Tunisia
Phoenicians to Romans,
Mosaics to Mosques

“IT IS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING!
Everyone who is interested
in archaeology should make
the effort to come here.”
- Joyce, California

April 11-23, 2024
(13 days | 16 guests)
with archaeologist
Nejib ben Lazreg

Archaeological Institute
of America Tours

Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur.
Dr. Nejib ben Lazreg is an archaeologist and researcher with the Institut National du Patrimoine in Tunisia. He is the Curator of the Salakta Archaeological Museum, the Lamta Museum, and Roman sites in Tunisia’s Sahel region (Leptis Minor, Thapsus, and Sullecthum). Nejib’s area of specialization is Tunisia’s Roman and Early Christian mosaics, though his career has also spanned other topics such as Punic, Roman, and Christian necropolises; and Roman pottery kilns, baths, and houses. He has conducted archaeological surveys in central Tunisia and excavations mainly in the Roman port cities of Leptis Minor, Thapsus, and Sullecthum, but also occasionally in the Kairouan region. Some of his major discoveries in Tunisia include an underground 4th-century Christian chapel and catacombs, and the mosaics of Venus (A.D. 300) and of the birth of Helen and the Dioscuri (A.D. 400), at Leptiminus (Lamta); the 3rd-century A.D. athletes mosaic and 6th-century A.D. mosaic-covered baptistery at Thapsus; and Christian catacombs at Sullecthum. In 2017, Nejib received the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters medal from the French Minister of Culture; and he organized the exhibition called “Shared Holy Places: Coexistence in Europe and the Mediterranean” at Tunis’s Bardo Museum, in cooperation with the Museum of Civilization of Europe and the Mediterranean of Marseille (MUCEM). Nejib was the AIA’s Kress Lecturer for 2009-10, and he has led this AIA tour of Tunisia five times since 2012, to excellent reviews.

Highlights

- Travel and learn with study leader/guide and archaeologist Nejib ben Lazreg and up to 16 guests.
- Visit all seven of Tunisia’s cultural UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Explore fabled Carthage, including the Antonine Baths and the cisterns.
- Spend three full days in and around Tunis, including a visit to the Bardo Museum (pending its re-opening), featuring exquisite exhibits of Roman and Byzantine mosaics.
- See the beautiful Cape Bon coast and the Punic site of Kerkouane.
- Marvel at Bulla Regia, a well-preserved site featuring underground Roman villas, a museum, a Temple of Apollo, and a 2nd-century theater.
- Tour Dougga, established prior to the Romans, with its 3,500 seat theater; Temples of Saturn, Augustan Piety, and Mercury; and Capitol.
- Discover Kairouan, the fourth holiest city in the Muslim world, founded in A.D. 670, with its carpet, leather, brass, and spice vendors; and its Great Mosque with a three-tiered minaret.
- Visit El Djem, one of Tunisia’s most extraordinary sites, with a marvelous, 30,000-seat, ancient amphitheater and a museum that houses lovely mosaics.
- Visit the Roman city of Sbeitla (Sufetula), one of North Africa’s best-preserved Roman cities, including several stunning 2nd-century A.D. temples and mosaic-covered Byzantine baptisteries.
- Wander through Thuburbo Majus, a sprawling site occupied in turn by Berbers, Phoenicians, and Romans. The imperial remains include the Forum, Temple of Mercury, and sunken winter baths.
I’ve traveled to Italy, Sicily, Spain, Greece, and Turkey in order to study classical sites, but nothing prepared me for [Tunisia’s] number of sites, their extensiveness, the quality of the mosaics...”

