



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

Ireland's Southern Coast

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September 3-16, 2024 (14 days | 12 guests) with geoarchaeologist Stephen Mandal



©operator



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Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur.

Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer & Host



Dr. Stephen Mandal

is an expert on the Irish landscape, history, and geology. He has dedicated his career to bringing the Irish outdoors to life for all, from early schoolchildren to university students to

culturally curious retirees. Stephen is the co-founder of several award-winning educational organizations: the Irish Archaeology Field School, the Irish Heritage School, Cultural Tourism Ireland, and Dig it Kids. He has co-founded three major research projects: the “Blackfriary Community Archaeology Project,” which was awarded funding under the AIA’s Site Preservation program; “Digging the Lost Town of Carrig,” which was recognized by a nomination to the British Council for Archaeology Outstanding Achievement Award; and, most recently, he has established an ongoing major research and teaching project in the hidden heartlands of central Ireland entitled the “Monastic Midlands Project.”

Stephen has presented academic and public talks on these projects in Ireland and internationally, including to the Smithsonian. On completion of his Ph.D. in Geoarchaeology (Trinity College, Dublin), he spent two years as a post-doctoral research fellow in the Archaeology Department, University College Dublin. Stephen has served as Vice Chairperson of the Royal Irish Academy Committee for Archaeology (2009-2014); as External Examiner to Sligo Institute of Technology (2012-2015); and is currently serving on the executive board of the Discovery Programme, the state center for archaeology and innovation in Ireland (since 2019). He is a standing international guest speaker for the AIA’s national lecture program, and has led ten previous AIA Tours throughout Ireland. Stephen has co-authored three books and has a wealth of experience in communicating geology, archaeology, and history at all levels, and on this AIA tour he will assist you in viewing the Irish landscape from the perspective of the people who lived there in the past.



IRELAND

“Steve is very knowledgeable about Ireland’s history, landscape, and of course, its geology. He took time to talk with each of us when we had questions about, well, ANYTHING!” -Cynthia, Mississippi

This journey takes you through the archaeology, history, and landscapes of Ireland’s southern coast, from east to west. Starting and ending in Dublin, this tour has been designed to give you a deep understanding of the multitude of landscapes and the rich heritage of Ireland, as well as the striking difference between Ireland’s fertile east coast compared to its dramatic and breathtaking southwest. After a gentle start in Dublin, we will head to the sunny southeast and the scene of the Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland in 1169. There is no better place to understand the impact of this invasion on the existing Irish and Norse populations, and the shifting of political and military power over the following centuries, than here where it all played out. We will then will make our way along the south coast, stopping in Waterford, Cork, and West Cork, with an overnight in Killarney before heading back to Dublin. We will explore hidden archaeological sites from earliest prehistory to the Iron Age (Celtic Period), through early Christian sites to the later medieval period and Ireland’s more recent history, all in the company of highly respected academics, engaging guides, and a tour manager. Travel in a small group and enjoy the personal attention and service of a highly respected Irish academic lecturer/host, who is both a geologist and archaeologist.

Cover photos: (top) Tintern Abbey,
(bottom from left) Ardmore Tower, Sherkin Island, Ross Island Castle



Photos (from top): Killiney Hill, Rock of Cashel, National Museum of Ireland (Dublin), Charles Fort (Kinsale)

ITINERARY

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

Tuesday, September 3, 2024: Depart home

Depart home on independent flights to Dublin, Ireland.

Wednesday, September 4: Arrive Dublin, Ireland | Killiney: Walking tour | Welcome reception

Upon arrival at Dublin Airport (DUB), meet your host and tour manager at the airport and transfer to our hotel. After a light lunch, enjoy a leisurely stroll around the beautiful Killiney Hill, with superb views across Dublin Bay. Return to our hotel and gather this evening for a welcome reception and dinner hosted by your lecturer. *Overnight at the 4-star Fitzpatrick Castle Hotel for two nights.* (L,R,D)

Thursday, September 5: Dublin: Walking tour, National Museum of Ireland, EPIC, Traditional pub dinner

