

Limited to
just 12 guests



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

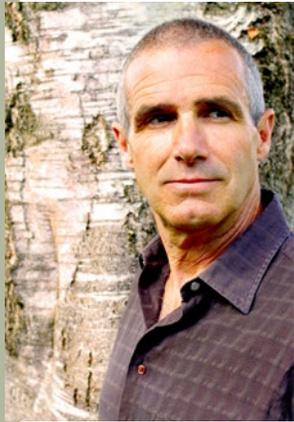
OMAN & ZANZIBAR

September 26-October 14, 2020 (19 days | 12 guests)
with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand



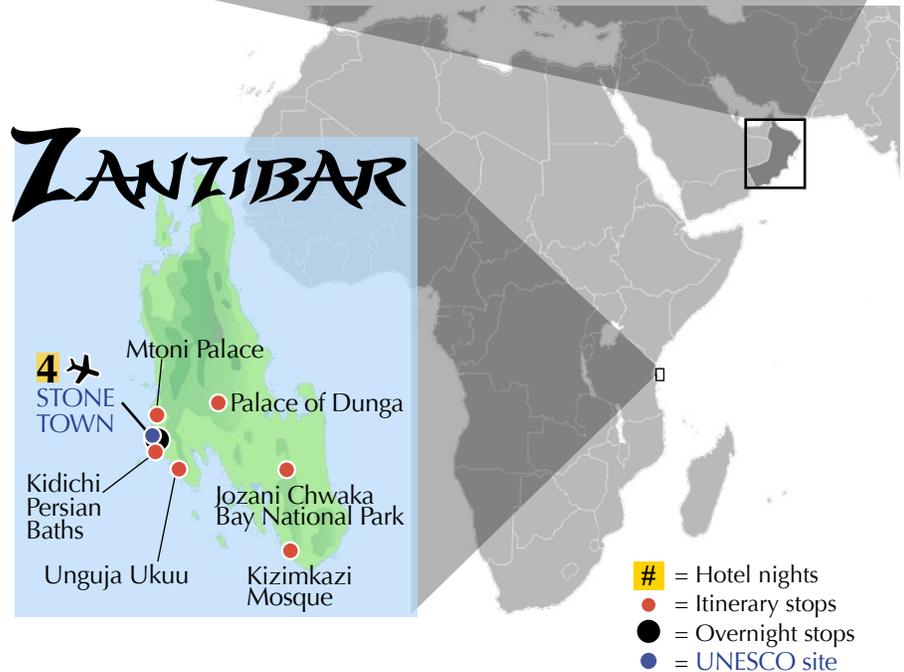
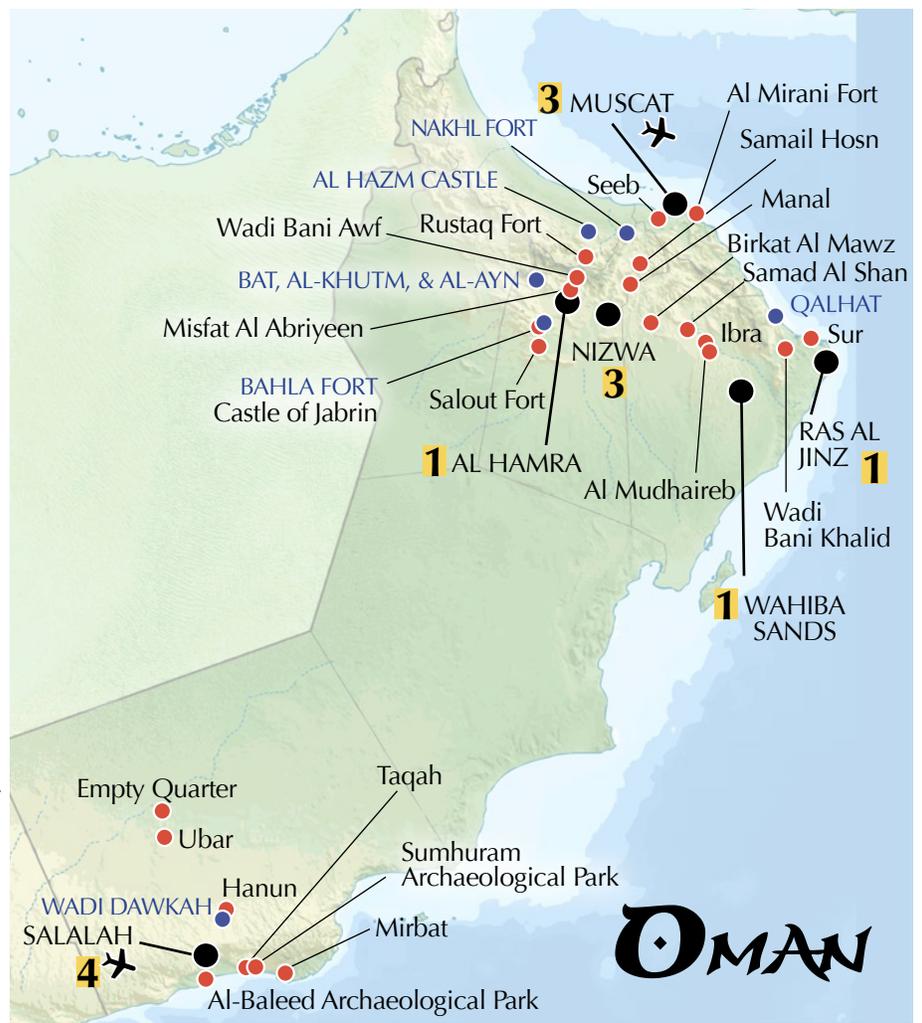
Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur.

