COX&KINGS

Est 1758



SMALL GROUP TOURS
2027–2028



GUIDED BY CURIOSITY

The most memorable journeys are rarely the ones that cover the most ground. They are the ones in which you had enough time; time to return to a neighbourhood you liked, to linger over a conversation with a local guide, or to sit with a view before moving on. That conviction shapes Cox & Kings' approach, helping curious travellers go beyond the obvious and experience the world more deeply. It has also shaped this collection of tours, where smaller groups allow more time for discovery, more access to remarkable places and more meaningful encounters along the way.

We are delighted to introduce a new North American programme, which blends the continent's astounding scenery with its many places of world-historical significance. ***The Atlantic Passage: Nova Scotia to New England***, for example, traces the cultural and natural richness of two countries from Halifax to Boston, while our ***American History and Culture Trail*** follows the founding of the US through its landscapes, architecture and living history.

Elsewhere, new tours of Nepal and Bhutan bring together two of the Indian subcontinent's least-seen, most alluring nations. ***Bhutan: Journey to the Dragon Kingdom*** guides travellers around the country's deeply spiritual temples, monasteries, and stupas, while ***Nepal: A Journey through the Himalaya,*** brings together the natural wonders and man-made splendour of Buddha's birthplace.

In Europe, the ***Grand Tour of Central Europe*** and the ***Grand Tour of the Balkans*** both take the long view – these are regions that reward attention, and we have given them itineraries to match. We are also glad to welcome Algeria to our programme, as well as a new West African tour, which takes in Ghana, Benin and Togo.

Our specialist-led programme also offers new tours. ***Moorish Spain*** examines the centuries of Muslim civilisation that shaped the peninsula, while our late Roman and early medieval Rome tour follows the arc from empire to papacy through its basilicas and mosaics.

We hope you find something here that calls to you, and, when you travel with us, that you return having understood more than you expected. This is, we believe, what Cox & Kings has always been known for.

Jennifer Charlton
Managing Director
Cox & Kings

Manfredi Lefebvre d'Ovidio
Executive Chairman
AKTG

FRONT COVER: CHAM DANCER, BHUTAN
LEFT: INSET: A TRADITIONAL KYL KAYAK PLAYER, KYRGYZSTAN; BACKGROUND: DJETY-OGUZ GORGE, KYRGYZSTAN

TRUSTED HERITAGE, DELIVERED TODAY

Founded in London in 1758, Cox & Kings is the world's oldest travel company and has served the British royal family as well as world-famous heads of state, while also pioneering culturally adventurous journeys and tours.

Our story began one spring day in the mid-18th century, when Richard Cox established the firm that would become Cox & Kings on 25 May 1758, while working in London for the commander-in-chief of Britain's armed forces. First called Cox & Co., the company began as a regimental agent for Britain's forces, overseeing supplies, wages, shipping and travel arrangements. In later years, Prince Frederick, Duke of York and Albany the son of George III, and Winston Churchill, the British prime minister, numbered among its clients.

After World War I, Cox & Co. merged with Henry S King & Co, a prominent bank with shipping capabilities and deep connections within the Indian subcontinent. It had offices across Britain, Egypt, France and India, and began to develop its tours, while also gaining a number of prominent clients. In the 1922 Sherlock Holmes story, "The Problem of Thor Bridge", Dr Watson keeps records of the cases of Sherlock Holmes in a Cox & Kings vault; in 1924, the company supported the explorer George Mallory's pioneering attempt to summit Everest; and in 1931, Mahatma Gandhi – the father of post-colonial India – travelled with Cox & Kings to Europe.

In 2018, Cox & Kings marked its 260th anniversary with tours and journeys to all seven continents. In 2019, it joined AKTG. Today, the company continues to organise



escorted Small Group Tours, with a focus on authentic experiences for the culturally curious, providing the same, longstanding, detailed, award-winning service to all its clients, globally.

Having witnessed so much progress, we remain primed for much more. Cox & Kings mastered the golden age of rail, the rise of aviation and continues to thrive, branching out to new destinations and offering new adventures. Our centuries of experience are a working advantage, enabling us to plan and host carefully executed, exquisitely planned tours, deepening people's understanding of the world through shared discovery.

ABOVE: RICHARD COX ACTING AS A REGIMENTAL AGENT FOR HIS MENTOR, LORD LIGONIER, CIRCA 1758

GLOBAL, PERSONAL SUPPORT

Our personable, well-informed team is online, on the phone and on the ground, at home and in your destination, around the clock. They will aid and guide you, whenever you require it. Whatever you need, we're waiting.

A FORCE FOR GOOD

Travel should be a force for good, a way to give back to a world that gives us so much. That's why each tour booked with us supports A&K Philanthropy's initiatives, helping communities and conservation efforts in the places we visit. From 2027, guests can even visit these projects on a select number of tours.

UNPARALLELED PEACE OF MIND

Our global network of offices and trusted partners in over 100 countries means your journey remains secure and safe, should the unexpected happen.

AWARD-WINNING, RATED AND FÊTED

We've served Gandhi and Churchill, won numerous accolades, including Wanderlust and British Travel Awards, and today maintain an "excellent" rating on Trustpilot.

FOUNDED IN LONDON IN 1758. THE WORLD'S OLDEST TRAVEL COMPANY.



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"Our first Cox & Kings experience was a brilliant introduction to India. The logistics were perfect and the tour manager was excellent. We started and finished at The Imperial hotel in Delhi, and the group was a good size: 15 people. Our tour manager changed our schedule in Jaipur to give us an exceptional experience of the Holi festival, right in the middle of the city. Many wonderful memories made with a group of like-minded travellers."

A COX & KINGS GUEST

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CENTRAL ASIA

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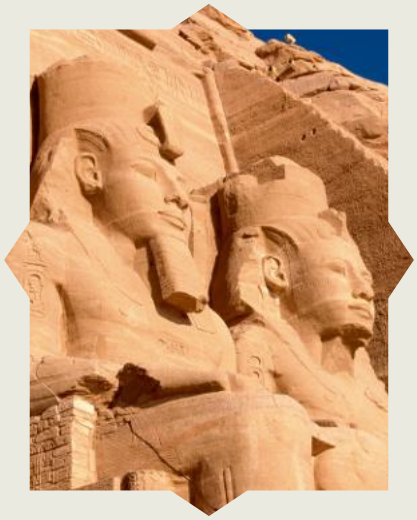

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BOTTOM LEFT: JODHPUR, INDIA
TOP LEFT: A SCARLET MACAW, COSTA RICA;
ABOVE: THE TEMPLE OF ABU SIMBEL, EGYPT

A RICHER UNDERSTANDING

Often, the things we bring home guide us further on in life. This isn't always true of physical mementos. Those serape blankets and Uzbek ceramics are beautiful reminders of distant places, but they aren't going to help us understand life in ancient Rome, recall exactly when the Silk Road brought such amazing wealth to central Asia, or truly grasp why, for centuries, people have made such a great fuss about the Great Pyramids – nor why more intrepid travellers strike out for the lakes and peaks of Patagonia's Torres del Paine National Park, or the medieval city of Bukhara.

When we get it right, great travel leaves us with a greater level of understanding, enabling us to turn a mental souvenir into a compass, opening new routes towards a richer appreciation of our world.

You will pick up a plethora of such stimulating points of enlightenment on a Cox & Kings small group tour.

We limit our parties to 18 guests, and they average out at just 14, ensuring a more detailed, more personal experience. In smaller groups, you can access areas off-limits to larger tours, mingle more easily with the locals, and ask guides and tour managers many more questions.



THIS PAGE: NAMIBIA; RIGHT TOP: EGYPT; CENTRE RIGHT: KYRGYZSTAN



On a select number of our tours, guides and managers are joined by a specialist lecturer – often drawn from academia, publishing or the museum sector – who'll enrich your understanding of the place even further.



Our itineraries are detailed, but also flexible, balancing time within a group with opportunities for independent exploration. We also favour characterful, well-located hotels that enhance the sense of place.

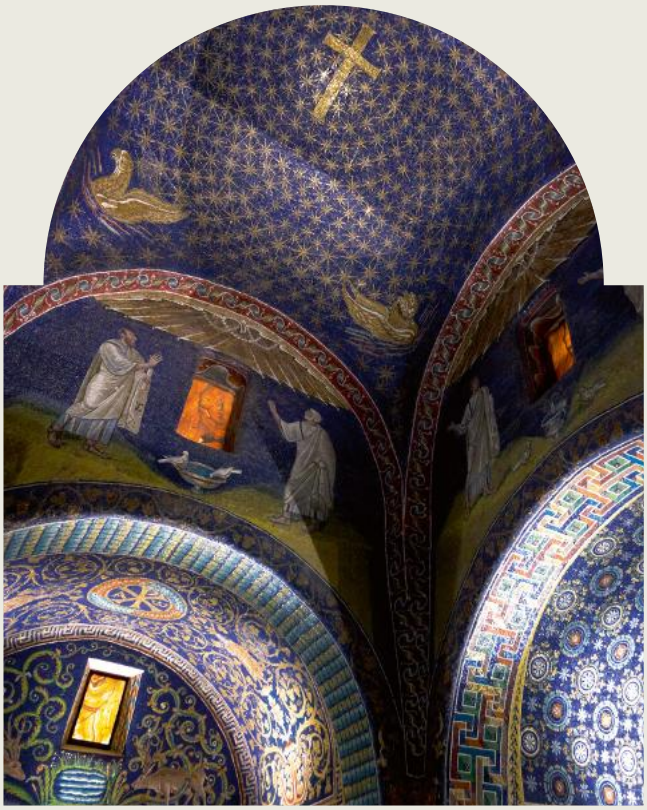
We have helped travellers find their way in the world for over two and a half centuries, and we're still deepening our knowledge. In 2027 and 2028, we're branching out into West Africa, Algeria, North America, Nepal, Bhutan and the Balkans, while also furthering our depth of coverage in places such as southern Europe, with new tours like *Moorish Spain: El Cid to the Alhambra,* which explores the cultural influence of Islamic rule in the Iberian Peninsula.

So why not join us on your own voyage of discovery? Travel with a smaller group, and you'll gain a richer understanding of the world.

INSIGHT IS NOT ACCIDENTAL

In 1993 on Italy's northeastern coast, work was halted on an underground car park after locals made an extraordinary discovery. Excavations at the site, on Via Massimo D'Azeglio in Ravenna's centre, revealed a remarkable complex of floors and foundations, dating from the Byzantine era, right back to the Roman Empire. There was a sixth-century palace; the relics of another building dating back to the fourth century, as well as an even earlier, first-century dwelling. The discovery – dubbed Domus dei Tappeti di Pietra or "House of the Stone Carpets" on account of the detailed mosaic flooring – was soon recognised as one of the most consequential discoveries of recent times.

Those "stone carpets" may have been found by accident, but now they occupy a key position within Cox & Kings' Specialist-Led Tour, *Ravenna: Mosaics and Marble*. Travellers are led to these exquisite relics after visiting Ravenna Art Museum's contemporary mosaics. This mix of excellent access and careful planning is typical of Cox & Kings. Our guides, tour managers, specialist lecturers and experienced supporting staff pierce beneath the surface of the things – quite literally, in the case of those ancient mosaics – to create tours that offer a depth of context and understanding hard to find elsewhere.

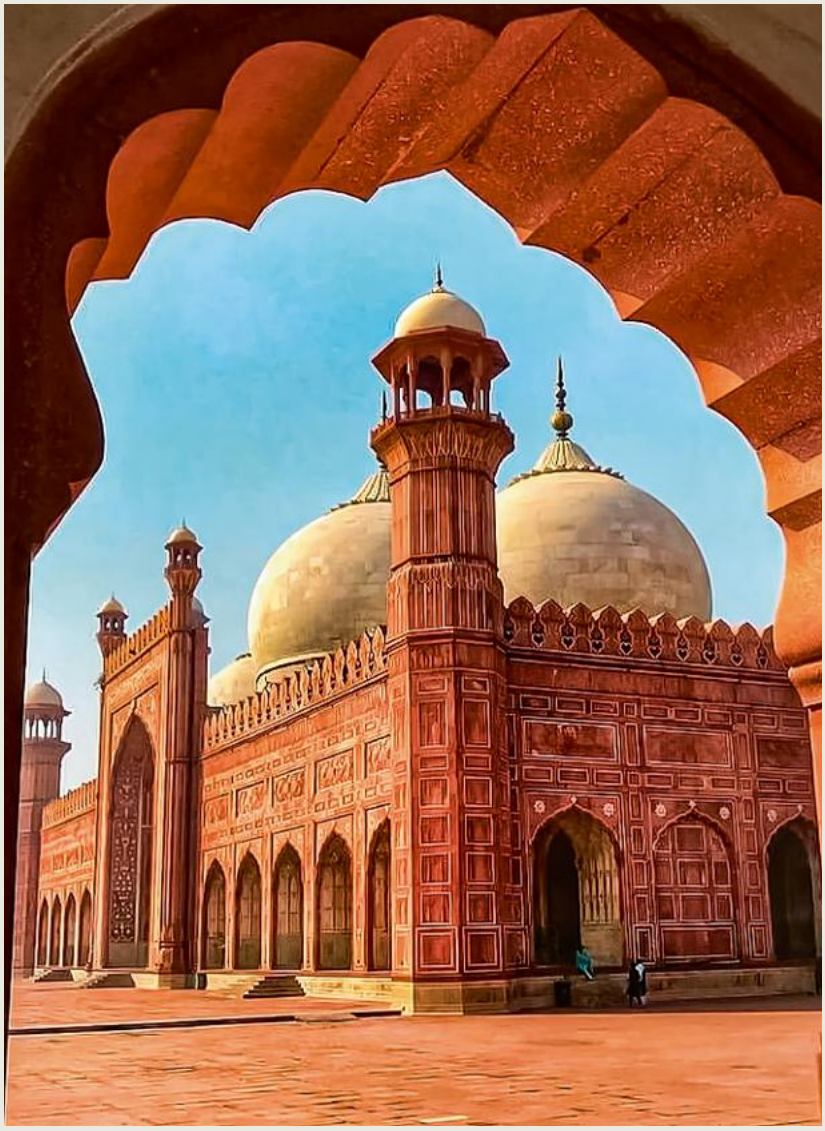




Our tour parties are small, which makes for greater flexibility and access; our itineraries are well paced, giving you time for personal reflection; the hotels we choose are characterful and centrally located, ensuring that the cultural threads that tie your tour together are woven through the whole experience; and our planning and preparation are discreet and seamless, enabling you to focus on your own personal journey, rather than minor practicalities.

We know the sights that travellers long to see – the Taj Mahal at sunrise, Samarkand's domes, and the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu – yet we also include lesser-known, equally rewarding places in our tours and tour extensions, such as Fatehpur Sikri, the deserted Mughal city outside Agra, or the towering pillars of China's Zhangjiajie National Park, which inspired the 'floating mountains' in James Cameron's 2009 film, *Avatar*.

ABOVE: RESPLENDENT QUETZAL, COSTA RICA; TOP: GALLA PLACIDIA MAUSOLEUM, RAVENNA; TOP RIGHT: BADSHAHI MOSQUE, PAKISTAN; BOTTOM RIGHT: A TIBETAN WOMAN PREPARING FOOD, NEPAL



On our tours the past and present come together vividly. On *Pakistan: Persians, Mughals and Mystics* (p40), the ancient world opens up via a visit to Harappa, one of the most important Bronze Age settlements discovered within the region, while more modern forces of history are brought to life at the Indian border near Lahore, during the elaborate Wagah border ceremony.

Our guests love to see rare, exotic and charismatic animals. In response, we have developed deep relationships with local parks, reserves and custodians, enabling guests to glimpse tigers in India, track rhinos in Namibia, see the flamingos of the Atacama salt pan, and the dazzling birdlife thriving in Costa Rica's wetlands.



Culinary experiences aren't limited to the café or restaurant table. On our ***Across the Southern Caucasus*** tour (p140), you get a masterclass in making arishta, traditional Armenian noodles; in ***The Heart of Ancient Greece*** (p130) you join a truffle hunt, before sampling some fungi from earlier forages; and on ***Nepal: a Journey Through the Himalaya*** (p36) you learn to roll, fold and steam Nepalese dumplings with local women.

To understand a place, you also need to look beyond its monuments and grasp the beliefs that give them meaning. Rather than simply admire sacred buildings, we make sure you see, say, the Golden Temple in Amritsar during an evening Palki Sahib ceremony, or witness a puja ritual at Sri Lanka's ornate Temple of the Tooth.



JOURNEYS SHAPED AROUND YOU

To become well-travelled, we sometimes need to stand still. A tour around Istanbul's palaces, mosques and bazaars can be fascinating, but you may want an afternoon to return to that one spot where the minarets caught the evening light just so. A group excursion to see the condors above Peru's Colca Canyon can be unforgettable, but you might hanker after just a day or two at a quiet beach. Pausing beside the antique tiling still in place on the Silk Road, you might wish you had a world-renowned expert beside you, to explain how wealth and power came together in Central Asia.

Cox & Kings has been in business for long enough to know how to make room for these moments, creating itineraries to meet the needs and interest of almost every guest, by balancing expert guidance with personal freedom and flexibility.

Well-paced itineraries, coupled with well-placed hotels, and well-informed tour managers, specialist lecturers and guides only add to this sense of confident group travel peppered with moments of insight and autonomy. To travel with Cox & Kings is to take a journey that feels full and insightful but not overburdened by crowding or scheduled appointments.

Play around with pre- and post-tour extensions by, say, adding a trip to the Amazon rainforest after taking in Machu Picchu, or a leisurely few days in Kerala after a Grand Tour of India, and you will soon discover just how many journeys can be shaped around you.

LEFT: INSET: A PERUVIAN WOMAN WEAVING; BACKGROUND: THE ANCIENT INCA RUINS OF MORAY, PERU

WHERE YOU STAY AND HOW YOU TRAVEL

We select centrally located, characterful hotels that complement and enhance every Cox & Kings tour, whether it's the Imperial Hotel in Delhi, where Gandhi, Nehru and Mountbatten met to discuss plans for Indian independence; a Pugliano estate of archetypal dry-stone walls and trulli roofs; or the only hotel located inside the Iguazú National Park, enabling you to view the thundering waterfalls before the day-trippers arrive. Each of these places is a destination in its own right, with character and a sense of place that connects deeply to its surroundings.

And those connections reach beyond the check-in desk. Thanks to our centuries of experience, deep global relationships, and hugely experienced tour managers, our guests move through their tours as welcome, familiar additions to the social fabric of the countries that they visit, free to ask questions, indulge their curiosity, and take in a destination's sense of place more deeply.

Our on-the-ground support network, trusted local partners and regional offices are backed-up by a dedicated 24/7 assistance service, available throughout your journey. Continuous access to a dedicated support service, alongside coordinated local oversight, gives us the ability to respond quickly and effectively, should plans need to change. Your journey will feel flexible, carefree and enriching, partly because it's underpinned by such robust systems and experienced teams.

Even before you choose where to go, we describe tours accurately, carefully grading levels of activity and accommodation, enabling informed choices, long before you pack your bags.

And once you're with us – from luggage-handling and transfers between destinations, through to seasonal insights and access to local ceremonies and festivals – you'll soon learn just how these skills, experience and focus make for a very different way to travel.



LEFT: NARENDRA BHAVAN, INDIA; RIGHT: NAMIBIA

TOUR STYLE AND ACTIVITY LEVEL

We classify each of our tours in terms of its style and activity level, helping you choose the one that best suits your interests and pace.

TOUR STYLE

PRESTIGE
These are our most comfortable tours and usually feature five-star deluxe accommodation throughout.

SELECT
Simpler in emphasis, these itineraries typically feature three and four-star accommodation throughout, or the best alternative elsewhere.

SIGNATURE
Most Cox & Kings tours fall under this category and are based in four- or five-star accommodation where available, or the best alternative elsewhere.

DISCOVERY
Best suited to the hardier traveller, these tours typically include some quite basic accommodation, possibly longer and rougher road journeys and, in some cases, more strenuous activities, such as trekking.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

ACTIVE
These tours feature more walking, earlier starts, cross more uneven terrain and include full-day excursions requiring good fitness and mobility.

MODERATE
These tours are medium pace, with some longer travel days, crossing some uneven terrain, featuring longer walks that require good fitness and mobility.

LEISURELY
These tours have extra leisure time and short travel days, set a more relaxed walking pace, and only occasionally cross uneven terrain, requiring reasonable fitness and good mobility.





ON THE SIDE OF SOLO TRAVELLERS

Are you travelling independently? Then you're in good company. Cox & Kings celebrates and supports solo travel. On our dedicated solo traveller tour dates, we don't have any single supplements, and we limit our party sizes to just 14 guests, ensuring these tours are welcoming and amicable, with a good mix of personal downtime and jovial companionship.

Guests on Cox & Kings solo-traveller tour dates often find they have a great deal in common and derive a huge amount of enjoyment from our journeys' carefully structured mix of time spent in one another's company and free time alone.

Cox & Kings also negotiates with its chosen hotels to ensure solo travellers are offered a double or twin room, all to themselves, at no extra cost, and works hard to keep other costs down.

Outside of these dedicated solo traveller tour dates, we actively welcome individual travellers on all of tours, only charging carefully costed, low single supplements. You might be booking for one, but you're rarely on your own with us.

GROUP TOURS WITH SOLO DEPARTURES IN 2027

INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

India: Golden Triangle and Shimla page 22
Sri Lanka: The Enchanted Island page 34

LATIN AMERICA

Peru: Train to Machu Picchu page 48
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EUROPE

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CENTRAL ASIA

Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia page 148

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Tunisia Explored: Carthage to the Sahara page 178

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS OR ADD-ONS

On dedicated solo tours, Cox & Kings doesn't levy any single supplements or other add-ons and works hard to keep costs down.

CAREFUL STRUCTURING AND A LIKE-MINDED GROUP

Guests on Cox & Kings solo-traveller dates find they have a great deal in common and derive a huge amount of enjoyment from our journeys' carefully structured mix of time spent in each other's company and free time alone.

SINGLE OCCUPANCY OF DOUBLE ROOMS

Cox & Kings negotiates with its chosen hotels to ensure solo travellers are offered a double or twin room.

SMALL GROUP SIZES

We limit our solo-traveller tour parties to no more than 14 guests, to ensure these journeys remain welcoming and amicable, giving you more time with our guides, greater access to smaller, more characterful hotels, and more time and space at key sites.

ALSO WELCOME EVERYWHERE ELSE

Outside of these dedicated solo traveller tours, we also welcome individual travellers on all of our tours, and only charge carefully costed, single supplements.

LEFT: KYRGYZSTAN

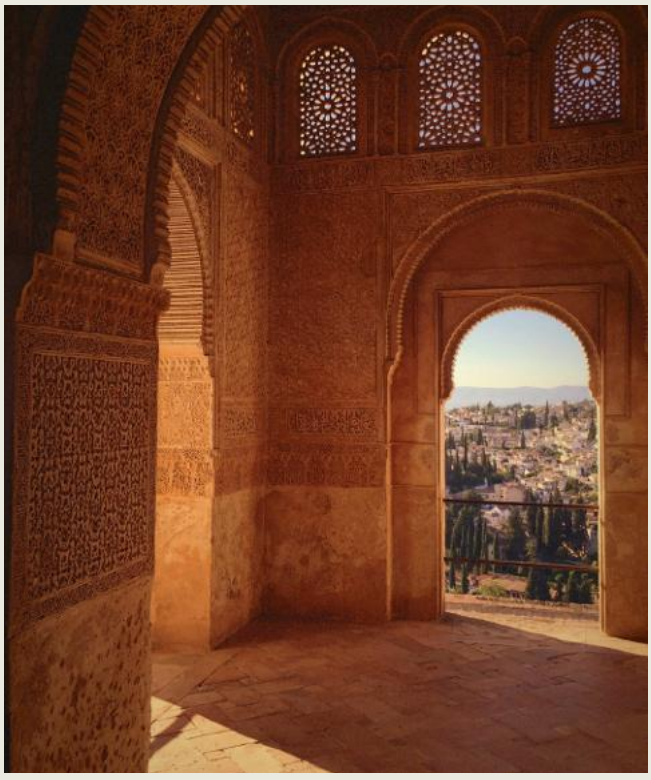
SEE MORE DEEPLY WITH SPECIALIST-LED TOURS

When you're exploring new ground, a little expertise goes a long way. That's why a selection of our tours are led by specialist lecturers, who, outside these roles, work as academics, writers and museum curators. They provide detailed insight, enriching commentary and privileged access that's very hard to arrange independently. Travel with them, and they'll truly unlock the places you visit.

Moorish Spain: El Cid to the Alhambra – overseen by our long-standing friend Diana Driscoll, an expert in Islamic civilisations – brings to life the way Muslim rule shaped many beautiful and important aspects of Iberia; ***Rome: Patricians and Popes*** guides travellers across another stunning cultural fissure in Europe –the fall of the Roman Empire and the rise of the Middle Ages; and ***Uzbekistan: The Golden Road to Samarkand*** takes the long view along the Silk Road, guiding guests around the great cities that served perhaps the greatest trade route of antiquity.

Our lecturers don't just join you on your journey, they also curate and lead these tours, offering their detailed commentary into the places you visit. Often, they also open doors typically closed to the public, arranging private visits and rewarding encounters with local artisans, cultural figures and custodians.

They aren't alone, of course; all lecturers are supported by local guides and tour managers, who also share their knowledge on our carefully structured journeys. Take one of these tours, and the insights you gain will stay with you long after you've returned home and unpacked.



L–R: ALHAMBRA, SPAIN;
UZBEKISTAN; ROME, ITALY



"I had wanted to visit Ravenna, for years and it didn't disappoint. The tour was fascinating throughout. We had a wonderful lecturer, so knowledgeable, and also friendly and approachable at all times; she communicated her enthusiasm for her topics brilliantly."

A COX & KINGS GUEST



OUR SPECIALIST TOUR LEADERS



DR SALLY DORMER

Dr Sally Dormer is a freelance art historian and lecturer. She read history at the University of Durham, before gaining an MA in medieval art and a Ph.D at the Courtauld Institute of Art. She is a course tutor and lecturer at the Victoria & Albert Museum and also lectures for the Art Fund and the Arts Society.

Sicily: Normans in the South tour, page 92.
Ravenna: Mosaics and Marble tour, page 100.
Rome: Patricians to Popes tour, page 102.



DIANA DRISCOLL

Diana Driscoll read ancient Middle East and Islamic studies at SOAS. She is an independent researcher who gives regular talks at the British Museum. Her area of expertise is the Islamic world: religion, history, culture and languages.

Moorish Spain: El Cid to the Alhambra tour, page 110.



ROWENA LOVERANCE

Rowena Loverance is a Byzantine art historian, specialising in sculpture, mosaics and icons. She worked for more than 20 years at the British Museum and is a visiting research fellow at King's College, London.

Ravenna: Mosaics and Marble tour, page 100.
Rome: Patricians to Popes tour, page 102.
Istanbul: Byzantines and Ottomans tour, page 138.



DR MURAT R SIVILOGLU

Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu is Associate Professor of Middle Eastern and Islamic Civilisations at Trinity College Dublin. He has published widely and is a frequent public speaker. Dr Şiviloğlu's lectures combine academic expertise with a passion for bringing the people, places and stories of the Islamic world to life for wider audiences.

Istanbul: Byzantines and Ottomans tour, page 138.
Uzbekistan: The Golden Road to Samarkand tour, page 150.



ANDREW SPIRA

Andrew Spira graduated from the Courtauld Institute of Art before working at the Temple Gallery, London, and as a curator at the Victoria & Albert Museum. He was a programme director at Christie's Education for 14 years and has led numerous cultural tours to Europe.

Sicily: Normans in the South tour, page 92.



THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

India, with its ice-frosted peaks, serene hill stations, ornate desert palaces, ancient shrines, languid waterways and vigorous jungles, retains a singular place in travellers' hearts. Its trees and grasslands shelter tigers, rhinos and elephants, while its cities, towns and villages welcome visitors, with locals displaying a degree of hospitality worthy of the Sanskrit adage, "atithi devo bhava" or "the guest is god".

Further south lies the island of Sri Lanka, once prized for its red rubies and blue sapphires, now beloved by visitors for its emerald attractions: lush, green tea plantations, palm-fringed shores and deep forests.

To the west is Pakistan's Mughal architecture and Sufi shrines – unjustly overlooked by many. And in the north-east, visitors to Nepal can enjoy Himalayan vistas and Kathmandu's palaces, while Bhutan's monasteries and rhododendron forests draw in thousands of adventurous travellers each year.

The Indian subcontinent is at the heart of the Cox & Kings story – we even had the privilege of arranging travel for Mahatma Gandhi – and our guides can reveal its hidden depths to you better than anyone.

LEFT: INSET: SARI FACTORY, INDIA; BACKGROUND: LAKE PICHOLA, INDIA

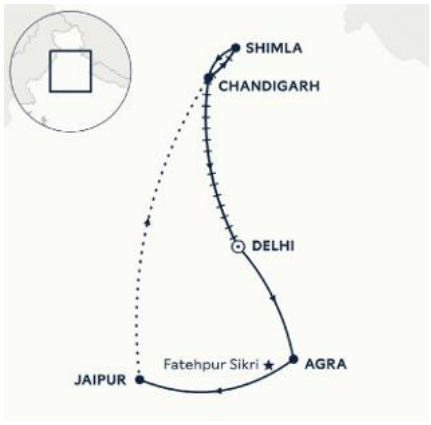
SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE AND SHIMLA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $7,245 (land only)	From $7,995 (land only)	Prestige	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Admire the sunset over the Taj Mahal from Mehtab Bagh gardens.
- Catch the toy train to Shimla in fully glazed, panoramic Vistadome air-conditioned carriages.
- Enjoy a welcome dinner at a UNESCO-awarded haveli townhouse with views over Old Delhi.
- Take a rickshaw tour of Old Delhi for glimpses of vital city life.



FLIGHT
RAIL
ROAD



Explore all three sides of the Golden Triangle – one of India's most celebrated and important cultural regions. The tour takes in imperial Delhi, the Taj Mahal at Agra and a three-night stay in the princely city of Jaipur, before concluding at the beautiful, breezy Shimla hill station.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE DELHI**
Arrive and check into your hotel. Visit the Jama Masjid mosque and explore labyrinthine Old Delhi by cycle rickshaw. Tour New Delhi, with a drive past India Gate and the former viceregal residence. Attend a welcome dinner at Haveli Dharampura; enjoy a dance performance and views of the Red Fort and Jama Masjid from the upper terrace. (D)
: The Imperial

DAY 2: **NEW DELHI • AGRA**
Visit Humayun's Tomb and the Qutb Minar tower. Drive to Agra and stay at the Trident Agra (or similar) for 2 nights. (B, D)
: Trident Agra (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **AGRA**
Sunrise visit to the spectacular Taj Mahal before exploring the tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah and Agra Fort. Visit Mehtab Bagh (Moonlight Garden) for sunset over the Taj Mahal. (B, D)

DAY 4: **FATEHPUR SIKRI • JAIPUR**
Continue to Jaipur via the deserted sandstone city of Fatehpur Sikri and Abhaneri stepwell. En route, enjoy lunch at the lavish Laxmi Vilas Palace. Stay three nights at a converted royal hunting lodge. (B, L, D)
: Ramgarh Lodge (Days 4-6)

ABOVE: TAJ MAHAL; TOP RIGHT: KALKA-SHIMLA TOY TRAIN; BOTTOM RIGHT: JAIPUR'S CITY PALACE



DAY 5: **JAIPUR**
Morning visit to Amber Fort and the Anokhi Museum. Afternoon visit to the striking City Palace, home of the present maharajah and the curious Jantar Mantar observatory. (B, D)

DAY 6: **JAIPUR**
Your day is at leisure to relax. Perhaps explore Jaipur's bazaars, seeking out traditional Indian crafts, including jewellery, silver and silk. (B, D)

DAY 7: **CHANDIGARH**
Explore the Birla Mandir temple before flying to Chandigarh. Selected as the new capital of Punjab in 1948, the city was designed by the hugely influential Swiss-French modernist architect Le Corbusier and completed in the early 1960s. Stay for a night at the Taj Chandigarh. (B)
: Taj Chandigarh

DAY 8: **SHIMLA**
Catch the early-morning Kalka Shimla Express toy train to Shimla, passing through stunning mountains. Enjoy the 360-degree views from the panoramic, fully glazed Vistadome carriages. Stay for three nights in this breezy, altitudinous settlement in the Western Himalaya, which served as the British summer capital during the Raj era. (B, D)
: Oberoi Cecil (or similar) (Days 8-10)

DAY 9: **SHIMLA**
Explore the Mall, a popular thoroughfare through Shimla established during the Raj era. Enjoy stories of its many colonial buildings while making your way to the grandest example: the Viceregal Lodge, a palatial 19th-century residence. (B, D)

DAY 10: **SHIMLA**
Your day is at leisure, with options to explore Shimla on a nature walk, enjoy afternoon tea at the Oberoi Wildflower Hall, or visit the state of Dhami for birdwatching and lunch with a noble family.† (B, D)

DAY 11: **DELHI**
Drive to Chandigarh and connect with the train to Delhi. Stay overnight at The Imperial and enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L*, D)
: The Imperial

DAY 12: **DEPART DELHI**
Your tour concludes today in Delhi. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,595
TOUR CODE: IGT

06 Feb - 17 Feb 27	05 Feb - 16 Feb 28
20 Feb - 03 Mar 27	19 Feb - 01 Mar 28
27 Feb - 10 Mar 27	26 Feb - 08 Mar 28
06 Mar - 17 Mar 27	04 Mar - 15 Mar 28
13 Mar - 24 Mar 27	11 Mar - 22 Mar 28
20 Mar - 31 Mar 27	18 Mar - 29 Mar 28
18 Sep - 29 Sep 27	16 Sep - 27 Sep 28
02 Oct - 13 Oct 27	30 Sep - 11 Oct 28
23 Oct - 03 Nov 27	07 Oct - 18 Oct 28
06 Nov - 17 Nov 27	21 Oct - 01 Nov 28
20 Nov - 01 Dec 27	04 Nov - 15 Nov 28
27 Nov - 08 Dec 27	11 Nov - 22 Nov 28
	18 Nov - 29 Nov 28
	25 Nov - 06 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Passage through Kerala (pg 32), Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia (pg 148) and Uzbekistan: Golden Road to Samarkand (pg 150). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $9,995
TOUR CODE: IGS

16 Oct - 27 Oct 27	23 Nov - 04 Dec 27

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Prestige tour: five-star, deluxe accommodation and high-level comfort throughout.

***Festival departures**
Diwali: 23 Oct 2027, 07 Oct 2028
Holi: 13 and 20 Mar 2027, 04 and 11 Mar 2028

† Optional activities: These activities can be pre-booked and incur an additional cost.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, L*: Packed lunch; D: Dinner, N: No meals.

PASSAGE THROUGH RAJASTHAN

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $6,795 (land only)	From $7,795 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Dine on flavourful, local Mewari cuisine on the terrace of a historic fort.
- Take a scenic rail ride through tunnels and beside waterfalls in rural Rajasthan.
- Enjoy two 4×4 tiger safaris in Ranthambore National Park.
- Ride a rickshaw to a welcome dinner overlooking Lake Pichola.
- Stay in grand forts and palaces.



FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——



In Rajasthan, medieval forts look out across the Thar desert, Bengal tigers roam forest reserves, and sandstone palaces highlight this state's regal history. After a tour of Mumbai, travel through the heart of Rajasthan, exploring magnificent temples and ornate palaces, finishing at the astounding Taj Mahal in Agra.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE MUMBAI**
Arrive and check into your hotel. Afternoon sightseeing, visiting the imposing Gateway of India, colourful Chor Bazaar and Victoria Terminus. (N)
: Trident Nariman

DAY 2: **FLY TO UDAIPUR**
Check into your heritage hotel for the next two nights and enjoy a welcome dinner at Ambrai restaurant, which overlooks Lake Pichola. (B, D)
: Fateh Niwas (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **UDAIPUR**
Sightseeing in Udaipur visiting the City Palace, miniature-painting studios and Jagdish temple. Afternoon cruise on Lake Pichola before an evening cultural performance. (B)

DAY 4: **RANAKPUR • DEOGARH**
On to Deogarh, visiting the Jain temples at Ranakpur en route. Stay at Deogarh Mahal, a former palace, now a heritage hotel. Afternoon village walk. (B, D)
: Deogarh Mahal (Days 4-5)

ABOVE: MEHRANGARH FORT; TOP RIGHT: BENGAL TIGER, BOTTOM RIGHT: WOMAN AT JAIPUR STEPWELL



DAY 5: **DEOGARH**
Take a scenic 90-minute train ride from Khamil Ghat to Phulad, through tunnels and past waterfalls in an area that inspired Rudyard Kipling's story "The Man Who Would Be King". Dine on spicy Mewari cuisine on the hotel terrace. (B, D)

DAY 6: **JODHPUR**
Travel by road to Jodhpur and stay for two nights at Ajit Bhawan, a former palace that once served as the official residence of Maharaj Dhiraj Sir Ajit Singh. (B)
: Ajit Bhawan (or similar) (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **JODHPUR**
Visit Jaswant Thada and continue to the formidable Mehrangarh Fort. Take a heritage walk through the streets dotted with temples and bazaars and learn more about the "blue city" Brahmins. (B)

DAY 8: **BIKANER**
Drive to Bikaner in the Thar desert for an overnight stay at the Narendra Bhawan, a grand residence that was home to the last reigning maharajah of Bikaner. Enjoy an afternoon visit to Junagarh Fort and a walk through the old city. (B)
: Narendra Bhawan

DAY 9: **BIKANER • JAIPUR**
Drive to the royal city of Jaipur. En route, enjoy lunch and a guided tour at a traditional haveli manor house. Transfer to the Hotel Narain Niwas Palace. (B, L, D)
: Hotel Narain Niwas Palace (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **JAIPUR**
Visit to the 16th-century Amber Fort. Spend the rest of the day exploring the royal city of Jaipur, including the City Palace, Jantar Mantar observatory and colourful bazaars. (B)

DAY 11: **RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK**
Travel to Ranthambore for two nights at Jungle Vilas. Afternoon safari† in Ranthambore. (B, L, D)
: Jungle Vilas (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK**
Early morning safari† in search of Bengal tigers. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure or visit the Tiger Watch Project‡ to learn about regional wildlife preservation. (B, L, D)

DAY 13: **FATEHPUR SIKRI • AGRA**
Morning drive to Agra, visiting the deserted sandstone city of Fatehpur Sikri en route. Overnight at the Trident Hotel Agra. Enjoy a farewell dinner. (B, L, D)
: Trident Hotel Agra (or similar)

DAY 14: **AGRA • DELHI**
Sunrise visit to the Taj Mahal. Visit Agra Fort before departing for Delhi and an overnight stay at Vivanta New Delhi Dwarka (or similar). (B)
: Vivanta New Delhi Dwarka

DAY 15: **DEPART DELHI**
Your tour concludes today in Delhi. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,345
TOUR CODE: PTR

21 Jan - 04 Feb 27	20 Jan - 03 Feb 28
11 Feb - 25 Feb 27	10 Feb - 24 Feb 28
25 Feb - 11 Mar 27	24 Feb - 09 Mar 28
04 Mar - 18 Mar 27	02 Mar - 16 Mar 28
18 Mar - 01 Apr 27	16 Mar - 30 Mar 28
23 Sep - 07 Oct 27	21 Sep - 05 Oct 28
14 Oct - 28 Oct 27	12 Oct - 26 Oct 28
28 Oct - 11 Nov 27	26 Oct - 09 Nov 28
04 Nov - 18 Nov 27	02 Nov - 16 Nov 28
18 Nov - 02 Dec 27	16 Nov - 30 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Passage through Kerala (pg 32), Nepal: A Journey Through the Himalaya (pg 36), Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia, (pg 148) Uzbekistan: Golden Road to Samarkand (pg 150). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

* **Festival departures:**
Diwali: 28 Oct 2027, 12 Oct 2028
Holi: 18 Mar 2027, 02 Mar 2028

† **Ranthambore safaris:** This safari will be conducted by 4×4 and not canters (open-top buses).

‡ **Optional activities:** These activities can be pre-booked and incur an additional cost.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



THE GRAND TOUR OF INDIA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
16 days, 15 nights	From $8,395 (land only)	From $9,595 (land only)	Signature	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Observe an evening Palki Sahib ceremony at the Golden Temple in Amritsar.
- Take a walking tour of Varanasi's hidden alleys and markets.
- Dine in a regal palace.
- Ride like a local on a rickshaw tour through Old Delhi.
- Stay in a traditional mansion and explore rural Rajasthan.





This rich, rewarding tour takes in holy cities, the resplendent Taj Mahal, Jodhpur's blue-washed houses, and the lakes and palaces of Udaipur. Guests will also head in search of tigers at Ranthambore National Park, and get a chance to extend their tour to Kerala's idyllic backwaters.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE DELHI**
Arrive in Delhi for your onward connection to Amritsar. Check into your hotel and enjoy a welcome dinner. Visit the Golden Temple for the auspicious Palki Sahib night ceremony. (D)
: Taj Swarna (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **AMRITSAR • WAGAH**
Morning visit to the Golden Temple and its vast community kitchen (langar). Weave your way through Qila Ahluwalia, a fort replete with colonial architectural features, before arriving at the Jalebiwala Chowk with its jalebi shop selling delicious sticky sweets. Late afternoon visit to Attari-Wagah for the unmissable Changing of the Guard ceremony. (B)

DAY 3: **FLY TO VARANASI VIA DELHI**
Morning flight to Varanasi for an overnight stay at the Taj Ganges. Visit the riverside Dasaswamedh ghat, or stepped wharf, to witness the wondrous aarti ceremony from the Ganges. (B)
: Taj Ganges

ABOVE: AMRITSAR'S GOLDEN TEMPLE; TOP RIGHT: VIEW FROM AGRA'S RED FORT; BOTTOM RIGHT: VARANASI WATERFRONT

DAY 4: **VARANASI • FLY TO DELHI**
Wake early for a sunrise boat ride on the Ganges, followed by a walking tour of Varanasi's paan bazaar, craftsmen colony and the spice, jewellery and flower markets. Take an evening flight to Delhi for a two-night stay at The Imperial. (B)
: The Imperial (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **OLD & NEW DELHI**
Morning tour of Old Delhi via rickshaw. Pass the Red Fort, visit the Jama Masjid mosque, then explore on foot. In the afternoon, tour New Delhi with a drive past India Gate and the Viceregal Residence, then visit Qutb Minar and the tomb of Mughal Emperor Humayun. (B)

DAY 6: **AGRA**
Take the Gatimaan Express train to Agra for an overnight stay at Trident Agra. In the afternoon visit the Agra Fort. Later, see the Taj Mahal as it's bathed in the golden light of the setting sun. (B)
: Trident Agra

DAY 7: **FATEHPUR SIKRI • RANTHAMBORE**
Visit Mehtab Bagh Gardens to see the Taj Mahal at sunrise. Drive to Fatehpur Sikri, a deserted sandstone city. Continue to Bharatpur for lunch at the regal Laxmi Vilas Palace before a train ride to Sawai Madhopur. Stay at Jungle Vilas. (B, L, D)
: Jungle Vilas (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK**
Early morning and late afternoon wildlife viewing on 4×4 safaris. Drive through the park in search of deer, sloth bears, birds, and the elusive Bengal tiger. (B, L, D)

DAY 9: **JAIPUR**
Morning drive to Jaipur to stay at the ITC Rajaputana for two nights. Afternoon at leisure. Evening aarti ceremony at a local Hindu temple. (B)
: ITC Rajputana (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **JAIPUR**
Morning tour of the ancient palace of Amber Fort. Afternoon visit to the City Palace (a superb fusion of Rajput and Mughal architecture) Jantar Mantar astronomical observatory and the Maharaja Museum. Later view Hawa Mahal, the "Palace of Winds", with its elaborate pink sandstone facade. (B)

DAY 11: **JODHPUR • ROHET**
Drive to Jodhpur. Visit the magnificent Mehrangarh Fort and view the blue-washed Brahmin houses. Stay at Rohet Garh, a traditional mansion. (B, D)
: Rohet Garh (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **ROHET**
Day at leisure. Optional 4×4 safari to visit the Bishnoi tribal village.* (B, D)

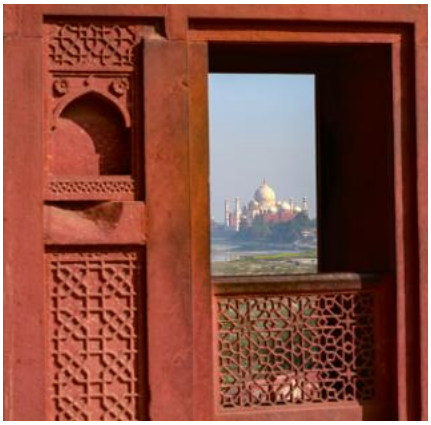
DAY 13: **RANAKPUR • UDAIPUR**
Drive to the lake city of Udaipur, visiting the exquisite Jain temples at Ranakpur en route. Stay at the Trident Udaipur. (B)
: Trident Udaipur (Days 13-14)

DAY 14: **UDAIPUR**
Morning tour of the City Palace and a miniature painting studio. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure followed by a cultural dance show and farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 15: **FLY TO DELHI**
Transfer to the airport and fly to Delhi for an overnight stay and farewell drink at the Trident Gurgaon. (B)
: Trident Gurgaon

DAY 16: **DEPART DELHI**
Your tour concludes today in Delhi. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,295
TOUR CODE: GNI

06 Feb - 21 Feb 27	05 Feb - 20 Feb 28
13 Feb - 28 Feb 27	12 Feb - 27 Feb 28
13 Mar - 28 Mar 27	11 Mar - 26 Mar 28
20 Mar - 04 Apr 27	18 Mar - 02 Apr 28
25 Sep - 10 Oct 27	23 Sep - 08 Oct 28
09 Oct - 24 Oct 27	07 Oct - 22 Oct 28
23 Oct - 07 Nov 27	21 Oct - 05 Nov 28
06 Nov - 21 Nov 27	04 Nov - 19 Nov 28
20 Nov - 05 Dec 27	18 Nov - 03 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Passage through Kerala (pg 32), Nepal: A Journey Through the Himalaya (pg 36), Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia (pg 148) and Uzbekistan: Golden Road to Samarkand (pg 150). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

* **Festival departures:**
Diwali: 23 Oct 2027, 07 Oct 2028
Holi: 13 and 20 Mar 2027, 11 Mar 2028

† **Optional activities:** These activities can be pre-booked or booked locally and incur an additional cost.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

JOURNEY THROUGH THE HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $5,645 (land only)	From $6,595 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the Dalai Lama's home town and meet with local monks.
- Take a scenic ride on the Kangra Mountain Railway.
- Meet a local family in Dharamsala.
- Enjoy a sunset walk through pastoral Gaddi villages.
- Experience a tour and tasting at a tea estate.



FLIGHT
RAIL
ROAD

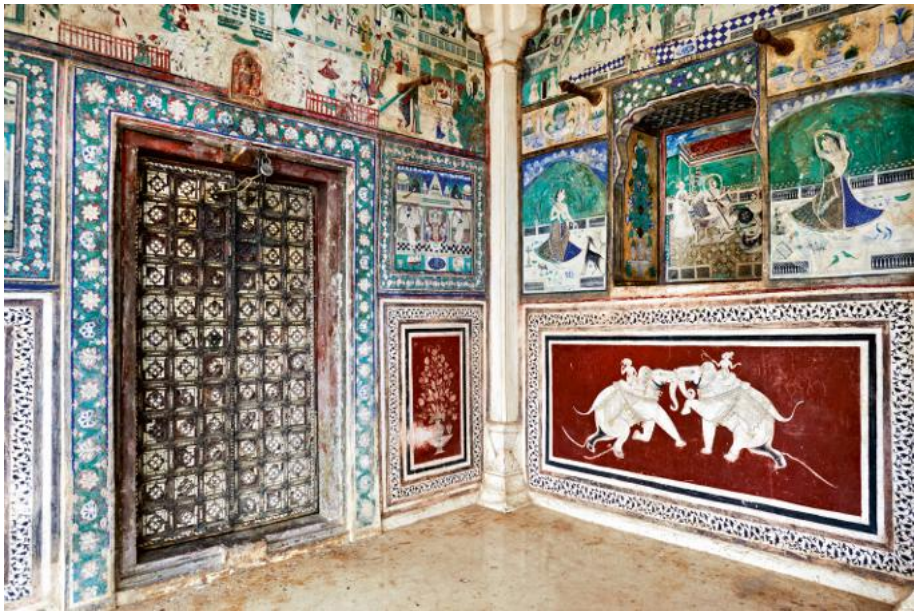


Travel to the holy city of Amritsar and McLeod Ganj, home to the Tibetan government-in-exile. Journey through the foothills of the Himalaya to Shimla. Along the way, take in the cultural diversity of this region through its temples, monasteries and museums.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE AMRITSAR**
Arrive in Delhi for your onward connection to Amritsar. Check into your hotel and attend a welcome dinner. Then take an evening visit to the Golden Temple, which is beautifully illuminated after dark, for the Palki Sahib ceremony and nightly prayers. (D)
: Hyatt Regency Amritsar Hotel & Spa (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **AMRITSAR • WAGAH**
Morning visit to the Golden Temple and its vast community kitchen. Take a guided walk by the Gurudwara Saragarhi war memorial, weave your way through Qila Ahluwalia, a fort in the city known for its colonial architecture, and stop by the well-

ABOVE: MCLEOD GANJ; TOP RIGHT: TARAGARH FORT FRESCOES; BOTTOM RIGHT: KALKA-SHIMLA TOY TRAIN



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 14)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,995
TOUR CODE: HTT

17 Feb - 28 Feb 27	16 Feb - 27 Feb 28
10 Mar - 21 Mar 27	08 Mar - 19 Mar 28
31 Mar - 11 Apr 27	29 Mar - 09 Apr 28
22 Sep - 03 Oct 27	20 Sep - 01 Oct 28
06 Oct - 17 Oct 27	04 Oct - 15 Oct 28
27 Oct - 07 Nov 27	25 Oct - 05 Nov 28
03 Nov - 14 Nov 27	01 Nov - 12 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

known Jalebi Wala Chowk shop, selling delicious, local sweets. Late-afternoon visit to Attari-Wagah, on the Pakistani border, for a changing of the guard ceremony. (B)

DAY 3: **MCLEOD GANJ**
Travel by road to McLeod Ganj in Dharamsala, home to the Dalai Lama. Visit the Dalai Lama's monastery and gain insights into Buddhism from a local monk. Take a tour of McLeod Ganj, visiting local markets. (B)
: Fortune Park Moksha (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **DHARAMSALA**
After breakfast, take in the Norbulingka Institute, dedicated to the preservation of Tibetan culture, and the Thosamling Nunnery. Visit a local family to see the regional Gaddi dress. Later, take a walk through traditional Gaddi settlements to Naddi village, enjoying sunset views over the Dhauladhar mountain range. (B)

DAY 5: **PALAMPUR**
Visit Kangra to admire the ruins of its medieval fort, and the Bajeshwari Temple. Drive to Palampur, stopping en route for a tour and tasting at a tea estate. Arrive at Taragarh Palace for an overnight stay, and to visit Tashi Jong Monastery. (B, D)
: WelcomHeritage Taragarh Palace

DAY 6: **PRAGPUR VIA KANGRA MOUNTAIN RAILWAY**
Visit the 13th-century Shiv Baijnath Temple. Drive to Baijnath to board the Kangra Mountain Railway for the scenic ride to Nagrota. Travel to Pragpur and stay at a converted old manor house†. (B, D)
: Judge's Court (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **PRAGPUR**
Morning at leisure, with the option of a visit to the temples of Jwalamukhi and Chintpurni*. In the afternoon, walk to Garli Heritage Village to see its mix of European and Asian architectural styles. (B, L, D)

DAY 8: **SHIMLA**
Full-day drive through the Himalayan foothills to the former British hill station of Shimla. On arrival, check in to the Oberoi Cecil. (B, D)
: The Oberoi Cecil (Days 8-10)

DAY 9: **SHIMLA**
Full-day tour of Shimla, including the Viceregal Lodge, Himachal State Museum and the Gaiety Theatre. Later, enjoy time at leisure for a stroll. (B, D)

DAY 10: **SHIMLA**
Travel aboard the Himalayan Queen toy train from Shimla to Kandaghat and enjoy the striking Himalayan scenery. This narrow-gauge railway is considered one of the finest engineering feats in India. Afternoon at leisure. Later, enjoy a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 11: **DELHI**
Travel by road to Chandigarh to take the train to Delhi. Overnight at the Trident Gurgaon. (B)
: Trident Gurgaon

DAY 12: **DEPART DELHI**
Your tour concludes today in Delhi. (B)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

* **Optional activities:** These activities can be pre-booked or booked locally and incur an additional cost.

†**Accommodation:** Due to limited accommodation options, you may be required to stay in alternative locations.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



TREASURES OF SOUTHERN INDIA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $5,495 (land only)	From $7,095 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Cruise aboard a wooden shikara boat through Kerala's backwaters.
- Explore Tamil Nadu's rich cultural heritage by visiting artisans' workshops.
- Visit the riverside Meenakshi Temple for a thrilling night ceremony.
- Take lunch at a colonial-style tea planter's bungalow.
- Try south Indian cuisine at an interactive cooking demonstration.



