 6

TRIP COST

\$4895 (10-15 members) \$5295 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$610 Dubrovnik extension: Call for details

**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



# 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. We invite you to experience these stunning islands the Wilderness Travel way! In the Cyclades, named for the circle the archipelago forms around the sacred island of Delos, we hike on Tinos, Naxos, and rugged Amorgos, each island a realm of bougainvillea-draped villages above the sparkling Aegean. As we hike past bluedomed churches, up to cliff-perched monasteries, and through tiny whitewashed villages, the good life of sunny Greece envelops 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, extend your journey to legendary Santorini.



Days 1-5 Athens / Tinos From Athens, we ferry to Tinos, an island of beautiful beaches and traditional whitewashed hamlets. We hike Tinos' cobblestone paths to picturesque villages, up the old Roman road to the great Venetian fortress of Exombourgo, and from the charming town of Falatados, we hike to the beach at Livada, with a stop to swim in crystal-clear waters. One of our hikes brings us to lovely Pyrgos, renowned since ancient times for its marble artisans (the Parthenon's sculptures were carved here). The village's churches, fountains, and doorways are fine examples of the art.

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 (3,000'), the highest point in the Cyclades and site of a sacred cave. On Delos, holy island of the ancient Greeks, we explore this 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. Traditional stonepaved paths lead us between villages, past frescoed churches, and along the spectacular coasts. One ramble leads us to Chosoviotissa, a dramatic 11th century monastery set high above the Aegean. Depart on Day 13, or extend to Santorini Island.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike village to village on island pathways of Tinos, Naxos, and Amorgos
- Visit sacred Delos, holy island of the ancient Greeks, and cosmopolitan Mykonos Island
- Enjoy charming hotels, incredible farm-to-fork cuisine unique to the islands, and delicious wines
- Exuberant Greek Trip Leaders who share their passion for their country with grace and style

#### DETAILS

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

#### DATES

May 18-30, 2018 Jun 13-25 Jun 28-Jul 10 Sep 9-21

#### TRIP COST

\$4595 (8-16 members) \$4895 (4-7 members) Single supplement: \$370 Santorini Island extension: from \$1450 Archaeological Sites of Classical Greece extension: from \$1850

**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

# Greece: Zagoria & Mt. Olympus THE VIKOS GORGE, METEORA, AND THE ABODE OF ZEUS



Traditional Greece can still be found in Zagoria, where thousand-year-old villages are perched above the UNESCO-protected Vikos Gorge in the Pindos Mountains. We've created wonderful hikes along shepherds'

"Wonderful—the history, hiking, and outstanding food and lodging make this an A+ trip."

Erin O., Anchorage AK

paths and across arched bridges spanning the gorge and leading to these unique hamlets. To reach the spectacular monasteries of Meteora, we'll walk the monks' paths up to these airy

medieval sanctuaries. Our grand finale is our hike up Mt. Olympus (9,600'), storied home of the gods, where we gaze over the ancient world from the abode of Zeus, ruler of the sky. Along the way, we'll fuel our hikes with northern Greece's delicious culinary treats and sample renowned local wines from ancient vineyards. Days 1-5 loánnina / Zagoria From Ioánnina, we head to Zagoria to hike orchid-lined paths to the villages of the Vikos Gorge, including Pápingo, nestled beneath limestone towers. We descend the famous Vradeto Stairs, a serpentine 17th century stone staircase leading to the tiny village of Kapésovo, and cross ancient stone bridges of double and even triple arches that span the upper gorge. One hike brings us up to gleaming Dragon Lake (6,800'), below the striking peaks of the Pindos. Between hikes, we swim in sun-warmed springs, relax in ancient village squares shaded by huge plane trees, and enjoy the local wines and herb-infused cuisine of this remarkable region.

#### Days 6-8 Dodóna / Meteora Monasteries

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

**Days 9-12 Mt. Olympus** From Thessaloniki, we head to the village of Prionia and start our hike, ascending through the forest and up above treeline to the Spilio Agapitos Refuge (7,200'). The next day we hike to the rocky summit of Skala (9,403'), the main peak of this majestic sacred mountain. Depart on Day 12 via Thessaloniki.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike to the traditional stone-built villages of Zagoria in the Pindos Mountains
- Follow monks' pathways up to the surreal clifftop monasteries of Meteora
- Trek to the summit of Mt. Olympus, a
- fitting abode for the gods

#### 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 6-17, 2018 Oct 7-18

#### TRIP COST

\$3695 (10-16 members) \$3995 (2-9 members) Single supplement: \$350 Archaeological Sites of Classical Greece extension: from \$1850

#### 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 hikes bring you through the spectacular Vikos Gorge, to the spell-binding Meteora monasteries, and up Mt. Olympus, storied home of the gods. PHOTO: GATSI



- Witness a spectacular Naadam Festival, an exuberant expression of Mongolia's ancient culture
- Experience the oceanic vastness of Mongolia's famous grasslands, mountains, and deserts
- Soak in hot springs at Tsenkher, visit the ruins of Kharakhorum, Genghis Khan's capital
- Meet traditional nomad families with their herds of horses, yaks, and goats
- See the wild horses of 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, 2018 Naadam in Kharakhorum Aug 1-13 Naadam in Gobi Desert

#### **TRIP COST**

\$6395 (10-15 members) \$6995 (5-9 members) Single supplement: \$1615 Internal airfare: \$205 (subject to change) Lake Hovsgol extension: from \$2555

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 (3) 4 5 6 7 Rugged road travel, walking and light hiking, cultural adventures

# In the Realm of Genghis Khan ADVENTURING FROM KHARAKHORUM TO THE GOBI DESERT

Mongolia is a magnificently remote land, its wild, rolling grasslands dotted with nomad camps, herds of yaks and horses, and shamanic oovos-cairns that mark the way across this mesmerizing realm. On our far-flung journey, we'll explore ancient Kharakhorum, once the capital of Genghis Khan's empire, and soak in hot springs amid the canyons and lakes of Arkhanghai Province. Heading overland into the Gobi Desert, we hike in the Yol Valley, sip a memorable sundowner at the fabled Flaming Cliffs, and even ride a Bactrian camel. Along the way, we'll enjoy a wonderful welcome into Mongolia's ancient nomadic culture as we meet local families, spend nights in our cozy traditional gers, and attend a Naadam festival, a guintessentially Mongolian celebration with archery, wrestling, and wild cross-country horse races.

#### Days 1-3 Ulaanbaatar / Hustain Nuruu

From Ulaanbaatar, we head across Mongolia's wondrous and unfenced grasslands to Hustain Nuruu National Park, home to the last remaining species of wild horse, the *takhi*, or Przewalski's horse. One of our hikes brings us among the great standing stones at Ongot, a site that dates from 500 AD. Days 4-5 Erdene Zuu Monastery / Kharakhorum In the Orkhon Valley, we are welcomed into the home of a nomad family, and we explore the chanting halls and frescoed chambers at 16th century Erdene Zuu Monastery, the "Jewel Temple," built over the ruins of Kharakhorum, capital of the Mongol Empire between 1235 and 1260 AD.

### Days 6-8 Arkhanghai Province / Tsenkher

**Hot Springs** Exploring Arkhanghai, one of the most archaeologically rich regions in all Mongolia, we visit ancient megalithic sites, hike in the hills, and relax in mineral springs surrounded by wildflower-carpeted mountains. Each departure of our journey will have a day to witness a Naadam Festival (the actual day varies with each trip), where we witness traditional Mongolian sports dating back to Genghis Khan's time and once used to train warriors and their horses for battle.

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 can enjoy a ride on a Bactrian camel in this famed desert, and we explore the legendary fossil site of the Flaming Cliffs—stunning when illuminated by the oranges and golds of sunset. Depart on Day 13.

Under Mongolia's "great blue sky," we bring you incredible cultural adventures, including visits with nomad families and a spectacular Naadam festival.



# Wild Mongolia THE GREAT GOBI DESERT AND GOLDEN EAGLE FESTIVAL



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- See the epic festival featured in the acclaimed documentary *The Eagle Huntress*
- Watch Kazakh nomads compete on horseback and hunt with their trained eagles
- Meet with local Kazakh families in their gers
- Step right into Kazakh life with an option to saddle up and ride with local Kazakh men
- Enjoy the beautiful Three Camel Lodge, a celebrated ger camp in the heart of the Gobi
- Sip a sundowner as you view the magical sunset at the Gobi's Flaming Cliffs

#### DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Ulaanbaatar
- 7 nights ger camps, 4 nights hotelsAll meals included except 2 lunches
- All meals included except 2 lunche

**DATE** Sep 29-Oct 10, 2018

#### TRIP COST

\$6995 (10-15 members) \$7495 (5-9 members) Single supplement: \$1795 Internal airfare: \$1250 (subject to change)

TRIP\_LEVEL

1 2 (3) 4 5 6 7 Rugged road travel, walking and light hiking, cultural adventures





Experience the fascinating world of the Kazakhs, the great nomads of Central Asia, famed for their ancient tradition of hunting with golden eagles. PHOTO: BRUNO MORANDI

On this thrilling "back of beyond" journey, we explore two of Mongolia's wildest realms. In the great Gobi Desert, where our home base is the award-winning Three Camel Lodge, we hike to remarkable petroglyph sites, into the glacier-carved Yol Valley, and sip a sundowner as we watch a blazing sunset at the legendary

"The festival was fantastic, the locations of the lodging were beautiful. We were thrilled to hike to the petroglyphs in the Gobi."

Becky H., Chandler AZ

Golden Eagle Festival captured in the acclaimed film *The Eagle Huntress*. Kazakh horsemen and women—compete with their magnificent eagles,

Flaming Cliffs, where the first

dinosaur eggs were found.

In Mongolia's wild west, we

witness the extraordinary

releasing them to swoop down from cliffsides. Breathtaking games of *kukbar* are played at a thundering gallop, and we'll be welcomed into the gers of Kazakh nomad families.

Days 1-6 Ulaanbaatar / Gobi Desert / Flaming Cliffs / Three Camel Lodge After exploring Ulaanbaatar, we fly to the Gobi Desert, the site of some of the most important paleontological discoveries of the 20th century. With overnights at the celebrated Three Camel



Lodge, our hikes bring us to rock art sites and into the deep Yol Valley, a national park and habitat of Argali mountain sheep and soaring lammergeiers. We also explore the Flaming Cliffs, where in 1923 Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews and his team from the American Museum of Natural History found the first nest of dinosaur eggs the world had ever seen, and we watch the sunset wash across these legendary cliffs.

### Days 7-12 Ulgii / Golden Eagle Festival /

**Ulaanbaatar** A flight brings us to Ulgii, capital of Mongolia's far west. Out in the snow-dusted High Altai Mountains, we watch the festival's opening ceremony, with hunters in traditional dress parading on horseback with their trained golden eagles. During the competitions, we can hike up the hill to watch the birds soar, and one evening, hunters will visit our camp with their fantastic birds. Archery and the thrilling equestrian game of kukbar are part of the festival's closing ceremony, and our accommodation is a traditional ger camp set up just for us in a beautiful riverside spot. Depart on Day 12 via Ulaanbaatar.





It's an unbelievable thrill to stand at the base camp below the highest mountain in the world and WT brings you there in style! PHOTO: LEILA THOMPSON



- Hike right to famed Everest Base Camp, launching site of all the famous expeditions
   Exploration Days with fantastic hikes to
- Ama Dablam Base Camp and Chukhung Valley
- Paced for maximum acclimatization and led by the Khumbu's most experienced Sherpa guides
- Overnights in family-owned Sherpa lodges—no camping, and we have our own private cook crew!

#### 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

Mar 20-Apr 8, 2018 Oct 20-Nov 8 *Mani Rimdu Festival* Nov 12-Dec 1 Mar 12-31, 2019

### TRIP COST

\$4895 (10-12 members) \$5195 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$720 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

# Everest Base Camp one of the GREAT TREKS OF THE WORLD

The trek to the legendary climbers' camp below the soaring flanks of Mt. Everest (29,035'), Mother Goddess of the Snows, is one of the greatest hikes in the world—and we do it without camping! Our lodge-based trek is perfectly paced as it leads us up to 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 acclimatize with three very special Exploration Days off the main Everest route for hikes to Ama Dablam Base Camp (15,400') and the Chukhung Valley. Unbelievable Himalayan panoramas, atmospheric

Tibetan Buddhist monasteries, getting to know the welcoming Sherpa people, and accommodations in cozy lodges make this the perfect high mountain adventure. Our own private cook staff travels with us to prepare our meals along the way.

Days 1-6 Kathmandu / Lukla / Namche /

**Tengboche** We visit the temples and bazaars

the welcoming Sherpa mountain villages of Namche Bazaar, Khunde, and Khumjung,

"Thanks to our Trip Leader, we hiked trails not known to many trekkers and were invited into Sherpa homes. I had dreamed of this trip for 30 years and now those dreams are fulfilled."

of Kathmandu, then fly to Lukla and trek to Jim A., Cincinnati OH

enjoying our first Himalayan panoramas. Trails through rhododendron forests lead us to beautiful ridgetop Tengboche Monastery, spiritual center of the Khumbu Valley, set 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 special Exploration Days bring us up to the remote wilds of Ama Dablam Base Camp and high into the 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** Our hike to the top of Kala Patar (18,365') rewards us with awesome views of Everest's Southwest Face and the enormous faces of Lhotse and Nuptse. The next day, we have 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

Trek to Everest Base Camp plus the Gokyo Valley, with its show-stopping views from Gokyo Ri (17,500'). Mar 14-Apr 7, Oct 9-Nov 2, 2018. From \$5895.

# Everest Lodge to Lodge EXPLORING SHERPA VILLAGES AND HIMALAYAN PEAKS

Imagine trekking amid the most famous peaks of the Himalaya by day and staying in a cozy lodge each night—it's the perfect WT way to experience the Himalaya! Our hikes lead to traditional Sherpa villages set below the highest mountains on earth. We'll enjoy the atmosphere around the venerated Tengboche Monastery (12,500'), surrounded by ancient mani stones inscribed with the mantra *om mane padme hum*, hike up to Pangboche, with its famous yeti hand, then circle down to



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the spectacular mountain trails below the most majestic giants of the Himalaya
- Enjoy a warm welcome into the Tibetan Buddhist culture of the Sherpa people
- Overnights in the Khumbu's best lodges no camping!

#### 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 19-Dec 2, 2017	Oct 6-19
Dec 4-17	Oct 20-Nov 3*
Dec 20, '17-Jan 2, 2018	Nov 20-Dec 3
Feb 12-25, 2018	Dec 4-17
Mar 5-18	Dec 19, '18-Jan 1, 2019
Mar 27-Apr 9	Mar 11-24, 2019
Apr 15-28	Apr 15-28
*Mani Rimdu Festival	

#### TRIP COST

\$3995 (4-12 members) Single supplement: \$1225 Internal airfare: \$375 (subject to change) Mani Rimdu Festival surcharge: \$200 Tharu Lodge extension: from \$795 Scenic Everest Flight: from \$275 Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge extension: from \$795

**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 (optional hike to 15,400')



the traditional, cloud-perched village of Phortse. Our days among the unforgettable Sherpa people of the Everest region, our option for a hike to Ama Dablam Base Camp, and our welcoming lodges make this an unforgettable adventure.

Days 1-5 Kathmandu / Lukla / Namche / Khumjung

After exploring Kathmandu, we fly to the mountain airstrip at Lukla and hike up to the bustling town of Namche Bazaar. We acclimatize in this charming Sherpa "capital" and enjoy the stupendous views as we take day hikes up to the picturesque villages of Khumjung and Khunde, home to thriving Sherpa communities. Namche holds the headquarters of Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) National Park, established in 1976 as the first national park in the Himalaya. Overnights on trek are in guestrooms in Sherpa lodges, most with private facilities.

**Days 6-7 Tengboche / Pangboche** Hiking up to Tengboche Monastery, we are in the spiritual heart of the Khumbu and gloriously surrounded by spectacular mountains. We'll find this Tibetan Buddhist center alive with activity and festooned with prayer flags in the five colors representing the five Buddhist elements:

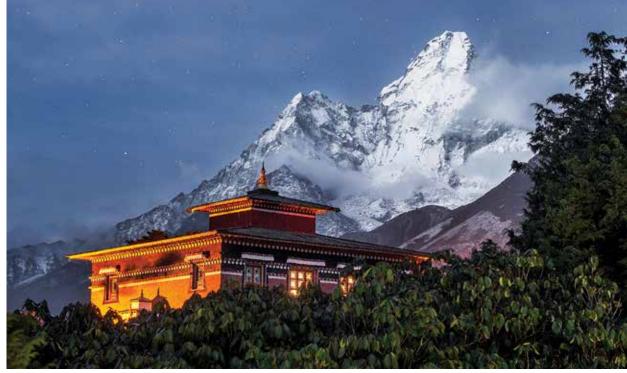


earth, wind, fire, water, and space. Our trails lead farther to Pangboche, site of the oldest monastery in the Khumbu. Pangboche is known for its views of Ama Dablam, a stunning, ice-coated pyramid known as the Matterhorn of the Himalaya. We have the option of an invigorating day's hike up to Ama Dablam Base Camp (15,400'), with its 360-degree panoramas.

#### Days 8-14 Phortse / Syangboche / Lukla / Kathmandu

We circle down a high trail along the Imja Khola 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 take in our last views of Everest's summit, then fly to Kathmandu on Day 12. Depart on Day 14, or extend your journey with game viewing at Tharu Lodge near Chitwan National Park, a spectacular Everest over-flight, or a stay at Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge for incredible Annapurna views.

Our trek has the option of a day hike to the base camp below the sacred peak of Ama Dablam. PHOTO: KARSTEN WROBEL





It is both an adventure and a privilege to be able to trek into the rare Himalayan enclave of Dolpo, a vision of Old Tibet. PHOTO: HASHMAT SINGH

# Dolpo: Expedition to the Crystal Mountain TREKKING IN A LEGENDARY HIDDEN LAND

Mystical, hidden, and one of the highest, most isolated realms in the inhabited world: this is Dolpo, a remote corner of Nepal that is a vision of Old Tibet, accessible only on foot. Our epic trek brings you into this rare world on ancient trails to high-altitude villages where people live as their Tibetan ancestors did. We'll hike over high passes (one is 18,040'!) but our special route is designed for gradual acclimatization and the rewards are countless, from vast and surreal Phoksundo Lake (11,808') to fabled Shey Gompa (16,236') of The Snow Leopard fame. Simply put, Dolpo is one of the last places in the world where such a remote and extraordinary trek is still possible. It is an experience like no other on the planet.

Days 1-9 Kathmandu / Juphal / Begin Trek / Dho Tarap After exploring Kathmandu, our trek begins with a hike 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'), with its cluster of fascinating monasteries. Many people in Dolpo still practice the pre-Buddhist faith Bon-po, the oldest spiritual tradition in Tibet.

#### Days 10-14 Upper Dolpo / Saldang

Passing trailside chortens and walls of beautifully carved *mani* stones (Buddhist prayer stones), we make our way across Upper Dolpo through a fabulous landscape of mysterious canyons and cliffside monasteries. Colorful yak caravans may pass us on the trail, transporting goods as they have for hundreds of years. We trek farther to Saldang village, with its *amchi* (Tibetan medicine) clinic and ancient alleys. Days 15-16 Shey Gompa (16,236') / Crystal Mountain Our Exploration Day at fabled Shey Gompa, a revered pilgrim destination, is a trek highlight. We 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 17-20 Kang La / Phoksundo

Lake Crossing our highest pass, the Kang La (18,040'), we come to otherworldly Phoksundo Lake (11,808'), a vast body of turquoise water encircled by sheer cliffs. On our Exploration Day here, we visit Ringmo Gompa, a mystical Bon-po monastery overlooking the shimmering waters.

### Days 21-25 Sepka / Juphal / Kathmandu

Descend to the lowlands, fly to Kathmandu on Day 23, and depart on Day 25.



# THE LAST TRUE "EDEN" OF THE HIMALAYAS

Dolpo holds near-mythical status in the Himalayan world. No roads lead to Dolpo—you must enter on foot. A trek here is a kind of Himalayan pilgrimage into another world and another time. Few places on the planet are as culturally intact and scenically breathtaking as this high realm, yet in this vast region, it is rare to see other trekkers. The western half of Dolpo has been set aside as Shey-Phoksundo National Park, the largest park in Nepal, to help preserve a trans-Himalayan ecosystem and endangered species including the elusive snow leopard and musk deer. Dolpo's treasures include unclimbed snow peaks, deep turquoise lakes, high-altitude passes, rock-perched monasteries, and sacred mountains. The stunning film *Himalaya* and Peter Matthiessen's book *The Snow Leopard*, detailing his spiritual quest in this region, have suggested some of the mystique of Dolpo. If you are a trekker with a sense of adventure, this is a must-do life experience. Join us!



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Trek into a remote Himalayan realm that few Westerners have visited
- Visit otherworldly Phoksundo Lake, with its cliffside monasteries
- Hike the sacred kora circuit around fabled Shey Gompa, a revered pilgrimage site
   Enjoy our special trekking route designed
- Enjoy our special trekking route designed for gradual altitude acclimatization

#### DETAILS

- 25-day trip begins and ends in Kathmandu
- 19 nights camping, 4 nights in first-class hotels, 1 night lodge
- All meals included except 3 lunches and 2 dinners

#### DATES

Sep 8-Oct 2, 2018 Sep 18-Oct 12

#### TRIP COST

\$7795 (10-12 members) \$8295 (7-9 members) \$8595 (5-6 members) Single supplement: \$705 Internal airfare: \$830 (subject to change) Special Area permit: \$650

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 20-day trek on moderate to steep trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes between 7,000 and 18,040 feet









"What an adventure and what a privilege to be able to trek through this remote and beautiful area of Nepal. The scenery was incredible—it really did feel like we were on top of the world! Great opportunities to visit local villages, meet local people, and experience local culture. The design of the trip was excellent, with plenty of time to acclimatize—well-paced with perfect rest days."