- M.C., Iowa

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

Thursday, April 11, 2024: Depart home

Friday, April 12: Arrive Tunis, Tunisia | Welcome dinner
Arrive today at Tunis-Carthage International Airport (TUN), where you will be met and transferred to our luxurious beachfront hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner hosted by AIA study leader Nejib ben Lazreg and your tour manager. Overnight at the 5-star Four Seasons Hotel Tunis for four nights. (D)

Saturday, April 13: Tunis: Bardo Museum | Carthage | Tunis
Begin the day with an introductory lecture. Then visit the world-famous Bardo Museum (pending its re-opening), whose earliest exhibits (Punic) date to the 7th century B.C., and whose most exquisite exhibits (Roman and Byzantine) are mosaics from sites all over Tunisia, many virtually intact. After lunch we explore the vast site of Carthage, founded in 814 B.C. by the Phoenicians and sacked by the Romans in 146 B.C. It was not until the 1st century A.D. that Rome rebuilt the city, and within a few years it expanded and prospered to the point where it was second only to Rome. Our visit of this UNESCO World Heritage Site will include the tophets (cemeteries of children), Punic ports, Antonine Baths, Byrsa Hill, and cisterns. Return to our hotel and gather for dinner. (B,L,D)

Sunday, April 14: Nabeul Museum | Cape Bon Peninsula: Kelibia, Kerkouane | Tunis
Set out early this morning for the Cape Bon Peninsula, stopping first at Nabeul’s small but interesting archaeological museum. Continue north to the coastal town of Kelibia, where we enjoy lunch. The Cape Bon Peninsula is a fertile agricultural region that was developed by the French as the heart of Tunisia’s wine industry. After lunch we will enjoy scenic stops and visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kerkouane, one of the most important ancient Punic cities. Return to Tunis, where the balance of the day is at leisure. Restaurant suggestions for dinner will be provided, as there are many enjoyable dining options. (B,L)

Monday, April 15: Oudna | Tunis: Medina walking tour
This morning we drive to Oudna (Roman Uthina), one of Tunisia’s more recently excavated sites that is still a work in progress. See the fine amphitheater and nearly a dozen villas with many mosaics, cisterns, and storage areas. After lunch we return to Tunis and take an in-depth walking tour of its medina, the historic heart of the city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, viewing from the outside the architecture of the Zitouna mosque and the nearby Hamouda Pasha and Hussein Day mosques. Return to our hotel, where we gather later for dinner. (B,L,D)
Tuesday, April 16: Dougga | Bulla Regia | Tabarka
Depart Tunis, driving through a fertile land that was part of the granary of Rome, and arrive at Dougga (ancient Thugga), Tunisia’s most extensive archaeological site. Covering some 60 acres on a steep slope some 2,000 feet above the plain, Dougga was known as the “city of temples” and today is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the theater, which accommodated almost 3,500 people; the Temple of Saturn, under which was found evidence of a pre-Roman sanctuary dedicated to the Carthaginian god Baal; the Temples of Augustan Piety and Mercury; and the grandest structure—the Capitol that was dedicated to the gods Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva, and to the glory of co-emperors Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus. After lunch we drive to Bulla Regia, an unusual and very well-preserved site that features underground Roman villas; a Temple of Apollo, the oldest extant structure on the site; and a 2nd-century theater. Continue driving to the seaside town of Tabarka, where we check-in to our luxurious hotel and gather for dinner. **Overnight at the 5-star La Cigale Tabarka Hôtel for two nights. (B,L,D)**

Wednesday, April 17: Tabarka: AM walking tour, PM at leisure
Enjoy a morning lecture followed by a walking tour in the coastal village of Tabarka. After lunch we return to our hotel, located along a sandy beach, to relax and enjoy its amenities. Dinner is on your own. (B,L)

Thursday, April 18: Chemtou Museum | Althiburos | Sbeitla
This morning we visit the Chemtou Museum, which has exhibits on the quarrying and transportation of marble, a small section of the original Roman road that was used to transport the marble, and more. Once home to ancient North Africa’s largest marble quarry, Chemtou was incorporated into Roman Africa in 46 B.C. After lunch in Le Kef, we drive south to the Numidian-Roman city of Althiburos to see a recently discovered tophet, forum, capitol, arch, theater, and ancient houses. We continue on to our hotel in Sbeitla and then gather for dinner. **Overnight at the comfortable, 3-star Hotel Suffeitla. (B,L,D)**