ROAD ——



The delicate scent of spices, the ring of temple bells and a rich tapestry of ancient arts and crafts epitomise Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Travellers on this tour will take in hill stations, tropical backwaters and temple-filled towns, and stay in some of the region's very best hotels.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE CHENNAI**
Check into your hotel, with some leisure time before an afternoon tour of Chennai, followed by more free time at Marina Beach. Later, attend a welcome dinner. (D)
: Taj Connemara

DAY 2: **MAHABALIPURAM • PUDUCHERRY**
Morning walking tour of Mylapore, the ancient heart of Chennai. Take an autorickshaw to the Kapaleeswarar Temple. Continue to Puducherry, visiting the UNESCO-listed shore temples at Mahabalipuram en route. Stay at the Palais de Mahé, in the French Quarter's heart. (B)
: Palais de Mahé (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **PUDUCHERRY**
Morning visit to the experimental community development, Auroville, including the Mohanam Cultural Centre to see traditional crafts, and the large Matrimandir dome. Afternoon guided walk through Puducherry; stop by the Aurobindo ashram, stroll to the lively Tamil quarters and take in the Ganesh temple in the evening. (B)

ABOVE: KERALA RIVERBOAT; TOP RIGHT: FISHING BY FORT KOCHI; BOTTOM RIGHT: CHIDAMBARAM TEMPLE

DAY 4: **CHIDAMBARAM • KUMBAKONAM**
See the daily rituals at Chidambaram Temple and take in the local calligraphy-like art of kalamkari, before driving through scenic countryside to Kumbakonam to stay at the Mantra Koodam. In the evening, try your hand at pottery and enjoy an interactive culinary demonstration, led by expert chefs. (B, D)
: Mantra Koodam (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **KUMBAKONAM**
Sunrise visit to the local market. After breakfast, discover the crafts and culture of Tamil Nadu. Observe master foundrymen produce extraordinarily detailed bronze statues, and see pattu silk weaving on wooden handlooms. Later visit the Darasuram Temple, renowned for its delicate stone sculptures. Afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 6: **TANJORE • CHETTINAD**
Drive to Chettinad, stopping at Brihadeeswara Temple in Tanjore en route. Continue to the art gallery and Saraswathi Mahal Library at the Tanjore Palace. Arrive in Chettinad for an overnight stay at Chidambara Vilas. In the evening, enjoy a superb culinary experience. (B, L, D)
: Chidambara Vilas

DAY 7: **MADURAI**
Explore the village market, stopping for a traditional cup of tea before visiting some of the impressive mansions. Travel to Madurai. Evening visit to the illuminated Meenakshi Temple and Hall of a Thousand Pillars for the night ceremony. Overnight stay at the Heritage Madurai. (B)
: Heritage Madurai

DAY 8: **MUNNAR**
Travel to the hill country around Munnar for an overnight stay at Fragrant Nature. After lunch in a traditional tea planter's bungalow, visit the Suryanelli tea factory to enjoy a guided tour, tea tasting and a stroll through the plantation. (B, L, D)
: Fragrant Nature

DAY 9: **KUMARAKOM**
Morning at leisure. Travel to Kumarakom for two nights at the Rhythm Kumarakom (Poolside Cottage). Upgrade to a Lakefront Luxury Villa with plunge pool from $145 per person for 2 nights. (B, D)
: Rhythm Kumarakom (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **KUMARAKOM**
Day at leisure to enjoy the beautiful surroundings or explore village life in the backwaters.* (B, D)

DAY 11: **KOCHI**
Morning cruise aboard a shikara boat through Kerala's backwaters before driving to Kochi. Visit the Mattancherry Palace and enjoy an evening kathakali dance performance. (B)
: Eighth Bastion (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **KOCHI**
Morning sightseeing tour of Kochi including the traditional Chinese fishing nets and the 16th-century St Francis Church. Explore hidden Kochi, including the city's Jewish quarter and an old-style washhouse where white hotel linen is slathered on the washing stones. Afternoon at leisure. Enjoy a farewell dinner at your hotel in the evening. (B, D)

DAY 13: **DEPART KOCHI**
Your tour concludes today in Kochi. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,095
TOUR CODE: CMK

11 Jan - 23 Jan 27	10 Jan - 22 Jan 28
01 Feb - 13 Feb 27	31 Jan - 12 Feb 28
15 Feb - 27 Feb 27	14 Feb - 27 Feb 28
01 Mar - 13 Mar 27	28 Feb - 11 Mar 28
20 Sep - 02 Oct 27	18 Sep - 30 Sep 28
18 Oct - 30 Oct 27	16 Oct - 28 Oct 28
08 Nov - 20 Nov 27	06 Nov - 18 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Sri Lanka: The Enchanted Island (pg 34). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

* **Optional activities:** These activities can be pre-booked or booked locally and incur an additional cost.

† **Festival departures:**
Pongal: 11 Jan 2027 and 10 Jan 2028

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

PASSAGE THROUGH KERALA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $7,295 (land only)	From $8,295 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Witness Mysore Palace illuminated by 100,000 lights at night.
- Join a culinary tour of Mysore.
- Experience afternoon tea at a planter's house.
- Ride the scenic Blue Mountain Railway.
- Embark on a boat and canter safari in Nagarhole National Park.



RAIL
ROAD



Experience the immense Maharajah's Palace in Mysore, the wildlife of Nagarhole National Park, the lush beauty of rural Wayanad, a rail ride through the Nilgiri Mountains and a cruise along the peaceful backwaters of Kochi, on this beautiful, tranquil tour of south India.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BENGALURU**
Arrive in Bengaluru and check into your hotel. Later, enjoy a guided tour tracing Bengaluru's captivating history, then attend a welcome dinner. (D)
: Taj MG Road

DAY 2: **SRIRANGAPATNA • MYSORE**
Travel to Mysore, stopping en route at the island fortress of Srirangapatna, the former capital of south India's most powerful 18th-century rulers. Take an evening food tour of Mysore's culinary delights, including masala dosa. (B)
: Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **MYSORE • SOMNATHPUR**
Join a walking tour of Mysore's architecture, including the Maharajah's Palace, which combines Hindu and Saracenic architecture. Later, visit the Keshava temple at Somnathpur. Return to the Maharajah's Palace this evening to see it illuminated by over 100,000 bulbs. (B)

ABOVE: COONOOR TEA GARDEN; TOP RIGHT: MYSORE PALACE; BOTTOM RIGHT: ONAM HARVEST FESTIVAL FOOD



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,995
TOUR CODE: PKR

15 Jan - 27 Jan 27	14 Jan - 26 Jan 28
22 Jan - 03 Feb 27	21 Jan - 02 Feb 28
05 Feb - 17 Feb 27	04 Feb - 16 Feb 28
12 Mar - 24 Mar 27	10 Mar - 22 Mar 28
17 Sep - 29 Sep 27	15 Sep - 27 Sep 28
15 Oct - 27 Oct 27	13 Oct - 25 Oct 28
05 Nov - 17 Nov 27	03 Nov - 15 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with The Golden Triangle & Shimla (pg 22) and Sri Lanka: The Enchanted Island (pg 34). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

DAY 4: **NAGARHOLE NATIONAL PARK**
Travel to Kabini for an overnight stay close to Nagarhole National Park, home to tigers, leopards, crocodiles and vultures. Take an afternoon boat safari in search of wildlife. (B, L, D)
: The Serai Kabini

DAY 5: **NAGARHOLE NATIONAL PARK • WAYANAD**
Early morning canter (open-sided minibus) safari. Travel to Wayanad, a place of outstanding natural beauty with tropical forests, valleys, waterfalls and spice plantations. (B, L, D)
: Wayanad Wild (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **WAYANAD**
Morning at leisure. Later, enjoy an interactive Keralan cooking class, lunch and a guided nature walk. (B, L, D)

DAY 7: **COONOOR**
Leisurely drive to the Coonoor hill station. Enjoy lunch on the terrace of the Taj Savoy, as well as an afternoon tour of Ooty's botanical gardens, filled with more than 1,000 varieties of plants. (B, L)
: Gateway Coonoor (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **OOTY • COONOOR**
Drive to Ooty and ride the Blue Mountain Railway to Coonoor. The narrow-gauge railway runs through the verdant Nilgiri Mountains. Visit a planter's house for tea and a walk through the plantation. (B)

DAY 9: **KOCHI**
Travel to Coimbatore and board the train to Ernakulam. Check into the Eighth Bastion; have the remainder of the day at leisure to explore the surroundings. (B, L)
: Eighth Bastion (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **KOCHI**
Visit some of the highlights of this enchanting port, taking in the architectural styles that blend Arab, Jewish and European influences. View the remarkable, cantilevered Chinese fishing nets, explore the 16th-century Portuguese-built Mattancherry Palace, the Church of St Francis and India's oldest active synagogue. Wander through markets and visit the vibrant Dhobi Ghats laundry houses. Later, go to the Kathakali dance studio to see a traditional performance. (B)

DAY 11: **KERALAN BACKWATERS**
Drive to the backwater region of Kerala. En route, take a cruise on a wooden shikara boat through picturesque waterways. Stay at Coconut Lagoon. (B)
: Coconut Lagoon (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **KERALAN BACKWATERS**
Day at leisure. In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 13: **DEPART KUMARAKOM**
Your tour concludes today in Kumarakom. (B)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

SRI LANKA: THE ENCHANTED ISLAND

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $6,445 (land only)	From $8,095 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Explore the sacred Dambulla caves and ancient Sigiriya rock fortress.
- Witness a puja ceremony at the ornate Temple of the Tooth.
- Stay in a beautifully restored and converted 19th-century tea factory.
- Journey by train through lush, scenic tea country.



ROAD



The teardrop-shaped island of Sri Lanka contains a wealth of cultural, archaeological and natural treasures. This comprehensive tour visits both popular and lesser-known sites in the north, centre and south of the country. Highlights include the jungle-bound fortress of Sigiriya, the wildlife-rich Yala National Park and the cave temples of Dambulla.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE COLOMBO**
Arrive in Colombo and check into your hotel. Attend a welcome dinner. (D)
: Cinnamon Lakeside

DAY 2: **DAMBULLA**
Travel to Dambulla, home to Asia's most impressive cave temples. Stay at the Heritance Kandalama. (B)
: Heritance Kandalama (Days 2-5)

DAY 3: **ANURADHAPURA • MIHINTALE**
Drive to Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka's ancient capital and home to fabulous Buddhist shrines and relics. Visit Mihintale, the birthplace of Buddhism in Sri Lanka. (B)

DAY 4: **SIGIRIYA • POLONNARUWA**
Morning visit to the Sigiriya rock fortress. Continue to the medieval city of Polonnaruwa. (B)

ABOVE: BUDDHIST TEMPLE IN ANURADHAPURA; TOP RIGHT: GALLE'S STILT FISHERMEN; BOTTOM RIGHT: LEOPARD IN YALA NATIONAL PARK

DAY 5: **KANDY**
Continue to the beautiful, mountainous city of Kandy; stay at the Earl's Regency. In the evening, watch a traditional dance performance and visit the Temple of the Tooth for the evening puja. (B)
: Earl's Regency (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **KANDY**
Take a morning visit to Kandy's lush, bountiful Royal Botanic Gardens. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 7: **NUWARA ELIYA**
Board the train to Nanu Oya, winding through picturesque landscapes. Visit a tea plantation in Nuwara Eliya, a town set at an elevation of 1,880 metres (2,055 yards) above sea level. (B)
: Heritance Tea Factory (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **HORTON PLAINS**
Early morning visit to Horton Plains. Nestled in Sri Lanka's highest plateau, This area is inhabited by large populations of monkeys and sambar deer. The remainder of the day is at leisure. (B)

DAY 9: **ELLA • YALA NATIONAL PARK**
Visit the Rawana Ella Falls and the monumental Buduruwagala Buddhist statues. Head on to Yala and stay at Cinnamon Wild. (B, D)
: Cinnamon Wild (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **YALA NATIONAL PARK**
Morning safari in Yala National Park. Covering 1,300 sq km (500 sq miles), the park encompasses a diversity of jungle habitats, including lagoons and riverside locations where elephants, leopards, sloth bears, spotted deer, sambar deer, wild pigs, jackals and marsh crocodiles thrive alongside a great variety of birdlife. Later, enjoy a farewell dinner. (B, D)



DAYS 11–12: **GALLE • AHUNGALLA**
Drive to Ahungalla, stopping for a tour of Galle Fort before continuing to the Elephant Transit Home. Stay at Heritance Ahungalla or upgrade to the Cinnamon Bentota Beach Resort & Spa from $800 per person. Following day at leisure. (B)
: Heritance Ahungalla (or similar)

DAY 13: **DEPART COLOMBO**
Transfer to Colombo airport where your tour concludes. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,395
TOUR CODE: CET

13 Jan - 25 Jan 27	05 Jan - 17 Jan 28
20 Jan - 01 Feb 27	12 Jan - 24 Jan 28
27 Jan - 08 Feb 27	19 Jan - 31 Jan 28
03 Feb - 15 Feb 27	26 Jan - 07 Feb 28
10 Feb - 22 Feb 27	02 Feb - 14 Feb 28
17 Feb - 01 Mar 27	09 Feb - 21 Feb 28
03 Mar - 15 Mar 27	16 Feb - 28 Feb 28
10 Mar - 22 Mar 27	01 Mar - 13 Mar 28
17 Mar - 29 Mar 27	08 Mar - 20 Mar 28
20 Oct - 01 Nov 27	15 Mar - 27 Mar 28
17 Nov - 29 Nov 27	18 Oct - 30 Oct 28
	15 Nov - 27 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Treasures of Southern India (pg 30) and Passage through Kerala (pg 32). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $8,895
TOUR CODE: CES

13 Oct - 25 Oct 27	10 Nov - 22 Nov 27

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Train journey: Seats are subject to availability and are obtained close to the travel date. An alternative journey may be required.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

NEW FOR 2027

NEPAL: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE HIMALAYA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $6,995 (land only)	From $7,795 (land only)	Signature	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Ease into Nepal's rhythm with a sound-healing ceremony and dinner at Avata Wellness.
- Roll, fold and steam your own Nepalese dumplings with the women of the Patan community.
- Track wildlife by road, river and foot in Chitwan, then meet the indigenous Tharu people.
- Slow down for two nights at the hillside Tomijong lodge, beneath the mighty peaks of the Himalaya.
- Visit the Shanti Peace Pagoda and boat along the peaceful waters of Phewa Lake.





ROAD ——

Head into the Himalaya on this comprehensive tour of Nepal, the mountainous birthplace of Buddha. Your journey begins in the three ancient capitals of the Kathmandu Valley, taking in their royal squares, temples and stupas. Then it's into the wilds of Chitwan for safaris by road, boat and foot. Spend time amid the natural beauty of Pokhara, before concluding in the traditional Newari village of Bandipur.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE KATHMANDU**
Arrive in Nepal's capital and check into your hotel. Enjoy a sound-healing session and dinner at Avata Wellness. (D)
: Hotel Yak & Yeti (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **KATHMANDU**
Today, explore a selection of Nepal's UNESCO World Heritage Sites, beginning with the Hindu temple of Pashupatinath, set on the sacred Bagmati River; and the landmark domed stupa of Boudhanath. Then visit the nearby city of Lalitpur for a workshop in making momo – Nepalese steamed dumplings – and a tour of Patan Durbar Square, with its ornate Newar architecture. (B, L)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,245
TOUR CODE: NPL

11 Oct - 23 Oct 27	23 Feb - 06 Mar 28
01 Nov - 13 Nov 27	09 Apr - 21 Apr 28
15 Nov - 27 Nov 27	

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Passage Through Rajasthan (pg 24) and Bhutan: Journey to the Dragon Kingdom (pg 38). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

DAY 3: **KATHMANDU**
Begin the day with a rickshaw tour of Kathmandu Durbar Square, home to centuries-old temples and royal residences commissioned by the Malla dynasty. Continue to Swayambhunath, a gleaming stupa built on a hilltop and an important Tibetan Buddhist pilgrimage site. Finish at Bhaktapur Durbar Square, a former palace of the Malla kings. (B)

DAY 4: **CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK**
Drive to Chitwan, arriving in time for an afternoon boat safari on the Rapti River, rounded off with drinks and an introductory briefing on the jungle. (B, L, D)
: Barahi Jungle Lodge (Days 4-6)

DAY 5: **CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK**
Enjoy an early-morning safari drive with breakfast, followed by an afternoon walking safari. Chitwan's sal forests, tall grasses and waterways form a habitat for a diversity of life, including tigers, leopards, crocodiles and hundreds of bird species. This evening, enjoy folk dancing by Chitwan's Tharu community. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: **CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK**
Embark on a boat safari to a Tharu community lodge for lunch and insights into henna and traditional wall art. (B, L, D)

DAY 7: **TOMIJONG**
Drive to Pokhara and onward towards Tomijong, then enjoy a scenic hike to your mountain lodge. (B, L, D)
: Mountain Lodges of Nepal (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **TOMIJONG**
Enjoy a day at leisure, to unwind at your lodge or explore the surrounding villages, hiking trails, rice terraces and rugged, mountainous scenery. (B, L, D)

DAY 9: **POKHARA**
Transfer to the welcoming, waterside city of Pokhara, arriving for an afternoon at leisure beside Phewa Lake. (B, L)
: Temple Tree Resort (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **POKHARA**
Your day begins with a visit to the Shanti (Peace) Pagoda, affording you views over the city and Phewa Laka, and out to the snow-capped Annapurna mountains. Later, in the afternoon, visit the cascade of Davis Falls and the Gupteshwor Mahadev Cave beneath it, as well as the small Hindu temple of Bindhyabasini. (B)

DAY 11: **BANDIPUR**
Drive to the mountain village of Bandipur, with the afternoon at leisure to stroll the traditional Newari streets and soak up the Himalayan views. (B)
: The Old Inn

DAY 12: **KATHMANDU**
Return by road to Nepal's capital city, check back into Hotel Yak & Yeti, and join a farewell dinner later that evening. (B, D)
: Hotel Yak & Yeti

DAY 13: **DEPART KATHMANDU**
Your tour concludes today in Kathmandu. (B)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

LEFT: BOUDHANATH STUPA; ABOVE: VIEW OF ANNAPURNA MOUNTAINS; BELOW: NEPALESE DUMPLINGS



NEW FOR 2027

BHUTAN: JOURNEY TO THE DRAGON KINGDOM

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $8,795 (land only)	From $8,995 (land only)	Signature	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Fly into Paro on one of the world's most dramatic Himalayan approaches.
- Hike to the Tiger's Nest monastery, which clings to a cliff high above the Paro Valley.
- Cross the flag-draped Dochula Pass and its 108 shrines, with views across the eastern Himalaya.
- Walk the glacial Gangtey Valley, winter home of the rare black-necked crane.
- Try archery in traditional Bhutanese clothes and share lunch with a local family.





Although Bhutan opened its doors to the world in 1974, age-old Buddhist traditions continue to thrive and define the character of this former hermit kingdom. On this tour, travel between the highlights, passing through meadows, forests and valleys to visit fortified monasteries, pagoda-like temples and hilltop stupas steeped in history and spirituality.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE KATHMANDU**
Arrive in Kathmandu for exploration of the Nepalese capital's UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including Durbar Square, home to historic temples, courtyards and palaces; the ancient temple complex of Swayambhunath, with its hilltop stupa and Buddha statues; Pashupatinath, a Hindu temple and pilgrimage site; and the gilded stupa of Boudhanath, which houses numerous sacred relics. (D)
: Hotel Yak & Yeti

DAY 2: **THIMPHU, BHUTAN**
Fly on to Paro, and continue by road to Thimphu, Bhutan's capital. If time permits, take tea with the nuns of the Zilukha Nunnery or witness the sundown flag-lowering ceremony at the Tashichho Dzong monastery. (B, L, D)
: City Heritage (or similar) (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **THIMPHU**
Visit the National Memorial Chorten, adorned with fine wall paintings and precious Buddhist statuary. After lunch, visit the National Institute of Zorig Chusum, where artists practice the centuries-old traditions of Bhutanese arts and crafts. Optional visit to Kaja Throm farmers' market. (B, L, D)

DAY 4: **GANGTEY**
Take the scenic five-hour drive to Gangtey Valley, traversing Dochula Pass for views of the eastern Himalaya. Take an evening stroll to enjoy the mountain vistas. (B, L, D)
: Dewachen Resort (or similar) (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **GANGTEY**
Walk the Gangtey Nature Trail through pine forests to Khewa Lhakang, a protected roosting area for the black-necked crane. After lunch, stop by the Black-Necked Crane Visitor Centre, then Gangtey Monastery, with the option to attend evening prayers. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: **PUNAKHA**
Take an excursion to the Chimi monastery and fertility temple, with a detour in the village of Pana for a walk through ricefields. Later, visit the hilltop nunnery of Sangchhen Dorji Lhuendrup. (B, L, D)
: Meri Puensum (or similar) (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **PUNAKHA**
Hike to the pagoda-like stupa of Khamsum Yuelley Nagyal Chorten. Take lunch with local hosts, then continue to Punakha Dzong, a sprawling 17th-century monastery set on the confluence of the Pho and Mo rivers. This building houses the sacred remains of Bhutan's founder, Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal. (B, L, D)

DAY 8: **PARO**
Head to the historic valley town of Paro. After lunch, visit Ta Dzong – the national museum of Bhutan – which houses thousands of artworks. Continue to Rinpung Dzong nearby, a fortified Buddhist monastery containing numerous shrines and temples. Later, try your hand at archery in traditional Bhutanese dress at a local farmhouse. (B, L, D)
: The Village Lodge (or similar) (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **PARO**
Visit one of Bhutan's most eye-catching and precipitous landmarks: Taktsang – or Tiger's Nest – a monastery built in 1684 and perched high up on a rocky ledge. Back on lower ground, consider the option of a traditional hot-stone bath at a local spa. Finish the day at Druk Choeding temple, where monks impart blessings to their devotees. (B, L, D)

DAY 10: **KATHMANDU, NEPAL**
Fly back to Kathmandu, transfer to your hotel and enjoy a final afternoon at leisure to explore the city. (B)
: Hotel Yak & Yeti

DAY 11: **DEPART KATHMANDU**
Your tour concludes today in Kathmandu. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 16)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,195
TOUR CODE: BHU

18 Oct - 28 Oct 27	13 Mar - 23 Mar 28
01 Nov - 11 Nov 27	16 Oct - 26 Oct 28
	30 Oct - 09 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Passage Through Rajasthan (pg 24) and Nepal: A Journey Through the Himalaya (pg 36). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



FAR LEFT: PUNAKHA DZONG; ABOVE: CHAM DANCER AT SHECHEN MONASTERY; LEFT: STUPAS IN THE DOCHULA PASS

PAKISTAN: PERSIANS, MUGHALS AND MYSTICS

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $8,195 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the tomb of the fourth Mughal emperor, Jahangir.
- Experience the famous Wagah border ceremony from the Pakistani side of the border.
- Admire the grandeur of the Royal Fort in Lahore.
- See the artisans who produce Multan's renowned kashikari glazed pottery.



ROAD ——



The Mughal Empire – derived from the word Mongol – originated in Central Asia and went on to dominate almost all of the Indian subcontinent. Babur, its first ruler and a direct descendant of the conqueror Amir Timur, united Mongol traditions, Persian culture and the Central Asian arts patronage with the wealth and vigour of the subcontinent. Focusing on one of the empire's lesser-visited successor states, Pakistan, this tour explores the Mughal's legacy, whose cultural influence travelled as far as Queen Victoria's court.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE LAHORE**
Arrive in Lahore and check into your hotel. Tour the Shalimar Gardens, then enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)
: Pearl Continental Lahore (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **LAHORE**
Enjoy a full day's sightseeing around Lahore, the historic capital of both the Mughal Empire and the Punjab region. Highlights include the Badshahi Mosque, the Royal Fort, the Wazir Khan Mosque, and the restored Persianate Shahi Hamman (Royal Baths). (B)

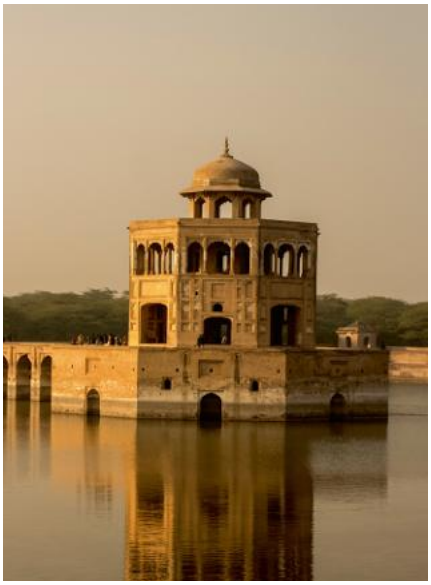
ABOVE: TOMB OF BIBI JAWINDI;
TOP RIGHT: WAZIR KHAN MOSQUE;
BOTTOM RIGHT: HIRAN MINAR

DAY 3: **LAHORE**
Visit the tomb of Emperor Jahangir, the only one of the six major Mughal emperors to be buried in what is now Pakistan. Continue to the nearby tomb of his favourite wife, Nur Jahan. Later, take in the Lahore Museum, mentioned in the works of Rudyard Kipling and home to impressive Mughal artefacts. Conclude the day at the Anarkali Bazaar, which dates from the reign of Emperor Akbar the Great. (B, L)

DAY 4: **HARAPPA AND MULTAN**
Travel to Multan, stopping en route in Harappa, ancient home of one of the subcontinent's earliest civilisations. In Multan, visit a workshop where artisans still produce the city's famous kashikari pottery, a style brought by Mongol invaders from Central Asia. Continue to Ramada Multan. Optional excursion to the tomb of Shah Rukn-e-Alam for a performance by local Sufi musicians. (B)
: Ramada Multan (Days 4-6)

DAY 5: **UCH SHARIF AND MULTAN**
This morning, drive to Uch Sharif. Said to have been founded by Alexander the Great, the city has long been a stronghold of Islamic rule in the subcontinent. See the famous Sufi shrines, including the 15th-century Tomb of Bibi Jiwandi. After, return to Multan. (B, L)

DAY 6: **MULTAN**
Enjoy a morning tour of Multan, including the city's key Sufi shrines as well as the Shahi Eidgah mosque. In the afternoon, enjoy time at leisure or take an excursion to visit the Multan Arts Bazaar. (B, L)





DAY 7: **SHEIKHUPURA & LAHORE**
Drive to Sheikhupura to see the beautiful Hiran Minar complex, built in commemoration of Emperor Jahangir's favourite antelope, Mansraj. Jahangir was noted for his love of both hunting and wildlife. Travel on to Lahore; stay at the Pearl Continental. (B, L)
: Pearl Continental (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **LAHORE**
Explore the Heera Mandi district, including the Fakir Khana Museum (subject to confirmation), inside the former home of the Mughal Emperor's Treasurer. Visit Wagah to see the India-Pakistan border ceremony, followed by dinner. (B, D)

DAY 9: **ROHTAS AND ISLAMABAD**
Drive to Islamabad, pausing en route to visit the 16th-century Mughal fort at Rohtas. Proceed to Islamabad and stay at the Islamabad Marriott Hotel. (B)
: Islamabad Marriott Hotel (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **ISLAMABAD AND TAXILA**
Visit nearby Taxila, an ancient Buddhist centre that was conquered by Alexander the Great. Return to Islamabad for a highlights tour of Pakistan's modern capital, followed by a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 11: **DEPART ISLAMABAD**
Your tour concludes today in Islamabad. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,245
TOUR CODE: MUG

18 Mar - 29 Mar 27	16 Mar - 27 Mar 28
11 Nov - 22 Nov 27	09 Nov - 20 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.

AMRITSAR

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS, FROM $1,145

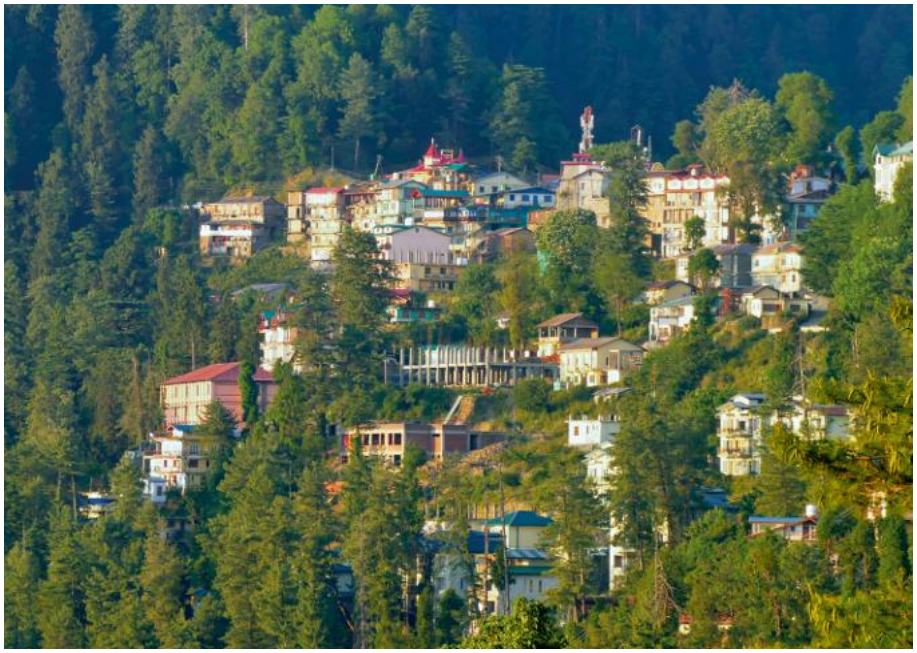
SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

The Golden Triangle and Shimla

Head to the heart of India's Punjab region, to stay at the luxurious Taj Swarna hotel. Spend a full day taking in the city's highlights, beginning with the holiest site in Sikhism: the Golden Temple. Worshippers flock to this gold gurdwara, which stands at the end of a water-bound causeway. Continue to the Ram Bagh Garden, built in the 19th century when Punjab was a Sikh kingdom. Finish by viewing the Wagah border ceremony on the India-Pakistan border, where each nation's security forces perform daily manoeuvres in ceremonial dress.

: Taj Swarna or upgrade to **Heritage Boutique Ranjit's Svaasa**





SHIMLA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS, FROM $2,445

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Grand Tour of India

Round off your tour of the Indian subcontinent with a visit to the breezy, former British colonial summer capital. Take in the scenery on the narrow-gauge, Kalka-Shimla Toy Train as it climbs Himalayan foothills, then enjoy the mountainous views, lakes, charming architecture and easy pace of this former hill station, before flying home via Delhi.

: The Oberoi Cecil

HARIDWAR AND CORBETT NATIONAL PARK

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS, FROM $2,295

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

The Golden Triangle and Shimla
Journey through the Himalayan Foothills

Continue your Indian journey with a visit to ancient holy city Haridwar and the thriving tiger habitat, the Jim Corbett National Park. Arrive in Haridwar in time to witness the evening aarti ceremony, when locals and pilgrims stand in reverence at the Ganges waterfront, illuminated by oil lamps. Spend the night at Amrit Bhawan hotel, then proceed to Jim Corbett National Park, staying two nights at Jim's Jungle Retreat. Enjoy a full day viewing the wildlife as well as a morning safari drive, with a chance to spot Bengal tigers and elephants, as well as numerous birds and other native species.

: Amrit Bhawan, Jim's Jungle Retreat





KERALA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS, FROM $1,745

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Grand Tour of India

Drop your tour tempo in the laid-back southern state of Kerala, which offers a calming contrast to the north of the country. This is a serene land of languid waterways, verdant hills, little villages, delicious food and fine beaches. Your extension includes a cruise on the backwaters aboard a traditional kettuvallam – a converted rice boat – and a stay in the historic port city of Kochi. Spend two nights in a poolside cottage at the Rhythm Kumarakom hotel, and two at the Fragrant Nature Kochi hotel.

: Rhythm Kumarakom, Fragrant Nature Kochi

IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: AMRITSAR'S GOLDEN TEMPLE; ELEPHANTS IN JIM CORBETT NATIONAL PARK; KERALAN HOUSEBOAT; SHIMLA.

VARANASI

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS, FROM $1,995

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Journey Through the Himalayan Foothills

Immerse yourself in spiritual India, in one of the country's oldest continually inhabited cities, and one of the holiest places in the subcontinent. See the rituals performed daily on the banks of the Ganges, descend the waterside ghats – its world-famous stepped wharfs – and explore Varanasi's ancient bazaars and narrow lanes, before catching your return flight from Delhi.

: Taj Ganges, Varanasi or upgrade to heritage **Surya Uday Haveli**





GOA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS, FROM $845

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Passage Through Rajasthan
The Golden Triangle and Shimla

Trade the bustle of northern India for Goa's palm-lined shores on this leisurely extension. After exploring Rajasthan or the Golden Triangle, settle into a few days at leisure, unwinding by the beach or within resort facilities. Fly south to this languid coastal haven, enjoy a boutique stay at the Earth Maison Goa, with the option to upgrade to five-star luxury at Alila Diwa Goa or The St. Regis Goa Resort. Enjoy the resort or explore Goa's beaches and markets independently. Depart refreshed, your journey complete.

: Earth Maison, or upgrade to **Alila Diwa Goa** or **The St. Regis Goa Resort**

MARARI BEACH

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS, FROM $1,445

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Passage Through Rajasthan
Treasures of Southern India

Bask on the tranquil coast beside Mararikulam, a small Keralan beach town, staying in a Garden Villa at the Marari Beach Resort. The beach itself is delightful, while this village-style accommodation has individual thatched cottages (or upgrade to a Pool Villa), and is set among coconut groves, lily ponds and fruit trees. There is a salt-water swimming pool for cooling off, an ayurvedic spa offering herbal massages and therapies, a yoga centre, and a range of indoor and outdoor dining options.

: Marari Beach Resort



LUCKNOW

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS, FROM $2,645

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Passage Through Rajasthan,
Journey Through the Himalayan Foothills

Enjoy a refined introduction to Awadhi heritage, elegant architecture and famous cuisine, via a stay in the historic city of Lucknow. This extension also includes a visit to Kannauj, India's historic centre of perfume-making, as well as a tour of Lucknow's thriving markets, and plenty of opportunities to buy some of the city's intricate chikan embroidery.

: Taj Mahal Lucknow





IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BOATS ON THE GANGES; BARA IMAMBARA INTERIOR; VIEW OF ASFI MOSQUE; GOLCONDA FORT; KERALAN FISHING BOATS; GOA



HYDERABAD

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,595

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Passage Through Kerala
Treasures of Southern India

Discover the rich legacy alive today in Hyderabad, the country's fourth biggest city, where grand monuments, regal palaces and fine culinary arts combine to create a distinctive and memorable extension to your visit to the Indian subcontinent. Take in the city's majestic architecture, its spicy food and its complex cultural heritage, as well as its charming squares and cafes.

: Taj Krishna



LATIN AMERICA

Don’t let the shared languages fool you; Latin America is a place of varied, diverse and rewarding extremes. Let the roar of Iguazú Falls overwhelm you and find tranquillity among the peaks and glaciers of Patagonia; revel in the rainforest foliage of the Amazon basin, and the expansive, pastel vistas of the Atacama Desert. See the world-famous species still thriving in the Galápagos Islands, and the world-changing engineering marvel that is the Panama Canal. Peru’s Machu Picchu and the Mesoamerican temples of Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico are reminders of great, lost civilisations, while Medellín, Rio de Janeiro, Lima and Buenos Aires are cosmopolitan beacons of cultural brilliance.

Our Latin America collection includes focused explorations of individual countries, as well as thrilling multi-country group tours crossing Central and South America; and if you can’t quite find the tour to satisfy all your desires, you can add on additional places and experiences via our tour extensions.

OPPOSITE: INSET: A GUANACO IN THE TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK, CHILE; BACKGROUND: THE ATACAMA DESERT, CHILE

SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

TRAIN TO MACHU PICCHU

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $7,395 (Signature) From $8,495 (Prestige*) (land only)	From $8,795 (Signature) From $9,895 (Prestige*) (land only)	Signature and Prestige*	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Stay overnight at Machu Picchu, the stunning, world-famous Inca citadel.
- See the oldest colonial mansion in Lima.
- Spot condors over Colca Canyon.
- Enjoy a scenic rail ride across Peru's altiplano aboard the stylish Titicaca train.
- Take the opportunity to visit during local festivals such as Inti Raymi and Corpus Christi†.





FLIGHT
RAIL
ROAD

Machu Picchu, the Inca citadel 2,430 metres (7972 feet) above sea level, retains its place among the heights of world archaeological and scenic sites. Yet this tour includes a wider range of wonders, such as Cuzco, once the capital of the Inca empire; Arequipa, the "White City" where Baroque architecture meets indigenous craftsmanship in blocks of local, pale sillar stone; and the high waters of Lake Titicaca, as well as characterful hotels and elegant train travel.

DAYS 1–2: **ARRIVE LIMA**
Arrive in Lima and check into your hotel. Take a half-day city tour, including Casa Aliaga, the oldest colonial mansion in Lima and the Baroque majesty of San Francisco monastery. (B)
: Casa Andina Premium Miraflores/ Country Club Lima Hotel* (Days 1-2)

DAY 3: **FLY TO AREQUIPA**
Fly over the Andes to Arequipa, known as the 'White City' thanks to the use of pale, volcanic sillar stone masonry in much of its buildings. Admire its ornate facades and colonnaded plazas, surrounded by ice-capped volcanoes. (B)
: Costa del Sol Wyndham (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **AREQUIPA**
Take a full-day city tour to see such sights as the beautiful Santa Catalina convent, which dates from the 16th century, and the Juanita Mummy Museum. (B, L)

DAY 5: **COLCA CANYON**
Drive into the Andes towards Colca Canyon (around four hours, partly on unpaved roads, with stops), passing breathtaking views of the altiplano and herds of grazing llamas and vicuñas. (B, L)
: Aranwa Colca/Colca Lodge Spa & Hot Springs* (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **COLCA CANYON**
Early morning excursion to Condor's Cross to see condors flying over the canyon. Later, visit Maca, a town famed for its pre-Columbian textiles. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAYS 7-8: **LAKE TITICACA**
Travel by road to Puno and Lake Titicaca (around six hours). Stay on the shores of the lake and take a full-day tour of the Uros people's man-made, floating, reed islands, as well as the naturally formed Taquile Island. (B, L)
: GHL Hotel Lago Titicaca

DAY 9: **TRAIN TO CUZCO**
Take the *Titicaca* train to Cuzco (approximately 10 hours). Enjoy lunch and relax with a pisco sour in the observation car, as you pass through Andean plains, where vicuñas and alpacas thrive. (B, L)
: Casa Andina Premium Cusco/Palacio de Inka, a Luxury Collection Hotel*

DAY 10: **CHINCHERO • SACRED VALLEY**
Travel by road to the indigenous village of Chinchero to see its Inca terraces and a traditional weaving demonstration. Continue to the Sacred Valley. (B, L)
: Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley/ Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba* (Days 10-11)

DAY 11: **SACRED VALLEY**
Take a half-day visit to the Inca fortress at Ollantaytambo, an astounding feat of engineering. Later, enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 12: **MACHU PICCHU**
Drive to Ollanta and take the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu. Tour the spectacular ruins and stay in the town of Aguas Calientes nestled in the river valley directly below the ruins' sanctuary. (B, L, D)
: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel/ Sumaq Machu Picchu Hotel*

DAY 13: **CUZCO**
Enjoy a morning at leisure or take the opportunity to further explore Machu Picchu (purchase ticket at time of booking). Return to Cuzco by rail and transfer to your hotel. (B)
: Casa Andina Premium Cuzco/Palacio de Inka, a Luxury Collection Hotel* (Days 13-14)

DAY 14: **CUZCO**
Take a half-day tour of the Inca capital including the San Blas district, the cathedral and the extraordinary Temple of the Sun at Coricancha. Afternoon is at leisure or take an optional excursion to the Pre-Columbian Art Museum or the ruins of Sacsayhuamán, before a farewell dinner in the evening. (B, D)

DAY 15: **DEPART CUZCO**
Your tour concludes today in Cuzco. (B)





FAR LEFT: MACHU PICCHU; ABOVE: SANTA CATALINA CONVENT, AREQUIPA; LEFT: FLOATING UROS ISLANDS, LAKE TITICACA



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PERUVIAN WOMEN IN TRADITIONAL DRESS; MACAWS IN THE AMAZON RAINFOREST; CANDELABRA LINES ON PARACAS PENINSULA, PERU; SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN, RIO DE JANEIRO; OLLANTAYTAMBO, PERU

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,995
TOUR CODE: TMP (Signature)

† 21 Mar - 04 Apr 27	26 Mar - 9 Apr 28
18 Apr - 02 May 27	† 09 Apr - 23 Apr 28
25 Apr - 09 May 27	16 Apr - 30 Apr 28
09 May - 23 May 27	30 Apr - 14 May 28
† 14 May - 28 May 27	14 May - 28 May 28
23 May - 06 Jun 27	21 May - 4 Jun 28
30 May - 13 Jun 27	28 May - 11 Jun 28
† 11 Jun - 25 Jun 27	† 02 Jun - 16 Jun 28
27 Jun - 11 Jul 27	† 11 Jun - 25 Jun 28
25 Jul - 08 Aug 27	25 Jun - 9 Jul 28
29 Aug - 12 Sep 27	23 Jul - 6 Aug 28
12 Sep - 26 Sep 27	20 Aug - 3 Sep 28
26 Sep - 10 Oct 27	27 Aug - 10 Sep 28
10 Oct - 24 Oct 27	10 Sep - 24 Sep 28
24 Oct - 07 Nov 27	17 Sep - 01 Oct 28
7 Nov - 21 Nov 27	24 Sep - 08 Oct 28
	8 Oct - 22 Oct 28
	22 Oct - 05 Nov 28
	05 Nov - 19 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

THE GUIDELINE TOUR prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of South America (pg 64). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,995
TOUR CODE: TML (Prestige)

02 May - 16 May 27	07 May - 21 May 28
06 Jun - 20 Jun 27	02 Jul - 16 Jul 28
04 Jul - 18 Jul 27	03 Sep - 17 Sep 28
05 Sep - 19 Sep 27	01 Oct - 15 Oct 28
03 Oct - 17 Oct 27	

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $9,695
TOUR CODE: TSP (Signature)

04 Apr - 18 Apr 27	23 Apr - 07 May 28
08 Aug - 22 Aug 27	06 Aug - 20 Aug 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

† Festival departures: The tour departing on 11 June 2027 and 2028 coincides with the Inti Raymi festival, held on 24 June. This tour has a modified itinerary and includes a full day of ceremonial celebrations in honour of the Sun God. Enjoy the re-enactment procession of hundreds of Inca descendants in colourful finery accompanied by music and dance.

The tour departing on 14 May 2027 and 2 June 2028 coincides with the Corpus Christi, a culturally rich festival in Peru blending Christian celebration with the local, indigenous traditions.

Itinerary: The order of the itinerary allows gradual adjustment to the altitude, while taking in the major sights of Peru. There are some early morning starts and long drives. Currently all departures will fly to Peru via Amsterdam.

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

***Prestige tour:** Five-star, deluxe accommodation and high-level comfort throughout.

Optional upgrades: On days 9, 13 and 14 of the Signature departures, it is possible to upgrade to the Palacio del Inka, a Luxury Collection Hotel from $345 per person.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



EXTENSIONS



PERUVIAN AMAZON

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $945

The Peruvian Amazon is filled with the most beautiful and diverse array of wildlife, and the region around Puerto Maldonado provides an excellent opportunity to explore the rainforest, rivers and Sandoval Lake – home to macaws, black caimans, giant otters and monkeys. Fly from Cuzco to Puerto Maldonado for two nights at the Inkaterra Hacienda Concepcion (individual bungalow, full board). Take shared guided walks and boat trips, and explore the hanging bridges for views over the lush canopy. Upgrade to Reserva Amazonica (river-view bungalow) from $550.

: Inkaterra Hacienda Concepcion

NAZCA AND PARACAS

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,995

Travel south of Lima along the coast to Paracas (three and a half hours) and stay for two nights at Aranwa Paracas Resort & Spa or La Hacienda Bahia on the bay, or upgrade to Hotel Paracas, a Luxury Collection Resort from $260. Take a 90-minute overflight from Pisco to see the mysterious Nazca Lines – vast drawings of animals, plants and symbols etched into the desert by ancient civilisations – then cruise to the Ballestas Islands, home to sea lions, penguins and a vast array of birds, including Peruvian boobies.

: Aranwa Paracas Resort & Spa / Hotel Paracas, a Luxury Collection Resort





RIO DE JANEIRO AND IGUAÇU

6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS FROM $3,695

Combine your trip to Peru with a visit to Rio and the thundering Iguaçu Falls (called the Iguazu Falls, if you're seeing them from the Spanish-speaking, Argentinian side). Fly to Rio and transfer to the beachfront PortoBay Rio de Janeiro Hotel for three nights (Superior partial ocean-view room). Take a full-day tour to marvel at Christ the Redeemer and Sugarloaf Mountain and enjoy a leisure day on the beach before flying to Iguaçu for two nights at Recanto Cataratas Resort. Visit both the Argentinean and Brazilian sides of these falls, then continue to Lima via São Paulo.

: PortoBay Rio de Janeiro Hotel; Recanto Cataratas

PERU AND GALÁPAGOS ODYSSEY

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $15,795 (land only)	From $16,395 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Cruise the Galápagos islands in a luxury catamaran and see its extraordinary wildlife.
- Admire ancient Inca fortresses and citadels, including the world-famous Machu Picchu.
- Enjoy an artisanal chocolate experience in old Quito, Ecuador.



FLIGHT ·····
RAIL +++++



Combine the ancient Inca treasures of Peru with Ecuador's capital, Quito, and a four-night luxury cruise around the Galápagos islands. The remarkable voyage around the islands includes land excursions alongside naturalist guides, seeking out the unique wildlife for which this archipelago is so well known.

DAYS 1-2: **ARRIVE LIMA**
Arrive in Lima and check into your hotel. Discover both colonial and contemporary Lima on a half-day tour of the Peruvian capital. Wander through a thriving local market, and enjoy a pisco sour cocktail-making demonstration on the panoramic rooftop terrace of your hotel. (B)
: Souma Hotel (Days 1-2)

ABOVE: A FRIGATEBIRD IN THE GALÁPAGOS;
TOP RIGHT: CUSCO, PERU;
BOTTOM RIGHT: QUITO'S METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL, ECUADOR

DAYS 3–4: **FLY TO CUZCO • SACRED VALLEY**
Fly to Cuzco in the Andes, and transfer to the Sacred Valley via Chinchero to learn about traditional weaving. Stay for two nights at the Casona Yucay. The following morning visit the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo, and the village of Pachar with its artisanal brewery. (B)
: Casona Yucay

DAY 5: **MACHU PICCHU • CUZCO**
Transfer to Ollanta railway station and board the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu. Take a guided tour of the striking Inca ruins, then catch a late afternoon train back to Cuzco. (B, L)
: Casa Andina Premium Cusco (Days 5-6)





DAY 6: **CUZCO**
Half-day tour of the ancient capital of the Inca empire, including the cathedral, San Blas district, and the Coricancha Temple of the Sun. Afternoon at leisure or optional visit to the Inca ruins at Sacsayhuamán. (B)

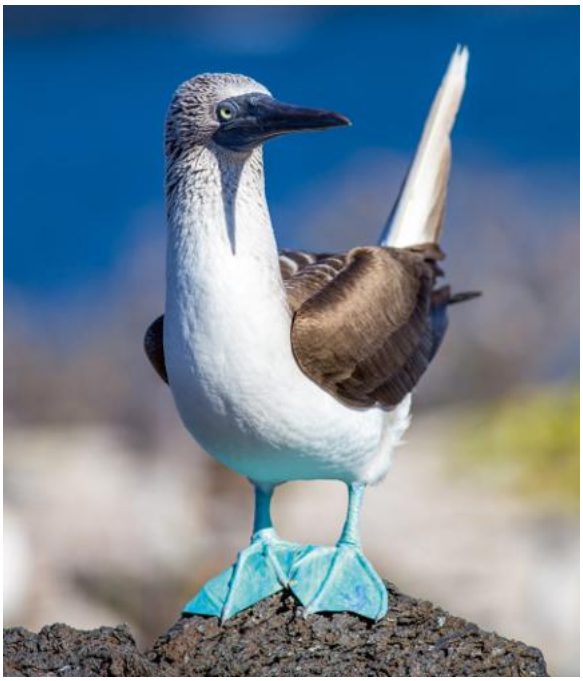
DAYS 7–8: **FLY TO QUITO VIA LIMA**
Fly to Lima and on to Quito, Ecuador's capital. Tour the historic centre, including the UNESCO-protected San Francisco Basilica, the Middle of the World equatorial line monument, and Chez Tiff Chocolatier, where you learn about Ecuadorian chocolate making. (B)
: Hilton Colon Quito

DAY 9: **FLY TO THE GALÁPAGOS**
Fly to the Galápagos and board the Monique for a four-night cruise. The catamaran offers up to 16 guests a luxurious and sustainable way to explore the wildlife-rich archipelago. (B, L, D)
: Monique (or similar) (Days 9-12)

DAYS 10-12: **THE GALÁPAGOS**
Take shared shore excursions with a naturalist guide and enjoy close encounters with some of the rarest animals, including land iguanas, frigatebirds, Darwin's finches, red and blue-footed boobies and Galápagos penguins. (B, L, D)

DAY 13: **DEPART GALÁPAGOS**
Your tour concludes today with a flight to Quito or Guayaquil. (B)





TOP: GIANT TORTOISES IN THE GALÁPAGOS;
ABOVE: A BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY IN THE GALÁPAGOS;
TOP AND CENTRE RIGHT: THE MONIQUE;
BOTTOM RIGHT: A LAND IGUANA IN THE GALÁPAGOS

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 16)
SINGLE SUPP: From $8,995
TOUR CODE: CON

10 Apr - 22 Apr 27	01 Apr - 13 Apr 28
08 May - 20 May 27	13 May - 25 May 28
05 Jun - 17 Jun 27	10 Jun - 22 Jun 28
31 Jul - 12 Aug 27	05 Aug - 17 Aug 28
11 Sep - 23 Sep 27	02 Sep - 14 Sep 28
09 Oct - 21 Oct 27	30 Sep - 12 Oct 28
06 Nov - 18 Nov 27	28 Oct - 09 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each destination by a local tour guide.

2028 Galápagos cruise: 2028 cruises are based on The Tribute, a sophisticated Galápagos yacht for max 16 guests. On each departure, it is possible to upgrade to the Owner's Suite from $2,095 per person

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



THE MONIQUE

The Monique is a new, sustainable and state-of-the-art catamaran. Its twin hulls glide smoothly between the most remarkable islands in the Galápagos. Cruises aboard this vessel feel wonderfully exclusive; Monique accommodates a maximum of just 16 guests and has a guest-to-crew ratio of almost 1:1.

Travellers enjoy daily land and marine excursions, helmed by onboard experts and enhanced by complimentary equipment hire, including kayaks, paddleboards, wetsuits, snorkelling kits, and expedition binoculars. Dining on board is a tailored affair, with gourmet dishes made primarily with locally sourced ingredients.

The main deck features an observation platform, dining area and panoramic lounge. The upper deck includes a sun terrace and shaded terrace, while the sky deck offers an outdoor lounge, dining area, hot tub, bar and leisure space. Guests are accommodated in large, elegant staterooms across the main and upper decks.



The Monique is set to become part of a newly redesigned carbon-neutral fleet, equipped with solar panels and fuel-efficient systems, among other improvements, all intended to minimise its impact on these volcanic isles and their unique resident wildlife.

EXTENSIONS



FINCH BAY ECO HOTEL

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,445

Extend your stay in the Galápagos with two nights at the Finch Bay Eco Hotel on Santa Cruz island. Located just steps away from the beach and across the bay from Puerto Ayora town, the hotel is nestled between tranquil mangroves. Land-based excursions or trips to nearby wildlife sites aboard the hotel's own boat are on offer.

: Finch Bay Eco Hotel

AMAZON

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $3,995

Discover the vast contrast in Ecuador's ecosystems with a visit to the rainforest. Stay for three nights at the Napo Wildlife Centre or La Selva Lodge and explore the jungle on morning and afternoon excursions led by expert guides. A night in Quito, Ecuador's capital, on the itinerary.

: Napo Wildlife Centre

SPLENDOURS OF CHILE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $9,795 (land only)	From $10,595 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Watch the sun set over the Atacama Desert.
- Take a private boat trip on Lake Todos los Santos.
- Enjoy a stay in the vicinity of the Torres del Paine National Park.
- Join a farewell lunch at a traditional Patagonian ranch.





ABOVE: THE VALLEY OF THE MOON, CHILE; TOP RIGHT: TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK, CHILEAN PATAGONIA; BOTTOM RIGHT: EASTER ISLAND

Pinched between the Andes and the Pacific, Chile unfurls over 4,000km (2,485 miles) from the ever-changing contours of the Atacama Desert in the north to glacier-sculpted Patagonia in the south. Between these extremes, you'll find landscapes that have stirred the poets and artists for centuries. This tour explores Chile's desert, mountains and Patagonian wilderness, and allows time to discover some fascinating traditions.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE SANTIAGO**
Arrive in Santiago and check into your hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)
: Plaza El Bosque Ebro (Days 1–2)

DAY 2: **SANTIAGO**
Join a morning tour of Santiago, which takes in the city's cathedral, historic main square, and Sky Costanera, the panoramic observation deck of the tallest building in South America, which affords views across both the city and the Andes. In the afternoon, drive out to the Undurraga vineyard for a tour and wine-tasting. (B)

DAY 3: **FLY TO CALAMA • SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA**
Catch an early morning flight to Calama and transfer to your three-star hotel in San Pedro de Atacama. Take an afternoon excursion to the Valley of the Moon and stay until dusk, to see the valley's mesmerising sunset. (B)
: Hotel Poblado Kimal/La Casa de Don Tomás (Days 3-5)

DAYS 4–5: **ATACAMA DESERT**
Take a full-day journey into a spectacular desert landscape. Visit the salt flats where flamingos thrive, and stop at the village of Toconao, with its white stone buildings. Continue to a traditional farm for lunch and visit Tebinquinche lagoon. Day six is at leisure, with an optional excursion to El Tatio's geysers or the 17th-century fortress of Pukará de Quitor. (B, L) (B)

DAYS 6–7: **FLY TO LAKE DISTRICT VIA SANTIAGO**
Fly to Puerto Montt via Santiago and transfer to the town of Puerto Varas; stay overnight at your hotel beside the lake. In the morning, visit Petrohué Falls and take a boat trip on Lake Todos los Santos. Then take an afternoon drive up the lower reaches of the Osorno Volcano for views of the surrounding mountains. (B)
: Cabaña del Lago

DAY 8: **FLY TO PUNTA ARENAS • PUERTO NATALES**
Fly to Punta Arenas and continue to Puerto Natales, set amid jagged peaks and the fjord of Last Hope Sound. Enjoy views over the water in your fjord-view room. (B)
: Hotel Costaustralis

DAYS 9–10: **TORRES DEL PAINE**
Drive across Patagonia to Torres del Paine National Park. See its granite peaks, emerald lakes and forests, and take a shared boat excursion on Lake Grey for a close view of its glacier. The afternoon of Day 10 is free to enjoy at leisure or take an optional tour. (B, L) (B).
: Auralta Patagonia/Pampa Lodge or **Lago Grey**



DAY 11: **PUNTA ARENAS**
Drive to Punta Arenas, visiting a traditional Patagonian estancia (ranch) en route. Discover how people live in this remote region and enjoy a quincho barbecue. Take a short afternoon tour of Punta Arenas, situated on the vital 16th-century sea route, the Magellan Strait. (B, L)
: Almasur Punta Arenas

DAY 12: **FLY TO SANTIAGO**
Fly to Santiago for a final night in the Chilean capital. (B)
: Plaza El Bosque Ebro Hotel

DAY 13: **DEPART SANTIAGO**
Your tour concludes today in Santiago. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,495
TOUR CODE: SOC

24 Jan - 05 Feb 27	23 Jan - 04 Feb 28
07 Feb - 19 Feb 27	06 Feb - 18 Feb 28
23 Feb - 07 Mar 27	20 Feb - 03 Mar 28
07 Mar - 19 Mar 27	05 Mar - 17 Mar 28
17 Oct - 29 Oct 27	15 Oct - 27 Oct 28
31 Oct - 12 Nov 27	29 Oct - 10 Nov 28
14 Nov - 26 Nov 27	12 Nov - 24 Nov 28
28 Nov - 10 Dec 27	26 Nov - 08 Dec 28
16 Dec - 28 Dec 27	17 Dec - 29 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Wonders of the New World (pg 60) or Grand Tour of South America (pg 68). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in 4-star accommodation or above, except in San Pedro de Atacama, where 3-star accommodation is provided.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS



EASTER ISLAND

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $4,295

A visit to Easter Island (Rapa Nui) is an extraordinary experience. Nearly 1,000 moai statues scatter the island. Dating from the 12th to 17th century, these huge figures serve as a reminder of the civilisation that once thrived along these remote shores. See the monolithic statues, the quarry where their stones were cut, and the ceremonial settlement of Orongo. A final night is spent in Santiago before your flight home.

