EGYPT Revisited

Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur

January 9-25, 2025 (17 days | 16 guests)
with Egyptologist Stephen Harvey

Foreground: Red Pyramid at Dahshur; background: Temple of Seti I at Abydos
Dear Traveler,

You are invited to return to Egypt to experience this 17-day, custom-designed itinerary in the engaging company of Egyptologist Stephen Harvey plus an expert local Egyptology guide and a professional tour manager. This trio has been receiving accolades for many years.

Highlights are many and varied:

• Spend two full days visiting museums in Cairo (the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilization and the historic Egyptian Museum) OR two full days exploring Giza’s Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) if it is open.

• Gain inside access to the Red Pyramid at Dahshur, enter the burial chamber of the collapsed pyramid at Meidum, and visit two mud-brick pyramids at the Fayoum Oasis.

• Go behind-the-scenes at the ancient necropolis of Saqqara to see some of the new and remarkable excavations that are not open to the public.

• Explore the necropolis of Beni Hasan, known for its 39 rock-cut tombs with well-preserved paintings of dancing, acrobatics, juggling, fishing, hunting, and weaving; and Tuna el-Gebel, with huge catacombs for thousands of mummified ibises and baboons, and much more.

• Visit Tell el-Amarna, which replaced Thebes (modern Luxor) as capital of Egypt under the heretic, 18th-dynasty Pharaoh Akhenaton and was significant for its monotheism and distinctive artistic style.

• Enjoy two in-depth visits to Abydos, where Stephen Harvey has worked since 1993, including visits to the spectacular Temple of Seti I, with its invaluable “Abydos King List” and chapels with exquisite reliefs; and special access to the subterranean Osireion (symbolic tomb of Osiris), centered around a burial chamber that was once surrounded by water.

• Enjoy luxurious or best-available accommodations throughout, with two or three nights at each property.

With only 16 spaces available, I urge you to reserve your space today by calling 800-748-6262 or emailing aia@studytours.org.

Sincerely,

Lauren Cummings
Education & Program Manager, AIA Tours
Archaeological Institute of America
Since 1993, Stephen Harvey (Ph.D., U. of PA) has been Director of the Ahmose and Ttiisheri Project, which centers on excavation of the monumental complex of King Ahmose at Abydos, under the aegis of the Pennsylvania-Yale-Institute of Fine Arts, NYU Expedition to Abydos. Steve's fieldwork in and around the pyramid complex of Ahmose (ca. 1550-1525 B.C.) has provided important new insight into temple architecture and decoration at the outset of Egypt's New Kingdom. He has been working on archaeological projects in Egypt (including at Giza and Memphis) since 1987, and has also worked on projects in the U.S., Syria, and Turkey. Steve has been consulted on and interviewed for a number of television documentaries for NOVA on PBS, the History Channel, National Geographic, and the Travel Channel (among others). In 2013-14 and 2008-09, he lectured on the Archaeological Institute of America's national circuit. Steve has also been a lecturer on many study tours to Egypt sponsored by major U.S. and UK institutions. Since 2002 he has accompanied 22 AIA tours of Egypt, plus AIA Tours land programs in Jordan and Sudan, and an AIA-sponsored cruise from Jordan to Cyprus via Egypt and Lebanon.
Thursday, January 9, 2025: Fly to Cairo, Egypt

Friday, January 10: Arrive in Cairo | Private transfer to hotel in Giza
You will be met upon arrival at Cairo International Airport (CAI) and transferred to the historic Mena House, a palatial hotel set amid 40 acres of gardens, with magnificent views of the adjacent Great Pyramid of Khufu (Cheops). Overnight at the 5-star Marriott Mena House (Pyramid View rooms) for four nights. (D)

Saturday, January 11: Egyptian Museum or the Grand Egyptian Museum | Welcome reception and dinner
We will visit the historic Egyptian Museum to see treasures that most visitors missed during their previous visits, including the golden treasures of Tanis. Alternatively, if the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) is open, we will visit it instead to see Tutankhamun’s funerary collection, colossal statues of Ramesses the Great, and more. This evening we gather for a welcome reception and dinner with your three expert tour leaders: AIA lecturer/host, Egyptology guide, and tour manager. (B,L,R,D)

