

*Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur*

Maximum of just  
12 guests



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF AMERICA TOURS

# MOROCCO

*From the Desert to the Sea*

March 1 - 15, 2022 (15 days | 12 guests)  
with anthropologist and architectural historian  
Trevor Marchand

*“Morocco was fascinating because of its cultural, geographic and historical diversity. Trevor was an excellent guide that was a real addition to the trip! Although there was no one that we knew before the trip, we really enjoyed the group.”*

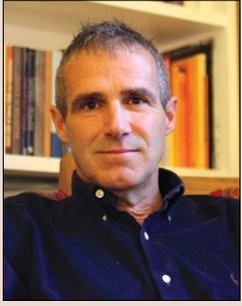
- Judith, California

© Marshallhenrie

Ait ben Haddou Casbah

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## Archaeological Institute of America LECTURER & HOST



**Trevor Marchand** is Emeritus Professor of Social Anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, London) and recipient of the Royal Anthropological Institute's Rivers Memorial Medal (2014).

He studied architecture (McGill), received a PhD in anthropology (SOAS), and qualified as a fine woodworker at London's Building Crafts College (2007). Marchand has published extensively. His books include *The Pursuit of Pleasurable Work* (2021), *Architectural Heritage of Yemen* (2017), *Craftwork as Problem Solving* (2016), *The Masons of Djenné* (2009, winner of three international prizes), and *Minaret Building and Apprenticeship in Yemen* (2001). Marchand produces and directs documentary films on architecture and craftwork, and has curated exhibitions for the Brunei Gallery in London, Museum of Oriental Art in Turin, Pergamon Museum in Berlin, Royal Institute of British Architects, and the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. He is an independent advisor on World Heritage for the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and an advisor on the international experts panel for Oxford Brookes' Endangered Wooden Architecture Programme.

During the past three decades, Marchand has conducted fieldwork with craftspeople in Nigeria, Yemen, Mali, and the UK, and he has lectured on the art, architecture, and archaeology of Central Asia, the Arabian Peninsula, and West and North Africa. He first travelled to Morocco in 1989 and has witnessed fascinating changes in the country against a backdrop of enduring tradition. He served as AIA lecturer/host on this tour of Morocco in 2018 and 2019. In Marrakech and the Ksar, Marchand shares his expertise in earthen architecture, and in Fez he draws out the connections of that imperial city with the wider Islamic world. His intimate knowledge of surrounding countries and regions allows him to elucidate their long histories of trade, warfare, and artistic and cultural exchange with Morocco.



- # Overnight stays
- Itinerary stops
- ✈ Flights

Join us for a unique look at the history, architecture, archaeology, and art of Morocco in the company of Professor Emeritus Trevor Marchand and a professional national guide/tour manager. Explore the magnificent landscapes that helped form the country's ancient and modern cultures, from the wild Atlantic coast to the High Atlas Mountains, dense cedar forests, and vast Sahara Desert. It is a land of extraordinary contrasts, and on this custom-designed itinerary you will visit all of the country's best-known historic sites, including six that are inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List, as well as bustling casbahs, medinas, and souks.

*"Trevor was excellent and I would happily go with him again. He was knowledgeable, cheerful, friendly, upbeat no matter the circumstances. He was also very gracious. The tour was very informative and we were always well taken care of."*