: Hotel Taha Tai (or similar), **Plaza El Bosque Ebro Hotel**

WINELANDS OR VALPARAÍSO

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $845

At the end of your tour explore the colourful hills, funiculars and bohemian atmosphere in the old port of Valparaiso, one of Chile's most distinctive cities. Alternatively, stay and unwind at one of the winery hotels not far from Santiago.

: Hotel Ayca La Flora

Australis cruise extension: There is also the opportunity to travel aboard the Stella or Ventus Australis across to Ushuaia in Argentina and explore the glaciers, scenery and wildlife of the southernmost part of the world, including Cape Horn.

PATAGONIA: UNTOUCHED WILDERNESS

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
14 days, 13 nights	From $11,745 (land only)	From $12,495 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Take a scenic Andean lake crossing.
- Tour the vast, spectacular Perito Moreno Glacier.
- Stay in the vicinity of the Torres del Paine National Park.
- Cruise along the Beagle Channel, on the southernmost tip of the continent and surrounded by jagged peaks.





Patagonia is one of the world's great wilderness areas and its culture is intertwined with that of the European pioneers and gauchos (traditional horsemen). This fascinating journey through four national parks in Argentina and Chile reveals the distinct cultures and landscapes of this remote part of the world.

DAY 1: **BUENOS AIRES**
Arrive in Buenos Aires and check into your hotel. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore the city streets on foot before joining a welcome dinner at a nearby restaurant. (D)
: Alvear Art Hotel (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **BUENOS AIRES**
Morning tour of Buenos Aires, taking in its singular blend of European cultures and grand architecture. (B)

DAY 3: **FLY TO BARILOCHE**
Fly to Bariloche on the shores of Lake Nahuel Huapi. Transfer to Hotel NH Edelweiss. (B)
: NH Edelweiss (Days 3-4)

ABOVE: TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK; TOP RIGHT: SEA LIONS IN THE BEAGLE CHANNEL; BOTTOM RIGHT: THE IGUAZÚ FALLS



DAY 4: **BARILOCHE**
Half-day tour of Bariloche's scenic surroundings, including Moreno Lake, Angostura River and Campanario Hill. (B)

DAY 5: **PUERTO VARAS**
Take a full-day shared journey by coach and boat through the Lake District to Chile. Travel across lakes and mountains, past waterfalls and forests, to the lakeside town of Puerto Varas. Stay at a lakeside hotel. (B)
: Hotel Cabaña del Lago

DAY 6: **FLY TO PUNTA ARENAS • PUERTO NATALES**
Fly to Punta Arenas and transfer to Puerto Natales. Stay at the Hotel Costaustralis, beside the waters of Last Hope Sound. (B)
: Hotel Costaustralis

DAY 7: **TORRES DEL PAINE**
Take a full-day tour of Torres del Paine National Park, widely considered one of the best national parks in Patagonia. This remote area has mountains, glaciers and lakes, and is a home to guanacos, condors and flightless rheas. (B, L)
: Auralta Patagonia/Hotel Lago Grey (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **TORRES DEL PAINE**
Morning walk in the national park to see Salto Grande waterfall and take in another view of the Paine massif's famous "horns" peaks. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 9: **EL CALAFATE**
Drive across the border to El Calafate in Argentina. Stay at Hotel Kosten Aike. (B)
: Hotel Kosten Aike (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **PERITO MORENO**
Full-day tour of the five-kilometre (three-mile) wide Perito Moreno Glacier. Admire it from the observation platforms and take a cruise on the lake beside its majestic ice wall. (B)

DAY 11: **FLY TO USHUAIA**
Fly to Ushuaia, the world's most southerly city. Enjoy panoramic views across the bay from your hotel. (B)
: Hotel Los Acebos (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **BEAGLE CHANNEL • TIERRA DEL FUEGO**
Morning cruise on the Beagle Channel. Afternoon visit to Tierra del Fuego National Park and a farewell drink at your hotel. (B)

DAY 13: **FLY TO BUENOS AIRES**
Fly back to Buenos Aires and transfer to your hotel. In the evening consider an optional dinner and tango show. (B)
: Alvear Art Hotel

DAY 14: **DEPART BUENOS AIRES**
Your tour concludes today in Buenos Aires. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,195
TOUR CODE: PAT

31 Jan - 13 Feb 27	30 Jan - 12 Feb 28
14 Feb - 27 Feb 27	13 Feb - 26 Feb 28
28 Feb - 13 Mar 27	27 Feb - 11 Mar 28
24 Oct - 06 Nov 27	22 Oct - 04 Nov 28
07 Nov - 20 Nov 27	5 Nov - 18 Nov 28
21 Nov - 04 Dec 27	19 Nov - 02 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

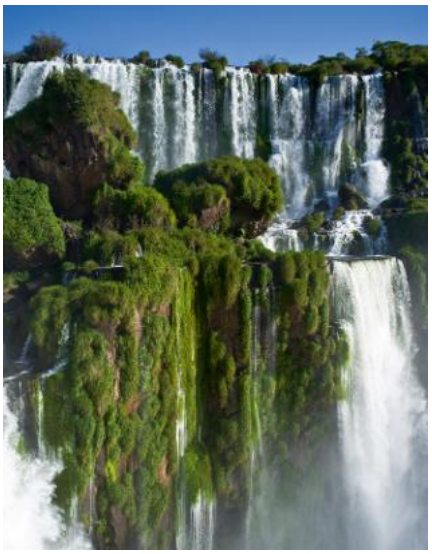
GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



TOUR EXTENSION: IGUAZÚ

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $2,095

Extend your stay with a visit to the Iguazú Falls, on the border of Argentina and Brazil. Enjoy a half-day tour of the Brazilian side of the falls before transferring to the Gran Meliá Iguazú for a stay inside the park. The following day is at leisure. Upgrade to a falls-view room from $415.

: Gran Meliá Iguazú

WONDERS OF THE NEW WORLD

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
9 days, 8 nights	From $6,645 (land only)	From $6,895 (land only)	Signature	Leisurely

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Stay inside Iguazú National Park and see the world-famous falls at dawn or sunset.
- Visit Buenos Aires' colourful Caminito alley and the Recoleta Cemetery, resting place of Eva Perón.
- Take in spectacular views and the carioca atmosphere from your beachfront hotel in Rio de Janeiro.



FLIGHT ·····



Offering an outstanding introduction to Argentina and Brazil, this journey combines the elegance of Buenos Aires with exotic and flamboyant Rio de Janeiro. The tour also travels to the awe-inspiring waterfalls of Iguazú – shrouded in their own mist, they thunder amid tropical jungle, stretching for kilometres along the border.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BUENOS AIRES**
Arrive in Buenos Aires and check into your hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)
: Alvear Art Hotel (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **BUENOS AIRES**
Half-day tour of Buenos Aires, including the Recoleta Cemetery where Eva Perón is buried, and La Boca district, birthplace of the tango. (B)

DAY 3: **BUENOS AIRES**
Enjoy a day at leisure, or take an optional trip to an estancia ranch in the Pampas countryside. (B)

ABOVE: RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL;
TOP RIGHT: THE IGUAZÚ FALLS;
BOTTOM RIGHT: BÚZIOS PENINSULA



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,045
TOUR CODE: WNW

† 29 Jan - 05 Feb 27	28 Jan - 05 Feb 28
26 Feb - 06 Mar 27	11 Feb - 19 Feb 28
12 Mar - 20 Mar 27	03 Mar - 11 Mar 28
09 Apr - 17 Apr 27	07 Apr - 15 Apr 28
17 Sep - 25 Sep 27	22 Sep - 30 Sep 28
22 Oct - 30 Oct 27	20 Oct - 28 Oct 28
05 Nov - 13 Nov 27	10 Nov - 18 Nov 28
19 Nov - 27 Nov 27	01 Dec - 09 Dec 28
03 Dec - 11 Dec 27	19 Dec - 27 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of Chile (pg 56). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

DAYS 4-5: **FLY TO IGUAZÚ / IGUAÇU**
Fly to the Iguazú Falls and stay at the Gran Meliá Iguazú, inside the national park (upgrade to a falls-view room from $415). Tour the Brazilian side of these magnificent cataracts, with time to see the Argentinian side at your own pace. Experience the falls at dawn or dusk, when the park is closed to other visitors. (B)
: Gran Meliá Iguazú

DAY 6: **FLY TO RIO DE JANEIRO**
Fly to Rio and transfer to your hotel beside the city's world-famous Copacabana beach. Upgrade to an oceanfront room from $95 per person. (B)
: Hilton Rio de Janeiro Copacabana (Days 6-8)

DAY 7: **RIO DE JANEIRO**
In the morning, visit Sugarloaf Mountain by cable car. In the afternoon, take in Corcovado Mountain and the statue of Christ the Redeemer. End the day with a farewell drink. (B)

DAY 8: **RIO DE JANEIRO**
Take a day at leisure. Optional excursions include the Tijuca rainforest, a visit to the botanical gardens, or behind-the-scenes Carnival experience. (B)

DAY 9: **DEPART RIO DE JANEIRO**
Your tour concludes today in Rio de Janeiro. (B)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each country by a national tour manager.

† Rio de Janeiro: The 29 Jan 2027 departure includes three days and two nights in Rio due to Carnival. If you would like to extend your stay to include the parade, please enquire. Hotel in Rio is subject to change for 2028 departures.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS



BÚZIOS BEACH

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,695

Stay for a few days in the balmy beach resort of Búzios (a popular spot for locals, around three hours from Rio de Janeiro) and enjoy its sandy shoreline, clear waters, chic shops and restaurants. It is possible to further upgrade to Casas Brancas from $385 per person.

: Vila d'Este /Vila da Santa

SANTIAGO AND MENDOZA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $2,595

Combine cosmopolitan Santiago, Chile, with Argentina's wine capital of Mendoza, an attractive city of parks and avenues. Both lie at the foot of the Andes. Head first to Santiago for two nights, before flying on to Mendoza to tour its tree-lined streets and nearby vineyards.

: Plaza El Bosque Ebro, Park Hyatt

SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

TREASURES OF COLOMBIA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $6,895 (land only)	From $7,995 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the Gold Museum in Bogotá to see countless pre-Columbian treasures.
- Stay at a tranquil restored hacienda hotel in coffee country and take a ride in an iconic Willys Jeep.
- Gain insight into Medellín's inspiring cultural and social transformation and support a community project.
- Soak up the colonial Caribbean atmosphere of Cartagena on a walking tour.





FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——

ABOVE: CARTAGENA;
TOP RIGHT: LOCAL WOMEN IN CARTAGENA;
CENTRE RIGHT: COCORA VALLEY;
BOTTOM RIGHT: SAN AGUSTÍN

Travel from Andean peaks to tropical Caribbean coastlines, passing through the mountain capital of Bogotá, picturesque Villa de Leyva, fertile coffee country, vibrant Medellín, and the colonial port of Cartagena, one of South America's most beautiful towns.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BOGOTÁ**
Arrive in Bogotá and check into your hotel in one of the most exclusive areas. (N)
: Hotel Chico 97 (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **BOGOTÁ**
Morning walking tour of the historic La Candelaria district, Botero's art collection and the Gold Museum, featuring one of the world's most complete collections of ancient gold artefacts. After the tour, enjoy a light meal and familiarise yourself with Colombian culture via a game of tejo, a popular national throwing game. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 3: **VILLA DE LEYVA**
Transfer by road to Villa de Leyva, one of Colombia's finest colonial towns. En route, stop at Zipaquirá to see the remarkable salt cathedral, built inside an old mine. Stay at the Posada de San Antonio. (B)
: Posada de San Antonio (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **VILLA DE LEYVA**
Full-day tour of this beautiful town's cobbled streets and whitewashed houses. Visit the nearby Dominican convent, and the Muséo El Fosil to see its 120-million-year-old kronosaurus skeleton. (B)

DAY 5: **FLY TO PEREIRA**
Transfer by road to Bogotá airport and fly to Pereira in the coffee region, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit a local coffee farm to learn about the growing and production of high-quality beans. Stay at Sazagua Cocora, set in a tranquil private nature reserve. (B, L)
: Sazagua Cocora (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **COFFEE REGION**
Explore the verdant Cocora Valley, famous for its wax palm trees – the tallest palms in the world. Ride in a Willys Jeep, walk into the cloud forest, and visit the traditional villages of Filandia and Salento. (B, L)

DAY 7: **MEDELLÍN**
Travel by road to Medellín (approximately five hours), stopping at a scenic look-out for views over the Cauca River. Stay at the Hotel Faranda Collection. (B)
: Hotel Faranda Collection (Days 7-8)





DAY 8: **MEDELLÍN**
Full-day tour to learn about the cultural and social transformation of the city. Visit the hillside Comuna 13 with its street art and outdoor escalators, and take lunch with a cooking demonstration at Las Berracas, a community project empowering local women. Continue to the centre to see the curved sculptures by artist Fernando Botero and on to Cerro Nutibara hill for panoramic views. (B, L)

DAYS 9-10: **FLY TO CARTAGENA**
Transfer to the airport and fly to the beautiful Caribbean city of Cartagena. Stay in the historic centre. Discover the old town on a walking tour, visit the Spanish fort of San Felipe and the charming neighbourhood of Getsemani, before returning to your hotel for a farewell drink on the rooftop terrace. (B)
: Hotel Santa Catalina

DAY 11: **DEPART CARTAGENA**
Your tour concludes today in Cartagena. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,995
TOUR CODE: TCO

06 Feb - 16 Feb 27	05 Feb - 15 Feb 28
13 Mar - 23 Mar 27	11 Mar - 21 Mar 28
06 Nov - 16 Nov 27	04 Nov - 14 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $9,295
TOUR CODE: TCS

28 Aug - 07 Sep 27	26 Aug - 05 Sep 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of South America (pg 64) or Grand Tour of South America (pg 68). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS

SAN AGUSTÍN

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,295

Fly to Bogotá for a night before exploring the pre-Columbian sites of San Agustín, home to the world's largest megalithic necropolis. Enjoy a full tour of its archaeological park, explore its stone statuary, and see Fuente de Lavapatas, a monumental ceremonial site carved in to the stone bed of a mountain stream.

: Hotel Chico 97, Akawanka Lodge



CARIBBEAN BEACH STAY

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,495

Stay on at the beaches of Isla Barú, just off the coast of Cartagena, or head deeper into the Caribbean to stay a little father offshore, on the tropical Rosario islands. Alternatively transfer to Tayrona, where the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta mountains meet the Caribbean Sea.

: Rosario del Mar/Sofitel Barú Calablanca Beach Resort

SPLENDOURS OF SOUTH AMERICA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
16 days, 15 nights	From $11,895 (land only)	From $12,895 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Enjoy a privileged stay close to the dramatic Iguazú Falls.
- Discover Patagonia's celebrated sights on both sides of the Andes.
- Soak up the Latin-American culture of Buenos Aires and vibrant Rio de Janeiro.
- Luxuriate in a beachfront stay at the legendary Copacabana beach.



FLIGHT
ROAD



Explore the highlights of Brazil, Chile and Argentina, combining spectacular natural wonders with some of South America's most exciting cities. Start in the foothills of the Andes, discover the extraordinary landscapes of Patagonia and marvel at the towering Iguazú Falls, before ending your journey in the marvellous, oceanside city of Rio de Janeiro.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE SANTIAGO, CHILE**
Arrive in Santiago and check into your hotel. In the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner. There is also an optional afternoon visit to a nearby winery (enquire at time of booking). (D)
: Plaza El Bosque Ebro (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **SANTIAGO**
Tour the city's historic centre, San Cristobal hill and the Museum of Pre-Columbian Art. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 3: **FLY TO PUNTA ARENAS • PATAGONIA**
Fly to Punta Arenas for a short tour and views of the Strait of Magellan. Continue through the vast wilderness to Puerto Natales. Check into your hotel, and relax in your fjord-facing room. (B)
: Hotel Costaustralis

ABOVE: A HERD OF GUANACO IN TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK; TOP RIGHT: LA BOCA DISTRICT, BUENOS AIRES; BOTTOM RIGHT: GLACIER IN PATAGONIA

DAY 4: **TORRES DEL PAINE**
Take a full-day excursion to Torres del Paine National Park to see its peaks, glaciers, lakes and wildlife. (B, L)
: Auralta Patagonia/Pampa Lodge or **Lago Grey** (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **TORRES DEL PAINE**
Take a morning walk in the national park, close to Lake Nordenskjöld and Salto Grande waterfall. In the afternoon, enjoy some time at leisure. (B)

DAY 6: **EL CALAFATE, ARGENTINA**
Cross into Argentina and continue to El Calafate on the shores of milky-blue Lago Argentino. (B)
: Hotel Kosten Aike (Days 6-7)





DAY 7: **PERITO MORENO GLACIER**
Full-day tour of Perito Moreno Glacier. Optional boat trip in front of the gigantic glacier wall. (B)

DAY 8: **FLY TO BUENOS AIRES**
Fly to Buenos Aires and transfer to your luxury hotel. Later, enjoy dinner at a nearby restaurant. (B, D)
: Alvear Art Hotel (Days 8-10)

DAYS 9-10: **BUENOS AIRES**
Half-day tour of the elegant capital city and the colourful La Boca district. Day 10 is at leisure; take an optional excursion to an estancia (ranch) in the Pampas, or the old, town of Colonia in Uruguay. (B)



DAYS 11–12: **FLY TO IGUAZÚ / IGUAÇU**
Fly to Iguazú Falls; stay at the Gran Meliá Iguazú inside the park (upgrade to a falls-view room from $415). Guided visit of the Brazilian side of these striking cataracts and time at leisure to explore the various walkways on the Argentinian side. The cascades can be experienced while the park is closed to other visitors. (B)
: Gran Meliá Iguazú

DAY 13: **FLY TO RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL**
Fly to Rio and stay at the beachfront Hilton Rio de Janeiro Copacabana (side Copacabana sea-view room). Upgrade to an oceanfront room from $95. (B)
: Hilton Rio de Janeiro Copacabana (Days 13-15)

DAYS 14–15: **RIO DE JANEIRO**
Full-day city tour including Corcovado, the statue of Christ the Redeemer, and a cable car ride up Sugarloaf Mountain finishing with a farewell drink at your hotel. Day 15 is at leisure; optional excursions include a visit to the old centre of Rio or a 4×4 tour to Tijuca forest. (B)

DAY 16: **DEPART RIO DE JANEIRO**
Your tour concludes today in Rio de Janeiro. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $4,145
TOUR CODE: SPG

15 Jan - 30 Jan 27	14 Jan - 29 Jan 28
† 29 Jan - 12 Feb 27	28 Jan - 12 Feb 28
05 Feb - 20 Feb 27	04 Feb - 19 Feb 28
12 Feb - 27 Feb 27	† 11 Feb - 25 Feb 28
19 Feb - 06 Mar 27	25 Feb - 11 Mar 28
05 Mar - 20 Mar 27	03 Mar - 18 Mar 28
19 Mar - 03 Apr 27	10 Mar - 25 Mar 28
15 Oct - 30 Oct 27	17 Mar - 01 Apr 28
22 Oct - 06 Nov 27	13 Oct - 28 Oct 28
29 Oct - 13 Nov 27	20 Oct - 04 Nov 28
05 Nov - 20 Nov 27	27 Oct - 11 Nov 28
12 Nov - 27 Nov 27	03 Nov - 18 Nov 28
19 Nov - 04 Dec 27	10 Nov - 25 Nov 28
26 Nov - 11 Dec 27	17 Nov - 02 Dec 28
11 Dec - 26 Dec 27	24 Nov - 09 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Train to Machu Picchu (pg 48). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

† Rio de Janeiro: The 29 Jan and 11 Feb 2028 departures include three days and two nights in Rio due to Champion's Parade / Carnival. If you would like to extend your stay to include the parades, please enquire about prices.

Itinerary: On certain departures this tour may join the *Wonders of the New World* tour from Buenos Aires to Rio de Janeiro.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN, RIO; LLAMAS IN THE ATACAMA DESERT; BÚZIOS BEACH; JABIRU STORKS IN THE PANTANAL WETLANDS; CHRIST THE REDEEMER, RIO DE JANEIRO

EXTENSIONS

ATACAMA DESERT

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,295

Fly to Santiago and, on arrival, take a flight to Calama; continue to the small oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama. Explore the landscape of the Atacama Desert, one of the driest places on Earth, on two half-day tours. See desert villages, the salt flats and the Valley of the Moon with its colourful rock formations before returning to Santiago to join the group.

: La Casa de Don Tomás





PANTANAL WILDLIFE

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $3,995

Visit Pantanal, the largest tropical wetland, and a world-class wildlife watching destination. Fly to Cuiabá in the north Pantanal and stay at Pousada do Rio Mutum for three nights (full board) exploring the mosaic of lakes, rivers and savannahs. Take shared excursions in search of capybaras, tapirs, giant ant-eaters, howler monkeys and over 650 bird species.

: Pousada do Rio Mutum



BÚZIOS BEACH

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,695

The beach resort of Búzios provides a relaxing stay at the end of your journey. Please refer to page 61 for details.

: Vila d'Este/Vila da Santa

GRAND TOUR OF SOUTH AMERICA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
16 days, 15 nights	From $10,395 (land only)	From $12,295 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- A coast-to-coast, multi-country tour.
- Take overnight stays at Machu Picchu and inside Iguazú National Park.
- Enjoy a scenic train journey across the altiplano.
- Visit the floating islands of Lake Titicaca and stay on its shore.
- Bask in a beachfront stay in Rio de Janeiro.
- Easter departures.†





FLIGHT ·····
RAIL ++++
ROAD ——

ABOVE: THE IGUAZÚ FALLS; TOP RIGHT: MAN-MADE REED ISLANDS ON LAKE TITICACA, PERU; CENTRE RIGHT: LA BOCA, BUENOS AIRES; BOTTOM RIGHT: MACHU PICCHU

This varied, fascinating tour focuses on South America's cultural and natural highlights, revealing the continent's diversity, while passing from high Andean scenery down to the thundering Iguazú Falls. Stop in dynamic cities along the way, including Bolivia's capital of La Paz, cosmopolitan Buenos Aires in Argentina and the exotic Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE LIMA, PERU**
Arrive in the Peruvian capital and check into your hotel.
: Casa Andina Premium Miraflores
(Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **LIMA**
Enjoy a morning tour of Lima, with a stop at the historic Cordano tavern for a welcome pisco sour cocktail. (B)

DAY 3: **FLY TO CUZCO • SACRED VALLEY**
Fly to Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca empire. Transfer to the Sacred Valley, via the indigenous village of Chinchero and Ollantaytambo Inca fortress. Stay at Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley. (B)
: Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley

DAY 4: **MACHU PICCHU**
Take the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu and explore the famed Inca citadel. Stay at your hotel in Aguas Calientes, a town close to the historic sanctuary. (B, L, D)
: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo

DAY 5: **CUZCO**
Morning at leisure or further explore Machu Picchu (buy tickets at time of booking). Later return to Cuzco by train and check into your hotel. (B)
: Casa Andina Premium Cuzco
(Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **CUZCO**
Morning tour of Cuzco and San Blas. Afternoon at leisure or optional excursions. (B)

DAY 7: **TRAIN JOURNEY TO PUNO**
Take the stylish *Titicaca* train across the altiplano (high plain) to Puno on the shores of Lake Titicaca. Enjoy fine vistas from the elegant dining car or the observatory bar car; make a short stop at La Raya, the highest point of the route. Check into your lakeside hotel. (B, L)
: GHL Hotel Lago Titicaca





DAY 8: **LAKE TITICACA, BOLIVIA**
Travel by road to Huatajata in Bolivia, visiting the town of Copacabana and its famous shrine en route. See the exhibition at the Andean Roots Eco Village, discover how reed boats are constructed, and meet a spiritual Kallawaya healer. Stay overnight at the Inca Utama on the shores of the lake and observe the southern constellations from the hotel's astronomical observatory. (B, L)
: Inca Utama Hotel



DAY 9: **UROS IRUITOS • LA PAZ**
Take a hydrofoil cruise to the Uros Iruitos floating reed islands and visit the Quewaya Sustainable Project. Continue overland to La Paz for an afternoon tour of the city, including the Witches' Market and Moon Valley. (B)
: Hotel Mitru Sur

DAYS 10-11: **FLY TO BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**
Fly to Buenos Aires, the Argentinian capital, and a city of grand architecture and European influences. Take a morning city tour, including the cathedral, La Boca district and the Recoleta Cemetery. Afternoon at leisure. (B)
: Alvear Art Hotel

DAYS 12-13: **FLY TO IGUAZÚ / IGUAÇU**
Fly to Iguazú and stay at the Gran Meliá Iguazú within the park (upgrade to a falls-view room from $415). Take a half-day tour of the Brazilian side of the falls for panoramic views and time at leisure to enjoy the various nearby walkways on the Argentinian side. (B)
: Gran Meliá Iguazú

DAY 14: **FLY TO RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL**

Fly to Rio, set beside mountains, forests and golden beaches. Transfer to your beachfront hotel, enjoy your superior partial ocean-view room, or upgrade to a deluxe panoramic room from $165. (B)

: PortoBay Rio de Janeiro (Days 14-15)

DAY 15: **RIO DE JANEIRO**

Full-day tour of Rio de Janeiro, including Corcovado and Sugarloaf Mountain, followed by a farewell drink. (B)

DAY 16: **DEPART RIO DE JANEIRO**

Your tour concludes today in Rio de Janeiro. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)

SINGLE SUPP: From $3,295

TOUR CODE: GTA

11 Mar - 26 Mar 27	23 Mar - 07 Apr 28
† 25 Mar - 09 Apr 27	† 06 Apr - 21 Apr 28
08 Apr - 23 Apr 27	13 Apr - 28 Apr 28
29 Apr - 14 May 27	20 Apr - 05 May 28
06 May - 21 May 27	27 Apr - 12 May 28
13 May - 28 May 27	04 May - 19 May 28
20 May - 04 Jun 27	11 May - 26 May 28
27 May - 11 Jun 27	18 May - 02 Jun 28
10 Jun - 25 Jun 27	25 May - 09 Jun 28
08 Jul - 23 Jul 27	09 Jun - 24 Jun 28
19 Aug - 03 Sep 27	06 Jul - 21 Jul 28
02 Sep - 17 Sep 27	17 Aug - 01 Sep 28
09 Sep - 24 Sep 27	31 Aug - 15 Sep 28
16 Sep - 01 Oct 27	07 Sep - 22 Sep 28
23 Sep - 08 Oct 27	14 Sep - 29 Sep 28
30 Sep - 15 Oct 27	21 Sep - 06 Oct 28
07 Oct - 22 Oct 27	28 Sep - 13 Oct 28
14 Oct - 29 Oct 27	05 Oct - 20 Oct 28
21 Oct - 05 Nov 27	12 Oct - 27 Oct 28
28 Oct - 12 Nov 27	19 Oct - 03 Nov 28
04 Nov - 19 Nov 27	26 Oct - 10 Nov 28
11 Nov - 26 Nov 27	02 Nov - 17 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of Chile (pg 56). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

† Easter departures: 25 Mar 2027 departure will spend Easter at Machu Picchu. 6 April 2028 departure will spend Easter in Buenos Aires.

Itinerary: This tour has some early starts and long days.

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each country by a national tour manager.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

LEFT: RIO DE JANEIRO; TOP: MOON VALLEY, BOLIVIA; TOP RIGHT: A MARINE IGUANA IN THE GALÁPAGOS; BOTTOM RIGHT: BÚZIOS, BRAZIL

EXTENSIONS

GALÁPAGOS WILDLIFE

6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS FROM $7,295

Take a pre-tour extension to the Galápagos Islands, to see the wildlife that so inspired Charles Darwin. This volcanic archipelago is best explored aboard an expedition cruiser on a three- or four-night cruise, combined with a two-night stay in Quito, Ecuador. Daily shore excursions in small groups allow for extraordinarily close observation of the islands' animals. You may spot giant tortoises, marine iguanas, brightly coloured crabs, and an abundance of birdlife including blue- and red-footed boobies, frigatebirds, flightless cormorants, Galápagos penguins and Darwin's finches.

: Archipel Catamaran, Hilton Colon





BÚZIOS BEACH

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,695

At the end of your tour, drive two and a half hours from Rio to the charming beach resort of Búzios. Popular with locals, Búzios has excellent restaurants, chic shops and numerous sandy beaches. Relax on the peninsula with rugged backdrops and crystal-clear waters, or take an optional boat excursion to various tranquil beaches and nearby islands. Stay in a villa suite with bathtub or upgrade further to a seafront villa suite or to Casas Brancas from $260. On certain departures you can add an extra night free of charge.

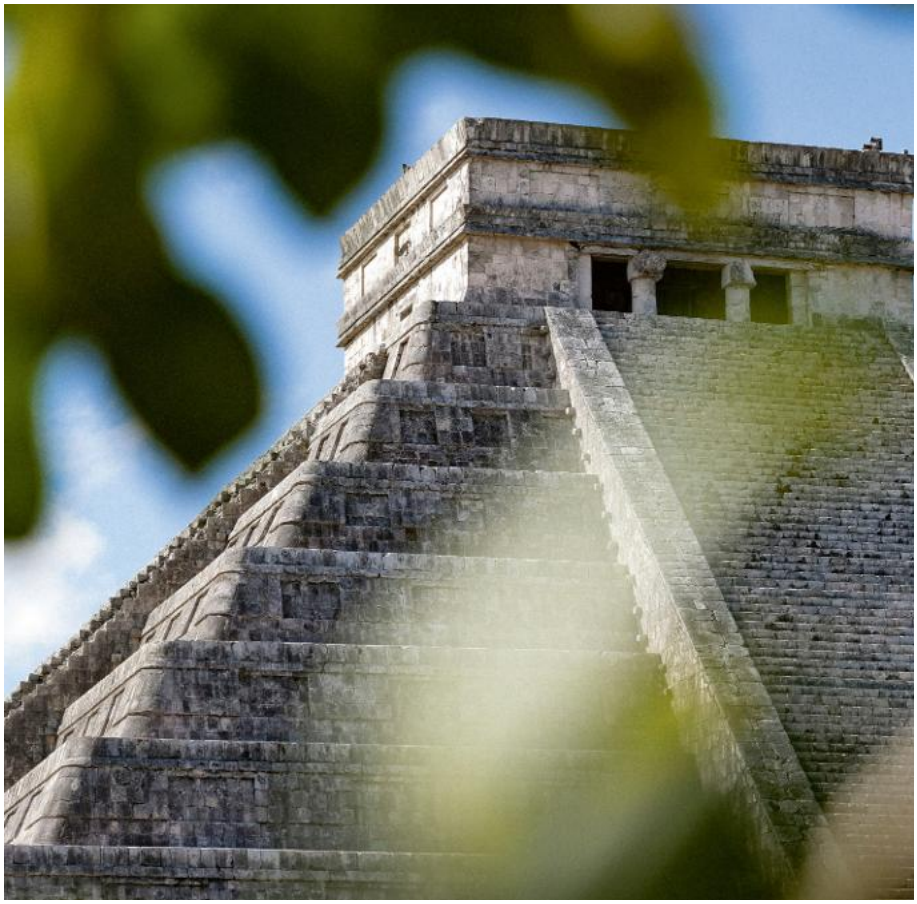
: Vila d'Este

HIGHLIGHTS OF MEXICO

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $7,895 (land only)	From $11,995 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Explore Mexico City's oldest gourmet food market.
- Take a boat ride through the beautiful, cavernous Sumidero Canyon.
- See how oven-fresh tortillas are made by indigenous locals.
- Visit an off-the-beaten-path Yucatán cenote, or sinkhole.
- Witness unique local traditions during Day of the Dead celebrations†.
- Semana Santa (Easter week) festival departure available†.





FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——

Discover the legacy of the Aztec, Mayan and Spanish empires on this outstanding tour of Mexico's finest sights. Explore pre-Columbian pyramids and temples, colourful cities, and the natural beauty of valleys, canyons, waterfalls and tropical rainforests.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE MEXICO CITY**
Arrive in the capital of Mexico and check into your hotel. (N)
: Galeria Plaza Hotel (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **TEOTIHUACÁN**
In the morning, visit the "Plaza of the Three Cultures" and continue to the pyramids of Teotihuacán, dating back 2,000 years. On your return, stop at the historic Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. (B, L)

DAY 3: **MEXICO CITY**
Full-day city tour, including the Zócalo (main plaza), the National Cathedral, the Anthropological Museum and the gourmet San Juan Market. (B, L)

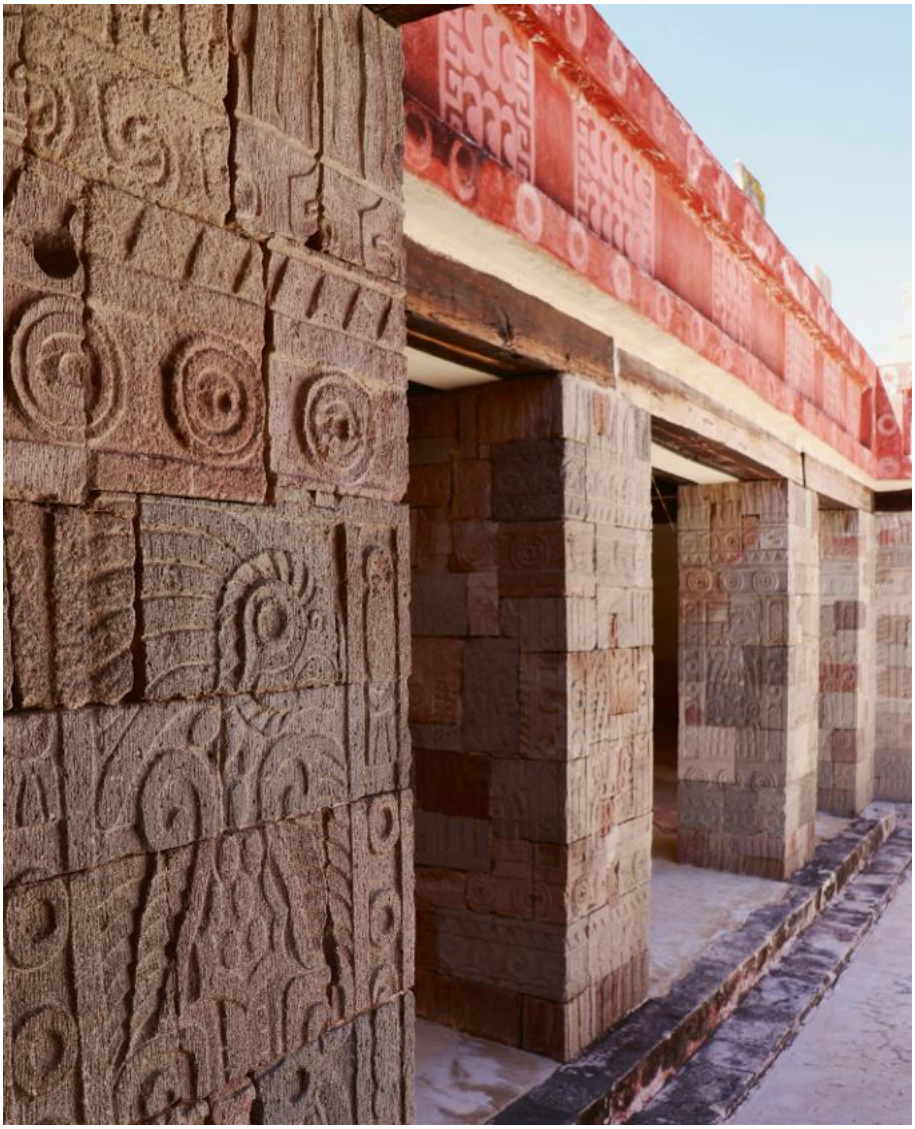
DAY 4: **FLY TO OAXACA**
Fly to Oaxaca, a beautiful colonial city, and take an afternoon tour. Stay at your characterful, centrally located hotel. (B)
: Hotel Na'ura (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **MONTE ALBÁN**
Morning visit to the impressive Zapotec capital of Monte Albán. Afternoon at leisure or visit to the ruins of Mitla. (B)

DAYS 6–7: **FLY TO TUXTLA GUTIÉRREZ • SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS**
Fly to Tuxtla Gutiérrez via Mexico City, and take a boat along the Grijalva River to the Sumidero Canyon. Continue to San Cristóbal de las Casas. The following morning, tour this colonial town and the nearby Mayan villages of Zinacantán and San Juan Chamula, and visit a local home to see how fresh tortillas are made. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B)
: Hotel Diego de Mazariegos

DAY 8: **PALENQUE**
Drive from the cool highlands to the tropical lowlands and Palenque. Consider an optional visit to the Roberto Barrios waterfalls. (B, L)
: Chan-Kah Resort Village





DAY 9: **PALENQUE • CAMPECHE**
Enjoy a morning tour of the ancient Palenque ruins, one of the greatest Mayan sites in Mexico. In the afternoon, drive to Campeche via the scenic Sabancuy coast (five hours). (B, L)
: Castelmar Hotel

DAY 10: **KABAH • UXMAL • MÉRIDA**
Drive to the ancient Palace of Masks at Kabah and then head to Uxmal, another important archaeological site, for a tour of the Mayan ceremonial centre. In the afternoon, continue to Mérida and check into your hotel. (B, L)
: Gran Hotel Panamericana (or similar) (Days 10-11)

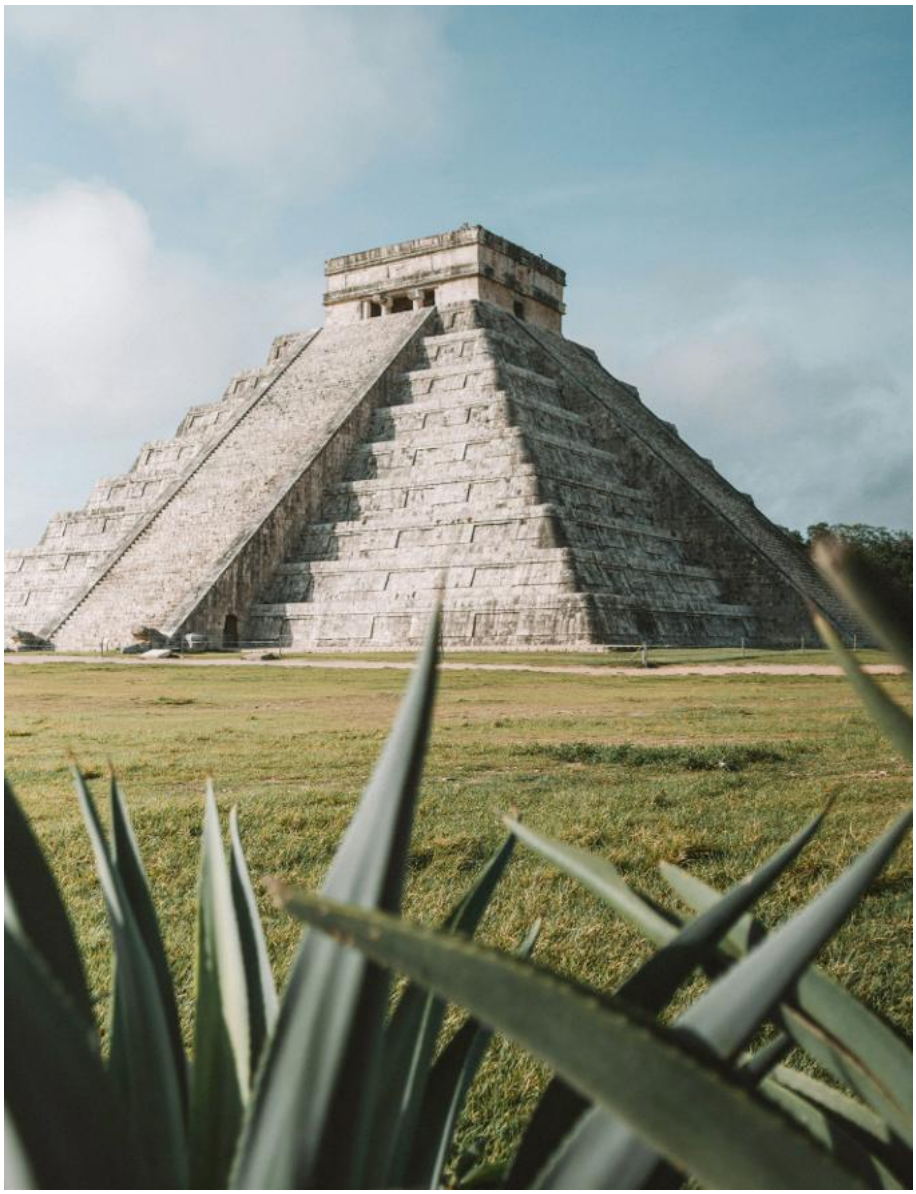
TOP LEFT: THE PYRAMID OF KUKULCAN, CHICHÉN ITZÁ; TOP RIGHT: OAXACA; BOTTOM RIGHT: TEOTIHUACAN

DAY 11: **MÉRIDA**
Morning walking tour of the city. (B)

DAY 12: **CHICHÉN ITZÁ**
Transfer to Chichén Itzá and tour the ancient Mayan city. In the afternoon, visit the Yokdzonot Cenote, a freshwater sinkhole considered sacred by the Maya, and take a refreshing swim. Stay just steps from the archaeological site and enjoy a farewell dinner. (B, D)
: Hotel Hacienda Chichen

DAY 13: **DEPART CANCÚN**
Your tour concludes today in Cancún. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,595
TOUR CODE: HOM

17 Jan - 29 Jan 27	16 Jan - 28 Jan 28
07 Feb - 19 Feb 27	06 Feb - 18 Feb 28
28 Feb - 12 Mar 27	05 Mar - 17 Mar 28
† 24 Mar - 05 Apr 27	† 12 Apr - 24 Apr 28
† 27 Oct - 08 Nov 27	† 27 Oct - 08 Nov 28
14 Nov - 26 Nov 27	12 Nov - 24 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Natural Splendours of Costa Rica (pg 78). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

† Festival departures: 24 March 2027 and 12 April tours coincide with the Semana Santa (Easter week) processions in Oaxaca, while the 27 Oct 2027 and 27 Oct 2028 departures coincide with the Day of Dead celebrations, where families pay respect to the deceased with offerings such as flowers and food.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS



CARIBBEAN COAST

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,195

Enjoy the clear waters and white sandy beaches of Mexico's Mayan Riviera on the Caribbean coast, south of Cancún. Relax on the sand, or take optional excursions to the marvellous pyramids of Tulum or the coastal channels of the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve. Upgrades to ocean-view rooms or to Ana y Jose Hotel & Spa are also available.

: Mereva Tulum

COPPER CANYON

6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS FROM $4,595

Before the start of your main tour, explore northern Mexico's vast Copper Canyon, one-and-a-half times deeper than the Grand Canyon. Fly to Los Mochis or Chihuahua and take the Chepe train up the Sierra Madre mountains. Stay for two nights at Hotel Mirador at Posada Barrancas with spectacular views over the canyon and, depending on train schedules, combine with overnight stays at El Fuerte, Los Mochis, Creel or Chihuahua.

: Hotel Mirador Posada Barranca





GUATEMALA

7 DAYS, 6 NIGHTS FROM $4,695

Combine your journey with neighbouring Guatemala, flying from Cancún to Guatemala City and onward to Flores. Take in the country's highlights, including the classic Mayan site of Tikal in the Petén jungle, Lake Atitlán, the indigenous Chichicastenango market (Thur or Sun) and the beautiful colonial-era city of Antigua. Return to London from Guatemala City via Madrid or Miami.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MÉRIDA; TULUM; COPPER CANYON; ANTIGUA GUATEMALA; CHICHÉN-ITZÁ, YUCATAN

SPLENDOURS OF CUBA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
10 days, 9 nights	From $4,395 From $6,095 (Oriente*) (land only)	From $4,995 From $6,995 (Oriente*) (land only)	Discovery	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Take a ride in a classic American car and stroll around old Havana.
- Dine at privately run paladar restaurants.
- Experience rural life in Las Terrazas community.
- Gain insight into the Cuban Revolution at the Che Guevara museum and mausoleum.
- Extended Oriente departures.*





***ORIENTE DEPARTURE**



ROAD ——

ABOVE: HAVANA;
RIGHT: VIÑALES VALLEY

Cuba's tropical landscape, delectable natural produce and proud, revolutionary history lies at the heart of this tour. Discover the faded colonial grandeur in Havana and Trinidad, delightful rolling countryside, tobacco and coffee plantations, the historical sites of the revolution and the ever-present rhythms of the island's son and mambo styles of music.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE HAVANA**
Arrive in the Cuban capital and check into your hotel, enjoying your Colonial-class room. (N)
: **Iberostar Selection Parque Central** (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **HAVANA**
Take a walking tour of Old Havana with a stop at El Floridita, home of the daiquiri cocktail. Enjoy lunch at a characterful paladar (small restaurant) and a tour in a classic American car, visiting Revolution Square and a rum museum. (B, L)

DAY 3: **LAS TERRAZAS**
Drive to the rural community of Las Terrazas in the province of Pínar del Rio. Visit the partially restored 19th-century coffee estate. (B, L)
: **Hotel Moka** (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **VIÑALES**
Take a full-day tour of the beautiful Viñales Valley. Visit a tobacco plantation and take a boat ride through the Indian Cave, with its pre-Columbian cave paintings. (B, L)

DAY 5: **PENINSULA DE ZAPATA • CIENFUEGOS**
Travel to Cienfuegos via the Peninsula de Zapata. Take a boat through the mangroves and drive past Playa Girón, site of the Bay of Pigs invasion. (B, L, D)
: Meliá San Carlos

DAY 6: **CIENFUEGOS • TRINIDAD**
Morning tour of Cienfuegos, the "Pearl of the South", and visit to the botanical gardens. Continue to Trinidad; stay at Hotel Mystique Trinidad La Popa, overlooking the old town. Dine at an independent paladar restaurant. (B, D)
: Hotel Mystique Trinidad La Popa (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **TRINIDAD**
Morning walking tour of Trinidad, visiting the Romantic Museum or Cantero Museum, and Casa de la Musica. In the afternoon, drive to the Valley of the Sugar Mills, dotted with ruins of large former plantations, and visit the Manaca Iznaga watchtower, once used to surveil plantation slaves. (B, L)

DAY 8: **SANTA CLARA • HAVANA**
Drive to Santa Clara to see the Che Guevara mausoleum and museum. After a farewell lunch, travel to Havana. (B, L)
: Iberostar Selection Parque Central (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **HAVANA**
Day at leisure to stroll along Old Havana's cobbled streets or take optional visits to the Bellas Artes Museum, Hemingway Museum or the Revolution Museum. (B)

DAY 10: **DEPART HAVANA**
Your tour concludes today in Havana. (B)

*ORIENTE DEPARTURES

15 DAYS, 14 NIGHTS FROM $6,095

On selected dates, the tour continues through the interior to Santiago de Cuba and provides a glimpse into eastern Cuba's history, culture and scenery.

DAY 8: **TRINIDAD**
Day at leisure in Trinidad or take optional excursions. (B)

DAY 9: **CAMAGÜEY**
Drive to Camagüey (five to six hours) for a tour of its winding streets – designed to deter pirate attacks. Stay overnight. (B)

DAYS 10-11: **HOLGUIN • SANTIAGO DE CUBA**
Full-day journey to Santiago de Cuba for a two-night stay, visiting Holguin and Castro's birthplace at Biran en route. Explore the island's first capital and birthplace of Afro-Cuban culture, including the historical centre, El Morro fortress, and the Gran Piedra, set in the Sierra Maestra mountains. (B, L)

DAY 12: **SANCTI SPÍRITUS**
Full-day journey to Sancti Spíritus for an overnight stay, visiting El Cobre church, Cuba's most important shrine, and the city of Bayamo en route. (B)

DAYS 13-14: **SANTA CLARA • HAVANA**
Take a short tour of Sancti Spíritus. Continue to historic Santa Clara for a visit, then on to Havana for your final two-night stay. (B, L) (B)

DAY 15: **DEPART HAVANA**
Your tour concludes today in Havana. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,045
TOUR CODE: CUB

06 Nov - 15 Nov 27	04 Mar - 13 Mar 28
20 Nov - 29 Nov 27	18 Mar - 27 Mar 28
15 Jan - 24 Jan 28	04 Nov - 13 Nov 28
05 Feb - 14 Feb 28	18 Nov - 27 Nov 28
19 Feb - 28 Feb 28	

*ORIENTE DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,195
TOUR CODE: CUO

24 Oct - 07 Nov 27	27 Feb - 12 Mar 28
14 Nov - 28 Nov 27	22 Oct - 05 Nov 28
23 Jan - 06 Feb 28	12 Nov - 26 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Discovery tour: Suited to hardier travellers, with some basic accommodation and rougher journeys.

Accommodation: Due to the current economic situation in Cuba, the properties that we use may vary from those featured and will be confirmed in your final travel documents.

Travel in Cuba: We recommend an extremely flexible approach to booking a holiday and travel in Cuba. The extended Oriente departures are better suited to the hardier traveller due to longer road drives.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

TOUR EXTENSION: CAYO SANTA MARIA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $925

After visiting Santa Clara on Day 8 or Day 13, continue to a sandy cay off Cuba's north coast. Stay for three or four nights at the Angsana Cayo Santa Maria, or upgrade to the first-class Meliá Buenavista from $270 per person. Drive to Havana for a final night before your departure.

: Angsana Cayo Santa Maria/ Meliá Buenavista

SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

NATURAL SPLENDOURS OF COSTA RICA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $5,695 (land only)	From $6,145 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Explore forest canopies from the hanging bridges at Monteverde.
- Cruise the canals of Tortuguero and cross Lake Arenal by boat.
- View the conical Arenal Volcano from the comfort of your hotel.
- Take a boat trip along the river at the biodiverse Caño Negro, a bird-watchers' paradise.



ROAD ——



Lying between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean, the small country of Costa Rica is one of the most ecologically diverse places on Earth. This journey explores some of the major national parks and the astonishing variety of wildlife and contrasting habitats found here, including rainforests, cloud forests, volcanoes, lakes and canals.

DAYS 1-2: **ARRIVE SAN JOSÉ**
Arrive and check into your hotel in downtown San José. The next day, visit either Poás or Irazú volcano for views of the crater and surrounds and enjoy a welcome lunch. (N) (B, L)
: **Delta Hotels by Marriott San Jose Aurola** (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 3: **SARAPIQUI**
Travel to the verdant Sarapiqui region and visit a cacao plantation to learn about the crop's indigenous origins, cultivation and chocolate production. Stay at a colonial-style hotel and enjoy a short nature walk along its private trail, to discover more about this area's biodiversity. (B)
: Hacienda la Isla Lodge

DAYS 4-5: **TORTUGUERO**
Take an overland transfer to Caño Blanco on the Caribbean coast and cruise through the backwaters that lead to Tortuguero, looking out for birds, monkeys and other wildlife. Stay on the main canal's banks and enjoy a full day of shared excursions. From July to September, you may see turtles nest on the beach. (B, L, D)
: Pachira Lodge

DAY 6: **LA SELVA BIOLOGICAL STATION • ARENAL**
Return to Caño Blanco by boat and drive to Arenal, visiting La Selva Biological Station en route. Learn about the researchers' work and take a walk in the protected rainforest surroundings. Stay at Magic Mountain / Arenal Paraíso, with views of the Arenal Volcano. (B, L)
: Magic Mountain / Arenal Paraíso (or similar) (Days 6-7)

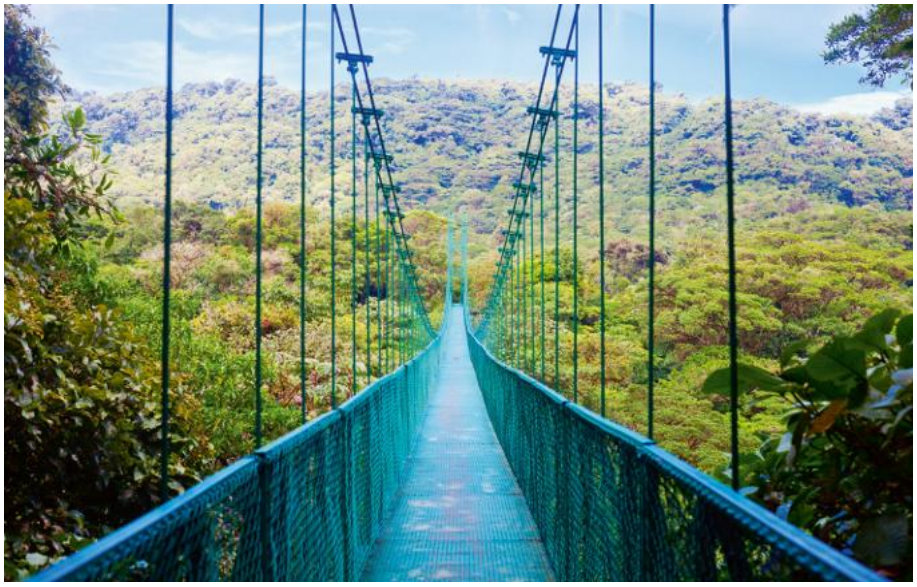




DAY 7: **CAÑO NEGRO**
Full-day tour of Caño Negro, an important wetland habitat for a huge range of bird species. (B, L)

DAY 8: **LAKE ARENAL • MONTEVERDE**
Take a boat across Lake Arenal, and enjoy the spectacular views of the lake and its surroundings. Continue to Monteverde and take an afternoon tour to the Selvatura Butterfly Garden & Walkways, exploring the tree canopy from its hanging bridges. (B)
: Monteverde Country Lodge/ Hotel Fondavela (or similar) (Days 8-9)

FAR LEFT: A RESPLENDENT QUETZAL, MONTEVERDE; LEFT: TORTUGUERO'S CANALS; ABOVE: ARENAL VOLCANO



DAY 9: **MONTEVERDE**

Take a tour of the Monteverde Cloud Forest, a habitat for rare flora and fauna such as the colourful quetzal bird. Visit a family-owned coffee farm to experience sustainable coffee, from seed to cup. Enjoy a farewell drink at your hotel. (B, L)

DAY 10: **SARCHÍ • SAN JOSÉ**

Return to San José via the town of Sarchí, home to traditional handicrafts and colourful oxcarts, for your final night. (B)

DAY 11: **DEPART SAN JOSÉ**

Your tour concludes today in San José. (B)



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: HANGING BRIDGE, MONTEVERDE; TAMARINDO BEACH; A MACAW IN CORCOVADO NATIONAL PARK; A SQUIRREL MONKEY IN MANUEL ANTONIO NATIONAL PARK; A TRADITIONAL OX-CART, SARCHI



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)

SINGLE SUPP: From $1,345

TOUR CODE: NSR

13 Jan - 23 Jan 27	02 Feb - 11 Feb 28
20 Jan - 30 Jan 27	09 Feb - 18 Feb 28
27 Jan - 06 Feb 27	16 Feb - 25 Feb 28
03 Feb - 13 Feb 27	23 Feb - 03 Mar 28
10 Feb - 20 Feb 27	01 Mar - 10 Mar 28
24 Feb - 06 Mar 27	08 Mar - 17 Mar 28
10 Mar - 20 Mar 27	15 Mar - 24 Mar 28
17 Mar - 27 Mar 27	22 Mar - 31 Mar 28
10 Nov - 20 Nov 27	05 Apr - 14 Apr 28
17 Nov - 27 Nov 27	08 Nov - 17 Nov 28
24 Nov - 04 Dec 27	15 Nov - 24 Nov 28
12 Jan - 21 Jan 28	22 Nov - 01 Dec 28
26 Jan - 04 Feb 28	29 Nov - 08 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website..

