

Archaeological Institute <sup>of</sup> America Tours

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# Cruising the Arabian Gulf

Aboard the deluxe ship *Le Bougainville* January 4-14, 2023 (11 days)

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Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, Abu Dhabi

Travel with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand. Post-tour extension to Oman is available January 14-16, 2023.

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This program is co-sponsored by other organizations.



## Archaeological Institute of America Tours

#### Dear traveler,

I invite you to travel with anthropologist/architectural historian Trevor Marchand on a splendid, small-ship adventure in the Arabian Gulf. Trevor has been leading study tours through the Middle East and North Africa to acclaim for many years. He will be joined by a distinguished diplomat, Elizabeth McKune, who is intimately familiar with this region.

### Highlights include:

- A luxurious, eight-night cruise from Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), to Muscat, Oman, aboard the luxurious and ultra-modern *Le Bougainville*.
- *Le Bougainville* has just 92 staterooms but extensive amenities and public spaces, including a unique underwater lounge.
- An initial hotel night in Dubai provides us a full day to explore this fascinating and futuristic city, with its mixture of old and new architecture, including the Burj Khalifa skyscraper; and the Dubai Museum.
- A full-day excursion to Sharjah, which was the Arabian Gulf's most important port in the early 19<sup>th</sup>-century, including a guided tour of a restoration project in the oldest part of the city and the Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization.
- The unique wildlife reserve for animals indigenous to the Gulf region on the island of Sir Bani Yas.
- A day in Doha, Qatar, visiting two excellent museums, one with the largest collection of Islamic arts in the world; plus the Souq Waqif (marketplace) with traditional garments, spices, handicrafts, and souvenirs.
- Abu Dhabi, the booming capital of the UAE, where we visit the fantastic new Louvre Abu Dhabi Museum and Masdar City, which is striving to be one of the world's most sustainable urban developments.
- Khasab, gateway to the sublime "fjords of Arabia" that you will explore aboard a traditional boat (*dhow*).
- An excursion into the mountains surrounding Fujairah, with visits to the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Fujairah Fort and Al Bidya Mosque, the oldest mosque in the UAE.
- An optional, two-night extension in Oman to explore Muscat, Nizwa, the oasis of Wadi Bani Khalid, and the spectacular dunes of the Wahiba Sands.

I hope you will join Trevor Marchand for this intriguing exploration of the old and new in the Arabian Gulf.

Sincerely,

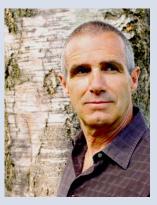
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Lauren Cummings Education and Program Manager, AIA Tours Archaeological Institute of America

## Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer & Host

### **Trevor Marchand**

is Emeritus Professor of Social Anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, London) and recipient of the Royal Anthropological Institute's Rivers Memorial Medal. He



studied architecture (Mc Gill), received a PhD in anthropology (SOAS), and qualified as a fine woodworker at London's Building Crafts College. Marchand has extensive published works, including The Pursuit of Pleasurable Work, Architectural Heritage of Yemen, Craftwork as Problem Solving, The Masons of Djenné (winner of three international prizes), and Minaret Building and Apprenticeship in Yemen. He is an independent advisor on World Heritage for the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and an advisor on the international experts panel for the Endangered Wooden Architecture Programme at Oxford Brookes University. He has been leading lecture tours to Oman for twenty years and has delivered talks in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on regional building traditions and on recovery and reconstruction of World Heritage sites damaged by conflict. With extensive knowledge of the region, Marchand's lectures on the UAE, Qatar, and Oman showcase religious identities and practices along the western shores of the Arabian Gulf; the dynamics of political dynasties, cultural change, and seismic economic transformations; the rich history of Indian Ocean trade and global connections; local heritage and craftwork; and traditional and contemporary architecture.