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. Marchand has published extensively. His books include *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 ICOMOS and an advisor on the international experts panel for the British Museum's Endangered Material Knowledge Programme. During the past 25 years, Marchand has conducted fieldwork with craftspeople in Northern 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 Zanzibar in 1989 and to Oman in 2000, and has led lecture tours to these two historically-entangled destinations ever since. This will be his second Oman & Zanzibar tour for the AIA. With extensive knowledge of the Arabian Peninsula and Indian Ocean trade, Marchand's lectures explore the great antiquity of contact and connections between Oman and Zanzibar and reveal the might of Oman's merchant-princes and naval fleets that once ruled the seas. Marchand elucidates their rich archaeological legacies, distinct architectural traditions, and shared craft heritage (including boat building), as well as the aspirations of both places for modern, progressive identities that honor the past.



Cover: (top) Al-Baleed Archaeological Park, Salalah; (bottom, from left) The Nakhl Fort, Oman; Maruhubi Palace, Zanzibar.

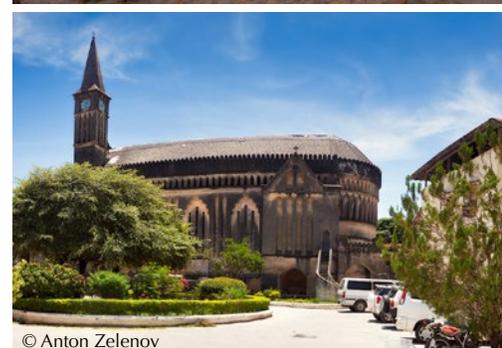
This custom-designed itinerary with seasoned study leader Trevor Marchand explores the historical monuments and cultural ties between two fascinating but seemingly disparate destinations—the country of Oman and the island of Zanzibar—physically linked by the Indian Ocean, and historically linked by trade. For centuries, Oman dominated the Indian Ocean’s commerce, governing Gwadar (on the coast of modern-day Pakistan) and Zanzibar. Indeed, Oman dominated the trade routes from Moorish Spain to Canton (modern-day Guangzhou, China); her ships and seafarers sailed into harbors worldwide, and her merchants traded in the commodities of civilization, such as frankincense, myrrh, silk, gold, spices, and coffee. Many of the strands of Oman’s immeasurably long and dramatic history are still present in the architecture and ways of life in Iran, Pakistan, and Zanzibar.

Zanzibar, an archipelago off of modern-day Tanzania, has a history dating back at least to the start of the first millennium when people from the mainland first made the trip across the channel. Beginning around the eighth century, traders from Shiraz (modern-day Iran) began to establish settlements in East Africa, and between the 12th and 13th centuries trade links with Arabia and the Persian Gulf blossomed. Zanzibar became a powerful city state, supplying slaves, gold, ivory, and wood, and along with trade from the east came Islam and the Arabic architecture that still characterizes the archipelago today. By the early 19th century, Oman was in control of Zanzibar and trade again flourished, reaching such a high point by the 1840s that the Sultan of Oman relocated his court here. With the end of the slave trade in the mid-19th century, Omani rule weakened and eventually a union with Tanzania was established in 1964.