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Highlights of Mexico (pg 72). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)

SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $ 7,745

TOUR CODE: NSS

31 Mar - 10 Apr 27	19 Jan - 28 Jan 28
03 Nov - 13 Nov 27	29 Mar - 07 Apr 28
	01 Nov - 10 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

2028 departures are 10 days and 9 nights and do not include the overnight stay and tours in Sarapiqui. Extensions may also differ in length, please enquire for details.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS

TAMARINDO

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $1,345

Tamarindo is in Guanacaste province on the Pacific coast and has an abundance of sandy beaches and a lively atmosphere. The nearby Playa Grande beach, meanwhile, is one of Costa Rica's most important nesting sites for leatherback turtles. Leave your tour group at Monteverde and travel to Tamarindo for three nights; spend your days at leisure, enjoy turtle watching (Nov-Mar), or boat trips through the mangroves. Hotel upgrades available to the boutique Cala Luna or the beachfront Capitán Suizo from $695. Your final night is spent back in San José.

: Wyndham Tamarindo, Delta Hotels by Marriott San Jose Aurola



MANUEL ANTONIO

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $1,995

The smallest of Costa Rica's national parks, Manuel Antonio is also one of the most visited due to the remarkable diversity of its wildlife. Its rainforest extends down to the beautiful beaches, where it is possible to spot monkeys, sloths and armadillos. Travel from Monteverde to here to spend days at leisure or take excursions, such as rainforest walks and boat tours in search of dolphins.

: Parador Nature Resort & Spa





SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $995

Leave your group at Sarchi and transfer to San Gerardo de Dota, a birdwatchers' paradise and home to more than 150 species including striking quetzals. Stay for two nights and take an early morning tour in search of the resplendent quetzal in the surrounding primary forest.

: Trogon Lodge

CORCOVADO

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $3,545

Fly to Drake Bay and transfer to Aguila de Osa, set on a cliff amid a privately protected rainforest. Stay for three nights on a full-board basis and take a local shared excursion to explore Corcovado National Park and its trails (a reasonable level of fitness is required), and a snorkelling trip to Caño Island.

: Aguila de Osa

PANAMA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,595

See Panama City and the Panama Canal; tour the old, colonial city, then head on to that wonder of 20th century civil engineering that connects the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Also consider an optional visit to the Miraflores canal locks or to Soberanía National Park for some excellent birding. (B)

: Best Western Plus Panama Zen

SPLENDOURS OF CENTRAL AMERICA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
18 days, 17 nights	From $9,595 (land only)	From $13,495 (land only)	Select	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Navigate through the locks of the Panama Canal.
- Spot wildlife in Costa Rica's cloud forest and visit a sloth sanctuary.
- Cruise on Lake Nicaragua and see the lava of the active Masaya Volcano.
- Explore colonial towns and Mayan ruins, including Tikal and Copán.



FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——



Take in the natural and cultural wonders of Central America, from tropical landscapes and active volcanoes, to colonial heritage and crumbling Mayan cities. Gain insight into the historic civil conflicts and colourful indigenous cultures of the region, and learn about the 20th-century engineering marvel that is the Panama Canal.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE PANAMA CITY, PANAMA**
Arrive in Panama City and check into your hotel. (N)
: Best Western Plus Panama Zen Hotel (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **PANAMA CITY**
Enjoy a morning city tour, taking in the ruins of old Panama and the historic colonial district. Afterwards, sit down for a welcome lunch. (B, L)

DAY 3: **PANAMA CANAL**
Take a shared partial-transit tour through the locks of the Panama Canal. (B, L)

ABOVE: TIKAL MAYAN RUINS, GUATEMALA;
TOP RIGHT: PANAMA'S CENTENNIAL BRIDGE;
BOTTOM RIGHT: ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA

DAY 4: **FLY TO SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA**
Fly to Costa Rica's capital and visit a coffee plantation on the fertile, mineral-rich slopes of the active Poás Volcano. (B, L)
: Hotel Presidente / Parque del Lago Hotel

DAYS 5-6: **MONTEVERDE**
Transfer to Monteverde, close to the Cordillera de Tilarán. In the afternoon, visit Selvatura Butterfly Garden and Hanging Walkways, and the sloth habitat to see Costa Rica's best-loved animal within a conservation-focussed setting. The following day, visit the Monteverde Cloud Forest to explore its beautiful, rare flora and fauna. (B)
: El Establo Mountain Hotel (or similar)





DAY 7: **GRANADA, NICARAGUA**
Take a full day's journey across the border into Nicaragua to the city of Granada, overlooking Lake Nicaragua (seven-eight hours). (B)
: Patio del Malinche Hotel (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **GRANADA**
Enjoy a tour of the city, including its Franciscan convent. Take a boat through the canals and among the small islands of Lake Nicaragua, Central America's largest lake. Afternoon at leisure, then visit the Masaya Volcano to see its glowing lava (subject to volcanic activity). (B)

DAY 9: **FLY TO EL SALVADOR • SUCHITOTO**
Transfer to Managua and fly to San Salvador, El Salvador's capital. Continue to the charming lakeside settlement of Suchitoto. (B)
: Casa 1800 Suchitoto

DAY 10: **ROUTE OF THE FLOWERS**
Explore the cobbled streets of Suchitoto, then transfer to Joya de Cerén, the archaeological site known as the "Pompeii of the Americas". Explore cloud forest trails and enjoy volcano views as you journey along the picturesque Route of the Flowers to Ataco. (B, L)
: Casa 1800 Ataco

DAY 11: **COPÁN, HONDURAS**
Visit the traditional artisan town of Ataco, famed for its vibrant street murals, and stop at Santa Ana en route to Honduras (approximately 10 hours). (B, L)
: Hotel Marina Copán (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **COPÁN**
Tour the Mayan ruins of Copán with its intricate and well-preserved sculptures. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 13: **LIVINGSTON, GUATEMALA**
Cross into Guatemala and on to the Caribbean coast, visiting the impressive carved stelae at Quiriguá en route (around six hours). Take a 90-minute boat ride to the town of Livingston, with its strong Garifuna culture. (B)
: Hotel Villa Caribe (or similar)

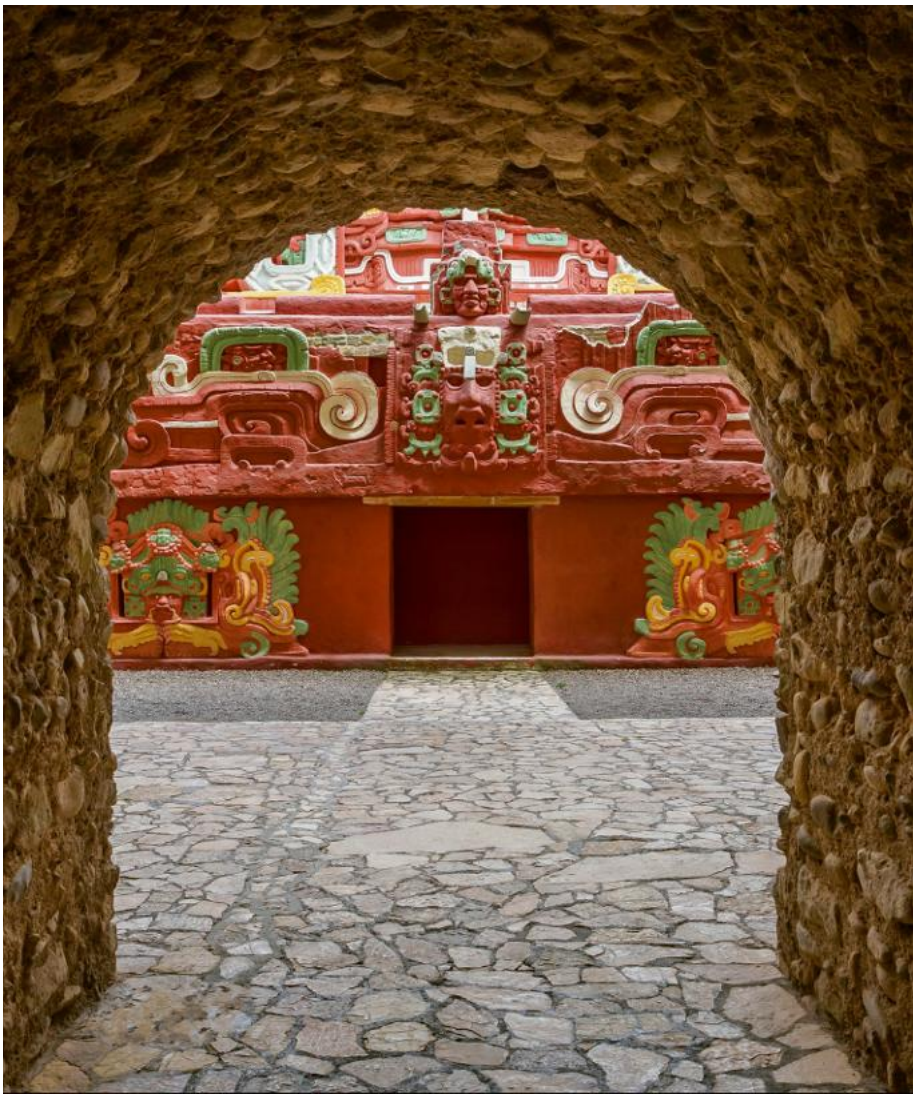
DAY 14: **FLORES**
Take a morning walking tour of Livingston, and a boat trip along the lush gorges of the Dulce River to visit Bird Island and an indigenous community. Continue by road to the Flores area for a stay beside Lake Peten Itza. (B)
: Villa Maya / Hotel Casona del Lago (Days 14-15)

DAY 15: **TIKAL**
Enjoy a morning tour of Tikal, one of the most spectacular Mayan ruins, in the heart of the jungle. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

DAYS 16–17: **FLY TO GUATEMALA CITY • ANTIGUA**
Fly to Guatemala City; transfer to colonial Antigua, set beside three majestic volcanoes. Take a walking tour followed by a farewell dinner. The next day is at leisure, or take optional excursions. (B, D) (B)
: Hotel Cacique Real

DAY 18: **DEPART GUATEMALA CITY**
Your tour concludes today in Guatemala City. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,395
TOUR CODE: GCA

14 Jan - 31 Jan 27	13 Jan - 30 Jan 28
11 Feb - 28 Feb 27	10 Feb - 27 Feb 28
04 Mar - 21 Mar 27	09 Mar - 26 Mar 28
04 Nov - 21 Nov 27	02 Nov - 19 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each country by a national tour manager.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS

LAKE ATITLÁN

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,495

Extend your tour with a visit to picturesque Lake Atitlán, a sapphire-blue lake surrounded by hills, volcanoes, Mayan villages and market towns. Take a boat trip to local settlements and visit the colourful Chichicastenango market, one of the most famous and festive indigenous markets in Central America.

: Hotel Villa Santa Catarina



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: FLORES, GUATEMALA; LAKE ATITLÁN; AMBERGRIS CAYE, BELIZE; COPÁN, HONDURAS



BELIZE BEACH

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,495

Relax on bright, sandy beaches or swim in easy seas of Ambergris Caye, the largest island off the coast of Belize, peppered with swaying palms and surrounded by the fishtank-clear Caribbean waters. Enjoy days at leisure by the beach or snorkelling in the sheltered waters of the nearby barrier reef. Consider an optional upgrade to Victoria House Resort & Spa from $550.

: Portofino Hotel (beach cabana)


SANCTVS CATALDVS
FILIANCE EDIFICANT CIVITATE BABEL
SANCTVS LEO PAPA

EUROPE

Only in Europe are the world's best-loved sights surrounded by such an array of equally rewarding, lesser-seen attractions.

Italy has been drawing travellers for centuries, not least with the Neapolitan treasures of Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast. Yet regular visitors may not have taken in Umbria's medieval facades or Ravenna's marvellous mosaics.

Then there is the sun-soaked Spanish region of Andalucia, with its Moorish colonnades, and Portugal, where you can stay in restored pousada hotels, tour the country's vineyards and drink in its distinctive viticulture. Head east for the ancient streets of Crete, Transylvania's often-overlooked fairy-tale castles, and Turkey, to see where Europe meets Asia. Or strike out for the southern Caucasus, to take in ancient monasteries, and taste brandy from vineyards that once supplied Churchill and the Russian Tsars.

Cox & Kings was founded here, and our enduring connections across the continent allow us to show you Europe at its most romantic – whether you're a first-time visitor or a seasoned returnee.

OPPOSITE: INSET: CEFALU, SICILY;
BACKGROUND: THE PALATINE CHAPEL OF THE ROYAL PALACE, PALERMO, SICILY

NEAPOLITAN TREASURES: CASERTA, SORRENTO AND AMALFI

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
8 days, 7 nights	From $5,595 (land only)	From $13,695 (land only)	Signature	Leisurely

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Tour the sprawling Bourbon Palace and Gardens of Caserta, known as the Neapolitan Versailles.
- Take in the eternal charm of Sorrento with a stay at a characterful hotel overlooking the coast.
- Discover the many faces of Naples, exploring Certosa di San Martino, Royal Palace and Piazza del Plebiscito.
- Explore the ancient ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum.





ROAD ——

Italy's Campania region is celebrated for its scenery, with colourful cliffside towns that stagger down to meet the Mediterranean. It's also a place of riveting history and tempting gastronomy. Tour the historic highlights of Naples, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, before visiting Caserta Palace, Italy's Versailles. Also take in the fabled Amalfi Coast and the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii for greater insight into this region's storied past.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE NAPLES**
Arrive in Naples and check into your hotel in Caserta for a three-night stay. Later, join your tour party for a welcome dinner. (D)
: **Hotel dei Cavalieri Caserta** (or similar) (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **NAPLES**
Visit the monastery-turned-museum of Certosa di San Martino, which has one of the finest collections of nativity scenes in the world. After lunch at a pizzeria, tour the Royal Palace of Naples, the Piazza del Plebiscito, and the medieval fortress of Castel Nuovo, once the royal seat for the kings of Naples. (B, L)

DAY 3: **CASERTA**
Begin the day with a half-day walking tour of the Royal Palace of Caserta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It's the largest former royal residence in the world and encompasses a manicured park with fountains and Greco-Roman statues. (B)

DAY 4: **HERCULANEUM, POMPEII AND SORRENTO**
En route to Sorrento, visit Herculaneum, home to Roman ruins including public baths, villas and mosaics; and Pompeii with its ash-preserved basilica, the Temple of Apollo and the oldest known Roman amphitheatre. (B)
: **Hotel La Tonnarella** (or similar)
(Days 4-7)

DAY 5: **SORRENTO**
Your day is at leisure to enjoy the hotel, explore Sorrento, or take a pre-bookable tour of the island of Capri, loved by pleasure-seekers since Roman times. (B)

DAY 6: **AMALFI COAST**
Spend a day touring the famous, scenic Amalfi Coast. Your day includes a visit to the attractive town of its namesake, a popular beachside resort since the early 20th century, and nearby Villa Rufolo, a 13th-century hilltop house, beloved by the German composer Richard Wagner, which gazes over the twinkling waters of the Gulf of Salerno. (B)

DAY 7: **SORRENTO**
Enjoy a day at leisure to explore Sorrento further, or simply relax. Later, in the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at your hotel with your fellow travellers. (B, D)

DAY 8: **DEPART SORRENTO**
Your tour concludes today in Sorrento. Alternatively, continue your journey via one of our extensions. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,145
TOUR CODE: NAP

06 May - 13 May 27	04 May - 11 May 28
20 May - 27 May 27	18 May - 25 May 28
09 Sep - 16 Sep 27	07 Sep - 14 Sep 28
07 Oct -14 Oct 27	05 Oct - 12 Oct 28
21 Oct - 28 Oct 27	19 Oct - 26 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Classic Sicily (pg 90), Puglia & Basilicata (pg 94), Umbria: Undiscovered Heart of Italy (pg 98), Majestic Malta (pg 104) and Tunisia Explored: Carthage to the Sahara (pg 178). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

FAR LEFT: THE ROYAL PALACE OF CASERTA; LEFT: THE AMALFI COAST; TOP: NAPLES

CLASSIC SICILY

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
10 days, 9 nights	From $7,545 (land only)	From $19,695 (land only)	Signature	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Stay in beautifully appointed, centrally located hotels in the heart of Palermo and Taormina.
- Taste a local cuisine shaped by centuries of Mediterranean influences on a street-food experience in Palermo.
- Explore the ancient legacy of Magna Graecia in Syracuse and Ortigia.
- Visit Villa Romana del Casale to see one of the world's finest collections of Roman mosaics.





ROAD ——

The Mediterranean's largest island, Sicily, is as culturally rich as it is beautiful. It is home to superb Norman architecture, vibrant Roman floor mosaics, Arab-inspired gardens, and possibly the finest Greek temples to be found anywhere in the world. Alongside this, the island has some magnificent natural scenery, from volcanic Mount Etna to quiet beaches in the south. This tour explores the best that the island has to offer.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE CATANIA • SYRACUSE**
Arrive in Catania and travel to the nearby ancient Sicilian settlement of Syracuse to check into your hotel. In the evening, enjoy a welcome drink with the rest of your party. (N)
: Grande Albergo Alfeo (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **SYRACUSE • NOTO**
Tour Syracuse, including the Greek theatre, considered one of the most important examples of its kind; the Ear of Dionysius limestone cave; and Ortygia island. Continue to the UNESCO-listed city of Noto, renowned for its magnificent baroque architecture. (B)

ABOVE: THE GREEK THEATRE AT TAORMINA; TOP RIGHT: A BALLARÒ MARKET STALL, PALERMO; BELOW RIGHT: SICILIAN CERAMICS



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,545
TOUR CODE: CLS

03 May - 12 May 27	01 May - 10 May 28
07 Jun - 16 Jun 27	15 May - 24 May 28
14 Jun - 23 Jun 27	12 Jun - 21 Jun 28
06 Sep - 15 Sep 27	11 Sep - 20 Sep 28
20 Sep - 29 Sep 27	18 Sep - 27 Sep 28
11 Oct - 20 Oct 27	09 Oct - 18 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Majestic Malta (pg 104). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

DAY 3: **CATANIA • CEFALÙ • PALERMO**
In the morning, drive to Catania to view the cathedral – damaged by an earthquake in the late 17th century and rebuilt in the Baroque style – and Piazza Stesicoro. Continue to Cefalù to visit the Norman cathedral with its mosaics. (B)
: Piazza Borsa (or similar) (Days 3-5)

DAY 4: **MONREALE • PALERMO**
Drive to Monreale to visit the Norman cathedral, a leading example of Norman-Arab architecture. Return to Palermo for a tour including the magnificent Arab-Norman cathedral; the Palatine Chapel, located within the Norman palace and covered in Byzantine-influenced mosaics; and the historic old town. Later, enjoy an afternoon street-food experience for lunch. (B, L)

DAY 5: **PALERMO**
Enjoy a day at leisure in the Sicilian capital; feel free to explore independently, or simply spend some time relaxing. (B)

DAY 6: **SEGESTA • ERICE • AGRIGENTO**
Visit the Park of Segesta where you see one of Sicily's best-preserved Doric temples. Proceed to the town of Erice with its imposing fortified walls overlooking the city of Trapani. Stop at Grammatico, the world-famous pastry shop. (B)
: Colleverde Park Hotel (or similar)

DAY 7: **VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES • PIAZZA ARMERINA • TAORMINA**
Morning visit to the Valley of the Temples, one of the world's most impressive ancient Greek sites, and the largest archaeological park in Europe. Afternoon drive to the elegant resort town of Taormina via Piazza Armerina to view the Roman mosaics of the Villa Romana del Casale. (B, L)
: Hotel Ariston (or similar) (Days 7-9)

DAY 8: **MOUNT ETNA**
Visit the highest active volcano in Europe, Mount Etna, for panoramic views. Stop at a local vineyard for a wine tasting and lunch. (B, L)

DAY 9: **TAORMINA**
Take a guided tour of Taormina's ancient theatre – the second largest on the island. Enjoy a farewell lunch and afternoon at leisure (B, L)

DAY 10: **DEPART TAORMINA**
Your tour concludes today in Taormina. (B)



SPECIALIST-LED TOUR

SICILY: NORMANS IN THE SOUTH

SPECIALIST LECTURERS: Dr Sally Dormer or Andrew Spira

HISTORY • ART • ARCHITECTURE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
6 days, 5 nights	From $6,545 (land only)	Signature	Leisurely

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Stay in the historic heart of Palermo throughout your tour, the island's capital for both the Norman and Islamic rulers of Sicily.
- Visit the Arab thermal baths at Cefalà Diana, the only example in Sicily.
- Taste traditional pastries at a renowned bakery, some of which trace their origins back to Arabian and Norman times.
- Sample Sicilian liqueurs at a local producer.





ROAD ——

Sicily has been a crossroads of civilisations since ancient times, and no period saw such a rich cultural exchange as the first centuries of Norman rule. Situating you in the heart of Palermo – capital for both Norman kings and Islamic emirs – this tour reveals the island's unique history, including the Romanesque architecture of the Normans, the legacy of Byzantine artisans, and the enduring Arabic influence on Sicilian cuisine.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE PALERMO**
Arrive in Palermo and check into your hotel for five nights. This evening, enjoy a welcome lecture and dinner. (D)
: NH Collection Palazzo Sitano (or similar) (Days 1-5)

DAY 2: **PALERMO**
Tour the historic heart of Palermo, including the Norman Palace, and the cathedral with its treasury. Enjoy a light street-food lunch, where you will be offered the chance to sample authentic local dishes such as arancini – deep-fried rice balls inspired by the Arabic dish kibbeh and said to have been created for Emperor Frederick II. Proceed to St John of the Hermits Church, a 12th-century hybrid of Norman and Arab design. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 3: **CEFALÀ DIANA**
Visit the thermal baths of Cefalà Diana, a rare example of a surviving Arabic hammam in Sicily, still filled with geothermically warmed spring water. Proceed to a local bakery where you have the opportunity to sample traditional Sicilian pastries, several of which have medieval origins. Conclude with a tasting of local liqueurs. The rest of your day is at leisure. (B)

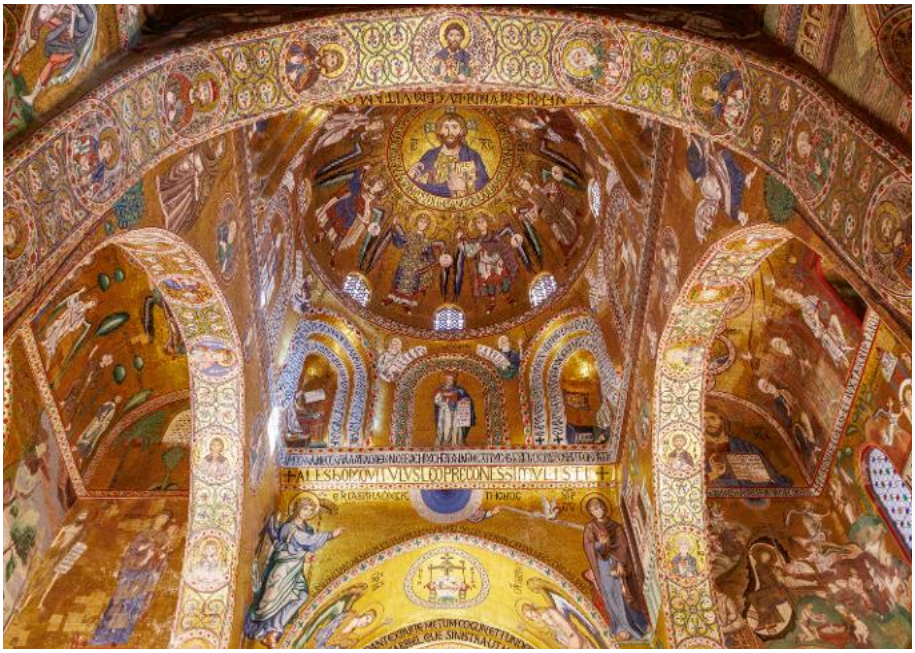
DAY 4: **MONREALE**
Visit the imposing Cathedral of Monreale with its Byzantine-style glass mosaics and its Benedictine cloister, a high point of Norman architecture in Sicily. Return to Palermo, visit Zisa Palace and Cuba Palace, both of which display impressive Arab craftsmanship. (B)





DAY 5: **PALERMO • CEFALÙ**
This morning, visit Palermo's 12th-century Church of St Mary of the Admiral, which features impressive Byzantine mosaics, as well as some notable Christian inscriptions in Arabic in the building's interior. Proceed to Cefalù and its cathedral, commissioned by Roger II who brought artisans from Constantinople to complete the lavish interior. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink with the group. (B, D)

DAY 6: **DEPART PALERMO**
Your tour concludes today in Palermo. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,795
TOUR CODE: PMO

12 May - 17 May 27	Dr Sally Dormer
09 Jun - 14 Jun 27	Andrew Spira
06 Oct - 11 Oct 27	Andrew Spira
10 May - 15 May 28	Dr Sally Dormer
07 Jun - 12 Jun 28	Andrew Spira
04 Oct - 09 Oct 28	Andrew Spira

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PALERMO AT SUNSET; MONREALE CATHEDRAL, PALERMO; THE THERMAL BATHS OF CEFALÀ DIANA; MONREALE CATHEDRAL'S INTERIOR MOSAICS

PUGLIA AND BASILICATA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
8 days, 7 nights	From $5,395 (land only)	From $17,895 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Explore Lecce, the "Florence of the South", and enjoy an aperitif at a Bourbon-era palazzo.
- Visit Castel del Monte, Frederick II's extraordinary medieval fortress, and take lunch at a typical agriturismo.
- Stay in carefully selected countryside retreats, enabling you to take in Puglia's timeless landscape and join in the region's relaxed way of life.
- Taste local olive oil, cheese and freshly baked Altamura focaccia.





ROAD ——

Known as "the heel of Italy", the region of Puglia offers some of the country's most remote coastline and countryside, dotted with ancient sites and whitewashed towns. The neighbouring Basilicata region is a rustic area with historic centres and fine beaches. Over the centuries, both regions have been influenced by ancient Greek, Roman and Norman rule, which is noticeable in the varied architecture and historic remains that you will see on this tour.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BARI • OTRANTO**
Arrive in Bari and travel to the pretty coastal town of Otranto to check into your hotel. This evening, join the rest of your tour party for a welcome dinner. (D)
: Tenuta Centoporte (or similar)
(Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **OTRANTO • GALLIPOLI**
Begin your day with an exploration of Otranto, a port town situated on the ancient Greek site of Hydrus. In the afternoon, sample Puglian wine before going on to visit the picturesque coastal town of Gallipoli, which according to legend was founded by Idomeneus, an ancient ruler of Crete. (B)

ABOVE: THE BASILICA OF SANTA CROCE, LECCE;
TOP RIGHT: ALBEROBELLO, PUGLIA;
RIGHT: MATERA

DAY 3: **LECCE**
Travel north and tour Lecce, one of Italy's best-preserved baroque cities. Visit the Duomo and admire the ornate 17th-century interior before enjoying an aperitif at one of the city's historic palazzos. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 4: **OSTUNI • ALBEROBELLO**
Travel to Ostuni to tour its cathedral and historical centre. Drive to Alberobello and enjoy a tour of this UNESCO-listed town, famous for its trulli – traditional conical dwellings. Visit an oil mill and dairy to sample local cheeses, olive oil and antipasti. Enjoy dinner at your hotel. (B, D)
: Masseria Caselli (or similar) (Days 4-7)

DAY 5: **TRANI • CASTEL DEL MONTE • BARI**
Begin the day with a visit to Trani, a whitewashed port city of Jewish origins. Enjoy light lunch in a typical agriturismo restaurant overlooking Castel del Monte, then continue to the renowned fortress itself. Built by the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II, who ruled much of southern Italy in the 13th century, this octagonal fortress is a masterpiece of medieval architecture set high on an isolated hill; an image of the fortress appears on some of Italy's one-cent coins. Continue with a visit to Bari's old quarter with San Sabino Cathedral and San Nicola Basilica. This evening and the following evening, a return transfer to the nearest village is laid on, enabling you to enjoy a dinner at leisure. (B)

DAY 6: **ALTAMURA • MATERA**
Drive to Altamura to visit the celebrated Romanesque cathedral. While there, visit a local bakery and taste freshly baked focaccia. Continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Matera. The Sassi district is divided into two parts: the Sasso Caveoso and the Sasso Barisano, each with countless churches and distinctive features. The tour includes a visit to the typical Sassi dwelling of Casa Grotta, a Rupestrian church and the Crypt of the Original Sin with its delicate frescoes (B, L)

DAY 7: **BRINDISI**
Take a guided tour of this historic port city, overlooking the Adriatic. Known as the "Gateway to the East" it has been a centre of maritime trade since ancient times. After the tour, enjoy some free time to eat and shop. In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner in Ostuni. (B, D)

DAY 8: **DEPART SPECCHIOLLA**
Your tour concludes today in Specchiolla, or begin your tour extension. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $895
TOUR CODE: PUB

05 May - 12 May 27	03 May - 10 May 28
26 May - 02 Jun 27	24 May - 31 May 28
01 Sep - 08 Sep 27	30 Aug - 06 Sep 28
15 Sep - 22 Sep 27	13 Sep - 20 Sep 28
06 Oct - 13 Oct 27	04 Oct - 11 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Neapolitan Treasures: Caserta, Sorrento and Amalfi (pg 88) and Umbria: Undiscovered Heart of Italy (pg 98). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS SOUTHERN ITALY

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.

RAGUSA AND MODICA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $4,000

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Classic Sicily
Majestic Malta

Deepen your appreciation for Sicily's landscape and culture with this extension, taking in the little-seen, yet hugely rewarding towns and settlements in the island's far southeast. Ragusa, a hilltop city filled with perfectly executed Sicilian Baroque buildings, is complemented by the equally well-preserved Modica, known for its beautiful streets and its distinctive gastronomic heritage; the town's grainy, crystalline chocolate is supposedly based on an ancient Aztec recipe. Visit a local chocolate lab to find out more or simply enjoy a stroll within this too-often-overlooked Sicilian quarter.





LIPARI AND SALINA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $3,100

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Classic Sicily

Having explored Sicily's charms, cross the waters to the volcanic Aeolian Islands, which lie just to the northwest. Travellers will meet the caper producers on Salina, the second-largest in the archipelago, and try the island's sweet Malvasia wines; catch a sunset cruise to Stromboli, one of the two islands in this chain with an active volcano; and take in the archaeological museum at Lipari, which covers the island's development, from the prehistoric period to classical times.

MALTA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,795

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Classic Sicily

After touring Italy's southerly island, head just a few miles further south, from Sicily's Pozzallo ferry port to Valletta, the European Union's smallest capital city. Malta is also the EU country that receives the most hours of sunshine, and offers many gem-like beaches, numerous ancient sites and megalithic temples. It also has more recent historic artefacts, such as its George Cross – awarded to the island collectively in 1942 following the wartime Siege of Malta – which is housed in Valletta's 15th-century Fort Saint Elmo.



NORTHERN PUGLIA

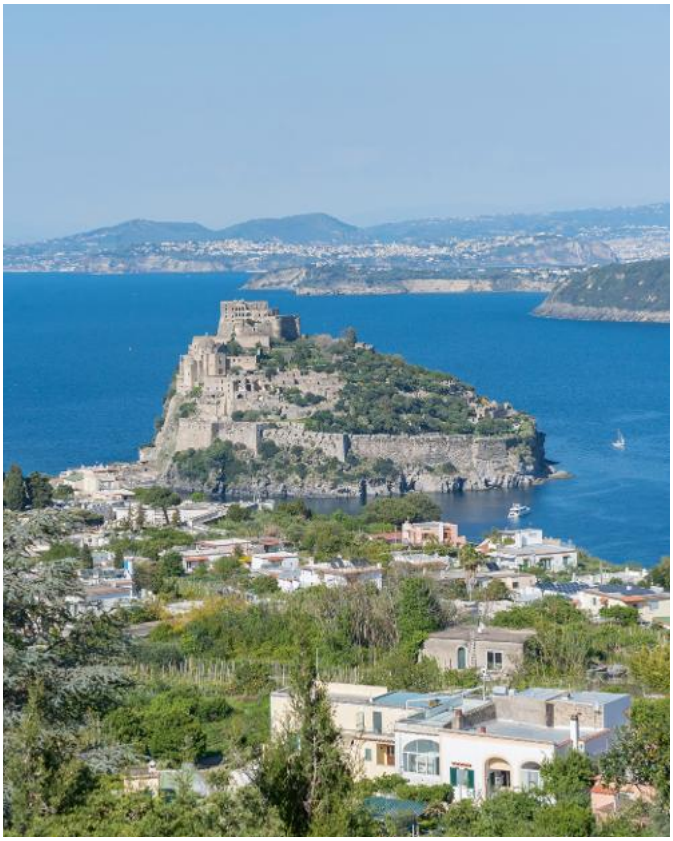
4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,045

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Puglia and Basilicata

Strike out from the familiar heart of Puglia to its lesser-known northerly reaches. Guests taking this extension stay in Vieste, a beautiful seaside fishing port, and have the chance to explore the Gargano peninsula and its other, equally charming settlements, such as Peschici with its antique trabucchi fishing platforms. There is also the opportunity to venture inland to nearby ancient beech forests and the charming hilltop town of Monte Sant'Angelo.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: RAGUSA; VIESTE; ISCHIA; RIACE BRONZE STATUE IN REGGIO CALABRIA; VALLETTA, MALTA; SALINA

CALABRIA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $5,700

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Classic Sicily

Explore the lower portions of the Italian peninsula once settled by the ancient Greeks, and where reminders of their ancient culture survive. Visit the National Archaeological Museum of Reggio Calabria for the Bronzi di Riace, incredible life-sized bronze statues of heroic warriors, dating from the 5th-century BC; try the grilled swordfish sandwiches sold on the streets of Scilla; see the craggy villages of Aspromonte; and visit Magna Graecia communities such as Bovesia, where Griko, a variation of Greek, is spoken.



ISCHIA

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,450

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Neapolitan Treasures

Settled by Greeks in the eighth century BC, Ischia is a ruggedly beautiful island that juts out of the Tyrrhenian Sea 30km (18 miles) off Naples. Here, shaded by lemon, pine, and evergreen oak trees, precipitous towns beckon with their cliff-edge hotels and restaurants, while mineral-rich springs promise a soothing soak. Be sure to cross the causeway to the centuries-old Aragonese Castle, which crowns a nearby islet. This fortification staggers down the cliff face and has existed in some form since antiquity.

UMBRIA: UNDISCOVERED HEART OF ITALY

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
8 days, 7 nights	From $5,545 (land only)	From $17,345 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Experience the subterranean mystique of the Narni Underground, and Todi with its blend of Roman, Etruscan and medieval architecture.
- Join a farewell dinner at a restaurant built into Orvieto's underground caves.
- Visit Civita di Bagnoregio, an ancient town built high atop a tuff and only accessible by footbridge.
- See Baglioni Chapel, with its breathtaking Renaissance frescoes.



RIGHT: CIVITA DI BAGNOREGIO;
BOTTOM RIGHT: ORVIETO CATHEDRAL;
TOP RIGHT: THE BASILICA OF
SAINT FRANCIS, ASSISI



ROAD ——

Situated in the heart of Italy, Umbria is a bucolic beauty with a past stretching back to the ancient Etruscans. This tour reveals the region's highlights. Enjoy expertly guided tours as you travel from the Umbrian capital of Perugia, a centre of art and culture, to Orvieto and its dazzling 14th-century cathedral. Highlights include visits to Assisi, birthplace of Italy's patron saint; Rasiglia, known as 'Little Venice'; and Narni, where caves beneath a convent reveal historical treasures.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ROME, ITALY**
Arrive in Rome and check into your hotel, with the option to upgrade to the nearby five-star Sina Brufani Hotel for $525 per person. (N)
: **Hotel Locanda della Posta / The Bank Hotel** (Days 1-4)

DAY 2: **PERUGIA**
Begin with a half-day walking tour of Perugia. Visit the Piazza IV Novembre in the historic centre of the city, which contains the medieval Fountain of Maggiore, and continue to the remains of the Renaissance fortress of Rocca Paolina; the 16th-century Perugia Cathedral; and the Etruscan Arch of Augustus. The rest of the day is at leisure. (B)

DAY 3: **ASSISI**
Discover Assisi with a half-day guided tour of the birthplace of Italy's patron saint, Francis of Assisi. As well as visiting the exterior of the Basilica di San Francesco, which houses the saint's remains, also visit the Temple of Minerva, the impressive 13th-century Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo, and the Fountain of the Three Lions. (B)

DAY 4: **GUBBIO • SPELLO**
Journey to Gubbio for time at leisure to explore this ancient town in the foothills of the Apennines. You may wish to visit the Duomo (Cathedral) and the Piazza Grande, or head up to the hilltop Basilica of Saint Ubaldo. After lunch at a local restaurant, continue to Spello, visiting the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore, and the Baglioni Chapel, which contains Renaissance frescoes by Pinturicchio. (B, L)

DAY 5: **RASIGLIA • SPOLETO**
Visit the medieval village of Rasiglia, nicknamed "Little Venice" for its many streams; enjoy some time at leisure. After lunch, go to the ancient town of Spoleto, founded in the 10th century BC. (B)
: Hotel San Luca (Days 5-7)

DAY 6: **NARNI • TODI**
Enjoy a private journey to the hilltop town of Narni. Here you enjoy an atmospheric guided tour of the Narni Underground, subterranean chambers discovered beneath a former convent in 1979. Spend some free time in the ancient hilltop town of Todi before returning to your hotel (B)



DAY 7: **CIVITA DI BAGNOREGIO • ORVIETO**
Begin the day with an excursion to the hilltop village of Civita di Bagnoregio, a remarkably beautiful, sparsely populated settlement. Then head to the town of Orvieto, a larger hilltop settlement known for its wine and ceramics, visit its ornate 14th-century cathedral, and enjoy some free time to explore. Round off your journey with a special farewell dinner, in a restaurant that forms part of the Labyrinth of Hadrian – a complex of ancient caves, cisterns and tunnels cut deep into the region's soft volcanic rock. (B, D)

DAY 8: **DEPART SPOLETO**
Your tour concludes today in Spoleto. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,995
TOUR CODE: UMB

08 May - 15 May 27	06 May - 13 May 28
29 May - 05 Jun 27	27 May - 03 Jun 28
11 Sep - 18 Sep 27	09 Sep - 16 Sep 28
09 Oct - 16 Oct 27	07 Oct - 14 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

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SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Neapolitan Treasures: Caserta, Sorrento and Amalfi (pg 88) and Puglia & Basilicata (pg 94). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

TOUR EXTENSION: ROME

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $750

Pre- and post-tour extensions are available in Rome for more leisure time in the Eternal City, whether you wish to relax or explore.

: Grand Hotel Palatino

SPECIALIST-LED TOUR

RAVENNA: MOSAICS AND MARBLE

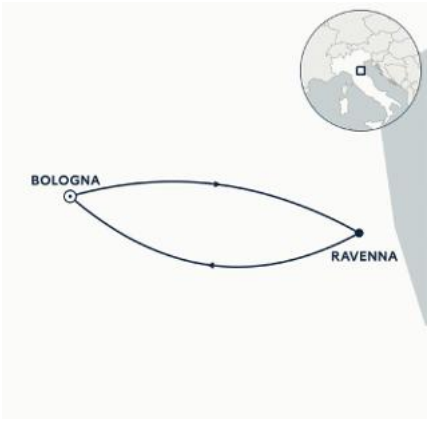
SPECIALIST LECTURERS: Dr Sally Dormer or Rowena Loverance

HISTORY • ART • ARCHITECTURE

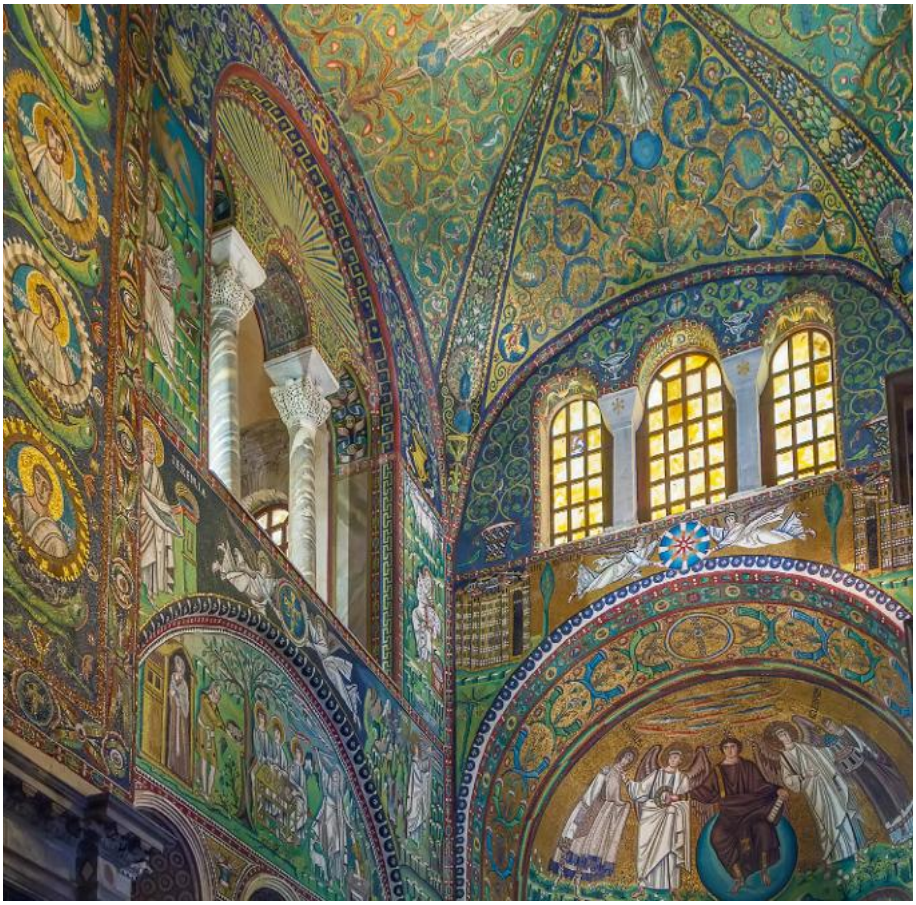
DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
4 days, 3 nights	From $3,795 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the Church of San Pietro in Sylvis, the oldest in the Ravenna area.
- See the varied marble and mosaic decoration of the Church of San Vitale.
- Explore the unique 10-sided mausoleum of Theodoric the Great, king of the Ostrogoths.
- Admire the work of Ravenna's modern mosaicists in a city that remains at the centre of mosaic art.



ROAD



Uncover Ravenna's glittering past with experts Rowena Loverance or Dr Sally Dormer. In 402 AD, the Italian city became capital of the western Roman empire, and mosaic-decorated churches were built. It flourished in the sixth century under the Ostrogoths and the Byzantines, who commissioned further splendid monuments, before the Lombards assumed control in 751 AD. Today, Ravenna is replete with relics of this illustrious history, as you will see firsthand.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE RAVENNA**
Arrive in Ravenna. Visit Sant'Apollinare in Classe, an excellent example of early Christian basilica-style churches. (D)
: Palazzo Galletti Abbiosi (or similar) (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **RAVENNA**
Visit the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, with its fine early-Christian vault mosaics. Continue to San Vitale, one of the most significant Byzantine churches. Travel to the Residenza dei Vescovi to view masterpieces from the Museo Arcivescovile, the archiepiscopal chapel and Ravenna's 18th-century cathedral. (B)

ABOVE: THE BASILICA OF SAN VITALE; TOP RIGHT: THE BASILICA OF SANT'APOLLINARE IN CLASSE; NEAR CENTRE RIGHT: THE MAUSOLEUM OF THEODORIC; FAR CENTRE RIGHT: BOLOGNA; BOTTOM RIGHT: THE BASILICA OF SANT'APOLLINARE IN CLASSE

DAY 3: **RAVENNA**

See the Palace of Theodoric and the octagonal Orthodox, the former residence of the ancient Ostrogothic ruler. Continue to the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo, again built by Ostrogoth king Theodoric; the fifth-century octagonal Arian baptistery, with its mosaic of Christ's baptism; Dante's tomb, the resting place of the poet Dante Alighieri, and the basilica of San Francesco. Visit the city art museum to admire contemporary mosaics. Continue to the palace of Domus dei Tappeti di Pietra to see its marble inlays and mosaics. (B, D)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $745
TOUR CODE: IMA

11 Mar - 14 Mar 27	Rowena Loverance
10 Jun - 13 Jun 27	Rowena Loverance
11 Nov - 14 Nov 27	Dr Sally Dormer
09 Mar - 12 Mar 28	Rowena Loverance
08 Jun - 11 Jun 28	Rowena Loverance
09 Nov - 12 Nov 28	Dr Sally Dormer

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DAY 4: **DEPART RAVENNA**

Visit the unique, 10-sided Mausoleum of Theodoric, built from huge blocks of ashlar masonry on the outskirts of Ravenna. Drive to the seventh-century proto-Romanesque church San Pietro in Sylvis, which provides useful comparisons with Ravenna's buildings. Your tour concludes in Ravenna. Alternatively, continue to Rome for the *Rome: Patricians to Popes* extension on the following page. (B, L)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star characterful and historic hotels in the heart of Ravenna.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.





TOUR EXTENSION: BOLOGNA

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,045

Extend your tour with two nights in Bologna, one of Italy's gastronomic capitals and home to Europe's oldest university.

: Art Hotel Commercianti

Combine this tour with *Rome: Patricians to Popes* (on the following page) and enjoy a nine-day, unbroken, deeper journey among Italy's beautiful artistic and cultural legacies.

NEW FOR 2027 SPECIALIST-LED TOUR

ROME: PATRICIANS TO POPES

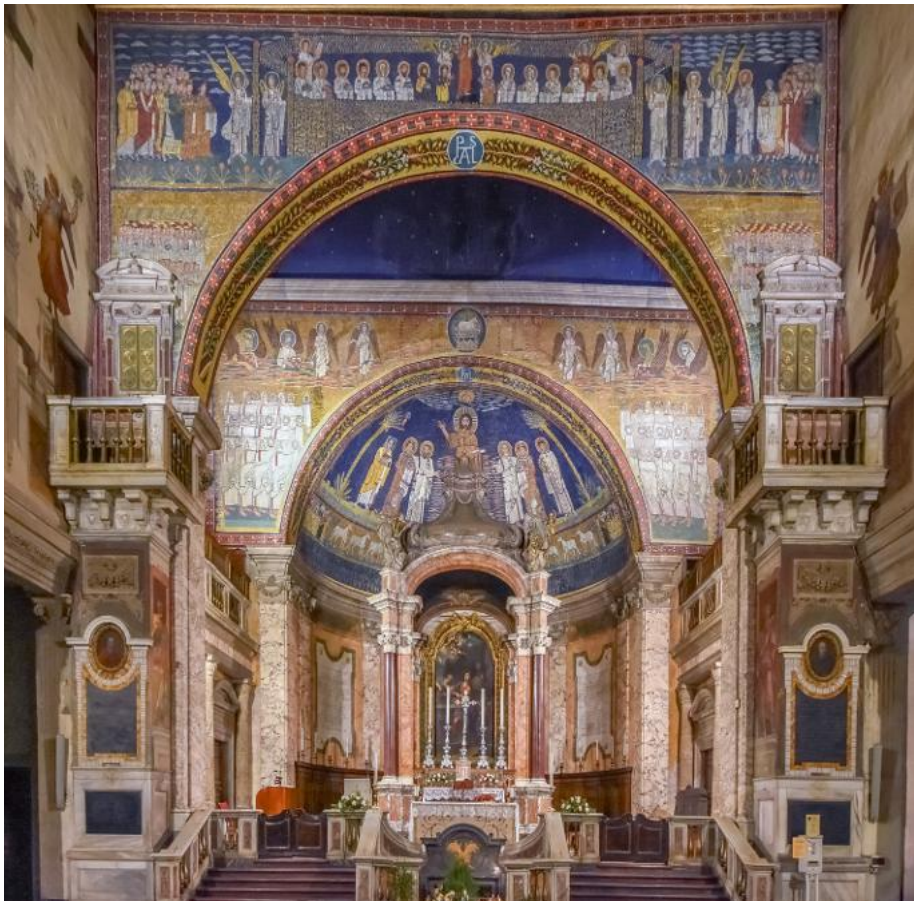
SPECIALIST LECTURERS: Dr Sally Dormer or Rowena Loverance

HISTORY • ART • ARCHITECTURE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
5 days, 4 nights	From $5,195 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- See key sights and artworks that illustrate Rome's shift from an imperial city to a medieval seat of religious power.
- Stay in a beautifully appointed 17th-century hotel, overlooking the Palatine Hill, and just a short walk from the Colosseum, Circus Maximus and the Roman Forum.
- Examine the newly rediscovered medieval frescoes in the Aula Gotica, some of the most important paintings in Rome from this period, not easily accessible to the general public.
- View pivotal mosaics, frescoes and sculptures that have shaped Christianity's worldview.



THIS PAGE: THE BASILICA OF SANTA PRASSEDE; TOP RIGHT: MOSAICS IN THE BASILICA OF SANTA PUDENZIANA; BOTTOM RIGHT: ROME



ROAD

Explore the ecclesiastical history of the Eternal City through its oldest churches, from late antiquity and the last of the Western Roman emperors, to the Middle Ages and the rise of papal primacy. As you admire centuries-old frescoes, mosaics and icons, your specialist lecturer will passionately illuminate the details with their deep knowledge of Rome's role within Christendom.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ROME**

Arrive in Rome, perhaps after enjoying *Ravenna: Mosaics and Marble* [see the previous page] with which this tour can be combined. Stroll past the crumbling arches and columns of the Roman Forum, an ancient centre of political decision-making and public speaking, as well as the Circus Maximus, once the racing ground of both aurigae and agitators (novice and experienced chariot drivers). Attend your welcome dinner at a local trattoria. (D)

: Hotel Kolbe (Days 1-4)

DAY 2: **ROME**

Begin your day at the Basilica of San Clemente, a 12th-century basilica on top of a fourth-century church, which itself was constructed atop a Roman Republican-era dwelling. Be sure to pause beneath the gilded apse mosaic, with its motif of scrolled vines and blooming flowers framing a crucified Christ. Continue to Santi Quattro Coronati, a minor basilica containing 17th-century frescoes by Giovanni da San Giovanni. After lunch, visit the Lateran Baptistry, founded by Pope Sixtus III in 440 AD; the fourth-century Mausoleum of Santa Costanza, among Rome's best-preserved buildings from Late Antiquity; and Sant'Agnese fuori le Mura, a minor basilica with notable, early Christian catacombs, which contain the remains of St Agnes. (B)

DAY 3: **ROME**

Today, explore more of the Eternal City's holiest buildings, starting with the Basilica of Santa Pudenziana, the oldest extant place of Christian worship in Rome; the early-medieval Basilica of Santa Prassede, said to house a column upon which Jesus was flogged before his crucifixion; and the Papal Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore. After lunch, proceed to the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, which is crowned by its original 12th-century belltower; and the Basilica of Santa Sabina, with its long, colonnaded nave and fifth-century cypress doors carved with biblical scenes. Return to your hotel on foot in time to attend an insightful lecture. (B)



DAY 4: **ROME**

Visit the Basilica of Santa Cecilia in Trastevere, dedicated to the patron saint of music; the Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere, which houses the medieval Madonna delle Clemenza icon; and the exterior of Casa dei Crescenzi, Rome's oldest surviving medieval residence, built in part from ancient Roman spoila. Enjoy lunch in the Jewish Quarter, then drive to your final two stops of the day: the Basilica of Santo Stefano Rotondo al Celio, with its striking circular design; and – last but not least – the Basilica of Santa Maria in Domnica, with its vibrant ninth-century apse mosaics. This evening, attend a farewell dinner at a local trattoria. (B, D)

DAY 5: **DEPART ROME**

Your tour concludes today in Rome. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,495
TOUR CODE: RPP

14 Mar - 18 Mar 27	Rowena Loverance
14 Nov - 18 Nov 27	Dr Sally Dormer
12 Mar - 16 Mar 28	Rowena Loverance
12 Nov - 16 Nov 28	Dr Sally Dormer

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

Combine this tour with ***Ravenna: Mosaics and Marble*** (on the previous page) and enjoy a nine-day, unbroken, deeper journey among Italy's beautiful artistic and cultural legacies.

MAJESTIC MALTA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
7 days, 6 nights	From $4,395 (land only)	From $7,995 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit a historic palazzo in Valletta accompanied by a Maltese noble.
- Take a guided tour of Fort St Angelo, the ancient seat of the Knights of Malta, followed by an aperitif.
- Experience the famous Maltan Waterfront through superior sea-view rooms.
- Tour the Grand Harbour on the water with a boat tour.
- Explore the second island, Gozo, by tuk-tuk.