## ITINERARY

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

Wednesday, January 4, 2023: Depart home Depart home on independent flights to Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

## Thursday, January 5: Arrive Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) | Welcome reception

Arrive in Dubai and check-in to the 5-star <u>JW Marriott Marquis Hotel Dubai</u> (or similar). Join fellow travelers for a cocktail reception this evening. (R)

## Friday, January 6: Dubai city tour | Embarkation

A small coastal hamlet less than 100 years ago, Dubai has transformed itself into an irresistible modern metropolis. After breakfast at the hotel, ascend to the 124<sup>th</sup> floor of the Burj Khalifa (2,722 ft. tall, just over half a mile high) for sweeping views of the city below. Proceed to the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding and, after lunch, enjoy a photo stop at the Burj al Arab, one of the tallest hotels in the world and shaped to resemble the sail of a ship. Drive through Palm Jumeirah, Dubai's artificial, palm tree-shaped island, before visiting the Dubai Museum for an introduction to the history of Dubai and the Emirates. Travel to The Creek for a boat ride that showcases Dubai's mixture of old and strikingly new architecture. Explore the covered Deira Old Souq (marketplace), also known as the Spice Souq, and spend time in the famed Gold Souq before embarking *Le Bougainville*, our home base for eight nights. (B,L,D)

## Saturday, January 7: Dubai | Sharjah

Join a full-day excursion to Sharjah, the most important port in the Arabian Gulf during

the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Stop at King Faisal Mosque before visiting the Al Maraya Art Center. Take a guided tour of the "Heart of Sharjah," a restoration project in the oldest part of the city, focused on recovering and celebrating Sharjah's heritage. Also visit the Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization. (B,L,R,D)

## Sunday, January 8: Sir Bani Yas

The largest natural island in the UAE, Sir Bani Yas was a barren desert island only 50 years ago. It was transformed by the vision of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, founder of the UAE, into a wildlife reserve for animals indigenous to the Gulf region, as well as from East Africa. Board four-wheel-drive vehicles accompanied by an expert guide who will help you to look for Arabian oryx, gazelles, giraffes, hyenas, and cheetahs, and will explain the fragile ecosystem. (B,L,D)



## **Guest Lecturer**

Elizabeth (Liz) McKune is a career Foreign Service officer who will discuss current events based on her extensive experience in the region. From 1998-2001 she served as US Ambassador to the State of Qatar. During her 33 years in Foreign Service, Liz spent 17 years abroad with postings including Israel, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, the Sultanate of Oman, Iraq, and Great Britain. Stateside she held a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State position as Deputy Executive Secretary, among several other senior positions such as Director of the Office of Northern Arabian Affairs. Liz received the DoD's Joint Civilian Service Award as well as State's Meritorious, Superior, and Senior Performance Pay Awards. Upon leaving the State Department in 2006, from 2007-2011 Liz was the Executive Director of the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center in Washington, D.C. On this program she will be hosting an alumni group from her alma mater, Carleton College (Northfield, MN).





## Monday, January 9: Doha, QATAR: Museum visits, Souq Waqif

The stunningly modern and luxurious city of Doha shows no sign of reining in its ambition to be the most exciting city on the planet. Explore the shopping oasis of Souq Waqif—the ancient heart of the city with an extraordinary diversity of products for sale. Visit the I.M. Pei-designed Museum of Islamic Arts, constructed on its own island and home to the largest collection of Islamic arts in the world, including metal work, ceramics, jewelry, wood work, textiles, and glass, dating from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. We will enjoy an included lunch here and then visit the Jean Nouvel-designed National Museum of Qatar, whose architecture is extraordinary and whose vast collection focuses on natural history, Bedouin culture, and oil. (B,L,D)

## Tuesday & Wednesday, January 10 & 11: Abu Dhabi, UAE: City tour, Louvre Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi, capital of the United Arab Emirates, rivals the opulence of Dubai and is a true showcase of Arab and Islamic pride. Over the course of two days we will visit the Louvre Abu Dhabi with a collection of art spanning millennia and originating from all corners of the globe; and the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, arguably the modern triumph of Islamic architecture and one of the few mosques in the region that is open to non-Muslims (except during prayer times), which is an architectural marvel comprising more than 80 marble domes and 1,000 pillars, plus a quartet of 350-foot-tall minarets. Also visit Qasr Al Hosn, dating back to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is the region's oldest heritage site, once a defensive structure, later a palace which served as a residence to the ruling Nahyan family, then the seat of government and most recently converted into a museum. Discover the Inner Fort (built in 1795) and the Outer Palace (built in the 1940s), while admiring its art and artifacts (weapons, images, maps, etc.), some dating to as early as 6000 B.C. End with a tour of Masdar City, an emerging eco-center that strives to be one of the world's most sustainable urban developments. (B,L,D)