Robyn F., Epping Australia

# Hiker's Journey to Bhutan FESTIVALS AND HIKES IN THE LAND OF THE THUNDER DRAGON



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike and explore the ethereal Bumthang region, spiritual center of this Himalayan kingdom
- Attend a wildly colorful Buddhist tsechu festival
- Meet artisans, farmers, Buddhist pilgrims, and red-robed monks
- Climb the ancient trail to the cliff-perched Tiger's Nest monastery
- Overnights in deluxe hotels and welcoming lodges

#### DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Paro
- 4 nights deluxe hotels, 7 nights lodges
  All meals included
- · All meals included

Dec 11-22 Trongsa Festival

#### DATES Nov 27-Dec 8, 2017 Nalakhar Festival Feb 23-Mar 6, 2018 Punakha Festival Mar 21-Apr 1 Paro Festival Sep 19-30 Thimphu Festival Oct 19-30 Jambay Festival Nov 6-17 Black-Necked Crane Festival Nov 17-28 Nalakhar Festival

#### TRIP COST

\$5795 (4-15 members) Single supplement: \$1470 Internal airfare: \$1150-\$1850 (subject to change) Bhutan visa: \$40 Temples of Angkor extension: from \$925

**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





Exhilarating day hikes bring us through Bhutan's pristine landscapes and we'll witness a traditional festival. PHOTO: STEVE ALLEN  $\,$ 

Emerald valleys rise up to pristine rhododendron forests, serene villages embrace a traditional way of life, festivals honor the guardian deities, and "gross national happiness" is one of the ways the kingdom measures its wealth-Bhutan is the perfect destination for a WT cultural hiking adventure. In this rare Himalayan world, we'll discover Bhutan's unique heritage as we explore from the ancient pilgrimage sites of the Bumthang Valley, the spiritual heartland, to the cliff-perched hermitage at Taktsang. Festivals are exuberant manifestations of the Tibetan Buddhist faith, and each journey will witness a tsechu festival, with its intricate dance-dramas depicting age-old tales of demons and deities. Lovely hotels and mountain lodges keep us cozy at night, and our Bhutanese Trip Leaders share their passion for their extraordinary country.

**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 see monks carrying out their daily rituals. In the



lush Punakha Valley, we hike through riverside villages to Chimi Lhakhang, a fertility temple dedicated to the Tibetan Buddhist saint known as "the divine madman" for his unconventional ways. After exploring the impressive Punakha Dzong, seat of the highest abbot of Bhutan, we head to scenic Phobjikha Valley for a hike in the pine-forested hills and a visit to gold-spired Gangtey, an important monastery of the Nyingmapa sect of Buddhism.

#### Days 6-12 Bumthang / Tsechu Festival / Paro

The tranquil Bumthang region of central Bhutan has an extraordinary concentration of venerated temples and monasteries. We hike to some of its most sacred sites, including 17th century Kurjey Lhakhang, whose three temples are the resting place of Bhutan's first three kings. Flying back to Paro, our final hike is a spectacular one as we head up the pilgrim trail to reach Taktsang, known as the Tiger's Nest, a centuriesold monastery clinging to a cliff 3,000 feet above the Paro Valley. Depart on Day 12.

# Journey to Ladakh DISCOVER THE HIDDEN WORLD OF "LITTLE TIBET"

Awe-inspiring Ladakh is a striking moonscape of 20,000-foot peaks sheltering stone-built villages and an ancient cultural heritage. In this Buddhist land hidden in the Western Himalayas, we take day hikes to traditional villages under a cobalt-blue sky, discover the grand hilltop monasteries of the Indus Valley,

"Such an excellent trip—a fabulous location and an experience you will get nowhere else on earth."

Barbara B. Redmond WA including 11th century Alchi, with its rare frescoes, and witness a vibrant festival. Tibetan heritage is beautifully expressed here in the traditional dress of the people, the thousand-year-old monasteries clinging to cliffs, and the serpentine walls of exquisitely carved mani stones (Buddhist prayer stones). One

special highlight is our exploration of the breathtaking Nubra Valley, where we cross the world's highest motorable road, visit oasis-like villages in the high mountain desert, and watch a golden sunset from atop a massive statue of the Maitreya Buddha.

### (Lamayuru Festival itinerary) Days 1-4 Delhi / Leh / Hemis / Thikse From Delhi, we fly across the Himalaya to Leh (11,500'), Ladakh's atmospheric capital, which sprawls down from a ruined Tibetan-style palace,

with taupe-colored desert on one side and a swath of lush farmland on the other. We roam the Leh bazaar, which still has a Silk Road ambiance, and visit medieval Hemis and Thikse, two living centers of worship perched on rocky hilltops. Atop these monasteries, we'll have commanding views of the whole heartland of the Indus Valley.

### Days 5-7 Indus Valley / Alchi / Lamayuru

**Festival** After seeing the extraoardinary Buddhist frescoes at the Alchi Monastery, we make our way to the quiet village of Tingmosgang, an oasis of green barley fields and an ideal place to watch life in a traditional Ladakhi village. At ancient Lamayuru Monastery, one of Ladakh's great cliff-perched landmarks, we witness the vibrant Lamayuru Festival, with its sacred dances and rituals performed by costumed monks representing guardian deities.

**Days 8-12 Nubra Valley** A fantastic road journey brings us over the Khardung La (18,300'), the world's highest motorable road, and down into the hidden Nubra Valley (10,000'), with the mighty Karakoram Mountains on one side and craggy Ladakh Range on the other. We visit tranquil Nubra villages, hike across the valley floor, have the option for a Bactrian camel ride, and watch an ethereal golden sunset from a viewing platform atop the massive Maitreya Buddha statue at 14th century Diskit Monastery. Return to Leh and depart on Day 12 via Delhi.





### HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience Ladakh's breathtaking landscapes and unique Tibetan Buddhist culture
- Discover the once-forbidden Nubra Valley, with its ancient villages set amid dunescapes
- Witness the Lamayuru Festival (June) or Leh Festival (September)
- Stroll the atmospheric Leh bazaar, which still retains a Silk Road atmosphere
- Explore medieval monasteries of the Indus Valley, including spectacular Hemis and Thikse

#### DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Delhi
- 6 nights hotels, 5 nights guesthouses
- All meals included

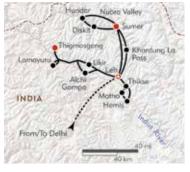
#### DATES

Jun 7-18, 2018 *Lamayuru Festival* Sep 17-28 *Leh Festival* 

#### TRIP COST

\$5295 (11-16 members) \$5695 (4-10 members) Single supplement: \$960 Internal airfare: \$590 (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



In Ladakh, one of the most spectacular realms in the entire Himalaya, we bring you to ancient villages, hilltop monasteries, and a Buddhist festival. PHOTO: TERADAT SANTIVIVUT

# Royal Rajasthan ACROSS INDIA'S LEGENDARY DESERT KINGDOM



Join our journey to meet nomads at a legendary camel fair, see the Taj Mahal at sunrise, and look for tigers in the wild. PHOTO: GAVIN HELLIER

Fascinating desert tribes, princely fortresses, camels painted with henna, and airy palaces of marble and onyx are among the many reasons we love Rajasthan. We bring you into this colorful world with a camel ride and sunset dune walk amid herders' camps at the legendary Pushkar or 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 journey brings you an unforgettable taste of India.

#### Days 1-4 Delhi / Agra / Fatehpur Sikri /

**Ranthambhore** In Agra, we see the Taj Mahal bathed in sunrise's soft light, explore Fatehpur Sikri's exquisite palaces and courtyards, and head to our deluxe tented camp at Ranthambhore to search for royal Bengal tigers in the wild.

**Days 5-6 Jaipur** In Jaipur, an 18th century city of pink sandstone, our explorations include the ornate Palace of the Winds and the ethereal Amber



Fort, a 16th century Rajput stronghold. Our hotel, the Rambagh Palace, former home of the Maharaja of Jaipur, gives us a taste of royal life.

### Days 7-8 Pushkar or Nagaur Fair Rajasthan's

flamboyant camel and cattle fairs are a feast for our senses and a riot of color, song, and dance. We enter the festival by camel and enjoy sunset walks through the dunes among the traders and camel camps. Our overnights are at a superbly comfortable and elegant tented camp.

**Days 9-11 Jodhpur** We explore the great monolith of the Mehrangarh Fort, a walled city of temples and palaces, and roam Jodhpur's spice and textile markets. Depart on Day 11, or join our special Villages of Rajasthan extension.

### EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

Villages of Rajasthan: Explore less-traveled realms where traditional cultures flourish, plus romantic Udaipur.

### ON OUR WEBSITE TREASURES OF SOUTH INDIA

Tropical landscapes, ancient spice ports, legendary cuisine. Jan 8-21, 2018; Jan 8-21, 2019. From \$7995.





#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy the songs, dances, and colorful camel races at the Nagaur or Pushkar camel fair
- Search for the remarkable wildlife of Ranthambhore National Park, including majestic Bengal tigers
- Explore the markets of Jaipur, see the sunrise at the Taj Mahal
- Extend your adventure to Rajasthan's villages on our WT leader-led journey into ancient cultures

#### 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

Feb 15-25, 2018 Nagaur Fair Nov 12-22 Pushkar Fair Feb 4-14, 2019 Nagaur Fair

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$7295 (13-16 members) \$7595 (10-12 members) \$7995 (7-9 members) Single supplement: \$3250 Internal airfare: \$335 (subject to change) Villages of Rajasthan extension: from \$3395

#### TRIP LEVEL

(1+) 2 3 4 5 6 7 Overland travel with walking tours, cultural explorations



- Enjoy lunch in a local home, ride bikes in the village of Ella
- Explore Anuradhapura, where Buddhist shrines date to the 3rd century BC, colonial Nuwara Eliya, and the Buddhist cave temples of Dambulla
- Charming accommodations, from seaside hotels to a resort overlooking the rock fortress of Sigiriya
- Meet monks, tea planters, artists, and students, and learn about Sri Lanka's ancient traditions

#### DETAILS

• 13-day trip begins and ends in Colombo

Feb 12-24

- 12 nights hotels
- All meals included except 1 lunch

#### DATES

Jan 12-24, 2018

#### TRIP COST

\$6495 (14-16 members) \$6795 (10-13 members) \$7195 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$1495

**TRIP LEVEL** 1  $(2^+)$  3 4 5 6 7 A mix of easy to moderate walks and hikes, cultural explorations



# Sri Lanka A CULTURAL ODYSSEY ON A TROPICAL ISLE

The teardrop-shaped island of Sri Lanka in the blue Indian Ocean brims with delights, from rainforests where elephants roam to emerald-green tea estates and 2,000-year-old royal cities. On our grand adventure, we visit Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka's atmospheric medieval capital, hike up the stone steps of the 5th century fortress of King Kashyapa at Sigiriya, and watch a private demonstration of Sri Lanka's traditional martial arts. We'll also explore the cool, verdant mountain country where British tea estates once held sway, sample a cuisine flavored with curry and coriander, meet tea planters and orange-robed monks, and look for wildlife in tropical Yala National Park, with its wild elephant herds "Such a wonderful experience on

#### Days 1-5 Anuradhapura / Polonnaruwa / Sigiriya

Our journey brings us to three magnificent World Heritage Sites: the Buddhist shrines and gardens of Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka's capital for 1,300 years and one of the greatest cities of its age, 10th century Polonnaruwa, with its graceful pagodas, and King Kashyapa's impressive citadel at Sigiriya. We also visit a martial arts school to watch students perform *anganpora*, the graceful and ancient Sri Lankan fighting art.

Days 6-10 Dambulla / Kandy /

Nuwara Eliya / Ella We climb up

to the great cave-temple complex

at Dambulla, enjoy a private lunch

in the home of a local professor

and art collector, and head into

Sri Lanka's famous tea country, with a walk through fragrant spice gardens. In Kandy, Sri Lanka's cultural heart, we visit the 16th century

Temple of the Tooth, and from

our heritage hotel above colonial Nuwara Eliya, we walk through manicured tea plantations and learn the fine art of "tasting" tea. A scenic rail journey through hill country brings us to the peaceful mountain village of Ella, where we enjoy a

bike ride and a lesson in preparing

Sri Lankan cuisine.

#### Days 11-13 Yala National

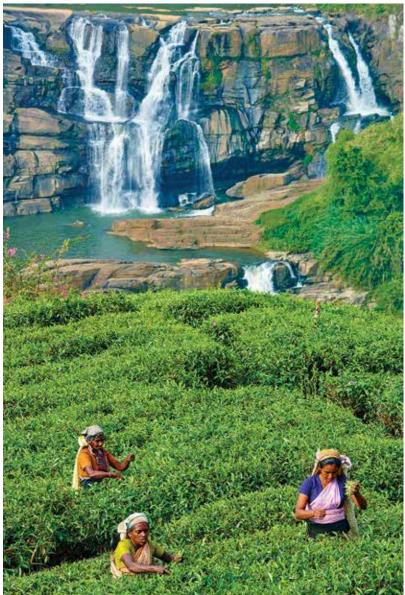
**Park / Galle** Yala, a dunecovered scrub landscape on the south coast, is home to

throngs of painted storks and troops of monkeys chattering in the trees. Wild elephants can be seen in the park's open, undulating terrain. After exploring the ancient seaside trading post of Galle, a World Heritage Site, depart on Day 13 via Colombo.

experience on an incredibly diverse island."

Nancy B., Charlestown MA

Our cultural adventure includes peaceful tea plantations, ancient pagodas, and the wild elephants of Yala National Park. PHOTO: BRUNO MORANDI







Age-old traditions still thrive in Japan, and we experience them from Tokyo to Takayama and Kyoto. PHOTO: JUI-CHI CHAN



- Discover Kanazawa's Edo-period geisha quarter and Takayama's traditional architectural styles
- Explore Kyoto, with its Zen gardens, majestic palaces, welcoming teahouses, food markets, and artisan districts
- Enjoy overnights in 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 21-Apr 3, 2018 Apr 5-18 *Reverse itinerary* 

#### TRIP COST

\$8695 (11-12 members) \$8895 (9-10 members) \$9195 (6-8 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)

# Temples, Treasures & Teahouses HIDDEN WORLDS OF JAPAN

Japan is an ancient and enigmatic land, and our insider's journey reveals aspects of it few travelers ever get to see. In ancient Takayama in the Japanese Alps, we'll find the elegant work of Hida artisans much in evidence in the splendid merchant houses

"The trip design was so great—from cherry blossoms and temples to the wonderful countryside. Such a wonderful experience for the entire group!" and centuries-old sake breweries, and in seaside Kanazawa, we stroll streets lined by immaculately preserved teahouses from the Edo and Meiji eras. We explore romantic Kyoto, the thousand-year-old cultural and artistic capital of

Bob S., Half Moon Bay CA

Japan, in depth, attending a stunning Miyako Odori dance performance. Our visits to artists, incredible food markets, exquisite landscapes, and tranquil Zen temples unveil Japan's unique traditions, and our accommodations include serene ryokans and a Buddhist monastery perched on a mountaintop.

Days 1-7 Tokyo / Takayama / Kanazawa After visiting Tokyo's treasures, we head to the mountain town of Takayama, where we'll taste the wares at a 17th century brewery and see the craft heritage expressed in thatched *gassho-zukuri* farmhouses that seem right out of a fairytale. In Kanazawa on the Sea of Japan, we explore the city's grand feudal castle and gorgeous Kenroku-en garden.

#### Days 8-14 Kyoto / Koyasan / Osaka Our

fantastic five-day exploration of Kyoto includes the mystical Zen rock garden at Ryoanji and sublime Daitokuji, whose small Zen temples and gardens are associated with masters of the Japanese tea ceremony. In eastern Kyoto, we walk the cherry-blossom-lined Path of Philosophy, and in western Kyoto, we'll explore the Sagano and Arashiyama districts, remnants of Kyoto's rural past with their thatchroofed houses, welcoming teahouses, rice paddies, and the poet Basho's hut. We also enjoy Kyoto's workshops and superbly crafted traditional arts. One night, we ride by cable car up to mountaintop Koyasan Monastery for an overnight in a *shukubo* (temple lodge). Depart on Day 14 via Osaka.

### ON OUR WEBSITE JAPAN: CASTLES, SAMURAI & LEGENDS

Explore feudal Japan, with its soaring castles, samurai homes, and pilgrim trails. Nov 1-14, 2017; May 7-20, Oct 17-30, 2018. From \$7695.

# 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 our own unique journey across this legendary isle. Arriving in Shikoku by boat, the way pilgrims did in centuries past, we'll hike 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, including meeting fellow pilgrims, relaxing in the thousand-year-old Dogo Onsen (hot spring), and staying overnight in a temple with a magical atmosphere.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike pilgrim paths to the legendary temples of Shikoku
- Explore the traditional lya Valley, with its thatched houses and vine bridges
   Meet pilgrims and hikers, sample
- Shikoku's delicious fresh seafood
- Visit atmospheric Matsuyama-jo, a feudal castle completed in 1627 and still in its original state

#### DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Osaka
- 11 nights hotels, inns, and ryokans, 1 night temple lodging
- All meals included except 1 dinner

DATES May 20-Jun 1, 2018 Oct 6-18 Nov 3-15

#### TRIP COST

\$7395 (11-12 members) \$7795 (9-10 members) \$8195 (6-8 members) Single supplement: \$840

#### **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



Days 1-4 Osaka / Koyasan Monastery / Temple Hikes At the Koyasan Monastery where Kobo Daishi is buried, pilgrims traditionally come 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 also visit Kakurin-ji, a mountain temple 1,500 feet above the sea, and a special temple where pilgrims touch an ancient tree said to have been planted by Kobo Daishi.

**Days 5-10 Iya Valley / Kochi / 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, we hike up sacred Tsurugi-san (6,412'). We also visit the famed



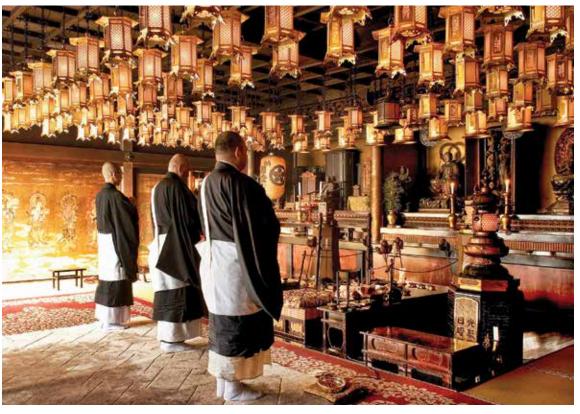
Taga-jinja fertility shrine, hike to cliff-perched Iwaya-ji Temple, and enjoy seaside Kochi. In Matsuyama, we visit its feudal-era castle and soak in Dogo Onsen hot springs, one of the oldest public bath houses in Japan, dating

Days 11-13 Kompira-san / Okubo-ji / Awaji Island /

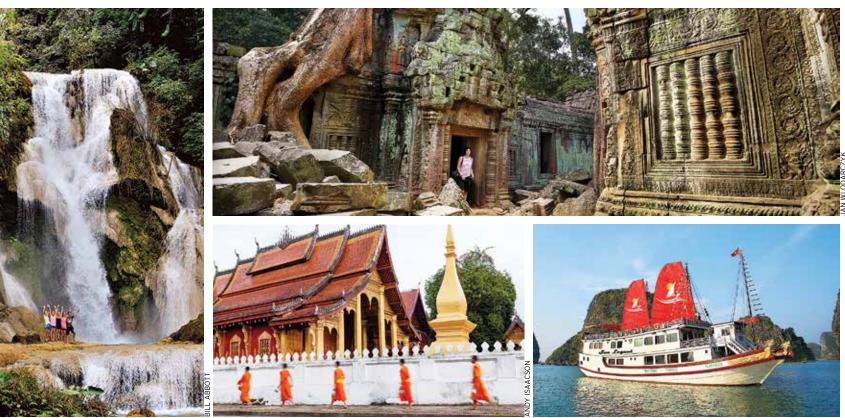
back a thousand years.

**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, known as the Temple of the Completion of the Vow. The stone in front of this temple is said to be where Kobo Daishi left his walking staff. After an overnight on Awaji Island, known in Japanese folklore as the birthplace of Japan, we depart on Day 13 via Osaka.

We'll hike alongside Japanese pilgrims from all walks of life on our unique journey. PHOTO: CHRISTIAN GOUPI



### FOR A DETAILED ITINERARY: 1.800.368.2794 OR EMAIL ASIA@WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM 95



Our adventure brings you deep into the rich cultures and magnificent landscapes of three extraordinary countries.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Luang Prabang's lively markets and ethereal temples, meet hill tribe people in their villages
- Discover Hanoi's famous Old Quarter by bicycle rickshaw and on foot
- Savor the beautiful karst landscapes of Halong Bay on an overnight cruise
- Watch a golden sunrise over the soaring towers 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 4-19, 2017
 Nov 3-18

 Dec 20, 17-Jan 4, 2018
 Dec 21, 18-Jan 5, 2019

 Jan 6-21, 2018
 Jan 12-27, 2019

 Jan 27-Feb 11
 Feb 12-27

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$5795 (15-16 members) \$5995 (11-14 members) \$6395 (6-10 members) Single supplement: \$1350 Internal airfare: \$790 (subject to change) Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$330 Bangkok extension: from \$675

**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 images of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia are striking: gold-leafed pagodas glinting in the tropical sun, limestone hills rising from shimmering rice paddies, women carrying goods to market by yoke basket, shy young monks in saffron robes. We bring

"An adventure that my husband and I will long remember. Thanks to WT for yet another outstanding trip!"

Essie H.

Santa Monica CA

you deep into Indochine's bountiful world, exploring Luang Prabang, a UNESCOlisted Laotian town of exquisite Buddhist temples, where we'll boat down the tranquil Mekong and visit hill tribe villages. In Vietnam, we head into Hanoi's photogenic Old Quarter by bike rickshaw, cruise magical Halong Bay aboard our traditional

junk (sailing ship), explore the tiny 17th century seaside port of Hoi An, with its lantern-lit lanes, and marvel at the palaces of the Nguyen emperors in Hue. Our grand finale is Angkor, Cambodia's surreal "lost city" rising out of an enveloping forest, where one morning finds us watching a golden sunrise over the soaring stone towers of Angkor Wat. **Days 1-4 Luang Prabang, Laos** In beautiful Luang Prabang, a city suspended in time, we visit dazzling 15th century pagodas, take a boat ride to ancient Budddhist caves, and meet Hmong and Khamu hill tribe people in their villages. We also stroll the night market, with its extraordinary collection of hill tribe crafts.

Days 5-11 Hanoi, Vietnam / Halong Bay / Hoi An / Hue / Saigon Taking in Hanoi's Old Quarter by bicycle rickshaw and on foot, we stop for a delicious lunch of *cha ca*, Hanoi's famous fish and noodle dish, and visit the studio of a local artist. In Halong Bay, a mystical karst landscape encircled by a jade-green sea, we board our own traditional junk for a spectacular overnight cruise. In picturesque Hoi An, we stroll the riverside market, and in Hue, we see the royal legacy of the 19th century Nguyen emperors. Our last stop is bustling Saigon, with its French colonial architecture and fascinating museums.

### Days 12-16 Siem Reap / Temples of Angkor,

**Cambodia** Covered with intricate bas-reliefs and scattered across a tropical landscape, the temples of Angkor are a lasting monument to the glory of a bygone Khmer civilization. Exploring this vast World Heritage Site, we visit majestic, ornate temples and marvel at the detailed carving and colossal sculpted Buddha images. Depart Siem Reap on Day 16.