- Rae, Canada



## *Highlights Include*

- The UNESCO World Heritage sites of **Aït ben Haddou casbah**, with its tall adobe forts; all four of Morocco's Imperial Cities: the vibrant medinas of 9<sup>th</sup>-century **Fes** and 11<sup>th</sup>-century **Marrakech**, the historic city of **Meknes**, and the stately modern capital and historic city of **Rabat**; plus the ruins of **Volubilis**, Rome's regional commercial hub until the 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D.
- Architectural gems such as **Salé**, a traditional Moroccan residential city untouched by mass tourism, including its restored, 14<sup>th</sup>-century *medersa*.
- The former caravan center **Sijilmassa**, Africa's second largest city until the 14<sup>th</sup> century; and **Aghmat**, the recently uncovered first capital of the 11<sup>th</sup>-century Almoravid Dynasty, which is still being excavated and is closed to the public.
- Several **fascinating museums**, including Rabat's archaeological museum, the only one of its kind in the country; and Fes's exquisite Museum of Wooden Arts and Crafts, housed in the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Nejjarine caravansary.
- Scenic excursions into the mountains and the desert, including a **drive across the Atlas ranges** from Fes to the edge of the Sahara, taking four-wheel-drive vehicles to the great **Erg Chebbi Dunes**, and a drive over the spectacular **Tizi-n-Tichka Pass**.
- **Delicious Moroccan and Continental food**, with opportunities to dine independently in Casablanca, Rabat, Fes, and Marrakech; as well as **carefully-chosen hotels** in each location.
- An **excellent touring pace**, with four nights in Marrakech; three nights in Fes; two nights each in Rabat and Arfoud; and only two single-night hotel stays.
- A small group of **no more than twelve guests!**

*“Trevor was the highlight of the trip: he made Morocco come alive with his compelling lectures and storytelling, knowledge-sharing, on-site observations and good humour. I'd go on another tour led by Trevor without hesitation!”*

- Tina, Singapore



Coast near Salé



## Itinerary

Breakfast=(B), Lunch=(L), Dinner=(D)

### Tuesday, March 1, 2022: Depart home

Depart the U.S. for Casablanca, Morocco.

### Wednesday, March 2: Arrive Casablanca, Morocco | Transfer to hotel | Introductory lecture

Arrive today at Casablanca's Mohammed V International Airport (CMN) where you will be met for individual transfers to our hotel. For those arriving in the morning, this afternoon you may choose to join a short bus tour of the Ville Nouvelle and see the area's colonial planning and architecture plus the Hassan II Mosque, or spend the afternoon at leisure. Late this afternoon we will gather at the hotel for an orientation and introductory lecture. Dinner is on your own this evening. *Overnight at the 5-star [Hyatt Regency Casablanca](#).*

### Thursday, March 3: Rabat walking tour – part one, Archaeological Museum | Welcome dinner

This morning we drive from Casablanca to the stately capital city of Rabat, a UNESCO World Heritage site. We start with a stroll through the Chellah fortress, its lush gardens, Roman remains, and the 14<sup>th</sup>-century necropolis of the Merenid Dynasty. After lunch we visit the country's sole archaeological museum, renowned for its prehistoric and Roman collections. This evening we gather for a welcome dinner in a private home. *Overnight at the 5-star [Hôtel la Tour Hassan Palace](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

### Friday, March 4: Rabat walking tour – part two | Salé | Rabat

This morning we visit the Royal Palace squares and gardens as well as the Mohammed VI Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMVI), whose permanent displays include works by Moroccan artists from the 1950s to today. Then take a leisurely walk through Rabat's whitewashed Oudaïa *casbah* (North African citadel), Andalusian Garden, and Oudaïa Gate, an example of Almohad Dynasty architecture. After lunch at the marina we cross the Bou Regreg River from Rabat to Salé, an old walled city, where we visit the restored, 14<sup>th</sup>-century *medersa* (religious college), a gem overlooked by mass tourism. We then return to Rabat and visit its 12<sup>th</sup>-century Hassan Tower and the mausoleum of modern Morocco's "father," Mohamed V. Dinner is on your own this evening. (B,L)

### Saturday, March 5: Volubilis | Meknes | Fes

Depart Rabat for the ruins of Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage site that was Rome's commercial hub for northwestern Africa until the 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D., with well-preserved mosaics that are still *in situ*. After lunch we explore the Imperial City of Meknes, which 17<sup>th</sup>-century Sultan Moulay Ismaïl built as his capital. Today Meknes is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and we will see the immense granary Ismaïl built to feed the city's population and his 12,000 horses in the event of up to a year-long siege; as well as the classically-decorated, 14<sup>th</sup>-century Bou Inania Medersa. Continue on to the intellectual and spiritual capital (and UNESCO World Heritage site) of Fes. Check-in to deluxe rooms at our boutique hotel, comprised of three vast, former homes (now

Above (left to right), the Roman ruins of Volubilis, the Oudaïa casbah in Rabat. Below, one of the well-preserved mosaics at Volubilis.