ROAD ——

Malta might be one of Europe's smallest nations, but its strategic position in the Mediterranean has gifted it a rich culture cultivated over millennia. This tour goes beyond the resorts for which the island is famous, exploring instead the capital, Valletta; the headquarters of the Knights of Malta at Fort St Angelo; as well as the historic Hagar Qim temples and Mdina. Highlights include a tour of an aristocratic palazzo, and a tuk-tuk ride around Gozo island.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE MALTA**
Arrive in Malta and check into your hotel for the duration of the tour. (N)
: Waterfront Hotel (Days 1-6)

DAY 2: **VALLETTA**
Embark on a guided tour of Malta's compact capital, Valletta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site brimming with baroque marvels, twisting streets and charming cafés. Highlights include St John's Co-Cathedral and the palatial rooms of Casa Rocca Piccola. Enjoy a welcome lunch at Rampila Restaurant, uniquely situated in the city's 16th-century bastions. (B, L)

ABOVE: VALLETTA; TOP RIGHT: THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN OF TA' PINU, GOZO; BOTTOM RIGHT: THE BLUE GROTTO

DAY 3: **DAY AT LEISURE**

Spend a free day enjoying the facilities of the hotel, including the outdoor pool and sun terrace. Alternatively, explore more of the area, perhaps with an excursion to the tiny third island of Comino, famous for its enticing white sands and azure waters. (B)

DAY 4: **BIRGU**

Explore Birgu, including a visit to Fort St Angelo, the ancient seat of the Knights of Malta. Access to the order's private sections of the fort, which to this day enjoy extraterritoriality, has been arranged, followed by an aperitif. Next, enjoy a half-hour private harbour cruise aboard a traditional Maltese passenger boat. These colourful vessels are icons of Maltese culture. (B)

DAY 5: **GOZO**

Cross by ferry to Gozo, Malta's second largest island, for a full-day tour by tuk-tuk. Highlights include exploration of the main town of Victoria, famous for its 16th-century citadel; UNESCO-listed Ggantija temples, and the Xwejni salt pans, whose shimmering pools are still harvested in the ancient tradition. Stop en route for lunch. Return to Malta in the late afternoon. (B, L)



DAY 6: **HAGAR QIM • BLUE GROTTO • MDINA**

Embark on a day tour of the 5,000-year-old temple complex of Hagar Qim and the historic city of Mdina. The day also includes a boat ride to the Blue Grotto – a series of sea caves naturally lit by breaks in the rock. (B)

DAY 7: **DEPART MALTA**

Your tour concludes today in Malta. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,995
TOUR CODE: MLB

14 May - 20 May 27	12 May - 18 May 28
11 Jun - 17 Jun 27	09 Jun - 15 Jun 28
10 Sep - 16 Sep 27	08 Sep - 14 Sep 28
01 Oct - 07 Oct 27	29 Sep - 05 Oct 28

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SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Classic Sicily (pg 90). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Tour Extension: See page 96 for details on combining this tour with an extension to Ragusa and Modica in Italy.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

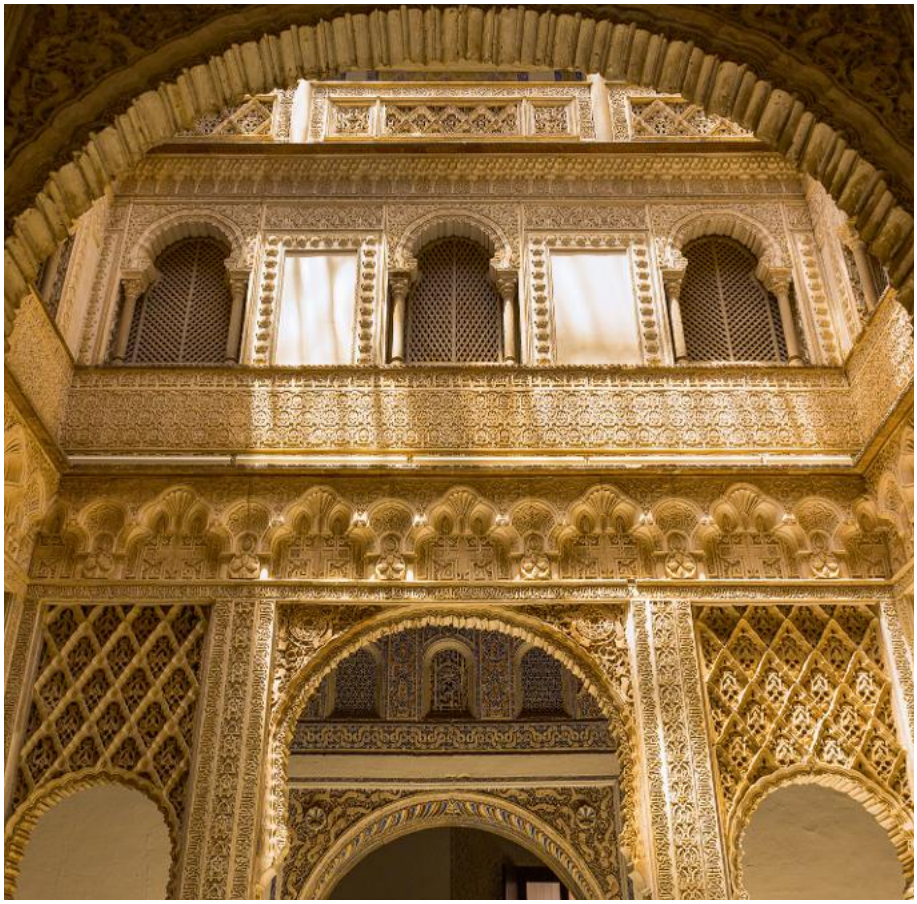
Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

SPLENDOURS OF ANDALUCÍA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
8 days, 7 nights	From $5,745 (land only)	From $13,395 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Discover Andalucía through its culinary traditions on an evening tapas experience with a local food expert.
- Explore the architectural masterpieces of Moorish Spain, from Seville's Alcázar and Córdoba's Mezquita to the magnificent Alhambra palace complex in Granada.
- Enjoy lunch at a beautiful, 15th-century former monastery.
- Visit a historic wine cellar in Jerez de la Frontera to learn about sherry production.





RAIL ++++
ROAD ——

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ALCAZAR REAL, SEVILLE; CARMONA; LA MEZQUITA, CÓRDOBA; PLAZA DE ESPAÑA, SEVILLE; ALHAMBRA, GRANADA

Andalucía is one of Spain's most iconic regions, strewn with superb Hispano-Moorish architecture. As well as visiting two of Spain's greatest sites – the Alhambra in Granada and the Mezquita in Córdoba – this tour explores some of the region's prettiest countryside and towns, delving deep into Andalucian history and culture. Further highlights include lunch at a historic monastery, and a tapas tour of Seville with a local food expert.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE SEVILLE**
Arrive in Seville and check into your hotel. (N)
: **Hotel Catalonia Giralda** (or similar) (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **SEVILLE**
Take a full-day tour of the city with a local guide, including a welcome lunch to meet your group. Explore Seville's cathedral, the largest in Europe and the burial place of Christopher Columbus; as well as Giralda, Alcázar and the Mercado del Barranco. In the evening, enjoy a tapas tour with a local food expert. (B, L)

DAY 3: **JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA**
Explore Jerez de la Frontera, the home of sherry, touring the city and tasting some of its finest wines in a cellar. (B)

DAY 4: **CARMONA • CÓRDOBA**
Depart Seville and drive to the village of Carmona; explore at leisure, before taking lunch at a restaurant housed within a former 15th-century monastery. Travel on to Córdoba. (B, L)
: Hotel Las Casas de la Juderia Córdoba (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **CÓRDOBA**
Take a half-day walking tour of Córdoba with a local guide, including visits to La Mezquita (the city's mosque) and the synagogue. (B)

DAY 6: **CÓRDOBA**
Tour the Medina Azahara this morning and in the afternoon catch a train to Granada and check into your hotel. (B)
: Meliá Granada (Days 6-7)





DAY 7: **GRANADA**
Embark on a half-day tour of Granada, which includes the Alhambra Palace. Built by the Moors in the 13th and 14th centuries, the palace is a spectacular complex of buildings and courtyards, and encompasses the celebrated Generalife gardens. In the evening, walk to a nearby restaurant for a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 8: **DEPART GRANADA**
Your tour concludes today in Granada. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,895
TOUR CODE: ALA

07 May - 14 May 27	05 May - 12 May 28
04 Jun - 11 Jun 27	02 Jun - 09 Jun 28
11 Jun - 18 Jun 27	09 Jun - 16 Jun 28
24 Sep - 01 Oct 27	22 Sep - 29 Sep 28
08 Oct - 15 Oct 27	06 Oct - 13 Oct 28
05 Nov - 12 Nov 27	03 Nov - 10 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Journey through the Heart of Spain (pg 108) and Morocco Explorer: Imperial Cities to Desert (pg 176). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF SPAIN

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
9 days, 8 nights	From $5,795 (land only)	From $18,795 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the Monastery of Yuste, once home to Charles V, and Francisco Pizarro's house in Trujillo.
- Admire Mérida's Roman ruins, arguably the most impressive outside of Italy.
- Stay in Alcalá de Henares, the birthplace of Catherine of Aragon and the home of Cervantes.
- Enjoy traditionally aged local ham and cheese, and tour a producer's drying house.





ROAD

Journey into Spain's cultural heartland, via three historic regions: Castille-Leon, one of the oldest Spanish kingdoms; Castille-La Mancha, the setting for *Don Quixote*; and rugged Extremadura, known as the "Land of the Conquistadors". You will experience some of Spain's best-preserved medieval centres, delicious local delicacies, and the three UNESCO-listed cities of Segovia, Salamanca and Toledo.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ALCALA DE HENARES**
Arrive in Alcalá de Henares, the birthplace of Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*'s author. Join a welcome dinner. (D)
: Parador Alcalá de Henares (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **ALCALÁ DE HENARES**
Take a morning tour of this storied municipality, with its notable university, cathedral and UNESCO-protected centre. Your afternoon is at leisure. (B)

DAY 3: **ALCALÁ • SALAMANCA**
Enjoy a tour of Segovia, including its first-century Roman aqueduct. Continue to Ávila, one of the oldest cities in Spain. Take a walking tour around the 14-metre-(46-feet-) high walls, which date back to the 11th century. Travel on to Salamanca. (B)
: **Hotel Catalonia Plaza Mayor** (or similar)

DAY 4: **SALAMANCA • MÉRIDA**
Enjoy a half-day walking tour of Salamanca's historic city centre, including the Plaza Mayor, one of the best examples of Baroque architecture in Spain; the cathedral; and the university, which – founded in 1134 – is the oldest in the Hispanic world. Depart Salamanca for Mérida, pausing en route to visit the Monastery of Yuste, once home to the Habsburg Emperor Charles V. (B, D)
: **Parador de Mérida** (or similar) (Days 4-6)

DAY 5: **MÉRIDA • CÁCERES**
Take a walking tour of Cáceres, one of the most charming cities in Extremadura. Explore the maze of narrow, cobbled streets that twist and turn among ancient palaces, mansions, arches and churches. From the defensive walls, enjoy views of the turrets, spires and gargoyles that have watched over the city for almost a millennium. (B, L)

DAY 6: **MÉRIDA • ZAFRA**
Enjoy a gastronomy tour to discover some of Spain's best-loved delicacies. Tour a traditional producer and drying house to learn about the ham-curing process before enjoying a tasting of the ham and local cheeses. Conclude with some free time to explore the village of Zafra, known as "Little Seville". Return to Mérida. (B)

DAY 7: **MÉRIDA • TOLEDO**
Today it is the capital of Extremadura, but Mérida was also once the capital of the Roman province of Lusitania. See the extensive Roman ruins – some of Spain's most impressive – including the amphitheatre. Continue to Toledo, pausing en route to visit the picturesque village of Trujillo, including the home of conquistador Francisco Pizarro. (B)
: **Hotel María Cristina** (or similar) (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **TOLEDO**
Tour this historic city, formerly the capital of Spain, and where Jews, Christians and Muslims coexisted peacefully – as reflected by its interesting mix of historical buildings. In the morning, take in the main sights, including the 13th-century Gothic cathedral, St Tome Church and Santa Maria La Blanca Synagogue, followed by time at leisure. (B)

DAY 9: **DEPART TOLEDO**
Conclude your tour in Toledo, or begin your extension. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,245
TOUR CODE: EHS

05 May - 13 May 27	03 May - 11 May 28
12 May - 20 May 27	10 May - 18 May 28
02 Jun - 10 Jun 27	31 May - 08 Jun 28
13 Oct - 21 Oct 27	04 Oct - 12 Oct 28
20 Oct - 28 Oct 27	11 Oct - 19 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of Andalucia (pg 106) and Morocco Explorer: Imperial Cities to Desert (pg 176). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

FAR LEFT: SEGOVIA CATHEDRAL;
ABOVE: SEGOVIA'S AQUEDUCT;
LEFT: MÉRIDA'S ROMAN RUINS

NEW FOR 2027 SPECIALIST-LED TOUR

MOORISH SPAIN: EL CID TO THE ALHAMBRA

SPECIALIST LECTURER: Diana Driscoll

HISTORY • ART • ARCHITECTURE

DURATION	SPECIALIST-LED TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
14 days, 13 nights	From $11,695 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Enjoy a detailed tour of the Alhambra, the finest palace-city of medieval Islamic Spain.
- Take guided visits to seven important UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Catch high-speed trains between ancient cities, admiring Iberia's Meseta Central plateau as you travel.
- Visit the cellars in Valdepenas, known for its aloque bottlings, created by co-fermenting red and white grapes, and taste some of its wines.





RAIL ++++
ROAD ——

Before there was Andalucía, there was al-Andalus. Medieval Spain experienced centuries of Muslim rule, first under the Umayyad Caliphate, then as a collection of independent emirates. Led by a specialist lecturer, this tour delves into Spain's Islamic period – both the conflict and commingling with Christendom – taking you to examples of Hispano-Moorish architecture, including seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BURGOS**
Arrive in the city of Burgos to check into your hotel. (D)
: Hotel Rice Palacio de los Blasones / Hotel Abba Burgos (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **BURGOS**
Explore Burgos, one of medieval Castile's most beautiful and influential cities, with visits to Burgos Cathedral, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture and the resting place of El Cid, as well as the historic centre, including the Arco de Santa María, Plaza Mayor and Paseo del Espolón. (B)

DAY 3: **SANTO DOMINGO DE LA CALZADA • ZARAGOZA**
Transfer to your hotel in Zaragoza, pausing in the charming town of Santo Domingo de la Calzada en route. (B, L)
: Hotel Palafox (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **ZARAGOZA**
Discover the medieval heritage of Zaragoza, beginning with a walk through its historic centre followed by a guided visit to the 11th-century Aljafería Palace – built when the city was the capital of an independent Muslim state, and replete with well-preserved Islamic architecture. (B)

DAY 5: **TOLEDO**
Take a high-speed train through the plains of Castile and León, via Madrid, to Toledo and transfer to your hotel.* (B, D)
: Hotel Sercotel Toledo Renacimiento (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **TOLEDO**
Tour the historic centre of Toledo, where Muslims, Christians and Jews engaged in peaceful exchange over centuries, giving rise to its nickname: the "City of Three Cultures". Your tour includes a guided visit to the Synagogue of Santa María la Blanca, an outstanding example of Mudéjar architecture. (B)

DAY 7: **VALDEPEÑAS • CÓRDOBA**
Travel to Córdoba, stopping en route in Valdepeñas for a wine cellar visit and tasting, then check into your hotel. (B)
: Hotel Las Casas de la Judería Córdoba (Days 7-8)**



DAY 8: **CÓRDOBA**
Córdoba became the Umayyad caliphate's capital before the city was conquered by the Crown of Castile. This blend of Islamic and Christian influence is exemplified by the magnificent mosque-cathedral, where you enjoy a guided visit after strolling through the city's streets. (B)

DAY 9: **CÓRDOBA • SEVILLE**
This morning, visit the 10th-century Medina Azahara, a fortified palace-city established by the first caliph of al Andalus, Abd ar-Rahman III. Then take a high-speed train to Seville and check into your hotel. (B)**
: Hotel Las Casas de la Judería Seville (Days 9-10)

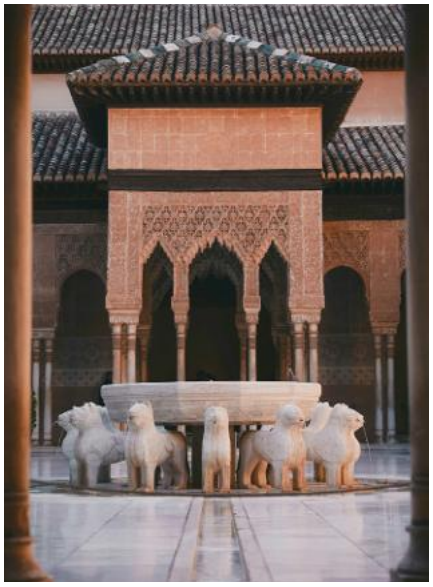
DAY 10: **SEVILLE**
Today's tour of Seville delves into the history of Andalucía's capital. Following a walk in the old town, enjoy guided visits of Seville Cathedral and its minaret-turned-belltower, built on the site of the former Almohad Great Mosque; and the Royal Alcázar, with its centuries-old Islamic and Christian architecture. (B)

DAY 11: **ANTEQUERA • GRANADA**
Travel to your hotel in Granada, stopping in Antequera en route to visit the Moorish fortress of Alcazaba and the historic Plaza de San Sebastián. (B)
: Sercotel Palacio de los Gamboa (Days 11-13)

DAY 12: **GRANADA**
Set at the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains, Granada is an ancient city that became a centre of power during the Al-Andalus era. Visit the Alhambra, the finest surviving palace-city of Spain's medieval Islamic period, including its Nasrid palaces and the Alcazaba fortress, as well as the Generalife summer palace nearby. Later, enjoy a flamenco show with dinner. (B, D)

DAY 13: **GRANADA**
Spend half a day exploring more of Granada's medieval treasures, including the hillside neighbourhood of Albaicín – shaped by the Nasrid emirate and reshaped by the Catholic monarchs. (B)

DAY 14: **DEPART GRANADA**
Your tour concludes today in Granada. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,295
TOUR CODE: MSP

15 Apr - 28 Apr 27	Diana Driscoll
14 Oct - 27 Oct 27	Diana Driscoll
13 Apr - 26 Apr 28	Diana Driscoll
12 Oct - 25 Oct 28	Diana Driscoll

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Journey through the Heart of Spain (pg 108) and Moroccan Explorer: Imperial Cities to Desert (pg 176). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

***Trains**: Train tickets include a 20kg bag each and a carry-on. On day five, guests change trains in Madrid, and carry their own bags.

****Hotels in Córdoba and Seville** are not accessible by bus and are, instead, a two-to-10 minute walk away.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

FAR LEFT: CÓRDOBA'S MOSQUE-CATHEDRAL; ABOVE: GRANADA; LEFT: BURGOS CATHEDRAL

SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

PORTUGUESE POUSADAS

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
8 days, 7 nights	From $5,395 (land only)	From $8,045 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Stay in historically significant buildings, such as a Moorish castle, and an Augustinian monastery.
- Discover the colourful Pena Palace and learn the secrets behind Portugal's world-renowned pastéis de nata tarts.
- Visit historic wine estates and cruise through the UNESCO-listed landscapes of the Douro Valley.
- Explore one of the oldest centres of learning, the University of Coimbra, and its magnificent Biblioteca Joanina.





ROAD ——

Discover the old-fashioned charm, medieval architecture and rugged landscape of Portugal on this eight-day journey from Lisbon to Porto. Staying at two of the country's famed pousada properties – one of which was once a Moorish castle, and the other, a 12th-century monastery – explore historic regional centres including Coimbra and Porto; and the picturesque, terraced hillsides and vineyards of the Douro valley, where port – the world-renowned fortified wine – is still produced.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE LISBON**
Arrive in Lisbon and check into your pousada, not far from the Portuguese capital. Enjoy a welcome dinner with the group at your hotel. (D)
: Pousada Castelo de Palmela (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **LISBON**
Half-day tour of Lisbon, where grand squares, elegant boulevards and historic neighbourhoods reflect centuries of maritime heritage. Visit the richly ornamented Jerónimos Monastery, a masterpiece of Manueline architecture, admire the 16th-century Belém Tower, and wander the cobbled streets of the old town. Afterwards, enjoy time at leisure to explore at your own pace. (B)

ABOVE: THE DOURO RIVER VALLEY; TOP LEFT: THE UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA; BOTTOM LEFT: LISBON

DAY 3: **SINTRA**
Visit to the UNESCO-listed parish of Sintra and Pena Palace – once the summer residence of King Ferdinand II. Enter a local bakery for an introduction to making pastéis de nata tarts. At the conclusion of your tour, enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Palmela. (B)

DAY 4: **COIMBRA & GUIMARÃES**
Depart Palmela and drive to Guimarães. Stop en route at Batalha Monastery, and Coimbra, home of Portugal's oldest and most prestigious university. Tour the campus including the Baroque Biblioteca Joanina, one of the most ornate libraries in the world. Enjoy free time in Coimbra before continuing to Guimarães. (B, D)
: Pousada Mosteiro de Guimarães
(Days 4-7)



DAY 5: **PORTO**
Take a half-day tour of Porto, the country's second city. Today's highlights include the decorative Chapel of the Souls, São Bento Railway Station with its blue azulejo tiles, and the UNESCO-listed waterfront in Ribeira. Later, enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore the city before returning to Guimarães. (B)

DAY 6: **GUIMARÃES**
Enjoy a full day at leisure to return to Porto by train, or explore the historic city of Braga, one of Portugal's most celebrated pilgrimage sites, with Baroque churches and sweeping views. (B)

DAY 7: **DOURO VALLEY**
Take a full tour of the Douro Valley, famous for its steep, terraced vineyards carved into mountains. Visit two quintas (wine estates) for wine tasting, and a three-course farewell lunch with wine. Later, enjoy a relaxing boat tour on the Douro to admire the region from the water. (B, L)

DAY 8: **DEPART GUIMARÃES**
Conclude your tour in Guimarães or begin your tailor-made extension, perhaps exploring more of Porto or travelling north to Santiago de Compostela. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,645
TOUR CODE: PFJ

14 May - 21 May 27	12 May - 19 May 28
04 Jun - 11 Jun 27	02 Jun - 09 Jun 28
10 Sep - 17 Sep 27	08 Sep - 15 Sep 28
24 Sep - 01 Oct 27	22 Sep - 29 Sep 28
08 Oct - 15 Oct 27	06 Oct - 13 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $7,395
TOUR CODE: PFJ

25 Oct - 01 Nov 27	23 Oct - 30 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.

MADRID

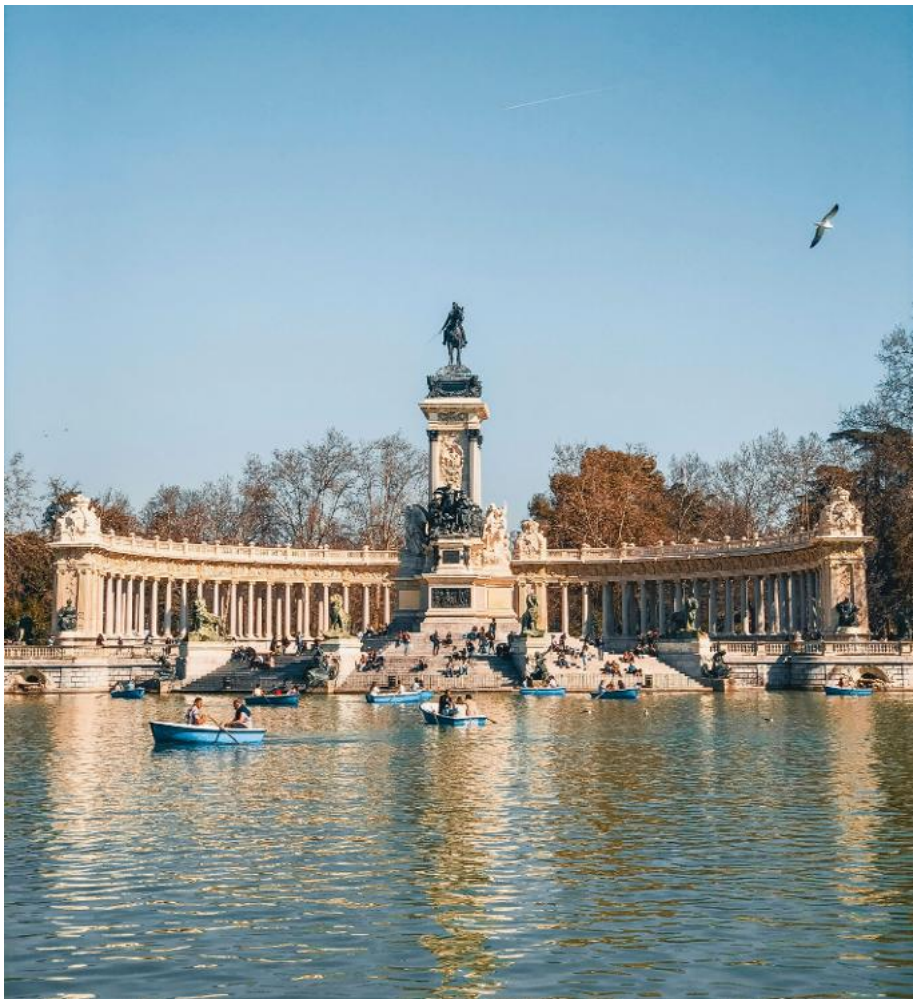
3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,095

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Journey through the Heart of Spain

With its narrow-laned old quarters, handsome plazas filled with regal statues, and museums housing masterpieces of European art, the Spanish capital is well worth your time. For the imposing, visit Madrid's grand Royal Palace, and for the reposing, choose Retiro Park, with its lakes, statues and manicured gardens. Madrileños love to eat well, and you are spoilt for options thanks to the city's numerous cafés, bars and tapas restaurants open all hours. The shopping is also excellent with a wide selection of stores, boutiques and local markets.

: Hotel Catalonia Puerta del Sol



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: EL RETIRO PARK, MADRID; THE ALHAMBRA, GRANADA; GIBRALTAR; CASCAIS, PORTUGAL; TOLEDO



TOLEDO

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $595

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Journey through the Heart of Spain

A short high-speed rail ride from Madrid is one of Spain's most fascinating cities: Toledo. Its medieval old town is a jumble of narrow, winding streets, perched on a small hill above the Tajo River. The dominating cathedral is a remarkable Gothic structure containing the tombs of kings, and art by El Greco, Velázquez and Goya. Other highlights include the Alcázar fortress, which occupies the highest point of the city; the 13th-century synagogue of Santa María La Blanca; and Museo del Greco, a museum dedicated to the Spanish-Renaissance artist.

: Hotel María Cristina Toledo

SEVILLE

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,095

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Splendours of Andalucía

In Seville, you will find streets fragranced by orange trees and alive with flamenco music and chatter over tapas. This romantic city was one of the earliest Moorish conquests, becoming the second city of al-Andalus, and many remnants from this riveting period remain. That includes Seville's Gothic cathedral – originally a mosque whose marvellous minaret is now the Giralda belltower. The cathedral is also the burial place of Christopher Columbus. Another essential stop is the Alcázar of Seville, a royal palace displaying a medley of Mudéjar, Moorish, Renaissance and Gothic design.

: Catalonia Giralda

GRANADA

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $945

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Splendours of Andalucía

The Andalucían city of Granada is set below the snow-capped peaks of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. It is home to the Alhambra, a Moorish stronghold and a triumph of Islamic art and craftsmanship; the nearby hillside gardens of the Generalife; and the Gothic cathedral with its Royal Chapel.

: Meliá Granada





GIBRALTAR

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,645

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Splendours of Andalucía

An easy trip from Spain, Gibraltar offers a blend of British and Mediterranean cultures. The Rock dominates this small peninsula; a cable car to the top lets you gaze across the sea as far as Morocco, while the historic Great Siege Tunnels and stalactite-adorned St Michael's Cave take you inside the iconic monolith.

: The Eliott Hotel

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,245

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Portuguese Pousadas

Enjoy the historic charms of Santiago de Compostela, the capital of the northern Galicia region and the final destination on the Way of Saint James pilgrim route. The city's UNESCO-listed Old Town is a must, with its medley of Gothic, Baroque and Romanesque buildings, not least the cathedral with its ornate towers.

: Hotel Compostela

PORTO

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,095

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Portuguese Pousadas

Though known for its port wine, Porto – Portugal's second-largest city – is admired locally as a beautiful, walkable riverine city, where medieval streets accommodate fine modern and contemporary architecture, while the banks of the Douro widen to meet the Atlantic. Take in the Baroque cathedral, the beloved Lello Bookshop, as well as ornate cafes, or relax by the coast.

: Pestana A Brasileira



CASCAIS AND ESTORIL

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $995

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Portuguese Pousadas

Thirty kilometres (18 miles) west of Lisbon are the coastal resorts of Cascais and Estoril, part of the Portuguese Riviera. Popular among royals and nobles since the 19th century, these towns tempt with their sandy beaches, palatial villas, and cobblestone centres, sprinkled with restaurants and shops. Cascais's marina has played host to the America's Cup, while Casino Estoril helped to inspire Ian Fleming's first Bond novel, *Casino Royale*.

: Hotel Inglaterra Estoril

NEW FOR 2027

TREASURES OF GREAT BRITAIN

DURATION	SMALL-GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $9,495 (land only)	Call for price	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Go beyond the major landmarks to discover London's lesser-known treasures, such as Temple Church, the Savoy Chapel and Sir John Soane's Museum.
- See one of the world's best-preserved original copies of the Magna Carta, one of the most influential political and legal documents.
- Take in the little-seen Eltham Palace, a medieval royal residence with glamorous 1930s Art Deco additions.
- Cross the low, tidal waters to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne – an unforgettable, atmospheric pilgrimage site.





Revel in the heritage of Great Britain on this sweeping tour through England, Wales and Scotland, guided by the experts. Beginning in London and finishing in Edinburgh, you take in medieval castles, royal palaces, grand cathedrals and dreaming spires, and meander from green pastures to lofty mountains and coastal idylls.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE LONDON**
Arrive in London and attend your evening welcome dinner. (D)
: Clermont Victoria Hotel (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **LONDON**
Discover the capital's landmarks as lesser-known attractions, including Westminster Abbey and Covent Garden, as well the Savoy Chapel, Temple Church, St Etheldreda's Church and Sir John Soane's Museum. (B, L)

DAY 3: **LONDON**
Spend time getting to know the city's outlying regions with a visit to the art-deco Eltham Palace; Chaldon Church, which houses a rare medieval fresco; and Hampton Court Palace, a grand residence given to Henry VIII by Cardinal Wolsey. (B)

ABOVE: OXFORD; TOP RIGHT: SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK, WALES; BOTTOM RIGHT: STONEHENGE



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $7,295
TOUR CODE: TGB

31 May - 14 Jun 27	29 May - 12 Jun 28
23 Aug - 06 Sep 27	21 Aug - 04 Sep 28
20 Sep - 04 Oct 27	08 Sep - 02 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

DAY 4: **SALISBURY • STONEHENGE • OXFORD**
Travel west to Salisbury Cathedral, famed for its towering spire and rare copy of the Magna Carta; and the ancient sites of Old Sarum and Stonehenge; before arriving in the university city of Oxford. (B, L)
: Voco Spiers (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **OXFORD • BLENHEIM PALACE**
Explore Oxford University's famous colleges and the Bodleian Library with a local historian. Visit Blenheim Palace – birthplace of Winston Churchill – and its landscaped park before returning to Oxford for a relaxed evening. (B)

DAY 6: **SHROPSHIRE • CAERNARFON**
Journey to the England-Wales border, exploring Ludlow Castle, walking part of Offa's Dyke and visiting the pilgrimage site of St Winifred's Well. End the day in the Welsh town of Caernarfon. (B, D)
: St George's Hotel (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **CAERNARFON • SNOWDONIA**
Visit the 13th-century Caernarfon Castle, set on the River Seiont and affording excellent views of the harbour and mountains. Then journey into Snowdonia (Eryri) National Park to hike or drive amid the very same mountains and lakes. (B)

DAY 8: **CHESTER • HALIFAX • YORK**
Travel across northern England, stopping in Chester, known for its well-preserved Roman walls, and the 18th-century Piece Hall in Halifax. Head to medieval York for an evening at leisure. (B, L)
: Indigo York (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **YORK**
Enjoy a guided tour of York, among England's most charming and historic destinations, including York Minster, the oft-photographed Shambles street and the ancient city walls. Spend the afternoon exploring independently its riverside walks and tea rooms. (B)

DAY 10: **DURHAM • NORTHUMBERLAND**
Travel north via the historic city of Durham, visiting its magnificent cathedral and castle. Head into Northumberland, the last English county before Scotland. (B, L)
: Indigo Newcastle

DAY 11: **LINDISFARNE • EDINBURGH**
Cross the causeway to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, an early site of Celtic Christianity, to explore its ancient priory. Cross into Scotland; stay in Edinburgh. (B)
: The Bruntsfield (Days 11-14)

DAY 12: **EDINBURGH**
Explore the historic centre of Scotland's capital city, including Edinburgh Castle, St Giles' Cathedral and Greyfriars Kirk. Finish the day with a whisky experience celebrating Scotland's national drink. (B)

DAY 13: **ST ANDREWS • EDINBURGH**
Travel along the coast, through the fishing villages of Fife, to St Andrews. Here you take a guided walking tour, visiting the third-oldest university in the English-speaking world, the St Andrews Cathedral ruins, and the Old Course – the world's oldest golf course. (B)

DAY 14: **EDINBURGH**
Visit Holyroodhouse Palace and the King's Gallery before a free afternoon to explore Rosslyn Chapel or the Scottish National Gallery. Join a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 15: **DEPART EDINBURGH**
Your tour concludes in Edinburgh. (B)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



NEW FOR 2027

JOURNEY THROUGH IRELAND

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $11,795 (land only)	Call for price	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Experience traditional rural crafts with a Mourne stone wall-building experience.
- Visit Pearse Lyons Distillery, an independent whiskey distillery housed in an 18th-century church and sample its drinks.
- Explore the prehistoric tomb of Newgrange, a UNESCO World Heritage Site older than the Pyramids.
- Tour Hillsborough Castle, the British Royal Family's official residence in Northern Ireland.





ROAD ——

Explore the breadth of the Emerald Isle on this comprehensive tour visiting both the Republic and Northern Ireland, including their storied capital cities. Wander historic castles, country estates and insightful museums, sample local flavours – from traditional bread to fresh oysters – and spend time immersed in folkloric landscapes, including the relic-strewn Boyne Valley, the soaring Mourne Mountains, the Giant's Causeway and the lunar-like Burren.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE DUBLIN**
Arrive in Dublin and enjoy a welcome dinner this evening. (D)
🛏: **Iveagh Garden Hotel** (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **DUBLIN**
See the sights of Dublin, Ireland's effervescent and walkable capital, founded on either side of the River Liffey more than 1,000 years ago. Continue to Dublin Castle for a guided visit, followed by a self-guided exploration of the National Museum of Archaeology. Later, visit the Pearse Lyons Distillery – housed within an 18th-century church – and sample its celebrated whiskey. (B)

DAY 3: **COUNTY WICKLOW • DUBLIN**
Travel south of Dublin to County Wicklow, known as the "Garden of Ireland" for both its wild and landscaped beauty. Here you

visit the Powerscourt estate, including its stately mansion, ornamental garden and natural waterfall, followed by a visit to the Glendalough ruins. (B)

DAY 4: **BOYNE VALLEY • COUNTY DOWN**
Start the day in the Boyne Valley with a visit to the prehistoric tomb of Newgrange, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is older than the Pyramids of Giza. Afterwards, cross the border into Northern Ireland. (B, D)
: Slieve Donard (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **MOURNE MOUNTAINS**
Embark on an excursion to the Mournes, a range of granite mountains that includes Northern Ireland's tallest peaks. Built between 1904 and 1922, the Mourne Wall stretches across 15 of the summits; here you participate in a stone wall-building experience for insight into this method of construction. (B)

DAY 6: **BELFAST**
Head north towards Belfast, stopping in Newtownards for a traditional breadmaking session at a farmhouse kitchen, followed by a visit to Hillsborough Castle – the British Royal Family's official residence in Northern Ireland – for a self-guided tour of its staterooms and landscaped gardens. (B, L)
: Fitzwilliam Hotel (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **BELFAST**
Discover Belfast on a guided walking tour of its centre. Then visit the hull-shaped Titanic Belfast museum, which tells the story of the ship's ill-fated voyage in the former shipyard where it was built.
The rest of your day is at leisure, or prebook an optional Black Cab Tour of the city. (B)

DAY 8: **CAUSEWAY COAST • DERRY**
Head north to the Causeway Coast for a self-guided audio tour of the Giant's Causeway. Here, thousands of interlocking basalt columns stagger down from the cliffs to the sea, forming a coastal path. Continue to Derry for a privately guided walk along its 17th-century walls. (B, D)
: The Ebrington (or similar)

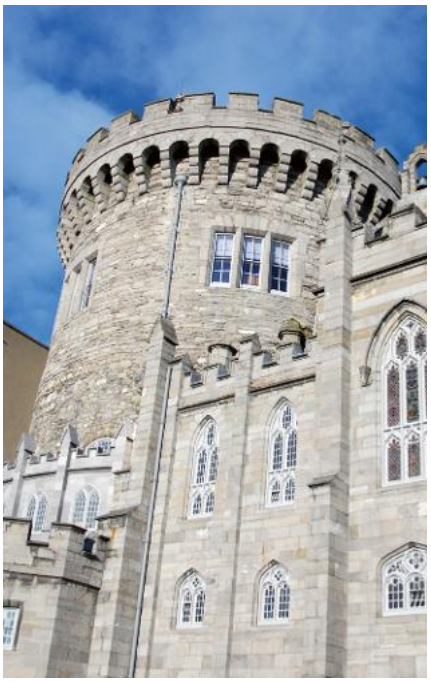
DAY 9: **SLIGO • COUNTY MAYO**
Enjoy a taste of the Atlantic with an oyster experience in the town of Sligo, then visit the National Museum of Country Life in the grounds of Turlough Park House, where exhibits reveal the story of the rural Irish between 1850 and 1950. (B, D)
: Westport Coast Hotel (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **CONNEMARA**
Spend a day in Connemara – a coastal region of peaks, lakes and heaths – with a self-guided visit to Kylemore Abbey. (B, L)

DAY 11: **GALWAY • COUNTY CLARE**
Arrive in the lively coastal city of Galway, well known for its bohemian spirit, rich cultural scene and welcoming atmosphere. Enjoy its cobbled streets and colourful shopfronts, and consider an optional guided food tour, exploring the city through its flavours. (B)
: Old Ground Hotel (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **THE BURREN**
Cross the Burren, a lunar-like limestone landscape, arriving at the Cliffs of Moher for a self-guided walk. Stop in at Rathbaun Farm, a working farm complete with a 250-year-old cottage, for tea and a sheepdog demonstration. (B)

DAY 13: **DEPART COUNTY CLARE**
Your tour concludes in County Clare. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,895
TOUR CODE: JTI

13 Jun - 25 Jun 27	11 Jun - 23 Jun 28
11 Aug - 23 Aug 27	09 Aug - 21 Sep 28
22 Sep - 04 Oct 27	20 Sep - 02 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



ABOVE: THE RECORD TOWER, DUBLIN CASTLE; LEFT: GIANT'S CAUSEWAY; FAR LEFT: MOURNE MOUNTAINS SEEN FROM TYRELLA BEACH, COUNTY DOWN

NEW FOR 2027

GRAND TOUR OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND

DURATION	SMALL-GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $9,295 (land only)	Call for price	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Experience the beauty of the Lake District with a cruise on Lake Windermere.
- Board the Royal Yacht Britannia, once the official vessel for Queen Elizabeth II and the British Royal Family.
- Enter Trinity College, home to the magnificent Book of Kells, and browse the historic shelves of Marsh's Library.
- Explore Edinburgh Castle, taste Scotch whisky and learn about traditional Highland tartans.





FLIGHT
RAIL
ROAD

Journey across Britain and Ireland on this whistlestop introduction to their great cities, ancient monuments and inspiring landscapes. You get to know the cosmopolitan capitals of England, Scotland and Ireland, pass through green and pleasant lands – from the Cotswolds to Snowdonia and the Lake District – and spend time with some of the oldest treasures of these two island nations, including Hadrian's Wall, Newgrange and Stonehenge.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE LONDON**
Arrive in London and attend your evening welcome drinks and dinner. (D)
: Clermont Victoria Hotel (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **LONDON, ENGLAND**
See the British capital's best-loved sights as well as its hidden attractions, including Westminster Abbey; Eleanor Cross, a memorial to Queen Eleanor of Castile and an early example of medieval commemorative architecture; Sir John Soane's Museum; and Horse Guards Parade. Enjoy a welcome lunch at Simpson's in the Stand one of London's oldest and best-loved restaurants; and visit Ye Olde Mitre, one of the city's oldest, most traditional pubs. (B, L)

ABOVE: THE ROMAN BATHS AT BATH, ENGLAND; TOP RIGHT: CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, DUBLIN; BOTTOM RIGHT: LAKE WINDERMERE, ENGLAND

DAY 3: **SALISBURY • STONEHENGE • BATH**
Travel to the gothic Salisbury Cathedral, crowned by the UK's tallest church spire. Inside, see one of the best-preserved copies of the Magna Carta. Continue to Old Sarum – the ruins of an ancient hillfort – followed by Stonehenge and its prehistoric ring of standing stones. Arrive in Bath for an evening to explore its elegant Georgian streets. (B)
: Abbey Hotel Bath

DAY 4: **COTSWOLDS • LUDLOW • CHESTER**
Journey into the Cotswolds, a region of hills and honey-hued settlements. Proceed to the market town of Ludlow to visit its castle, and north to Chester, famed for its Roman walls and Tudor buildings. (B)
: The Queens/Hotel Indigo Chester (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **CONWY, WALES • SNOWDONIA • CHESTER**
Cross into Wales, to the pretty waterfront town of Conwy, visiting the medieval castle; and Eryri National Park (Snowdonia) to admire its lakes and mountains – among the tallest in Britain. (B)

DAY 6: **LAKE DISTRICT**
Continue north to the Lake District, a national park whose beauty has inspired poets and authors. Take a scenic cruise on Lake Windermere, England's largest natural lake. The rest of your day is at leisure to explore this landscape of fells, pastures and glacial waters. (B, L)
: Lakeside Hotel & Spa (or similar)

DAY 7: **NORTHUMBERLAND • EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND**
Walk a stretch of Hadrian's Wall, the ancient Roman boundary between England and Scotland. Continue on to Bamburgh Castle, whose medieval character and impressive position has earnt it many an on-screen cameo. Cross into Scotland and transfer to your hotel in Edinburgh. (B, D)
: The Bruntsfield (Days 7-9)

DAY 8: **EDINBURGH**
Explore Scotland's capital, starting at Edinburgh Castle, which overlooks the city from its lofty volcanic rock and contains both the Crown Jewels and the Stone of Destiny. Stroll the Royal Mile to St Giles' – one of three cathedrals in the city – and on to Greyfriars Kirk, a beautiful gothic building with some of Scotland's oldest stained glass. Finish the day with a whisky tasting experience. (B)



DAY 9: **EDINBURGH**
Call in at the moored royal yacht, Britannia, which once carried Queen Elizabeth II and family on 968 state visits before becoming one of the Scottish capita's leading attractions. Later visit the Scottish Tartan Experience for insight into the evolution of these textiles, from an early signifier of clan membership into an international symbol of Caledonian identity. (B)

DAY 10: **DUBLIN, IRELAND**
Transfer to the airport for your short flight to Dublin; check into your hotel. The rest of your day is at leisure. (B, D)
: Iveagh Garden Hotel (Days 10-12)

DAY 11: **DUBLIN**
Discover Dublin on a panoramic city tour, visiting the landmarks and grand Georgian streets on the north and south side of the River Liffey. Enter Trinity College and see The Book of Kells – a ninth-century illuminated manuscript – then visit St Patrick's Cathedral. End at Marsh's Library, Ireland's oldest public library. (B, L)

DAY 12: **BOYNE VALLEY**
Escape the city into the Boyne Valley, whose grassy hills are strewn with neolithic sites, and tour the prehistoric complex of Newgrange. After, explore the medieval ruins of Trim Castle. (B)

DAY 13: **DEPART DUBLIN**
Your tour concludes in Dublin. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $5,745
TOUR CODE: UKI

01 Jun - 13 Jun 27	30 Jun - 12 Jul 28
03 Aug - 15 Aug 27	01 Aug - 13 Aug 28
07 Sep - 19 Sep 27	05 Sep - 17 Sep 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



EXTENSIONS BRITAIN AND IRELAND

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.



WALES: CARDIFF AND THE SOUTH

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,195

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Grand tour of Britain and Ireland

Wales imparts its children with 'music in their blood and poetry in their soul', to paraphrase local poet Brian Harris. On this extension, you explore the south of this proud Celtic nation, including the capital and cultural epicentre, Cardiff with the option to explore elsewhere: the wild coast, harbour towns and castle of Pembrokeshire, and the bucolic charms of Carmarthenshire – the land which so inspired Welsh bard, Dylan Thomas.

: Clayton Hotel Cardiff

SCOTLAND: GLASGOW, HIGHLANDS AND THE COAST

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $1,995

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Treasures of Great Britain

This extension bases you in Glasgow, Scotland's largest city, where grand Victorian buildings recall its time as the industrial powerhouse of the British Empire. From here, you can visit Stirling, with its storeyed Old Town, imposing crag-topped castle, and monument to William Wallace – who famously led the Scots to victory during the Battle of Sterling. Or range out to the Highlands for its twinkling lochs and lofty mountains, and finish on the west coast in Ayrshire, birthplace of Robert Burns, where Culzean Castle gazes over the Firth of Clyde.

: Maldron Hotel Glasgow



ABOVE: THE ROMAN BATHS AT BATH, ENGLAND; TOP RIGHT: CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, DUBLIN; BOTTOM RIGHT: LAKE WINDERMERE, ENGLAND

IRELAND: COUNTY KERRY AND THE COAST

6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS FROM $3,995

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Journey Through Ireland

Southwest Ireland beckons with its green pastures, pretty harbours, dramatic headlands and high peaks. This extension takes you there, basing you in the County Kerry town of Killarney and affording enough leisure time to independently explore. You could discover Ireland's first national park by boat and horse-drawn jaunty car, drive a stretch of the famous Ring of Kerry scenic route, cruise around the Dingle Peninsula in search of marine life, and enjoy an evening of lively Irish music, dancing and storytelling.

: Killarney Avenue Hotel







ENGLAND: THE COTSWOLDS

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $2,150

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Treasures of Great Britain

The Cotswolds is designated one of England's Areas of Outstanding National Beauty – and for good reason. This extension takes in the green undulations and honey-hued market towns of this picturesque region, basing you in the quintessentially Cotswoldian city of Bath. Your tour can include, should you want, the photogenic towns of Bourton-on-the-Water, Bibury and Broadway, and the UNESCO-listed stately home of Blenheim Palace – birthplace of Winston Churchill.

: Hotel Indigo Bath

ENGLAND: THE GARDENS OF KENT

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $2,495

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Treasures of Great Britain

Kent was nicknamed the 'Garden of England' for its extensive orchards and hop farms, but today it could claim the title for its many attractive formal gardens – often part of grand country estates. Basing you in Royal Tunbridge Wells, this extension is able to include crossing the Kent countryside, visiting Sissinghurst Castle Garden and Canterbury – famed for its UNESCO-listed cathedral – with the chance to stop into other pretty villages and market towns.

: Hotel du Vin Tunbridge Wells

NEW FOR 2027

GRAND TOUR OF CENTRAL EUROPE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
16 days, 15 nights	From $11,845 (land only)	Call for price	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Take an exclusive, private tour of the Pilsner Urquell Brewery to learn more about local Czech beermaking craftsmanship.
- Discover Prague's medieval charm with an early-morning visit to its castle.
- Explore Sanssouci Palace, Frederick the Great's magnificent summer residence.
- Embody the spirit of the Grand Tour of Europe, journeying by rail from Vienna to Prague.
- Enjoy a unique spring-water tasting in Mariánské Lázně, discovering the character of its mineral springs.





RAIL ++++
ROAD ——

From Berlin to Prague, this Grand Tour of Central Europe traces the region's layered history: the Brandenburg Gate and Checkpoint Charlie, Sanssouci Palace and Wittenberg's Castle Church, Warsaw's rebuilt Old Town and the pilgrim shrine of Jasna Góra, Kraków's Wawel Castle and Cloth Hall, Budapest's Fisherman's Bastion, Vienna's Hofburg and Spanish Riding School, and Prague's Charles Bridge. Sixteen days by coach and first-class rail, with private tastings at Pilsner Urquell and Mariánské Lázně, and optional excursions to Auschwitz-Birkenau and Bratislava for those who want to go further.

DAY 1: **BERLIN**
Arrive in Berlin and check into your hotel. Later, attend a welcome dinner. (D)
: The Hoxton Charlottenburg
(Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **BERLIN**
Take a half-day tour, tracing Berlin's modern history and civic life through its landmarks: the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag, the Holocaust Memorial, Potsdamer Platz, Checkpoint Charlie, Gendarmenmarkt and Alexanderplatz. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure, and perhaps consider a visit to Museum Island, a centrally located complex of world-class museums set on an island in the Spree and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (B)

ABOVE: THE OLD TOWN MARKET SQUARE, WARSAW; TOP RIGHT: THE ORANGERY PALACE IN SANSSOUCI PARK, BERLIN; BOTTOM RIGHT: VIENNA

DAY 3: **POTSDAM AND WITTENBERG**
Enjoy a morning in Potsdam, touring the interior and gardens of Sanssouci Palace, passing the New Palace and the 18th-century houses of the Dutch Quarter, and taking in the Old Market Square. The afternoon continues to Lutherstadt Wittenberg, where Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of Castle Church; St Mary's Church, where he preached, and the Luther and Melanchthon houses. (B, L)

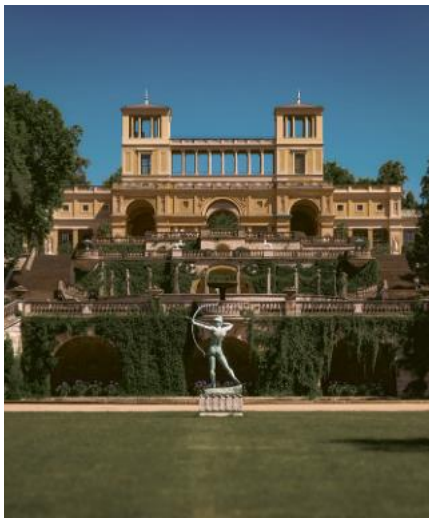
DAY 4: **WARSAW VIA POZNAN**
Travel from Berlin to Warsaw, breaking the journey in Poznan, a university city whose Old Market Square is ringed with Renaissance facades. (B, D)
: Polonia Palace Hotel (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **WARSAW**
Warsaw's old town unfolds on foot: Castle Square beneath Sigismund's Column and the Royal Castle; St John's Archcathedral, reached along Świętojańska Street, with its Gothic interior; the Old Town Market Square, its coloured facades gathered around the Warsaw Mermaid; the Barbican, once the boundary between the Old and New Towns; and the quiet, triangular Kanonia Courtyard behind the cathedral. The walk ends at the Gnojna Góra lookout, with views over the Vistula. The rest of the day is free. (B)

DAY 6: **WARSAW TO KRAKOW**
Drive south to Krakow, stopping at Jasna Góra in Częstochowa, the "Luminous Mountain", Poland's most visited shrine, drawing some four million pilgrims each year. An audio-guided tour of the monastery is included. (B, L, D)
: H15 Hotel Francuski (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **KRAKOW**
A walking tour covers the Barbican and St Florian's Gate, the Main Market Square, St Mary's Basilica, the Cloth Hall, the Royal Route and the exterior of Wawel Castle and Cathedral. In the afternoon, an optional visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau can be arranged; the self-guided visit requires a scheduled coach transfer and should be booked well ahead. (B)

DAY 8: **BUDAPEST**
The drive to Budapest allows a photo stop for the Basilica of Esztergom, seen to particular advantage from the Slovak side of the Danube against its hill, and a Slovak lunch in Banská Bystrica. (B, L)
: Hotel Continental (Days 8-9)



DAY 9: **BUDAPEST**
A morning tour is split between the two halves of the city: the Buda side of the capital, taking in the Castle District and Matthias Church, and the Pest side, including St Stephen's Basilica. The afternoon is free. (B, L)

DAY 10: **VIENNA**
Drive on to Vienna via the Pannonhalma Archabbey, an important medieval abbey, and the ancient town of Sopron. (B, L, D)*
: Hotel Josefshof am Rathaus (Days 10-12)

DAY 11: **VIENNA**
Take a walking tour of the Austrian capital taking in the neo-Renaissance facade of the State Opera on the Ringstraße; the courtyards of the Hofburg Palace and the Spanish Riding School; St Stephen's Cathedral; and the rose garden of the Volksgarten and Josefsplatz. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B)



DAY 12: **VIENNA**
Enjoy a day at leisure in Vienna, with an optional (pre-bookable) rail excursion to Bratislava, where a short walking tour can also be arranged. (B)

DAY 13: **PRAGUE**
Travel to Prague by rail. (B, D)
: K+K Fenix (Days 13-15)

DAY 14: **PRAGUE**
Rise early for a visit on foot to the Old Town and Charles Bridge, taking in the Castle District for a walk and entry to its associated buildings. After time and lunch at leisure, visit Konopiště Castle. (B)

DAY 15: **MARIENBAD AND PILSEN**
Take in two beloved Bohemian spa towns. Begin in Pilsen with a private morning tour of the Pilsner Urquell brewery, followed by time and lunch at leisure in Mariánské Lázně, taking in the Colonnades, the mineral springs and the Singing Fountain, with a spring-water tasting included. End the day with a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

DAY 16: **DEPART PRAGUE**
Your tour concludes today in Prague. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,695
TOUR CODE: GTE

08 May - 23 May 27	06 May - 21 May 28
12 Jun - 27 Jun 27	10 Jun - 25 Jun 28
11 Sep - 26 Sep 27	09 Sep - 24 Sep 28
09 Oct - 24 Oct 27	07 Oct - 22 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Journey Through the Baltic States (pg 128). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

*The abbey's library is due to reopen following its restoration, though a date has not yet been confirmed. Should it be closed, a tour of the Herend porcelain factory is included in its place.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

TIMELESS ROMANIA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $6,345 (land only)	From $12,195 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Full day exploring the north's painted monasteries.
- Visit the neo-Renaissance Peles and early 20th-century Pelisor palaces.
- Experience Romanian hospitality over dinner in a local family home.
- Visit the village of Viscri, frequented by Britain's King Charles III.
- Enjoy lunch at the historic Manuc's Inn, founded in 1806 and one of Europe's oldest surviving inns.





