The Best of Ancient PERU

October 10-24, 2023
(15 days | 15 guests)
with archaeologist Jo Burkholder

Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur.
Dr. Jo Burkholder is an archaeologist whose work focuses on cultures of the ancient Andes. She has excavated at several different sites in Peru as well as along the shores of Lake Titicaca in Bolivia. Jo has travelled widely in the Andes to better understand sacred geography – the relationship between people and the sacred sites they create – and the roles of women in the creation and maintenance of that geography. This has included studying the roles of gender in rituals as well as a detailed consideration of the iconography found on ritual ceramics and textiles. Her publications include “Mothers and Others: Female Images and Life Cycle Rituals in the Southern Andes” in Images in Action: South Andean Iconographic Series (Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, 2018).

Jo’s most recent field projects include excavations at two small temples at the sanctuary site of Pisanay (A.D. 1000-1300) in the Department of Arequipa, and an experiment to date geoglyphs on the desert coast of Paracas using optically stimulated luminescence, a technique she hopes to employ to better understand the evolution of sacred geography in the Sihuas, Majes, and Vitor Valleys of southern Peru. She served as Associate Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies and Coordinator for Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater, where she taught courses on Pre-Columbian Civilizations and the Origins of Gender in addition to mentoring undergraduate researchers. Jo is also a former Chair of the Committee on the Status of Women in Archaeology for the Society for American Archaeology. She is now a cultural and organization development consultant with her own company, Terra Firma Cultural. Jo has led this very AIA tour of Peru twice since 2018, to excellent reviews.

Discover many of Peru’s greatest archaeological sites on this custom-designed, well-paced itinerary with archaeologist Jo Burkholder. Spend your days exploring the archaeologically-rich northern coast and spectacular mountain landscapes. See magnificent ancient sites, a variety of museums, and picturesque villages and cities. Highlights include two visits to Machu Picchu; the impressive Inca fortress of Sacsayhuaman; ruins of the Inca town of Ollantaytambo; the renowned Moche tombs of Sipán at Huaca Rajada; and the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Lima, Cuzco, and Chan Chan, one of South America’s largest pre-Columbian sites. Relax at your 4- and 5-star hotels, conveniently located so you can explore the local culture, with three nights each in Chiclayo, the Sacred Valley, and Cuzco. Travel with a maximum of just 15 guests.

“What I most appreciated about the trip was the teaching and willingness to address questions on the part of Dr. Jo Burkholder. She is certainly a wonderful and gifted educator.” - James, Texas
Tuesday, October 10, 2023: Fly to Lima, Peru
Depart home on flights to Peru. Upon arrival at Lima’s Jorge Chávez International Airport (LIM), you will be met at the airport and transferred as a group (time TBD) to our hotel. Overnight at the 5-star Casa Andina Premium Miraflores.

Wednesday, October 11: Lima: Historic center, Larco Museum, welcome lunch | Fly to Trujillo
Gather this morning to meet our lecturer/host and local guide, and set out together for a short walk in Lima’s historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and a visit of the 17th-century San Francisco Church’s convent and its catacombs, which used to be an underground cemetery for Lima’s Christians. We then drive to the Larco Museum, which contains a wonderful collection of pre-Hispanic pottery. A highlight of our visit is a behind-the-scenes tour of the Museum’s storerooms. After a welcome lunch at the Museum’s café, we transfer to the airport in time for a flight to Trujillo. Upon arrival, we transfer the short distance to our hotel in the historic center. Dinner is on your own this evening. Overnight at the 5-star Wyndham Costa del Sol Trujillo Downtown for two nights. (B,L)

Thursday, October 12: Huacas del Sol/de la Luna | Chan Chan | Trujillo
Today we visit two of the most important archaeological sites in northern coastal Peru, both of which were the centers of their respective cultures. First visit the Huacas del Sol/de la Luna (Pyramids of the Sun and Moon) complex, which was the most sacred center of the Moche culture, occupied from around the time of Christ until about A.D. 600. After a visit to the site museum and lunch at a beachfront restaurant, we visit the ruins of Chan Chan, once the capital city of the Kingdom of Chimor and today a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The huge archaeological site is dominated by several large ciudadelas (royal compounds) surrounded by high walls. Chan Chan covers several square miles and may have been home to more than 30,000 people – perhaps the largest pre-Hispanic site in all of Peru prior to its 15th-century conquest by the Incas. Return to Trujillo, where dinner is on your own. (B,L)