© Dennis Jarvis

Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca

## The AIA & 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.

connected and converted) in the old city. Freshen up and then gather for dinner at the hotel, which has one of the finest traditional restaurants in northern Morocco. *Overnight at the 4-star [Le Riad Maison Bleue](#) for three nights.* (B,L,D)

### **Sunday, March 6: Fes walking tour – part one**

Take a morning walking tour through 9<sup>th</sup>-century Fes el-Bali (“Old Fes”), considered by scholars to be the best example of a typical medieval Arab city. Begin the day at the ruins of the Merenid tombs for a panoramic view over Fes. Walk to the 14<sup>th</sup>-century Medersa Bou Inania; the mausoleum to city founder Idriss II; the area of the world's oldest functioning university, the Qaraouine; the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Nejjarine caravansary, now an exquisite Museum of Wooden Arts and Crafts; and (if it has reopened after restoration work) the 14<sup>th</sup>-century El Attarine Medersa. After lunch in Old Fes, visit the Seffarine (coppersmiths' quarter), Sabbaghin (dyers' quarter), and Dabbaghin (tanners' quarter) before taking a driving tour of the ramparts. This evening, dinner is at the city's finest French restaurant. (B,L,D)

### **Monday, March 7: Fes walking tour – part two**

This morning we drive to the lush Jnan Sbil (Bou Jeloud Gardens) and see its medieval irrigation system. We then visit Fes el Jedid (“New Fes”), with its Alouite Palace Gate, and stroll through the walled Jewish quarter (“Mellah”), where we visit the restored, 17<sup>th</sup>-century Danan Synagogue and the cemetery. After lunch, visit a *zillij* tile workshop. Dinner is on your own this evening. (B,L)

### **Tuesday, March 8: Atlas Mountains | Arfoud**

Depart Fes this morning for a long day of driving through fascinating, ever-changing landscapes as we cross the Atlas ranges all the way to the edge of the Sahara. We begin with the Middle Atlas and its last forests of giant Mediterranean cedars, passing mountain station Ifrane, site of Africa's most esteemed international university, and stopping in the heart of the forest to look for the indigenous Barbary macaques (of Gibraltar fame). After a break for lunch in the Berber enclave of Midelt, we cross the wild, multi-hued expanses of the Eastern High Atlas, down the dramatic Ziz Valley, to the administrative center of Arfoud. Gather for dinner at our hotel this evening. *Overnight at the 5-star [Hôtel Palais du Désert](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

### **Wednesday, March 9: Sijilmassa | Ksar Oulad Abd al Halim | Erg Chebbi Dunes | Arfoud**

Today we explore the Tafilalet Oasis, Morocco's largest, and its ruins of Sijilmassa, Africa's once-immense “City of Gold.” Continue on to visit the ruined 18<sup>th</sup>-century walled compound of Ksar Oulad Abd al Halim, where early Alaouite rulers kept their families, and visit the mausoleum of Moulay Ali Sharif. After a picnic lunch of local Saharan specialties, visit Achour Fossils Erfoud, a factory that produces all manner of decorative fossil marble items. Late this afternoon we will take four-wheel-drive vehicles out to the great Erg Chebbi Dunes, rising 600 feet above the desert floor. Scramble (or take a camel, if you prefer) up the dunes to witness the sun set over the Sahara, and then gather for dinner. (B,L,D)

### **Thursday, March 10: Todgha River Gorge | Tinghir | Ouarzazate**

Departing Arfoud this morning, we drive west along desert hills to the narrow, 1,000-foot-deep Todgha River Gorge, and then walk through the 16<sup>th</sup>-century adobe *casbah* of Tinghir. After lunch we drive to the international filming center of Ouarzazate, whose exotic surroundings were first used in the film *Lawrence of Arabia*. Upon arrival we visit the partially-restored Taourirt Kasbah (the former palace of the el Glaoui clan, built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century) and then check-in to our hotel, where dinner is a buffet. *Overnight at the 5-star [Le Berbère Palace](#).* (B,L,D)