Take a guided walking tour of Dublin this morning. Founded as a Viking settlement, the Kingdom of Dublin became Ireland's principal city following the Norman invasion. The city expanded rapidly beginning in the 17th century, and was briefly the second largest city in the British Empire before the Acts of Union in 1800. Following the partition of Ireland in 1922, Dublin became the capital of the Irish Free State. Your host will guide you through the National Museum of Ireland, which tells the story of the habitation of Ireland through the artifacts discovered. After lunch we visit the wonderful EPIC, The Irish Emigration Museum, which beautifully tells the story of the Irish diaspora—the 70 million people worldwide who claim Irish descent! If you have any Irish ancestry, you can explore it here. In the early evening, enjoy dinner and traditional music in an Irish pub, before returning to our hotel. (B,L,D)

Friday, September 6: Ferns: St. Mary's Abbey, Ferns Castle | Ferrycarrig: The Irish National Heritage Park | Wexford

This morning we travel south along the east coast to Ferns, the ancient capital of Leinster and seat of Diarmait MacMurragh, the 12th-century King of Leinster. Visit St. Mary's Abbey, site of a major research program, "Discovering Medieval Ferns," co-led by your lecturer/host. The project investigated the two major phases of monasticism in the town (in the 6th and 12th centuries). From here, visit Ferns Castle, built by William Marshal in the early 13th century, before enjoying the interactive "Medieval Ferns Experience."

After lunch in a local pub, continue to The Irish National Heritage Park in Ferrycarrig.

This beautiful, 35-acre, open-air museum is an excellent complement to yesterday's National Museum visit, as it



Dr. Stephen Mandal (right) at the Irish National Heritage Park



depicts key stages in Ireland's past through reconstructions from each period of 9,000 years of history, from the prehistoric through Norman periods. The highlight of the park is undoubtedly a visit to the "Digging and Building the Lost Town of Carrig Projects," site of a second major research project co-led by your lecturer/host. The project excavated the first Anglo-Norman fortification built in Ireland, and through a program of experimental archaeology reconstructed key aspects of life in the castle. We will be joined for the day at Ferns and Carrig by the projects' co-founder and principal investigator, Dr. Denis Shine, who will tell you firsthand about the many exciting discoveries made at the sites. Continue to Wexford, where we check-in to our hotel and then gather for dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [Ferrycarrig Hotel](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Saturday, September 7: Hook Peninsula: Lighthouse, Tintern Abbey | Wexford

This morning we visit the very southeastern corner of Ireland, the Hook Peninsula, starting with a visit to Hook Head, home to the world's oldest operational, fully intact lighthouse (at over 800 years old), set in a dramatic landscape. Afterwards, we drive the short distance to Tintern Abbey, a Cistercian abbey founded ca. 1200, where several important ruins survive, including parts of the nave, chancel, tower, chapel, and cloister. Enjoy lunch, tour the ruins, and walk in the beautiful Victorian gardens. Travel back to the town of Wexford; founded by the Vikings in the 9th century, it was a hugely important seaport for centuries, making it an important town in the Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland in 1169. Now a busy little town, traces of its checkered past are visible to the keen eye. Enjoy the evening and dinner at leisure in the town. (B,L)

Sunday, September 8: Dunbrody Famine Ship | New Ross | Waterford: House of Waterford (Crystal) | Faithlegg

Today we head westward to County Waterford, where our first stop is the Dunbrody Famine Ship. We take a guided tour of this authentic reproduction of an 1840s emigrant vessel that provides a world-class interpretation of the famine emigrant experience. Afterwards, we visit the nearby Ros Tapestry exhibit in New Ross. Conceived in 1998 and being developed by over 150 dedicated volunteers, the 15 large, embroidered panels of the Ros Tapestries depict events around the Anglo-Norman arrival in the southeast of Ireland, especially the founding of the town of New Ross by the famous Norman knight William Marshal and his wife, Isabel de Clare. From here, we continue to the Viking city of Waterford, where we have lunch and visit the House of Waterford to learn about the world-famous craft of hand-blown crystal. End our day's journey at our hotel in Faithlegg, County Waterford, with dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star [Faithlegg Hotel](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Monday, September 9: Ardmore: Walking tour | Faithlegg

