



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA TOURS

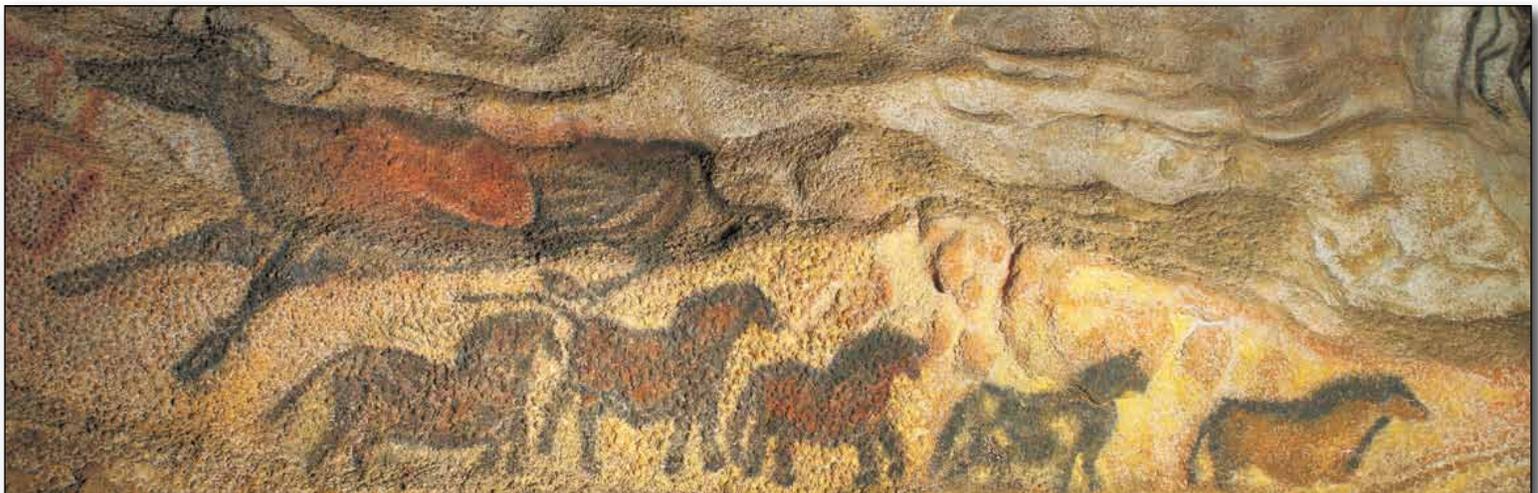
Prehistoric Cave Art of Spain & France

September 20 - October 2, 2017 (13 Days)



Highlights

- Investigate southwestern Europe's most extraordinary prehistoric caves, including **Lascaux IV**, a new, exact reproduction (opening December 2016) of one of the most remarkable prehistoric sites ever discovered; **Altamira II**, a precise replica of the original that is often called the "Sistine Chapel of Prehistoric Art;" **Atapuerca**, the most significant early human site in western Europe; **Las Monedas Cave** and **Cueva del Castillo**, where 180 animal likenesses were painted some 12,000-14,000 years ago; **Cognac**, which features paintings of extinct megaloceros and mammoth; **Pech Merle**, known for its "negative handprints;" and others.
- Travel with **world-renowned archaeological author Paul Bahn**, a gifted and popular lecturer who regularly leads tours to study the prehistory of Spain and France, including this program. Dr. Bahn will enhance your understanding of the sites with lectures and informal discussions.
- Tour archaeological and ethnographic museums with superb exhibits of prehistoric artifacts, including the **Museum of Human Evolution** in Burgos, **Altamira Museum**, **Museum of Les Eyzies**, and the **Musée d'Aquitaine**; plus the modern art collections of Bilbao's **Guggenheim Museum**.
- Explore charming villages and cities, including **Santillana del Mar** and **San Sebastian**.
- Enjoy **excellent accommodations** in fine hotels and charming inns, as well as **fine wine and cuisine**.