Friday, April 19: Sbeitla | Mactar | Kairouan
This morning we visit the Roman city of Sbeitla (Sufetula) to see Diocletian’s arch, forum, capitol, theater, and Christian churches. After lunch we visit the Roman city of Mactar to see the forum, Trajan’s Arch, Caracalla’s Baths, churches, and dolmens. Continue driving to Kairouan, where we check-in to our hotel and then gather for dinner. **Overnight at the 5-star Hôtel La Kasbah Kairouan. (B,L,D)**

Saturday, April 20: Kairouan walking tour | El Djem | Sousse
Kairouan’s location along the old caravan routes provided a base for a flourishing crafts industry, which lives on today in its rugs and textiles. This morning we walk through the heart of this UNESCO World Heritage Site’s medina, past sellers of carpets, leather goods, brass works, and spices to the Great Mosque, which has been rebuilt several times since its original construction in the 7th century. Then we set out on a drive to El Djem, another UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most extraordinary sites in Tunisia thanks to the marvelous, 3rd-century A.D. amphitheater in the heart of the town. Nearby is the museum of El Djem, which houses some lovely mosaics and the remains of some recently-excavated luxury villas. Continue driving to the seaside city of Sousse, Tunisia’s third largest city, where we check-in to our hotel and have dinner. **Overnight at the 5-star Mövenpick Resort & Marine Spa for two nights. (B,L,D)**

Sunday, April 21: Sousse: AM Sousse Archaeological Museum and walking tour, PM at leisure
Visit the historic heart of Sousse, long a thriving trading center and major port and today a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Inside the 11th-century kashbah we tour the Sousse Archaeological Museum, which houses one of the country’s best collections of 2nd- and 3rd-century Roman mosaics. Time permitting, our walking tour through

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“As far as the overall most enjoyable thing about the trip goes, it definitely had to be our guide and wonderful teacher Nejib... his knowledge, speaking ability, teaching experience, good humor, patience, generosity and superb sense of what is important and what is not were crucial to the success of the trip.”

- William and Michele, Massachusetts
Both the Bardo and El Djem Museums are superb, with extensive collections of mosaics and sculptures. Above, left, is the El Djem Museum and below, left, is one of the Bardo Museum’s numerous exquisite mosaics (“rugs in stone”). Above, right, is the theater at Bulla Regia.

town will include (from the outside) the Great Mosque, originally constructed in A.D. 850; the 9th-century ribat (fortification and religious building); and the souk, which is dominated by woolworkers. After lunch, the balance of the day is at leisure to enjoy our hotel’s amenities and/or explore independently the nearby city center. Dining suggestions will be provided. (B,L)

**Monday, April 22: Thuburbo Majus | Sidi Bou Said | Tunis | Farewell dinner**

From Sousse we travel inland to the vast, sprawling site of Thuburbo Majus, one of Tunisia’s best-preserved sites. It was occupied in turn by the Berbers, Phoenicians, and Romans. Its imperial remains are typical of a Roman city and include the towering, 2nd-century A.D. capitol and forum. Continue on to the charming cliff-top village of Sidi Bou Said, one of the prettiest spots in Tunisia, where we enjoy lunch. We will then stroll through this village’s maze of cobbled lanes and alleys, admiring colorful houses, boutique shops, and stunning views of the Gulf of Tunis’ azure waters. The village has attracted generations of European artists and writers, and is often called a “living museum.” Continue on to Tunis and check-in to our luxurious hotel, conveniently located near the airport. This evening, we gather for a farewell dinner at one of Tunis’ finest restaurants. **Overnight at the 5-star Sheraton Tunis Hotel.** (B,L,D)

**Tuesday, April 23: Fly home**

Transfer this morning to Tunis-Carthage International Airport (TUN) for flights homeward. (B)
The Great Mosque at Kairouan, founded in A.D. 670

© Marek Szarejko

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. You must be in good physical condition to participate, and be able to make long walks unassisted over uneven terrain and up and down steps that may be steep and/or without handrails. Walking some of Tunisia’s expansive sites requires being fit, and some site visits can easily last two hours. 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 this program is appropriate for you. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws. 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.

