

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



# Human Origins in South Africa

September 4-18, 2022 (15 days | 16 guests)  
with paleoanthropologist William Harcourt-Smith



*“The access to the world’s most significant  
paleoanthropological sites was beyond anything I could  
have dreamed of... or done on my own. Bravo!”*

*- Eve, California*

Cape Town



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
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The entrance to Sterkfontein Caves, one of the world's leading sources of information about human evolution.

© Amie SA3.0

*“The flow of the trip was smooth and I felt like we got a rich glimpse of South Africa even though there is so much more to explore. The game preserve and [special arrangement] meetings were the absolute highlights.”*

- Brinton, Washington

Join paleoanthropologist William Harcourt-Smith on this diverse South African adventure featuring fascinating paleontological localities; evocative historical sites and modern cities; sublime mountain, veld, and coastal scenery; wildlife viewing and photography opportunities; delicious cuisine; and 4- and 5-star accommodations. Travel from the lovely Magaliesberg Mountains to early human sites in the “Cradle of Humankind,” such as Sterkfontein Caves, and as far afield as the Makapansgat Valley (joined by a guest paleoanthropologist) and West Coast Fossil Park (guided by a paleontologist). Visit Blombos Museum of Archaeology and Pinnacle Point Caves, with private tours of both by a curator and a guest archaeologist, respectively. Spend two nights at a luxurious camp to explore the Kapama Game Reserve, enjoying morning and afternoon game drives. Take guided tours of Johannesburg and Cape Town, meet with paleoanthropologist Lee Berger (schedule permitting), and tour the Cape Winelands, where you will sample some of South Africa’s most renowned wines. Dr. Harcourt-Smith and local guides will accompany you throughout, weaving together the threads of past and present that make up the rich tapestry of human evolution.

## Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer & Host

**William Harcourt-Smith** is a paleoanthropologist based at the American Museum of Natural History and the City University of New York. He was born in Great Britain and raised across Europe. Will has extensively published on his research in both scientific and popular formats, including articles in *Nature*, *eLife*, and *Natural History Magazine*. His work has been highlighted in many popular formats, including *National Geographic*, the *New York Times*, and *NOVA*. Will is an internationally recognized expert on the origins of bipedalism in the human lineage, and is a member of the team that described the South African fossil hominin *Homo naledi*. He has conducted paleontological and archaeological fieldwork across Africa and Eurasia for over 20 years, including projects in South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, and Sudan. Will has lectured to the public about human origins around the globe, and has helped curate numerous exhibits, including the current *Hall of Human Origins* at the American Museum of Natural History.



# ITINERARY

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

## Sunday, September 4, 2022: Depart Home

Depart home on independent flights to Johannesburg, South Africa.

## Monday, September 5: Arrive Johannesburg, South Africa | Transfer to Magaliesberg | Welcome dinner

Arrive at Johannesburg's O.R. Tambo International Airport (JNB) and transfer to our colonial-style hotel in Magaliesberg. Enjoy views of the Magaliesberg Mountains, an ancient range whose nooks and crannies, streams, and varied vegetation have always stood out from the surrounding grasslands and attracted humans, from our earliest ancestors to the modern day. Gather this evening for a welcome dinner. *Overnight at the 5-star [African Pride Mount Grace Country House & Spa](#) for two nights.* (D)

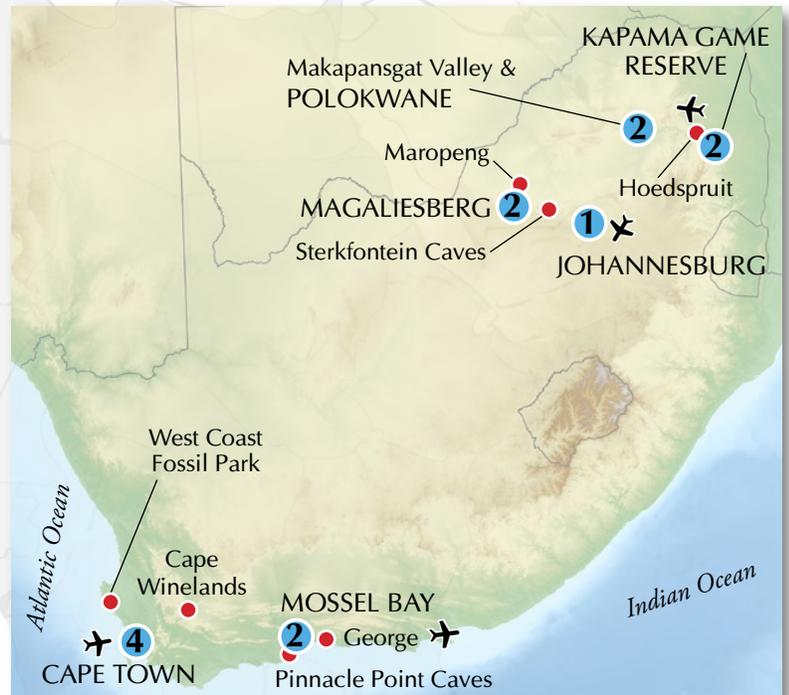
## Tuesday, September 6: Sterkfontein Caves | Maropeng Visitor Centre