- Mingle with monks at spectacular Shwedagon, watch the sun set over hundreds of pagodas at Bagan
- Meet Akha, Palung, and Ann hill tribe people in their villages and markets Boat village to village along the great
- Irrawaddv River Explore magnificent Inle Lake, with
- its floating markets, stilt villages, and famous "leg-rowers"

#### DETAILS

• 14-day trip begins and ends in Yangon

Nov 3-16

Feb 12-25

Jan 15-28, 2019

A MEL CO VA ON MEL

- 13 nights hotels • All meals included except 3 dinners

#### DATES

Nov 4-17, 2017 Jan 6-19, 2018 Feb 13-26

#### TRIP COST

**UNADOW** 

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$5895 (14-16 members) \$6095 (10-13 members) \$6495 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$1325 Internal airfare: \$565 (subject to change) Optional balloon ride in Bagan: \$380 (subject to change) Laos: Luang Prabang extension: from \$890

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Cultural explorations, optional hikes of 2-4 hours

Discover Burma's secrets on our cultural journey from Bagan to Inle Lake. PHOTO: KEREN SU

# Burma: Wonders of the Golden Land the Ancient Cities of BAGAN AND MANDALAY, MAGICAL INLE LAKE

Once hidden from the outside world, Burma is "quite unlike any land you know about," as Rudyard Kipling famously wrote. We'll bring you to this magical land's glittering goldspired stupas, intriguing pre-Buddhist "nat" shrines, traditional artisans, tranquil mountain paths, and the highland villages of its hill tribes. We meet pilgrims and monks at the magnificent Shwedagon Pagoda, watch sunset over the pagoda-strewn plains of Bagan, and travel up the peaceful Irrawaddy by private boat to visit riverside temples. In the Shan highlands, we are welcomed into hill tribe villages, and we'll boat into fantastic "floating" markets on serene Inle Lake. Burma abounds with visual delights, but it's our encounters with its deeply spiritual people that linger in our mind long after journey's end.

Days 1-2 Yangon We join the saffron-robed monks and Buddhist pilgrims at the stupendous Shwedagon Pagoda and explore Bogyoke Market and the bustling waterfront of the Yangon River.

Days 3-5 Bagan Two thousand brick pagodas from the 11th to 13th centuries rise majestically from the great plains of Bagan, a World Heritage



Site. We climb to the top of one for a sunset view and take a private boat to a village on an island in the Irrawaddy River.

Days 6-7 Mandalay After "making merit" at the Maha Muni Pagoda, we journey to 14th century Sagaing, with its white hillside pagodas. A horse cart brings us to the ruins of Ava, the Burmese capital from the 14th to the 19th centuries, and we capture sunset photos at picturesque 200-year-old U Bein Bridge.

Days 8-14 Hill Tribe Country / Inle Lake Among Burma's traditional hill tribes, we visit villages and meet a local shaman. At vast Inle Lake, famous for its leg-rowers, we explore by longboat, visit a wildly colorful floating market, and meet the abbot of a Buddhist monastery. Depart on Day 14 via Yangon.

# Snorkeling Raja Ampat ONF OF THF WILD FRONTIFRS ON OUR PLANFT



"There are not enough words to describe this trip. It was so amazing-lots of laughter and fun out of the water and the snorkeling was beyond belief."

Tanis D. Noosaville Australia Head off the map with us to Indonesia's far-flung Raja Ampat archipelago, one of the last wild places on the planet and a realm that few travelers have experienced. The snorkeling here is mindboggling as we explore an underwater universe of extravagant coral reefs that support an astonishing diversity of species-technicolor soft corals, ghost pipefish, tasseled wobbegongs, hawksbill turtles, octopus, and eight different species of anemonefish. Above the water's surface, we'll relish Raja Ampat's dramatic limestone islands, dazzling aguamarine lagoons, and rare birds, including the red bird of paradise. Our home away from home is a 100-foot traditional Indonesian schooner, with evenings spent in remote anchorages savoring the unspoiled beauty of our surroundings.

rock outcrops, we snorkel through

mangroves and among schools

of silvery sardines and juvenile

reef fish. 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. In the

evenings, we anchor in a serene

setting and watch for manta rays

gliding around our boat—it's a

Days 7-12 Waigeo Island / Gam

Island We navigate into Alyui Bay on

Waigeo Island, exploring by dinghy

in forest-lined inland waterways.

We search for hawksbill turtles

magical experience.

#### Days 1-3 Sorong / Penemu

Boarding our yacht in Sorong, we cruise into Raja Ampat and discover its unusual marine and terrestrial ecosystems, from shallow bays with rare shrimp gobies, octopus, nudibranchs, and "twilight zone" critters, to limestone rock islands undercut by the sea and covered with tunicates, sponges, and corals. Our snorkeling adventures around the isle of Penemu reveal a brilliant spectrum hidden beneath the sea surface, from frogfish and opulent lionfish to reef sharks and pygmy seahorses.

Days 4-6 Wayag Island / Uranie Island At Wayag, a stunning island of jungle-covered

Our Raja Ampat journey brings you the most incredible snorkeling adventures on the planet. PHOTO: JURGEN FREUND



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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.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- · Explore one of the most biologically
- diverse and remote areas on earth • World-class snorkeling above pristine coral reefs, spectacular stargazing
- at night Travel aboard a traditional double-masted Indonesian schooner, anchoring in coves with no one else in sight

#### DETAILS

- 12-day trip begins and ends in Sorong
- 11 nights aboard vacht
- All meals included

#### DATES

Nov 28-Dec 9, 2017 May 7-18, 2018 May 20-31 Sep 20-Oct 1 Oct 3-14

Oct 29-Nov 9 Nov 11-22 Nov 24-Dec 5

Oct 16-27

#### TRIP COST

\$5695 (8-10 members) \$6095 (7 members) \$6595 (6 members) Single supplement: \$1995

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Snorkeling, exploring by dinghy, optional sea kavaking



# Vanuatu Adventures in THE ISLES OF HAPPINESS

The tropical archipelago of Vanuatu is a wonderland of luminous blue waters, erupting volcanoes, and jewel-green rainforests. Amid these primeval landscapes are rich Pacific cultures, each with their own unique "kastom" (or customs). On our adrenalin-filled, multisport adventure with our Trip Leader Jon Imhoof, we'll paddle sit-on-top kayaks to stunning "blue holes," climb above the clouds to the crater rim of an active volcano, and travel by traditional outrigger canoe. We'll also see the famed land divers of Pentacost Island, hike and swim through a two-mile-long cave, and snorkel above kaleidoscopic reef formations. Along the way, we enjoy the warm welcome of the Ni-Vanuatu (Melanesian people), who delight in sharing their heritage, and are acclaimed to be among the "happiest people on Earth."

**Days 1-2 Espiritu Santo** We begin our explorations on Espiritu Santo, the largest island in the Vanuatu archipelago. On arrival, we head straight to Million Dollar Point for our first snorkeling excursion. We paddle by traditional outrigger canoe to Riri Blue Hole, with its incredibly blue water, spotting rainbow lorikeets and Vanuatu kingfishers as we drift beneath the rainforest canopy, and visit fascinating Kastom villages to learn about Vanuatu's ancient cultures. We also enjoy a relaxing float down a river, letting the currents take us to a spectacular cascading waterfall.

Days 3-5 Champagne Beach / Turtle Island / Millennium Cave Known for its powdery white sand, Champagne Beach is a stunning spot for a swim, snorkel, or a stroll. At uninhabited Turtle Island, the delights of our own private island await, including snorkeling the reef, beach combing, and a traditional Melanesian feast. To travel through the massive and spectacular Millennium Cave, we boulder-hop through a cavern, cross bamboo bridges, and float down a gorge amid lacy waterfalls and lush rainforest.

Days 6-7 Land Diving on Pentecost Island / Matavulu Blue Hole On Pentecost Island, we witness Nanggol—land diving—a spectacle that is the dramatic focal point of the yam harvest celebration. Back on Santo, kayaking along a crystal stream beneath the forest canopy brings us to the Matavulu Blue Hole, a freshwater spring where we take a dip.

Days 8-11 Tanna Island / Yasur Volcano / Lemnap Blue Cave On Tanna Island, we discover unique reef formations that are sanctuaries for an abundance of marine life, including dugongs, turtles, moray eels, reef sharks, and blue-spotted rays, and we also explore swim-throughs, tunnels, and grottos. We climb Yasur Volcano to watch a spectacular sunset, with molten lava lighting the sky, and explore the 200-foot-wide grotto of the amazing Lemnap Blue Cave. Our home on Tanna is an intimate beachfront oasis with absolutely stunning views and sensational sunsets. Depart on Day II.



Our intriguing cultural journey brims with sea kayaking, snorkeling, and swimming adventures. PHOTO: VINCENT PREVOST

# Compage Reach Experits Sorte P Banier Beach House Perfector Is. VANUATU Port Vilo 1 50 km

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Snorkel some of the best reefs in all Vanuatu, swim in crystal-clear blue holes
- See the famous Pentecost "land divers" leap from towers in celebration of the yam harvest
- Enjoy a warm welcome into Vanuatu's village life and learn about their unique cultures
- Relax at our waterfront island hideaways

#### DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins in Espiritu Santo and
- ends in Port Vila • 10 nights waterfront bungalows
- All meals included
- .....

### DATES

Apr 15-25, 2018 Jun 10-20

#### TRIP COST

\$5995 (6-8 members) \$6395 (4-5 members) Single supplement: \$950 Internal airfare: \$595 (subject to change)

### TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 (4) 5 6 7 Snorkeling, hiking, sea kayaking, and reef walking excursions



- Snorkel and kayak the Rock Islands, a dream realm of hidden lakes, coral gardens, marine tunnels, and thousandfoot-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 5-14, 2017 Jan 17-26, 2018 Feb 17-26 Mar 18-27 Sep 10-19 Oct 8-17 Nov 9-18 Jan 21-30, 2019 Feb 5-14 Mar 8-17

#### TRIP COST

\$6195 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$620 Internal airfare: \$175 (subject to change) Palau's Big Five extension: from \$1895

#### **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

# 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. On our unique Palau snorkeling and kayaking expedition—a journey we pioneered, and it's still absolutely unique in the region—we

bring you to a paradise of

outer-reef walls teeming

to rare old-growth coral

gardens and salt-water

waterfalls, and to hidden

by our own expert Trip

marine lakes first discovered

with massive schools of fish

(an "underwater Serengeti"),

"Over the top wonderful—I still wake up dreaming I am in my kayak! I have never had so much fun in my entire life."

Diane H., Brandon SD

Leaders. Our private camps, tucked away on isolated beaches, are for our exclusive use and offer us solitude and special access to this natural history paradise, along with delightful barbecues, sunrises and sunsets beyond the imagination, and unbelievable stargazing.

#### Days 1-4 Koror / Nikko Bay / Risong Bay

In the Rock Islands, gorgeous Nikko Bay's calm waters offer idyllic sea kayaking above wildly colorful old-growth coral forests, and at Risong Bay, we snorkel in the absolutely pristine Blue Devil Gardens, where sparkling blue devil damsel fish shimmer 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 special limestone 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 we snorkel right amid them—a surreal experience! At the Big Drop-Off (Palau's legendary Ngemelis Wall), 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.

At our exclusive private island camps, we are surrounded by the pristine natural wonders of the Rock Islands.



<image><image>

# Swimming with the Humpbacks of Ha'apai IN TONGA'S REMOTE TROPICAL ISLES

In Tonga's enchanting Ha'apai Islands, we'll don masks and snorkels, slip into the water, and swim with humpback whales! They migrate here each summer, and Tonga is one of the few places in the world where one can swim close to these magnificent creatures—it's one of the greatest thrills the natural world has to offer. With luck, our heart-pounding experiences will include watching



spyhopping, breaching, and mother-calf interactions. Of the 62 islands in the Ha'apai group, 45 are uninhabited and the rest are lightly populated, so we'll have a real "South Seas" feeling as we explore. We'll also paddle sea kayaks, snorkel vibrant reefs, and meet the Ha'apai islanders, who welcome us with time-honored hospitality. Our overnights are in a traditional Tonganstyle lodge set on a white-sand beach.

Day 1 Tongatapu / Snorkeling / Kayaking A morning flight from Tongatapu, Tonga's capital, brings us to Foa Island in the remote Ha'apai Islands. We settle in and enjoy the long, sandy beach right out the front door of our lodge. The lodge's restaurant includes meals with delicious, locally caught seafood. Tonight, we can stargaze under the bright Milky Way and learn how early Polynesians used the stars to navigate.

Days 2-8 Whale Watching / Snorkeling / Kayaking We're off on our search for the whales. Each year, humpback whales make a 2,800-mile migratory journey across the great Southern Ocean, along the coast of New Zealand, and into the wide expanse of the South Pacific Ocean, finally arriving in the sheltered waters of the kingdom of Tonga. From June through October, the whales court, mate, and bear their young here. We've chosen the best time of year (September) to see this activity, during the latter part of the season, when the whales are more relaxed, the calves are larger, more independent, and tend to be curious, rewarding us with amazing encounters. We set out by boat each morning in search of them, and we seldom have to travel far before sighting the first whales of the day. We approach them slowly to avoid disturbing them, and observe their behavior. Then, slipping into the water, we swim alongside them! We also stop at times to listen for the ethereal sounds of whale song. Male humpbacks sing elaborate "ballads" whose stanzas evolve over generations. One of our days, we take a break from whale watching and paddle our kayaks to Nukunamu, "The King's Island," where we snorkel the channel between Nukunamu and Ha'ano Islands, looking for colorful reef fish. With luck, we might even catch a glimpse of the elegant stingrays and sea turtles that inhabit these reefs. Back at our lodge each afternoon, we can snorkel, kayak, or enjoy a bike ride around the island. On the Sunday that we are here, we have the option to attend a church service and listen to the renowned harmonies of Tongan singing. Depart on Day 8.



Swimming with a 40-ton humpback whale is one of the world's most thrilling wildlife experiences. PHOTO: MASA USHIODA

Stargaze under the

Milky Way

DETAILS

DATES

Sep 20-27

clear skies and bright

8-day trip begins and

• 7 nights Tongan-style

ends in Tongatapu

beach resort

Sep 13-20, 2018

All meals included

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Swim with humpback whales—the experience of a lifetime!
  Sea kavak in a remote.
- untouched South Pacific paradise • Optional paddle boarding
- Option to attend a Sunday church service in a village and hear
- Tongan singing • Enjoy your spacious beachfront cabana set in a tropical garden, with sunrise views from



#### **TRIP COST**

\$5195 (6-8 members) \$5595 (4-5 members) Single supplement: \$795 Internal airfare: \$210 (subject to change)

#### TRIP\_LEVEL

1 2 (3) 4 5 6 7 Sea kayaking (no previous experience necessary), whale watching, swimming, beachcombing



### FOR MORE DETAILS ON OUR PACIFIC TRIPS, VISIT WWW.WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM/TRIPS/PACIFIC 101



Our Komodo journey offers world-class snorkeling amid the amazing biodiversity of the Coral Triangle



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Fantastic snorkeling in a remote corner of the world
- Travel aboard our 98-foot phinisi (Indonesian two-masted sailing ship). enjoying en suite cabins and excellent service
- See the famous Komodo dragons on Komodo Island—up to 10 feet long and weighing 150 pounds!
- Fantastic naturalist Trip Leader who offers an in-depth look into the unsurpassed marine biodiversity

#### DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Dennasar
- 10 nights aboard a vacht
- All meals included

#### DATE Sep 2-12, 2018

TRIP COST From \$6195, depending on cabin category Internal airfare: \$280 (subject to change) Single supplement: Call for details

#### TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Snorkeling, hiking, exploring by tender

# Komodo Snorkeling Expedition CORAL REEFS, TROPICAL REEF FISH, AND KOMODO DRAGONS

In the center of the long Indonesian archipelago lies magnificent Komodo National Park, a World Heritage Site of steep volcanic islands, pristine coral reefs, empty white-sand beaches, and astounding marine biodiversity. It is one of the top snorkeling spots on the planet, home to the phenomenal underwater life that the Coral Triangle is renowned for. Aboard our very comfortable Indonesian two-masted sailing ship, we'll fill our days with world-class snorkeling and island adventures, including one to see the fearsome Komodo dragons-the world's largest lizards. Our evenings are for tropical sunsets, stargazing, and the delights of shipboard life. Our trip was selected as one of National Geographic Traveler's 50 Tours of a Lifetime.

### Days 1-2 Denpasar / Flores / Tatawa Besar /

Siaba Kecil From Denpasar, fly to Flores, where we board our liveaboard ship. On Sebayur Island, we enjoy an evening snorkel, then head to the islands of Tatawa Besar and Siaba Kecil, where drift-snorkeling over coral gardens and underwater canyons reveals groupers, mantas, green turtles, and rare mandarin fish.

Days 3-5 Gili Lawa Laut / Gili Darat / Makassar Reef Exploring a coral garden just north of Komodo Island where huge fish reside, we may see giant trevallys, cowtail stingrays, sweetlips, and groupers. At Makassar Reef, we see schools of mantas, and on Padar Island, the Pink Beach awaits, picturesque with its delicate coral-pink sands colored by fragments of red corals. A sunset hike to the top of Gili Darat gives us golden panoramas over Komodo Island and down to long, white-sand beaches with breathtaking visible coral formations.

### Days 6-8 Komodo Dragons / Cannibal Rock We look for the legendary Komodo dragons, the largest living lizards on earth, found nowhere else in the world, and snorkel at Cannibal Rock, a submerged pinnacle with gold-striped fusiliers, scorpion fish, red snapper, surgeon fish, and purple gorgonian sea fans hiding pygmy seahorses.

Days 9-11 Batu Bolong / Kanawa / Bidadari Batu Bolong is a mind-blowing rock pinnacle and home to 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 at Bidadari Island, with its white-sand beach and crystalline waters. Depart on Day 11 via Denpasar.



- See Borneo's famously exotic wildlife
  Dawn and dusk rides on the Kinabatangan
- River • Explore the Danum Valley's primary rainforest
- Enjoy forest walks in Tabin Wildlife Reserve
- Visit Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation
- Centre • Snorkel the reefs at Mataking 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 23-May 5, 2018 Oct 8-20 Apr 22-May 4, 2019

#### TRIP COST

\$8495 (10-13 members) \$8995 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$1150 Internal airfare: \$150 (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



# Borneo Expedition primeval rainforests, endangered orangutans, snorkeling on a tropical island

Borneo holds some of Asia's most intact tropical ecosystems and an incredible biodiversity of wildlife, with marvelous creatures including pygmy elephants, proboscis monkeys, and orangutans—the multitude of extraordinary ecosystems and unique wildlife is unparalleled.

At famed Sepilok Forest Reserve, we'll watch the morning feeding of orphaned orangutans, and in the Kinabatangan Wetlands, we boat along a wildlife-rich river at dusk and dawn to search for rainforest species. Our adventures bring us into the colossal Gomantong Caves and into the treetop canopies of the Danum Valley, while night walks give us a chance to see nocturnal species from slow loris to bioluminescent fungi. Journey's end finds us on Borneo's east coast, celebrating our journey with snorkeling right from our oceanfront chalets overlooking the Celebes Sea.

### Days 1-2 Kota Kinabalu / Sepilok Forest

**Reserve** From Kota Kinabalu, we head to Sepilok Forest Reserve, originally set up to rehabilitate orphaned and injured orangutans and today providing medical care for dozens of other species. We watch the orangutans at the feeding station and learn about the conservation work being done, then set out for a sunset canopy walk high in the trees, perhaps seeing the giant flying squirrels that come out at dusk. The next day we have a private visit to the Borneo Sun Bear Conservation Center, a sanctuary for the world's smallest bear species.

#### Days 3-6 Kinabatangan Wetlands / Tabin

Wildlife Reserve Journeying along the winding Kinabatangan River, we keep an eye out for pygmy elephants, silver leaf langurs, and other tree-dwelling rainforest animals. Ten primate species inhabit the Kinabatangan area, most of them found only in Borneo. In Tabin Wildlife Reserve, we take forest walks in search of flying squirrels, Asian palm civets, Malayan civets, and pig-tailed macaques. Tabin is one of Borneo's best birding areas, home to sought-after species such



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ee overall itinerary were excellent. The wildlife viewing was outstanding and snorkeling at Mataking was so special."

"The range of

experiences and

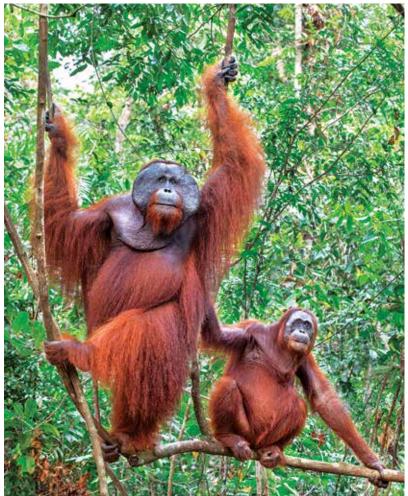
Sandy C., Seattle WA

as the rhinoceros hornbill. We also visit the limestone Gomantong caves and one of

Tabin's "mud volcanoes," whose nutrient-rich soil attracts a vast array of species.

Days 7-13 Danum Valley Conservation Area / Mataking Island In the Danum Valley, we enjoy forest canopy walks and guided night hikes. Resident species include the Sumatran rhino, endemic spectacled flowerpecker, and Borneo's beloved mouse deer. From our beach chalets at Mataking Island, the snorkeling is out of this world. Fly to Kota Kinabalu for overnight, and depart on Day 13.

Amazing wildlife encounters await every day on this thrilling natural history adventure. PHOTO: SUZI ESZTERHAS



# New Zealand: South Island Adventure A DREAM JOURNEY IN NATURE'S WONDERLAND



From gorgeous Abel Tasman National Park to glacier-carved Milford Sound, we hike and explore the South Island's incredible landscapes. PHOTO: MORITZ WOLF From the mountains to the sea, New Zealand's entire South Island feels like one enormous national park—no

"The trip was everything I imagined and hoped it would be—stunning scenery, great kayaking, delightful hikes and swimming with dolphins. Our guides were so knowledgeable and entertaining. It was fabulous!"

Mary Ellen M., Nanuet NY

wonder Kiwis celebrate any opportunity to "have a go" at outdoor adventure! We discover firsthand the natural beauty that inspires them as we swim among wild dolphins at Kaikoura, hike through mystical fern forests and powdery white-sand beaches in Abel Tasman National Park, discover the icy wonder of Fox Glacier, and savor world-famed Milford Sound on a spectacular overnight cruise. Outdoor adventure abounds (as does wine tasting and wonderfully fresh local cuisine!), yet our journey also

reveals the unique culture, friendly Kiwi character, and unhurried pace of this nature-blessed land. At journey's end, extend with an epic hike on the Hollyford Track in Fiordland National Park, a World Heritage Site.