Today we drive to Ardmore, where our walking tour will include visits to the Early Christian monastery, one of the earliest monastic sites in Ireland, probably founded by St. Declan sometime in the 5th century A.D. The monastery was built to overlook the Irish Sea, and today it contains a wide range of archaeological features including an impressive 12th-century round tower, an early stone oratory, a ruined 12th-century cathedral, and two inscribed ogham

Photos (from top): Hook Lighthouse, Tintern Abbey, West Cork

"I've traveled in Japan, Israel, and Europe, and I've lived overseas. There have been many wonderful trips, but this was the best...Dr. Mandal's extraordinary mix of personal, scholarly, and leadership gifts was central."

- Victoria, Kansas



© SMandal

stones possibly dating to the 6th century. After a picnic lunch (weather permitting), we explore some "hidden" archaeology and history of the area before returning to our hotel in Faithlegg for dinner. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 10: Cork: Walking tour, PM at leisure

This morning we continue our journey westward to Cork, the rebel county of Ireland. After a short walking tour of the city, enjoy some free time and dinner under your own arrangements. *Overnight at the 4-star [The River Lee Hotel](#) for two nights.* (B,L)

Wednesday, September 11: Kinsale: Walking tour, Charles Fort | Cork

This morning we take a short drive to the beautiful fishing port of Kinsale, where we will explore the town by foot, at a leisurely pace with numerous stops. After lunch we visit the spectacular Charles Fort, a wonderful example of a star-shaped, 17th-century fort. As one of the largest military installations in the country, Charles Fort has been associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history, the most significant of which were the Williamite Wars (1689-91) and the Civil War (1922-23). Afterwards, we enjoy dinner at a traditional pub before returning to our hotel in Cork. (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 12: Drombeg Stone Circle | Baltimore

Our journey westward continues with a leisurely drive to the seaside town of Baltimore, in West Cork. Along the way, explore the archaeology of the region, which includes numerous sites from every period of Irish prehistory and history. Perhaps the highlight of the day will be the Bronze Age Drombeg Stone Circle. Drombeg is probably Ireland's most famous stone circle, consisting of 17 pillar stones that are graded from the two large portal stones, each nearly seven feet high, at the northeast towards the recumbent stone to the southeast. By late afternoon we will have reached the picturesque seaside town of Baltimore, where we check-in to our hotel and gather for dinner. *Overnight at the 3-star [The Waterfront Hotel](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Friday, September 13: Sherkin Island | Baltimore

Today we complete our journey to the southwestern tip of Ireland with a short ferry trip to Sherkin Island. Historically called Inisherkin, Sherkin is rich in archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age through the later medieval period, including the remains of a Bronze Age wedge tomb, Iron Age promontory forts, and substantial medieval remains such as a



Kinsale

©Fáilte Ireland



Baltimore

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The AIA & AIA Tours

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.

Ross Castle



Franciscan friary, the Mainster Inis Arcain, and Dun-na-Long Castle. After touring the island, we will return to Baltimore for dinner. (B,L,D)

Saturday, September 14: Killarney National Park | The Ring of Kerry | Killarney

The last stop on our journey in the southwest of Ireland is Killarney National Park, County Kerry, which we will reach via one of the most scenic drives in Ireland. There will be frequent stops along the way to visit off-the-beaten-track archaeological treasures and view breathtaking landscapes. This includes a beautiful walk along the Copper Mines Trail of Ross Island. Excavated by Prof. Billy O'Brien, the mines are situated in a beautiful bay opening out to Lough Leane. A stony shoreline opens up on a spectacular vista of Torc and Mangerton Mountains, beyond the southern shores of the lake. This part of Ross Island has seen mining activity take place as far back as the Bronze Age right up until the 19th century. Our walk will end at Ross Castle, a 15th-century tower house and keep, the ancestral home of the O'Donoghue clan. *Overnight at the 5-star [Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa](#).* (B,L,D)