Itinerary

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

Wednesday & Thursday, September 20 & 21, 2017 ~ HOME / BILBAO, Spain / SANTILLANA DEL MAR

Depart home on independent flights to **Bilbao**, Spain. Arriving in the morning or early afternoon on September 21st, take a group transfer to the charming medieval town of **Santillana del Mar**. One of Europe's most perfectly preserved medieval villages, Santillana del Mar retains a romantic ambiance with its 14th- through 16th-century towers punctuating the skyline. After checking in at your hotel take a walking tour of the village, noting its roots from the early Middle Ages when the first dwellings arose in the shadow of the Romanesque monastery of Santa Juliana. Gather for a welcome dinner at our hotel this evening. *Overnight at Parador de Santillana (annex) for two nights.* (day 2: D)

Friday, September 22 ~ SANTILLANA DEL MAR / ALTAMIRA II / PUENTE VIESGO CAVES

Today is devoted to visiting caves that are celebrated for their ancient rock art. This morning we visit **Altamira II**, an exact replica of Altamira (the "Sistine Chapel of Prehistoric Art"), decorated with vivid depictions of bison and other animals dating back 15,000 years, a testament to the artists' skill in using rock formations to accentuate perspective. We also visit the **Altamira Museum**, with its highly informative exhibits on Cantabrian prehistory and cave art. This afternoon, we depart for the lush Pas Valley, home to the village of **Puente Viesgo**, the "Prehistoric Capital of Cantabria." We explore **Las Monedas Caves** and the **Cueva del Castillo**, where 180 images of hinds, horses, bison, deer, goats, aurochs, canids, and mammoth dating back 12,000-14,000 years cavort on the walls. We return to Santillana del Mar for dinner on our own. (B,L)

Saturday, September 23 ~ SANTILLANA DEL MAR / BILBAO

On our return to Bilbao, we drive through the dramatic Carranza Gorges to visit the small **Covalanas Cave**, where some of the prehistoric drawings are rendered in a little-used technique known as "the inkpad," in which lines are created from dots of red pigment. This afternoon is devoted to Bilbao's spectacular **Guggenheim Museum**, Frank O. Gehry's architectural masterpiece. This breathtaking modern structure consists of 19 galleries clustered around a central atrium that soars skyward for 165 feet, beautifully illuminated by natural light. The titanium roof is a unique, twisting, curving, metallic sculpture that integrates the city's industrial waterfront with the nearby historic and business districts. *Overnight at the Silken Gran Hotel Domine for two nights.* (B,D)

Sunday, September 24 ~ BILBAO / ATAPUERCA / BURGOS / BILBAO

After breakfast this morning, we visit the caves of **Atapuerca**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, which have provided the earliest and most abundant evidence of humankind in Europe. Continue on to Burgos, where we will have time for lunch and a brief visit to **Burgos Cathedral** before we explore the impressive **Museum of Human Evolution** (opened in 2010). This evening is at leisure in Bilbao. (B,L)

Monday, September 25 ~ BILBAO / SAN SEBASTIAN / BORDEAUX, France

We depart Spain for France this morning, stopping along the way in the charming city of **San Sebastian** for some free time. After a leisurely independent lunch, we will continue to **Bordeaux**, well-known for its wine industry, which attributes its "Golden Age" to the 18th century when far-sighted city



Above, a bison, Altamira II. Below, a doe, Altamira II. Bottom, the Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao.



fathers redesigned its urban center to make it the classical masterpiece we know today. Its old district is one of the largest protected architectural neighborhoods in all of France, which we will explore on a walking tour. *Overnight at the Hotel Burdigala.* (B)

Tuesday, September 26 ~ BORDEAUX / LES EYZIES-DE-TAYAC

This morning we visit the **Musée d'Aquitaine**, a museum of history and archaeology exhibiting prehistoric to present-day artifacts of the Aquitaine region, including the Ice Age bas-relief of the Venus of Laussel, one of the earliest and most famous images of women in prehistory. After free time for lunch in Bordeaux, we will visit the prehistoric cave of **Pair-non-Pair**, known for its animal engravings and fossilized animal bones, and then continue on to Les Eyzies. *Overnight at Hotel Le Cro-Magnon for four nights.* (B,D)