Days 1-3 Kaikoura Coast / Swim with Wild Dolphins / Marlborough Sounds / Nelson We enjoy a hike on the Kaikoura Peninsula and a swim 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 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 National Park

Our coastal hikes in the fernforested wilderness of Abel Tasman National Park lead past white-sand beaches and turquoise lagoons with fantastic views. At Paparoa National Park, with its densely forested karst landscape, we hike lush trails amid Nikau palms, northern rata, and cabbage trees.

Days 8-11 Fox Glacier / Mount Aspiring National Park The Fox Glacier, longest of New Zealand's West Coast glaciers, ends remarkably in a temperate rainforest just a few miles from the sea, and we hike below its terminus for up-close views. At Munro Beach, we search for the rare Fiordland crested penguins, and in Mount Aspiring National Park, hike through a spectacular river gorge to a natural amphitheater—the perfect place for our picnic lunch.

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 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 Hollyford Track extension.









#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Spectacular hikes in Abel Tasman and Mount Aspiring National Parks
- Swim with dolphins, walk to the terminus of the Fox Glacier
- Milford Sound overnight cruise, with spectacular sunset kayaking
- Wonderful cuisine, from fresh seafood to tender local lamb
- Enjoy our Hollyford Track extension

#### 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

### DATES

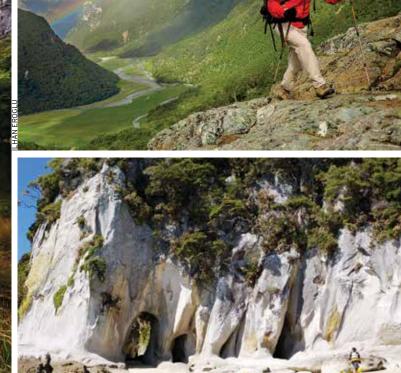
Nov 19-Dec 1, 2017	Nov 12-24
Dec 10-22	Dec 10-22
Jan 7-19, 2018	Jan 1-13, 2019
Jan 21-Feb 2	Jan 14-26
Feb 3-15	Jan 28-Feb 9
Feb 18-Mar 2	Feb 11-23
Mar 2-14	Feb 24-Mar 8
Mar 17-29	Mar 11-23

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$6295 (11-14 members) \$6695 (6-10 members) Single supplement: \$1050 Hollyford Track extension: from \$2050

### 

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 activities



# New Zealand: Off the Beaten Path REMOTE PARKS AND RARE WILDLIFE OF THE SOUTH ISLAND



What an adventure! Experience fantastic day hikes on three of New Zealand's famed "Great Walks" (the Kepler, Routeburn, and Rakiura trails), a helicopter flight across Milford Sound to the untamed Te Wahi Pounamu World Heritage Area, wine tasting in the Gibbston Valley vineyards, a jet-boat ride up beautiful Lake McKerrow, and adventures on ethereal Stewart Island, famous for its aurora australis (southern lights) and the best place to spot kiwis (the feathered kind). Unique wildlife encounters abound: we'll see Hooker's sea lions, New Zealand fur seals, yellow-eyed penguins, and maybe even Fiordland crested penguins. Our accommodations are South Island places of charm and character, and we can expect delicious wines and locally sourced farm-to-table meals.

Days 1-2 Gibbston Valley / Wine Tasting / Routeburn Track From Queenstown, we head out to taste wines in the Gibbston Valley, with its famous pinot noirs and artisan cheeses, then hike on the spectacular Routeburn Track, one of New Zealand's "Great Walks." We cross swinging bridges above the jade waters of the Routeburn River as we follow a well-graded track through the forest.

Days 3-4 Central Otago / The Catlins Coast

Our hike along the Catlins Coast, one of New Zealand's hidden jewels, brings us to the picturesque lighthouse at Nugget Point, where gannets, cormorants, and sooty shearwaters soar along the cliffs. One night, we hike in the forest to see the glow worms living within it.

#### Days 5-6 Stewart Island / Kiwi-Spotting / Rakiura Track

Incredible Stewart Island is a place the Maori people called Rakiura, which means "glowing skies." We hike our second "Great Walk" trail, the Rakiura Track, and at twilight, head out to search for kiwi, New Zealand's signature bird.

Days 7-10 South Coast / Kepler Track / Milford Sound / Hollyford Track Back on the mainland, we

Our journey brings you to the best under-the-radar spots on the South Island for incredible hikes and unique wildlife encounters. PHOTO: MICHAEL KRABS



106 FOR A DETAILED ITINERARY: 1.800.368.2794 OR EMAIL PACIFIC@WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM

hike the Kepler Track's mossdraped beech forest amid prolific birdlife and cascading waterfalls. A breathtaking helicopter flight takes us to Milford Sound's Martins Bay, where our coastal hike gives us a chance to see rare Fiordland crested penguins and native New Zealand fur seals. Our last adventures are a jet-boat ride up Lake McKerrow and a hike on the Hollyford Track through native beech forest beneath the gaze of the peaks of the mighty Southern Alps. Depart on Day 10 via Queenstown.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Day hikes on the famed Routeburn, Kepler, and Rakiura trails
- Amazing wildlife, from yellow-eyed penguins to Hooker's sea lions
- Relaxed rural settings, amazing stargazing, delightful picnics
- Delicious New Zealand wines, tasty local cuisine

#### DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Queenstown
- 9 nights hotels and simple lodges
- All meals included except 4 dinners

#### DATES

Nov 6-15, 2017 Jan 22-31, 2018 Feb 19-28 Mar 19-28 Nov 25-Dec 4 Jan 13-22, 2019 Feb 10-19 Mar 10-19

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$5695 (9-12 members) \$5995 (6-8 members) Single supplement: \$980

#### TRIP LEVEL 1 (2+) 3 4 5 6 7 Moderate hiking, 3-6 hours a day





On this "island at the edge of the world," we enjoy fantastic hikes and sample the best wines and local cuisine. PHOTO: DON FUCHS



- Spectacular Cradle Mountain, a World Heritage Site, and Freycinet, Tasmania's premier coastal park
- Exhilarating hikes amid ancient forests, exotic Down Under flora and fauna
- Yacht cruise in Macquarie Harbour with a historian-captain
- Stroll among fruit sellers, artists, and musicians at Hobart's Salamanca Market
- Visit the Port Arthur penal colony, Australia's most historic site
- Welcoming lodges, great local food and wine

#### DETAILS

- 11-day trip begins and ends in Hobart
- 10 nights luxury lodges and fine inns
  All meals included except 1 lunch

#### DATES

Nov 10-20, 2017 Mar 2-12, 2018 Nov 16-26 Mar 1-11, 2019

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$5995 (8-10 members) \$6595 (6-7 members) Single supplement: \$1300

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7 Easy to moderate hikes, 1-5 hours a day, van support

# Wild Tasmania Coastal Hikes and Great Lodges in a magnificent land down under

With glacier-carved wilderness, temperate rainforests, and rare wildlife, the spectacularly green island-state of Tasmania invites exploration the WT way. We'll hike amid towering tree ferns at Mt. Field National Park, sail by private yacht to infamous Sarah

"The variety of our days and the choice of fantastic locations, with hiking, sailing, exploring, and wine tasting adventures, was superb!"

Jean Y., Jackson WY

Island, one of Tasmania's notorious convict settlements, and look for wallaby, wombats, and Tasmanian devils on our hikes in stunning Cradle Mountain National Park. In Freycinet, Tasmania's premier coastal park, with its sheltered turquoise waters, we take a spectacular hike and enjoy sundowners on

the beach. Along the way, we savor Tassie's superb food, from fresh-shucked oysters and artisan cheeses to amazing organic produce, and sip the local chardonnays and pinot noirs. Our elegant accommodations include wilderness lodges warmed by roaring fires and cozy cabins overlooking the deep blue Tasman Sea. **Days 1-3 Hobart / Mt. Field National Park** We stroll through the Saturday market in Hobart, hike up Mt. Wellington for sweeping views, and walk among massive tree ferns and 250-foot-tall eucalyptus trees in Mt. Field National Park.

Days 4-6 West Coast / Cradle Mountain

Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park offers us primeval temperate forests for a great hike, and at Kelly Basin, we'll be met by Captain Trevor aboard his yacht for a sail through Macquarie Harbour to Sarah Island and the delightful village of Strahan. Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair National Park is the setting for our hikes through alpine moorlands where we may spot some of Tassie's unique wildlife, including platypus or wombats.

**Days 7-8 Freycinet National Park** En route to Freycinet National Park, Tasmania's most spectacular coastal park, we visit a unique freshwater salmon farm (and sample the wares) and stop for a wine tasting. Our grand hikes in Freycinet explore a landscape of pristine bays and pink granite cliffs.

**Days 9-11 Tasman National Park / Port Arthur** We sample fresh oysters at a "fishmongers" in Dunalley, visit the historic Port Arthur penal colony, and boat along the coast to look for dolphins, humpbacks, and southern right whales. Depart on Day 11.



A classic wooden motor yacht is the ideal way to explore the wildlife-rich glacial wilderness of Southeast Alaska. PHOTO: BRENT STEPHENSON



#### 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 3-9, 2018*	Jul 29-Aug 4 <sup>;</sup>	
Jun 10-16**	Aug 5-11**	
Jun 17-23*	Aug 12-18*	
Jun 24-30**	Aug 19-25**	
Jul 1-7*	Aug 26-Sep 1 <sup>*</sup>	
Jul 8-14**	Sep 2-8**	
Jul 15-21*	Sep 9-15*	
Jul 22-28**		
* lunanu ta Datarahura		

\*Juneau to Petersburg \*\*Petersburg to Juneau

#### **TRIP COST**

From \$4250, depending on cabin type Denali extension: Call for details

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

Easy to moderate sea kayaking and hiking (no previous kayaking experience necessary)

# Alaska's Inside Passage WHALES AND SEA KAYAKING IN A GLACIER-CARVED WORLD

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

"By far one of the best things I've done in my life. The itinerary made the most of the stunning wildlife and landscapes and was supported by a passionate crew. I'd recommend this trip to anyone and everyone!"

Blair W., London England

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, 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 be welcomed aboard our delightful "mother ship" and enjoy a delicious meal in a beautiful anchorage.

#### (Juneau to Petersburg itinerary)

**Days 1-2 Juneau / Ford's Terror** From Juneau, we head into Stephens Passage, watching for

bald eagles and orcas. Our skiff ride upriver often reveals jumping salmon and nesting waterfowl. Navigating around icebergs calved from the Dawes Glacier, we enter Endicott Arm, on the lookout for whales as they dive for krill. At Ford's Terror, a spectacular natural amphitheater, we paddle our kayaks beneath sheer 5,000-foot granite walls wreathed in ephemeral mists.

Days 3-5 Admiralty Island / The Brothers Islands 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 the pod (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

Journey 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 adventures (with slight differences between itineraries) include meeting with a Tlingit elder in the village of Angoon to hear the stories of this ancient culture, watching brown bears feast on returning salmon, soaking at Baranof Hot Springs, listening to whale songs with our boat's hydrophone, or navigating through ice floes to 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 the deck in the Alaskan twilight and enjoy wonderful sea-to-table cuisine.

#### (Sitka to Petersburg itinerary)

Days 1-2 Sitka / Peril Strait From charming Sitka, former capital of Russian Alaska, we navigate to remote Krestof Sound, cross Peril Strait between mountainous Baranof and Chichagof islands, and kayak or glide by skiff along serene waterways for a look at a bear habitat. Days 3-4 Chatham Strait / Tenakee Springs / Angoon At Chatham Strait, we look for

humpback whales and may see their signature "bubble netting." We visit Tenakee Springs, explore brown bear habitat, and at the Tlingit village of Angoon, we are welcomed by a village elder for a rare opportunity to visit the village and learn about the Tlingit world. Back on board, Chef Tracie's menus may include seared sockeye salmon, lamb burger, or braised chicken enchiladas.

#### Days 5-6 Baranof / Frederick Sound /

**Scenery Cove** We visit a salmon hatchery, walk to Baranof Hot Springs, and anchor in a deep bay off Admiralty Island to explore by kayak. We encounter Steller sea lions in Frederick Sound, and in Farragut Bay, the organic farm family 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 sculpted 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.

Enjoy up-close encounters with wildlife as varied as the Alaskan landscape itself.



#### 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, and eagles soaring

#### 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 1-8, 2018 Petersburg-Sitka Jun 10-17 Sitka-Juneau Jun 19-26 Juneau-Sitka Jul 7-14 Petersburg-Sitka Jul 16-23 Sitka-Juneau Jul 25-Aug 1 Juneau-Sitka Aug 12-19 Petersburg-Sitka Aug 21-28 Sitka-Petersburg

TRIP COST From \$5250

Single suppplement: \$2625

#### TRIP LEVEL

(1) 2 3 4 5 6 7 Easy to moderate sea kayaking and hiking (no previous kayaking experience necessary)





Photo opportunities abound in the Galápagos, where the tame wildlife allows humans a close approach.

## Ultimate Galápagos

### A WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER ON THE PLANET

Snorkel with playful sea lions and penguins, kayak among sea turtles, hike past dancing blue-footed boobies with our expert naturalist guide—this is the perfect adventure in one of the greatest natural

"The best Galápagos itinerary of any company—so many islands visited and such a comprehensive wildlife experience."

Ruth M., San Francisco CA

history destinations in the world. Our 15-day Galápagos cruise combines the Eastern Islands and Western Islands, and traveling aboard our classic tall ship *Mary Anne* is the

perfect way to go, with spacious decks for relaxing, delicious meals served al fresco, and sunsets in a beautiful new anchorage each night. This is the "ultimate" experience of the Galápagos! Days 1-4 Guayaquil / Baltra / Genovesa / Bartolomé From Guayaquil, we fly to Baltra and board our yacht, the *Mary Anne*. We cruise through a mangrove estuary, spotting sea turtles and graceful rays, then head out to remote Genovesa (Tower) Island, home to frigatebirds, Nazca boobies, and red-billed tropicbirds nesting along the cliffs. At Bartolomé Island, we enjoy views from needle-like Pinnacle Rock, the eroded remnant of an old volcanic cone. Tiny Galápagos penguins swim off the sandy beach below.

Days 5-10 Rábida / Santa Cruz / Santa Fé / Española / Devil's Crown / Floreana Rábida's saltwater lagoon is home to three types of herons, and we 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. Blue-footed boobies and marine iguanas await our explorations on Española, and we hike near the vast twin craters of Los Gemelos in the Santa Cruz highlands. Devil's Crown offers world-class marine life viewing, and we visit historic Post Office Bay on Floreana.

Days 11-17 Isabela / Fernandina /

**Santiago** We search for whales and dolphins as we cross the Bolivar Channel to Isabela Island. At Punta Moreno, we walk on a *pahoehoe* lava flow and take a panga ride through scenic Buccaneer Cove. Flightless cormorants and Galápagos penguins are highlights at Fernandina's Punta Espinosa. We explore Santiago Island's Espumilla Beach, with its golden sands, and walk to nesting colonies of the two species of frigatebirds as well as blue-footed boobies and swallow-tailed gulls on North Seymour. Fly to Guayaquil for a final overnight, and depart on Day 17.















#### HIGHLIGHTS

- 15-day cruise—the most comprehensive adventure in the islands
- Daily hiking, snorkeling, and optional sea kayaking Walk among marine iguanas and nesting blue-footed boobies, cruise alongside striped and spinner dolphins in
- the Bolivar Channel

#### DETAILS

- 17-day trip begins and ends in Guayaquil
- 14 nights aboard the Mary Anne, 2 nights hotel
- All meals included except 2 lunches and 2 dinners

#### DATES

Dec 22, 2017-Jan 7, 2018 Jan 5-21, 2018 Feb 2-18 Mar 2-18 Mar 16-Apr 1 Mar 30-Apr 15 Apr 27-May 13 May 11-27

- Jun 8-24 Jun 22-Jul 8
- Dec 21, 2018-Jan 6, 2019

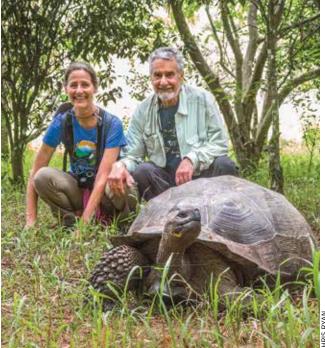
#### TRIP COST

\$10,995 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 fee: \$120
- (subject to change)
- Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$750
- Discounts for children:
- call for details Machu Picchu extension:
- from \$3195
- Hacienda Zuleta extension: from \$1275
- Amazon extension:
- from \$1695

#### TRIP LEVEL

(1+) 2 3 4 5 6 7 Daily hikes, snorkeling, optional sea kayaking



#### **EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE**

- Discover Peru's fascinating Inca legacies in Cusco and Machu Picchu
- Stay at Hacienda Zuleta, a boutique hotel and working farm in the Ecuadorian highlands, and visit the colorful Otavalo market
- Explore the natural wonders of the Amazon rainforest from Napo Wildlife Center





#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Active 8-day cruise includes remote
- Genovesa, an island with few other visitors! • Daily activities ideal for all ages; hiking.
- snorkeling, optional sea kayaking
- 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 22-31, 2017	Apr 27-May 6
Jan 5-14, 2018	May 11-20
Feb 2-11	Jun 8-17
Mar 2-11	Jun 22-Jul 1
Mar 16-25	Dec 21-30
Mar 30-Apr 8	

#### TRIP COST

\$6695 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 (subject to change) Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$375 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

Darwin's Galápagos Islands are a wonder to explore-the extraordinary wildlife here has no fear of humans, and you'll hike (and snorkel) right alongside these exotic creatures! We've created the perfect way to experience the Galápagos-aboard the Mary Anne, a gorgeous yacht that caters to just 16 guests. Our 8-day Eastern Islands cruise includes far-flung Genovesa, prime nesting site of red-footed boobies, and Santa Fé, a great place to snorkel with spirited sea lions. The Mary Anne is absolutely the best way to go, with wonderfully active days, delightful time on board to savor meals on deck or in the salon, a glass of wine at sunset, and fascinating talks with your expert naturalist guide. This is the Galápagos-WT style!

#### Days 1-4 Guayaquil / Genovesa Island / Bartolomé From Guayaquil, we fly to Baltra and board our yacht, heading to Black Turtle Cove for a Zodiac ride among golden rays. Sailing out to remote Genovesa Island, we land at Darwin Bay, where red-footed boobies perch on prickly pear cactus. We hike up the Prince Philip Steps

(so named for the prince's visit here in 1964) to

seek out red-billed tropicbirds. Great frigatebirds are also seen here, while elegant swallow-tailed gulls rest under the salt bush. We also have a chance to snorkel, possibly with green sea turtles. The summit of Bartolomé Island offers us magnificent views of Pinnacle Rock, Galápagos' most famous icon.

Days 5-6 Rábida / Santa Cruz / Darwin Research Station On Rábida, the "Red Island," we explore its maroon-tinted interior and saltwater lagoon, home to Darwin's finches, Galápagos mockingbirds, and yellow warblers. Farther inland, we find a fantastic land iguana nesting site. We have options for sea kayaking and snorkeling on Rábida. In the Santa Cruz highlands, we look for giant tortoises and visit the Darwin Station's tortoise-breeding facility.

#### Days 7-10 South Plaza / Santa Fé / Española

South Plaza Island captivates, with its green prickly pear cactus and copper-colored land iguanas. On Santa Fé Island, we look for the islands' endemic species of land iguana. On Española, the southernmost island in the archipelago, we follow flipper prints on a powdery white-sand beach to find lounging sea lions, and 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. Framed by dramatic volcanic landscapes and filled with unique wildlife that has no natural fear of humans, the Western Islands of the Galápagos are the extraordinary setting for our active 8-day voyage into Darwin's world.

"Everything we had hoped for and more. The Mary Anne was the ideal way to experience the Galápagos. The boat captain and crew were superb, anticipating all our needs." Julie H. Del Mar CA

Discover pristine Fernandina Island, with its shoreline full of flightless cormorants, snorkel with marine iguanas and Galápagos penguins at Punta Espinosa, and on North Seymour, walk amid magnificent frigatebirds in courtship display. We'll look for spouting whales as we cross Bolivar Channel, and explore Santiago's Puerto Egas, where fur seals caper in underwater grottos. Our

journey aboard the beautiful Mary Anne is an incredible experience of the Galápagos, with active days on shore complemented by unforgettable nights beneath the starry sky.

Days 1-2 Guayaquil / Santa Cruz / Darwin Research Station / Puerto Ayora After an overnight in Guayaquil, fly to Baltra and head to the Charles Darwin Research Station on Santa Cruz Island, where we learn about conservation work in the islands and see the famous giant tortoises of the Galápagos. Hatchling tortoises are raised here to be released into the wild.

### **Enchanted** Isles WONDERS OF THE WESTERN ISLANDS

Days 3-4 Floreana Boarding our yacht, we sail to Floreana Island and enjoy a walk on the green sand beaches of Punta Cormorant. Be on the lookout for flamingos and nesting sea turtles here. A panga ride brings us to Devil's Crown, with its great marine life, and we visit Post Office Bay, where in the 18th century, sailors left letters to be posted by passing ships.

#### Days 5-7 Isabela / Fernandina / Puerto Egas

On Isabela, we walk the lava flow at Punta Moreno, look for green sea turtles nesting at Urbina Bay's black-sand beach, and visit a historic pirate hideaway at Tagus Cove. Crossing over to Fernandina Island's Punta Espinosa, we look for flightless cormorants, Galápagos penguins, marine iguanas, and red-orange Sally Lightfoot crabs. At Puerto Egas on Santiago, we watch fur seals lounging under lava arches, a panga ride brings us through Buccaneer Cove, and we land on Espumilla Beach for a walk on a forest trail in search of yellow warblers and curious Galápagos flycatchers.

#### Days 8-10 Santiago / Sullivan Bay / North

Seymour We hike on *pahoehoe* lava formations at Sullivan Bay on Santiago Island, then head to North Seymour Island to walk among nesting colonies of great frigatebirds, blue-footed boobies, and elegant swallow-tailed gulls. From Baltra, fly to Guayaquil for a final overnight, and depart on Day 10.