Sunday, September 15: Rock of Cashel | Portmarnock, Dublin | Farewell dinner

This morning we return to Dublin, stopping along the way at the iconic Rock of Cashel in County Tipperary. The Rock of Cashel (Carraig Phádraig), more formally known as St. Patrick's Rock, is also known as Cashel of the Kings, reputedly the site of the conversion of Aenghus the King of Munster by St. Patrick in the 5th century A.D. Long before the Norman invasion The Rock of Cashel was the seat of the High Kings of Munster, although there is little structural evidence of their time here. Most of the buildings on the current site date from the 12th and 13th centuries, when the rock was gifted to the Church. The buildings represent both Hiberno-Romanesque and Germanic influences in their architecture. After lunch, we will complete our journey to Dublin, check-in to our hotel in the coastal suburb of Portmarnock, and gather for a farewell dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star [The Portmarnock Resort](#).* (B,L,D)

Monday, September 16: Fly home

Transfer as a group (time TBD) to Dublin Airport (DUB) for independent flights homeward. (B)

What to Expect



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

This unique itinerary has been carefully planned to include southern Ireland's most important archaeological and historical sites. The program is paced to optimize time at each site and to limit travel between destinations. 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. Participants who are not able to stand or walk unassisted for extended periods (at least three miles a day) 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. Any participant showing signs of illness will be asked to wear a mask when in close proximity to others. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand, and discuss whether or not the program is appropriate for you.

Accommodations are chosen for their charm and proximity to the sites we visit. Average temperatures in September range from the mid-60s F during the day to the mid-40s F at night, with a fair chance of precipitation. *Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.*



Ha'Penny Bridge (Dublin)

Rock of Cashel



Dublin



Tour Prices Per Person (12 Nights)

Double Occupancy (10-12 participants) \$9,795

Double Occupancy (8-9 participants) \$10,595

Single Supplement (limited availability) \$1,295

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required.

With fewer than 8 participants, a small group surcharge may be applied.

Prices Include:

- Leadership of **AIA lecturer/host Dr. Stephen Mandal** and services of a **professional, local tour manager/guide** throughout
- **12 nights' accommodations** in ideally-located accommodations as indicated in the itinerary
- **Most meals:** Breakfast daily; 12 lunches; and 10 dinners, including welcome and farewell dinners with beer or wine
- **All gratuities** to tour manager/guide, drivers, hotel staff, restaurant staff at included meals, and porters where available
- **Group airport transfers** (times TBD) on program arrival and departure dates
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as indicated in the itinerary, weather permitting
- **All entrance fees** to sites included in the itinerary
- Surface transportation by **air-conditioned motor coach**, including bottled water, parking fees, highway tolls, and local taxes
- Complete **pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide and packing suggestions

Flights & Transfers

Airfare from/to home is not included in the tour cost. Group transfers (times TBD) are provided on program arrival and departure dates from/to Dublin Airport (DUB). 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 AIA Tours first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. *We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.*

Prices Do Not Include: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; independent transfers; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as medical expenses, laundry, taxi, telephone, and fax charges; meals and beverages except as noted; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour and anything not expressly included.

Payments: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "Eos AIA-SouthIreland9/24." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by personal 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 (March 7, 2024) are fully refunded. Cancellations received from 179 through 90 days (June 5, 2024) prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received from 89 through 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

Note: Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, and the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

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 are available 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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Ireland's Southern Coast

September 3-16, 2024 (14 days | 12 guests)
with geoarchaeologist Stephen Mandal

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



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OF AMERICA TOURS

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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

IRELAND'S SOUTHERN COAST

September 3-16, 2024 (14 days | 12 guests)

with geoarchaeologist Stephen Mandal

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-748-6262 or aia@studytours.org.

Name 1
(as it appears on passport)

Name 2
(as it appears on passport)

Address

City State Zip

Phone (home) Phone (cell)

Email(s)

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

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

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

ACCOMMODATIONS:

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

Double (one bed) Twin (two beds) Single

I will be sharing with: _____

Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)

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

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.
Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (please check one):

Check payable to: Eos AIA-SouthIreland 9/24 Visa Master Card American Express Already paid by phone

CC#

Exp. Date 3- or 4-Digit Code

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement below.
Submit via email, mail, or fax to:

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

Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: aia@studytours.org

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

Signature (participant #1) Date

Signature (participant #2) Date

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. **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 is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **PRICES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to binding arbitration in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK:** Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. **ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.