Wednesday, September 27 ~ LES EYZIES / THE PÉRIGORD REGION

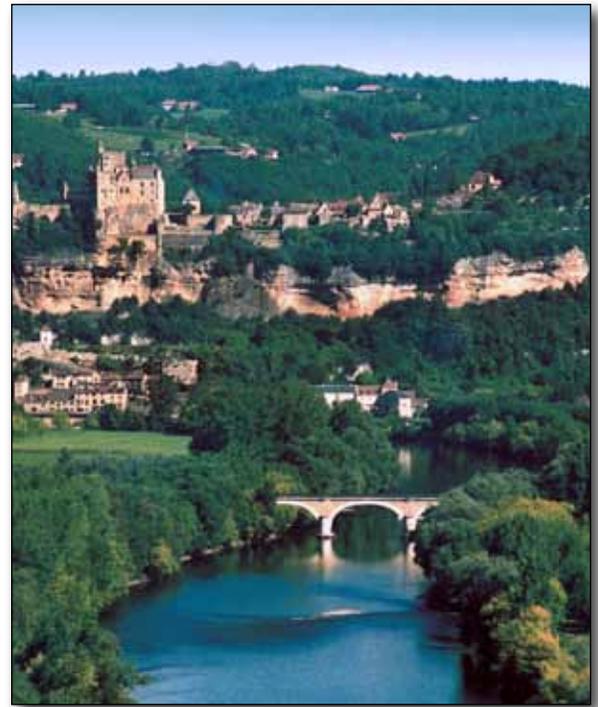
The Périgord Region in the southwest of France is Europe's most important prehistoric region. Its terrain, crisscrossed by gentle rivers flowing amidst extraordinary limestone formations, offered numerous shelters and caves for our early ancestors. Through expressive cave paintings, tools, and excavated remains, witness evidence of human existence and cultural evolution. Begin with a visit to the **Museum of Les Eyzies**, exhibiting artifacts from several millennia of prehistory, and then explore the shelter of **Cap Blanc**, which features a sculpted frieze of life-size horses. After lunch at leisure in Les Eyzies, visit the cave of **Font-de-Gaume**, featuring some 230 paintings and engravings, and then return to Les Eyzies for an evening at leisure. (B)

Thursday, September 28 ~ THE PÉRIGORD REGION

Begin the day with a drive to the prehistoric cave of **Cougnac**, known for its paintings of extinct megaloceros and mammoth. After lunch on your own in Sarlat, we drive along country roads to the prehistoric cave of **Rouffignac**. Explore its galleries onboard a train, admiring the numerous engravings of mammoth, rhinoceros, horse, bison, and mountain goat represented on its walls. On our way back to Les Eyzies, we stop at the site of **Abri Pataud**, where extensive digging in the early 1960s revealed astonishing details of the life of the Cro-Magnons. (B,D)

Friday, September 29 ~ THE PÉRIGORD REGION

Our morning starts with a visit to **Le Thot**, a museum and animal park of living species similar to those that occupied this region during the Upper Paleolithic, such as reindeer, European bison, aurochs, Przewalski horses, ibex, and red and fallow deer. From there we move to **Lascaux IV** for the rest of the day. This is the latest replica of one of Europe's most significant prehistoric sites, famous for the profusion of high-quality and multi-coloured animal paintings on its walls, and it will be open to the public as of December 2016. It is the most complete replica to date, representing nearly all of the original cave's paintings, and includes an interactive exhibit. Return to Les Eyzies for an evening at leisure. (B)



Above, the Dordogne Valley. Below a prehistoric deer painting. Bottom, entrance to Abri Pataud.



Saturday, September 30 ~ LES EYZIES / TOULOUSE

Depart Les Eyzies after breakfast and visit the cave of **Pech Merle**, particularly known for prehistoric paintings of mammoth and horse, as well as “negative hand prints.” After lunch in the town of **Vers** we continue on to **Toulouse**, for a walking tour and the remainder of the afternoon and evening at leisure. *Overnight at the Hotel Crowne Plaza for two nights.* (B,L)

Sunday, October 1 ~ TOULOUSE / NIAUX

Visit the outstanding cave of **Niaux**, perched high above the river and comprising a vast network of galleries that stretch over a mile. The exquisite paintings within represent bison, horse, and ibex. We enjoy a light lunch nearby. Gather this evening for our farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

Monday, October 2 ~ TOULOUSE / HOME

Transfer this morning to the Toulouse airport for flights home. (B)



Negative hand print, Pech Merle.

About the Archaeological Institute of America & AIA Tours

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.

Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer and Host



Dr. Paul G. Bahn is a leading archaeological writer, translator, and broadcaster in the field of archaeology. He is a Contributing Editor of the AIA's *Archaeology* magazine, and his article "Cloning Altamira" (*Archaeology*, March/April 2001) focused on the Altamira II complex and museum that we visit on this program. Dr. Bahn has written extensively on prehistoric art, including the books *Journey through the Ice Age*, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Prehistoric Art*, and *Cave Art: A Guide to the Decorated Ice Age Caves of Europe*. He has also authored and/or edited many books on more general archaeological subjects, bringing a broad perspective to understanding the sites and museums that we will visit. Such titles include *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Archaeology*; *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice*; *The Penguin Archaeology Guide*; and *The Cambridge World Prehistory*.