Highlights

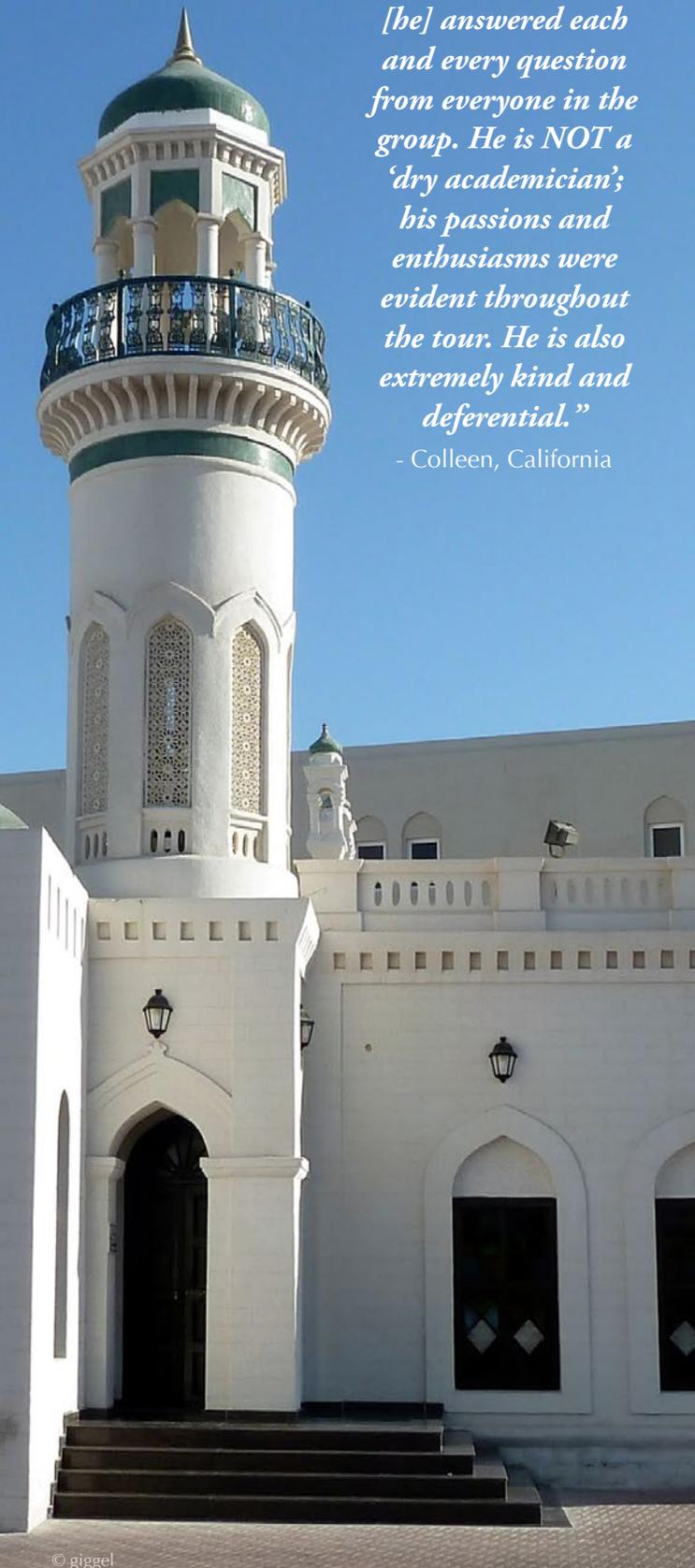
- Visits to **seven UNESCO World Heritage sites** (Oman’s *aflaj* irrigation systems; early 18th-century **Al Hazm Castle**; the protohistoric archaeological complex of **Bat, Al-Khutm, and Al-Ayn**; the immense fort at the oasis of **Bahla**; the coastal, medieval trade city of **Qalhat**; and the **Land of Frankincense**; plus Zanzibar’s historic **Stone Town**)
- **Three nights in Oman’s capital city of Muscat**, including a tour of its recently-opened Oman National Museum
- **Hasat bin Sult** (a.k.a. Coleman’s Rock), site of Oman’s most significant rock art
- **Lunch at a local home** in Al Hamra
- **Three nights in the ancient oasis town of Nizwa**
- **A visit with a Bedouin family** and an overnight at a lovely desert camp in **Wahiba Sands**, a 6,000-square-mile desert
- **Sur**, where many of the trading fleets of Omani ships were built
- **Four nights in Salalah**, including excursions to **Sumhuram Archaeological Park**, once an important conduit for the international frankincense trade network, and the 5,000-year-old fortress of **Ubar**
- **Four nights in Zanzibar**, including visits to the Palace and National Museums; **Unguja Ukuu**, the oldest settlement on Zanzibar; and a visit to the ruins of the **Mtoni Palace**, constructed for the family of the first Sultan of Zanzibar after he left Muscat in the early 19th century
- Opportunities to **wander through lively souks** in Muscat and Nizwa, Oman; plus take an **evening cruise aboard a dhow** and a **spice tour** in Zanzibar
- **Limited to just twelve travelers**, plus a dedicated tour manager and Professor Marchand

Photos at right (from top): A market in Muscat, Oman; Samad Al Shan, Oman; the Tomb of Mohamed bin Ali in Mirbat, Oman; the Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve, Oman; the Church of Christ in Stone Town, Zanzibar; waterfront scene in Stone Town.



“Trevor gave an awesome tour... [he] answered each and every question from everyone in the group. He is NOT a ‘dry academician’; his passions and enthusiasms were evident throughout the tour. He is also extremely kind and deferential.”

- Colleen, California



ITINERARY

B= Breakfast • L= Lunch • D= Dinner

Saturday, September 26, 2020: Depart home

Depart home on overnight flights to Oman.

Sunday, September 27: Muscat, OMAN

Upon arrival at Muscat International Airport (MCT) there will be a group transfer (time TBA) to our hotel. Dinner is at leisure. *Overnight at the 5-star [Sheraton Oman Hotel](#) for three nights.*

Monday, September 28: Muscat: Mutrah Souk, Beit Al Zubair Museum, Al Alam Palace, Oman National Museum, Al Mirani Fort | Welcome dinner

This morning we explore the city of Muscat, capital of Oman, which has retained much of its traditional architecture and beauty while making great strides toward modernization. For many centuries the people of Muscat have provided, as they do now, the food, water, and cargoes for visiting ships. Explore Mutrah Souk, which has some good antique shops and an entire area that specializes in gold; then visit the private Beit Al Zubair Museum to see its collection of traditional Omani artifacts. After lunch we stop at the Al Alam Palace, ceremonial palace of Sultan Qaboos of Oman, before continuing on to the recently-opened Oman National Museum for a private tour of its highlights by a senior staff member (pending availability). Its permanent collection comprises about 12,500 artifacts from Oman dating back to the prehistoric era, and more than 5,000 objects on display across 14 permanent galleries are brought to life by giant screens and high-tech devices. Continue on to the 16th-century Al Mirani Fort (permission pending), a stunning landmark that guards Muscat Bay and played a pivotal role in the fall of the Portuguese. The fort is accessible only via a steep flight of steps and, as such, it served well as a prison for many years. Return to our hotel and gather this evening for a welcome dinner. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 29: Muscat: Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Royal Opera House | PM at leisure