#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Exciting 8-day cruise including Bolivar Channel, with its whales and dolphins
- Beautiful 16-guest yacht with spacious decks and air-conditioned cabins
- Fantastic snorkeling options, including Punta Espinosa and Urbina Bay

#### DETAILS

- 10-day trip begins and ends in Guavaguil • 7 nights aboard the Mary Anne, 2 nights hotel
- All meals included except 2 lunches and 2 dinners

#### DATES

Dec 29, 2017-Jan 7, 2018	May 4-13
Jan 12-21, 2018	May 18-27
Feb 9-18	Jun 15-24
Mar 9-18	Jun 29-Jul 8
Mar 23-Apr 1	Dec 28, '18-Jan 6, 2019
Apr 6-15	

#### TRIP COST

\$6695 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): \$375 Discounts for children: call for details

#### TRIP LEVEL (1+) 2 3 4 5 6 7 Daily hikes, snorkeling, optional sea kayaking



The underwater world of the Galápagos is just as enchanting as the one on land PHOTO: PAUL KENNEDY



We explore an amazing diversity of tropical habitats, from the treetop canopies of Monteverde to the Caribbean canals of Tortuguero. PHOTO: BRIAN MCGILLOWAY

## Costa Rica Wildlife A "NATURALLY" THRILLING TROPICAL ADVENTURE

Costa Rica is a glorious tropical paradise, with huge swaths of cloud forest and wilderness beaches protected in world-famous parks and reserves. With our expert naturalist Trip Leader, we

"Our guide was great, hotels were local but also elegant, logistics amazingly smooth, and the variety of scenery and breadth of feel for the country was wonderful."

Betsy S. Kennebunkport ME enjoy nature walks in Monteverde, whose sheer diversity of terrain supports six different ecological zones, follow hanging bridges suspended high in the forest near Arenal Volcano, hike to the base of the cascading La Fortuna waterfall, and soar through the cloud forest on a zip line. Our

grand finale is Tortuguero National Park, where tropical waterways shelter a fascinating range of wildlife, from manatees to three-toed sloths. Charming lodges give us a warm welcome as we experience this natural wonderland. Days 1-3 Monteverde Cloud Forest Set at a cool 4,700 feet, Monteverde is a pioneering private nature reserve established in 1972 and now encompassing more than 35,000 acres. Its dense cloud forest is home to about 100 species of mammals, 1,200 species of amphibians, and 400 species of birds, including the resplendent quetzal, sacred bird of the Mayas and Aztecs. In the reserve's Jardin de las Mariposas, we discover more than 40 shimmering species of butterflies, and we hike nature trails in the private Curi-Cancha Reserve, with its hummingbird garden and view of the continental divide. Keep your camera handy for sightings of white-faced capuchins and howler and spider monkeys. We also have the option of an exhilarating ride on the canopy zip line.

**Days 4-5 Arenal Volcano** A perfect cone rising 5,300 feet from gentle green hills, Arenal is one of the most active volcanoes in the Americas. It first became active in 1968 when it erupted in spectacular fashion and is now protected as a national park. We cross hanging bridges right into the high rainforest canopy below Arenal, hike to the picturesque waterfall called La Catarata de La Fortuna, and watch for the nighttime glow and red lava flows of Arenal from our boutique resort hotel.

#### Days 6-9 Tortuguero National Park

Tortuguero protects more than 50,000 acres of lowland forest, mangroves and tropical beaches on Costa Rica's Caribbean coast. In this emerald world, we head out by boat to explore a maze of tranquil blackwater canals overhung with rainforest. They provide 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. Tortuguero is also one of the best places in the world to see turtles. Green sea turtles nest here (July-October) as well as leatherbacks (March-May), and we'll visit the Green Turtle Research Station. Our riverside lodge offers us fantastic access to this wildlife haven. Depart on Day 9, or join one of our exciting extensions.

#### MAKE IT A PRIVATE JOURNEY

Your friends, your dates, your private adventure! Call us for details.



#### EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Four-day extension to explore the incredible wilderness beaches and lowland rainforests of Corcovado National Park, one of the most biologically abundant habitats in the world, including snorkeling the Pacific Coast reefs at Cano Island
- Exhilarating one-day guided rafting trip on the Pacuare River as it courses through one of the most beautiful river canyons in the tropics, with 20 Class III and Class IV rapids and spectacular scenery

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Boat in pristine rainforest, hike in cloud forest, and walk hanging bridges (plus optional zip line) through a treetop canopy alive with birdlife
- Monteverde Cloud Forest, with its paths draped in orchids and bromeliads
- Arenal Volcano's inviting thermal springs and waterfalls
- Tortuguero National Park, a rainforest realm of caimans, spider monkous, and tousant.
- spider monkeys, and toucans
  Our fantastic naturalist Trip Leader shares in-depth knowledge of Costa Rica's ecosystems

#### DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in
- San Jose • 4 nights hotels, 4 nights
- well-appointed lodges in
- beautiful settings
- All meals included except Day 1



#### DATES

Dec 18-26, 2017 Dec 25, 2017-Jan 2, 2018 Dec 30, 2017-Jan 7, 2018 Jan 21-29, 2018 Feb 3-11 Feb 11-19 Mar 11-19 Mar 15-23 Jul 14-22 Dec 17-25 Dec 27, 2018-Jan 4, 2019

#### TRIP COST

\$4295 (10-15 members) \$4695 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$925 Internal airfare: \$520 (subject to change) Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$250 Corcovado Rainforest extension: from \$1750 One-Day Pacuare River Rafting extension: from \$150

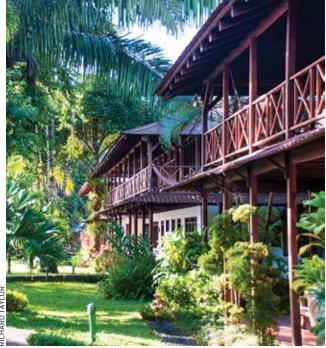
#### TRIP LEVEL

1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7 Easy forest hikes and nature walks, optional zip lines













Traveling by historic wooden vessel, we spend our days snorkeling, hiking, sea kayaking, and discovering Baja's bounty.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore by classic wooden boat, with delicious sea-to-table cuisine
- Sea kayak amid lagoons and remote bays, enjoy the beaches of Isla Espiritu Santo
- Snorkel with sea lions, watch pods of dolphins, hike island trails
- Special departures to the gray whale lagoons for 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, 3 nights hotels, 1 night camping (depending on itinerary)
- All meals included

#### DATES

Dec 14-22, 2017*	Mar 6-16***									
Jan 4-12*	Mar 16-27***									
Jan 12-23**	Apr 6-17***									
Feb 2-13***	Dec 18-26*									
Feb 13-23***	Dec 28,'18-Jan 8,2019**									
*Whale Shark itinerary	/									
** Cave Paintings itine	Apr 6-17*** Dec 18-26* * Dec 28,'18-Jan 8,2019** rk itinerary ntings itinerary									
***Gray Whale itinerary										

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 From \$5250, depending on itinerary

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 (2) 3 4 5 6 7 Hiking, swimming, snorkeling, sea kayaking, whale watching excursions by panga

### Baja: Exploring the Sea of Cortez WHALES, SNORKELING, AND SEA KAYAKING

Spectacular desert landscapes, brilliant turquoise seas, rich marine life, remote islands-Baja is full of wonder, and on our unique journey, we explore it by land and by sea. With a classic 86-foot wooden ship as our cozy base, we'll sea kayak along pristine white-sand beaches, snorkel with playful sea lions, and track magnificent whales in the "Blue Triangle," home to wintering blue whales. Two of our itineraries find us visiting Baja's ancient cave paintings and swimming with immense whale sharks, while two other itineraries explore the great whale-watching lagoons of the Pacific Coast, where we come eye to eye with the gray whales who migrate here each year—an unforgettable experience!

#### (II-day La Paz to Loreto Gray Whale itinerary) Days 1-3 La Paz / Bahia Magdalena From La Paz, we head to Bahia Magdalena, the famous coastal lagoon where gray whales spend the winter courting, birthing, and rearing their young in Baja's warm waters. From our beachside hotel, we set out by panga (skiff) for up-close sightings of these gentle giants. The whales often approach our pangas and seek interaction with us—it's an incredible thrill to encounter them at such close range.

Days 4-5 Isla Espiritu Santo / Sea of Cortez Boarding our historic wooden motor yacht, we head out into the azure waters and reach enchanting Isla Espiritu Santo, a protected wilderness of deserted white-sand beaches and secluded coves. Keeping an eye out for pods of dolphins, we sea kayak amid the mangroves and snorkel with playful sea lions near the uninhabited islands that dot these pristine waters. In the evenings, we'll savor sea-to-table cuisine and star-filled skies.

#### Days 6-11 Sea of Cortez / Blue Triangle

Cruising north, our days are filled with snorkeling above rock reefs teeming with fish, watching schools of mobula rays or dolphins leaping above the water's surface, walking the ridge lines and palm-lined arroyos of the desert landscape of isolated islands, or paddling kayaks in quiet coves, an ideal way to view wildlife. In the "Blue Triangle," we watch for breaching blue, sperm, and humpback whales. 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 17-24, 2018; Mar 16-23, 2019. From \$5095.

## Machu Picchu Lodge to Lodge LODGE-BASED TREK AND THE LOST CITY OF THE INCAS

Enjoy a spectacular Andean trek-no camping! On the fantastic trails of the Cordillera Vilcabamba, the mountain landscape that cradles Machu Picchu, we'll hike past gleaming

"I've traveled with WT several times. and each time I'm more impressed. Such an amazing combination of mountains, culture, and hiking. It couldn't be any better." Mary R., Corrales NM

alpine lakes, into delicate cloud forests draped in orchids and bromeliads, and below the dazzling snow-capped peaks of Salkantay (20,574') and Huamantay (19,239'). At the end of each hiking day, we are welcomed at a trailside mountain lodge in a dramatic setting, with each lodge featuring private rooms, hot showers, delightful cuisineand even saunas. The grand

finale is our exploration of ethereal Machu Picchu, the crown jewel of the Inca world.

Days 1-3 Cusco / Salkantay Lodge After exploring Cusco, the Incas' imperial city, we head out into the mountains for a hike through the gorgeous Soraypampa Valley to our first trailside accommodation, Salkantay Lodge (11,800'), ringed by the peaks of the Cordillera

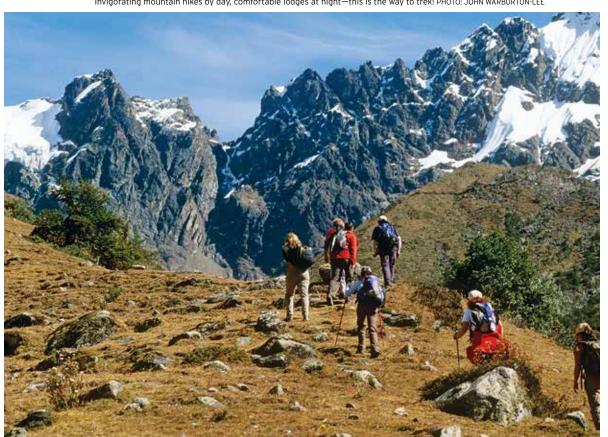
Vilcanota. We enjoy an acclimatization hike from this beautiful lodge, scrambling up to a turquoise lake at 14,000 feet for vistas of Salkantay and Huamantay.

#### Days 4-6 Salkantay Pass / Santa Teresa

Valley Stunning glaciers and icefalls are the backdrop as we hike over Salkantay Pass (15,200'), a dramatic notch between the glacial moraines of Huamantay and Salkantay. Keeping an eye out for Andean condors, we descend to Wayra Lodge (12,800'), where we can soak in a hot tub beneath a starlit sky. We hike through cloud forests on our way to Colpa Lodge (9,414'), and here we'll enjoy a pachamanca, a traditional Peruvian barbecue. Trails through the lush Santa Teresa Valley bring us to lovely Lucma Lodge (7,000'), surrounded by its own avocado orchard.

Days 7-9 Machu Picchu / Cusco Crossing Pallayacta Pass (8,974'), we arrive at the restored Inca ruin site 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, end our trek, and take the train to the bustling town of Aguas Calientes and our lovely riverside hotel. On Day 8, we rise early to explore legendary Machu Picchu with a specialist guide, then take the afternoon train to Cusco and depart on Day 9.

Invigorating mountain hikes by day, comfortable lodges at night—this is the way to trek! PHOTO: JOHN WARBURTON-LEE







#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Trek in a high Andean realm, but stay in mountain lodges with private rooms and hot showers—no camping!
- View ice-clad Salkantay, 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: \$1750

Low Season (Mar 1-31 and Nov 1-Dec 14) \$4295 per person, double occupancy Single supplement: \$1545

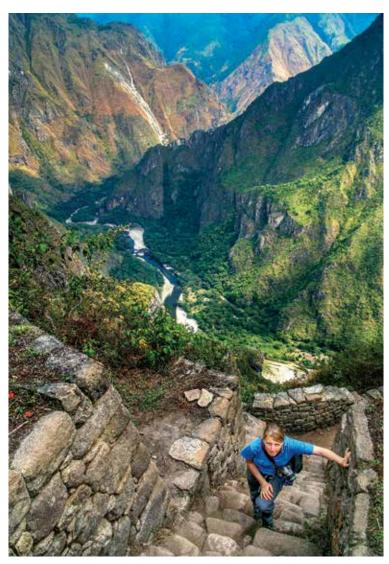
Additional overnight at Aguas Calientes (call for details): \$475

#### 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



## Hiker's Journey to Machu Picchu SPECTACULAR HIKES AND WELCOMING LODGES IN THE REALM OF THE INCAS



Great hikes by day, fantastic hotels and lodges by night—this is the WT way to discover the world of the Incas. PHOTO: PAWEL OPASKA

#### 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

Apr 13-21, 2018 May 5-13 Jun 6-14 Jul 10-18 Aug 25-Sep 2 Sep 19-27 Oct 9-17 Nov 2-10

#### TRIP COST

1 lunch and 1 dinner

#### DATES

\$5395 (10-15 members) \$5795 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$1350 Internal airfare: \$475 (subject to change) Reserva Amazonica extension: from \$575

Lake Titicaca extension: from \$710 Arequipa and 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





118 QUESTIONS? 1.800.368.2794 OR EMAIL LATINAMERICA@WILDERNESSTRAVEL.COM

The Incas placed their most revered sites high above the Sacred Valley, with mystical Machu Picchu perched on a promontory at its farthest reaches. We've created a unique adventure in the stunning Valle Sagrado, with fantastic hikes by day and comfy overnights in hotels and lodges (no camping!). Our hikes bring you to all the major Inca sites as well as to hidden Inca ruins surrounded by granite crags and snowy peaks. We'll also visit an off-thebeaten-path Quechua village for a pachamanca feast, and have a memorable grand finale: an overnight at the coveted Machu Picchu Sanctuary

Lodge, right next to the ruins. Gorgeous days of hiking uncrowded trails, evenings in cozy lodges enjoying a great meal and a glass of wine-this is traveling WT style!

#### Days 1-4 Cusco / Sacred Valley /

Pisac Exploring Cusco's Inca sites on foot, we hike from the massive fortress at Saqsayhuaman past the rock monolith of Q'enqo and the Inca springs at Tambo Machay, with a final stroll right into Cusco's lovely colonial neighborhood, San Blas. From the colonial town of Chinchero, built on Inca foundations on a plateau high above the valley, our trail leads down past magnificent rows of Inca terracing with breathtaking views of the Sacred Valley. We pass through an



"As perfect as any WT trip I've takenthe full package of cultural learning, great hikes, great leaders, great hotels, and great meals. I'm a fan!"

Elizabeth S., Boston MA

Inca cemetery on our hike to Pisac, a temple-ruin clinging to a mountain spur. Visible from miles away, Pisac was the Incas' largest fortress-city complex. It is ringed by steep agricultural terraces, many still in use today, that once protected it as a defensive wall.

Days 5-6 Sacred Valley / Ollantaytambo We visit the enigmatic Inca terraces of Moray, where the Incas built concentric terraces in natural depressions in the earth, then hike from Maras along natural saline springs to the Urubamba River, a great spot for our picnic lunch. After we visit majestic Ollantaytambo, the fortress where the rebel Manco Inca and his men held out against Pizarro's forces, we head to a village for a festive pachamanca (meat slow-roasted in the earth over hot stones). The village is a traditional Quechua community and home to generations of our renowned Inca Trail trekking staff-we'll be welcomed like family here.

Days 7-9 Machu Picchu / Cusco Catching the morning train to Machu Picchu, we explore one of the most mystical settings in the world. Many travelers rush in and out of Machu Picchu within a few hours, but our overnight stay at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, right at the gates of this indescribable Inca city, gives us plenty of time to discover its mysteries with our specialist guide. Return to Cusco on Day 8, depart on Day 9.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike a challenging trail to a major Incan city that sees few visitors
- Explore remote Inca sites, including newly discovered Qoriwayrachina
- Visit remote Andean settlements, enjoy the lush cloud forest environment
- Experience the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu with a specialist guide
- Hike up Huayna Picchu, the peak behind the ruins (the best views!)

#### DETAILS

- 14-day trip begins and ends in Cusco
- 4 nights hotels, 9 nights camping
- All meals included except 2 dinners

**DATES** Jul 23-Aug 5, 2018 Aug 10-23

#### TRIP COST

\$4495 (10-15 members) \$4895 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$530

#### TRIP LEVEL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9-day trek on moderate to strenuous trails, 5-8 hours a day, altitudes between 9,500-14,500 feet

## Choquequirao: Trek to the Cradle of Gold DISCOVER AN INCA MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY WITHOUT EQUAL

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." This mountaintop citadel, larger than Machu Picchu, has an absolutely stunning location, no road access, relatively few visitors, and a haunting ambiance unmatched at other sites. Our archaeologist Trip Leader has done research and excavation at this breathtaking site, and he'll share his insights into the Inca world as we trek through cloud forest, over high passes, across Inca trails, and into the deep-cut canyons of the wild Cordillera Vilcabamba. Our last camp offers us unique Machu Picchu views, and we cap off our adventure with an overnight at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, right at the celebrated ruins.

**Days 1-2 Cusco / Saqsayhuaman / Tambo Machay** We discover the ancient capital of the Inca Empire on foot, with our first hike bringing us from mighty Saqsayhuaman, a majestic stone fortress, down to Cusco through a fascinating array of Inca sites. Days 3-6 Cachora / Choquequirao Our trails lead us into the deep canyon of the Apurimac River, with the snow-capped peak of Salkantay (20,574') rising high above us. From our campsite at 10,000 feet just below Choquequirao, we explore this extraordinary complex, with its zigzagging terraces and ceremonial buildings laid out in alignment with the movement of the sun. In the stillness and remoteness here, surrounded by snow-capped mountains, we will sense the power of the Inca Empire.

Days 7-11 Pincha Unuyoc / Qoriwayrachina / Minas Victoria / Lucmabamba Climbing up above Choquequirao, we descend to the Inca site of Pincha Unuyoc, which may have housed Choquequirao's royal servants, and to the lost outpost of Qoriwayrachina, a site our Trip Leader has studied extensively and that was discovered by another WT Trip Leader! An Inca-paved road leads us over Minas Victoria Pass (14,500'), where we might see soaring condors. Descending to the picturesque village of Yanama, we end our trek in Lucmabamba (6,378'), with its lush subtropical landscape.

**Days 12-14 Machu Picchu / Cusco** We have a fantastic day of exploration at Machu Picchu, including a hike up Huayna Picchu, with its bird's-eye-view of the ruins. Return to Cusco on Day 12 and depart on Day 14.

Enjoy a challenging Andean trek into a lost Inca world with our expert archaeologist Trip Leader. PHOTO: JASON ROTHE





Hiking the Inca Trail is a once-in-a-lifetime experience—you'll appreciate our unique route, our acclaimed Trip Leaders, and our 40 years of experience! PHOTO: PATRICK J. ENDRES

## Inca Trail to Machu Picchu THE ULTIMATE HIKING ADVENTURE TO A LEGENDARY LOST CITY

Follow in the footsteps of the Incas on the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, Peru's glorious city of stone. We invite you to hike this legendary trail the Wilderness

"Perfection—every detail was thought out and executed completely. Each day was more than expected and always fantastic." Anne V., Amherst MA Travel way, with spectacular campsites (two of them exclusive to our groups), superb camp amenities, and an overnight at the acclaimed Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, just steps from the

sanctuary. We've filled this journey with unique experiences and the perfect pacing to enjoy them all. If you've dreamed of hiking to this fabled lost city, this is the right way to do it! Days 1-2 Cusco / Urubamba Valley In Cusco, the Incas' imperial city, we explore Saqsayhuaman, the Inca fortress overlooking the city, and in the Sacred Valley, we climb up through the terraces of the monumental citadel at Pisac, which once guarded an Inca trade route. We also enjoy Pisac's traditional market.

Days 3-6 Inca Trail After visiting Ollantaytambo, where the rebel Inca Manco successfully held off Pizarro and his men in 1536, we set off on the "royal trail" to Machu Picchu, passing exquisite Inca ruins accessible only to hikers. We've designed a special 5-day route that provides for shorter hiking days and better acclimatization, with two private campsites. Our on-the-trail cuisine is unmatched, and our well-paced hiking days give you plenty of time to explore the extraordinary archaeological sites along the route so that you can fully experience the wonder of the Inca Trail.

#### Days 7-9 Machu Picchu / Cusco

Phuyupatamarka ("Town in the Clouds") and elegant Wiñay Wayna ("Forever Young") are the last major Inca sites on our trail. Hiking up to Intipunku, the "Gate of the Sun," the original entrance to Machu Picchu, we see the dazzling lost city revealed below us and are joined by our specialist guide to explore the fine altars, terraces, and chambers filled with intricate stonework. We also have the option to hike up Huayna Picchu, the striking peak above the ruins. Our overnight at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, the only hotel right at the ruins, allows us unparalleled access to Machu Picchu and a fantastic sunset view. Return to Cusco on Day 8 and depart on Day 9.

#### EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE

- Extra night at Machu Picchu
- Amazon rainforest lodge
- Mystical Lake Titicaca
- Colonial Arequipa, Colca Canyon











#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike to Machu Picchu on mystical, stone-paved paths built by the Incas
   Explore trail-side archaeological
- Explore trail-side archaeological sites that only Inca Trail hikers have access to
- Relish the comfort of our famous Inca Trail camping services—the best on the trail!
- Superb accommodations at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, right at the ruins, and at Cusco's 5-star El Monasterio
- 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

#### 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

DATES Nov 18-26, 2017 Dec 26, 2017-Jan 3, 2018 Apr 17-25, 2018 Apr 27-May 5 May 29-Jun 6 Jun 15-23 Jun 25-Jul 3 Jul 3-11 Aug 10-18 Aug 31-Sep 8 Sep 18-26 Oct 5-13 Oct 19-27 Nov 17-25 Dec 26, 2018-Jan 3, 2019

#### TRIP COST

\$5195 (10-15 members) \$5595 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$1325 Internal airfare: \$450 (subject to change) Inca Trail permit: \$115 (subject to change) Holiday surcharge (Dec): \$450 Extra overnight at Machu Picchu: from \$795 Reserva Amazonica extension: from \$575 Lake Titicaca extension: from \$710 Arequipa and Colca Canyon extension: from \$995



#### THE WT DIFFERENCE ON THE INCA TRAIL

- 40 years of experience on the Inca Trail-we are the experts!
- Perfectly paced itinerary with five days on the trail for better
- acclimatization. Most companies rush through in just four days.We time our hikes so that you feel you have the Inca Trail to yourself, without the crowds.
- Delicious camp cuisine featuring Peruvian and American dishes.
- Spectacular campsites: the first 2 nights are in exclusive campsites we have completely to ourselves.
- Phenomenal Trip Leaders, all experts in Inca history and culture
- Overnight at Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, the only hotel right at the ruins.