“This trip provided me with the opportunity to be amazed by the monuments, art and history of ancient Peru. The trip had a hectic pace both in terms of physical exercise and also in terms of the amount of information we received, but we always had the opportunity to relax and enjoy the comfort of the hotels.”
-Samuel, Mexico
Friday, October 13: Huaca Cao Viejo | San Jose de Moro | Zaña | Chiclayo

This morning we drive north to Chiclayo, making several interesting stops along the way. First, visit Huaca Cao Viejo, another Moche period ceremonial center. One of the site museum’s highlights is the tomb (and body) of the Señora de Cao, the highest status female burial ever found in Peru. After touring the museum, walk a few hundred feet to visit the actual Moche pyramid. From the top, we can view several other Moche pyramids as well as the famous Huaca Prieta, a nearby pre-ceramic midden (refuse heap) excavated in the 1940s. After lunch in the town of Pacasmayo, we visit briefly the site of San Jose de Moro, a major Moche period ceremonial center and cemetery. Among the most important discoveries at San Jose de Moro have been multiple tombs of high status priestesses. Our final stop today is a visit to the town of Zaña, which became one of the richest Spanish cities in early colonial Peru. In 1720 the town was wiped out by flooding, and the ruins of its colonial churches still show the high water marks. Continue driving north to our hotel in Chiclayo. Dinner is on your own. Overnight at the 4-star Casa Andina Select Chiclayo for three nights. (B,L)

Saturday, October 14: Ferrenafe: Sican Museum, Túcume Pyramids | Mórrope | Chiclayo

We continue our exploration of the cultures of northern coastal Peru with a visit to the Sican Museum, in the town of Ferrenafe, which focuses on the Sican culture that dominated this region between the end of the Moche culture and the Chimú conquest of the Chiclayo area. We then visit the Túcume pyramids, where there are more than twenty *huacas* (pyramids) built by the Lambayeque culture. After lunch in the town of Lambayeque, continue on to the traditional village of Mórrope, where residents continue to weave and make pottery using traditional methods. The chapel next to the town’s church is particularly interesting, as it is the earliest surviving Catholic chapel in Peru and was constructed using indigenous techniques. We return to Chiclayo, where dinner is on your own. (B,L)

“Sipán is the most amazing site, the museum is simply spectacular, the visitors can understand the Moche culture very deeply.”

- Maria, Mexico

For questions and reservations: 800-748-6262 | aia@studytours.org | www.aiatours.org

Photos (from top): Sacsayhuaman, reconstruction of the tomb of the Lord of Sipán, Trujillo, indigenous women weaving
Sunday, October 15: Lambayeque: Museum of the Royal Tombs of Sipán | Sipán | Chiclayo

Drive to the town of Lambayeque to tour the fantastic Museum of the Royal Tombs of Sipán, which houses much of the material discovered during the first years of excavation at the site of Sipán (Huaca Rajada). Archaeologist Walter Alva’s excavation of the tomb of the Lord of Sipán in 1987 was one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of the 20th century. After lunch at a local restaurant, we drive to the actual site of Sipán, where we climb the huacas and put into context what we saw this morning, and then tour the site museum, where the results of the most recent excavations are displayed. Return to Chiclayo and gather this evening for dinner at a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

Monday, October 16: Fly to Cuzco | Urubamba

This morning we transfer to the Chiclayo airport for our flight to Cuzco, via Lima. Upon arrival, we enjoy lunch and then drive down into the Sacred Valley to our hotel. Enjoy the hotel’s property and amenities before gathering for dinner this evening. **Overnight at the 5-star Aranwa Sacred Valley Hotel and Wellness for three nights.** (B,L,D)

Tuesday, October 17: Moray | Maras | Chinchero | Urubamba

Today we head into the hills above the Sacred Valley, stopping first at the archaeological site of Moray, where we find a series of circular terraces whose purpose has been the subject of much debate by archaeologists over the years. Our next stop is at the salt mines at Maras, which have been in use since pre-Hispanic times, where we learn how salt was produced in pre-Industrial times. Continue to the traditional weaving center of Chinchero, where we meet the center’s founder, Nilda Callañaupa; see demonstrations of traditional weaving; and have a typical Cusqueño lunch hosted by Nilda. Return to Urubamba, where dinner is at our hotel. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, October 18: Pisac | Wayra Ranch | Urubamba