Start the day at the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, a superb example of contemporary Islamic architecture that can accommodate more than 20,000 worshippers and was formally opened in May 2001. Drive to the Royal Opera House Muscat, which opened in 2011 and was designed by the same architects as the Grand Mosque. Enjoy a tour of the opera house and view its very fine collection of rare instruments. After lunch at a local restaurant we return to our hotel for the balance of the day at leisure. (B,L)

Wednesday, September 30: Seeb Fish Souq | Nakhl Fort | Al Hazm Castle | Rustaq Fort | Wadi Bani Awf | Balad Sayt | Al Hamra

Depart Muscat early this morning for the Seeb Fish Souq, on the coast, before continuing west to explore the Al-Batinah region, the flat and fertile strip of land between the Hajar Mountains and the Gulf of Oman. This is the country's breadbasket and most populous area. Drive to Nakhl Fort and walk through the fort and the village, with its date palms and traditional *falaj* irrigation system (part of the UNESCO World Heritage site "*Aflaj* Irrigation Systems of Oman"). Enjoy a boxed lunch in a picturesque location, and then drive to the early 18th-century Al Hazm Castle, one of Oman's most magnificent castles. This UNESCO World Heritage site, while designed primarily for defensive

purposes, features delicate architectural elements and unique engravings. Continue further inland to the reconstructed, 13th-century Rustaq Fort (Qalat al-Kisra). The present fort includes a tower that (tradition holds) was originally built by the Persians in A.D. 600. Transfer to 4x4 vehicles to drive along the Wadi Bani Awf, one of Oman's most spectacular wadis, to the picturesque village of Balad Sayt. Continue by 4x4 to our hotel in the beautiful village of Al Hamra, one of Oman's oldest villages, where we have dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [The View hotel](#).* (B,L,D)

Thursday, October 1: Misfat Al Abriyeen | Hasat bin Sult | Al Hamra | Bait Al Safah | Bat, Al-Khutm & Al-Ayn | Nizwa

Set out early today for a drive to the fortress village of Misfat Al Abriyeen, in the mountains of Akhdar, where palm trees grow (irrigated by an intriguing canal system). Continue on to the site of Hasat bin Sult, the most important rock art in Oman. Often referred to as Coleman's Rock, named after geologist Robert Coleman, it is the only rock art in all of southeastern Arabia that is sculpted in low relief. Return to Al Hamra and walk through the narrow streets to admire its well-preserved two- and three-story mud-brick houses built in the Yemeni style; and visit Bait Al Safah, a living history museum in a restored mudbrick house, where old Omani traditions such as weaving are demonstrated. After lunch at a local home, continue on to the protohistoric archaeological complex of Bat, Al-Khutm, and Al-Ayn, which represents one of the world's most complete and well-preserved ensembles of settlements and necropolises from the 3rd millennium B.C. They were declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1988. Drive to the ancient oasis town of Nizwa, once the medieval capital of Oman, and check-in to our hotel. Gather for dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [Golden Tulip Nizwa Hotel](#) for three nights.* (B,L,D)

Friday, October 2: Nizwa: weekly market & souk, Nizwa Fort | Samail village | Samail Hosn | Manal

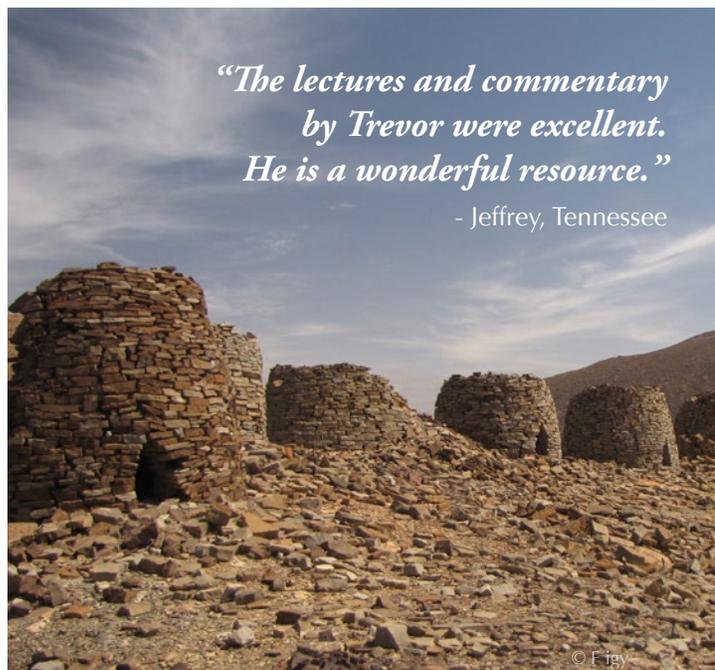
This morning we visit the weekly Nizwa market. The animal souk at this Friday market is an opportunity to witness Oman's traditional manner of selling livestock. Walk to Nizwa's souk, which specializes in finely-crafted metalwork, and then visit the 17th-century Nizwa Fort, which for 300 years was the primary seat of the Imamate, serving as a combination palace, seat of government, and prison. Explore the Al Aqr quarter, where we will see (from the outside only) two of Nizwa's historic mosques, the Shawadhna Grand Mosque and the Grand Mosque of Sa'al, each with distinguishing features. After lunch in Nizwa we drive to Samail village, which was home to Mazin bin Ghaduba, companion of the Prophet Muhammad and the first Omani to embrace Islam. He built the town's first mosque in the 7th century and, as a result, there are now around 300 mosques in the valley. Located on a hill just next to the main road is the massive Samail Hosn (Castle of Samail), with high walls; heavy, dark, wooden doors; and inner buildings made from traditional mud bricks. Visit the Tomb of Mazin bin Ghaduba, an open-air tomb with beautiful mosaic tiles in traditional Islamic colors, and then return to Nizwa by way of the village of Manal, where we stop to view the exterior of the Ibadi Mosque. Gather for dinner in Nizwa this evening. (B,L,D)