Born in Kingston-upon-Hull, Britain, he holds a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, and is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, a Corresponding Member of the AIA, and a member of numerous international professional organizations, including the Prehistoric Society and the Société Préhistorique Française. Dr. Bahn has been involved in bringing the field of archaeology to television in various capacities. He was an advisor in the Dordogne and Pyrenees on the BBC production of *The Making of Mankind*, and a consultant on a segment of WGBH's Nova trilogy *Human Origins*, filmed in France. His research and lecturing on archaeological study tours have taken him to important archaeological sites around the world in Europe, North America, Africa, and Polynesia. He is a gifted and popular lecturer who regularly leads AIA tours to study the prehistory of Spain and France. Dr. Bahn's broad expertise in the area of prehistoric art, combined with fluency in French and a deep regard for the regions we will visit, uniquely qualify him as a lecturer *par excellence*.



What to Expect

All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. Participants who are not able to walk unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour unless accompanied by a companion who will be available to assist you at all times. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand, and discuss whether or not the program is appropriate for you. VISITS TO THE CAVES AND OTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES NECESSITATE WALKING QUICKLY AND CLIMBING UNASSISTED, WITHOUT HANDRAILS, SOMETIMES OVER STEEP OR SLIPPERY TERRAIN AND IN DARK OR DIMLY LIT SPACES. Weather in Spain and France in September/October is generally pleasant, with average daytime temperatures ranging from the 50s to 70s F. Cave temperatures average 55° F and humidity levels reach 95%. Please note that no photography is allowed inside the caves. Detailed pre-departure information will be sent to participants.

Air Arrangements

International airfare from home to Bilbao, Spain, and returning from Toulouse, France, is not included. Complimentary transfers are provided for those arriving on Sept. 21st and departing October 2nd (see "Prices Include" for details). Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should contact your preferred Travel Agent or airline to book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

Accommodations

We have carefully selected our first-class hotels and inns for their charm, comfort, and location. Our accommodations include two nights at the lovely *Parador de Santillana*, and four nights at the *Hotel Le Cro-Magnon*, ideally located in the charming village of Les Eyzies-de-Tayac.

For questions, or to hold your space while you send in your Reservation Form, please contact us:



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

800-748-6262

Fax: 603-756-2922 Toll: 603-756-2884

Email: aia@studytours.org Website: www.aiatours.org

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One,
Walpole, NH 03608

Per Person Prices

DOUBLE Occupancy (15-20 participants)	\$7,445
DOUBLE Occupancy (10-14 participants)	\$8,195
SINGLE Supplement (limited availability)	\$1,025

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability).

Prices Include:

- Leadership of AIA lecturer and host Paul Bahn;
- A copy of Paul Bahn's *Cave Art* guidebook;
- Eleven nights' accommodations as outlined in the itinerary;
- Meals as noted in the itinerary, including house wine with dinner;
- Group arrival transfer on Sept 21st (flights should arrive by early afternoon);
- Individual departure taxi transfers on October 2nd;
- All entrance fees to sites included in the itinerary;
- Surface transportation in air-conditioned motor coach with bottled water provided;
- Professional, English-speaking Tour Manager/Guide throughout;
- Local taxes and service charges;
- All gratuities to drivers, waiters, and porters;
- Gratuities to the Tour Manager/Guide;
- Handling of two pieces of checked luggage per person;
- Practical and cultural information, suggested reading guide, name badge, passport wallet, and luggage tags.

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE: Airfare to Bilbao, Spain and returning from Toulouse, France; passport and inoculation charges; all airport departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; alcoholic or other beverages except as noted above; taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; portage or individual transfers to join or leave the group when traveling independently; and any items not specifically indicated as included.

PASSENGER CANCELLATION PENALTIES: All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least one hundred twenty one (121) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) per person. Cancellations received between one hundred twenty (120) and ninety one (91) days prior to departure are subject to a fee equal to fifty percent (50%) of the tour cost. Cancellations received ninety (90) days or less before departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *You are strongly encouraged to obtain trip cancellation insurance (an application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit).*

NOTE: Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you are unable to or choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Prices, lecturer and itinerary are subject to change. Entrance to the caves can be subject to restrictions.