Sunday, January 12: Dahshur: Bent & Red Pyramids | Saqqara excavations
Drive to Dahshur, part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site “Memphis and its Necropolis – the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur,” where we will learn firsthand about the transition from step-sided to smooth-sided pyramids. See 4th-dynasty Pharaoh Snefru’s Bent Pyramid, whose appearance is due to miscalculations on the structural weight and slope of the blocks. Learning from these mistakes, Snefru went on to build the shorter North (Red) Pyramid, which was the first completed true pyramid. We will have inside access to the Red Pyramid. At Dahshur, we can see from a distance both the remains of Amenemhet III’s pyramid, known as the ‘Black Pyramid’ due to the exposed dark color of its mudbrick core. After lunch we enjoy a behind-the-scenes visit to the vast, ancient burial ground of Saqqara to see some of the new excavations (not open to the public) dating to the Old and New Kingdoms. (B,L,D)

Monday, January 13: National Museum of Egyptian Civilization or the Grand Egyptian Museum | Dinner at the Grand Egyptian Museum
We will visit the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC), which opened in 2017, housing materials from all periods of Egyptian archaeology, including the Gallery of Royal Mummies. Alternatively, if the Grand Egyptian Museum is open, we will return to see more of the GEM’s collections not seen on Saturday, January 11th. This evening we will gather for a special dinner inside the GEM, and have access to its gardens and Grand Hall. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, January 14: Meidum | Fayoum (Faiyum) Oasis: Illahun & Hawara
This morning we drive south to visit 4th-dynasty Pharaoh Snefru’s collapsed pyramid at Meidum, which represents the transition between step pyramids and true pyramids. Its construction began as a stepped pyramid, but nearer completion the steps were filled in and it was cased with limestone. At some point in (probably) the New Kingdom, it began to collapse and today stands only its three-stepped core amid a pile of rubble from its exterior. We will enter its...
burial chamber through a corridor that descends 177 feet. Continue driving to the southern edge of the Fayoum Oasis, a region that was popular with Middle Kingdom pharaohs and high officials for hunting and fishing. Here we will visit the mud-brick Illahun pyramid built for 12th-dynasty Pharaoh Senwosret II, and the mud-brick Hawara pyramid built for 12th-dynasty Pharaoh Amenemhet III. Check-in to our hotel and gather for dinner this evening. Overnight at the 3-star Helnan Auberge Fayoum for two nights. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, January 15: Fayoum Oasis: Kom Aushim, Tunis pottery village
This morning we drive to Kom Aushim (ancient Karanis), the site of a Greco-Roman town with two well-preserved temples, one of which (from the 1st century B.C.) was dedicated to two crocodile gods. Explore its recently opened site museum and an open-air display of columns and statuary from Kiman Faris (Middle Kingdom Crocodilopolis). After lunch in the charming town of Tunis, on the edge of Lake Qaroun, we visit Tunis's pottery-making village which comprises a number of workshops that create and display their handmade ceramics. Return to our hotel and gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Thursday, January 16: Al Minya | Beni Hasan | Tuna el-Gebel
This morning we drive to Al Minya, about 150 miles south of Cairo, which offers a glimpse into the unhurried, traditional life along the Nile that has persisted for millennia. After lunch, we drive to the east bank to visit the necropolis of Beni Hasan, known for its 39 rock-cut tombs of 11th- and 12th-dynasty officials. We will undertake an invigorating climb up broad, deep steps to explore some of the tombs in the limestone cliff face. Some of the tombs feature well-preserved paintings of dancing, acrobatics, juggling, fishing, hunting, and weaving. Drive for 40 minutes to our accommodations in Tuna el-Gebel, and gather for dinner this evening. Overnight at the 3-star New Hermopolis Retreat for two nights. (B,L,D)

Friday, January 17: Tell el-Amarna | Tuna el-Gebel
Most of today is dedicated to exploring the famous site of Tell el-Amarna, once called Akhetaton (“horizon of the sun”). The controversial pharaoh Akhenaton (Amenhotep IV) built the city on the Nile’s east bank in the late 18th dynasty, to replace Thebes (modern Luxor) as capital. He established Amarna as the first monotheistic community in ancient Egypt, worshipping the god Aton (the sun). The site today comprises temples, palaces, houses, and more than 25 tombs at the base of a cliff. We will visit some of the richly decorated rock-cut tombs of the nobles, which feature scenes of life in the ancient city represented in the lively style of the Amarna period. We return to our accommodations and gather for dinner. (B,L,D)

Saturday, January 18: Tuna el-Gebel | Abydos
This morning we walk to the site of Tuna el-Gebel, a necropolis with tombs that date from the Late Period to the Ptolemaic era as well as huge catacombs for thousands of mummified ibises and baboons, both of which were considered incarnations of Thoth, the god of writing and wisdom. One of its more fascinating tombs is that of Petosiris, which features lively scenes of daily life and ritual that combine Egyptian, Greek, and Persian artistic styles. The site also includes the ruins of a Christian basilica, and Roman waterworks with a 100-foot-deep well and a water wheel. Recent excavations by a joint Egyptian-German team have uncovered a series of tombs and a mud-brick structure from the Ptolemaic era with more than 50 rooms. Then we drive to Abydos, about 200 miles south of Tuna el-Gebel, and check-in to our simple but conveniently located hotel. Overnight at the 3-star House of Life Abydos hotel for two nights. (B,L,D)
Sunday, January 19: Abydos: Shunet es-Zebib, Kom el-Sultan, Temple of Seti I, Osireion