Our destination this morning is the town of Pisac, located up the Urubamba Valley. In the hills above Pisac we visit the Inca archaeological site of the same name, which was most likely a royal estate of the Inca ruler Pachacutec. After a walk through the traditional market in Pisac’s plaza, where many of the vendors will have come down from the surrounding highland communities wearing their indigenous garb, we will visit Wayra Ranch, home to the Peruvian Paso Horse.
The horses and their riders will demonstrate their elegant gait to the rhythm of the “Marinera,” a traditional Peruvian dance. After a lunch of Peruvian Creole food we return to our hotel, where the balance of the afternoon is at leisure. Dinner is at our hotel this evening. (B,L,D)

**Thursday, October 19: Ollantaytambo | Train to Aguas Calientes | Machu Picchu | Aguas Calientes**

Early this morning we visit the town of Ollantaytambo and its Inca temple/fortress. Many of the town's houses date to the Inca period and are still occupied by local families. A local family will invite us into their home to learn about life in a typical indigenous residence. We then take the Vistadome train from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes, where our hotel is only a short walk from the train station. After lunch at our hotel, take a short walk to the shuttle bus for legendary Machu Picchu, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Spend the afternoon exploring the most important parts of the site, until it closes. (Note that most visitors leave by early afternoon, to catch the train back to Cuzco, so in the late afternoon we can enjoy the site with relative peace and quiet.) Return via shuttle bus to Aguas Calientes, where we have dinner at our hotel this evening. **Overnight at the 5-star Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel for two nights.** (B,L,D)

**Friday, October 20: Machu Picchu | PM at leisure**

After breakfast we will take a short walk to the bus station of Aguas Calientes, to board the bus that will take us to the sacred citadel of Machu Picchu for a second visit focusing on the most important sectors of this beautiful Inca citadel. Return to our hotel for lunch, and enjoy the balance of the afternoon at leisure. Gather this evening for dinner at our hotel. (B,L,D)

**Saturday, October 21: AM at leisure | Train to Ollantaytambo | Cuzco**

Enjoy a morning at leisure, or join your guide for a strenuous hike (at additional cost and subject to availability) to the top of Huayna Picchu,
overlooking Machu Picchu. After lunch at El Mapi Hotel, we take the Vistadome train back to Ollantaytambo and drive to Cuzco, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dinner is on your own. **Overnight at the 5-star Belmond Hotel Monasterio for three nights.** (B,L)

**Sunday, October 22: Cuzco: City tour, Casa Concha Museum | Sacsayhuaman | Cuzco**

Start the day with a city tour, beginning at the cathedral on the main plaza (which was, itself, part of the Inca central square). Cuzco’s cathedral is considered to be the best repository of colonial art in Peru. Continue on to the Qoricancha (“Temple of the Sun”), which was the most sacred space in Inca Cuzco. The Dominicans built their church atop the Qoricancha, and an earthquake in 1950 destroyed portions of that church, uncovering the Inca walls we see today. Visit the Casa Concha Museum, housing hundreds of artifacts from the 1912 excavations at Machu Picchu, and then drive to Sacsayhuaman, an Inca fortress in the hills overlooking the city. Its size and scope are amazing, particularly the huge stones (many weighing dozens of tons) that were used to build its walls. After a gourmet picnic lunch near Sacsayhuaman, we return to Cuzco for the balance of the day at leisure. (B,L)

**Monday, October 23: Tipon | Piquillaqta | Raqchi | Cuzco | Farewell dinner**

This morning we visit three important archaeological sites south of Cuzco. First is Tipon, an Inca royal estate that is famous for its terraces, stone-lined canals, and fountains. Then visit Piquillaqta, a Middle Horizon center built by people of the Wari (Huari) culture. It is a huge site, with lots of standing walls of houses and storehouses, and it is the only major pre-Inca site near Cuzco. After lunch at a local restaurant we drive to the village of Raqchi, built around the Inca Temple of Viracocha. Return to Cuzco and gather this evening for a farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

**Tuesday, October 24: Fly to Lima | Fly home**

Transfer to the Cuzco airport in time for our group flight to Lima, connecting to independent flights homeward. (B)

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The AIA & the AIA Tours Program

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.

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Photos (from top): Cuzco, Mochica headdress (Larco Museum, Lima)
What to Expect

You must be in good physical health to participate in this program. 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, and/or steep, uneven, stone steps. This itinerary features a significant amount of walking, and to reap the full rewards of this adventure travelers must be able to walk extended periods, unassisted, keeping up with fellow travelers. Participants who are not able to stand and walk unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. 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. 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.