## Thursday, January 12: Khasab, OMAN | Musandam Peninsula dhow cruise

Arrive in Khasab, a sleepy fishing village nestled among the fjords of the Musandam Peninsula, south of the Strait of Hormuz between the Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. Sail through Musandam's longest fjord aboard local dhows, looking for the pods of dolphins that frequent these waters while admiring the majestic Hajar Mountains, the highest mountain range in the eastern Arabian Peninsula. (B,L,D)

### Friday, January 13: Fujairah, UAE

Located along the eastern coast of the UAE, on the Gulf of Oman, begin your visit of Fujairah with a visit to the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Fujairah Fort, the largest and oldest castle in the country. At the Fujairah Museum, discover more than 5,000 years of archaeological and ethnographic history. Enjoy photo stops at the Al Bithnah Oasis and the ancient mud-and-stone built Al-Bidya Mosque. (B,L,D)

## Saturday, January 14: Muscat, OMAN | Disembarkation | Fly home OR Begin optional extension

We arrive in Muscat this morning and disembark in time for transfers to the airport for flights homeward. Or, begin the two-night extension in Oman. (B)

## 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.



Photos (from the top): Arabian Oryx at Sir Bani Yas, UAE; Burj Khalifa, Dubai, UAE



## **Treasures of the Oman Desert** January 14-16, 2023

Enjoy three unforgettable days surrounded by breathtaking scenery from the Nizwa mountain region to the magical desert of Wahiba Sands. Between oases, fortresses, canyons, and dunes, you will experience nature, culture, and the art of desert living.

**Saturday, January 14, 2023: Muscat, OMAN | Muscat city tour | Jebel Akhdar** After breakfast aboard ship and disembarkation procedures are completed, we will explore Muscat, Oman's capital. Begin with a visit to Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, a masterpiece of modern architecture with stunning carpets, chandeliers, and gardens. Drive through the old city to Al Alam Palace to view this architectural marvel between the twin forts of Jalali and Mirani. Visit the Oman National Museum whose permanent collection comprises about 12,500 artifacts from Oman dating back to the prehistoric era. After lunch at a local restaurant, we drive an hour to the Jebel Akhdar mountain range and check-in to the 5-star <u>Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort</u>. Gather for dinner at the resort. (B,L,D)

#### Sunday, January 15: Nizwa | Wahiba Sands

Drive to Nizwa, Oman's capital in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D., where we explore historical buildings and the imposing Nizwa Fort, with its enormous round tower. Built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century to defend the route to the interior, the fort dominates the entire area, with the town having grown around the edifice. Access to the top is only given by means of a narrow, twisting staircase barred by heavy wooden doors, studded with metal. From the top of the tower, one can get a bird's eye view of the city of Nizwa. Next walk through Nizwa Souq, which is renowned for its intricately handcarved *khanjar* (curved daggers) and ornately-designed silver jewelry. Drive onward to the *Desert Nights Camp*, Oman's only luxury desert camp, where we check-in and enjoy lunch and Bedouin hospitality. This afternoon we board four-wheel-drive vehicles and drive over dunes toward Wadi Bani Khalid, an oasis in the desert with natural clear green spring water pools. Continue driving to Wahiba Sands, a perfect example of a "Sand Sea," with some dunes attaining a height of over 300 feet. Return to our camp, admire the sunset from the top of the dunes, and enjoy dinner. (B,L,D)

#### Monday, January 16: Return to Muscat | Fly home

Depart camp in the early morning for the journey back to Muscat. Stop along the way at the fascinating Bimmah Sinkhole before pausing for lunch at a local restaurant. Arriving in Muscat in mid-afternoon, you will have time at leisure to wander through the Muttrah Souq, probably the oldest in Oman, where you may stroll the narrow lanes and admire the diversity of goods. Then transfer to the *Hormuz Grand Hotel* (or similar) for dayrooms and dinner before transferring to the airport in Muscat to catch flights homeward. (B,L,D)

Post-Tour Extension (2 nights) Program Rates Per Person \$1,740 double occupancy \$2,520 single occupancy