The fossil hominid localities of the "Cradle of Humankind" are recognized together as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and today we tour Sterkfontein Caves, which have yielded more than 500 fossils and have become one of the world's leading sources of information about early human evolution. Continue on to the Maropeng Visitor Centre, an interactive exhibition tracing the development of humans over millions of years. Return to our hotel in time for dinner. (B,L,D)

## Wednesday, September 7: Fly to Hoedspruit | Kapama Game Reserve | PM game drive

Transfer to O.R. Tambo International Airport (JNB) for a group flight to Hoedspruit Airport (HDS). Upon arrival, we will be met by an English-speaking ranger and transferred via open 4x4 vehicles to *Kapama River Lodge*, our gateway to Kapama Game Reserve. This is one of several private game reserves that combine with Kruger National Park to create one of the world's largest protected game areas and present unique game-viewing opportunities. Enjoy afternoon tea at the camp, followed by a late afternoon game drive. *Overnight at the 5-star [Kapama River Lodge](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

# SOUTH AFRICA



- # Overnight stays
- Itinerary stops
- ✈ Flights

*"Extremely well led, arranged, right pace. Wouldn't change a thing. Highly recommended to all, we learned so much!"*

- Peter & Linda, California

Images from Kapama Game Reserve



For questions and reservations: 800-748-6262 | [aia@studytours.org](mailto:aia@studytours.org) | [www.aiatours.org](http://www.aiatours.org)

### Thursday, September 8: AM game drive | PM game drive

Wake early for a morning game drive, and return to camp in time for breakfast. The rest of the morning is at leisure to relax and enjoy the property. Gather this afternoon for tea, followed by a late afternoon game drive. (B,L,D)

### Friday, September 9: AM game drive | Drive to Polokwane

Wake early for a game drive, and return to camp in time for breakfast. We then set out by motorcoach for Polokwane, capital of the province of Limpopo. A packed lunch will be provided for the drive. Arrive this afternoon at Polokwane's *Protea Hotel Ranch Resort*, set amid more than 2,400 acres of pristine bushveld. Gather this evening for dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star Protea Hotel by Marriott Ranch Resort for two nights.* (B,L,D)

### Saturday, September 10: Makapansgat Valley

This morning archaeozoologist Brian Kuhn of the University of the Witwatersrand joins us by special arrangement (schedule permitting) to explore the picturesque and historic Makapansgat Valley. This area of dolomite cliffs dotted with caves is another of the "Fossil Hominid Sites of South Africa" recognized together as the Cradle of Humankind UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Valley's Limeworks cave was particularly rich, yielding the remains of about 40 *Australopithecus africanus* individuals. Findings there led to speculation about an early "osteodontokeratic" (bone, tooth, and horn) culture. In the early afternoon we will stop for an independent lunch, and then return to our resort in Polokwane for the balance of the day at leisure. (B)

### Sunday, September 11: AM at leisure | Johannesburg

After a morning at leisure to enjoy our resort, we depart for Johannesburg. Time-permitting, we may stop along the way in Pretoria, South Africa's administrative and executive capital, with its wide, jacaranda tree-lined avenues. We continue on to our hotel in Sandton, in the northern suburbs of Johannesburg. *Overnight at the 5-star Sandton Sun.* (B,L)



A cable car near the top of Table Mountain, Cape Town.