The high altitude of Cuzco (11,150 feet) could cause problems for travelers with certain health conditions. Average temperatures in October range from the upper 60s F during the day to the mid 40s F at night. Complete pre-departure details, including up-to-date Covid-related protocols, will be sent to participants.

Accommodations

- **Lima**: One night at the 5-star Casa Andina Premium Miraflores
- **Trujillo**: Two nights at the 5-star Wyndham Costa del Sol Trujillo Downtown
- **Chiclayo**: Three nights at the 4-star Casa Andina Select Chiclayo
- **Urubamba**: Three nights at the 5-star Aranwa Sacred Valley Hotel and Wellness
- **Aguas Calientes**: Two nights at the 5-star Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel
- **Cuzco**: Three nights at the 5-star Belmond Hotel Monasterio

ACTIVE: Must be able to walk three or more miles per day on mostly uneven terrain, and up and down inclines and steps.
Tour Prices Per Person (14 nights)

Double Occupancy (13-15 participants) .......................$7,995
Double Occupancy (9-12 participants) .......................$8,495
Single Supplement (limited availability) ......................$1,395

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required. With fewer than 9 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.

Prices Include:
- Leadership of AIA Lecturer and Host Jo Burkholder, plus a Peruvian tour manager and local guides
- Group airport transfers in Peru on October 10th and October 24th
- 14 nights’ accommodations: Eleven nights in 5-star, first-class hotels and three nights in a 4-star, best-available hotel, as indicated in the itinerary
- Flights within Peru: Lima-Trujillo, Chiclayo-Lima-Cuzco, Cuzco-Lima
- All ground transportation by **deluxe, air-conditioned minibus**, including bottled water
- **Vistadome Train**: Ollantaytambo/Aguas Calientes/Ollantaytambo
- Meals with mineral water and/or a hot beverage: Breakfast daily, 13 lunches, and 7 dinners, including a special welcome lunch and farewell dinner
- Sightseeing and excursions, including entrance fees, as per itinerary
- Gratuities to your drivers, local guides, Peruvian tour manager, and hotel and restaurant staff for group services
- Baggage handling at hotels and airports where available
- Complete pre-departure materials including a suggested reading/media guide and packing suggestions

Flights & Transfers

Roundtrip airfare between home and Lima, Peru (LIM), is not included. In-program flights are included in the tour price (cost subject to change). A group airport transfer (time TBD) is provided for those arriving on October 10th. Participants will have a group flight from Cuzco to Lima to connect with independent flights home on October 24th. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. **We do not accept any liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.**

**Prices Do Not Include:**
- Airfare to/from Lima; passport and visa fees; all airport departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of or fees for excess baggage; personal tips; items of a personal nature, such as medical expenses, laundry, taxi, telephone, and fax charges; beverages and meals except as noted; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; porterage or individual transfers to join or leave the group when traveling independently; and any items not specifically indicated 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-Passenger Account-AIA Peru10/23.” Final payment is due 95 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 (April 13, 2023) are fully refunded. Cancellations received from 179 days through 95 days (July 7, 2023) prior to departure are reduced by $250 per person. Cancellations received from 94 through 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received from 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. 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 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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The Best of Ancient PERU

October 10-24, 2023 (15 days | 15 guests)
with archaeologist Jo Burkholder

“The sites were all remarkable and impressive. The small size of the group was also great. This was our second trip with AIA, and I think you are the best.” - Tom and Cheryl, Florida
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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**NAME**

Name 1
(as it appears on passport)

Name 2
(as it appears on passport)

**ADDRESS**

City
State
Zip

**PHONE**

Phone (home)
Phone (cell)

**EMAIL**

Email(s)

**I/WE HAVE READ THE ‘WHAT TO EXPECT’ SECTION AND AM/ARE PHYSICALLY ABLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY ON THE PROGRAM.**

**RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:**

A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure. Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. You will receive an invoice for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

**DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):**

- Check payable to: EOS Passenger Account–AIA Peru10/23
- Visa
- Master Card
- American Express
- Already paid by phone

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

- 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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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.

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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 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 aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied by immigration authorities, for any reason, nor to participants who are requested to return to their home country earlier than planned by the tour operator or who are asked to leave the tour by the tour operator for any reason. 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 ngors 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.