Abydos is one of the oldest and most important ancient cities in Egypt, and AIA lecturer Stephen Harvey has worked here since 1993. We will take an in-depth look at this vast site today and tomorrow morning. Begin today with a visit to Shunet es-Zebib, one of the oldest standing massive brick structures in the world, the architecture of which points to some features of later structures, like the Step Pyramid of Djoser at Saqqara. Next explore Kom el-Sultan, another large, Early Dynastic Period mud-brick structure, which includes an early Temple of Osiris where excavations have revealed hundreds of stelae yielding information about the cult of Osiris. The only known statue of Khufu was found here, and recently a portal temple to Ramesses II was excavated.

After lunch we will visit the spectacular Temple of Seti I, where was discovered the “Abydos King List”—the long, invaluable list of pharaohs of the principal dynasties (as recognized by Seti) that was inscribed on a wall. The temple also has seven chapels with exquisite reliefs. We will also be granted private access to the intriguing, subterranean Osireion (symbolic tomb of Osiris), accessible via a 420-foot-long passageway and centered around a burial chamber that was once surrounded by water. Return to our hotel and gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Monday, January 20: Abydos | Dendara | Luxor

Return to Abydos this morning to visit the Temple of Ramesses II. After lunch we drive to Luxor, stopping en route at the Temple of Hathor at Dendara, which has recently been extensively restored, revealing its startlingly well-preserved painted astronomical ceiling and reliefs. Continue driving to Luxor, where we settle in at our hotel and gather for dinner this evening. Overnight at the 5-star Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor Hotel (Old Wing) for three nights. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, January 21: Ramesseum | Medinet Habu

This morning we drive across the Nile to the west bank to visit the Ramesseum, the funerary temple of Ramesses II (“The Great”). It is known for its 57-foot-tall seated statue of Ramesses II (of which huge fragments remain), the subject of Percy Bysshe Shelley’s poem “Ozymandias.” It is also renowned for its reliefs, including those depicting the Battle of Kadesh, the Syrian wars, and the Festival of Min. Continue to the best-preserved temple of ancient Thebes: Medinet Habu, the mortuary temple of Ramesses III. It dates from the early 18th dynasty and, besides its impressive size and architectural features, it includes famous reliefs depicting the defeat of the Sea Peoples during Ramesses III’s reign. A Coptic church was later established in the second courtyard of the mortuary temple. Return to Luxor and gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, January 22: Tombs of the Nobles | El-Khokha & El-Asassif

Today we see several of the best little-visited sites on Luxor’s West Bank. Located between the Ramesseum and Hatshepsut’s Temple are tombs carved into a rocky hillside dedicated to administrators, governors, and other figures of minor nobility with detailed scenes of their daily lives. Tombs we might visit include those of Rekhmire, Menna, and Nakht. We also will see the lesser-visited necropolis of El-Khokha and El-Asassif with dozens of tombs from many dynasties. (B,L,D)
Thursday, January 23: Luxor: At leisure | Fly to Cairo
Aside from a morning lecture and lunch, the morning and afternoon are at leisure for independent pursuits. You might enjoy the property and amenities of our historic hotel (there are lovely gardens and a swimming pool); visit Luxor Temple, adjacent to our hotel; or explore the nearby Luxor bazaar. Late this afternoon we transfer to Luxor’s airport in time for our short flight to Cairo. Upon arrival, we check-in to our luxurious and convenient airport hotel with fully sound-proofed rooms. **Overnight at the 5-star Le Méridien Cairo Airport Hotel for two nights. (B,L,D)**

Friday, January 24: Cairo: Mosque of Ibn Tulun | Khan el-Khalili bazaar | Farewell reception and dinner
This morning we visit the 9th-century Mosque of Ibn Tulun, which is both Cairo’s largest mosque in terms of land area and its oldest mosque in its original form; and the adjacent Gayer-Anderson Museum, a superb example of 17th-century domestic architecture with splendid furniture, carpets, curios, and other objects. Enjoy lunch and browsing in Khan el-Khalili, the famous souq (bazaar). This evening we gather with our AIA lecturer, Egyptology guide, and tour manager for a cocktail reception and farewell dinner. (B,L,R,D)