## Trekking in the Cordillera Blanca

EXPLORE THE HIGHEST TROPICAL MOUNTAIN RANGE IN THE WORLD



A trek across the spectacular Cordillera Blanca of Peru is one of the great hiking adventures of the world. PHOTO: TOM DEMPSEY

The enormous fluted ice peaks, surreal turguoise tarns, and flower-filled meadows of Peru's Cordillera Blanca have made it a world-class region for trekking. More than 70 summits here top 18,000 feet, including Huascarán (22,204'), Peru's highest peak, and Alpamayo (19,506'), an extraordinary pyramid that has been voted one of the 10 most beautiful mountains in the world. Our 11-day trek is a dramatic one (with a bit of a challenge!), but well rewarded with exhilarating days on the trail, spectacular lakeside campsites, and views of ice-draped summits and glaciers at every turn. At trek's end, our optional extension to climb Nevado Pisco (18,871') offers dazzling 360-degree views into the heart of the Cordillera Blanca.

**Days 1-4 Lima / Huaraz** From Lima, we head along the Pan American Highway to the mountain town of Huaraz (10,000'), the trekking hub for the Cordillera Blanca. We acclimatize with day hikes, including a fascinating one to the archaeological site of Wilkahuain, with its pre-Inca burial and ritual chambers.

**Days 5-15 Cordillera Blanca Trek** With our trekking crew and pack animals, we hike to Laguna Cullicocha (15,100'), a gleaming glacial lake with eye-popping views of the peaks of the Santa Cruz massif. Crossing two more passes,



we reach our camp near Laguna Jancarurish, where an optional hike brings us to the base of Alpamayo for stunning views of this mesmerizing ice pyramid. Crossing the Caracara Pass (15,846'), we descend into a lush valley and venture up to a high pass with views of the multiple summits of Pucahirca (19,836'). Reaching Quebrada (canyon) Jancapampa, we pass through traditional rural villages and enjoy spellbinding panoramas in every direction, including knife-edged Taulliraju (19,127') and Chacraraju (20,052'). At the end of the trek, those taking the optional three-day extension to climb Nevado Pisco will head to a base camp in the Demanda Valley.

**Days 16-17 Huaraz / Lima** We'll have views of the towering twin summits of Huascarán on our drive back to Lima and depart on Day 17.

#### ON OUR WEBSITE

**CORDILLERA HUAYHUASH TREK** Circle the spectacular ice range of the Cordillera Huayhuash, with its knife-edged 20,000-foot ice peaks and iridescent lakes. Jun 3-20, Aug 11-28, 2019.







#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience our perfectly designed trek in the world's highest tropical mountain range
- Optional hike to the Alpamayo Base
   Camp
- Spectacular campsites by turquoise lakes, incredible views of glacier-clad peaks
- Optional climb of Nevado Pisco

#### DETAILS

- 17-day trip begins and ends in Lima
- 5 nights hotels, 11 nights full-service camping
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners

#### DATES

Jun 9-25, 2018 Jul 27-Aug 12

#### TRIP COST

\$4395 (9-12 members) \$4795 (6-8 members) Single supplement: \$480

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 11-day trek on steep trails, 6-8 hours a day, altitudes between 11,000-16,000 feet, optional climb of 18,871-foot peak



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the treasures of Tiwanaku, a pre-Inca masterpiece
- Hike to Inca temples on the mystical Isla del Sol in sacred Lake Titicaca
- Explore the dreamscapes of the spectacular Salar de Uyuni, with an overnight in a "salt hotel"
- 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 estanciasAll meals included except 1 lunch and
- 2 dinners

#### DATES

Jun 28-Jul 11, 2018 Aug 30-Sep 12 Oct 4-17

#### TRIP COST

\$5595 (11-15 members) \$5995 (6-10 members) Single supplement: \$690

drives on rugged terrain

**TRIP LEVEL** 1  $(2^{\circ})$  3 4 5 6 7 Cultural explorations and walking tours at altitudes up to 13,615 feet, some long

## Bolivia! ADVENTURES IN A SURREAL LAND

From the salt deserts of the Salar de Uyuni to the stone monuments of Tiwanaku, Bolivia is a land of mesmerizing beauty, fascinating culture, and rich history. It's a thrilling destination for adventure! We

"An extraordinary trip! We learned so much about the Tiwanaku civilization, the Inca pilgrimage, colonial times, the salt flats, and modern Bolivia. It is an endlessly fascinating place." Diane P., Okatie SC explore colonial Sucre and Potosi, meet Yampara weavers in Tarabuco (with a private lunch with artisans), and discover the incredible desertscapes of the Eduardo Avaroa Reserve in the Salar de Uyuni. On the mystical Isla del Sol, we'll hike ancient Inca trails surrounded by the blue wonder of Lake Titicaca. Our Trip Leaders unlock the secrets of this

otherworldly land with their expertise in Inca and Quechua culture, and our Farewell Dinner is at one of the top restaurants in the world. Our welcoming lodgings include a historic hacienda and a unique "salt" hotel in the desert.

**Days 1-2 La Paz / Tiwanaku** In the highest capital in the world, a cable car brings us to the top of the city for an "urban hike" down through La Paz's fascinating markets, and we spend a

day amid the vast pre-Inca ruins at Tiwanaku, a World Heritage Site.

Days 3-4 Sucre / Tarabuco Sucre has a dreamy atmosphere, with its whitewashed colonial buildings. We'll be welcomed at a nearby family farm for lunch, and explore the fascinating mountain village of Tarabuco during its renowned Sunday market, meeting Yamara weaver-artisans and having a private lunch with people from the local community.

Days 5-6 Hacienda de Cayara / Potosi

Founded in 1545, Potosi (13,315') was once the epicenter of Spanish colonial presence in the Bolivian highlands. We visit the treasures of this history-filled city where the Spanish mined vast amounts of silver for their monarchy, with overnights in a rural 16th century hacienda.

Days 7-10 Explore the Salar de Uyuni In the spectacular Salar de Uyuni, a glittering white salt desert, we head into the astonishing landscapes of the Eduardo Avaroa Reserve to explore and hike among bizarre stone formations and multi-colored lakes. One of our hotels is built almost entirely out of salt blocks!

Days 11-14 Lake Titicaca / Isla del Sol On Lake Titicaca, we boat out to the mystical Isla del Sol for hikes to Inca sites and walks through the traditional villages of this island lost in time. Overnights are in a spectacularly located ecolodge. We return to La Paz for our festive Farewell Dinner and depart on Day 14.

Our Bolivia journey brings you the stunning scenery and ancient cultures of one of the most fascinating destinations in South America. PHOTO: PEP ROIG



<image>

## Hiking in Salta & Jujuy ADVENTURES IN ARGENTINA'S NORTHERN REALM

With classic colonial towns, an ancient cultural heritage, and surreal landscapes that beckon the hiker, northern Argentina is perfect for a WT journey. We carve an arc from the colonial city of Salta to the renowned Calchaqui Valley, home to the highest vineyards in the world, to dreamy Cachi, and the extraordinary "painted mountains" of Purmamarca. Our hikes bring us into wind-sculpted red-rock canyons, across shimmering salt pans, and into isolated valleys suspended in time. Along the way, we'll learn how to make savory empanadas at a private estancia, sample fine vintages with a winemaker, and stay in historic inns and estancias of character. Our Trip Leader Rob Noonan is the perfect guide for this adventure into the incredible vistas, culture, and cuisine of this hidden corner of Argentina.

**Days 1-2 Salta** We visit Salta's archaeological museum for a private viewing of its rare Inca mummies, and hike in the montane forest of the Reserve Finca Las Costas.

Days 3-5 Canyon Country Hikes / Vineyards of Calchaqui / Cafayate Our hike in the Quebrada de Las Conchas Nature Reserve is the perfect introduction to northern Argentina's red-rock scenery, and we visit a historic vineyard in the Calchaqui Valley, with a special winery walk with a geologist-winemaker (and a tasting, of course!). Other hikes brings us to a pre-Columbian ruin and into sandstone canyons with fantastic colors. One evening, we head to a vineyard for a festive Salta *asado* (barbecue), complete with local music.

#### Days 6-8 Quebrada de Las Flechas / Cuevas

**de Acsibi / Cachi** After a visit with a potter in historic San Carlos, we hike in the Quebrada de Las Flechas (Canyon of Arrows), an incredible rampart below the desert sky, with sandstone fins stretching for miles. From the delightful village of Cachi, our off-the-map adventure is a spectacular hike through the canyons to the Cuevas de Acsibi.

#### Days 9-13 Private Estancia / Purmamarca /

**Great Salt Flats / Salta** We cross an 11,000foot road pass to descend into the Valle Encantado and are welcomed at a private estancia with its own nature reserve. A dramatic new landscape unfolds as we enter Jujuy Province to reach Purmamarca, set below striking multi-colored mountains. Our final hike brings us across the Salinas Grandes, with blue skies above, red mountains all around, and glittering white salt flats spread out before us. We return to Salta on the historic Yunga road and depart on Day 13.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike in the incredible red-rock canyons and wild landscapes of northern Argentina
- Meet an artisan in his studio, learn to make empanadas, enjoy a vineyard walk with a geologist-winemaker
- Savor fine Argentinean wines at some of the highest vineyards in the world
- Overnights in colonial inns and historic estancias

#### DETAILS

- 13-day trip begins and ends in Salta
- 12 nights hotels and haciendas

• All meals included except 1 lunch and 1 dinner

#### DATES

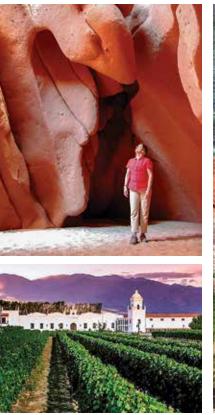
Nov 3-15, 2017 Mar 3-15, 2018 Apr 13-25 Oct 26-Nov 7

#### TRIP COST

\$6895 (10-14 members) \$7395 (7-9 members) Single supplement: \$1300

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 (3) 4 5 6 7 Moderate day hikes, 2-5 hours a day, cultural exploration

Colonial and pre-Hispanic cultures converge in this northern realm of red-rock valleys, superb vineyards, and welcoming haciendas. PHOTO: MARCO GUOLI





## Chile from Top to Bottom THE ATACAMA DESERT, CHILOÉ ISLAND, AND PATAGONIA



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the wild landscapes of the Atacama Desert
- Enjoy fascinating Chiloé Island, with its lush rainforests and ancient culture voted Best Place to Visit by *Travel* + *Leisure*
- Experience the best trails in Paine National Park, with hikes to the foot of Paine Grande and into the Valle Frances
- Discover Chilean culture, enjoy dinner with a local family, savor Chilean feasts including a traditional Patagonia 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

Dec 3-14, 2017 Nov 26-Dec 10\* Mar 5-16, 2018 Mar 4-15, 2019 \*Special Event, see page 16

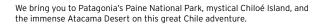
#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$6995 (10-15 members) \$7495 (7-9 members) Single supplement: \$1125 Internal airfare: \$580 (subject to change)

**TRIP LEVEL** 1 2 (3+) 4 5 6 7 10 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 2-7 hours a day, altitudes in the Atacama between 8,000-13,100 feet







From the stunning Atacama, the driest desert in the world, to mystical Chiloé Island and the soaring granite towers of Paine National Park, our north-to-south journey brings you to the most fascinating landscapes, habitats. and cultures in Chile. We'll hike the high desert landscapes of the Atacama, with its hot springs, sparkling salt flats, and turquoise lagoons, discover the deep temperate rainforests and wild Pacific beaches of the Chiloé archipelago, and in Patagonia, we explore famed Paine National Park for breathtaking hikes in a granite and glacier wonderland. Along the way, we'll taste the cuisines and wines of each region, meet artisans, share a meal with a local family, and discover the cultural heart of Chile.

#### Days 1-3 Atacama Desert / San Pedro de

**Atacama** Our hikes in the spellbinding moonscapes of the Atacama Desert bring us through the Valle de la Luna, with an unforgettable sunset in this realm of strange rock formations and pink-streaked mountains. We head up to the Puritama mineral spring, with time for a soak, and across the vast Salar de Atacama, where crystalline blue lagoons attract three different species of flamingos. One evening, we enjoy dinner hosted by an Atacama family.



Days 4-7 Puerto Varas / Volcán Osorno / Chiloé Island Chile's Lake District is renowned for its lush farmlands, lakes, and snow-capped volcanoes. We hike to a magnificent lookout point on snow-capped Volcán Osorno (8,701'), with its perfect symmetrical cone. Heading to Chiloé Island, we discover a culture with myths and legends rooted in the traditions of the native Mapuche people. Here we enjoy great birding (including two species of penguins), hike on golden beaches and in rainforests, learn about the blend of indigenous and European culture, and savor a *curanto*, Chile's traditional feast slow-roasted in an earthen pit.

#### Days 8-12 Patagonia / Paine National Park

The striking granite towers of the Paine Massif are the icon of Paine National Park, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of dazzling peaks, glaciers, rivers, and lakes. Our hiking adventures bring us into the classic Valle Frances, one of the most beautiful natural settings on the planet, for amazing views of Nordenskjold Lake and the Paine glaciers, and through the native forests of the Ascencio Valley right to the foot of these near-vertical monoliths. Depart on Day 12 via Punta Arenas.

## Patagonia's Wild North SPECTACULAR HIKES IN PARQUE PATAGONIA AND CHILE'S UNDISCOVERED AYSÉN



Hike the wild trails of Parque Patagonia in the wild Aysén region, with its tumbling glaciers and powder-blue lakes shaped by the forces of the Patagonian Ice Field. PHOTO: JAMES Q MARTIN

Be among the first to hike the pristine trails of Parque Patagonia-a staggeringly beautiful part of Patagonia that is still undiscoveredand help support one of the world's greatest conservation efforts. Created through the vision of Conservación Patagónica, led by legendary conservationists Doug and Kris Tompkins, this new park has been hailed as "South America's Yellowstone" for its epic landscapes and resurgent native wildlife, including huemel deer and puma. At mountainringed Lago General Carrera, we'll kayak in the surreal Marble Caverns and hike to the magnificent ice walls of Patagonian glaciers. Join us for a journey that will engage you in the sheer beauty of wild nature!



#### Days 1-4 Balmaceda / Parque Patagonia

Meeting in the outpost of Balmaceda, we head into the wild Aysén region, named one of 2017's "Top 10 Must Visit" regions by Lonely Planet. Exhilarating day hikes bring us deep into Parque Patagonia on the Aviles, Lagunas Altas, and Furioso trails, and we look for native wildlife, including guanacos and condors. The challenging Lagunas Altas trail was named one of "Patagonia's Best Five Treks."

Days 5-7 Lago General Carrera / Calving

Glaciers From our lakeside lodge on glacier-fed Lago General Carerra, a 700-square-mile body of intensely blue waters shared by Chile and Argentina, thrilling rides by jet boat whisk us across this spectacular lake to our trailheads, avoiding long drives. Our hikes to massive calving glaciers bring incredible views, including the icefall of the Northern Patagonia Ice Field.

#### Days 8-9 Coyhaique / Balmaceda By kayak,

we explore the Marble Caverns, a natural wonder of fantastic caves, pillars, and tunnels accessible only by boat on Lago General Carrera. We paddle right into these marvelous geological formations, the result of 6,000 years of artful carving by the lake's waters. Overnight in Coyhaique and depart via Balmaceda on Day 9.









#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the wild, untraveled mountains of Parque Patagonia, South America's newest national park
- Learn about the conservation practices that helped create this unique park
- See Patagonia's wildlife, from herds of guanacos to flamingos and soaring condors
- Cross cobalt-blue Lago General Carrera by jet boat to hike on the ice fields of the Patagonian Ice Cap
- Enjoy cozy mountain lodges that keep you close to the hiking trails

#### DETAILS

- 9-day trip begins and ends in Balmaceda 8 nights lodges
- · All meals included

#### DATES

Nov 18-26, 2017 Feb 16-24, 2019 Nov 26-Dec 10, 2018\* Nov 16-24 \*Special Event, see page 16

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 \$5495 (10-14 members) \$5895 (5-9 members) Single supplement: \$680

TRIP LEVEL 1 2 3 (4) 5 6 7 7 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 2-6 hours a day, altitudes below 5.000 feet, extreme winds and sudden changes in weather may affect the final itinerary



#### 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 up-close walk to see the towering Perito Moreno Glacier
- Historic estancias and fine lodges—two of our three lodges are 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 19-30, 2017	Dec 25, '18-Jan 5, 2019
Dec 23, '17-Jan 3, 2018	Jan 26-Feb 6, 2019
Jan 27-Feb 7, 2018	Feb 23-Mar 6
Feb 24-Mar 7	Mar 10-21
Nov 26-Dec 7*	
*Special Event, see pa	ae 16

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$6295 (10-14 members) \$6695 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$830 Internal airfare: \$620 (subject to change) Iguazu Falls extension: from \$920

#### 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

# 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, a World Heritage Site. 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 giants

"This trip exceeded all expectations! Fabulous scenery, great lodges and food, an amazing Trip Leader. Perfect!" Deena S., Jupiter FL soar above the pampas. Our hikes—with two options each day—lead across wild steppes and along azure lakes for extraordinary vistas of Fitzroy, Cerro Torre, and the park's exalted glaciers, including the massive ice wall of Perito Moreno, one

of Argentina's natural wonders. At our renowned estancias, including Helsingfors and Cristina, both set in incredible and remote locations, we'll sit back and enjoy savory Patagonian fare and hearty Argentine wines, celebrating each fine day of hiking.

#### Days 1-4 Buenos Aires / Los Glaciares

**National Park** After an overnight in Buenos Aires, we fly to El Calafate and head across the pampas to magical Los Glaciares National Park, where our options include a hike to Laguna de los Tres for panoramic views of the jagged pinnacles of Fitzroy (11,703') and to Laguna Torre for jaw-dropping vistas of the slender spire of Cerro Torre (10,280').

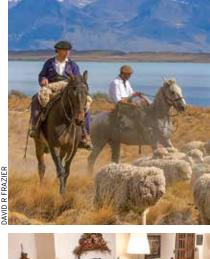
#### Days 5-7 Estancia Helsingfors / Perito

**Moreno** Lago Viedma is the setting for some of our most exhilarating hikes, including one to remote Lago Azul, a sublime glacial lake that truly earns its name. Our lodging is family-run Estancia Helsingfors, a historic retreat that is exclusive to our group, and we'll enjoy the welcoming atmosphere. Near Calafate, we take in the magnificent views of the Perito Moreno Glacier as we follow a boardwalk trail near the towering wall of ice, with the immense ice field stretching into the distance. It's a thrill to watch the giant ice blocks plunging into Lago Argentino.

**Days 8-12 Estancia Cristina / Calafate** From our remote inn, 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.

Our journey brings you Argentina's most incredible peaks and glaciers, historic lodgings, and a choice of wonderful hikes. PHOTO: DAN HOLTZ







# In Patagonia tierra del fuego and the mountain splendor of chile and argentina

Wilderness Travel has been exploring Patagonia for 40 years, and we know this magical realm at the "uttermost ends of the earth" like no other company! Our signature journey to both the Argentine and

"A perfectly designed itinerary. Every day, every lodge, every meal, every experience was (unbelievably) better than the day before. Thank you for this phenomenal travel experience."

Kathie D., Belle Isle FL

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy Patagonia's full wonder in the world-famous national parks of Los Glaciares (Argentina) and Paine (Chile)
- Choice of hiking options on many days
  Explore remote islands and bays of Tierra del Fuego
- Historic accommodations, including Estancia Helsingfors, a former sheep ranch

#### 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 11-26, 2017	Nov 26-Dec 10*
Dec 17, '17-Jan 1, 2018	Dec 19, '18-Jan 3, 2019
Jan 2-17, 2018	Jan 4-19, 2019
Jan 6-21	Jan 8-23
Jan 11-26	Jan 13-28
Feb 4-19	Feb 3-18
Feb 8-23	Feb 7-22
Feb 12-27	Feb 11-26
Mar 2-17	Mar 1-16
*Special Event, see p	age 16

#### TRIP COST

FALL 2017 / SPRING 2018 \$8195 (13-15 members) \$8595 (10-12 members) \$8995 (6-9 members) Single supplement: \$1650 Internal airfare: \$490 (subject to change) Iguazú Falls extension: from \$920

**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



Chilean sides of Patagonia explores the secluded bays of Tierra del Fuego along the Beagle Channel, and the stupendous granite-and-glacier realms of Paine and Fitzroy, two of the mountain masterpieces of the world. In Argentina's Los Glaciares National Park, we'll hike spectacular trails below the spires of the Fitzroy Massif, and we cross into Chile's phenomenal Paine National Park, with its azure lakes and unique wildlife, for hikes below the soaring granite monoliths of Torres del Paine. Historic estancias and lodges, many of which are exclusive to our groups, welcome us along the way.

**Days 1-3 Buenos Aires / Ushuaia / Tierra del Fuego** After exploring Buenos Aires, we fly to Ushuaia on the Beagle Channel, where our explorations include a

Zodiac ride, coastal hikes, and a visit to a Magellanic penguin colony.

#### Days 4-7 Los Glaciares National Park Up-close

perspectives of Fitzroy (II,703') and the slender granite pinnacle of Cerro Torre (I0,280') are the thrill of our hikes in this famed park. We hike to deep blue Laguna Torre, with Cerro Torre soaring directly above it, and through forest and steppe environments on the Pliegue Tumbado trail for a spectacular and unconventional 360-degree view of the Cerro Torre and Fitzroy massifs.

#### **EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE**

Start your journey with an exploration of Iguazú Falls, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that stretches between Argentina and Brazil and plunges hundreds of feet into a mist-shrouded subtropical landscape. It's one of the most stunning natural wonders in the world!





Days 8-9 Estancia Helsingfors / Los Glaciares National Park From our historic lodge, Estancia Helsingfors, we hike through beech forests to stunning Lago Azul for magnificent Fitzroy views, with possible sightings of native Patagonian wildlife, from guanacos to rheas.

#### **Day 10 Moreno Glacier / Lago Argentino / Calafate** Crossing rolling Patagonian pampas to turquoise Lago Argentino, we follow a boardwalk trail near the 20-story-high ice wall of the Moreno Glacier, with its icebergs calving right into the lake—the sounds are as amazing as the views.

**Days 11-16 Paine National Park, Chile** Chile's Torres del Paine National Park is one of the scenic wonders of the planet. Our lodges give us great access, with several hikes starting right outside our front door, including a classic hike through the Ascencio Valley to the base of the three giant monoliths of the Paine Towers. Depart on Day 16 from Punta Arenas.