© bhart



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© F. Igy

“The lectures and commentary by Trevor were excellent. He is a wonderful resource.”

- Jeffrey, Tennessee

Photos: (from top) Muscat's harbor, the Mausoleum of Bibi Maryam at Qalhat, and Al-Ayn.



Saturday, October 3: Castle of Jabrin | Bahla Fort and Friday Mosque | Salout Fort

Take a morning drive to the 17th-century Castle of Jabrin. The Omani have done an excellent job of restoring this site, and it provides a good sense of medieval Oman, with displays inside of various household items and furnishings, plus spectacular, hand-painted ceilings and beautifully-executed woodcarvings. Continue on to the oasis of Bahla for lunch at a local restaurant and then a visit to its UNESCO World Heritage site. The immense fort, with its walls and towers of unbaked brick, and its stone foundations, was recently restored and opened to visitors. Its oldest parts were built as early as 500 B.C. Adjacent to the fort is the Friday Mosque, one of Oman's oldest, and we have requested permission (TBD) to visit its interior. End the day with a drive to Salout Fort, considered one of Oman's oldest forts. Since 2004, archaeological excavations have identified key Bronze and Iron Age sites in the area surrounding Salout. Return to our hotel in Nizwa and gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Sunday, October 4: Birkat Al Mawz | Samad Al Shan | Ibra | Al Mudhaireb | Wahiba Sands

This morning we set out from Nizwa for a series of interesting stops along the way to our camp in the Wahiba Sands. First visit the lovely village of Birkat Al Mawz, which provides a superb example of the *falaj* traditional irrigation system (another part of the UNESCO World Heritage site "*Aflaj* Irrigation Systems of Oman"). Walk through date and banana plantations and admire the mud-brick homes, many of which are being abandoned as people move into concrete structures outside of the village. Continue on to the fort at Samad Al Shan, set amidst date palm groves dotted with fruit orchards. Although not well preserved it must once have been a formidable structure. Drive to Ibra, one of the oldest cities in Oman and once a center of trade, religion, education, and art. Ibra enjoyed great prosperity during Oman's colonial period, as the aristocratic locals set sail for Zanzibar and sent money home for plantations and luxury residences, still in evidence in the old quarter. Continue on to the village of Al Mudhaireb, dominated by its rectangular fort, and visit the "sabla" houses with Zanzibari carved doors. After lunch at a local restaurant we drive onward to the Wahiba Sands, a 6,000-square-mile desert where the ever-changing patterns of the dunes are a photographer's delight. We will be welcomed for a memorable visit with a Bedouin family. *Overnight at the 5-star [Desert Nights Camp](#)*. (B,L,D)

Monday, October 5: Dune driving | Wadi Bani Khalid | Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve

After breakfast at the camp we will experience the thrill of dune driving in the desert. Continue on to Wadi Bani Khalid, a beautiful oasis comprised of small, pretty villages among the mountains. Walk to the deep pools of the wadi, and take some time to enjoy the beautiful turquoise pools or take a swim. Drive onward Ras Al Jinz, a fishing village on the eastern shore of the Arabian Peninsula. Ras Al Jinz Beach is world renowned as a nesting place for the endangered green sea turtle (*Chelonia*

mydas), and this is the only official place where the public can watch the nesting process of these amazing sea giants. The Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve, an eco-tourism project, was established in 2008 to help conserve the fascinating and amazing nesting processes of these giants of the marine turtle world. In 2017 a renovated museum was opened, and it includes displays documenting some of the surrounding archaeological sites that date back 6,000 years. Excavations have uncovered the remains of some of Oman's ancient wooden boats and, in 1982, the discovery of a Bronze Age potsherd from northwestern India. After dinner, a guide will take us to try to see female turtles return to their beach to lay eggs. *(Please note that the main nesting season is June through August and, at other times of the year, there may not be turtles every night.)* Overnight at the [Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve](#) (Carapace Rooms). (B,L,D)

Tuesday, October 6: Sur fish market | Qalhat | Muscat | Fly to Salalah

This morning we drive along the coast to Sur and visit the bustling fish market to see the catch of the day and learn about the town's shipbuilding traditions. Many of the trading fleets of Omani ships were built at Sur, whose boatyards are still active today. We will have the opportunity to see them at work, using traditional methods: without plans and with only simple tools (adze, bow drill, saw, and hammer). Continue driving to the ancient city of Qalhat, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a coastal, medieval trade city that was destroyed by an earthquake, where we visit (permission pending) the Mausoleum of Bibi Maryam. Drive along Wadi Tiwi to Muscat, where we enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Transfer to the airport for our one-hour flight to the city of Salalah. A city that was built around the ancient port of Samhuran, along the frankincense trade route, Salalah is not only Oman's second largest municipality but also a royal stronghold for Oman's past Sultans and birthplace of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said. Overnight at the 5-star [Salalah Rotana Resort](#) for four nights. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, October 7: Taqah | Sumhuran Archaeological Park | Mirbat | Wadi Darbat