### Monday, September 12: Johannesburg city tour | Fly to Cape Town

Enjoy a morning tour of Johannesburg, the commercial capital of South Africa, plus a meeting (schedule permitting) with Lee Berger, Chair of Palaeoanthropology at the University of the Witwatersrand and describer of the remarkable *Homo naledi*. Then transfer to the Johannesburg Airport and fly to Cape Town, the legislative capital of South Africa. Sandwiched between the slopes of iconic Table Mountain and the sapphire waters of Table Bay, the exceptionally scenic city is in a class of its own. Upon arrival we check-in to our hotel, located just outside the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront area. Gather this evening for a tapas dinner and wine tasting. *Overnight at the 5-star Taj Cape Town for four nights.* (B,D)

### Tuesday, September 13: Cape Town: City tour, Iziko South African Museum, Bo-Kaap, Table Mountain

Get an overview of Cape Town this morning on a guided city tour, motoring past famous landmarks such as the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Castle of Good Hope, the Edwardian City Hall, and St. George's Cathedral. Continue to the Iziko South African Museum for a special behind-the-scenes tour (schedule permitting) of its extensive natural and early human history collections. After a typical Cape Malay lunch, followed by a walking tour along the cobblestone streets of Bo-Kaap (Malay Quarter), one of the city's oldest residential areas, we drive to magnificent Table Mountain. Ascend to the top by revolving cable car and marvel at a bird's-eye view of Cape Town and its beaches. Descend by cable car and, time permitting, re-join our motorcoach for a drive around Table Bay to Milnerton, a coastal suburb. Return to our hotel for an evening at leisure. (B,L)

### Wednesday, September 14: Cape Winelands: Wine tasting, Boschendal Wine Estate | Cape Town

Discover the spectacular valleys and mountains of the Cape Winelands, the center of South Africa's award-winning wine industry. Enjoy a wine tasting at Vergenoeg Wine Estate, followed by lunch at Die Werf Restaurant, located at the impressive Boschendal Wine Estate with its exceptionally well-maintained gardens and Manor House. Return to our Cape Town hotel in late afternoon for the balance of the day at leisure. (B,L)



Bo-Kaap (Malay Quarter), one of Cape Town's oldest residential areas.



A view from Table Mountain overlooking Cape Town

**Thursday, September 15: West Coast Fossil Park | Cape Town**

Set out this morning for a visit to West Coast Fossil Park guided by Dr. Pippa Haarhoff (schedule permitting), paleontologist and manager of the Park. See the site of Langebaanweg that preserves fossils from some five million years ago, among them African bear, saber-toothed cat, and short-necked giraffe. Excavations have exposed more than 260 square feet of the fossil bone bed for viewing by visitors. Return to Cape Town after lunch. The balance of the day is at leisure. (B,L)

**Friday, September 16: Blombos Museum of Archaeology | Mossel Bay**

Depart the hotel this morning after breakfast, and take a scenic, 4.5-hour drive to Mossel Bay along the Garden Route and coastal highway. Stop to visit the small but significant Blombos Museum of Archaeology, dedicated to presenting the prehistory of the area and specifically the findings from Blombos Cave, inhabited by early modern humans between 100,000 and 70,000 years ago. Curator Chris Heese (schedule permitting) will guide us through the displays, which provide context for the symbolic objects (the world's earliest) and ochre-processing "workshop" for which the cave is renowned. Continue on to Mossel Bay and check-in to our hotel in the afternoon. The balance of the day is at leisure. *Overnight at the 4-star [Protea Hotel Mossel Bay](#) for two nights.* (B,L)

**Saturday, September 17: Pinnacle Point Caves | Mossel Bay: Dias Museum, farewell dinner**

This morning we explore the Pinnacle Point Caves which contain some of the earliest evidence for modern human behavior. (Please note that the only access to Cave 13B is via a series of steep wooden stairways and boardwalks, with some 200 steps in each direction.) Return to our hotel in Mossel Bay and, after an independent lunch, visit the nearby Dias Museum. Named after the famous Portuguese explorer Bartolomeu Dias, this museum depicts the history of the exploration and mapping of the southern African coastline and its importance in global trade as far back as the 1400s. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner. (B,D)

**Sunday, September 18: AM at leisure | George | Fly to Johannesburg | Fly home**

After a morning at leisure we transfer to George Airport (GRJ) for a group flight to Johannesburg's O.R. Tambo International Airport (JNB). Connect with independent homeward flights. (B)



One of the many vineyards in the Cape Winelands



Top, a South African woman displays her craft. Center, Cape Town vineyards. Bottom, Kapama Game Reserve.

## What to Expect

This program is designed for anyone who is interested in culture, archaeology, and natural history. AIA leaders and guides are chosen for their ability to provide understandable and fascinating insights to the sites and are congenial and eager to discuss your ideas and answer questions.

This program involves some walking on uneven terrain and up and down stairs that may be steep and without handrails. Expect bumpy road terrain during the wildlife safari. **Visits to the caves and other sites necessitate walking quickly and climbing unassisted, without handrails, sometimes over steep or slippery terrain and in dark or dimly lit spaces.** All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. Participants who are not able to walk or stand unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand, and discuss whether or not the program is appropriate for you. 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.