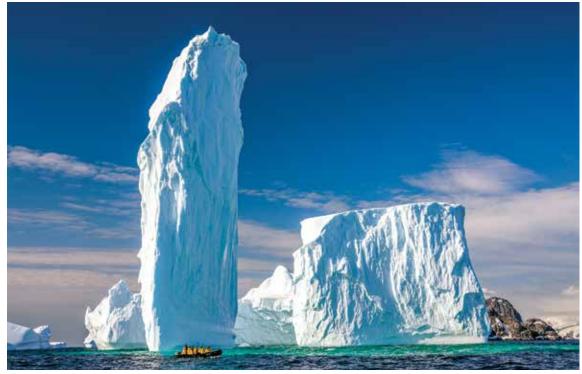
Right: From every angle and in every light, Patagonia is one of the most spectacular realms on the planet. PHOTO: MARTIN HARVEY







## Antarctica JOURNEY TO THE WHITE CONTINENT AT THE END OF THE EARTH



Exciting Zodiac excursions bring you incredible views of the towering, sculpted icebergs of Antarctica. PHOTO: ART WOLFE

Antarctica is hypnotically beautiful, with its towering blue-white icebergs, mountains sheering from the sea, and spectacular pageant of wildlife. Walk among shoreline rookeries thronged with penguins, look for spouting whales in iceberg-filled bays, spot incredible Antarctic birds soaring overhead, 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 most journeys! Expert naturalists bring the Antarctic world to life for you as they share their 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. Mighty 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 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 massive icebergs and ice floes where seals laze. Destinations may include Paulet Island, home to thousands of Adélie penguins, Paradise Bay, with its ice cliffs and icebergs, and the narrow Lemaire Channel, where the ship navigates a stunning waterway between sheer 3,000-foot peaks. Most departures have options for camping or sea kayaking, weather permitting. The ship will also sail into the sea-flooded crater of Deception Island, where hardy souls can 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 to maximize 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.



#### 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 27-Dec 8, 2017
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 Dec 4-15
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 Dec 14-25
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 Jan 5-16, 2018
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 Jan 15-26
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 Feb 13-25
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 Feb 25-Mar 8
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 Nov 23-Dec 3
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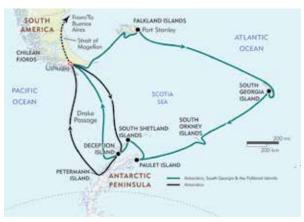
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Dec 5-16 Dec 9-19 Dec 15-27 Dec 18-29 Dec 26,18-Jan 6,2019 Dec 28,18-Jan 8,2019 Jan 18-29, 2019 Feb 6-17 Feb 16-27

#### TRIP COST

From \$8,995 Cruise length, itinerary, emabarkation and disembarkation cities, and pricing vary by departure.

**TRIP LEVEL** (+) 2 3 4 5 6 7 12-day expedition cruise, nature walks on uneven ground, sea kayaking and camping options on several departures, Zodiac cruising with wet landings, possibility of rough seas and cold weather



## Antarctica, South Georgia & the Falklands THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE EXPLORATION—AND WITH ACTIVE OPTIONS

Experience the three epic destinations of the Southern Ocean: the wildlife oasis of the Falkland Islands, breathtaking South Georgia Island, with its legends of Shackleton, hanging glaciers, and spectacular throngs

"This trip is unique there is nothing comparable. The expedition director was superb, and the shore excursions were so well organized."

Stuart G.

Golden CO

of stately king penguins, and the celebrated Antarctic Peninsula, an otherworldly realm of massive icebergs and mountains rising straight from the sea. On this small-ship expedition, set out for adventures by go-anywhere Zodiac amid drifting bergs, hike amid

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, where you enjoy encounters with Magellanic penguins, nesting gentoos in their burrows, and dashing rockhopper penguins, with their teeming cliff colonies and devil-may-care surf landings. You'll also visit Port Stanley, the quaint and very British capital. On Days 6 and 7, head out to sea, watching for whales while crossing the Antarctic Convergence to South Georgia.

**Days 8-11 South Georgia Island** Rearing 10,000 feet out of the sea, supremely isolated South Georgia is one of the most spectacular islands in the world—and home to one of the greatest concentrations of Subantarctic wildlife on the planet! Landings include Salisbury Plain, with its thousands of king penguins, and the old Norwegian whaling station of Grytviken, where fabled explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton is buried.

#### Days 12-20 Scotia Sea / South Shetland

Islands / Antarctic Peninsula Cross the Scotia Sea to the stunning Antarctic Peninsula, a breathtaking realm of ice-covered mountains and incredible wildlife. Visits may include Paulet Island, with its stunning tabular icebergs, Deception Island, a sea-filled volcanic crater the ship enters through the dramatic Neptune's Bellows, and awe-inspiring Lemaire Channel. You'll 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.

#### 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 2019. From \$11,895.

Experience the Southern Ocean's rare wildlife and extraordinary beauty on this comprehensive cruise. PHOTO: TUI DE ROY

#### 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 options on several departures

#### DETAILS

- $\bullet$  20-day trip begins and ends in Ushuaia\*
- 18 nights aboard an expedition ship, 1 night hotel
- All meals included

#### DATES

Nov 6-25, 2017 Nov 20-Dec 8 Dec 18, '17-Jan 5, 2018 Jan 3-23, 2018 Jan 5-24 Jan 25-Feb 13 Nov 3-24 Nov 7-27 Dec 31, '18-Jan 19, 2019 Jan 5-25, 2019 Feb 12-Mar 3 Feb 26-Mar 19

#### TRIP COST

From \$16,195 Cruise length, itinerary, emabarkation and disembarkation cities, and pricing vary by departure.

**TRIP LEVEL** (1+) 2 3 4 5 6 7 20-day expedition cruise, nature walks on uneven ground, Zodiac cruising with wet landings, possibility of rough seas and cold weather



# Private Journeys

(Anto)

Your Friends, Your Dates, Your Dream Trip





## For Families, Friends, or Just the Two of You!

Celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or dreaming of a great adventure with your special someone? Make it your own unique and personal experience! Our Private Journeys feature Wilderness Travel's landmark itinerary design, great local guides, superb accommodations, and signature service. Choose your own dates and traveling companions—and get ready for the adventure of a lifetime!





#### Ready to Book—or to Customize—It's Your Choice!

Book our journeys as they are, or tinker a bit, altering the order of the itinerary, extending your adventure, or adding activities based on your special interests. Want to visit the flourishing wineries near Cape Town after your safari, or discover an enchanting hacienda in Ecuador's Highlands before you head out to see the natural wonders of the Galápagos? We can arrange it! WT Private Journeys offer you a fantastic, very personalized experience, at a tremendous value.

#### **Request a Detailed Itinerary**

Check out the destinations for our Private Journeys in the following pages. You can download a Detailed Itinerary for any of these adventures at **www.wildernesstravel.com**, and we invite you to call or email us to check availability, with any questions you may have, or to book your adventure!





"Our first Private Journey but 4th WT trip. We love the combination of guides, planned itinerary, and individual choices throughout the journey."

Patricia B. and Doug J. Granite Bay CA





Namibia Sossusvlei, Skeleton Coast, Damaraland, Himba Tribes, Etosha National Park



Southern Africa Cape Town, Kruger, Victoria Falls, and Chobe



Zambia Walking Safari in South Luangwa National Park



Uganda Mountain Gorillas, Chimpanzees, and Queen Elizabeth National Park



South Africa Beautiful Cape Town and a Classic Wildlife Safari



Morocco Imperial Cities, the Great Sahara, and Marrakesh



## Private Journeys in Africa



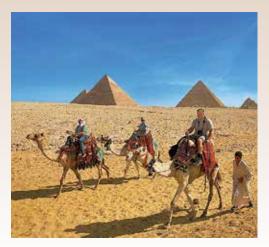
Kenya Family Safari: Masai Mara Migration and Cultural Encounters



Zimbabwe Victoria Falls, Active Game Viewing in Mana Pools and Hwange National Parks



Tanzania Safari in Tarangire, Ngorongoro Crater, and the Serengeti



Egypt Great Pyramids, Nile Cruise from Aswan to Luxor, Abu Simbel



Jordan Jerash, Petra, Wadi Rum, and the Dead Sea



Botswana & Victoria Falls Okavango Delta, Chobe's Elephant Kingdom, and Victoria Falls

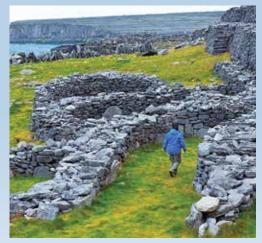
## Private Journeys in Europe



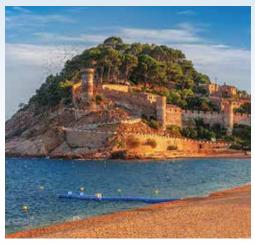
Switzerland Ticino, Engadine, *Glacier Express*, and the Matterhorn



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



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



Spain Barcelona and the Catalonian Coast



Greece Corinth, Mycenae, and the Cyclades Islands



Discover Turkey Istanbul, Ephesus, the Aegean Coast, and Cappadocia





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



Italy's Lake District Lago Como, Maggiore, and Orta San Giulio

"Wilderness Travel did it again! This was just perfect. The on-the-ground service was incredible; we are spoiled! This was such an incredible experience for us."

Denny H., Mercer Island WA

"This was a fabulous trip. We got to see and learn so much, and had such wonderful accommodations and service. It was beyond anything I was expecting."

Anne T., Thunder Bay Canada

"A beautifully planned and orchestrated trip. The hiking and scenery were fabulous. Thank you very much. WT runs a first class show."

Alison F., Alton NH

"One of the very best trips we have ever been on. We loved having a private guide, and doing things addressed to our particular interests at our own speed. Our guide was one of the best we have ever encountered."

Kathy B., Lafayette CA



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



Russia Moscow, the Golden Ring, and St. Petersburg



## Private Journeys in Latin America



Argentina Patagonian Peaks and Glaciers



Chile The Lake District and Paine National Park



Peru Mystical Machu Picchu



Colombia Adventures in El Dorado



Galápagos Exploring Darwin's Enchanted Islands



Baja Todos Santos, Whale Encounters, and the Sea of Cortez







Inca Trail Trek to Machu Picchu



Costa Rica Adventuring in Nature's Playground

"The pacing, the logistics, the thought given to the sites visited, the hotels selected, the mix of activities, the quality of the guides—all of these made for a spectacular vacation."

Gillian F., Philadelphia PA

"I have just raved about the structure of our Private Journey, the people involved, and the accommodations. Really wonderful."

Gail L., Boulder CO



Belize & Tikal Rainbow Reefs and Mystical Temples



Guatemala Tikal and the Land of the Mayas



Brazil The Pantanal and Rio de Janeiro





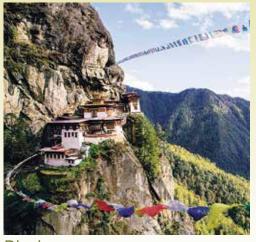
Mongolia Adventures in the Land of Genghis Khan



Annapurna Lodge Trek Soaring Himalayan Views, Exquisite Village to Village Trek



India Discover Romantic Rajasthan, Land of Princes



Bhutan Experience the World's Last Shangri La



Everest and Annapurna Lodge-Based Trekking in Nepal's Extraordinary Mountains



South India Enchanting Temples, Cultures, and Treasures of India's Vibrant South

## **Private Journeys** in Asia & the Pacific



Burma Yangon, Bagan, Mandalay, and Inle Lake



China Ancient Cultures & Magnificent Landscapes



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



## **General Information**

#### Reservations

Early reservations are recommended, since group sizes are limited and airlines often sell out 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), 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. Your statements will show the highest tier price (smallest group size at which we can operate) until final payment is due. If the price decreases due to an increase in group size before the trip departs, you will receive a refund for the difference. 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 are subject to change as 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 the southern hemisphere such as Patagonia and New Zealand, prices are seasonal. In such cases, the prices quoted in our catalog are for Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 only, and are so noted on the catalog trip page and in the Detailed Itinerary. Prices for Fall 2018 would not normally be available until early 2018.

#### 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 61-90 days prior to departure 46-60 days prior to departure 45 days or less We don't charge one! 25% of land cost 50% of land cost 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.

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 (hotels, transportation companies, etc) 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!



Back Row, left to right: Barbara Banks, Director of Marketing and New Trip Development; Diana Poindexter, Europe Operations; Cody Brock, Europe Operations; Carmen Gomez, Expedition Cruise Operations; Ray Rodney, Special Projects Manager; Jennifer Mahoney, Client Services; Vince Nibler, Information Systems; Merril Guzman, Latin America Operations; Jackson Ray, Africa Operations; Lisa Laferte, Pacific Operations; Frank Olson, Information Systems; Dena Bartolome, Writer; Hyun Jung; Information Systems; Jennifer (Jeffi) Norris, Africa Operations; Pam Shandrick, Writer; Steve Lanza, Office Systems; Kate Munsch, Photo Editor; Brian McGilloway, Photo Editor Middle Row, left to right: Shawn Oda, Accounting; Caryn Dombroski, Client Services; Angela Beggs, General Manager; Tana Hakanson Monsalve, Client Services; Barbara Wright, Private Groups Manager; Bill Abbott, President; Nicole Abbott, Vice President; Becky Swafford; Marketing Manager; Kristina Horton, Client Services; Shannon Hastings, Marketing / Graphic Designer; Linnea Peterson, Latin America Operations; Berndt Uebel, Europe Operations; Carolyn Tallman, Asia Operations; Cooper the Dog; Emily Vernizzi, Europe Operations; Lisa Filippini, Asia Operations; Nicole Duke, Asia Operations; Katie Kirchner, Client Services & Information Systems; Paula Orozco Newell, Client Services Not pictured: Molly Tallman, Latin America Operations; Mackenzie O'Connell, Special Projects; Beth Robidoux, Client Services; Michael Vance, Europe Operations

### Trip Level FINDING THE TRIP THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU

With more than 300 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

**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 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.

## Our Maps LEGEND



- (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, Portofino & 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 *Tribal Ghana, Togo & Benin,* 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: *Everest Base Camp*.
- (7) Most Strenuous: Full-day hikes in mountainous terrain, camping and hiking at extreme altitudes. Example: *Climb Kilimanjaro!*

## Wilderness Travel Trip Calendar

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128         Bolssmar Wallte Sale         1         2         S785         1         1         1         2         S785         1         1         1         1         2         1													7,19						
29       8xtowane. Katabart Explorer       14       2       8xtowane. Journer       17       3       17       3       17       3       17       3       17       3       17       3       18       18       18       18       5xtowane. Journer       18       18       5xtowane. Journer       18       18       5xtowane. Journer       220       220       10 <td></td>																			
129         Badrwana: Okavango Explorer         14         2         S8895         1											20	10	15	19	2,23				
310       Southern Africa Wiellik Solari       11       2       8 3895         17       15       19       17       3           331       Graft Hiles & Game Arrica Volut       10       2       55595       6,11        21        1       22       13       8         333       Tothal Gama, Top, and Benin       15       3       57995       6,11         1		•								15									
11       Creat Hiles & Came Parks of South Africa       10       24       5799       6,11       1       21       1       22       13       8         32       Lost Worlds of Ethiopia       15       2       5799       6,11       1       1       10       10       10       10       5699       21       1       1       10       10       10       10       5699       8       0       0       10       10       10       10       10       10       5699       8       0       0       10	29																		
312       Lost Works of Ethiopia       15       2       57.99       6       11       12       1       1       13       <	30	Southern Africa Wildlife Safari	11	2+							17	15	19	17					
33       Tribal Chana. Togo. and Benin       15       3.       \$6195       2.       2.1       C       C       1.0	31	Great Hikes & Game Parks of South Africa	10	2+	\$5595					21					22		13	8	
14       In the Wake of Cleopatra       10       1+       55695       26       9       1       1       1       1       5695       26       9       1       1       1       1       1       5695       26       9       1       1       1       1       1       5695       26       9       1       1       1       3       3         37       Morocco: The High Attas Trek       15       4       \$4395       17       17       14       1       2       1       3       1         137       Morocco: The High Attas Trek       15       4       \$4395       1       17       13.28       28       1 <td>32</td> <td>Lost Worlds of Ethiopia</td> <td>15</td> <td>2</td> <td>\$7695</td> <td></td> <td>6,11</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>13</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>6,11</td>	32	Lost Worlds of Ethiopia	15	2	\$7695		6,11								13				6,11
35       Pyramidis to Petra       15       14       26       26       17       17       14       10       1	33	Tribal Ghana, Togo, and Benin	15	3	\$6195			21							19				
36       Moracco: Camels to Casabins       14       2+       \$4895       17       17       14       28       15       13       3         37       Moracco: The High Altas Trek       15       4       54395       28       <	34	In the Wake of Cleopatra	10	1+	\$5695			8								11			
37       Morecco: The High Atlas Trek       15       4       \$4395       2       2       28       28       <	35	Pyramids to Petra	15	1+	\$6895		26		9								9		
web         Expedition to Sudan         9         1+         TBA         1         Para         1         1         1         2+         S3395         1         <	36	Morocco: Camels to Casbahs	14	2+	\$4895			17	17	14					15	13	3		
web         Legends of East Africa         11         2+         \$8395         0         0         0         7         10         10         10         10           Web         Private Journeys offered in the following countries. Buswaha. Egypt, Kenya, Jordan, Morocco, Namibia, Suuth Africa, Tanzani, Jounda, Zambia, Za	37	Morocco: The High Atlas Trek	15	4	\$4395								28						
web         Private Journeys offered in the following countries: Botswana, Egypt. Kenya, Jordan, Morocco, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Ugana, Zambia, Zimbabwe—see our website           38         Tour du Mont Blanc         8         5         \$4495         17         11,328         9,24         19         1           40         Hiking the Haute Route         8         5         \$4495         18         11         4         1           40         Classic Haute Route         12         5+         \$5995         1         2         25         25         26         1         1           41         Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean         14         \$5         \$6895         1         23         20         1         1           42         Great Alpine Traverse         14         4+         \$5295         1         23         20         1         1           44         Switzerland: The Via Alpina         11         5+         \$6795         10         10         21         1         1           44         Britzerland         9         3         \$6595         10         100         21         1         1           44         Britzerland         9         3         \$6595	web	Expedition to Sudan	9	1+	ТВА														Oct 2019
Europe         Second Seco	web	Legends of East Africa	11	2+	\$8395								7						
38       Tour du Mont Blanc       8       5       \$4495       1       17       113.28       9.24       1.9       1         40       Hiking the Haute Route       8       5       \$4495       0       30       27       11       1	web	Private Journeys offered in the follow	ing cou	intries:	Botswana	a, Egypt,	Kenya, Jo	rdan, Mo	rocco, Na	amibia, So	outh Afric	:a, Tanzar	nia, Ugano	da, Zambi	a, Zimba	bwe—see	our web	site	
40       Hiking the Haute Route       8       5       \$ \$4495       0       1       30       27       11       -       -       -       -         40       Classic Haute Route       12       5+       \$\$5995       0       0       11       4       0       0         41       Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean       14       5       \$\$6895       0       0       8       5       2       0       0         42       Great Alpine Traverse       14       4       \$\$5795       0       0       25       25       26       0       0         44       Switzerland: The Via Alpina       11       5+       \$\$5795       0       0       10       21       0       0         45       Heart of Switzerland       9       3       \$\$5895       0       0       10       7.28       0       0       0       22       0	EUF	OPE																	
40       Classification       12       5+       \$5995       1       1       1       4       4       4         41       Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean       14       5       \$6895       1       2       8       5       2       1         42       Great Alpine Traverse       14       4+       \$7595       1       2       25       25       26       1       2         43       Hiking the Tyrolean Alps       8       4+       \$7595       1       1       25       25       26       1       20         44       Switzerland: The Via Alpina       11       5+       \$6795       1       1       1       4       1       1       4       1       1         45       Heart of Switzerland       9       3       \$6595       1       1       10       21       1       1         46       Italy: The Tour of the Giants       12       4/5       \$5795       1       10       11       7.28       1       1         47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3/4       \$4395       23       11       2.23       13       11       1         48       Hiking in S	38	Tour du Mont Blanc	8	5	\$4495							17	1,13,28	9,24	1,9				
41       Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean       14       5       \$6895       Image: Constant of the State of	40	Hiking the Haute Route	8	5	\$4495							30	27	11					
42       Great Alpine Traverse       14       4+       \$7595       0       0       25       25       26       0       0         43       Hiking the Tyrolean Alps       8       4+       \$5295       0       0       0.29       9       0       0         44       Switzerland: The Via Alpina       11       5+       \$6795       0       0       19       5,30       0       0         45       Heart of Switzerland: The Via Alpina       11       5+       \$6595       0       0       19       5,30       0       0       0         45       Heart of Switzerland: The Via Alpina       12       45       \$5895       0       0       0       21       0       0       0         47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3+       \$5895       0       0       0       7,28       0       0       0         49       Ultimate Dolomites       8       4/5       \$5995       0       24       22       0       11       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0       0	40	Classic Haute Route	12	5+	\$5995								11		4				
43       Hiking the Tyrolean Alps       8       44       \$5295       0       0       0       10,29       9       0       0         44       Switzerland: The Via Alpina       11       5+       \$6795       0       0       0       23       20       0       0       0         45       Heart of Switzerland       9       3       \$6595       0       0       0       10       21       0       0       0         46       Italy: The Tour of the Giants       12       4/5       \$5795       0       0       0       728       0       0         47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3+       \$5895       0       0       0       728       0       0       0         48       Hiking in Ne Cortina Dolomites       8       4/5       \$3955       0       0       15       15       24       6       0       0       0         50       Hiking in Slovenia       11       3       \$4895       0       0       15       15       24       6       0       0       0       10       0       13       11       0       22       111       10       10       12	41	Mont Blanc to the Mediterranean	14	5	\$6895								8	5	2				
44       Switzerland: The Via Alpina       11       5+       \$6795       0       0       0       23       20       0       0       0         45       Heart of Switzerland       9       3       \$6595       0       0       19       \$5,30       0       0       0         46       Italy: The Tour of the Giants       12       4/5       \$5795       0       0       0       21       0       0       0         47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3+       \$5895       0       0       0       0       7,28       0       0       0         48       Hiking in the Cortina Dolomites       8       4/5       \$4395       0       0       15       15       24       6       0       0       0         50       Hiking in Slovenia       11       3       \$4895       0       0       15       15       24       6       0       0       0       10	42	Great Alpine Traverse	14	4+	\$7595							25	25	26					
44       Switzerland: The Via Alpina       11       5+       \$6795       0       0       10       23       20       0       0       0         45       Heart of Switzerland       9       3       \$6595       0       0       19       5,30       0       0       0         46       Italy: The Tour of the Giants       12       4/5       \$5795       0       0       0       7.28       0       0         47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3+       \$5895       0       0       23       10       7.28       0       0         48       Hiking in the Cortina Dolomites       8       4/5       \$4395       0       15       15       24       6       0       0         50       Hiking in Slovenia       11       3       \$4895       0       15       15       24       6       0       0       0       10	43	Hiking the Tyrolean Alps	8	4+	\$5295								10,29		9				
45       Heart of Switzerland       9       3       \$6595         I       10       19       5,30       I       I       I         46       Italy: The Tour of the Giants       12       4/5       \$5795       I       I       IO       21       I       I       I         47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3+       \$5895       I       I       IO       7,28       I       I       I         48       Hiking in the Cortina Dolomites       8       4/5       \$4395       I       I       23       14       4,25       10       I       III         49       Uttimate Dolomites       12       4/6       \$5995       I       I       III       2,23       3       III       IIII       IIII       IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII			11	5+	\$6795								23	20					
46       Italy: The Tour of the Giants       12       4/5       \$\$5795         1       10       21            47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3+       \$\$5895          10       7.28            48       Hiking in the Cortina Dolomites       8       4/5       \$\$5995          2.23       14       4.25       10 <td< td=""><td></td><td>,</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td<>		,																	
47       Bergamo to Innsbruck       12       3+       \$5895       M       M       M       M       M       10       7.28       M       Interview																			
48       Hiking in the Cortina Dolomites       8       4/5       \$4395        Image: Control of																			
44       Ultimate Dolomites       12       4/s       \$5995       Main       Main       Main       2,23       3       Main       Main         50       Hiking in Slovenia       11       3       \$4895       Main       15       15       24       6       Main       10       11       14       11       3       \$4895       Main       12       24       22       Main       Main       11       Main       Main <td></td> <td>23</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>												23			10				
50       Hiking in Slovenia       11       3       \$4895       Image: constrain of the strain												25		,J					
51Corsica & Sardinia113+\$55952242422111114101151Pagan Festivals of Sardinia102TBA66											15	15							
51Pagan Festivals of Sardinia102TBAImage: Construction of the synthemic of the sy										24		IJ	24						
52       Great Hikes & Chefs of Northern Italy       9       2+       \$5995       10       10       10       13       11       10         52       The Kingdom of Truffles and Barolo       8       3       \$4795       10       10       10       10       22       12         53       Italy's Pilgrim Trail       10       3       \$4995       27       10       10       28       10       12         54       Tuscany, Portofino & the Cinque Terre       10       3       \$5595       10       123       10       10       519       10       10         55       Italy's Lake District       9       3       \$5095       10       16       14       10       17       10       10         56       Amalfi & Capri       9       3+       \$5295       113       11       2       17       10       10         57       Volcanoes of Southern Italy       11       3       \$5395       13       11       2       17       10       16         58       Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country       10       3+       \$5395       113       11       2       24       24       12         59										24	22				11				Eab 2010
52       The Kingdom of Truffles and Barolo       8       3       \$4795       0       0       27       0       0       28       22       0         53       Italy's Pilgrim Trail       10       3       \$4995       0       27       0       0       28       20       0         54       Tuscany, Portofino & the Cinque Terre       10       3       \$5595       0       0       1,23       0       0       5,19       0       0         55       Italy's Lake District       9       3       \$5095       0       0       16       14       0       17       10       0         56       Amalfi & Capri       9       3       \$5395       0       0       16       14       0       17       10       0         57       Hiking in Sicily       11       3       \$5395       0       0       13       11       2       0       7       6       0         58       Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country       10       3+       \$5595       0       0       24       29       12       7,25       0       0         59       Pilgrim's Way       9       3       \$4395											10				12	- 11			Feb 2019
53       Italy's Pilgrim Trail       10       3       \$4995       27       28		,									10				13				$\left  \right $
54       Tuscany, Portofino & the Cinque Terre       10       3       \$5595       1       1,23       1       5       5,19       1       1         55       Italy's Lake District       9       3       \$5095       1       1       3       23       23       1       1         56       Amalfi & Capri       9       3       \$5295       16       16       14       1       17       10       10         57       Hiking in Sicily       11       3       \$5395       13       11       2       7       6       16         57       Volcances of Southern Italy       11       4       \$5395       1       13       11       2       7       6       16         58       Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country       10       3+       \$5595       1       22       19       28       18       1       1         59       Pilgrim's Way       9       3       \$4295       20       22       2       7       10       1         60       Across the Pyrenees       9       4       \$5095       1       20       22       2       2       7       1       1										07					20	22			
55       Italy's Lake District       9       3       \$5095       Image: Construct of the system of the syste										21									
56       Amalfi & Capri       9       3+       \$5295       16       16       14       10       17       10       11       10       10       11<											1,23	_							
57       Hiking in Sicily       11       3       \$5395       11       13       11       2       10       7       6       10         57       Volcances of Southern Italy       11       4       \$5395       10       10       11       2       10       24       10       24         58       Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country       10       3+       \$5595       10       22       19       28       18       10       11         59       Pilgrim's Way       9       3       \$4295       10       24       29       10       7,25       10       10         60       Across the Pyrenees       9       4       \$5095       10       10       20       22       2       2       7       10       10       11         60       Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras       9       3       \$4395       10       10       19       10       10       22       10												3							
57       Volcances of Southern Italy       11       4       \$5395       Image: Construction of the second se	56	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	9								14								<u> </u>
58       Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country       10       3+       \$595         22       19       28       18            59       Pilgrim's Way       9       3       \$4295        24       29         7,25            60       Across the Pyrenees       9       4       \$5095         20       22       22       2       7          60       Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras       9       3       \$4395         19         22       2       7           60       Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras       9       3       \$4395         19         22       2       7            60       Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras       9       3       \$4395         19 <td>57</td> <td>Hiking in Sicily</td> <td>11</td> <td>3</td> <td>\$5395</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>13</td> <td>11</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>7</td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	57	Hiking in Sicily	11	3	\$5395					13	11	2			7	6			
59       Pilgrim's Way       9       3       \$4295       24       29       1       7,25       1       1         60       Across the Pyrenees       9       4       \$5095       20       20       22       2       7       1         60       Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras       9       3       \$4395       1       19       19       22       2       7       1	57	Volcanoes of Southern Italy	11	4	\$5395										24				
60       Across the Pyrenees       9       4       \$5095       20       20       22       2       7       20         60       Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras       9       3       \$4395       20       19       20       22       2       7       20	58	Great Hikes & Cuisine of Basque Country	10	3+	\$5595						22	19		28	18				
60         Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras         9         3         \$4395         19         22         22         22	59	Pilgrim's Way	9	3	\$4295					24	29				7,25				L]
	60	Across the Pyrenees	9	4	\$5095						20		22		2	7			
61 Hiller's Journau to Destuard 12 24 \$5105	60	Hiking Andalucia and the Alpujarras	9	3	\$4395						19				22				
	61	Hiker's Journey to Portugal	12	3+	\$5195					24	14				4	2			