#### **Extension Rates Include:**

- Accommodations: One night at a 5-star resort, one night in a 4-star deluxe tented camp, and use of a dayroom on your day of departure in Muscat
- All breakfasts, three lunches and three dinners with mineral water, coffee, or tea. Lunches and dinners include one local beer or glass of wine
- Surface transportation in air-conditioned SUVs/4x4 vehicles with bottled water available at all times
- Excursions and transfers as described in the itinerary
- · The services of expert local guides
- Gratuities for the porters, waiters at included meals, driver, and local guides



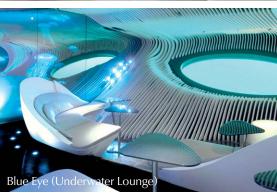














The deluxe, five-star *Le Bougainville* is one of a series of six new luxury expedition ships launched in 2020. These state of-the-art vessels combine understated elegance with a spirit of adventure and feature "Blue Eye," the world's first underwater passenger lounge. *Le Bougainville* is a small-capacity ship with just 92 staterooms and a crew of 110. Guests will enjoy attentive service, gourmet French-inspired cuisine, and a relaxed, congenial ambiance. This ship is a certified Clean Ship and meets the highest environmental standards for energy conservation and resource management.

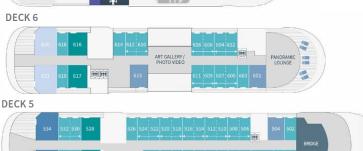
## Program Rates (per person)

| Category                        | Double<br>Occupancy | Single<br>Occupancy |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Deluxe Stateroom - Deck 3       | \$7,430             | \$9,090             |
| Prestige Stateroom - Deck 4     | \$7,670             | \$9,410             |
| Prestige Stateroom - Deck 5     | \$7,810             | \$9 <i>,</i> 590    |
| Prestige Stateroom - Deck 6     | \$8,000             | \$9,830             |
| Deluxe Suite - Decks 3,4,5 or 6 | \$9 <i>,</i> 810    | \$12,190            |
| Prestige Suite - Deck 5 <>      | \$10,350            | \$12,890            |
| Prestige Suite - Deck 6 <>      | \$10,600            | \$13,210            |
| Privilege Suite - Decks 5 or 6  | \$10,790            | \$13,460            |
| Grand Deluxe Suite - Deck 6     | \$11,030            | \$13,770            |
| Owner Suite - Deck 5            | \$13,230            | \$23,820            |

DECK 7









DECK 4



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



## Main program rates include:

- One night at the *JW Marriott Marquis Hotel Dubai* (or similar), including a welcome cocktail reception
- Comprehensive, 8-night cruise aboard the deluxe *Le Bougainville*. All accommodations are outside staterooms and suites, and all feature a private balcony
- Complete program of shore excursions, led by expert guides, and an onboard program of lectures and presentations
- All meals aboard ship including early riser's coffee and pastry, breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner, and special sweets from Ladurée
- Complimentary open bar aboard ship, including select wines served with lunch and dinner
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship
- 24-hour room service and unlimited access to WiFi, available in public areas and cabins, aboard the ship
- · Group airport/hotel/pier transfers and handling of luggage
- · Gratuities to all shipboard personnel, porters, guides, and drivers
- · Port taxes and charges
- Comprehensive pre-departure information, included suggested reading/media guide, travel guide, and packing list

Flights and Transfers: Airfare to Dubai International Airport (DXB) and from Muscat International Airport (MCT) is not included. Complimentary group transfers (times TBD) on arrival and departure dates 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 the AIA Tours office first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. If you would like assistance with booking your flights you may email usairrequests@ponant.com in our ship operator's air department. We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

#### Main Program & Extension Rates Do Not Include:

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Travel and trip cancellation, or baggage insurance • Private or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Airline baggage charges • Meals, dishes, and beverages not specified in the itinerary; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Laundry or dry cleaning • Personal expenses such as personal tips, telephone, fax, or email charges

**Schedule of passenger payments:** A deposit of 25% of the full fare per person is necessary to make a reservation. Checks will be made payable to "Eos Passenger Account – AIA GulfPON1/23." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be made by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only. Credit cards will not be accepted for final payment.