Weather in South Africa is generally pleasant at the time of our visit, as it will be early spring in the Southern Hemisphere. Cape Town and Johannesburg will remain crisp and cool in the early mornings and evenings, and will be pleasant during the day (65°-75°F). Cape Town tends to be wetter, so expect a few showers. Weather during the safari is also chillier in the early mornings and evenings, and pleasant during the day. Cave temperatures average 60°-65°F, and humidity levels reach 95%. Please note that no photography is allowed inside the caves. *Complete pre-departure details and what to pack will be sent to participants.*

## The AIA and 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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For questions, and to reserve your space, please contact AIA Tours at:  
800-748-6262 | Toll: 603-756-2884 | Fax: 603-756-2922 | [aia@studytours.org](mailto:aia@studytours.org) | [www.aiatours.org](http://www.aiatours.org)  
P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608

## Tour Prices Per Person (13 nights)

Double Occupancy (10 to 16 participants) .....	\$10,845
Double Occupancy (8 to 9 participants) .....	\$12,845
Double Occupancy (6 to 7 participants) .....	\$13,145
Single Supplement .....	\$2,245

*Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability).  
With fewer than 6 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.*

### Prices Include:

- Leadership of **AIA lecturer and host William Harcourt-Smith** plus a **professional tour manager** and expert, **nationally-certified local guides**
- **Meetings with and site tours by local experts as per itinerary** (schedules permitting)
- **13 nights at unique accommodations**, including the **5-star Mount Grace Country House & Spa** and the **River Lodge** in the Kapama Game Reserve; as well as modern, **4- and 5-star hotels**
- **Three in-program flights:** Johannesburg/Hoedspruit, Johannesburg/Cape Town, and George/Johannesburg
- **Delicious meals:** 13 breakfasts; 9 lunches and 7 dinners with bottled water or soft drinks, plus coffee or tea with dinners; including **welcome and farewell dinners** with beer and wine
- Exciting **game drives**, and a transfer in open 4x4 vehicles to *Kapama River Lodge*
- Transportation by **private, air-conditioned motorcoach**, including bottled water
- Group arrival and departure **airport transfers** (times TBD) on group travel days
- **All gratuities** to drivers, waiters (for included meals), porters, guides, and tour manager
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as per itinerary
- **Baggage handling** at hotels and airports where available
- VAT, local taxes, and service charges
- **Comprehensive pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide, travel guide, and packing list

**Prices Do Not Include:** Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; individual airport transfers; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; meals other than those listed in the itinerary; personal tips; items of a personal nature, such as laundry, taxi, telephone, and fax charges; alcoholic or other beverages except as noted above; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; and any other 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 Passenger Account-AIA HumanOrigins9/22." 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 are fully refunded. Cancellations received between 179 and 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

**Note:** 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](http://www.aiatours.org).



Top and center, the [Kapama River Lodge](#). Above, the [Mount Grace Country House & Spa, Magaliesberg](#)

## Flights & Transfers

Airfare from/to home is not included.

A group transfer (time TBD) from Johannesburg Airport (JNB) to Magaliesberg on arrival, an internal connecting flight from George to Johannesburg for departure, and two additional internal flights are included.

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 the tour. *We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.*



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## Human Origins in South Africa

September 4-18, 2022 (15 days | 16 guests)  
with paleoanthropologist William Harcourt-Smith

*“The early man sites and museums were the main reason I came, and the experience exceeded all expectations. I had no expectations about the animal drives and was completely delighted and thrilled by every aspect. Accommodations were spectacular, especially Kapama.”*

- Joyce, California



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

*“To see actual human artifacts still clinging in situ in the cave wall exactly where they were left ages before, was thrilling.”*

- Dora, West Virginia



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Stellenbosch, a wine region near Cape Town

# Human Origins in South Africa

September 4-18, 2022 (15 days | 16 guests) with paleoanthropologist William Harcourt-Smith

To fill out an online reservation form, [click here](#). Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
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RESERVATION FORM  
**HUMAN ORIGINS IN SOUTH AFRICA**

September 4-18, 2022 (15 days | 16 guests)  
with paleoanthropologist William Harcourt-Smith

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](mailto:aia@studytours.org).

Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

Double (one bed)  Twin (two beds)  Single

I will be sharing with: \_\_\_\_\_

Share-please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)

Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

**RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:**

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. 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 HumanOrigins9/22  Visa  Master Card  American Express  Already paid by phone

CC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3- or 4-Digit Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this reservation form and sign the release statement below. Mail or fax to:

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

**Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: [aia@studytours.org](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_

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RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT**

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Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. 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) 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 Binding Arbitration Agreement.