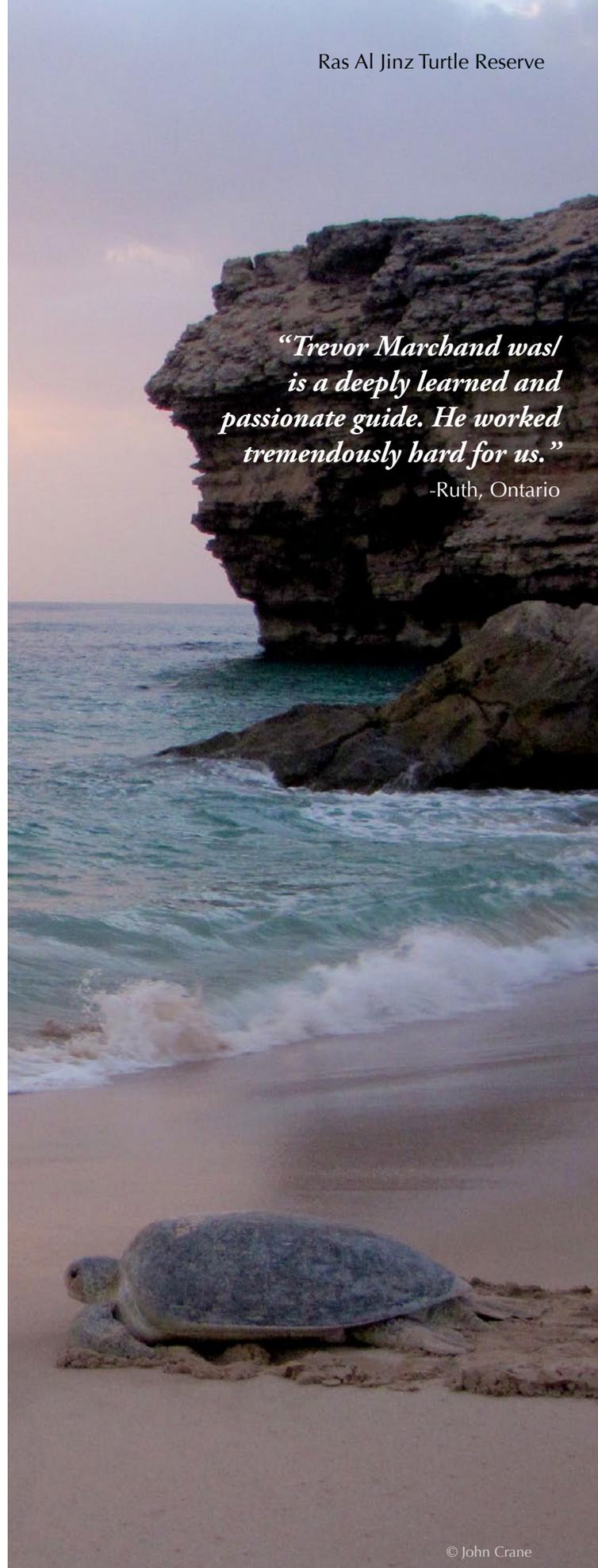
Get an early start this morning to explore the fishing village of Taqah and its castle, behind whose giant timber doors are reception rooms, sleeping quarters, shady courtyards, and even a tiny prison. Continue driving eastward to Sumhuran Archaeological Park, site of what was once one of the major ports of southern Arabia and an important conduit for the international frankincense trade network. After lunch at a local restaurant, visit Mirbat, an important town as early as the 9th century for its trade in frankincense, horses, and slaves. Visit the twin-domed, 12th-century Tomb of Mohamed bin Ali, a fine example of medieval Omani architecture; and Wadi Darbat, with its thick botanical cover, natural springs, and caves. Return to our hotel, where we have dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Thursday, October 8: Tomb of the Prophet Job | Hanun | Ubar | Empty Quarter (Rub' Al Khali Desert) | Wadi Dawkah

This morning we drive north to the Tomb of the Prophet Job (Nabi Ayoub), nestled among green mountains. According to the Old Testament, Job is also a Prophet of Islam. His tomb is simple and modest, yet awe-inspiring. Continue on to Hanun, a depot along

“Trevor Marchand was/is a deeply learned and passionate guide. He worked tremendously hard for us.”

-Ruth, Ontario





© Trevor Marchand

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.