ROAD ——

With its folkloric heritage, picturesque villages and wonderful natural scenery, Romania is fascinating to explore. This tour reveals the country's highlights, including Transylvania's fortified Saxon churches; Bucovina's exquisite painted monasteries, dramatic castles and palaces; medieval towns and the beautiful Carpathian Mountains.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BUCHAREST**
Arrive in Bucharest and check into your hotel. This evening, join your tour party for a welcome dinner. (D)
: Grand Hotel Continental (or similar)

DAY 2: **BUCHAREST • SIBIU**
In the morning, transfer to Sibiu, a pretty Romanian city on the banks of the Cibin river that once served as the capital of Transylvania. Stop en route to enjoy lunch at your leisure, and later also enjoy a free evening in the city. (B)
: Hermanns Hotel & Spa Sibiu (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **SIBIU • SIBIEL**
In the morning, enjoy a tour of Sibiu's old town, taking in the Romanian Catholic Cathedral and entrance to Brukenthal National Museum, among other sights. In the evening, visit the picturesque village of Sibiel. Enjoy dinner in a local family home, and see a cooking demonstration, preparing traditional meat and cabbage rolls. Later, return to Sibiu. (B, D)

ABOVE: SIGHISOARA;
TOP RIGHT: ROMANIAN FOLK DANCERS;
BOTTOM RIGHT: SUCEVITA MONASTERY

DAY 4: **SIBIU • BIERTAN • VISCRI SIGHISOARA**
Transfer to Sighisoara, via Biertan Fortified Church, one of the finest examples of late medieval architecture in Transylvania. Continue to Sighisoara, pausing en route to tour Viscri, a picturesque village visited regularly by King Charles III. (B)
: Hotel Central Park (or similar)

DAY 5: **SIGHISOARA • BISTRITA• VORONET • BUCOVINA**
Tour the UNESCO-listed old town of Sighisoara, with its well-kept lanes and buildings. Its walls encircle cobbled streets lined with colourful 16th-century Burgher houses. Visits include the citadel and the clock tower. Explore the medieval town of Bistrița, with its colourful merchants' houses, Gothic church and squares that reflect centuries of Saxon heritage. Later, continue to Bucovina. (B, D)
: La Conac in Bucovina (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **GURA HUMORULUI**
Take a tour of the area's painted monasteries, which are among Europe's greatest artistic works and recipients of UNESCO World Heritage status. Later, enjoy dinner and a folklore demonstration. (B, D)

DAY 7: **AGAPIA • BRASOV**
Head south to Brasov, via the Agapia monastery, a Romanian Orthodox nunnery dating back to 1649. Continue to Bicaz Gorges for lunch and on to Brasov. (B, L)
: Hotel Aro Palace/Radisson Aurum (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **BRASOV • BRAN CASTLE**
Take a short drive through the beautiful Transylvanian countryside to Bran Castle, which is famously associated with Dracula, the legendary character from Bram Stoker's Gothic novel. Later, take a walking tour of Brasov's old city, seeing such sights as the Council Square and the entrance to the Black Church, and visit Brasov Museum. (B)

DAY 9: **BRASOV • BUCHAREST**
After breakfast, travel to Sinaia, a beautiful Carpathians mountain town, to visit the neo-Renaissance Peles Castle and the Art Nouveau Pelisor Castle. Later head on to Bucharest for an afternoon at leisure. (B)
: Grand Hotel Continental (or similar) (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **BUCHAREST**
Take a walking tour of Bucharest, seeing Victoria Avenue, Stavropoulos Church and Saint Anton Church, among other landmarks. Eat lunch at Manuc's Inn, the oldest in the city. (B, L)

DAY 11: **DEPART BUCHAREST**
Visit the Palace of Parliament, a vast architectural relic from the Ceaușescu era. Conclude your tour today, or begin your extension. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,645
TOUR CODE: ROA

07 May - 17 May 27	05 May - 15 May 28
18 Jun - 28 Jun 27	16 Jun - 26 Jun 28
16 Jul - 26 Jul 27	14 Jul - 24 Jul 28
03 Sep - 13 Sep 27	01 Sep - 11 Sep 28
17 Sep - 27 Sep 27	15 Sep - 25 Sep 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Grand Tour of the Balkans (pg 134). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



TOUR EXTENSION: SOFIA

3 DAYS & 2 NIGHTS FROM $645

Pre- and post-tour extensions are available to the Bulgarian capital, known for its soothing mineral springs, varied, fine architecture, mountain views and ancient, well-preserved remains.

: Hotel Via Serdika

JOURNEY THROUGH THE BALTIC STATES

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
10 days, 9 nights	From $5,495 (land only)	From $9,895 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Admire the Rundale Palace, one of the only examples of Rastrelli Baroque architecture outside Russia.
- Tour Riga Central Market and sample traditional Latvian delicacies.
- Visit Trakai and taste kibinai, originally a Crimean pastry brought to Lithuania in the 14th century.
- Discover the summer residence of Tsar Alexander III at Langinkoski, where nature and history meet in a peaceful riverside fishing lodge.



ABOVE: ALEXANDER NEVSKY CATHEDRAL, ESTONIA; TOP LEFT: RUNDĀLE PALACE, LATVIA; BOTTOM LEFT: TRAKAI ISLAND CASTLE, LITHUANIA



ROAD ——

Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are confident, outward-looking nations, each with their own identity and distinct European culture. The countries' rich and colourful histories can be best appreciated in their capital cities, which all possess beautiful architecture, while the surrounding countryside features lakes, forests and wetlands, dotted with manor houses, medieval castles and splendid rococo churches.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE HELSINKI**
Arrive in Helsinki and check into your hotel. (N)
: Hotel Lilla Roberts (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **PORVOO**
After breakfast, travel to the medieval coastal town of Porvoo to see its historic centre and cathedral. Take a guided tour of the Langinkoski Imperial Fishing Lodge Museum, the summer retreat of Russian tsars, including Alexander III, before returning to Helsinki for a welcome drink and dinner. (B, D)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,845
TOUR CODE: BAL

23 May - 01 Jun 27	21 May - 30 May 28
06 Jun - 15 Jun 27	04 Jun - 13 Jun 28
08 Aug - 17 Aug 27	06 Aug - 15 Aug 28
05 Sep - 14 Sep 27	03 Sep - 12 Sep 28
12 Sep - 21 Sep 27	10 Sep - 19 Sep 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

DAY 3: **HELSINKI • TALLINN**
Tour Helsinki on foot, taking in the city centre, the harbour, its markets, as well as the Orthodox Uspensky Cathedral, Lutheran Cathedral and Mannerheim Street. In the afternoon, travel to Tallinn by ferry, and check into your hotel. (B)
: Hotel Nordic Forum (Days 3-5)

DAYS 4-5: **TALLINN**
Enjoy a morning walking tour of Tallinn, one of northern Europe's best-preserved towns. Founded in the early 13th century, Tallinn has been influenced by periods of Danish, German, Swedish and Russian control. Highlights include the Gothic town hall and square, Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Toompea Castle, seat of Estonia's parliament, and visits to Balti Jaama market and the bohemian district of Kalamaja. There is also an optional afternoon visit to Rocca al Mare open-air museum. The next day is at leisure. (B)

DAY 6: **PARNU • RIGA, LATVIA**
Drive to Riga in Latvia, stopping en route at the beachside town of Parnu, then to the 13th-century ruins of Sigulda Castle, and the Turaida Castle in the Gauja Valley. Enjoy a traditional Latvian lunch. (B, L)
: Hotel Grand Poet (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **RIGA**
This morning, tour Riga, the Baltics' largest capital. Highlights include witnessing an organ recital at the cathedral; St Peter's Church; and the House of Blackheads. Also visit Riga Central Market to try some Latvian delicacies. The afternoon is at leisure. (B)

DAY 8: **VILNIUS, LITHUANIA**
Journey over the border from Latvia to Lithuania via Rundale Palace and the Hill of Crosses, a place of national pilgrimage. After lunch, continue to Vilnius. (B, L)
: Hotel Vilnia (or similar) (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **VILNIUS**
Tour Vilnius, visiting Cathedral Square, the Gate of Dawn, St Casimir's Church, the Holy Spirit Church, the KGB Museum, Gediminas' Tower and the art district of Uzupis. After a traditional Lithuanian lunch, visit Trakai Island Castle. (B, L)

DAY 10: **DEPART VILNIUS**
Your tour concludes today in Vilnius. (B)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Due to their narrow streets, this tour's cities are best explored on foot. The tour is not recommended to those with limited mobility.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

TOUR EXTENSION: SOUTHERN FINLAND

6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS FROM $3,895

From Helsinki travel, east into the mystical region of Finnish Karelia and the Lakeland, arriving in Lappeenranta on the shores of Lake Saimaa, before continuing north to Jyväskylä. Here, dense forests stretch endlessly and lakes shimmer. Known as Karjala in Finnish, this is a land where nature is woven into the fabric of daily life, shaping the culture, myths and traditions of its people.

Continue to western Finland and Turku, the oldest city in Finland and the country's capital during more than 600 years of Swedish rule. Surrounded by the world's largest archipelago, Turku offers an irresistible blend of heritage, maritime culture and contemporary energy.

: Hotel Rakuuna, Verso Hotel, Hotel Kakola and Hotel Lilla Roberts

THE HEART OF ANCIENT GREECE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $7,845 (land only)	From $20,095 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- See the birthplace of democracy, exploring Athens' most famous monuments.
- Visit Monemvasia, one of the oldest continually inhabited fortified towns in Europe.
- See the spectacular clifftop monasteries of Meteora.
- Experience the flavours of northern Greece at a truffle-hunting demonstration with trained dogs, followed by a tasting.





ROAD ——

Considered the birthplace of Western civilisation, Greece's influence still resonates today in the fields of architecture, science, engineering and philosophy. Incorporating the classical sites of Olympia, Delphi, Mycenae and Epidaurus, this tour also visits the extraordinary rock formations of the Meteora region and the man-made marvels of the Corinth Canal.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ATHENS**
Arrive in Athens and check into your hotel. Later, join your tour party for a welcome dinner. (D)
: Amalia Hotel Athens

DAY 2: **ATHENS • CORINTH • NAFPLION**
Morning tour of Athens, including Syntagma Square, Hadrian's Arch, the Temple of Zeus and the Panathenaic Stadium. Finish at the Acropolis to view the Parthenon and visit the museum. Leave Athens and visit the Corinth Canal. Continue to Nafplion, with a stop at a local winery for a tasting. (B, D)
: Amalia Hotel Nafplio (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **NAFPLION • MYCENAE • EPIDAURUS**
Drive to Mycenae, the seat of mythic King Agamemnon who led the Greek armies against Troy. Visit the Lion's Gate, the Cyclopean Walls and the Royal Tombs. Depart for Nafplion, a picturesque town nestling at the foot of a cliff. Continue to Epidaurus to visit the fourth-century theatre. Return to Nafplion. (B)

DAY 4: **NAFPLION • SPARTA • MONEMVASIA**
En route to Monemvasia, visit the Museum of the Olive to learn about the history, culture and cultivation of the olive in Greece; and Sparta, land of legendary King Leonidas and his army. Arrive in Monemvasia for a walking tour of its narrow lanes, visiting the castle, perimeter walls, old mansions and churches. Later, enjoy some time at leisure before dinner within this medieval fortified town. (B, D)
: Kinsterna Hotel

DAY 5: **MYSTRAS • KALAMATA**
This morning, travel to Mystras and visit the remains of the castle and old town. (B, D)
: Pharae Palace Hotel

DAY 6: **KALAMATA • OLYMPIA**
Depart for Olympia, a crucial religious site in ancient Greece. Visit an olive oil farm en route, and stay in Olympia overnight (B)
: Europa Hotel

DAY 7: **OLYMPIA • DELPHI**
Visit the archaeological sites of Olympia, including the Sanctuary of Olympian Zeus. Continue to Arachova, near Delphi. (B)
: Anemolia Hotel Arachova (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **DELPHI**
Take a full day to enjoy the archaeological site and museum at Delphi, famous throughout the classical world for its oracles. Visit the Athenian Treasury, the Temple of Apollo and the museum containing masterpieces of ancient Greek sculpture. (B)

DAY 9: **KALAMBAKA**
Travel to Kalambaka and visit the Natural History Museum of Meteora and Mushroom Museum. Take part in a truffle-hunting demonstration, with dogs, followed by a light snack of mushroom and truffle pasta. (B, L, D)
: Amalia Hotel Meteora (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **KALAMBAKA**
Enjoy a full day's visit to the remarkable Meteora Eastern Orthodox monasteries, built high on rocky outcrops in the mountainous reaches of Thessaly. (B, D)

DAY 11: **ATHENS**
Depart Kalambaka and transfer to Athens. On this long, scenic route back to the Greek capital, you can admire the Plain of Thessaly, with its bucolic panoramas, and the Vale of Tempe, as well as a deep gorge formed by the Pineios River. Later, enjoy an afternoon at leisure to relax or explore Athens independently. Check in to your hotel, then join the rest of your tour party for a farewell drink. (B)
: Amalia Hotel Athens

DAY 12: **DEPART ATHENS**
Conclude your tour today in Athens, or begin your tour extension. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,395
TOUR CODE: GRD

07 May - 18 May 27	05 May - 16 May 28
21 May - 01 Jun 27	19 May - 30 May 28
11 Jun - 22 Jun 27	09 Jun - 20 Jun 28
03 Sep - 14 Sep 27	01 Sep - 12 Sep 28
17 Sep - 28 Sep 27	15 Sep - 26 Sep 28
01 Oct - 12 Oct 27	29 Sep - 10 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Classical Turkey (pg 136). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

FAR LEFT: THE ANCIENT THEATRE OF EPIDAURUS; TOP: DELPHI; LEFT: METEORA, THESSALIA

THE WONDERS OF ANCIENT CRETE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
8 days, 7 nights	From $5,145 (land only)	From $13,795 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Join a beekeeping experience and honey tasting to take in the sweet fruits of the island's rich flora.
- Visit the archaeological sites of Knossos and Eleftherna.
- Try a local wine tasting with a traditional Cretan lunch.
- Take a boat out to Spinalonga, a fortified island that bears traces of Greek, Ottoman, Byzantine and Venetian rule.





ROAD ——

As a strategic gateway to the eastern Mediterranean, Crete has been ruled by a number of great powers, from the Minoans, one of Europe's first civilisations, to the Byzantine, Roman and Ottoman empires. This tour explores Crete's scenic and cultural highlights, including the Palace of Knossos, an incomparable monument of ancient Minoan society.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE HERAKLION**
Arrive in Heraklion and check into your hotel in the seaside city of Rethymno. (N)
🛏 **: Theartemis Palace** (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **APTERA • CHANIA**
Visit the ancient site of Aptera. Continue to the town of Chania with its Venetian harbour, and visit the Allied Cemetery, which contains 1,545 burials from World War II. Enjoy a welcome lunch, then continue to Rethymno for a guided walk along the facades of Venetian and Turkish buildings up to the old port. (B, L)

DAY 3: **ARKADI • ELEFTHERNA • RETHYMNO**
This morning, visit the fortified monastery of Arkadi. Continue to the Museum of Ancient Eleftherna with its impressive collection of artefacts from Greece, Cyprus and Egypt. Meet a beekeeper for an introduction to beehives and their cultivation. (B)

DAY 4: **PHAESTOS • MATALA • HERAKLION**

Drive across the island to the Messara Plain and visit Phaestos, the second Minoan palace. Continue to Matala, a pretty seaside town, and enjoy a swim or relax on the beach. Drive to Heraklion, the island's administrative capital, stopping en route at the archaeological site of Gortyna, a ruined, ancient town. (B)

: Aquila Atlantis Hotel (Days 4-7)

DAY 5: **KNOSSOS • PEDIADOS**

Morning drive to the ancient Minoan Palace of Knossos, the centre of Europe's first civilisation. According to myth, it was home to King Minos and site of the legend of Theseus slaying the Minotaur in the labyrinth. Then drive to the Pediados region south of Heraklion, Crete's most famous wine-producing area. Visit a wine estate for an introduction to Cretan wine with tasting and a traditional lunch. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)





DAY 6: **KERA • SPINALONGA • HERAKLION**

Visit the Church of Panagia Kera to view the finest Byzantine frescoes in Crete. Continue to Agios Nikolaos for a stroll through this beloved port town, then on to Elounda and take a boat to Spinalonga. Formerly a leper colony, this fortified island has been imprinted by Greek, Ottoman, Byzantine and Venetian occupation. Return to Heraklion. (B)

DAY 7: **HERAKLION**

Morning at leisure to relax by the pool or explore Heraklion's old town. Afternoon guided visit to the Heraklion Archaeological Museum with its collection of Minoan treasure. Enjoy a farewell drink with the group. (B)

DAY 8: **DEPART HERAKLION**

Conclude your tour today in Heraklion or begin your tour extension. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)

SINGLE SUPP: From $1,345

TOUR CODE: CRH

08 May - 15 May 27	06 May - 13 May 28
04 Sep - 11 Sep 27	02 Sep - 09 Sep 28
11 Sep - 18 Sep 27	09 Sep - 16 Sep 28
02 Oct - 09 Oct 27	30 Sep - 07 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Istanbul: Byzantines and Ottomans (pg 138). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

FAR LEFT: CHANIA; TOP: KNOSSOS PALACE; LEFT: BEEKEEPING IN CRETE; BELOW: THE ACROPOLIS, ATHENS

EXTENSIONS

ATHENS

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,495

Extend your time in Greece with three nights in the Greek capital, to take in its ancient sights and contemporary charms. Your tour cost includes a flight from Crete to Athens, as well as any transfers required on a private basis.

: Amalia Hotel Athens



NAXOS

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,195

The largest of the Cyclades, Naxos lures visitors in with its sandy beaches. Its rich history is a draw, too; Venetian and Byzantine rulers each left their mark. The pretty waterfront town of Chora is just the place to try the local wine, cheese and fresh fish. Stay for three nights, with transfers and ferry tickets included.

: Argo Boutique Hotel

NEW FOR 2027

GRAND TOUR OF THE BALKANS

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
17 days, 16 nights	From $13,345 (land only)	Call for price	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- See Mostar's UNESCO-listed Old Bridge and Ottoman heritage.
- In Sarajevo, stand at the crossroads of civilisations where Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, Islamic, Orthodox, Catholic and Jewish heritage coexist within a few city blocks.
- Enjoy the waterfalls and wonders of UNESCO-listed Plitvice Lakes.
- Hear Zadar's Sea Organ, the world's only musical instrument played by the ocean waves.
- Follow the historic route of the Orient Express from Central Europe to Istanbul, taking in seven countries and 15 towns and cities.





ROAD ——

From Ljubljana to Istanbul, this Grand Tour of the Balkans crosses seven countries in 17 days. It takes in the Triple Bridge and castle of Ljubljana, the cascading lakes of Plitvice, Diocletian's Palace in Split, the walled Old Town of Dubrovnik, the fjord-like Bay of Kotor, Mostar's rebuilt Stari Most and Sarajevo's Ottoman bazaars. After a reflective pause at Srebrenica, it stops by Belgrade at the meeting of two rivers, before concluding at Istanbul's Blue Mosque and Basilica Cistern.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE LJUBLJANA**
Arrive in Ljubljana and check into your hotel. Later, attend a welcome dinner. (D)
: Grand Union (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **LJUBLJANA**
Take a walking tour with a local guide, seeing Ljubljana Castle, the City Hall, the Triple Bridge and the Franciscan Church, following the Ljubljanica River through a compact capital of open squares and cafés. The rest of the day is free. (B)

DAY 3: **ZADAR VIA PLITVICE**
Drive to Zadar via Plitvice Lakes National Park, Croatia's oldest national park, stopping for lunch en route. Simple, wooden walkways lead through the park's waterfalls and interlinked, colourful lakes. (B, L)
: Hotel Bastion Heritage (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **ZADAR**
Take a walking tour through Zadar's Roman ruins and medieval churches, ending at the city's newer additions:

its Sea Organ and Greeting to the Sun installations. The afternoon is free. (B, L)

DAY 5: **SPLIT • DUBROVNIK**
Drive to Split for a walking tour, then enjoy some free time and lunch, before continuing on to Dubrovnik (B, L)
: Hotel Sumratin (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **DUBROVNIK**
Tour Dubrovnik's Old Town, under UNESCO protection, seeing the cathedral, the Franciscan and Dominican monasteries, Placa street and the city walls. The afternoon is at leisure. (B)

DAY 7: **HERCEG NOVI • MONTENEGRO**
Enjoy a full-day excursion to Montenegro, taking in Perast, a charming fisherman's village; the medieval town of Kotor; a scenic cable-car ride up Lovćen Mountain; and the rock formations of Lovćen national park. (B, L)
: Hotel Lazure

DAY 8: **MOSTAR • SARAJEVO**
Drive to Mostar for lunch and explore the city independently, perhaps taking in the famous Stari Most bridge, rebuilt after its wartime destruction. Arrive in Sarajevo in the evening. (B, L)
: Hotel President (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **SARAJEVO**
Take a tour with a local guide in Sarajevo's bazaars and Austro-Hungarian architecture; the city was the site of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in 1914. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 10: **SREBRENICA • BELGRADE**
Drive towards Belgrade, stopping at Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina and visiting the Potočari Memorial and Cemetery. Continue to Belgrade. (B)
: Excelsior Hotel (Days 10-11)

DAY 11: **BELGRADE**
Take a guided, introductory tour of Belgrade, a city at the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, where Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian influences sit alongside lively cafés. The afternoon is free. (B, D)

DAY 12: **NIŠ • SOFIA**
Drive to Sofia via Niš, birthplace of Roman emperor Constantine; explore the old town. Continue to Sofia. (B, D)
: Sofia Balkan Palace (Days 12-13)

DAY 13: **SOFIA**
Enjoy a walking tour, familiarising yourself with one of the oldest cities in Europe. Later, enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

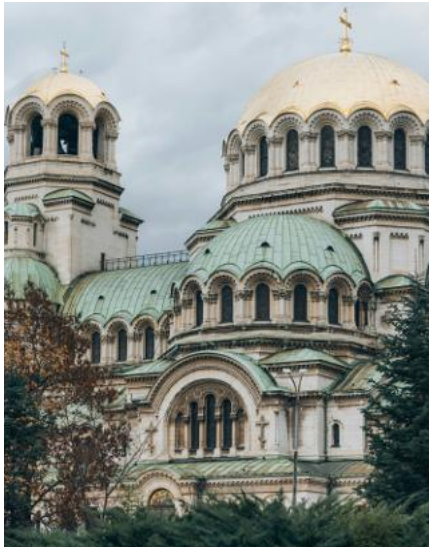
DAY 14: **PLOVDIV • EDIRNE**
Drive to Edirne via Plovdiv, one of Europe's oldest continuously inhabited cities. Continue to Edirne. (B)
: West Door Hotel

DAY 15: **EDIRNE • ISTANBUL**
Take a morning tour of Edirne, which includes Sinan's Selimiye Mosque, the Eski Camii, and the historic Bayezid II Kulliyesi medical museum. Continue to Istanbul. (B)
: Hotel Royan Hagia Sophia (Days 15-16)

DAY 16: **ISTANBUL**
Take a tour of Istanbul's old town, including the Blue Mosque and the Basilica Cistern. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure before dinner. (B, D)

DAY 17: **DEPART ISTANBUL**
Your tour concludes today in Istanbul. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,945
TOUR CODE: GTB

10 May - 26 May 27	08 May - 24 May 28
07 Jun - 23 Jun 27	05 Jun - 21 Jun 28
13 Sep - 29 Sep 27	11 Sep - 27 Sep 28
04 Oct - 20 Oct 27	02 Oct - 18 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Timeless Romania (pg 126). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

FAR LEFT: MOSTAR, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA; LEFT: DUBROVNIK, CROATIA; TOP: SOFIA, BULGARIA

SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

CLASSICAL TURKEY

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $6,295 (land only)	From $13,895 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- See the fantastical landscape and ancient cave dwellings in Cappadocia.
- Discover the centuries-old ritual of Turkish coffee in a historic coffeehouse.
- Enjoy exclusive access to the archaeological excavations at Magnesia with a private lecture from the archaeologists working to uncover the ancient city's secrets.
- Take a private visit to an Istanbul mosque with a local imam.





ROAD ——

Once the centre of the Ottoman empire, Turkey has both shaped and been shaped by cultures on either side of the Bosphorus. Today, its marriage of Western and Eastern traditions is an irresistible draw. This tour combines Turkey's natural wonders and man-made marvels, including Hagia Sofia and the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, the remarkable classical sites of Troy, Pergamon and Ephesus, and the magical, cave-filled landscapes of Cappadocia.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ISTANBUL**
Arrive in Turkey's capital. Check into your hotel and enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)
: Royan Hotel Hagia Sophia (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **ISTANBUL**
Take a walking tour of the city, stopping at the Hippodrome of Constantinople, the Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia and Topkapı Palace, among other sights. (B)

DAY 3: **ISTANBUL**
Tour the Egyptian Bazaar, the second-largest covered market in Istanbul; and continue to the Grand Bazaar, the world's largest covered souk. Try Turkish coffee in one of the city's old coffeehouses. Later, join a local imam for a private visit to a mosque from the Ottoman period. (B)

ABOVE: SULEYMANIYE MOSQUE, ISTANBUL; TOP RIGHT: THE LIBRARY OF CELSUS, EPHESUS; BOTTOM RIGHT: CAPPADOCIA



DAY 4: **CANAKKALE**
Drive to Canakkale and tour the Gallipoli battlefield, site of the aborted Allied invasion of 1915. Visit Cape Helles, Suvla Bay and Anzac Cove. (B, D)
: Kolin Hotel

DAY 5: **TROY • PERGAMON • KUSADASI**
Visit Troy to see the legendary walls and a replica of the wooden Trojan Horse. Travel on to Pergamon, a Greco-Roman city of exceptional beauty. Lunch is served near Pergamon, where you will be divided into small groups and join local families for a home-cooked meal. (B, L)
: İlayda Avantgarde Hotel (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **KUSADASI • EPHESUS**
Tour Ephesus, home to the Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Walk the city's Marble Road to the Temple of Artemis, the Temple of Hadrian, the Library of Celsus, and the Great Theatre of Ephesus. (B, L)

DAY 7: **KUSADASI • MAGNESIA**
Visit the city of Magnesia, which rose to prominence in 400 BC. Enjoy a private lecture from the archaeologists overseeing excavations, as well as exclusive access to the areas not normally open to the public. (B, D)
: Adem Pira Hotel

DAY 8: **HIERAPOLIS • KONYA**
Visit Hierapolis and explore its necropolis, as well as the Gate of Domitianus and Byzantine Baths. Drive to Konya and visit the Mausoleum of Mevlâna, built in 1274 to house the tomb of the Sufi poet and founder of the Mevlevi Order (B)
: Hich Hotel (or similar)

DAY 9: **CAPPADOCIA**
Drive to Cappadocia, stopping en route at the Sultanhani Caravanserai, a rest station along the ancient Silk Road. Tour Özkonak Underground City, a fascinating ancient settlement built into the side of Cappadocia's Mount İdis. Later, visit a local Cappadocian family at their traditional stone house. (B, D)
: Yunak Evleri Cave Hotel (or similar) (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **CAPPADOCIA**
Take an optional, dawn hot-air balloon ride over Cappadocia's striking landscape ($750 per person). Tour the monastic centre of Göreme; move on to Pasabag Valley, to admire tower-shaped hermitages; stop at Uchisar, a rock-carved citadel with panoramic views. The final stop is Avanos, an ancient town best known for its red clay pottery, which you can see being made in a local studio. (B, L)

DAY 11: **DEPART CAPPADOCIA**
Your tour concludes today. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,245
TOUR CODE: CLT

10 Apr - 20 Apr 27	08 Apr - 18 Apr 28
01 May - 11 May 27	29 Apr - 09 May 28
29 May - 08 Jun 27	27 May - 06 Jun 28
18 Sep - 28 Sep 27	16 Sep - 26 Sep 28
16 Oct - 26 Oct 27	14 Oct - 24 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with The Heart of Ancient Greece (pg 130) and Istanbul: Byzantines and Ottomans (pg 138). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $8,245
TOUR CODE: CST

02 Oct - 12 Oct 27	30 Sep - 10 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



TOUR EXTENSION: ANTALYA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $3,695

Extend your tour out to Turkey's lush, beachside town of Antalya. A major port since ancient times, Antalya offers both archaeological wonders with easy shoreside leisure attractions.

: Ruin Adalia Boutique Hotel

SPECIALIST-LED TOUR

ISTANBUL: BYZANTINES & OTTOMANS

SPECIALIST LECTURERS: Rowena Loverance or Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu

HISTORY • ART • ARCHITECTURE • ARCHAEOLOGY

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
7 days, 6 nights	From $4,945 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Travel with an expert in Byzantine and Ottoman history and culture.
- Visit Topkapi Palace, a residence of Ottoman sultans for 400 years.
- Stay at a premium hotel in Istanbul's historic centre for the duration of the tour.
- Take a ferry ride to the Princes' Islands, famed for their gardens and villas.





Istanbul, capital of the Ottoman and Byzantine empires, enjoyed more than four centuries of imperial patronage, resulting in one of the most dramatic skylines in the world. This comprehensive tour visits several of the city's most exquisite mosques and palaces, including Topkapı Palace, the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sofia. Together with the energetic street life and vibrant bazaars, they make Istanbul one of Europe and Asia's most alluring cities – as you will discover firsthand.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ISTANBUL**
Arrive in Turkey's capital city and check into your hotel. This evening, join the rest of your party for a welcome dinner. (D)
: Royan Hotel Hagia Sophia (Days 1-6)

DAY 2: **ISTANBUL**
Morning visit to Zoodochos Pigi (Silivri Kapi cemetery), the Church of Theotokos Kyriotissa (Kalenderhane Mosque), Suleymaniye Mosque complex, and the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum. In the afternoon, continue to the Theodosian city walls at Edirne Kapi, the Porphyrogenitus Palace (Tekfur Sarayı), then conclude with a stop at the garden of the sacred shrine and spring, Ayazma Blachernae, dating back to 451 AD. (B)

ABOVE: THE SULEYMANIYE MOSQUE;
TOP RIGHT: GALATA TOWER;
BOTTOM RIGHT: TOPKAPI PALACE

DAY 3: **THE PRINCES' ISLANDS**
Take the early-morning public ferry to the Princes' Islands, a nine-island archipelago in the Sea of Marmara, passing Leander's Tower, ancient Chalcedon and Antigone. Stop at Chalki to visit the Church of St Nikolaos and the Greek Orthodox seminary. Continue to the isle of Prinkipo for an optional visit to the Monastery of St George. (B)

DAY 4: **ISTANBUL**
Enjoy a morning tour of the Beyoglu district, known historically in Greek as Pera or "beyond" given the area lies across the water from the ancient centre of Constantinople. Visit the Galata Tower, which was famously garrisoned by Genoese troops during the capture of the city by the Ottomans in 1453 and dates from 1348. After a light street-food lunch, continue to the Crimea Memorial Church, built in the mid-19th century in memory of fallen British soldiers, where a special drinks reception has been arranged. (B, L)

DAY 5: **ISTANBUL**
Take a morning walking tour of Sultanahmet, including Topkapı Palace and the superb collections of the archaeological museum. In the afternoon, view the Hippodrome ruins, the Blue Mosque, the Great Palace Mosaic Museum, and the Church of Saints Sergius and Bacchus (Little Hagia Sophia Mosque). Conclude the day with a visit to the lively Grand Bazaar. (B)

DAY 6: **ISTANBUL**
Take a morning visit to the Church of St Saviour in Chora (Kariye Mosque), famous for its rich 14th-century mosaics and frescos. Continue to Theotokos Pammakaristos (Fethiye Mosque) for an external visit, and then to Theotokos Panaghiotissa (Mouchliotissa), the only Byzantine church still belonging to the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate. Walk through the historic Fener district to see the cast-iron Church of St Stephen of the Bulgars. In the afternoon, visit the Basilica Cistern (Sunken Palace) and conclude at the Hagia Sophia Grand Mosque. Finally, in the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner with your tour party in the historic Eminönü district. (B, D)

DAY 7: **DEPART ISTANBUL**
Morning walking tour of Beyazit, the Third Hill, and the old city centre. Your tour concludes today in Istanbul. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,245
TOUR CODE: TIS

3 Apr - 9 Apr 27	Rowena Loverance
12 Jun - 18 Jun 27	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
16 Oct - 22 Oct 27	Rowena Loverance
1 Apr - 7 Apr 28	Rowena Loverance
10 Jun - 16 Jun 28	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
14 Oct - 20 Oct 28	Rowena Loverance

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with The Wonders of Ancient Crete (pg 132) and Classical Turkey (pg 136). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

ACROSS THE SOUTHERN CAUCASUS

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $7,145 (land only)	From $10,195 (land only)	Signature	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the beautiful Khan Palace in Azerbaijan.
- Meet a local qvevri master and discover Georgia's ancient wine-making tradition.
- Attend a performance of Armenian spiritual music.
- Step into a local home and experience the traditional preparation of lavash, Armenia's famous UNESCO-listed flatbread.





ROAD ——

Take an exciting journey across all three states of the southern Caucasus. Beginning in the oil-rich Muslim nation of Azerbaijan on the shores of the Caspian Sea, travel through Georgia, famous for its ancient monasteries and viticulture, and finish in the small, proud nation of Armenia, one of the oldest Christian countries in the world.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BAKU, AZERBAIJAN**
Arrive in Baku and check into your hotel. (N)
: Hilton Garden Inn (or similar)
(Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **BAKU**
Afternoon tour of the Azerbaijani capital, taking in a panoramic view of the city and bay. Dine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

DAY 3: **GOBUSTAN • ABSHERON**
Admire Gobustan's 20,000-year-old rock carvings. Enjoy an excursion to Absheron to see the Ateshgah Fire Temple and Yanar Dagh fire. (B)

DAY 4: **SHEMAHKA • KISH • SHAKI**
Visit the Yeddi Gumbez Mausoleum in Shemahka. Continue to Shaki, stopping en route at a sixth-century Georgian Orthodox church in Kish. (B, L, D)
: Macara Sheki

ABOVE: TBILISI OLD TOWN, GEORGIA; TOP RIGHT: GERGETI TRINITY CHURCH, GEORGIA; BOTTOM RIGHT: THE RUINS OF THE TEMPLE OF ZVARTNOTS WITH MOUNT ARARAT IN THE BACKGROUND, YEREVAN

DAY 5: **SHAKI • TELAVI, GEORGIA**
Tour Shaki, set in the scenic Caucasus foothills, taking in its 18th-century palace. Cross the border into Georgia for a vineyard lunch and wine tasting. Continue to Telavi via the Gremi Church of Archangels and Royal Tower (B, L, D)
: Holiday Inn by IHG (or similar)

DAY 6: **TELAVI • SIGHNAGHI • TBILISI**
Enjoy a morning visit to Telavi market. Meet a qvevri master, who will demonstrate how these large earthenware wine-keeping jars are made. Sample local wine and "fire-water" brandy before lunch at Tsinandali wine estate. This afternoon, tour the hilltop town of Sighnaghi. (B, L)
: Artizan Design Hotel (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **TBILISI**
Tour the Georgian capital, including the Old Town, with its beautiful Orthodox churches, mosque, synagogue and sulphur baths. Continue to the history museum on Rustaveli Avenue. (B)

DAY 8: **GORI • UPLISTSIKHE • KAZBEGI**
Visit the sixth-century Jvari Monastery, followed by Mtskheta, then continue to Gori, birthplace of Joseph Stalin. See the museum, his private train and the house where he was born. Travel to Kazbegi via the cave city of Uplistsikhe, set on the path of the Silk Road. (B, D)
: Hotel Porta Caucasia

DAY 9: **KAZBEGI • TBILISI**
Walk to the picturesque Gergeti Trinity Church, which dates from the 14th century. On a good day you may even catch sight of the summit of Mount Kazbegi, one of the most beautiful peaks within the Caucasus. Drive on to Tbilisi and enjoy free time in the city. (B)
: Artizan Design Hotel

DAY 10: **HAGHPAT • DILIJAN**
Cross the Armenian border and continue to the UNESCO-listed Haghpat Monastery, a masterpiece of Armenian architecture, followed by the Goshavank Monastery. Travel on to Dilijan. (B)
: Dilijan Tun (or similar)

DAY 11: **DILIJAN • SEVAN •YEREVAN**
See Lake Sevan, then travel on to the Pagan Temple at Garni, and hear a performance of Armenian spiritual music. Take in Geghard Monastery, followed by a visit to a local home to see the preparation of Armenian lavash bread. (B, L)
: Tufenkian Historic Hotel (Days 11-14)



DAY 12: **YEREVAN**
Tour Yerevan, one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities. Visit the city's museum of ancient manuscripts, and the genocide memorial complex. (B)

DAY 13: **KHOR VIRAP • NORAVANK • YEREVAN**
Travel to Khor Virap monastery, where Armenia's patron saint, Gregory the Illuminator, was imprisoned. Enjoy the views of Mount Ararat, then continue to Noravank Monastery, situated within a breathtaking gorge. Later, arrive in the wine-producing village of Areni for lunch. Return to Yerevan. (B, L)

DAY 14: **YEREVAN • EJMIATSIN • ZVARTNOTS**
Tour the centuries-old monuments of Ejmiatsin and Zvartnots, including the Cathedral of Ejmiatsin, and the seventh-century Zvartnots Temple. On the return journey to Yerevan, visit the village of Parakar, enjoy a traditional Armenian lunch, and participate in a traditional arishta noodle-making masterclass. Later join a farewell dinner at an Armenian restaurant. (B, L, D)

DAY 15: **DEPART YEREVAN**
Your tour concludes today in Yerevan. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 16 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,295
TOUR CODE: AZA

23 Apr - 07 May 27	21 Apr - 05 May 28
07 May - 21 May 27	05 May - 19 May 28
03 Jun - 17 Jun 27	01 Jun - 15 Jun 28
18 Jun - 02 Jul 27	16 Jun - 30 Jun 28
27 Aug - 10 Sep 27	25 Aug - 08 Sep 28
03 Sep - 17 Sep 27	01 Sep - 15 Sep 28
24 Sep - 08 Oct 27	22 Sep - 06 Oct 28
01 Oct - 15 Oct 27	29 Sep - 13 Oct 28
15 Oct - 29 Oct 27	13 Oct - 27 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Grand Tour of Central Asia (pg 144) and Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia (pg 148). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $8,795
TOUR CODE: AZS

22 Oct - 05 Nov 27	20 Oct - 03 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

TOUR EXTENSION: ISTANBUL

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $895

Pause your journey to Baku or from Yerevan and enjoy two nights to explore Istanbul, Turkey. Take in the mosques, bazaars, waterfront and imperial buildings of this ancient metropole.

: Royan Hotel Hagia Sophia



CENTRAL ASIA

The majestic steppe and mountains of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan gave rise to a nomadic culture that has been welcoming visitors for millennia. Lying between the edge of China and the beginnings of Europe, the Silk Road threaded through this region, bringing wealth and cultural cross-pollination.

Any tour should take in the minaret-crowned cities of Samarkand and Bukhara; the eagle hunters still practising in Kyrgyzstan's Djety-Oguz Gorge; the "singing" dunes of Kazakhstan's Altyn-Emel National Park, which resonate with mysterious tones when the wind blows; the glacial meltwaters of the Seven Lakes at the foot of Tajikistan's Fann; and the flames of Turkmenistan's Darvaza Gas Crater.

We love taking guests to this storied region, often overlooked by other travel companies, and we even arrange a tour with a specialist lecturer-guide to give you deeper insight.

OPPOSITE: INSET: AN EAGLE HUNTER IN KYRGYZSTAN;
BACKGROUND: THE TIEN SHAN MOUNTAIN RIDGE, KYRGYZSTAN

NEW FOR 2027

GRAND TOUR OF CENTRAL ASIA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
22 days, 21 nights	From $12,195 (land only)	From $21,595 (land only)	Discovery	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Explore Almaty's museums, squares and bazaar on an expertly guided walking tour.
- Stay in yurts lit by the glow of the flaming Darvaza Gas Crater.
- Learn how to cook the Uzbek national rice and meat dish of plov.
- Witness an eagle hunting demonstration in Kyrgyzstan.
- Take lunch amid the glacial beauty of Tajikistan's Seven Lakes.





This grand tour weaves together Central Asia's five Stans: Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. You explore cities shaped by the Silk Road and Soviet rule, cultures preserving age-old traditions, and a tapestry of landscapes – from open steppes and wide deserts to hulking mountains and twinkling lakes.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ASHGABAT, TURKMENISTAN**
Arrive in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan and check into your hotel (N).
: Hotel Oguzkent (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **ASHGABAT**
Visit the National History Museum and tour Ashgabat's famous white-marble landmarks. (B, D)

DAY 3: **DARVAZA**
Visit the Earthquake Monument of Turkmenistan, commemorating a 1948 quake that levelled almost every building in the city, followed by a trip to the Gulistan Bazaar. Later drive into the desert to the Darvaza Gas Crater; the natural gas has been burning here for over 50 years, giving rise to its nickname, the 'Door to Hell'. (B, L, D)
: Darvaza Yurt Camp**

ABOVE: REGISTAN SQUARE, SAMARKAND; TOP RIGHT: THE INDEPENDENCE MONUMENT, ASHGABAT; BOTTOM RIGHT: THE DARVAZA GAS CRATER, TURKMENISTAN

DAY 4: **KUNYA-URGENCH • KHIVA, UZBEKISTAN**
Explore the historical treasures of Kunya-Urgench, site of the first capital of the Khwarazmian Empire that ruled over swathes of Central Asia. After your tour, transfer by road to Khiva. (B, L)
: Bankir Hotel (or similar) (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **KHIVA**
Tour the Silk Road city of Khiva, focusing on the UNESCO-protected, intricate clay-walled inner town of Itchan Kala and its numerous well-preserved madrasas, minarets, mosques and palaces. (B, D)

DAY 6: **BUKHARA**
Take the Jaloliddin Manguberdi high-speed train* to Bukhara, check into your hotel and enjoy some time at leisure. (B, D)
: Minorai Kalon Hotel (or similar) (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **BUKHARA**
Bukhara's old centre is one of Central Asia's most intact medieval cities. Spend the day touring its historical attractions, including the Lyabi-Hauz Ensemble, the Poi Kalyan complex, the Trading Domes, the Samanid mausoleum, and the restored 10th-century Ark fortress. (B)

DAY 8: **BUKHARA • SAMARKAND**
See more of Bukhara's key sites, including Chor Minor, Magoki Attori Mosque, and the Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa Palace – once the country residence of the Emir of Bukhara. Take a train to Samarkand, followed by an evening visit to Registan Square. (B)
: Kosh Havuz Hotel, Zarafshan Parkside Hotel (or similar) (Days 8-10)

DAY 9: **SAMARKAND**
Discover Samarkand, one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities. See Registan Square again, in daylight, to enjoy a small music concert and lecture. Continue to the Afroasiyob Museum, Shah-i-Zinda necropolis and the Gur-Emir mausoleum – final resting place of emperor Timur. Finish with a cooking demonstration of plov, Uzbekistan's national dish, at a heritage house. (B, D)

DAY 10: **SHAHRISABZ • SAMARKAND**
Take a trip to the ancient city of Shahrisabz, birthplace of the emperor Timur; explore its buildings and visit a silk paper workshop. (B, L)

DAY 11: **PENJIKENT, TAJIKISTAN**
Cross the border to the Tajik city of Penjikent; visit the Rudaki Museum, dedicated to the eponymous "father of Persian poetry"; and the archaeological ruins of Penjikent. (B, D)
: Panjakent Plaza Hotel (or similar) (Days 11-12)







DAY 12: **SEVEN LAKES • PENJIKENT**
Journey to the glacial waters of the Seven Lakes, which shimmer at the foot of the Fann Mountains. Enjoy a lakeside picnic lunch and return to Penjikent. (B, L)

DAY 13: **ISTARAVSHAN • KHUJAND**
Drive to Khujand, pausing en route to visit the historic Hazrat Shah complex and the Mug Teppe fortress in Istaravshan. (B, L)
: Grand Hotel Khujand (or similar)

DAY 14: **KHUJAND • TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN**
Spend your morning sightseeing, visiting Khujand's Museum of Archaeology and Fortification, Shaikh Muslihiddin Mosque, the Soviet-era Arbob Cultural Palace, and Payshanba Bazaar – the largest market in Tajikistan. After, drive to Tashkent. (B)
: Inspira-S Hotel (or similar) (Days 14-15)

DAY 15: **TASHKENT**
Tour Uzbekistan's capital, a city shaped by both the Soviet Union and the Silk Road, visiting the Khast Imam Complex, Chorsu Bazaar, the Applied Arts Museum, Amir Timur Square, Navoi Theatre Square, Sailgoh street and a handful of Soviet-era metro stations. (B)



DAY 16: **BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN**
After a morning at leisure, take an afternoon flight to Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan, and check in to your hotel. (B)
: Hotel Ambassador (or similar)
(Days 16-17)

DAY 17: **BISHKEK**
Browse a panoply of produce amid the hubbub of Osh Bazaar, before a city tour taking you to the Historical Museum, Central Mosque, Oak Park, Ala-Too Square, the Statue of Manas and the Philharmonic Hall. (B)

DAY 18: **BURANA • KAJI SAY**
En route to Kaji Say, visit the 11th-century Burana Tower, one of the last remnants of the ancient city of Balasagyn; and the village of Kyzyl-Tuu, where an artisan will demonstrate how yurts are made. Arrive in Kaji Say on the shores of the vast saline lake of Issyk-Kul, staying overnight in yurts. Enjoy a sunset walk in Skazka Canyon. (B, D)
: Oimo-Tash Yurt Camp** (or similar)

DAY 19: **KARAKOL**
On your journey to Karakol, watch an eagle hunting display, and walk amid the dramatic red rock formations of Djety-Oguz valley. Arrive in Karakol for a tour of its sights, some of which reflect the strong Russian imperial influence on the city. (B, D)
: Green Yard Hotel / 78 Hotel
(or similar)

DAY 20: **CHARYN CANYON • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN**
Drive to Kazakhstan's Charyn Canyon – aptly nicknamed the "Grand Canyon of Central Asia" – for a scenic, circular hike to a high vantage point. Transfer to Almaty, Kazakhstan's former capital and its most populous city. (B)
: Rixos Hotel (or similar) (Days 20-21)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,545
TOUR CODE: CAT

09 May - 30 May 27	07 May - 28 May 28
20 Jun - 11 Jun 27	18 Jun - 09 Jul 28
22 Aug - 12 Sep 27	20 Aug - 10 Sep 28
10 Oct - 31 Oct 27	08 Oct - 29 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Across the Southern Caucasus (pg 140). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Discovery tour: Suited to hardier travellers, with some basic accommodation and rougher journeys

* We aim to book guests onto the new high-speed *Jaloliddin Manguberdi* train for their journey between Khiva and Bukhara. If the train's schedule changes, we will have to use a slower service.

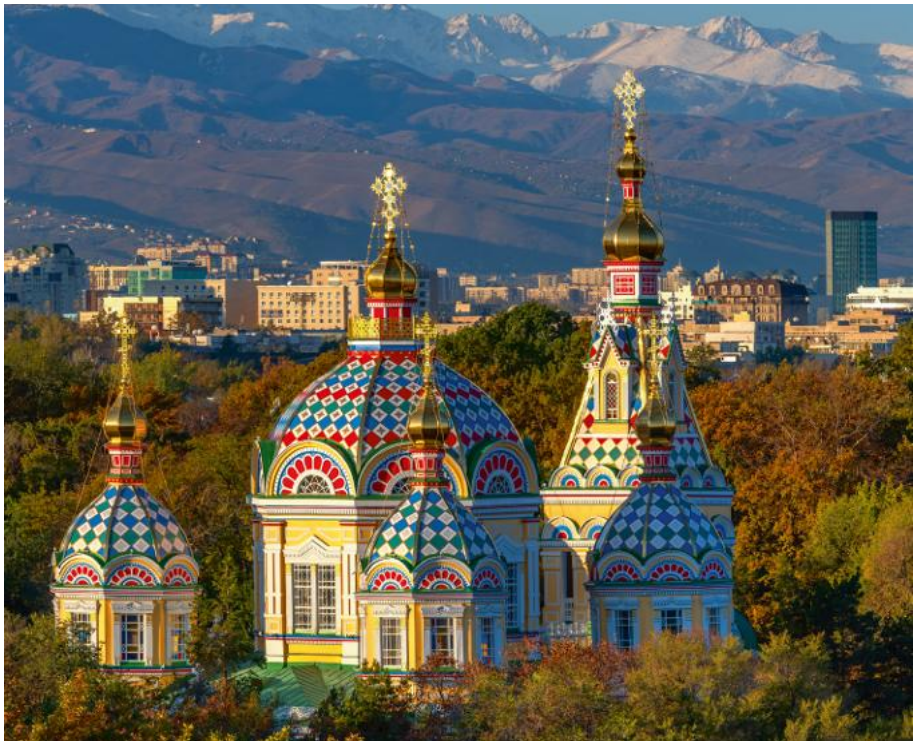
** Please note that the yurt camps accommodating guests on days three and 18 are quite basic, and have shared bathrooms.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

DAY 21: **ALMATY**
Explore Almaty with a walking tour, visiting stately Astana Square, Panfilov Park, the colourful Ascension Cathedral, the Central State Museum and Green Bazaar, among other attractions. Attend your farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 22: **DEPART ALMATY**
Your tour concludes today in Almaty. (B)



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: THE BURANA TOWER, KYRGYZSTAN; CHARYN CANYON IN KAZAKHSTAN; THE ASCENSION CATHEDRAL, ALMATY; EAGLE HUNTERS IN KYRGYZSTAN; TULPAR KOL LAKE, KYRGYZSTAN

SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

UZBEKISTAN: HEART OF CENTRAL ASIA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $7,295 (land only)	From $11,095 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- See the beautiful architectural legacy of one of the world's great empires.
- Sample local wines in the cellars of a Tsarist-era producer in Samarkand.
- Taste traditional plov at a historic merchant's house in Bukhara.
- Travel on Uzbekistan's renowned *Afrosiyob* and *Jaloliddin Manguberdi* high-speed trains*.
- Tour a restored silk paper mill in Samarkand.



FLIGHT
RAIL
ROAD



Set on the Silk Road, Uzbekistan has played host to waves of conquerors and nomads, from Alexander the Great to Timur. See the legacy they left behind in the towering fortresses of Khiva and Bukhara, and the blue-domed mosques of Samarkand. The remnants of more recent Soviet history are evident in the capital city, Tashkent, where highlights include the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Modernist Tashkent with its bustling Chorsu Bazaar and an elaborately decorated metro station.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE TASHKENT**
Arrive and check into your hotel. (N)
: Mercure Tashkent South (or similar)
(Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **ARRIVE TASHKENT**
Enjoy a tour of the capital, stopping at the medieval Khast Imaan Complex, and the newly appointed UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Chorsu Bazaar and the resplendent Soviet-era Kosmonavtlar metro station. (B, D)

ABOVE: THE SHAH-I-ZINDA NECROPOLIS, SAMARKAND; TOP RIGHT: THE KHAST IMAM RELIGIOUS COMPLEX, TASHKENT; BOTTOM RIGHT: BUKHARA, UZBEKISTAN



DAY 3: **FLY TO URGENCH • KHIVA**
Transfer to the airport and fly to Urgench. Visit the ancient fortresses of Ayaz-Kala and Toprak-Kala, before taking an afternoon's drive to Khiva via Ulli Khovli, a well-preserved, antique mud-brick courtyard home. (B, L, D)
: Bankir Hotel (or similar) (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **KHIVA**
Enjoy a full-day tour of Khiva, to see the Kunya Ark, Islam Khoja minaret, Tash Hauli palace and visit a local bakery. (B, D)

DAY 5: **BUKHARA**
Take the *Jaloliddin Manguberdi* high-speed train* to Bukhara, Later, check into your hotel. (B, L, D)
: Paradise Plaza (or similar) (Days 5-7)

DAY 6: **BUKHARA**
Tour of the city, visiting Chor Minor mosque, the Poi-Kalyan complex, the surviving trading domes, and Lyab-i-Hauz – once the city's principal source of water. In the evening, enjoy dinner and a plov cooking demonstration. (B, D)

DAY 7: **BUKHARA**
Continue your tour of Bukhara, with visits to the Ark, a vast fortress whose foundations date back 2,000 years; the summer palace of the city's final emir; and the 10th-century Samanid mausoleum, decorated with Zoroastrian symbols. (B)

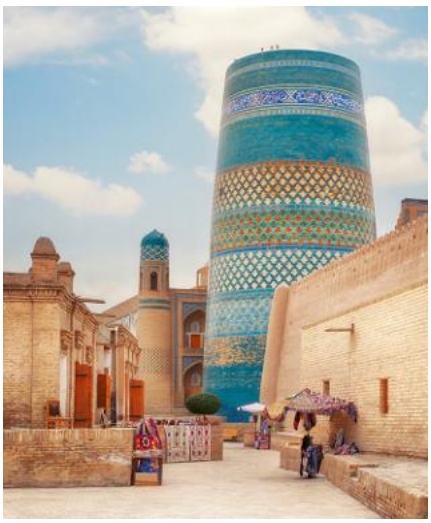
DAY 8: **SHAHRISABZ • SAMARKAND**
Drive to Shahrisabz, birthplace of Timur, and visit the summer palace, mosques and mausoleums. Continue to Samarkand. (B, L, D)
: Movenpick Samarkand (or similar) (Days 8-10)

DAY 9: **SAMARKAND**
Take a full-day tour of Samarkand, visiting Registan Square, the Ulugbek observatory, Siyob Bazaar, Hazrat Khizr Mosque and the Bibi Khanum mosque. (B)

DAY 10: **SAMARKAND**
Continue your tour of Samarkand. Visit the Gur-Emir mausoleum, the final resting place of several members of the Timurid dynasty, including Timur himself. Other sights include Afrasiab Museum, Shah-i-Zinda necropolis and the Khodja Doniyor mausoleum. After lunch, stop in at a silk carpet factory before returning to your hotel for the evening. (B, D)

DAY 10: **TASHKENT**
Enjoy a later start, then visit one of Samarkand's renowned silk paper workshops and join a wine tasting. Later, travel by rail to Tashkent. (B, D)
: Mercure Tashkent South (or similar)

DAY 11: **DEPART TASHKENT**
Your tour concludes today in Tashkent. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,895
TOUR CODE: UZB

19 Mar - 30 Mar 27	10 Mar - 21 Mar 28
09 Apr - 20 Apr 27	17 Mar - 28 Mar 28
16 Apr - 27 Apr 27	07 Apr - 18 Apr 28
07 May - 18 May 27	14 Apr - 25 Apr 28
14 May - 25 May 27	05 May - 16 May 28
03 Sep - 14 Sep 27	12 May - 23 May 28
10 Sep - 21 Sep 27	01 Sep - 12 Sep 28
17 Sep - 28 Sep 27	08 Sep - 19 Sep 28
24 Sep - 05 Oct 27	15 Sep - 26 Sep 28
22 Oct - 02 Nov 27	22 Sep - 03 Oct 28
	20 Oct - 31 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with The Grand Tour of India (pg 26) and Across the Southern Caucasus (pg 140). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $8,095
TOUR CODE: UZS

20 Aug - 31 Aug 27	18 Aug - 29 Aug 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

* We aim to book guests onto the high-speed *Jaloliddin Manguberdi* train for their journey between Khiva and Bukhara. If the train's schedule changes, we will have to use a slower service.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

SPECIALIST-LED TOUR

UZBEKISTAN: THE GOLDEN ROAD TO SAMARKAND

SPECIALIST LECTURER: Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu

ART • ARCHITECTURE • HISTORY

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $8,195 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Tour with a specialist lecturer to gain deeper insights into this region.
- See traditional silk weavers at work.
- Tour the Savitsky Museum in Nukus, home to one of the largest collections of Soviet avant-garde art in the world, with an expert curator.
- Visit artisanal ceramic workshops.
- Travel on Uzbekistan's famous *Afrosiyob* train from Samarkand to Tashkent.