Tunisia has warm weather almost year-round, and autumn and spring are the most comfortable times to travel. Expect a true Mediterranean climate, with temperatures ranging from the mid-50s to the low 70s F, with the evenings cooler than the days. Accommodations have been selected to offer the ultimate experience of true Tunisian culture, ambiance, and hospitality. It is important to keep in mind that star ratings for Tunisian facilities are decided by the Ministry of Tourism in Tunisia and may not meet the standards expected by most North American travelers. Sightseeing busses and/or mini vans are air-conditioned and are the most modern and comfortable. Tunisian cuisine combines African, Arabic, and European elements. We have selected restaurants that will give you a taste of the excellence and complexity of local dishes. Also, all hotels offer a variety of Continental and local options. Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.

**What to Expect**

MODERATE: Must be able to walk one to three miles per day on mostly flat, but often uneven, terrain.

Accommodations

TUNIS: Four nights at the 5-star Four Seasons Hotel Tunis

TABARKA: Two nights at the 5-star La Cigale Tabarka Hôtel

SBEITLA: One night at the 3-star Hotel Suffeitla

KAIROUAN: One night at the 5-star Hôtel La Kasbah

SOUSSE: Two nights at the 5-star Mövenpick Resort & Marine Spa

TUNIS: One night at the 5-star Sheraton Tunis Hotel

For questions and reservations: 800-748-6262 | aia@studytours.org | www.aiatours.org
Tour Prices per person (11 nights)
Double Occupancy (12-16 participants) ......$7,795
Double Occupancy (8-11 participants) .........$8,195
*Single Supplement (limited availability)......$2,895
*Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required.
With fewer than 8 participants a small group surcharge may be added.

PRICES INCLUDE:
• Study Leader/Guidejib ben Lazreg, and services of a professional tour manager throughout
• Eleven nights' accommodations, in ideally located, deluxe or finest-available hotels
• Most meals: breakfast daily, 10 lunches and 8 dinners including welcome and farewell dinners. All meals include mineral water and coffee or Tunisian tea; wine will be served at all included dinners
• Arrival and departure airport transfers
• All sightseeing, excursions, and entrance fees to sites included in the itinerary
• Surface transportation by deluxe, air-conditioned minivan or motor coach, including bottled water
• Gratuities to tour manager, drivers, porters, hotel staff, and restaurant staff for included meals
• Baggage handling
• Parking fares, highway tolls, and local taxes
• Complete pre-departure information, including a suggested reading/media guide and packing suggestions

FLIGHTS & TRANSFERS
Airfare to/from Tunis-Carthage International Airport (TUN) is not included in the tour price. Complimentary transfers from/to the airport in Tunis, Tunisia, are provided, and may be individual or group depending on flights booked. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights from/to home. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

Prices Do Not Include: Airfare to and from Tunis; passport and visa fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; meals or beverages other than those indicated; personal tips; items of a personal nature, such as medical expenses, laundry, taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; any items not listed as included.

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 AIA-Tunisia4/24.” Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be 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 180 days prior to departure (October 14, 2023) are fully refunded. Cancellations received 179 days through 90 days prior to departure (January 12, 2024) are refunded less a cancellation fee of $250 per person. Cancellations received 89 days through 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: Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication 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.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be provided upon confirmation or upon receipt 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
TUNISIA
Phoenicians to Romans, Mosaics to Mosques
April 11-23, 2024 (13 days | 16 guests)
with archaeologist Nejib ben Lazreg

“Dr. ben Lazreg was the perfect scholar to provide the information and the perfect man to coordinate all aspects of the tour…His presence was the highlight of the tour.”
- Rosemary, Washington D.C.
To fill out an online reservation form, click here. Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.

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**RESERVATION FORM**

Tunisia: Phoenicians to Romans, Mosaics to Mosques
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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 __________________________

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**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).

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**RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:**

A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

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 AIA-Tunisia4/24 ☐ 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, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement.

Submit via 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.

Signature (participant #1)                  Date

Signature (participant #2)                  Date

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)
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. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are 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, pandemics, 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, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. Changes in Itinerary or Features: Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are 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. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. 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. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. 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 abroad 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. Prices: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication 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. Assumption of Risk: Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. 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 Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.