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	TRIP	COST	2017	2018	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV	DEC	2019
	ROPE continued	DAYS	LEVEL	FROM	DEC	JAN												JAN
62		10	4	\$4995						28		[		17				
62	Hiking in the Land of the Cathars <b>NEW</b> Medieval France: The Lot Valley	9	2+	\$5795						20				17	6			
63	Normandy and Brittany	11	3	\$6295						28	11			3	0			
64	Hiking in Cornwall	10	3+	\$5095						7	4	2		3				
65	Adventures in Wales	9	3	\$4995							1	_	6					
66	England Coast to Coast	14	4+	\$6095						20	17	22	19	9				
67	Great Peaks Scotland, England & Wales NEW	12	4+	\$7295							6			5				
68	Highlands & Islands of Scotland	10	3+	\$6295							18	16	20	17				
69	Hiking the Faroe Islands	8	4	\$4495							15,29							
70	Hidden Treasures of Ireland's West Coast	9	3	\$4895						19	24	21		1,29				
71	Spirit of Ireland	9	3	\$4895						5,27	16	7	18	15				
72	Norway's Fjord Country	11	3	\$5995							8	3,28	28					
73	Northern Norway & the Lofoten Islands	12	4	\$6995							20	15						
74	Expedition to Lapland	12	3	\$6995			21	6,14										
75	Expedition to Greenland	9	3	\$6695								22	1					
76	Iceland Expedition	8	3+	\$7495							22	13	3,10,17					
76	Wonders of Iceland	8	3+	\$7495								2,23						
77	Iceland's Northern Lights NEW	8	3+	\$7895			17	17								10		
78	Russia: Land of the Czars	11	1	\$5195						11	1	6		7				
79	Czech Castles & Country Walks	9	2+	\$3895						10				6,20				
79	Great Carpathian Traverse	15	3+	\$5495									26					
80	Montenegro & the Adriatic Coast	11	3+	\$4495						29		9	24	17				
80	Hiker's Journey to the Caucasus	11	4	\$4295							18	9						
81	Croatia: Istria & the Dalmatian Coast	11	2+	\$4895						3	26			19	2			
82	Hiking in the Greek Isles	13	3+	\$4595						18	13,28			9	_			
83	Greece: Zagoria & Mt. Olympus	12	4+	\$3695						6					7			
web	Southern Spain to Morocco	12	2+	\$5795	In	-	lu Duraia	Castlan	d Casta	6	n al Trada				7			
web	Private Journeys offered in the follow	ing cou	intries:	Croatia, C	sreece, Ir	eland, Ita	iy, Russia	, Scotian	d, Spain,	Switzeria	na, Turke	ey—see o	ur website					
84	In the Realm of Genghis Khan	13	3	\$6395								5	1					
85	Wild Mongolia	12	3	\$6995								5	1	29				
86	Everest Base Camp	20	6	\$4895				20							20	12		
86	Ultimate Everest	25	7	\$5895				14							9	12		
87	Everest Lodge to Lodge	14	5	\$3995	4,20		12	5,27	15						6,20	20	4,19	
88	Dolpo: Expedition to Crystal Mountain		6	\$7795	1,20			5,21	15					8,18	0,20	20	1,12	
90	Hiker's Journey to Bhutan	12	3+	\$5795			23	21						19	19	6,17	11	
91	Journey to Ladakh	12	3+	\$5295							7			17		0,11		
92	Royal Rajasthan	11	1+	\$7295			15									12		
92	Treasures of South India	14	1+	\$7995		8												8
93	Sri Lanka	13	2+	\$6495		12	12											
94	Temples, Treasures & Teahouses	14	2	\$8695				21	5									
94	Japan: Castles, Samurai & Legends	14	2	\$7695						7					17			
95	Hiker's Journey to Shikoku	13	3	\$7395						20					6	3		
96	Indochine	16	1+	\$5795	20	6,27										3	21	12
97	Burma: Wonders of the Golden Land	14	2	\$5895		6	13									3		15
web	Private Journeys offered in the follow	ing cou	intries:	Bhutan, E	Burma, Ca	ambodia,	China, In	dia, Japa	n, Mongo	lia, Nepal	, Vietnan	n—see ou	ır website					
PAC	CIFIC & ALASKA																	
98	Snorkeling Raja Ampat	12	3	\$5695						7,20				20	3,16,29	11,24		
99	Vanuatu NEW	11	4	\$5995					15		10							
100	Palau Snorkeling & Sea Kayaking	10	3	\$6195		17	17	18						10	8	9		21
101	Swimming with Humpbacks of Ha'apai	8	3	\$5195										13,20				
102	Komodo Snorkeling Expedition	11	3	\$6195										2				
103	Borneo Expedition	13	2+	\$8495					23						8			
104	New Zealand: South Island Adventure	13	2+	\$6295	10	7,21	3,18	2,17								12	10	1,14,28
106	New Zealand: Off the Beaten Path	10	2+	\$5695		22	19	19								25		13
107	Wild Tasmania	11	2	\$5995				2								16		
108	Alaska's Inside Passage	7	1+	\$4250								1	epartures					
109	Alaska: Journey to Sitka	8	1+	\$5250							1,10,19	7,16,25	12,21					
web	Private Journeys offered in New Zeala	and—se	ee our v	website														

## Wilderness Travel Trip Calendar CONTINUED

									- ]-									
PAGE	DESTINATION	# OF DAYS		COST FROM	2017 DEC	2018 JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV	DEC	2019 JAN
GA	ÁPAGOS										I	I						
110	Ultimate Galápagos	17	1+	\$10995	22	5	2	2,16,30	27	11	8,22						21	
112	Galápagos Adventure	10	1+	\$6695	22	5	2	2,16,30	27	11	8,22						21	
113	Enchanted Isles	10	1+	\$6695	29	12	9	9,23	6	4,18	15,29						28	
web	Private Journeys offered in the Galápa	agos—	see our	r website		1	ļ			1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
LAT	IN AMERICA																	
114	Costa Rica Wildlife	9	2	\$4295	18,25,30	21	3,11	11,15				14					17,27	
116	Baja: Exploring the Sea of Cortez	9-12	2	\$5250	14	4,12	2,13	6,16	6								18,28	
116	Snorkeling with Humpbacks of Silver Bank	8	2	\$5095				17										
117	Machu Picchu Lodge to Lodge	9	5	\$4295								Multiple D	epartures	;				
118	Hiker's Journey to Machu Picchu	9	3+	\$5395					13	5	6	10	25	19	9	2		
119	Choquequirao: Trek to the Cradle of Gold	14	6	\$4495								23	10					
120	Inca Trail to Machu Picchu	9	5	\$5195	26				17,27	29	15,25	3	10,31	18	5,19	17	26	
122	Trekking in the Cordillera Blanca	17	6	\$4395							9	27						
122	Cordillera Huayhuash	18	6	ТВА							-							
123	Bolivia!	14	2+	\$5595							28		30		4			
124	Hiking in Salta & Jujuy NEW	13	3	\$6895				3	13		20		50		26			
125		12	3+	\$6995	3			5	15						20	26		
	Chile From Top to Bottom	9			3			5									1	
126	Patagonia's Wild North NEW		4	TBA	22	27	24									26	1	26
127	Great Hikes & Estancias of Patagonia	12	3+	\$6295	23	27	24	2								26	25	26
128	In Patagonia	16	4	\$8195	17	2,6,11	4,8,12	2				_				26	19	4,8,13
web	Private Journeys offered in the follow	ing cou	intries:	Argentin	a, Belize,	Brazil, Cl	hile, Colo	mbia, Cos	ta Rica, C	Suatemala	a, Mexico,	Peru—se	ee our we	bsite				
	TARCTICA & THE ARCTIC	1	1	<u>.</u>	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	
130	Antarctica	12	1+	\$8995	4,14	5,15	13,25									23,30	5,9,15,18,26	18
131	Antarctica, S. Georgia & the Falklands	20	1+	\$16195	18	3,5,25										3,7	31	5
137	Antarctica Air Cruise	8	1+	\$11895	Mult	iple Depar	rtures —											
WT	EXPEDITIONS	1	1	1		1		1							1	1	1	
web	Africa's Transfrontier Elephant Highway <b>NEW</b>			TBA									•					
web	Ancient Britain to the Channel Islands <b>NEW</b>			TBA						•								
web	The Great Game	26	3	TBA								21						
web	The Great Himalayan Garhwal Trek <b>NEW</b>			TBA														
web	Heart of India: Tigers, Tribes, & the Taj	14	2	\$8795			23											
web	Hiking Hidden Corsica NEW			TBA														
web	In the Footsteps of Heinrich Harrer	23	6	\$9495							1							
web	Iran: Treasures of Persia's Ancient Empire	18	3	\$8695				16								8		
web	Italy Heel to Toe: Puglia and Calabria <b>NEW</b>			TBA											•			
web	Japan: Snow Monkeys & Winter Cranes $\ensuremath{NEW}$			TBA														Feb 2019
web	Kashgar to Kathmandu NEW	26		ТВА										•				
web	Nagaland, Hornbill Festival & Across Burma $\ensuremath{NEW}$			ТВА												•		
web	Nagorno-Karabakh: Land of Black Garden	10	3	\$4195							19							
web	Prehistoric Caves and Cuisine of France <b>NEW</b>			TBA														
web	The Silk Road	18	2	\$9295					21									
web	Snow Leopard and Tigers NEW			TBA														Mar 2019
web	New Zealand from Top to Bottom <b>NEW</b>			TBA												•		
web	Trans-Caucasus Adventure	25	3	\$7195						25								
web	Triple Base Camp NEW			TBA											•			
JOI	JRNEYS BY RAIL	•	•			•	•								•			
woh	Caspian Odyssey	16	1	\$21495											17			
web			1	1			-	1										
web	Heart of Persia	14	1	\$16495					8,19							4		
		14 12	1	\$16495 \$12495					8,19					17,25		4		

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. 132/133: ANDREA HECKMAN, PIERRE JAQUES, ONNE VAN DER WAL, WINFRIED WISNIEWSK; PHOTO PG. 138/139: HARRY LICHTMAN

PAGE	DESTINATION	# OF DAYS		COST FROM	2017 DEC	2018 JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV	DEC	2019 JAN
CRU	JISE COLLECTION	I	I			I	I					I	I	I				
web	Amazon River Expedition	8	1	\$8925						— Week	ly Departu	ires Year-l	Round —					
web	Australia's Kimberley	15	1	\$13580						15								
web	Best of Micronesia: Rabaul to Palau NEW	18	1	\$12980			23											
web	Best of the Great Barrier Reef NEW	15	1	\$9980								10						
web	Blue Danube Discovery Cruise	8	1	\$2599								Multiple D	epartures					
web	Cuba, Panama, Costa Rica, Colombia NEW	16	1	\$13980					5									
web	Circumnavigation of Cuba NEW	14	1	\$10980					17									
web	Circumnavigation of New Zealand NEW	24	1	\$12,795	15													
web	Colors of Provence NEW	8	1	\$2899							I Multi	i iple Depar	tures —					
web	Crossing the Antarctic Circle <b>NEW</b>	12	1+	\$12980		23												
web	Cuba Cultural Adventure	8	1	\$5242		Multiple D	l Iepartures											
web	Discoveries of Coastal Europe	14	1	\$9980					28									
web	Enchanting Rhine	8	1	\$2499					20		I Multi	iple Depar	tures ——					
web	Enticing Douro	8	1	\$3099									epartures					
web	Flavors of Portugal and Spain NEW	8	1	\$2899								ple Depar						
		14	1	\$9795							17							
web				\$2899														
web	Gems of Southeast Europe NEW	8	1									ple Depar						
web	Grand Danube	15	1	\$5598						20		Multiple L	epartures	·				
web	Guadalcanal to Vanuatu NEW	10	1	\$8200						28								
web	Hawaiian Seascapes NEW	8	1	\$3795		Multiple D	epartures											
web	Hidden Gems of the Caribbean NEW	12	1	\$12980												25		
web	Hokkaido: Japan's Wild Island NEW	16	1	\$13980						19								
web	Hong Kong to Nagasaki NEW	11	1	\$8150				15										
web	Iceland's Natural Wonders	10	1	£4195							7							
web	Introduction to Spitsbergen NEW	9	1	\$5395							4,14,22							
web	Jewels of the Cyclades	8	1	\$2590							—— Multi	ple Depar	tures ——					
web	Marquesas, Tuamotus, & Society Islands	15	1	\$7645					14				11		20			
web	Melanesia Discoverer NEW	14	1	\$7995											6			
web	Melodies of the Danube	8	1	\$2499							— Mult	iple Depar	tures ——					
web	New Zealand Island Discovery NEW	19	1	£10,995		16												
web	North Pole	14	1	\$28695							13,24							
web	Northwest Passage NEW	17	1	\$9695										9				
web	Northwest Passage: Footsteps Franklin $\ensuremath{NEW}$	17	1	\$9695									26					
web	Paris and Normandy	8	1	\$2899							—— Mult	iple Depar	tures ——					
web	Provence and Spain	8	1	\$2899							—— Mult	iple Depar	tures ——					
web	Romantic Danube	8	1	\$2499							—— Mult	iple Depar	tures ——					
web	Russian Far East NEW	12	1	\$10250								2						
web	Sea to Sahara NEW	16	1	\$13980					7									
web	Seychelles & Madagascar NEW	18	1	\$21080											20			
web	Seychelles Cruise in the Garden of Eden	8	1	\$2550						— Week	ly Departu	ires Year-l	Round —					
web	Svalbard: A Polar Bear Quest NEW	14	1	\$9980								10						
web	Taste of Bordeaux NEW	8	1	\$2899							—— Multi	iple Depar	tures —					
web	The Adriatic Odyssey	8	1	\$2350							— Multi	ple Depar	tures —					
web	The Dalmatian Coast and Montenegro	8	1	\$2350							10,24	8,22	5,19	2,6,30				
web	The Golden Land	11	1	\$3676		Multiple D	epartures									Multiple D	epartures	s —
web	The Laos Mekong NEW	11	1	\$3600		•	ple Depar									ple Depar	•	
web	The Untamed North NEW	15	1	\$12980							24							
web	Three Arctic Islands	13	1	\$9995								27						
web	Treasures of Costa Rica & Panama Canal	8	1	\$2790		Multi	l ple Depar	tures —										
web	Vanuatu to Cairns NEW	15	1	\$12350		muiti	pic Depai				7							
	Vietnam, Cambodia, and Riches of Mekong	8	1	\$2299			 Multiple D	enarturos			1				Mul+	    ple Depar	tures .	
web	•							cpartures	,	9					wuut	pie Dehgi	.ures —	
web		16	1	\$15280						9		22	6.20					
web		15	1	\$11200								23	6,20			77		
web	Zanzibar to Durban NEW	17	1	\$13850												27		

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WT Expeditions

We love creating new adventures and are delighted to present our newest collection of WT Expeditions. These unique journeys, designed for seasoned travelers and adventurous souls, include first-time exploratories, rugged expeditions, and "dream" trips inspired by our most veteran Trip Leaders. Here's a sample of a few of our upcoming WT Expeditions you'll find the rest on our website at www.wildernesstravel.com.

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Hiking Hidden Corsica with Tania Masi • July 2018

The Great Himalayan Garhwal Trek with Hashmat Singh • July 2018

Botswana to Zimbabwe: the Transfrontier Elephant Highway with Mark Butcher • August 2018

From Kashgar to Kathmandu with Roger Williams • September 2018

> 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Prehistoric Caves and Great Cuisine of Southern France with Annie Hawkins • September 2018

Triple Base Camp: Everest, Makalu & Kanchenjunga with Tanya Perret • October 2018

Italy Heel to Toe: Puglia and Calabria with Gianluca Canalicchio • October 2018

Te Araroa: New Zealand from Top to Bottom with Jon Imhoof • November 2018 Nagaland, the Hornbill Festival & Across Burma with Devendra Basnet • November 2018

Japan: Snow Monkeys and Winter Cranes with Kate Ulberg • February 2019

Snow Leopards and Tigers of India with Amit Sankhala • March 2019