Prehistoric Cave Art of Spain & France

September 20 - October 2, 2017 (13 Days) with prehistory expert Paul Bahn

Terms & Conditions

Name: _____
(as it appears on passport)

Name: _____
(as it appears on passport)

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (h) _____

Phone (w) _____

Phone (cell) _____

Email _____

I/We have read the 'What to Expect' section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Double (one bed) Twin (two beds) Single

I will be sharing with: _____

Share-please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)

I am a Non-smoker Smoker

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. You will receive an invoice for final payment. Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):

Check payable to: EOS Passenger Account-AIA Prehistory9-17

Visa Master Card American Express

CC# _____

Exp. Date _____ 3 or 4 Digit Code _____

Name on Card _____

Please complete this reservation form, sign the release statement below, enclose your deposit, and mail or fax to:

AIA Tours
P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938
Fax: 603-756-2922

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to the Terms & Conditions on the reverse.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason nor to passengers whose required documentation for entry into any country on the itinerary is delayed or denied. RESPONSIBILITY: The Archaeological Institute of America and its agent, Eos Study Tours (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator, and/or its agents (hereinafter "Operator") assume no liability for failure to provide the services, transportation, lecturers and accommodations referred to in this brochure to the extent that such services and accommodations cannot be supplied due to delays or other causes beyond the control of Operator, which include but are not limited to sickness, epidemics, pandemics, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, and acts of God. In the absence of negligence on the part of Operator, the participant agrees that Operator has no responsibility or liability of any nature whatsoever for damage to or loss of property, or injury to, or death of persons due to any act, omission or negligence of any carrier, hotel, restaurant, bus carrier, tender service, sightseeing company, or any other persons rendering any of the services or ground portions of the itinerary. The participant further waives any claim against Operator and Sponsors for any such damage, loss, injury or death. Operator and Sponsors shall not be responsible for any additional expenses, delays, substitution of equipment, and/or any act or omission whatsoever by the suppliers of such services, their agents, servants and employees, and the participant hereby waives any claim arising there from. Operator and Sponsors reserve the right to decline, accept or retain any participant at any time. Sponsors and Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part, except when trip cancellation, itinerary changes and/or delays are mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Operator and Sponsors are able to recover on the passenger's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, Operator and Sponsors shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. All refunds of passenger payments are the responsibility of Eos and/or the Operator, and the participant agrees that the AIA bears no financial responsibility for refunding of participant's payments. The passenger contract in use by the carriers concerned (when issued) shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies (such as ship operators and airlines) and the purchaser of this tour and/or passage. Participants are encouraged to purchase airline tickets no sooner than 60 days before the tour begins to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Sponsors and Operator accept no liability for the purchase of non-refundable airline tickets to the tour departure city and return. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. By forwarding of deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers. Itinerary: Sponsors and Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary due to weather conditions, availability of anchorages, political conditions and other factors beyond our control without consulting the participants. Participants have no right to any refund or other considerations in the event of these itinerary changes. Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices. AS A CONDITION OF ACCEPTANCE, EACH PARTICIPANT MUST AGREE TO AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING RELEASE OF LIABILITY: RELEASE: Notwithstanding anything set forth above or otherwise contained herein, the signatory clearly understands that the Sponsors are in no way responsible and can assume no liability of any nature whatsoever for the tour and any acts, omissions or negligence by the Operator or by companies and persons with whom the Operator may contract. The signatory has carefully read the list of activities, requirements and conditions as listed in the brochure and application for the tour and is/are aware that the tour and its activities involve the risk of personal injury or death and damage or loss of property. In consideration of the benefits to be derived from participation in the tour, the signatory voluntarily accepts all risk of personal injury or death and property damage or other loss arising from participation on the tour and hereby agrees that he/she and his/her dependents, heirs, executors and assigns, do release and hold harmless Sponsors and the employees, officers, directors, trustees or representatives of Sponsors, from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, illness, personal injury, death or property damage or loss, however caused, arising from or related to this tour. The signatory has read carefully this agreement, and will abide by the conditions set by Sponsors and the Operator as described in the brochure and in the Terms and Conditions of this and other sections as stated herein or elsewhere published. The signatory affirms that he/she has not received or relied on any oral or written representation of Sponsors as a basis for executing this release.