© Trevor Marchand

The Wahiba Sands

the frankincense routes, and the nearby, 5th-century B.C. triliths (groups of three stones perched together to form a steep pyramid). Drive farther north to the ruins of the fabled "lost city" of Ubar, a 5,000-year-old fortress city that was once at the center of the frankincense trade and is now the focus of exciting archaeological excavations. Experience dune driving in the Empty Quarter (the Rub' Al Khali Desert), the largest continuous sand sea in the world. The surface of the desert is covered by reddish-orange colored sand dunes, which reach around 820 feet high, and several lake beds. En route to our hotel we make a final stop at Wadi Dawkah (part of the UNESCO World Heritage site "Land of Frankincense"), a typical frankincense-growing area where about 5,000 trees are currently being cultivated and, when transplanted, will help restore natural balance to areas of the wadi that have suffered environmental damage. Dinner is at our hotel this evening. (B,L,D)

Friday, October 9: Salalah: Al-Baleed Archaeological Park & Museum | Museum of the Frankincense Land | Garden Farm | Al Husn Souq | Mughsayl Beach & Blowholes

Spend the morning discovering Salalah, the "garden city" of the south and a tropical paradise. Make an early morning visit to the Al-Baleed Archaeological Park, the Dhofar region's main settlement from the 8th to 16th centuries, where we will use golf carts to explore the site. After a visit to the Al-Baleed Museum we continue on to the neighboring Museum of the Frankincense Land, which chronicles human settlement in the area since 2000 B.C. with an emphasis on maritime trade and traditions. This region is also part of the UNESCO World Heritage site "Land of Frankincense." At the Garden Farm, view groves of coconut, banana, papaya, and vegetables, and then stop to see the exterior of the beautiful Shanfari Mosque, with its exquisite artwork and stained tiles. Continue on to the Al Husn Souq, where there are frankincense crystals of Dhofar, typical Dhofari frankincense burners, cattle, colorful cotton headdresses, and local jewelry for sale. After a sunset visit to the Mughsayl Beach and Blowholes we will enjoy dinner at our hotel. (B,L,D)

Saturday, October 10: Fly to Zanzibar, TANZANIA | Stone Town

Transfer to the airport for our flight to Zanzibar, a small island off the coast of Tanzania. Arriving here is like being transported back hundreds of years. For centuries a center of intense maritime activity, Zanzibar attracted people from many nations who left behind a hybrid culture characterized by distinctive stone architecture; rich, eclectic cuisine; and a diverse population descended from migrants, traders, conquerors, and slaves. After clearing immigration and customs formalities, transfer to our hotel in historic Stone Town, where we have dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 5-star [Zanzibar Serena Hotel](#) for four nights.* (B,L,D)

Sunday, October 11: Stone Town walking tour | Palace Museum | National Museum

Take a morning walking tour of old Stone Town, a chaotic labyrinth of streets lined with whitewashed, coral-rag houses and magnificently carved, brass-studded doors. The city is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Begin at the late 19th-century St. Joseph's Cathedral, built by French missionaries with tiles and stained glass imported from



© Ron Van Oers

France. There will be an opportunity to attend mass today, for those who are interested. Stop at the Old Dispensary that was built by a wealthy Indian merchant and restored by the Aga Khan Foundation. We have arranged a meeting here with a group of local artists. Also see the 19th-century Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ, the first of its kind in East Africa, built to commemorate the end of the slave trade. The cathedral was built over the site of the old slave markets and several of the holding cells still remain intact. After lunch at a local restaurant we visit the Palace Museum, which served as the Sultan's residence until the dynasty was overthrown. Nearby is the National Museum, originally built as a ceremonial palace and now exhibiting the dhow culture of the Indian Ocean, Swahili civilization, and the history of Stone Town. Return to our hotel and enjoy a lecture by Professor Abdul Sheriff, a leading figure of the Stone Town Preservation Society. Dinner is on your own tonight. (B,L)

Monday, October 12: Palace of Dunga | Jozani Chwaka Bay National Park | Unguja Ukuu | Stone Town sunset cruise

Drive this morning to the interior of the island to visit the 19th-century Palace of Dunga, formerly the home of the traditional ruler of Zanzibar. Head to the southern end of the island to see the exterior of the Kizimkazi Mosque, one of the oldest Islamic buildings on the East African coast. Preserved Kufic inscriptions suggest the mosque was originally built in 1107 by settlers from Shiraz, Persia. After lunch at a beach restaurant, travel north to Jozani Chwaka Bay National Park, the largest remaining stand of near-natural forest on Zanzibar. In addition to the endangered Zanzibar red colobus monkey (*Procolobus kirki*), a nature trail through the forest also reveals more than 50 species of butterflies, 43 species of birds, bush babies, African civet, Ader's duiker, mongoose, geckos, chameleons, and more. On our way back to the hotel we will stop at Unguja Ukuu, the oldest settlement on Zanzibar and the traditional seat of royalty. At sunset, cruise along the Stone Town waterfront aboard a dhow. Dinner is at our hotel this evening. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, October 13: Mtoni Palace | Kidichi Persian Baths | Maruhubi Palace | Spice Tour | Farewell dinner

Today set out to explore the ruins of the early 19th-century Mtoni Palace, constructed for the family of the first Sultan of Zanzibar after he left Muscat to make Zanzibar his home. Continue on to the ruins of the 19th-century Kidichi Persian Baths, also built by the first Sultan of Zanzibar; the ruins of the later 19th-century Maruhubi Palace, built by the third Sultan of Zanzibar to house 99 members of his harem; and the nearby dhow building yards. After lunch at a local restaurant we embark on a spice tour, which will provide opportunities to see and taste spices and tropical fruits such as cloves, cinnamon, black pepper, nutmeg, turmeric root, jackfruit, rambutan, and star fruit. Return to our hotel to freshen up before our farewell dinner with entertainment by a Zanzibari Taarab music group. (B,L,D)



© Hasin Shakur

A Red Colobus Monkey at Jozani Chwaka Bay National Park

Wednesday, October 14: Fly home

Transfer this morning to Abeid Amani Karume International Airport (ZNZ) for flights homeward. (B)