**Note:** Rates 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 rates.

Rates, itinerary, accommodations, and leaders are subject to change. Rates 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.

**Passenger Cancellation Fees:** All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 91 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of 10% of the full fare per person. Cancellations received between 90 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a penalty equal to 50% of the full fare per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to a penalty of 100% of the full fare per person. 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.

**Responsibility:** By submitting your deposit, you are bound to the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure. Due to space limitations these are not AIA Tours' complete Terms & Conditions, which are available upon request or can be viewed online at www.aiatours.org, and will be sent to you along with a Release of Liability requiring your signature.

## WHAT TO EXPECT:

This is a moderately active trip for travelers who are flexible, comfortable traveling with a group, and can handle the vagaries of travel with good humor. Walking for up to one mile unassisted, standing for up to two hours in museums or at other sites, and climbing several flights of stairs, which may not have handrails, are the most strenuous activities. All participants must be vaccinated against COVID-19. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws. Average temperatures during the trip will generally range from the 60s F at night to the mid-70s F during the day, with infrequent rain. The ship has a doctor as well as a small hospital for minor ailments. There is a fee for onboard medical consultations. Complete pre-departure details and what to pack will be sent to participants. This program is co-sponsored by other organizations.



Archaeological Institute of America Tours P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite 1, Walpole, NH 03608-0938 Prst Std U.S. Postage PAID Putney, VT Permit 1

## Cruising the Arabian Gulf

Aboard the deluxe ship *Le Bougainville* January 4-14, 2023 (11 days) A post-tour extension to Oman is available January 14-16, 2023

Travel with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand

Muscat, Oman



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 To fill out an online reservation form, <u>click here</u>. Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.

Archaeological Institute

of America Tours

– RESERVATION FORM –

## **CRUISING THE ARABIAN GULF**

Aboard the deluxe ship Le Bougainville January 4-14, 2023 with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand

## Optional extension to Oman, January 14-16, 2023

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 <u>aia@studytours.org</u>. Name 1

| (as it appears on passport)                  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Name 2                                       |   |  |
| (as it appears on passport)                  |   |  |
| Address                                      |   |  |
| City   |   |  |
| State  | Zip   |  |
| Phone (home)                                 | Phone (cell)  |  |
| Email(s)                                     | 1   |  |
| □ I/We have read the 'What to Expect         | t' section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.  |  |
| □ Please sign me/us up for the option        | al extension to Oman, January 14-16, 2023 (additional fee).   |  |
| Are you traveling with any other part        | ies on this program? Yes,   |  |
| How did you hear about this tour? $\Box$     | eNewsletter 🛯 mailing 🗖 website 📮 friends/family 📮 other  |  |
|  | ACCOMMODATIONS:<br>(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)  |  |
| Cabin Preferences: 1st Choice                | 2nd Choice One bed 	Two beds  |  |
| □ I will be sharing with:                    |   |  |
| □ Share-please assign a roommate (no         | t guaranteed) Delease share my contact information with potential roommate(s).<br><u>RESERVATIONS &amp; PAYMENT</u> :   |  |
|  | r person is necessary to make a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.<br><b>ards are not accepted for final payment.</b> All prices and payments are in US dollars. |  |
|  | DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):  |  |
| Check payable to: <u>EOS Passenger Accor</u> | unt- AIA GulfPON1/23 Uvisa Master Card American Express Already paid by phone   |  |
| <u>CC#</u>                                   |   |  |
| Exp. Date                                    | 3- or 4-Digit Code  |  |
| Name on Card                                 |   |  |
| Please complete this reser                   | vation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement.<br>Submit via email, mail, or fax to:   |  |
| A  | IA Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938   |  |
|  | Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: aia@studytours.org   |  |
| By signing this form, you are ack            | nowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.  |  |
| Signature (participant #1)                   | Date  |  |
|  |   |  |

Signature (participant #2)

Date

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The Archaeological Institute of America and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively "Sponsors/Operator") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/ Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, pandemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES: Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. <u>REFUNDS</u>: 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. <u>FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE</u> <u>RESOLUTION</u>: 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: <u>https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/</u> notices and https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/ alertswarnings.html. ASSUMPTION OF RISK: Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/ Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. MISCELLANEOUS: Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. APPEARING IN PHOTOS: Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release. 11/2021