Saturday, January 25: Fly home
Check out this morning and enter the airport (our hotel has direct access to Terminal 3 via footbridge, and a free shuttle to Terminal 2) to catch flights homeward. (B)

**What to Expect**

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

You must be able to make long walks, unassisted, over uneven terrain and up and down steps. Participants who are not able to walk or stand unassisted 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, for several hours at a time. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws. Any participant showing signs of illness will be asked to wear a mask when in close proximity to others. 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. Our hotel accommodations have been selected for their excellent locations, and some also for their generous comfort. We will spend nine nights at luxurious, 5-star hotels in Giza, Cairo, and Luxor, but when we are off of the main tourist track for six nights our property options are limited. In those cases, we will stay two nights each at the best-available accommodations in proximity to the sites on our itinerary, but amenities will be minimal. At the time of year that we visit Egypt the weather is sunny and dry, with average daytime temperatures ranging from the mid-60s to mid-70s F and nighttime temperatures that may dip to as low as the mid-40s F. Early morning and overnight can be chilly, and participants are encouraged to pack warm layers and a light hat and gloves for these times. **Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.**

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Accommodations

**Giza:** Four nights at the 5-star Marriott Mena House (Pyramid View rooms)

Consider arriving early. Pre-tour hotel nights are available. Pricing will be sent upon request.

**Fayoum:** Two nights at the 3-star Helnan Auberge Fayoum

**Tuna el-Gebel:** Two nights at the 3-star New Hermopolis Retreat

**Abydos:** Two nights at the 3-star House of Life Abydos

**Luxor:** Three nights at the 5-star Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor Hotel (Old Wing)

**Cairo:** Two nights at the 5-star Le Méridien Cairo Airport Hotel
Tour Prices Per Person (15 nights)

Double Occupancy (13-16 participants) .......... $12,345
Double Occupancy (10-12 participants) .......... $13,345
Single Supplement (limited availability) ................. $3,995

With fewer than 10 participants, a small group surcharge may be added. Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required.

Tour Prices Include:

• Leadership of AIA lecturer/host Stephen Harvey plus a professional tour manager and an expert local guide
• 15 nights’ accommodations: nine nights in 5-star hotels, and six nights in 3-star and best-available properties as indicated in the itinerary
• All meals as indicated in the itinerary, with non-alcoholic beverages, plus welcome and farewell dinners with cocktails
• Egypt visa entry and processing fee
• All entrance fees to sites listed in the itinerary, including (pending permissions) special entry into the new excavations at Saqqara and to the Osireion
• All airport transfers and porterage within Egypt, including a private transfer on arrival
• All transportation in Egypt as indicated in the itinerary, including an in-program flight from Luxor to Cairo
• Ground transportation in an air-conditioned motorcoach with bottled water available at all times
• All gratuities to local guide, tour manager, drivers, porters, hotel staff, and waitstaff at included meals
• Comprehensive pre-departure information, including what to pack and a suggested reading/media guide

Flights & Transfers:

Airfare from/to home is not included. The in-program flight from Luxor to Cairo will be booked for you and is included in the tour prices. A complimentary private airport transfer on arrival at Cairo International Airport (CAI) is included in the tour prices. 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. 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 from/to home; passport fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; meals or beverages not specified; excess baggage charges; personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; all items of a personal nature such as laundry, medical expenses, internet, and room service; deviations from itinerary; any activities or expenses not specified.

Temple of Ramesses II, Luxor

Payments: A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve your space and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to “Eos AIA-EgyptRevisited1/25.” 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 (July 13, 2024) prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of $250 per person. Cancellations received from 179 days through 91 days (October 10, 2024) prior to departure will forfeit the full amount of the deposit, $1,000 per person. Cancellations received from 90 days or less 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, 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 will be sent upon confirmation and upon request, and can be viewed online at www.aiatours.org.
Egypt Revisited

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with Egyptologist Stephen Harvey

“Steve is excited to share his passion for Egypt’s ancient treasures and hidden secrets and his stories and explanations are fun, learned without being pompous and helped me to connect many of the different places, kings and traditions.”

- Barbara, Hawaii
To fill out an online reservation form, click here. Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.

RESERVATION FORM

Egypt Revisited
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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
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. 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-EgyptRevisited1/25 ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express ☐ Already paid by phone

Exp. Date

CC#

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement below.

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
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/Operator”), 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 have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such substitute tour(s) and/or modification(s) of the same category for which payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part, whether caused by force majeure, acts of God, error, omissions, or any other cause, excepting acts of the participant’s will. TRIP CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: 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 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) or monies returned on a pro rata basis, as determined 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 remuneration 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.