Visit the most magnificent cities of the ancient Silk Road with our expert Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu. These sites include Uzbekistan's second largest city, Samarkand, built by the 14th-century emperor Timur; the medieval city of Bukhara, with its dazzling blue mosaic domes; the jade-green city of Khiva; and Nukus, home to the Russian avant-garde art collection of Igor Savitsky, who protected his paintings from the Soviets.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE TASHKENT**
Arrive in Tashkent and check into your hotel. (N)
: Hotel Inspira-S (or similar)

DAY 2: **ARRIVE TASHKENT**
After an introductory lecture and welcome lunch, take a city tour to see the highlights of Uzbekistan's capital, including Kukeldash madrasa, the Museum of Applied Arts, Muyie Mubarak library, Tillya Sheikh mosque and some of the impressive Soviet-era metro stations. In the afternoon, fly to Nukus. (B, L)
: Jipek Joli (or similar)

ABOVE: BUKHARA, UZBEKISTAN; TOP RIGHT: TRADITIONAL CERAMICS IN BUKHARA, UZBEKISTAN; BOTTOM RIGHT: THE SUMMER PALACE OF THE EMIR OF BUKHARA, UZBEKISTAN

DAY 3: **CHILPAK • KHIVA**
Enjoy a morning tour of the Karakalpakstan State Museum of Art, which houses the spectacular collection of Igor Savitsky, who secreted away thousands of Russian avant-garde and post-avant-garde paintings during the Stalinist period. Besides this extensive art collection (second only to St Petersburg), he also collected thousands of Uzbek artefacts, textiles and jewellery. Tour the museum with a local specialist. En route to Khiva, stop at Chilpak to see the fourth-century Zoroastrian Tower of Silence. (B, D)
: Feruzkhan Hotel (or similar) (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **KHIVA**
Take a full-day tour of the old walled city of Khiva, capital of Khorezm between the 16th and 20th centuries, and one of the most remote of the Silk Road cities. Visit the Kunya Ark fortress, the original residence of the Khiva khans; the beautifully decorated Tash Hauli (stone palace); the Friday Mosque; madrasas which now house museum collections; and a UNESCO-listed silk carpet workshop. (B)

DAY 5: **DRIVE TO BUKHARA**
Embark on a full-day drive to Bukhara (seven to eight hours) through the Kyzylkum desert, stopping at the Amu Darya River, known as the Oxus River in the ancient world. (B, L)
: Emir Hotel (or similar) (Days 5-7)

DAY 6: **BUKHARA**
Take a full-day walking tour of Bukhara, visiting the trade domes and bazaars. See the Lyab-i-Hauz pool, the Chor Minor, and the Poi-Kalyan complex of minarets and madrasa, dating from the 12th to the 16th century, and gain insight into the city's rich history. (B)

DAY 7: **BUKHARA**
Visit the Persian Samanid brick mausoleum, the Bolo Hauz mosque and the Sitora-i Mokhi-Khosa. Later explore the Balyand mosque, a jewel of 16th-century architecture, and the treasures of the city's Jewish quarter. (B)

DAY 8: **VABKENT • GIJDUVAN • RABATI MALIK • SAMARKAND**
Drive to Vabkent, and continue to Gijduvan, to see such architectural marvels as the 15th-century Ulugbek Madrasah built in tribute to the Sufi scholar Abdul Khaliq Ghijduwani. After lunch, continue driving to Samarkand via Rabati Malik Caravanserai. (B, L)
: Wellfort Hotel (or similar) (Days 8-10)

DAY 9: **AFROSIYOB • SAMARKAND**
Drive to the ancient deserted site of Afrosiyob on the outskirts of Samarkand. Continue to the observatory of Ulugbek, Timur's astronomer grandson, and see the Bibi Khanum mosque, built by Timur for his favourite wife. End at the magnificent Gur-Emir mausoleum, where Timur is buried beneath its fluted domes. (B)

DAY 10: **SHAHRISABZ • SAMARKAND**
Drive to Shahrisabz, birthplace of Timur, who commissioned an enormous palace here, the ornamented audience chamber of which remains. (B)

DAY 11: **SAMARKAND • TASHKENT**
Visit the Shah-i-Zinda necropolis and the Samarkand Museum of History, Culture and Art. In the afternoon, travel by rail to Tashkent. Enjoy a farewell dinner. (B, D)
: Inspira-S Hotel (or similar)

DAY 12: **DEPART TASHKENT**
Your tour concludes today in Tashkent. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,145
TOUR CODE: UZA

23 Apr - 04 May 27	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
07 May - 18 May 27	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
17 Sep - 28 Sep 27	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
08 Oct - 19 Oct 27	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
21 Apr - 02 May 28	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
05 May - 16 May 28	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
15 Sep - 26 Sep 28	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu
06 Oct - 17 Oct 28	Dr Murat R. Şiviloğlu

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

Private visits: Please note that the exclusive and individual nature of private visits means that they are subject to confirmation nearer the time of departure. Mosques, private houses and other buildings often have fluid opening times. If any visits have to be rearranged, please be assured that we will seek alternatives of equal interest.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

COLOURS OF KYRGYZSTAN

DURATION	SMALL-GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
10 days, 9 nights	From $4,945 (land only)	From $7,695 (land only)	Discovery	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Take a scenic boat ride on Lake Issyk-Kul.
- Walk beneath the striking red sandstone cliffs of Djety-Oguz.
- Discover the prehistoric petroglyphs at Cholpon-Ata.
- Stay overnight in a yurt on the shores of Lake Issyk-Kul.
- Learn about the ancient art of hunting with eagles.



ROAD ——



Discover Kyrgyzstan's little-known delights, including its cinematic scenery, deep cultural heritage and Soviet-shaped capital. After touring manicured Bishkek, savour the wild contrast of the Chon-Kemin Valley, with its lofty mountains and alpine meadows, and the natural beauty and ancient petroglyphs around Lake Issyk-Kul. Then admire the red undulations of Djety-Oguz Gorge, the wooden architecture of Karakol, and the ancient minaret of Burana Tower. Throughout, gain insight into Kyrgyz traditions, from carpet-making to eagle hunting.

DAY 1: **BISHKEK**
Arrive in Bishkek and check into your hotel. (N)
: **Hotel Ambassador** (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **BISHKEK**
Explore the capital of Kyrgyzstan, where plazas and well-kept parks lead to triumphant monuments. Visit Ala-Too Square, with its statue of national hero, Manas, flanked by distinctly Soviet architecture. Continue to the Old Square, followed by Victory Square, which memorialises World War II. Finish the morning at Bishkek's Museum of Art. Later, visit Osh Bazaar, a market filled with Kyrgyz produce. (B)

ABOVE: DJETY-OGUZ GORGE; TOP RIGHT: TRADITIONAL KYRGYZSTANI MUSICIANS; BOTTOM RIGHT: HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, KARAKOL

DAY 3: **BISHKEK • CHON KEMIN**
After breakfast, drive to Chon Kemin via Boom Gorge. On the way visit Burana Tower, the last remains of the ancient city Balasagun. Check in to a mountainous lodge, enjoy a walk, and then dinner. (B, D)
: **Kemin Guest House** (or similar)

DAY 4: **CHOLPON ATA • KARAKOL**
Journey to Lake Issyk-Kul's northern shore, to take in the ancient petroglyphs adorning boulders near the resort town of Cholpon-Ata. These carvings date from as far back as 800 BC, and depict deer, snow leopards and hunters. Later stop by the Ethnographical Museum. In the afternoon, enjoy a boat ride on Lake Issyk-Kul, one of the world's highest navigable lakes. (B, D)
: **Green Yard** (or similar) (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **TEPKE • KARAKOL**
Take a morning drive to the village of Tepke to visit a stud farm and its Kyrgyz horses. The farm also raises cows and sheep in this rustic corner of the Issyk-Kul region. After lunch, return to Karakol for a visit to Dungan Mosque, with its colourful and Chinese-influenced architecture; and the 19th-century wooden Holy Trinity church. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: **DJETY-OGUZ GORGE • TAMGA**
Begin with a journey by road along the southern shore of Lake Issyk-Kul, pausing en route at several beauty spots. Continue to the Djety-Oguz Gorge to admire its striking red rock formations, followed by Barskoon Gorge, walking to one of its famous waterfalls. Finally, transfer to your yurt camp near the quiet town of Tamga, for a folklore performance, dinner and an overnight stay. (B, D)
: **Nomad Lodge Yurt Camp*** (or similar)

DAY 7: **KOCHKOR**
En route to Kochkor, stop at Fairytale Canyon for a 30-minute walk amid its unusual red rock formations. Meet a local eagle hunter to learn about the ancient tradition of hunting with raptors, and to watch a demonstration using a pelt as bait. Then travel on to Kochkor, pausing in Kyzyl-Tuu, to meet a family that specialises in traditional yurt production. (B, D)
: **Nomad Lodge Guest House / D&D Guest House** (or similar)

DAY 8: **BISHKEK**
After breakfast, visit a local artisan's workshop. In Kochkor workshop masters produce huge carpets, using their own unique machinery, fashioned partially from old tractor parts. Later, transfer on to Bishkek. (B, D)
: **Hotel Ambassador** (or similar) (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **CHUNKURCHAK • BISHKEK**
Visit the stunning Chunkurchak Gorge for a full morning among its breathtaking natural scenery; return to Bishkek in the afternoon. (B, D)

DAY 10: **DEPART BISHKEK**
Conclude your tour in Bishkek today, or begin your tour extension. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,145
TOUR CODE: CKZ

18 May - 27 May 27	16 May - 25 May 28
15 Jun - 24 Jun 27	13 Jun - 22 Jun 28
13 Jul - 22 Jul 27	11 Jul - 20 Jul 28
17 Aug - 26 Aug 27	15 Aug - 24 Aug 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Across the Southern Caucasus (pg 140), Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia (pg 148) and Uzbekistan: Golden Road to Samarkand (pg 150). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Discovery tour: Suited to hardier travellers, with some basic accommodation and rougher journeys.

***Yurt camp:** Please note that the yurt camp accommodation on Day 6 is basic and has a shared bathroom.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS CENTRAL ASIA & BEYOND

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.

FERGANA VALLEY

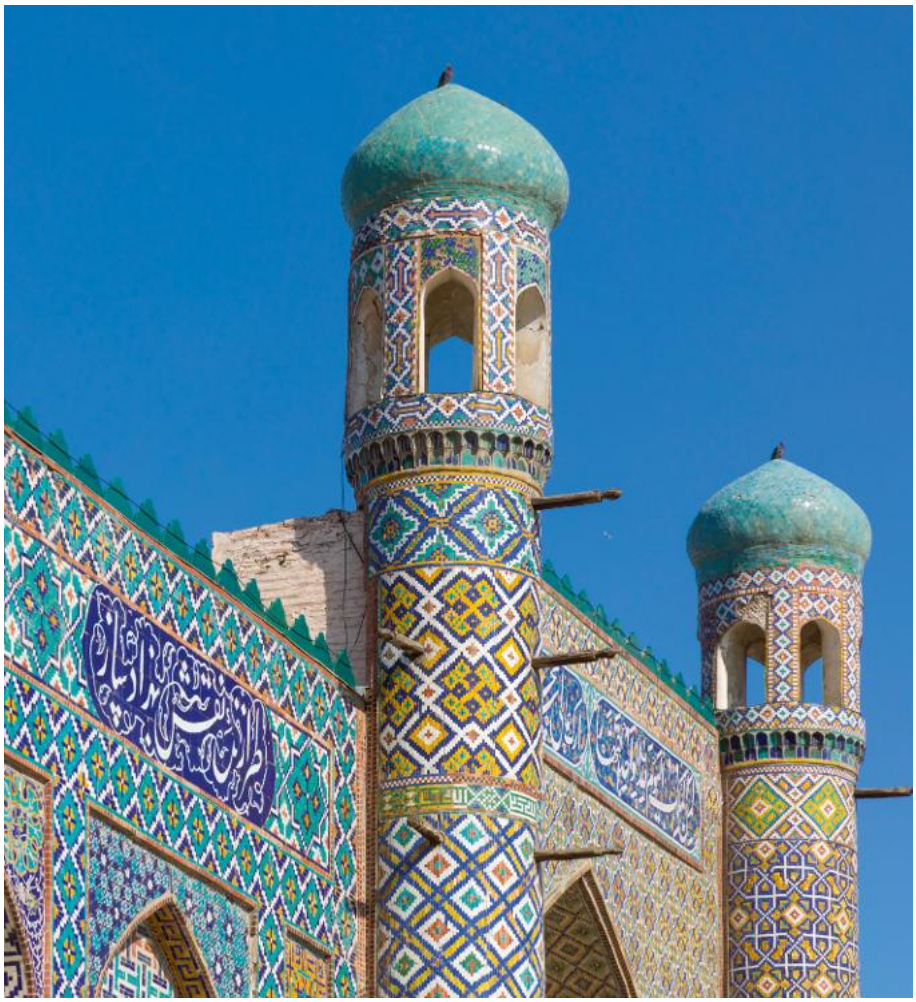
4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,095

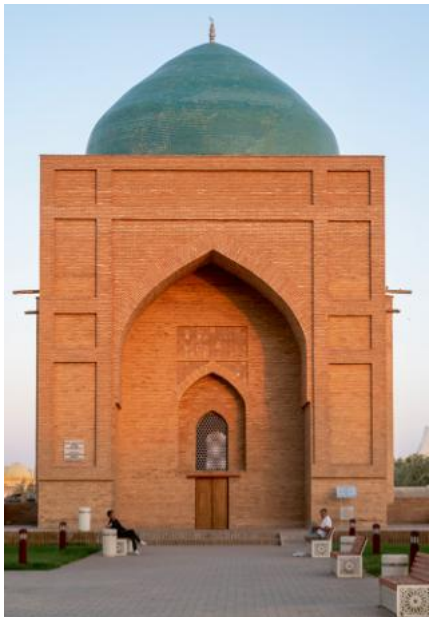
SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Uzbekistan: The Golden Road to Samarkand

Explore more of Central Asia with a visit to the Fergana Valley, set between the Tien Shan, Gissar and Alay mountains and mostly within Uzbekistan. This region has been a centre of silk production for centuries, and a visit to the silk factories of Margilan offers a chance to see these continuing traditions. In the ancient city of Kokand, you can explore the legacy of the former khanate in landmarks such as the Palace of Khudayar Khan, while Andijan is the birthplace of Babur, founder of the Mughal dynasty that ruled over swathes of the Indian subcontinent.

: Grand Hotel Fergana, Mercure Tashkent South





TURKISTAN, KAZAKHSTAN

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $5,500

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Grand Tour of the Five Stans

Traders and pilgrims have passed through the Turkistan region of Kazakhstan for centuries, and new vigour brings greater reason to take in this important spiritual and historical centre. Visit the Gunny Ethnic Village (founded in 2009 to promote Kazakh culture) to enjoy lunch, as well as archery, yurt building, and eagle hunting demonstrations, and a horse show. Later, catch an overnight train from Almaty to Shymkent. Over the following days, journey through desert and explore further, before heading on to Tashkent or Turkistan for your departure.

: Overnight Train, Rixos Turkistan, Ateca Suites Tashkent

TURKMENISTAN

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $3,500

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia

Arrive in Ashgabat, a capital city that gleams with white marble monuments, to see the Neutrality Arch, Ahalteke Horse Stables and Russian Bazaar among other landmarks. Journey to the ever-burning Darvaza Gas Crater, evocatively called the 'Door to Hell', staying at a yurt camp nearby and enjoying a barbecue by the glow of its flames. Drive to Kunya Urgench and see the numerous 12th-century mausoleums and minarets before crossing into Uzbekistan and flying to Tashkent to join your group tour on the following day.

: Yyldyz Hotel, Darvaza Yurt Camp, Mercure Tashkent South

ALMATY

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $895

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Colours of Kyrgyzstan

Set at the foot of the Trans-Ili Alatau mountains, Almaty is Kazakhstan's cultural centre and an attractive place to extend your tour. Here tree-lined streets and leafy parks are dotted with cafés, fountains and Soviet-era monuments. Worthy stops include the First President's Park; the Ascension Cathedral, one of the world's tallest wooden churches; the bustling Zeleny Bazaar; and the State Museum of Art. For dramatic panoramas, take the cable car to Kok-Tobe hill, and look out over this charming city.

: Kazzhol Park Hotel





INDIA

8 DAYS, 7 NIGHTS FROM $3,295

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia

Switch the Silk Road for India's Golden Triangle in this carefully choreographed, richly rewarding tour of the country's most beautiful and important cities.

Begin in the lively capital, touring both Old and New Delhi, taking in the Red Fort, the erstwhile residence of Moghul emperors; Raj Ghat, a memorial complex housing tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, among other leaders; as well as the war memorial, India Gate; Rashtrapati Bhawan, the president's residence; and Qutab Minar tower, a masterpiece of perfect proportions, and the tomb of Emperor Humayun.

Travel on to see Agra's impressive Mughal architecture, including the inimitable Taj Mahal; Itimad-ud-Daulah, the beautiful tomb of Mirza Ghiyas Beg; and the mighty 16th-century Agra Fort.

Then explore the delicate, deserted sandstone city of Fatehpur Sikri, abandoned by its inhabitants in the 16th century, before finally surveying the excellent museums, architectural sights and vibrant bazaars of the "Pink City", Jaipur, including the ravishing Hawa Mahal, or Palace of the Winds, and the city's hilltop Amber Fort.

: The Claridges New Delhi, Trident Agra, Royal Heritage Haveli Jaipur, Trident Gurgaon

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: THE KHUDAYAR KHAN PALACE, UZBEKISTAN; THE ASCENSION CATHEDRAL RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, ALMATY; THE RED FORT, DELHI; KHOJA AHMED YASAWI MAUSOLEUM, TURKISTAN



EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

In East Asia, you'll find Japan's serene Shinto shrines and teahouses, Zen gardens and high-velocity bullet trains; Taiwan's antique monasteries, remarkable scenery and refined gastronomy; and China's Great Wall, heterogeneous street food, deep traditions and vigorous megacities.

Venture out into Southeast Asia to encounter a beautiful melange of countries rich with both natural and cultural wonders, including Cambodia's incomparable Hindu-Buddhist temples of Angkor Wat and Vietnam's French-colonial architecture, languid islands, riverine villages and stepped rice paddies.

Our expertly curated tours across the region include introductions for first-time visitors that weave together the must-sees, as well as journeys to lesser-known quarters sure to reward your curiosity.

LEFT: INSET, THE TEMPLE OF HEAVEN, BEIJING;
BACKGROUND: TRADITIONAL CHINESE, OIL-PAPER UMBRELLAS

JAPAN'S CULTURAL TREASURES

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $14,545 (land only)	From $19,095 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Enjoy a traditional tea ceremony experience and cooking class in Kyoto.
- Visit Shirakawa-go to see the UNESCO-listed, thatched gasshō-zukuri houses.
- Tour the historic Nomura Samurai House and Garden.
- Try your hand at a bonsai-tree shaping workshop in Tokyo.



RAIL



Discover the deep and storied heritage of Japan on this journey through the country's main island of Honshu. Begin with an exploration of Tokyo and the nearby Hakone National Park, visit the tranquil Kenroku-en garden and the castle of Kanazawa, before exploring imperial Kyoto with its many temples and shrines. Experience the sombre history of Hiroshima, then visit the picturesque island of Miyajima with its celebrated torii gate. Finish with a visit to Himeji, famed for its castle and gardens.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE TOKYO**
Arrive in the Japanese capital and check into your hotel. (N)
: **Hotel New Takanawa** (or similar) (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **FUJI-HAKONE-IZU NATIONAL PARK**
Full-day excursion to the Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park for views of Mount Fuji, a cruise on Lake Ashi and a ride on the Mount Komagatake Ropeway cable car. Enjoy a welcome lunch. (B, L)

ABOVE: FUJI-HAKONE-IZU NATIONAL PARK;
TOP RIGHT: APPRENTICE GEISHAS IN KIMONOS;
BOTTOM RIGHT: KINKAKUJI TEMPLE, KYOTO

DAY 3: **TOKYO**
Full-day tour visiting Asakusa Kannon Temple, Tokyo National Museum and the peaceful Meiji Shrine. Try your hand shaping a bonsai tree and visit the Imperial Palace East Garden. (B, L)

DAY 4: **KANAZAWA**
Morning departure by the *Shinkansen* (bullet train) to Kanazawa. Visit Kanazawa Castle park, Kenroku-en Garden and the Nomura Samurai House. Check into your hotel for the following two nights. (B, L)
: ANA Crowne Plaza Kanazawa (or similar) (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **KANAZAWA • SHIRAKAWA-GO**
Morning visit to the Higashi-Chayamachi District, full of teahouses, craft shops, and the Omicho fresh produce and fish market. Take an afternoon excursion to Shirakawa-go to see the UNESCO-listed gasshō-zukuri houses, notable for their pitched, thatched roofs. (B)

DAYS 6-7: **KYOTO**
Travel by express train to Kyoto, visit Nijo Castle, enjoy a walking tour of Nishiki food market, attend a cooking class at the WAK JAPAN cultural centre, and experience a tea ceremony. The following day is at leisure to explore Kyoto at your pace. Stay at your hotel for two nights. (B)
: RIHGA Gran Kyoto (or similar) (Days 6-7)

DAY 8: **KYOTO • NARA • HIROSHIMA**
Take a morning visit to Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), then Ryoanji Temple, famous for its Zen rock garden. Enjoy an afternoon tour of the historic city of Nara, then return to Kyoto to catch the bullet train to Hiroshima. Check into your hotel for the following two nights. (B)
: Grand Prince Hiroshima (or similar) (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **MIYAJIMA ISLAND • HIROSHIMA**
Take the ferry to Miyajima Island to visit the Itsukushima shrine and its traditional torii gate. Travel back to the city to visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and the Memorial Museum. (B)

DAY 10: **HIMEJI • TOKYO**
Board a bullet train north to the city of Himeji. Take a tour of Himeji Castle, which, unlike most castles in Japan, is still in its original form and is arguably the finest example of medieval castle architecture in the country. Afterwards, stroll in the Koko-en Garden, which consists of nine separate, walled gardens with ponds, waterfalls and a tea ceremony house. Enjoy a farewell lunch. Travel to Tokyo and check in to your hotel. (B, L)
: Villa Fontaine Grand (or similar)

DAY 11: **DEPART TOKYO**
Your tour concludes today in Tokyo. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $5,995
TOUR CODE: JCT

16 Mar - 26 Mar 27	14 Mar - 24 Mar 28
23 Mar - 02 Apr 27	21 Mar - 31 Mar 28
30 Mar - 09 Apr 27	28 Mar - 07 Apr 28
06 Apr - 16 Apr 27	04 Apr - 14 Apr 28
05 Oct - 15 Oct 27	03 Oct - 13 Oct 28
09 Nov - 19 Nov 27	07 Nov - 17 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with China: The Grand Tour (pg 162). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

FESTIVAL DEPARTURES
Cherry blossom season
Hanami is the Japanese custom of enjoying the springtime cherry blossom, which may be seen on March and April departures.

Autumn leaf season
Momijigari is the Japanese custom of seeking out pretty trees at the height of their autumnal blush, and may be experienced on departures between September and November.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

GRAND TOUR OF INDOCHINA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $7,945 (land only)	From $8,095 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Cruise on Halong Bay, Vietnam.
- Eat lunch at KOTO restaurant, an enterprise that trains underprivileged youths in Vietnam.
- Enjoy a sunset cruise on Angkor Thom moat, Cambodia.
- Join a farewell dinner in the Angkor Archaeological Park, Cambodia.



FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——



ABOVE: ANGKOR WAT, CAMBODIA;
TOP RIGHT: HALONG BAY, VIETNAM;
BOTTOM RIGHT: NGOC SON TEMPLE, VIETNAM

Head into the heart of Indochina, starting with the rapidly developing country of Vietnam, with its karst-strewn bays, green mountains and thrumming cities. Sample life along the Mekong Delta by boat and on foot, before striking out into the kingdom of Cambodia, culminating in a visit to the awesome Hindu-Buddhist temples of Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious structure.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE HANOI**
Arrive in Hanoi and check into your hotel. Join a welcome dinner. (D)
: The Ann Hanoi (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **HANOI**
Visit Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum, One Pillar Pagoda, the Temple of Literature, Hoan Kiem Lake and Ngoc Son Temple. Take lunch at KOTO restaurant, an organisation that trains underprivileged youths. This evening, there is the opportunity to see a water puppet show*. (B, L)

DAY 3: **CRUISE ON HALONG BAY**
Enjoy a cruise amid the magical, karst-strewn scenery of Halong Bay, and explore a cave by sampan skiff or kayak. Stay aboard your cruise ship, the Indochine Premium. (B, L, D)
: Indochine Premium (or similar)



DAY 4: **FLY TO DANANG • HOI AN**
Cruise around the karst limestone islands. Disembark in the late morning and drive to Hanoi Airport for your evening flight to Danang. Transfer to the beachfront Boutique Hoi An Resort. (B)
: Boutique Hoi An Resort (Days 4-6)

DAY 5: **HOI AN**
Take a walking tour of Hoi An. Enjoy lunch at Streets International restaurant, a social enterprise that assists street children. Take an afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 6: **HOI AN**
Enjoy a day at leisure, with the option to take a cycle ride through the countryside or a visit a village*. (B)

DAY 7: **HUE**
Drive over the spectacular Hai Van Pass to Hue (weather permitting), stopping at the Museum of Cham Sculpture en route. Afternoon visit to the tomb of the Nguyen emperor, Tu Duc. Dine at a restored royal home of the Nguyen dynasty. Stay at the Pilgrimage Village Resort & Spa. (B, L, D)
: Pilgrimage Village Resort

DAY 8: **FLY TO HO CHI MINH CITY**
Cycle to the Imperial Citadel and the Purple Forbidden City, then take a river cruise to Thien Mu Pagoda. Transfer to the airport and fly to Ho Chi Minh City. Stay at the Grand Hotel. (B)
: Grand Hotel (Days 8-10)

DAY 9: **HO CHI MINH CITY**
Drive through the countryside to the Cu Chi Tunnels. Later tour the city, visiting Notre Dame Cathedral and the War Remnants Museum. (B)

DAY 10: **MEKONG DELTA**
Drive to Cai Be, and explore the Mekong Delta by boat and on foot. (B, L)

DAY 11: **FLY TO PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA**
Fly to Phnom Penh and transfer to La Rose Suites Hotel & Spa. (B)
: La Rose Suites (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **PHNOM PENH**
Visit the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda and the National Museum. Later, take a tour of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and the Choeung Ek Killing Fields. (B, L)

DAY 13: **FLY TO SIEM REAP**
Fly to Siem Reap and stay at Lotus Blanc Hotel. Afternoon visit to Angkor Thom, the Terrace of the Elephants, the Terrace of the Leper King and the Bayon Temple. Watch the sun set with a cruise on Angkor Thom moat, drink in hand. (B)
: Lotus Blanc (Days 13-14)

DAY 14: **ANGKOR TEMPLES**
Take a full-day tour of these world-famous temples. In the morning, visit the magnificent Angkor Wat. After lunch, explore Ta Phrom and Neak Pean Temples. Join a farewell dinner at Khmer House, Srah Srang, within the Angkor Archaeological Park. (B, L, D)

DAY 15: **DEPART ANGKOR**
Enjoy a morning excursion to Banteay Srei Temple and Angkor National Museum. Your tour concludes today. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,345
TOUR CODE: LVX

12 Jan - 26 Jan 27	11 Jan - 25 Jan 28
02 Feb - 16 Feb 27	01 Feb - 15 Feb 28
16 Feb - 02 Mar 27	15 Feb - 29 Feb 28
02 Mar - 16 Mar 27	22 Feb - 07 Mar 28
18 Oct - 01 Nov 27	29 Feb - 14 Mar 28
02 Nov - 16 Nov 27	31 Oct - 14 Nov 28
09 Nov - 23 Nov 27	07 Nov - 21 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

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SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with China: The Grand Tour (pg 162). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

* **Optional excursions:** Pre-bookable options at additional expense.

Departure dates: Dates may change slightly as a result of flight schedules.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



CHINA: THE GRAND TOUR

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $10,795 (land only)	From $12,995 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the Forbidden City with an expert guide.
- Cruise on the Yangtze River.
- Tour the less-visited Jinshanling section of the Great Wall
- Enjoy a tea tasting at the Huxinting Teahouse in Shanghai
- Take a private, expert-led tour of the Shanghai Museum



FLIGHT ·····
RAIL +++++



This comprehensive tour visits many of China's best-loved sights. In Beijing, travellers explore such historic treasures as the Forbidden City and the Great Wall. Then the tour party moves on to Xi'an to marvel at the Terracotta Warriors, and take in the stunning landscapes between Guilin and Yangshuo. Later, there is a trip to see the pandas of Chengdu, before travellers board a scenic cruise along the Yangtze, which includes a visit to the Three Gorges Dam. The tour ends in Shanghai, the thriving coastal city where modernity meets tradition.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE BEIJING**
Arrive and check into the Novotel Beijing Peace. In the afternoon, visit the Temple of Heaven, and later enjoy a welcome dinner at a Peking duck restaurant. (D)
: Novotel Beijing Peace (or similar)
(Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **BEIJING**
Visit Tiananmen Square and tour the Forbidden City with an expert guide. Take in the historic Liulichang district. In the evening, see a state acrobatics show. (B, L)

DAY 3: **GREAT WALL OF CHINA**
Drive out of the city to the Great Wall at Jinshanling, a quiet and impressive section of this historic structure. (B, L)

ABOVE: THE FORBIDDEN CITY, BEIJING;
TOP RIGHT: A PANDA CUB, CHENGDU;
BOTTOM RIGHT: THE GUILIN HILLS
AND LI RIVER, SOUTHERN CHINA

DAY 4: **XI'AN**
Visit a hutong (a traditional, bustling neighbourhood street) in a pedicab, then drive to the railway station to board a high-speed train from Beijing to Xi'an. Check into the Grand New Century Hotel Bell Tower Xi'an (B)
: Grand New Century Hotel Bell Tower Xi'an (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **TERRACOTTA WARRIORS • XI'AN**
Take a morning excursion to the Terracotta Army and the Xi'an Museum, followed by a lesson in Chinese calligraphy. Later, visit the Muslim quarter and Great Mosque. (B, L)

DAY 6: **TRAIN TO CHENGDU**
Catch a high-speed train to Chengdu, and transfer to the Kempinski Hotel Chengdu. Enjoy an evening excursion to a Sichuan Opera music performance. (B, L)
: Kempinski Hotel Chengdu

DAY 7: **FLY TO GUILIN**
Take an early visit to the Giant Panda Research Base. Later, fly to Guilin and stay overnight at the Sheraton Guilin. (B)
: Sheraton Guilin

DAYS 8-9: **YANGSHUO**
Board a morning cruise down the Li River, past a dramatic landscape of limestone peaks. Arrive in Yangshuo and stroll along busy West Street, then transfer to the Lijing Resort. Enjoy the following day at leisure, to rest or explore the Yangshuo region independently. (B)
: Lijing Resort

DAY 10: **CHONGQING**
Take the train to Chongqing, then transfer to the port to board a five-star passenger vessel for a cruise to Yichang. (B, D)
: Victoria Jenna (or similar) (Days 10-12)

DAYS 11-12: **YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE**
Cruise through the striking Three Gorges section of the Yangtze, an area of towering cliffs and twisting canyons. Enjoy shore excursions to Fengdu's Ghost City and to watch the Romance of the Three Kingdoms show. (B, L, D)

DAY 13: **YICHANG • TRAIN TO SHANGHAI**
Disembark in Yichang and visit the Three Gorges Dam, then take the train to Shanghai. Stay at the Central Hotel. (B)
: Central Hotel (Days 13-14)

DAY 14: **SHANGHAI**
Enjoy a morning tour of Jade Buddha Temple and Yu Garden, followed by tea tasting at the Huxinting Teahouse. In the afternoon, take in the Shanghai Museum with an expert guide, then end the day with a walk along the historic Bund. Finally, attend a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 15: **DEPART SHANGHAI**
Your tour concludes today in Shanghai. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,195
TOUR CODE: CGS

13 Mar - 27 Mar 27	11 Mar - 25 Mar 28
04 Sep - 18 Sep 27	02 Sep - 16 Sep 28
09 Oct - 23 Oct 27	07 Oct - 21 Oct 28
23 Oct - 06 Nov 27	21 Oct - 04 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Uzbekistan: Heart of Central Asia (pg 148), Uzbekistan: Golden Road to Samarkand (pg 150), Japan's Cultural Treasures (pg 158) and Grand Tour of Indochina (pg 160). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

TAIWAN: THE BEAUTIFUL ISLAND

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $7,845 (land only)	From $12,395 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Discover ancient treasures at the National Palace Museum.
- Enjoy a farewell dinner at a Michelin-star restaurant.
- Discover traditional Hakka culture at Beipu village.
- Take a tour of a Buddhist monastery.
- Catch a private boat excursion on Sun Moon Lake.





Early Portuguese sailors named Taiwan Ilha Formosa (Beautiful Island) because of its soul-stirring scenery. Experience this natural beauty firsthand, alongside the cultural highlights. Energetic Taipei is home to possibly the best collection of Chinese artefacts in the world, while Sun Moon Lake is an atmospheric place to rest. The countryside is often the biggest surprise, with deep gorges, snow-capped mountains, hot springs and tea plantations.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE TAIPEI**
Arrive in Taiwan's capital and check into your hotel. (N)
: The Landis (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **TAIPEI**
Enjoy a full-day tour of Taipei, taking in the National Palace Museum, Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall and Longshan Temple. Later, enjoy a welcome dinner. (B, L, D)

DAYS 3-4: **SUN MOON LAKE**
Drive to the village of Beipu, home to members of the Hakka community. See their vernacular architecture and sample Hakka food, then continue to Sun Moon Lake. The following day, take a private boat excursion on the lake, then visit the Wenwu Temple and the Tse-en Pagoda. (B)
: Einhan Taihe (Days 3-4)

ABOVE: THE JIUFEN COASTLINE, TAIPEI; TOP RIGHT: WUJI TIANYUAN TEMPLE, TAIPEI; BOTTOM RIGHT: TAROKO GORGE



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,095
TOUR CODE: TWP

06 Mar - 16 Mar 27	04 Mar - 14 Mar 28
17 Apr - 27 Apr 27	15 Apr - 25 Apr 28
16 Oct - 26 Oct 27	14 Oct - 24 Oct 28
30 Oct - 09 Nov 27	28 Oct - 07 Nov 28

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SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Japan's Cultural Treasures (pg 158). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

***Fo Guang Shan Monastery:** Overnight stays at the monastery are subject to availability, and a night at a nearby hotel may be provided instead.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

DAY 5: **ALISHAN**
Drive to the Alishan Forest Park, one of the island's most spectacular mountainous regions. Take a walking tour. (B, D)
: Alishan House

DAY 6: **TAINAN • FO GUANG SHAN MONASTERY**
Catch an early ride on the Alishan Forest Railway to see the sunrise (weather permitting) from the summit of Mount Alishan. After breakfast, drive to the mountain town of Zhuqi. Continue to Tainan to visit Fort Anping and historic Yanping Street. Then visit Fo Guang Shan, Taiwan's largest Buddhist monastery. (B, D)
: Fo Guang Shan Monastery Guesthouse

DAY 7: **KENTING NATIONAL PARK • TAITUNG**
Rise early and join the monks for their traditional morning prayers. Drive south to Kenting National Park, an area of low-lying hills, limestone caves, dense forests and fine beaches. Explore the park on foot, then head north towards Taitung. (B)
: Hotel Royal Chihpen

DAY 8: **EAST COAST NATIONAL SCENIC AREA • HUALIEN**
Drive north through the East Coast National Scenic Area towards Hualien. (B)
: Lakeshore Hotel Hualien

DAY 9: **TAROKO GORGE • TAIPEI**
Morning visit to the Taroko Gorge. Drive to Taipei with a stop at Kavalan Whiskey Distillery for a tour and tasting. Stay at The Landis. (B)
: The Landis (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **YANGMINGSHAN**
Head to the Yangmingshan National Park. Enjoy the landmark Flower Clock, lakes and pavilions. In the afternoon, walk to Beitou Park and Xinbeitou Historic Station, a Japanese-built wooden railway station. Later, attend a farewell dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant. (B, D)

DAY 11: **DEPART TAPEI**
Your tour concludes today in Taipei. (B)



EXTENSIONS EAST & SOUTHEAST ASIA

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.



SUZHOU

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,845

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

China: The Grand Tour

See Suzhou, "Venice of the East", with its UNESCO-listed gardens, ancient pagodas, silk heritage and historic canal streets. Visit the Hanshan buddhist temple; the Suzhou Museum, designed by the renowned Chinese-American architect I. M. Pei; take in Tiger Hill and its 2,500-year-old Yunyan Pagoda; and learn more about the region's pioneering and precious textiles traditions at its silk museum and associated workshop.

: Four Points by Sheraton

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SUZHOU, CHINA; OSAKA, JAPAN; NAOSHIMA ISLAND, JAPAN; SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA; LUANG PRABANG, LAOS; NINH BINH, VIETNAM; KOH RONG ISLAND, CAMBODIA; ZHANGJIAJIE NATIONAL FOREST PARK, CHINA.

ZHANGJIAJIE

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,845

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

China: The Grand Tour

Zhangjiajie National Forest Park's striking, natural sandstone pillar-like peaks or "karsts" are UNESCO-listed and inspired the famous floating Hallelujah Mountains in the 2009 film, *Avatar*. See these beautiful formations, walk along the world's longest glass-bottomed bridge, ride soaring cable cars and walk beside the park's meandering Golden Whip stream on this both peaceful and awe-inspiring extension.

: Hilton Garden Inn Wulingyuan





OSAKA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $3,345

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Japan's Cultural Treasures

Round off your Japan tour with a visit to the country's third-largest city. Take in Osaka Castle, the Sumiyoshi Taisha Shinto shrine and the city's lively Dotonbori district; and enjoy Osaka's signature takoyaki street food.

: Villa Fontaine Grand Osaka (or similar)



OKAYAMA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $4,845

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Japan's Cultural Treasures

Extend your stay by taking in Koraku-en garden, one of Japan's finest; Himeji Castle, one of the country's best-preserved feudal fortresses; as well as the Edo-era canal and cityscape of Kurashiki Bikan Historical Area; and incredible contemporary art island of Naoshima, home to numerous museums showing works by famous Japanese artists such as Takashi Murakami and Yayoi Kusama, as well as pieces by James Turrell, Walter De Maria and Claude Monet.

: ANA Crowne Plaza Okayama, Granvia Okayama



SEOUL

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $4,695

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Japan's Cultural Treasures

See every aspect of the South Korean capital on this fulsome tour extension. Stroll among the traditional dwellings of Bukchon Hanok Village; see the ceremonial changing of the guard at Gwanghwamun Gate; tour Gyeongbokgung and Changdeokgung Palaces; take an excursion to the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea; visit Namdaemun Market, one of the country's oldest markets; and take in panoramic views of the capital from Namsan Seoul Tower.

: The Botanik Sewoon



KOH RONG ISLAND

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $1,695

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Grand Tour of Indochina

Lay back in the most relaxed, least developed of Cambodia's islands. Koh Rong has clear seas, bright sands, waterfalls and plenty of opportunities to take jungle walks, snorkel, fish and dive. The speed-boat ride over to this island is thrilling, and the villas at the island's Royal Sands – built from locally sourced teak, bamboo and limestone – are suitably languid.

: Long Set Resort (or upgrade to **Royal Sands** - finest resort on the island)



NINH BINH AND MAI CHAU

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $2,145

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Grand Tour of Indochina

Visit the soaring, fairy-tale limestone karst mountains, rice paddies and rivers of Ninh Binh, as well as the charming, rural villages and farms of Mai Chau; stay in comfortable, environmentally sound eco-lodges; take a sampan ride down the Ngo Dong River; and visit Hoa Lu, Vietnam's ancient capital, with its temples honouring Vietnam's dynasties.

: Tam Coc Garden, Mai Chau Ecolodge



LUANG PRABANG

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,395

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION:

Grand Tour of Indochina

Laos is a laidback, landlocked nation of Buddhist temples, riverside towns and beautiful scenery. This three-night extension places you in the northern city of Luang Prabang – UNESCO-listed for its traditional and colonial architecture – at the Villa Maly Boutique Hotel. It includes a guided tour that takes in the Royal Palace Museum, Heuan Chan Heritage House, Wat Xiengthong temple, and the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre. You'll also cruise on the Mekong at sunset, visit the picturesque Kuang Si waterfall, learn about the art of silk weaving, and stop by the Bear Rescue Centre.

: Villa Maly



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

From dune-bound tombs to labyrinthine medinas, precious nature reserves to ancient ruins, there is much to explore in this beguiling, historic region, which includes Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Oman.

Few travellers overlook the majesty of Egypt's Pyramids of Giza; many also list the pink sandstone facade of Petra in Jordan as a once-in-a-lifetime attraction. Yet the Numidian and Roman relics of Tunisia and Algeria remain similarly well-preserved; Morocco's souks, mountains and walled cities are endlessly rewarding; and though little-known, Oman's rolling sands and ornate mosques make it a greatly satisfying place to visit.

We know this complex region inside and out, and work with exceptional local guides to show you its treasures.

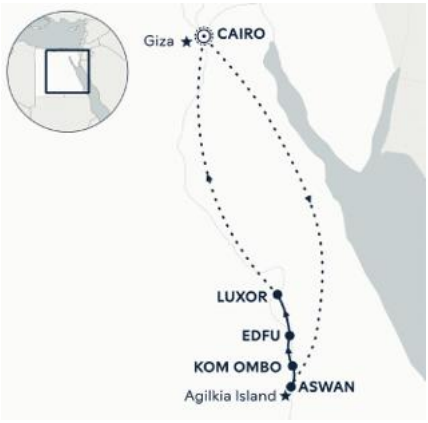
LEFT INSET: HASSAN II MOSQUE, MOROCCO;
BACKGROUND: AIT BENHADDOU, MOROCCO

EGYPT: ANCIENT WONDERS OF CAIRO AND THE NILE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
9 days, 8 nights	From $8,945 (land only)	From $9,345 (land only)	Prestige	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Learn about archeological digs during an onboard lecture.
- Luxury river cruise guided by expert Egyptologists.
- Ride a traditional felucca sailboat around Elephantine Island.
- Visit a local grassroots community project in Cairo working to protect the Nile.



BOAT
FLIGHT



ABOVE: DENDERA TEMPLE;
TOP RIGHT: PHILAE TEMPLE;
BOTTOM RIGHT: GIZA'S PYRAMIDS

Explore Egypt's wonders via the Nile on this exceptional tour. After visiting the pyramids of Giza and the new Grand Egyptian Museum, fly to Aswan, where Agatha Christie wrote *Death on the Nile*. Here you board one of two A&K Sanctuary vessels – the Nile Adventurer or Sun Boat IV – for a four-night, five-star cruise to Luxor. During excursions to temples and tombs, Egyptologists regale you with tales of pharaohs and a pantheon of gods, offering insight into this ancient world.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE CAIRO**
Arrive in Egypt's capital and check into your hotel with a Nile-view room. (N)
: Sheraton Cairo Hotel (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **CAIRO**
Start your tour with a visit to Cairo's citadel – a medieval fortress that now houses a number of museums – followed by the city's mosques and the huge Khan El-Khalili Bazaar. Later, travel to an island in the Nile to visit the Very Nile community initiative, which oversees a number of sustainability projects. Return to your hotel and enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure. Later, join a welcome dinner, served with wine. (B, D)

DAY 3: **CAIRO • GIZA**
Visit Giza's world-famous pyramid complex. The Great Pyramid of Giza is the last standing of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world, as well as the oldest – built over 4,500 years ago. Nearby, the Sphinx guards King Khafre's enormous funerary monument. Continue on to the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum. Explore the highlights of the 12 main galleries that chart the evolution of one of the world's most remarkable civilizations. (B, L)

DAY 4: **ASWAN**
Fly to Aswan this morning to begin your four-night Nile cruise. After lunch, take a traditional felucca sailboat around Elephantine Island, Lord Kitchener's Botanical Gardens and the Agha Khan Mausoleum (weather permitting). In the evening, attend a welcome reception and programme overview. Enjoy wine and beer with canapés, followed by dinner. A folklore show and whirling dervish performance completes the evening (subject to confirmation). (B, L, D)
: Nile Adventurer or Sun Boat IV, A&K Sanctuary (Days 4-7)

DAY 5: **AGILKIA ISLAND • KOM OMBO**
After breakfast, take a short boat ride to see the Philae Temple on Agilkia Island. Next, it's on to the quarries that supplied much of the granite used to build the pyramids. Here you see the Unfinished Obelisk. Back aboard, enjoy lunch, then visit the Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to the crocodile god, Sobek. In the evening, enjoy a buffet of local specialities, and traditional music and dancing. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: **EDFU • LUXOR**
Explore the extraordinary Temple of Horus (also known as the Temple of Edfu). Despite being built by the Greeks, this structure is the largest and most completely preserved pharaonic temple in Egypt. Back aboard, take part in an Egyptian cookery lesson while cruising through the Esna lock. In the afternoon, join your Egyptologist as they guide you around the Temple of Luxor. Finally, enjoy a sumptuous dinner on board. (B, L, D)

DAY 7: **LUXOR**
Start the day exploring the Valley of the Kings alongside your Egyptologist. You have the chance to visit at least one tomb in the Valley of the Queens – the final resting place of queens, princes, princesses and other high-ranking rulers – and the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. Returning to the Nile, pass the famed Colossi of Memnon, known in ancient times for their haunting "voices" at dawn. After lunch, your Egyptologist will guide you around the Temple of Karnak, part of the monumental city of Thebes. Return to your vessel for tea. In the evening, enjoy a farewell gala dinner, with white-gloved waiters serving gourmet cuisine. (B, L, D)

DAY 8: **CAIRO**
Fly to Cairo and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure, or take an optional visit to the old Egyptian Museum in downtown Cairo. In the evening, enjoy a farewell drink overlooking the Nile. (B)
: Sheraton Cairo Hotel

DAY 9: **DEPART CAIRO**
Your tour concludes today in Cairo. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,745
TOUR CODE: EGT

21 Jan - 29 Jan 27	13 Jan - 21 Jan 28
06 Feb - 14 Feb 27	06 Feb - 14 Feb 28
18 Mar - 26 Mar 27	17 Mar - 25 Mar 28
11 Apr - 19 Apr 27	18 Apr - 26 Apr 28
05 May - 13 May 27	12 May - 20 May 28
09 Oct - 17 Oct 27	09 Oct - 17 Oct 28
02 Nov - 10 Nov 27	02 Nov - 10 Nov 28
04 Dec - 12 Dec 27	04 Dec - 12 Dec 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of Jordan (pg 182). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Prestige tour: five-star, deluxe accommodation and high-level comfort throughout.

***Itinerary variations:** On some departure dates, the cruise will sail from Luxor to Aswan. Occasionally, the ship may be amended by A&K Sanctuary due to operational reasons. An alternative boat of the same standard will be provided. It is possible to upgrade your cabin, subject to availability; please enquire for prices.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

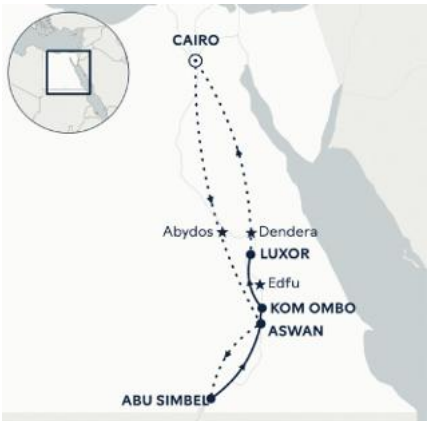
NEW FOR 2027

JOURNEY THROUGH EGYPT

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $11,645 (land only)	From $12,145 (land only)	Prestige	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Luxury river cruise guided by expert Egyptologists.
- Admire the rock-carved temples of Abu Simbel by day and night.
- Visit the Funtasia creative community project in Luxor.
- Uncover the history of Coptic Christianity in Cairo.



BOAT
FLIGHT



Egypt is a land of unmatched mythos, where ancient temples and tombs – once swallowed by the desert – continue to be uncovered. On this tour, you explore the greatest sights of this veritable treasure trove, journeying from Giza's grand pyramids and the temples of Abu Simbel and Luxor, to the less-visited relics of Dendera and Abydos. Your experience is elevated by a luxury Nile cruise, as well as the company of expert Egyptologists – there to answer your burning questions and illuminate the mysteries of this ancient civilisation.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE CAIRO**
Arrive in Egypt's capital and check into your hotel with a Nile-view room. (N)
: Sheraton Cairo Hotel (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **CAIRO • GIZA**
Today you visit the last standing of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Great Pyramid of Giza, as well as the nearby Sphinx. Afternoon at leisure. Back at the hotel, attend your welcome dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 3: **ABU SIMBEL**
Early flight to Abu Simbel via Aswan. Check into your lakeside resort hotel, with the afternoon at leisure. This evening, attend a light and sound show at Abu Simbel's temples. (B, D)
: Seti Abu Simbel Lake Resort

ABOVE: ABU SIMBEL;
TOP RIGHT: MORTUARY TEMPLE OF HATSHEPSUT;
BOTTOM RIGHT: EGYPTIAN BAKER IN LUXOR



DAY 4: **ABU SIMBEL • ASWAN**
This morning, visit Abu Simbel to explore the rock-carved temples of Pharaoh Ramses II and Queen Nefertari. Between 1964 and 1968, these temples were relocated to escape flooding in a remarkable mission led by UNESCO. Drive to Aswan and board your vessel to begin your Nile cruise. This afternoon, sail around the islands of Aswan on a traditional felucca boat. (B, L, D)
: Nile Adventurer or Sun Boat IV, A&K Sanctuary (Days 4-7)

DAY 5: **AGILKIA ISLAND • KOM OMBO**
Tour Philae Temple on Agilkia Island, arriving by motorboat, then visit the Unfinished Obelisk within an ancient granite quarry. Return to your Nile vessel and sail to the Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to crocodile-headed Sobek. This evening, attend a buffet dinner of local specialities accompanied by traditional dancing and music. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: **EDFU • LUXOR**
Visit the well-preserved Hellenistic Temple of Edfu, dedicated to Horus. While your ship passes through Esna Lock, enjoy a lesson in Egyptian cooking. Then explore the Temple of Luxor alongside your Egyptologist. (B, L, D)

DAY 7: **LUXOR**
Visit the Valley of the Kings – resting place of many a famous pharaoh – with the chance to see the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and at least one tomb in the Valley of the Queens. Continue to the Temple of Karnak for a tour. Return to your boat for afternoon tea, before attending this evening's farewell dinner complete with gourmet cuisine. (B, L, D)

DAY 8: **LUXOR**
Disembark and visit the Medinet Habu archaeological area, site of the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III. After, stop in at the Funtasia Cultural Centre, a philanthropic endeavour supported by Cox & Kings that provides creative workshops to local children. Afternoon at leisure. (B)
: Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **DENDERA • ABYDOS • LUXOR**
Embark on a full-day excursion to the ruins of Dendera – home to the Ptolemaic Temple of Hathor – and Abydos, where some of Egypt's first pharaohs were buried. Return to Luxor by road. (B)

DAY 10: **CAIRO**
Fly to Cairo and visit the Grand Egyptian Museum, the world's largest archaeological museum. Fully opened in 2025, the museum contains some 100,000 artefacts, including the complete collection of Tutankhamun's funerary objects. (B, L)
: Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino (Days 10-11)

DAY 11: **CAIRO**
Discover Cairo's Coptic Christian heritage, visiting the Roman Fortress of Babylon and the important buildings within its grounds, including St Sergius and Bacchus Church, the Coptic Museum and the Hanging Church. Your afternoon is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink overlooking the Nile. (B)

DAY 12: **DEPART CAIRO**
Your tour concludes today in Cairo. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,395
TOUR CODE: JTE

19 Apr - 30 Apr 27	29 Jan - 09 Feb 28
07 Sep - 18 Sep 27	09 Mar - 20 Mar 28
17 Oct - 28 Oct 27	02 Apr - 13 Apr 28
10 Nov - 21 Nov 27	04 May - 15 May 28
	17 Oct - 28 Oct 28
	18 Nov - 29 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of Jordan (pg 182). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Prestige tour: Five-star, deluxe accommodation and high-level comfort throughout.

Based in five-star accommodation, with the exception of the overnight stay at Abu Simbel, where the accommodation should be regarded as simpler.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

Itinerary variations: Occasionally, this tour's ship may be amended by A&K Sanctuary due to operational reasons. An alternative boat of the same standard will be provided. It is possible to upgrade your cabin, subject to availability; please enquire for prices.



NILE RIVER BOATS - A&K SANCTUARY

A&K Sanctuary's flotilla of riverboats are well-known for being among the most sophisticated leisure vessels to ply the waters of the Nile, and have the most experienced and skilled crews within this region.

NILE ADVENTURER

This A&K Sanctuary vessel affords guests a luxurious standard of cruise on the world's longest river. Interiors blend the contemporary and the traditional, with nods to Egyptian heritage such as Cairene rugs and Arabian patterns. There are 32 cabins, all air-conditioned and with Nile views. The extensive teak-floored sundeck includes private cabanas around the pool area – the perfect spot for relaxing while taking in the scenery. Gourmet cuisine, sightseeing excursions, onboard entertainment and expert Egyptologists elevate your cruise experience. The Nile Adventurer embarks on well-paced, expertly designed voyages that take in the best of the ancient sites along the river.



NILE ADVENTURER



STANDARD KING BED CABIN, NILE ADVENTURER



SUN BOAT IV



STANDARD KING BED CABIN, SUN BOAT IV

SUN BOAT IV

Art deco style meets contemporary comfort aboard the Sun Boat IV, an A&K Sanctuary vessel. Guests are accommodated in 34 standard cabins, two presidential suites and two royal suites, all of which afford Nile views – most through floor-to-ceiling windows. Each is fully equipped with a private bathroom, air conditioning, minibar, and satellite television. Completing your elevated experience on this timeless river: shore excursions alongside experienced Egyptologists, and gourmet dining in an elegant setting amid hand-painted images of life in Nubia. That's not to mention the sun deck, a relaxing open area with a heated swimming pool and Egyptian marble surrounds.

EXTENSIONS EGYPT

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.

ABU SIMBEL

MORNING EXCURSION BY AIR FROM $1,055

On Day 4 of the Ancient Wonders tour, fly to Abu Simbel via Aswan for a guided exploration of the magnificent temples of Ramses II, now situated high above the banks of Lake Nasser. Following your excursion, fly to Aswan to rejoin the group onboard your cruise vessel.