### **Friday, March 11: Casbah of Aït ben Haddou | Marrakech**

At 7:00 am we depart Ouarzazate and drive to the Aït ben Haddou *casbah*, a World Heritage site and oft-used film backdrop (e.g. *Gladiator*). Continue driving north (about 4.5 hours), over the spectacular Tizi-n-Tichka Pass, with views over deep

## What to Expect

This program involves extensive walking, often on uneven terrain or up and down stairs that may be steep and without handrails, with a couple of half-day excursions covering up to 3 miles apiece. 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 or stand unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. 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. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. March is one of the best periods for travel in Morocco, with daytime temperatures averaging in the 70s F and cool evenings in the 50s F. Accommodations have been selected to offer the ultimate experience of true Moroccan culture, ambiance, and hospitality. Sightseeing minivans and Land Rovers are air-conditioned, modern, and comfortable. Moroccan cuisine is reputed to be one of the most refined in the world, and we have selected restaurants that showcase its excellence and complexity, along with the best of Continental options. *Complete pre-departure details, such as what to take with you and more of what to expect, will be sent to participants.*

verdant vales and their adobe hamlets. Arrive in legendary Marrakech in time for lunch at our hotel, one of the city's finest boutique properties, located just inside the medina of Marrakech (a UNESCO World Heritage site). Afterward, we explore a couple of the city's highlights: the Bahia Palace of vizier Ba Ahmed, a prime example of Moorish-Andalusian art that is spread over 20 acres; and the recently-opened Dar el Bacha Museum, located in a historically important building. Gather this evening for a superb Moroccan dinner in the heart of the medina.

*Overnight at the 5-star [La Maison Arabe](#) for four nights.* (B,L,D)

### **Saturday, March 12: Marrakech walking tour**

After seeing the 12<sup>th</sup>-century Koutoubia minaret, a masterpiece of Almohad Dynasty architecture, this morning is dedicated to exploring Marrakech's vast, reed-covered bazaars, where all types of crafts are still fashioned by hand. Two sites of special interest are the Souk des Teinturiers (wool-dyers), also known as Souk Sebbaghine; and the courtyard of the fascinating Zawiya (shrine) of holy man Sidi Bel-Abbes, patron saint of the blind. After a Continental lunch in the medina, take a stroll in the Jardin Majorelle, the exotic, 12-acre garden created in the 1930s and restored by the late Yves St. Laurent, and visit its exquisite Museum of Berber Culture. Dinner is on your own this evening, for a chance to sample the city's array of excellent eateries. (B,L)

### **Sunday, March 13: Marrakech | Aghmat | Marrakech | Farewell dinner**

Begin the day with a visit to the imposing Bab Agnaou, one of Marrakech's 19 original gates. Continue on to the Saadian Dynasty's ruined El Badi Palace and the necropolis of the Saadians, the last window into the splendor of early 17<sup>th</sup>-century Moroccan interior art, with its finely sculpted plaster, cedar panels, and Carrera marble. After a short stroll in the Jewish Mellah, including a visit to its synagogue, and lunch, we drive to the site of Aghmat, the first capital of the Almoravid Dynasty, which was only recently uncovered and is still closed to the public while excavation continues. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

### **Monday, March 14: Marrakech OR Optional excursion to Essaouira**

Today is at leisure in Marrakech for independent pursuits. Alternatively, take an optional excursion (additional cost) to Essaouira, a former maritime fortress on the Atlantic that is now a contemporary art center. Dinner is on your own in Marrakech this evening. (B)

### **Tuesday, March 15: Marrakech | Fly home**

Transfer as a group or individually this morning, times to be determined, to Marrakech Menara Airport (RAK) for flights homeward. (B)