ACCOMMODATIONS



Muscat
Three nights at the 5-star
[Sheraton Oman Hotel](#)



Al Hamra
Overnight at the 4-star
[The View hotel](#)



Nizwa
Three nights at the 4-star
[Golden Tulip Nizwa Hotel](#)



Wahiba Sands
Overnight at the 5-star
[Desert Nights Camp](#)



Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve
Overnight at the
[Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve](#)
(Carapace Rooms)



Salalah
Four nights at the 5-star
[Salalah Rotana Resort](#)



Zanzibar
Four nights at the 5-star
[Zanzibar Serena Hotel](#)

What to Expect

This program involves extensive walking, often on uneven terrain or up and down stairs that may be steep, uneven, and without handrails. Participants who are not able to walk unassisted and/or stand on their feet for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. 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. Some sites require strenuous and/or brisk walking or climbing, sometimes with difficult footing. 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. 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 this program is appropriate for you.

At the time of year that we visit Oman and Zanzibar the weather is sunny and dry, with average daytime temperatures ranging from the mid-80s to mid-90s F and nighttime temperatures in the low to mid-70s F. There may be long drives on some days, transport by 4x4 vehicles, and some very early morning departures from the hotels to make the most of the cooler morning air during site visits and avoid excess time exposed to mid-day heat. When traveling in Oman and Zanzibar appropriate dress is key, especially in the more rural areas. Women should have their arms and shoulders covered, wear below-the-knee-length skirts or pants, and carry a scarf to cover their hair when visiting religious sites. In general, non-Muslims are not allowed to enter mosques. *Complete pre-departure details, what to bring with you, and what to expect will be sent to participants.*



Nizwa livestock market



Nizwa Souk

Tour Prices Per Person (17 Nights)

Double Occupancy (10-12 participants)\$12,995
Single Supplement\$2,545

*Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability).
With fewer than 10 participants a small group surcharge may be applied.*

PRICES INCLUDE:

- Leadership of **AIA lecturer & host Trevor Marchand**
- Services of professional, **English-speaking local guides/managers** throughout
- **17 nights' accommodations** in comfortable and ideally-located four- and five-star hotels and **unique lodgings** such as the *Desert Nights Camp* and the *Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve*
- **Most meals:** 17 breakfasts, 16 lunches, and 14 dinners including welcome and farewell dinners with beer or wine
- **In-program flights** (Muscat/Salalah and Salalah/Zanzibar)
- Surface transportation by **modern, air-conditioned motor coach**, including **bottled water**, parking fees, highway tolls, and local taxes
- **All gratuities** to local guides/managers, drivers, hotel staff, porters, and restaurant staff at included meals
- **Group airport transfers** on program arrival and departure dates
- **Baggage handling** (one bag per person)
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as indicated in the itinerary
- Complete **pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading guide and packing suggestions

Air Arrangements and Transfers

Airfare from/to home is not included in the tour cost. Group transfers (times TBD) are provided upon arrival on September 27th from Muscat International Airport (MCT) and departure on October 14th to Abeid Amani Karume International Airport (ZNZ). 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 AIA Tours first. In-program flights are included in this program. *We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets. For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. An application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

Back page photos: (top to bottom) Grand Mosque in Muscat, Oman; Hasat bin Sult, Oman; the Old Fort in Stone Town, Zanzibar; Al-Baleed Archaeological Park, Oman

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; inoculation fees; private transfers; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; alcoholic and other beverages except as noted; taxi, telephone, fax, and internet charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour.

PAYMENTS: A deposit of \$2,000 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 Oman9/20." Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure and must be by check 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.

PASSENGER CANCELLATION FEES: All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 120 days prior to departure are refunded less an administrative fee of \$1,000 per person. Cancellations received between 119 and 91 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to the deposit of \$2,000 per person. Cancellations received within 90 days prior to departure are subject to a penalty of 100% of the tour cost.

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, and 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, 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 passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at 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 | www.aiatours.org

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



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P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite 1, Walpole, NH 03608-0938

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OMAN & ZANZIBAR

September 26-October 14, 2020 (19 days | 12 guests)
with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand

Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur



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OMAN & ZANZIBAR

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RESERVATION FORM

OMAN & ZANZIBAR

September 26-October 14, 2020 (19 days | 12 guests)
with anthropologist & 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? newsletter 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)
I am a Non-smoker Smoker Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$2,000 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 Oman9/20
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 "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: Eos Study Tours, Archaeological Institute of America, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors and assigns (collectively "Sponsor"), 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, Sponsor is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsor is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsor is not liable for its own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. **CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES:** Sponsor reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsor shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsor may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant. Sponsor is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsor is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsor makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Sponsor reserves 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 (for example, the need of a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will assist them throughout and will be responsible for handling equipment. Participants must be able to embark or disembark motor coaches alone or with minimal assistance from their traveling companion, and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which participants choose 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 on the itinerary is delayed or denied. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsor strongly recommends 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 Sponsor and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsor 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, Sponsor reserves 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 Sponsor upon notice to the participant of such increases. **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, Sponsor 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. **CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsor reserves the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. However, if trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, 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 Sponsor, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsor is able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsor, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the U.S. State Department and the Centers for Disease Control publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html> and <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving your 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. Sponsor reserves 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.