Lamps at a Marrakech bazaar

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*“Beautiful Arabian architecture, the museums and a well-planned itinerary helped give us a broad range of understanding of Morocco.”*

- Elliott, Washington, DC



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Above: (left) Mausoleum of Sultan Moulay Ismaïl, Meknes; (right) Todgha River Gorge

## TOUR PRICES Per Person (13 nights)

DOUBLE Occupancy (10-12 participants).....	\$7,995
DOUBLE Occupancy (8-9 participants).....	\$8,545
SINGLE Supplement (limited availability).....	\$1,825

*Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required.*

*With fewer than 8 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.*

## PRICES INCLUDE

- Leadership of **AIA lecturer and host Trevor Marchand**; a professional, **English-speaking National Guide/Tour Manager**; and local guides where necessary
- **Accommodations for 13 nights** as indicated in 4- and 5-star hotels
- **Most meals, including breakfast daily, eleven lunches and eight dinners** with mineral water, and wine or beer with dinners. **Welcome and farewell dinners** also include cocktails.
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as indicated in the itinerary
- **All entrance fees** to sites included in the itinerary
- Surface transportation by **deluxe, air-conditioned coaches, and 4-wheel-drive Land Rovers** for Erg Chebbi Dunes excursion, including bottled water and hand sanitizer
- **Individual and/or group arrival and departure transfers**
- **All gratuities** to the National Guide/Tour Manager, local guides, National Driver, hotel and restaurant staff, porters, and drivers on the Erg Chebbi excursion
- Parking fares, highway tolls, and local taxes
- Baggage handling
- **Complete pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide and packing suggestions

## AIR ARRANGEMENTS & TRANSFERS

Airfare to Casablanca (CMN) and from Marrakech (RAK) is not included in the tour price. Complimentary individual and/or group airport transfers, times to be determined, are provided. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should 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.*

**Prices Do Not Include:** Any airfare; passport and visa fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; excess baggage charges; taxi, telephone, and fax charges; personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; any activities not specified in the itinerary, and those indicated as “optional”; meals or beverages except as noted; all items of a personal nature such as laundry, medical expenses, and room service.

**Payments:** A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to “EOS-Passenger Account-AIA Morocco3/22.” Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be made by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit, you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

**Participant Cancellation Fees:** All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided 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, itinerary, accommodations, and leader are subject to change. 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 participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions are available upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at [www.aiatours.org](http://www.aiatours.org).



**For questions, and to reserve your space, please contact AIA Tours at:**

**800-748-6262 | Toll: 603-756-2884 | Fax: 603-756-2922 | [aia@studytours.org](mailto:aia@studytours.org) | [www.aiatours.org](http://www.aiatours.org)**

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



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Meknes

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*“Trevor’s approach and excellent teaching made the history come alive.”*

-Jens, British Columbia

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March 1 - 15, 2022 (15 days | 12 guests)  
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Volubilis



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MOROCCO: From the Desert to the Sea

March 1-15, 2022 (15 days | 12 guests)

with anthropologist and architectural historian Trevor Marchand

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-748-6262 or aia@studytours.org.

Name 1 (as it appears on passport)

Name 2 (as it appears on passport)

Address

City State Zip

Phone (home) Phone (cell)

Email(s)

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

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes,

How did you hear about this tour? eNewsletter mailing website friends/family other

ACCOMMODATIONS:

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

Double (one bed) Twin (two beds) Single

I will be sharing with: Share-please assign a roommate (not guaranteed) Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. You will receive an invoice for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):

Check payable to: EOS Passenger Account-AIA Morocco3/22 Visa Master Card American Express Already paid by phone

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 "submit" by email, mail, or fax to:

AIA Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938

Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: aia@studytours.org

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

If submitting this form electronically, please check the following box:

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree to the Terms & Conditions.

Signature (participant #1) Time and Date

Signature (participant #2) Time and Date

Submit via email

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT**

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The Archaeological Institute of America and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively "Sponsors/Operator") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. 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Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant 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 Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **RATES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to binding arbitration in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. **ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.