ALEXANDRIA

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $2,895

Explore the Mediterranean port city of Alexandria on a 3-night extension. Uncover its Greco-Roman, Coptic and Islamic history and visit the modern Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Also explore the war cemeteries and museum at El Alamein. Transfer to Cairo for your flight home.

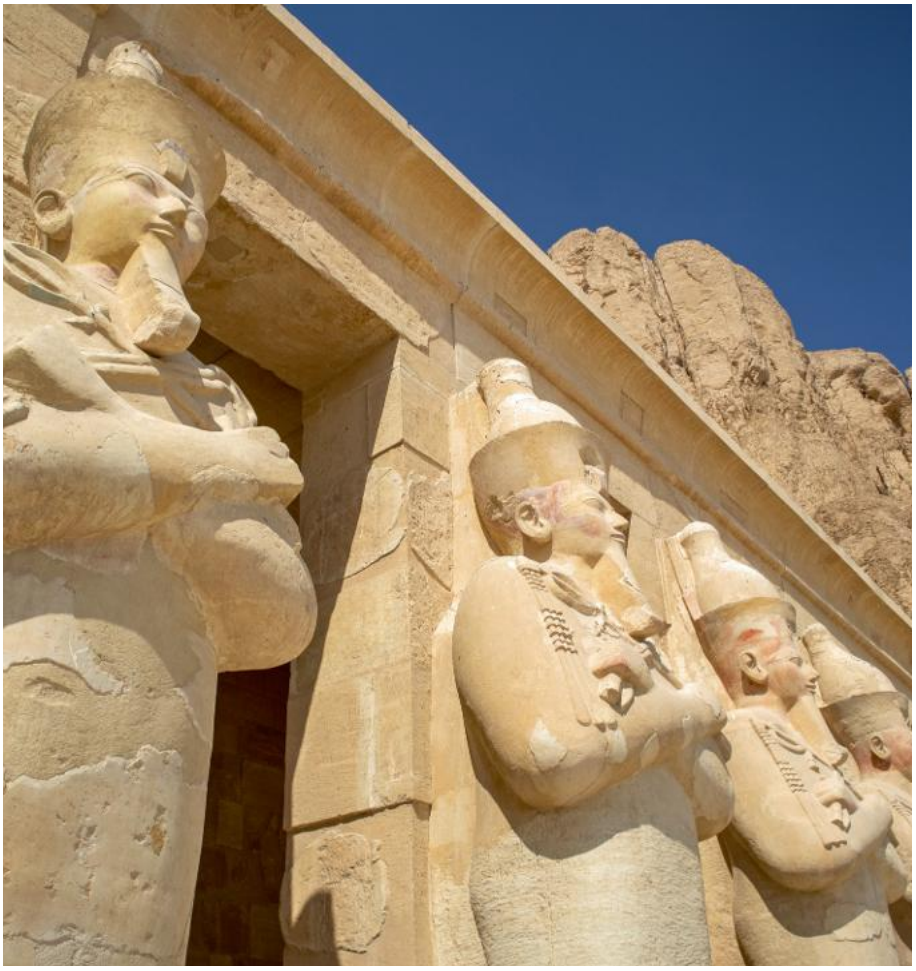
: Steigenberger Cecil Hotel

RED SEA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $3,075

End with a relaxing beach stay on the shores of the Red Sea. Stay for four nights at the Oberoi Sahl Hasheesh or the Chedi.

: The Chedi / Oberoi Sahl Hasheesh





LUXOR

4 DAYS, 3 NIGHTS FROM $1,375

Extend with a two-night stay at the Hilton Luxor. Visit the Mummification Museum and experience a light and sound show at Karnak Temple. Alternatively, add an excursion to Dendera and Abydos, or a stay at the characterful Al Moudira. Return to Cairo for a final night. Available only on the Ancient Wonders tour.

: Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa

ABOVE: COLUMNS OF THE MORTUARY TEMPLE OF HATSHEPSUT;
BOTTOM: EL MINA MOSQUE BY THE RED SEA

MOROCCAN EXPLORER: IMPERIAL CITIES TO DESERT

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $8,045 (land only)	From $11,295 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Dine in an authentic riad in Fez.
- Explore Chefchaouen's medina on a walking tour.
- Drink mint tea with a local nomadic family and watch the sun set over the desert dunes.
- Sample local food at the souks of Fez.



ROAD ——



Explore the imperial cities of Fez, Rabat and Marrakech, all former or current capitals of Morocco and all known for their traditional architecture, maze-like medinas and fragrant souks. Along the way, travel through diverse landscapes, from the Atlantic coast and High Atlas Mountains through fertile plains to the Sahara, whose dunes remain a crossroads for nomadic communities.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE MARRAKECH**
Arrive in Marrakech and check into your hotel. (N)
: Hotel & Ryads Barriere Le Naoura

DAY 2: **CASABLANCA • RABAT**
After breakfast, travel to Casablanca for a city tour including the Hassan II Mosque. Continue to Rabat for a stay of two nights in the centrally located La Tour Hassan Palace. In the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel. (B, D)
: La Tour Hassan Palace (Days 2-3)

ABOVE: KOUTOUBIA MOSQUE;
TOP RIGHT: AIT BENHADDOU;
BOTTOM RIGHT: FOUNTAIN IN HASSAN II MOSQUE



DAY 3: **RABAT**
Take a morning tour of Rabat, including the Royal Palace and the 12th-century Hassan Tower with its mausoleum. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 4: **CHEFCHAOUEN**
Travel by road to the blue-walled town of Chefchaouen, perched beneath the rugged Rif Mountains. Take a walking tour to discover the casbah with its charming gardens. Stay overnight at a beautiful riad furnished in Arabic style with exemplary views across the region. (B)
: Dar Echchaouen

DAY 5: **VOLUBILIS • FEZ**
Travel to Fez, stopping en route at the Roman ruins of Volubilis, once the western edge of the Roman Empire. (B, D)
: Palais Ommeyad (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **FEZ**
Join a full-day tour of Fez, the oldest of Morocco's imperial cities. Explore the winding streets and alleys of the medieval medina, including the Attarine madrasa, souk and tanneries. This evening, dine at a historic riad. (B, D)

DAY 7: **ERFOUD**
Full-day drive to Erfoud on the edge of the Sahara, between the Middle Atlas and High Atlas mountain ranges. Stop at Ifrane village for a walking tour.
: Palais du Desert (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **ERG CHEBBI**
Morning at leisure. Later, visit the caravan town of Rissani, then journey into the Sahara in 4×4s. Stop to drink mint tea with a local nomad family and see the sun set over the dunes. (B, D)

DAY 9: **OUARZAZATE**
Travel to Ouarzazate, stopping at Todra Gorge, an impressive orange-coloured canyon. Tour Ouarzazate and visit the Tifoultoute Casbah. Continue to the village of Ait Benhaddou, a superb example of traditional architecture; scenes from *Gladiator*, *Prince of Persia* and *The Jewel of the Nile* were shot here. (B, D)
: Ksar Ighnda

DAY 10: **MARRAKECH**
Depart for Marrakech. In the afternoon, visit the beautiful Jardin Majorelle to see the exotic plants and Berber Museum. (B)
: Barriere Le Naoura (Days 10-11)

DAY 11: **MARRAKECH**
Take a full-day city tour of Marrakech. Highlights include the lavish architecture of Bahia Palace and the Ben Youssef Medersa, the Koutoubia mosque, and the souks. Finish in Djemaa el Fna square, a carnival of musicians, fire-eaters, storytellers and snake-charmers. Attend a farewell meal at a local restaurant. (B, D)

DAY 12: **DEPART MARRAKECH**
You tour concludes today in Marrakech. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,095
TOUR CODE: DEZ

12 Mar - 23 Mar 27	03 Mar - 14 Mar 28
26 Mar - 06 Apr 27	17 Mar - 28 Mar 28
16 Apr - 27 Apr 27	31 Mar - 11 Apr 28
10 Sep - 21 Sep 27	21 Apr - 02 May 28
24 Sep - 05 Oct 27	28 Apr - 09 May 28
08 Oct - 19 Oct 27	08 Sep - 19 Sep 28
05 Nov - 16 Nov 27	22 Sep - 03 Oct 28
	06 Oct - 17 Oct 28
	13 Oct - 24 Oct 28
	03 Nov - 14 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Splendours of Andalucia (pg 106), Journey through the Heart of Spain (pg 108), Moorish Spain: El Cid to the Alhambra (pg 110), Tunisia Explored: Carthage to the Sahara (pg 178) and Treasures of Algeria (pg 180). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Tour extensions: Post-tour extensions are available in Essaouira or the Atlas foothills, which include accommodation and private transfers. Please speak to a Cox & Kings travel consultant for further details.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



SOLO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE

TUNISIA EXPLORED: CARTHAGE TO THE SAHARA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $5,795 (land only)	From $8,945 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit a carpet-weaving workshop in ancient Kairouan.
- Take lunch in a beautiful old house in Tozeur's medina.
- Enjoy a cocktail at sunset in the Saharan dunes.
- Learn about traditional Tunisian cuisine at a family-run eco-farm.



ROAD ——



Delve into Tunisia's eventful history, cultural traditions and cinematic scenery on this Small Group Tour, journeying from ancient coastal cities to the rippling Saharan dunes. Several civilisations have shaped Africa's northernmost country, as you discover on visits to Carthage's ruins, Monastir's Islamic fortress, the Roman town of Dougga, and fortified Kairouan with its early mosque. Your tour also takes you to traditional Berber villages and desert oases.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE TUNIS**
Arrive in Tunisia's capital and check into your hotel. (D)
: **Belvedere Fourati** (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **TUNIS • CARTHAGE • SIDI BOU SAID**
Visit the Bardo Museum to view superb Roman and Byzantine mosaics and artefacts. Continue with a walking tour of the historic medina of Tunis. In the afternoon, explore the ruins of Carthage. Finish with tea and sweet treats in blue and white Sidi Bou Said, enjoying sublime views of the Gulf of Tunis. (B, L)

ABOVE: SIDI BOU SAID;
BOTTOM RIGHT: GREAT MOSQUE OF KAIROUAN

DAY 3: **DOUGGA • KAIROUAN**
Drive via Testour to Dougga, once the capital of the Numidian kingdom and one of North Africa's best-preserved Roman towns. Perched on a hillside, the archaeological ruins span Numidian, Punic, Hellenistic and Roman cultures. After lunch, drive to the city of Kairouan. (B, L, D)
: Hotel La Kasbah

DAY 4: **KAIROUAN • TOZEUR**
Morning tour of Kairouan, home to the first mosque in North Africa. Explore the old medina, including a stop at a carpet-weaving workshop. Later, head south west through increasingly arid scenery to the ancient oasis town of Tozeur. (B, L, D)
: Tozeur Plaza (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **TOZEUR**
This morning, learn about life in the oasis and surrounding desert, backdrop to many films. Explore the Sidi Bouhlel canyon and drive through date plantations to the Eden Palm Museum for insights into date cultivation. Explore the old town on foot and admire the architecture, characterised by patterns of sand-hued bricks. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure, or take an optional 4×4 desert tour. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: **DOUZ • SAHARA**
Today, drive across Chott el Jerid, the largest salt flat in the Sahara, to the small town of Douz. After lunch, your desert adventure begins with a two-hour 4×4 ride south into the rolling dunes. Rest of afternoon at leisure. This evening, enjoy traditional "sand bread" and a cocktail, while the sun sets over the dunes. Stay overnight at Tiniri Camp. (B, L, D)
: Tiniri Camp

DAY 7: **TAMEZRET • MATMATA • SFAX**
Return to Douz by 4×4, then transfer by road through rocky landscapes to visit Berber villages and a traditional underground cave dwelling. Continue north to the port city of Sfax. (B, L)
: Les Oliviers Palace (or similar)

DAY 8: **EL DJEM • MONASTIR • SOUSSE**
Drive to El Djem and visit North Africa's most impressive amphitheatre, as well as a mosaic museum in a reconstructed Roman townhouse. Continue to Monastir to see the Ribat fortress and the Bourguiba mausoleum. After lunch, journey to Sousse. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure or explore the souk with your guide. (B, L)
: Sousse Palace Hotel

DAY 9: **HAMMAMET**
In the morning, head inland to Douar Laroussi, a working family ecofarm set amid olive groves. Discover Berber traditions and culture, and learn how to make harissa and claypot bread, followed by lunch. Transfer to the coast for a stay at the beachside Le Royal Hammamet (Pool View room). Rest of day at leisure. (B, L)
: Le Royal Hammamet (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **HAMMAMET**
Take a morning visit to nearby Nabeul to see a family-run pottery. Return to Hammamet and explore the ninth-century fort and medina. Take an afternoon at leisure. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

DAY 11: **DEPART HAMMAMET**
Your tour concludes in Hammamet. Alternatively, extend with additional time on the coast. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,495
TOUR CODE: TUN

11 Mar - 21 Mar 27	30 Mar - 09 Apr 28
08 Apr - 18 Apr 27	20 Apr - 30 Apr 28
13 May - 23 May 27	11 May - 21 May 28
23 Sep - 03 Oct 27	21 Sep - 01 Oct 28
07 Oct - 17 Oct 27	05 Oct - 15 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Neapolitan Treasures: Caserta, Sorrento and Amalfi (pg 88), Classic Sicily (pg 90), Puglia & Basilicata (pg 94), Majestic Malta (pg 104), Moroccan Explorer: Imperial Cities to Desert (pg 176) and Treasures of Algeria (pg 180). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

SOLO DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 14)
SMALL GROUP TOUR: From $7,195
TOUR CODE: TUS

04 Nov - 14 Nov 27	02 Mar - 12 Mar 28
	02 Nov - 12 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above, with the exception of the desert camp, where accommodation should be considered more basic.

Mosque visits: Both men and women visiting the mosques must be fully covered. Women must also cover their heads with a scarf.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

NEW FOR 2027

TREASURES OF ALGERIA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
14 days, 13 nights	From $7,995 (land only)	From $16,595 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Stroll the maze-like streets of Algiers' casbah, followed by Arabic tea and pastries.
- Discover the ancient foggara irrigation systems of the Timimoun oasis.
- Watch the sunset over the dunes of the Grand Erg Occidental.
- Learn about the Mozabite Berbers of the M'Zab Valley medieval pentapolis.
- Explore magnificent Roman ruins at Timgad, Tiddis and Djemila.





FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——

Journey from the Casbah to the Sahara on this carefully curated exploration of Algeria. Your tour takes in historic cities, including its capital, Algiers, the "Red Oasis" of Timimoun and the cultural hub of Constantine, alongside traditional Berber villages, Ottoman palaces and well-preserved Roman ruins. It's also a showcase of Algeria's scenic geography, revealing Atlas peaks, deep gorges, palm groves and undulating dunes.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ALGIERS**
Arrive and check into your hotel. (N)
: Sofitel Algiers Hamma Garden (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **ALGIERS**
Spend your day sightseeing in the capital of Algeria. Visit the Casbah – Algiers' labyrinthine medina and a UNESCO World Heritage Site – and the landmarks of the city centre, including the Notre-Dame d'Afrique, the Bardo National Museum and the seafront promenade. This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

DAY 3: **TIMIMOUN**
Early morning transfer to Algiers airport for your flight to Timimoun, the "Red Ochre City" in the Sahara, with its striking neo-Sudanese architecture. Visit the

ABOVE: CASBAH OF ALGIERS; TOP RIGHT: GRAND ERG OCCIDENTAL NEAR TIMIMOUN; BOTTOM RIGHT: GHARDAIA IN THE M'ZAB REGION



abandoned citadel of Ksar Draa and a local artisan market. (B, D)
: Hotel Gourara (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **TIMIMOUN**
Full-day excursion around Timimoun, including the ancient foggara irrigation network, the Sebkha salt lake, the village of Aoulef and surrounding ksour (fortified villages), finishing with the sunset over the Grand Erg Occidental dunes. (B, D)

DAY 5: **GHARDAÏA**
Over 90 per cent of Algeria is covered by the Sahara Desert, and today you continue across this vast expanse, through the dunescape of the Grand Erg Occidental, to the city of Ghardaïa. En route, stop briefly at a ksar village and the tomb of Saint Charles de Foucauld. The journey time is seven hours, excluding stops. (B, L, D)
: Hôtel Belvédère (Days 5-7)

DAY 6: **GHARDAÏA • M'ZAB VALLEY**
Explore Ghardaïa and the surrounding M'zab Valley, including the city's distinctive Ibadite architecture, market and minaret; and the fortified towns of Beni Isguen and Mélika. (B, D)

DAY 7: **M'ZAB VALLEY**
Visit the last two of the M'Zab Valley's "Pentapolis" towns, Bou Noura and El Atteuf, including a five-minaret mosque, troglodyte cemeteries and craft workshops. Afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 8: **BOU SAÂDA**
Drive to Bou Saâda (six hours, excluding breaks), stopping en route in Laghouat for lunch and a visit to the town's medina and mosque. Upon arrival, visit the old ksar and the Etienne Dinet Museum, dedicated to the eponymous 19th-century Orientalist painter. (B, L, D)
: Hôtel Caïd (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **BOU SAÂDA**
Today, explore Bou Saâda's palm grove, artisan workshops and lively local market, with your afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 10: **TIMGAD • GHOUFI CANYON • CONSTANTINE**
Pass through the Aurès mountains to Timgad, the UNESCO-listed ruins of an ancient Roman city, and its archaeological museum. Continue with a drive through the Ghoufi Canyon, whose rugged slopes are strewn with Berber cave dwellings, before arriving in Constantine. (B, L, D)
: Hôtel Cirta (Days 10-12)

DAY 11: **CONSTANTINE**
Named after the fourth-century Roman emperor, Constantine is considered the capital of eastern Algeria. Spend the day sightseeing, with visits to the gorge-spanning El Kantara and Sidi M'cid bridges, the Palace of Bey Ahmed, the medina and covered markets, and the Cirta Museum – dedicated to the city's Roman period. (B, D)

DAY 12: **TIDDIS • CONSTANTINE**
Morning excursion to the Roman ruins of Tiddis, which perch over the Oued Rhumel gorge and feature baths, a temple, a necropolis and Latin inscriptions. Your afternoon is at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 13: **DJEMILA • ALGIERS**
Visit the UNESCO-listed Roman ruins of Djemila, including its forum, triumphal arch and archaeological museum. Continue west to Algiers, arriving in time for your farewell dinner. (B, D)
: Sofitel Algiers Hamma Garden

DAY 14: **DEPART ALGIERS**
Your tour concludes today in Algiers. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,995
TOUR CODE: ALG

17 Apr - 30 Apr 27	18 Mar - 31 Mar 28
01 May - 14 May 27	22 Apr - 05 May 28
25 Sep - 08 Oct 27	23 Sep - 06 Oct 28
09 Oct - 22 Oct 27	07 Oct - 20 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATION: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Tunisia Explored: Carthage to the Sahara (pg 178). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above in Algiers and Constantine. In other cities, the accommodation is of a simpler, three-star (best available) level.

Tour extensions: A post-tour extension is available to explore Oran and Tlemcen. Please speak to a Cox & Kings travel consultant for further details.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



SPLENDOURS OF JORDAN

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
8 days, 7 nights	From $5,345 (land only)	From $5,445 (land only)	Prestige	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Visit the biblical site of Mount Nebo.
- Spend two full days exploring Petra and visit the remote ruins at "Little Petra".
- Take a 4×4 desert excursion over the dunes of Wadi Rum.
- Enjoy time at leisure to enjoy the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea.



ROAD



This tour reveals the best of Jordan's cultural heritage and desert-bound landscapes. Visit hallowed Mount Nebo, where the Bible says Moses was granted a view of the Promised Land. Tour the classical city of Jerash, famed for its Roman ruins. Explore the Nabataean city of Petra, staying just a stone's throw from its rock-hewn complex; and stop by lesser-visited "Little Petra" (Siq al-Barid). Your tour ends with a drive across Wadi Rum's shifting sands, and a resort stay beside the Dead Sea's still, mineral-rich waters.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE AMMAN**
Arrive in Amman and check into your hotel. (N)
: **InterContinental Amman** (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **JERASH • AMMAN**
Take a morning tour of the Greco-Roman city of Jerash, hidden for centuries in sand. In the afternoon, explore Amman, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. Amman is built on seven hills, and your ascension to its hilltop citadel is rewarded with panoramic views. Here you also see the ancient ruins of the Temple of Hercules, and the small but fascinating National Archaeological Museum. The highlight of downtown Amman is the restored Roman theatre. Built into the

ABOVE: PETRA'S MONASTERY;
TOP RIGHT: HERCULES TEMPLE IN THE AMMAN CITADEL;
BOTTOM CENTRE: WADI RUM;
BOTTOM RIGHT: DEAD SEA

side of a hill, the theatre dates back to the second century AD and has a capacity for 6,000 people. Tonight, attend a welcome dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 3: **MADABA • MOUNT NEBO • SHOBAK • PETRA**

Travel along the King's Highway, visiting Madaba, home to a Byzantine mosaic map of the region; the biblical site of Mount Nebo, where Moses is reputed to be buried and where he first saw the Holy Land; and the crusader castle of Shobak. Continue to the historic city of Petra and check into your hotel, situated at the entrance to this archaeological site. (B, L, D)

: Crowne Plaza Resort Petra (Days 3-5)

DAY 4: **PETRA**

Take a guided tour of the UNESCO-listed site of Petra, the rose-red city rediscovered by Johann Ludwig Burckhardt in 1812. More than 2,000 years ago, Petra was used as a temporary refuge by nomadic Nabataeans. Starting with only a few caves, they carved the sandstone to create this spectacular fortress city, which became the capital of their desert kingdom. (B, D)

DAY 5: **PETRA**

Return to the main site for more exploration with your guide. Consider an optional evening visit to Petra by candlelight; approximately 1,800 candles light the way down the Siq, their glow picking out various points of interest. (B, D)



DAY 6: **LITTLE PETRA • WADI RUM • DEAD SEA**

Take a morning visit to Al Beidha and "Little Petra" (Siq al-Barid), before driving to Wadi Rum for a 4×4 excursion into the desert. In the afternoon transfer to the Dead Sea and check into your hotel for a two-night stay. (B)

: Crowne Plaza Jordan - Dead Sea Resort & Spa (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **DEAD SEA**

Enjoy a day at leisure, or take an optional morning excursion to the baptism site of Jesus in Bethany, on the banks of the River Jordan. In the evening, enjoy a farewell drink with your group. (B)

DAY 8: **DEPART DEAD SEA**

Your tour concludes today at the Dead Sea. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,695
TOUR CODE: SPJ

21 Feb - 28 Feb 27	11 Mar - 19 Mar 28
14 Mar - 21 Mar 27	25 Mar - 02 Apr 28
28 Mar - 04 Apr 27	08 Apr - 16 Apr 28
11 Apr - 18 Apr 27	22 Apr - 30 Apr 28
25 Apr - 02 May 27	29 Apr - 07 May 28
02 May - 09 May 27	06 May - 14 May 28
12 Sep - 19 Sep 27	09 Sep - 17 Sep 28
26 Sep - 03 Oct 27	23 Sep - 01 Oct 28
10 Oct - 17 Oct 27	07 Oct - 15 Oct 28
24 Oct - 31 Oct 27	21 Oct - 29 Oct 28
07 Nov - 14 Nov 27	04 Nov - 12 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Egypt: Ancient Wonders of Cairo and the Nile (pg 170), Journey through Egypt (pg 172) and Oman: An Arabian Odyssey (pg 186). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Prestige tour: Five-star, deluxe accommodation and high-level comfort throughout.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.





EXTENSIONS JORDAN

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.

TOUR VARIATION: DESERT ADVENTURE

8 DAYS, 7 NIGHTS FROM $995

Explore the desert landscapes of Wadi Rum with an extended five-hour drive followed by a night under canvas. The dramatic colours of the sandstone mountains are spectacular at sunrise and sunset, while the clear night sky reveals innumerable stars. Stay overnight at Saraya Rum Camp. The following day, continue to the Dead Sea to rejoin the group for a night's stay at Crowne Plaza Jordan - Dead Sea Resort & Spa.

: Saraya Rum Camps





THE DEAD SEA

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $460

Not only a geological wonder, the Dead Sea's hypersaline waters are also steeped in history, with mentions in both the Bible and the Torah. The lake has been popular with travellers for centuries, in part because its salty waters and mineral-rich mud are reputed to have therapeutic benefits. Extend your stay here with an additional two nights, affording you more time to enjoy the buoyant waters, as well as the expansive spa facilities at the hotel.

: Crowne Plaza Jordan - Dead Sea Resort & Spa



THE RED SEA & DEAD SEA

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $1,295

Visit the shores of the Red Sea and Dead Sea, both ideal places to unwind at the end of your tour. The Red Sea has clean, sandy beaches and clear waters and a wide array of marine life, while the salty, still waters of the Dead Sea are rich in nutrients. Following your visit to Wadi Rum, transfer to Aqaba for two nights at the InterContinental Aqaba by IHG, followed by two nights at the Crowne Plaza Jordan - Dead Sea Resort & Spa.

: InterContinental Aqaba by IHG, Crowne Plaza Jordan - Dead Sea Resort & Spa

IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: WADI RUM, JORDAN; DEAD SEA AT SUNRISE, JORDAN; AL RAHMAH MOSQUE, SAUDI ARABIA; SALT CRYSTALS IN THE DEAD SEA, JORDAN

SAUDI ARABIA

6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS FROM $9,995

Saudi Arabia unfolds from Jeddah, where the Corniche, Floating Mosque and old town set the scene, before the bullet train carries you to holy Medina. The extension continues to AlUla for three nights, with two full days devoted to Hegra, the Nabataean city second only to Petra, alongside the Lihyanite tombs of Dadan and the open-air inscriptions of Jabal Ikmah. Riyadh follows, its modern and historic quarters explored in a single day, before flying home via Amman.

: Novotel Tahlia, Cloud 7 Residence, Joudyan Hotel Riyadh



OMAN: AN ARABIAN ODYSSEY

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
9 days, 8 nights	From $6,695 (land only)	From $7,095 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Enjoy a beachside stay in Muscat.
- Journey across the country in 4×4 vehicles.
- Spend a night under the desert sky in Sharqiya Sands.
- Watch the auctions at Nizwa cattle market.
- Visit a traditional Omani home and see local artisans at work.



ROAD ——



The Sultanate of Oman is one of the least known yet most rewarding destinations in the Middle East. As you travel between desert, sea and mountains, visit the country's key cultural and scenic sights, including magnificent forts and palaces, the rolling dunes of the Sharqiya Sands, the vast, rugged peaks of the Jabal Akhdar range, and the coast's picturesque fishing villages.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE MUSCAT**
Arrive in Muscat and check into your hotel. (N)
: **InterContinental Muscat** (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **MUSCAT AND SURROUNDS**
Visit Barka fish market and the Barka fort. Continue by road to Nakhal hot springs. Take an afternoon visit to the beautifully preserved Bait AlGhasham before returning to Muscat. Later, enjoy a welcome dinner. (B, L, D)

ABOVE: NIZWA FORT AND MOSQUE;
TOP RIGHT: MUSCAT'S SULTAN QABOOS GRAND MOSQUE;
BOTTOM RIGHT: WADI BANI KHALID

DAY 3: **MUSCAT**
Enjoy a morning visit to the spectacular Grand Mosque, followed by a tour of the city, which takes in the Bait Al Zubair Museum, the sultan's palace and the forts of Al Jalali and Mirani. Continue to the city's immaculate Royal Opera House, the largest in the Middle East. Visit the Sidab Women's Association and enjoy a traditional Omani lunch. The rest of your afternoon is at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 4: **WADI ARBAYEEN • BIMAH • RAS AL HADD**
Drive south in 4×4s along the coast from Muscat to the seafront village of Ras Al Hadd, exploring en route the dramatic landscapes of Wadi Arbayeen. Visit the clear waters of the Bimah Sinkhole, and dhow workshops in Sur, then continue to the coast on the tip of the Gulf of Oman for an overnight stay. Later that evening, visit the Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve to learn all about its green turtle nesting sites as well as its successful conservation efforts†. (B, D)
: Turtle Beach Resort (or similar)

DAY 5: **SHARQIYA SANDS**
Take a scenic drive through the eastern Hajar Mountains, one of the highest ranges in the Arabian peninsula, to Sharqiya Sands. Stop at Wadi Bani Khalid, a picturesque river valley, before continuing to Sharqiya Sands. Drive through the rolling dunes to meet the local Bedouin people. Stay overnight at your desert resort. (B, D)
: Arabian Nights Resort (or similar)

DAY 6: **JABAL AKHDAR**
Depart early for the Jabal Akhdar mountains, stopping en route at the Oman Across the Ages Museum and the banana plantations at Birkat al Mauz. Stay on the Sayq Plateau amidst dramatic canyon scenery. (B, D)
: Hotel Indigo Jabal Akhdar Resort & Spa (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **JABAL AKHDAR**
Take a morning walk to explore the breathtaking scenery and traditional villages of the Jabal Akhdar. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 8: **NIZWA • JABAL SHAMS • MUSCAT**
Visit the new souk in Nizwa and the massive Nizwa Fort, as well as the traditional Friday cattle market. Next, stop at Al Hamra village and visit Bait Al Safah, a traditional Omani house and living museum. Continue to Jabal Shams, Oman's highest peak, stopping en route at Wadi Ghul and Wadi Nakher villages. Return to Muscat via the Sumail Gap. (B)
: InterContinental Muscat

DAY 9: **DEPART MUSCAT**
Your tour concludes today in Muscat. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,195
TOUR CODE: OAO

22 Jan - 30 Jan 27	14 Jan - 22 Jan 28
19 Feb - 27 Feb 27	03 Mar - 11 Mar 28
12 Mar - 20 Mar 27	17 Mar - 25 Mar 28
24 Sep - 02 Oct 27	30 Mar - 07 Sep 28
08 Oct - 16 Oct 27	29 Sep - 07 Oct 28
05 Nov - 13 Nov 27	27 Oct - 04 Nov 28
	03 Nov - 11 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Egypt: Ancient Wonders of Cairo and the Nile (pg 170), Journey through Egypt (pg 172) and Splendours of Jordan (pg 182). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

†**Turtle viewing:** Turtles are most commonly seen between July and October.

‡**Grand Mosque visit:** Both men and women visiting the mosque must be fully covered. Women must also cover their head with a scarf.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above, with the exception of Ras al Hadd, where the accommodation is simpler.

Tour extensions: Post-tour extensions are available in Muscat and Salalah. Please speak to a Cox & Kings travel consultant for further details.



AFRICA

Africa is both humanity's oldest and most youthful home. On this continent, we evolved alongside some of the world's most charismatic beasts; now, travellers come from far and wide to witness these animals on safari, seeking out lions, rhinos, elephants and more.

With its wide range of national parks and high-quality lodgings, South Africa is an excellent choice for a wildlife-focused holiday, combined with wine tastings and beautiful backdrops. For a change of scenery, try Namibia, with its stark, dune-bound beauty and desert-adapted wildlife; or Madagascar, the island home of tree-leaping lemurs.

Humanity began in Africa, so the story of its people is the story of all of us. You can explore more of this story in our culture-focused tours, such as to West Africa, where the traditions of vodun (voodoo) survive and the history of slavery is sensitively retold. One journey to Africa with us always inspires more.

LEFT: INSET: HIMBA WOMAN, NAMIBIA;
BACKGROUND: NAMIB-NAUKLUFT PARK, NAMIBIA

MADAGASCAR WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
16 days, 15 nights	From $12,395 (land only)	From $18,895 (land only)	Discovery	Active

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Walk in Andasibe-Mantadia's primary rainforest.
- Enjoy a traditional music performance at sunset in Isalo National Park.
- Dine at a special chef's dinner in the capital, Antananarivo.
- Take evening walks in search of nocturnal species.



FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——



Much of Madagascar's flora and fauna is found nowhere else on Earth. This tour enables you to discover its extraordinary wildlife, scenery, idyllic beaches and fascinating culture, which is founded on a mix of Christianity and ancient spiritual beliefs. Your itinerary is well paced, focusing on the wildlife in Andasibe, Ranomafana and Isalo National Parks.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ANTANANARIVO**
Arrive in Antananarivo and check into your hotel. Later, enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)
: Palissandre Hotel & Spa

DAY 2: **ANDASIBE**
Travel to the Andasibe-Mantadia National Park. Take an afternoon walk in the Analamazaotra Reserve or VOIMMA forest. Take a night walk, during which you may spot species such as greater dwarf, mouse and eastern woolly lemurs. (B, L, D)
: Vakona Forest Lodge (Days 2-3)

DAY 3: **ANDASIBE • VAKONA PRIVATE RESERVE • ANALAMAZAOTRA RESERVE**
Enjoy a morning walk in the Andasibe National Park to search for lemurs. In the afternoon, visit Lemur Island in the Vakona Private Reserve, a sanctuary for lemurs, ahead of a short walk in Andasibe. Before dinner, embark on a night walk in the nearby Analamazaotra Reserve again, known for its lemurs, including the largest living species, the *Indri indri*. (B, L, D)

ABOVE: VERREAUX'S SIFAKA LEMURS;
TOP RIGHT: ISALO NATIONAL PARK;
BELOW RIGHT: A PARSON'S CHAMELEON



DAY 4: **ANTANANARIVO**
Drive back to Antananarivo for an afternoon city tour, including the hills of the royal palaces. Enjoy a special chef's dinner in the evening. (B, L, D)
: Palissandre Hotel & Spa

DAY 5: **ANTSIRABE**
Drive to Antsahabe, a village typical of the Merina people, for a short visit. Continue to the spa town of Antsirabe for a late lunch and afternoon tour. Antsirabe is a centre of the gem trade and home to hundreds of pousse-pousse (rickshaws), a legacy of Chinese labour imported to work on the railways. (B, L, D)
: Couleur Café Hotel (or similar)

DAY 6: **AMBOSITRA**
Leave early for Ambositra (five to six hours, including breaks), Madagascar's handicraft and wood-carving capital. Enjoy an authentic Malagasy lunch and visit local workshops. (B, L, D)
: Artisan Hotel (or similar)

DAY 7: **RANOMAFANA**
Take a scenic drive to the Ranomafana National Park (six to seven hours including breaks). In the afternoon, visit Tanala village, and in the early evening, walk in search of nocturnal species. (B, L, D)
: Hotel Thermal (or similar) (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **RANOMAFANA**
During a morning walk in Ranomafana National Park, look out for the parks' three resident bamboo lemur species as well as a plethora of beautiful birds. Later, visit the Ranomafana Arboretum, home to hundreds of rare trees. In the evening, enjoy another nature walk. (B, L, D)

DAY 9: **RANOMAFANA • FIANARANTSOA • AMBALAVAO**
Drive to Ambalavao via Fianarantsoa (five to six hours, including breaks). Visit the Anja Reserve, home to ring-tailed lemurs, and the Antemoro paper factory. (B, L, D)
: Betsileo Country Lodge or Anja Reserve Lodge

DAYS 10-12: **RANOHIRA • ISALO NP**
Travel to Ranohira (five hours, including breaks). Spend the next two days exploring the sandstone landscapes of Isalo National Park. Seek out flora and fauna including ring-tailed lemurs, Malagasy hoopoes, and Verreaux's sifakas, and enjoy a traditional music performance at dusk. (B, L, D)
: Relais de la Reine (or similar) (Days 10-12)

DAYS 13-14: **ZOMBITSE-VOHIBASIA • IFATY**
Travel towards the west coast, stopping en route at Zombitse-Vohibasia National Park, where it may be possible to spot Appert's tetrakas, one of the most endangered birds on the island. The region is known for its large baobab trees and traditional family tombs, central to Malagasy culture. Transfer on to Ifaty, a quiet coastal fishing village with a long beach. The next day, explore the nearby forest and relax, before joining a farewell dinner. (B, D)
: Les Dunes d'Ifaty (Days 13-14)

DAY 15: **FLY TO ANTANANARIVO**
Walk in the Reinala Private Reserve. In the afternoon, fly to Antananarivo. (B, L, D)
: Palissandre Hotel & Spa

DAY 16: **DEPART ANTANANARIVO**
Your tour concludes today in Antananarivo. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 8 (max 12)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,845
TOUR CODE: MWA

04 Apr - 19 Apr 27	23 Apr - 08 May 28
19 Sep - 04 Oct 27	16 Sep - 01 Oct 28
03 Oct - 18 Oct 27	01 Oct - 16 Oct 28
07 Nov - 22 Nov 27	15 Oct - 30 Oct 28
	29 Oct - 13 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

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SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Highlights of South Africa (pg 192) and Namibia: Untouched Wilderness (pg 196). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Discovery tour: Suited to hardier travellers, with some basic accommodation and rougher journeys. We recommend a flexible approach to travel in Madagascar as the itinerary may adapt due to local road conditions.

Group tour manager: This tour is fully escorted by a local tour manager from arrival in Antananarivo to Day 15 in Toliara.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



HIGHLIGHTS OF SOUTH AFRICA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
12 days, 11 nights	From $10,995 (land only)	From $13,995 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Spend three nights in a private safari reserve handpicked by Cox & Kings.
- Take an early morning adventure to spot meerkats at sunrise.
- Sample Cape Malay cuisine at a local home.
- Tour world-class vineyards on a private wine-tasting "safari".



FLIGHT ·····
ROAD ——



This escorted group tour blends a selection of South Africa's quintessential experiences into a well-paced itinerary for lovers of wildlife, walks, wine and sensational scenery. Go on safari, ascend Table Mountain, tour Wineland vineyards and more, with an average group size of just 10 people.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE PORT ELIZABETH • KARIEGA GAME RESERVE**
Arrive in Port Elizabeth and check into Kariega Game Reserve lodge. After lunch, join a late-afternoon safari drive within the reserve, rounded off with sundowners. (L, D)
: River Lodge (Days 1-3)

DAYS 2-3: **KARIEGA GAME RESERVE**
Board specialist safari vehicles for morning and late-afternoon safaris in a "Big Five" wildlife reserve. Cheetahs, giraffes, zebras, wildebeests and an assortment of antelope species also roam these lands. (B, L, D)

ABOVE: CLIFTON, CAPE TOWN; TOP RIGHT: A SOUTH AFRICAN WINE TASTING; BOTTOM RIGHT: GIRAFFES IN KARIEGA GAME RESERVE

DAY 4: **TSITSIKAMMA • KNYSNA**
After an early morning wildlife drive, head to the Tsitsikamma National Park. Here you can take a scenic walk and cross the suspension bridge that spans the gorge at the Storms River mouth. Then continue west to the coastal town of Knysna. (B, D)
: Knysna Hollow (Days 4-6)

DAYS 5-6: **KNYSNA**
In the morning, cruise across a stunning lagoon to the Knysna Heads, followed by a leisurely stroll through the Featherbed Nature Reserve. Your afternoon is at leisure. The next day is at leisure also, enabling you to relax, or join an optional excursion. (B, L) (B)

DAY 7: **OUDTSHOORN**
Drive to Oudtshoorn. Take a guided tour of the Cango Caves, one of Africa's most spectacular natural rock formations. Its vast network of tunnels and chambers is filled with delicate stalagmites and stalactites. After lunch, enjoy an informative excursion to a working ostrich farm, where you will come face to face with the world's largest bird. (B, L, D)
: De Zeekoe (or similar)

DAY 8: **CAPE WINELANDS**
Head out on an early morning meerkat adventure, meeting habituated wild meerkats accompanied by an expert guide. Continue along the scenic Route 62. Stop at the quirky town of Barrydale for lunch (payable locally). Stay in the heart of Franschhoek. (B, D)
: Franschhoek Boutique Hotel (Days 8-9)

DAY 9: **CAPE WINELANDS**
Spend a day touring the Cape Winelands. Drive through mountain ranges and vineyards between the golden triangle of Stellenbosch, Franschhoek and Paarl. Join a 4×4 wine-tasting "safari" sampling "Big Five" grape varieties. (B, L)

DAY 10: **CAPE WINELANDS • CAPE TOWN**
Take a guided morning walk around Stellenbosch, including a visit to the village museum charting the history of the region. Transfer to Cape Town for an afternoon to explore the bustling V&A waterfront, followed by dinner at a home in the Bo-Kaap neighbourhood, where you can taste the region's famous Cape Malay cuisine. (B, D)
: The Commodore (Days 10-11)

DAY 11: **CAPE TOWN**
Take a full-day tour of the Cape Peninsula, including an Atlantic seaboard drive past fishing villages and the seaside suburbs of Camps Bay and Hout Bay, finishing at Cape Point. Return via the penguin colony at Boulders Beach, and Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden. In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at a stylish local restaurant. (B, D)

DAY 12: **CAPE TOWN**
Begin today in spectacular fashion: ascending Table Mountain via cable car (weather permitting; this excursion may take place on Day 10). Conclude your tour in Cape Town today, or extend your journey to Victoria Falls or with a beach stay (see pages 194-195 for ideas).





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 16)
SINGLE SUPP: From $2,695
TOUR CODE: HZA

14 Jan - 25 Jan 27	27 Jan - 07 Feb 28
11 Feb - 22 Feb 27	03 Feb - 14 Feb 28
11 Mar - 22 Mar 27	02 Mar - 13 Mar 28
19 Aug - 30 Aug 27	23 Mar- 03 Apr 28
09 Sep - 20 Sep 27	24 Aug - 04 Sep 28
30 Sep - 11 Oct 27	14 Sep - 25 Sep 28
28 Oct - 08 Nov 27	28 Sep - 09 Oct 28
18 Nov - 29 Nov 27	26 Oct - 06 Nov 28
	09 Nov - 20 Nov 28

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SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Madagascar Wildlife Adventure (pg 190) and Namibia: Untouched Wilderness (pg 196). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

February-March departures may allow guests to experience the famous harvest season in the Cape Winelands.

Transfer from Port Elizabeth to Kariega
Transfer from Port Elizabeth to Kariega (approximately 1.5 hours) is required to join the tour. Please speak to your travel advisor or our specialists who will be happy to assist with these logistical arrangements.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

EXTENSIONS SOUTH AFRICA

These extensions are priced based on the tours with which they are usually combined. Please speak to your travel consultant for more information.

CAPE TOWN

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $655

Cape Town has one of the most spectacular city locations in the world, nestled between Table Mountain and the vast Atlantic Ocean. Extend your stay by two nights with time at leisure to explore the city's many restaurants, galleries, shops, museums and community projects. Alternatively, book an optional excursion, such as a trip to Robben Island or a helicopter tour over the city. It is also possible to stay further south in Camps Bays for exclusivity and relaxation.

: The Commodore (or similar)





CAPE TOWN & VICTORIA FALLS

5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS FROM $2,545

At Victoria Falls, the mighty Zambezi thunders over a 100-metre (328-foot) drop into a narrow ravine, dividing Zimbabwe and Zambia. While not the world's highest nor widest waterfall, it can lay claim to being the largest sheet of falling water and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Stay an extra night in Cape Town, then fly to Victoria Falls for a three-night stay at Waterfall Lodge or Insika Lodge. Take a guided tour of the Falls and a Zambezi river cruise.

: Waterfall Lodge, Insika Lodge

HERMANUS WHALE WATCHING

3 DAYS, 2 NIGHTS FROM $1,535

Hermanus, a small seaside settlement just two hours' drive from Cape Town, is one of the best places in the world for ocean- and land-based whale watching. Between June and November, the nearby bays are filled with whales arriving to breed and rear their young. Stay for two nights at the Marine Hotel. Spot whales from the hotel and beach, or pre-book an optional boat trip for a closer view of these majestic mammals.

: The Marine Hotel





PORT ELIZABETH

2 DAYS, 1 NIGHT FROM $310

Enjoy a pre-tour stay at The Beach Hotel in Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha) for a night. The coast here is famous for the resident dolphins and visiting whales, both of which can be spotted close to shore. The following day, join your group at the Kariega Game Reserve.

: The Beach Hotel

INDIAN OCEAN

7 DAYS, 6 NIGHTS FROM $3,375

Unwind with an Indian Ocean extension, where turquoise seas lap palm-dotted beaches. In Mozambique, visit the Lagoon Coast or sun-soaked Bazaruto archipelago. Explore the verdant forests and sugar plantations of Mauritius or the paradisal Seychelles archipelago. Extend from $3,375 per person, including an extra night in Cape Town and five nights at the beach (based at LUX* Grande Gaube Mauritius).

: LUX* Grande Gaube Mauritius



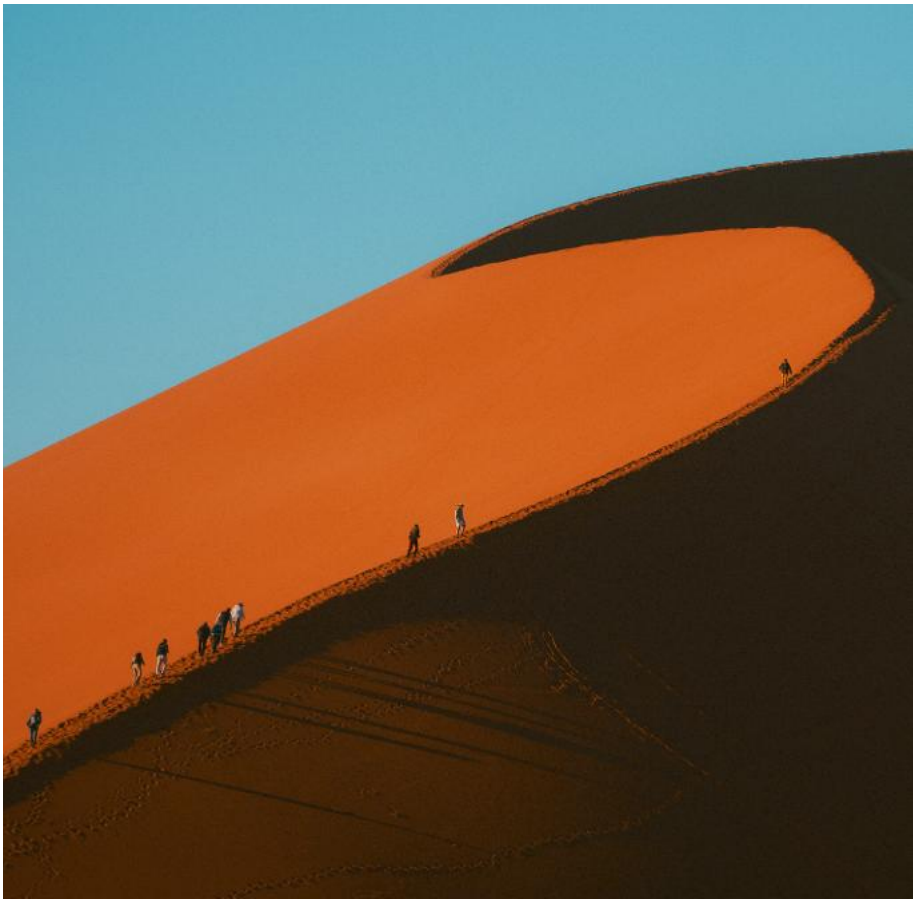
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PENGUINS AT BOULDERS BEACH, CAPE TOWN; A HUMPBACK WHALE IN THE BAY AT HERMANUS; CAPE RECIFE LIGHTHOUSE, PORT ELIZABETH; LE MORNE BEACH, MAURITIUS; VICTORIA FALLS

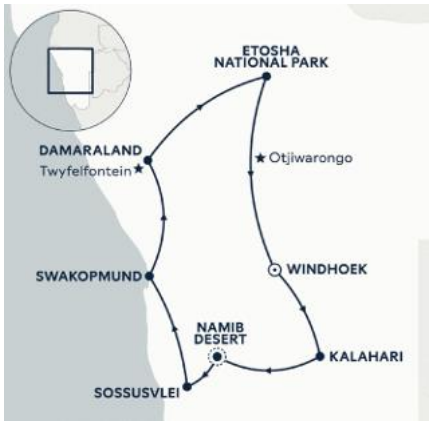
NAMIBIA: UNTOUCHED WILDERNESS

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $12,795 (land only)	From $17,695 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Stay in the desert and explore Namibia's vast sand dunes.
- Search for desert-adapted elephants in Damaraland.
- Walk with San bushmen and visit to a Himba village.
- Track rhino with an expert guide.





ROAD ——

Experience Namibia's stark, wild beauty on this comprehensive tour. Journey from the German-influenced capital of Windhoek to the coastal town of Swakopmund via the Namib, an otherworldly desert of towering sand, skeletal trees and lunar landscapes. Head north to Damaraland's rugged mountains and savannas and wildlife-rich Etosha National Park with its gleaming saltpan. On the way, search for desert-adapted animals and learn about Namibia's cultural heritage.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE WINDHOEK**
Arrive in Namibia's capital. An orientation tour takes you by the Alte Feste – a 19th-century German-colonial building – and the gothic landmark of Christuskirche. Join a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)
: Avani Windhoek

DAY 2: **KALAHARI**
Take an early visit to a non-profit community project that trains and supports marginalised women. Continue to the dunes and grasslands of the Kalahari. In the afternoon, take a nature drive and enjoy sunset drinks. (B, D)
: Suricate Kalahari Tented Lodge (or similar)

ABOVE: NAMIB-NAUKLUFT PARK;
TOP RIGHT: HOHENZOLLERNHAUS, SWAKOPMUND;
BOTTOM RIGHT: NAMIBIAN DESERT ELEPHANTS

DAY 3: **NAMIB DESERT**
Join local San bushmen for an early-morning walk to learn how hunter-gatherers survived in these harsh landscapes. Depart for a five-hour drive to the Namib Desert. (B, D)
: The Desert Grace (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **SOSSUSVLEI**
Leave Sossusvlei early for an enjoyable 4×4 shuttle to the giant dunes and photogenic Deadvlei clay pan. Return to your lodge via the 30-metre- (100 feet-) deep Sesriem Canyon. Afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 5: **SWAKOPMUND**
Drive to the coastal town of Swakopmund, a seaside resort with German architecture and cultural influences. Travel via the Namib-Naukluft Park and its "Moon Landscape" (a five-hour drive). (B)
: The Delight (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **SWAKOPMUND**
This morning, take a catamaran cruise in Walvis Bay in search of seabirds, seals, penguins, dolphins and whales. Later, enjoy an afternoon at leisure. (B)

DAY 7: **DAMARALAND**
Depart early and travel along part of the Skeleton Coast with stops to see a shipwreck and seal colony. Head inland on gravel roads to the heart of Damaraland, passing Brandberg, Namibia's highest peak, and the Petrified Forest. Journey time is six to seven hours. (B, D).
: Lodge Damaraland (or similar) (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **TWYFELFONTEIN • DAMARALAND**
Embark on a morning 4×4 drive in search of rare desert elephants, mountain zebras, giraffes, oryx, springbok and kudu. Later, visit the prehistoric rock art of Twyfelfontein and the Damara Living Museum. (B, L, D)

DAYS 9-10: **ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK**
Drive for four hours to the Etosha National Park. Time permitting, enjoy an afternoon safari drive. The following day take drives in the park, famous for its vast salt pan, and home to some of the largest elephants in Africa and rare rhinos. (B, D)
: Etosha Safari Lodge (or similar) (Days 9-10)

DAY 11: **OTJIWARONGO**
Visit a local Himba village to learn about their culture. Drive south via Otjiwarongo to Otjiwa, a privately owned game reserve dedicated to conservation and land management. Take a sundowner safari drive and optional night drive. (B, D)
: Otjiwa Eagles Rest (or similar) (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **OTJIWA**
Rise early, for an exciting morning rhino-tracking activity, by vehicle and on foot. Afternoon at leisure. (B, D).

DAY 13: **DEPART WINDHOEK**
Conclude your tour in Windhoek today. Alternatively, extend to visit the wetlands of Namibia's Zambezi region, spectacular Victoria Falls or Cape Town. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 10 (max 16)
SINGLE SUPP: From $1,495
TOUR CODE: NAM

17 Apr - 29 Apr 27	22 Apr - 04 May 28
08 May - 20 May 27	13 May - 25 May 28
19 Jun - 01 Jul 27	17 Jun - 29 Jun 28
27 Oct - 08 Nov 27	11 Nov - 23 Nov 28
13 Nov - 25 Nov 27	

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with Madagascar Wildlife Adventure (pg 190) and Highlights of South Africa (pg 192). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above, with the exception of Swakopmund, where accommodation is high three-star.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

NEW FOR 2027

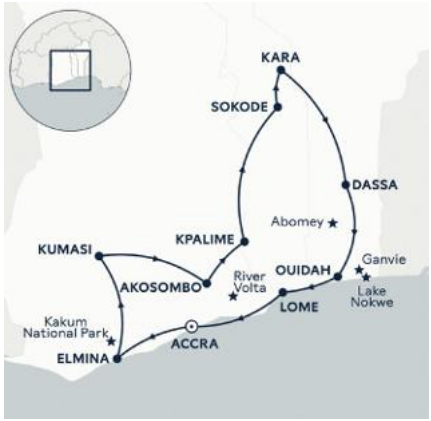
COASTAL KINGDOMS OF WEST AFRICA

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
18 days, 17 nights	From $14,145 (land only)	From $23,995 (land only)	Discovery	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Observe the colourful Akwasidae festival in Kumasi or the Millet festival in Akosombo.
- Discover Voodoo traditions in Togo and Benin, from sacred fetishes to masked dances.
- Take a boat over Lake Nokoué to Ganvie, one of Africa's largest stilt villages.
- Tour the mud-castle homes of the Batammariba people on a walk in the Atakora highlands.





ROAD ——

ABOVE: FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS IN KUMASI, GHANA; TOP RIGHT: A TRADITIONAL VILLAGE IN KARA, TOGO; BOTTOM RIGHT: A SHEKERE PLAYER IN GHANA.

Explore West Africa on this rewarding group tour of Ghana, Benin and Togo – neighbours woven together by the thread of history, and each with a story to tell. You will discover the Voodoo religion, the legacy of the Ashanti Empire and Atlantic slave trade, and age-old traditions, from masked dancing to glass beadmaking, with expert guides offering insight throughout.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE ACCRA, GHANA**
Arrive and check into your hotel. (N)
: La Villa Boutique (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **ACCRA**
Tour the capital of Ghana, including the National Museum, the historic quarter of Jamestown, and a workshop where elaborate 'fantasy coffins' are built as an expression of local culture. Later, attend a welcome dinner. (B, D)

DAY 3: **ANOMABU • ELMINA**
Drive along Ghana's Gold Coast to the fishing town of Elmina, stopping en route in Anomabu to see posuban shrines. In Elmina, you visit the old town, fish market and castle – the oldest European structure in sub-Saharan Africa. (B, L)
: Coconut Grove Beach Resort (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **KAKUM NATIONAL PARK • ELMINA**
Cross the canopy walkway of Kakum National Park for a view of the rainforest. Next, visit the nearby Stingless Bee Centre, followed by an afternoon boat ride to see Elmina Castle from the water. (B, L)



DAY 5: **KUMASI**
Drive to Kumasi (seven hours with stops), the historic capital of the Ashanti kingdom. Visit the Ashanti Cultural Centre, followed by the possibility of attending an Ashanti funeral, an event full of music and colour. (B, L)
: Lancaster Kumasi City (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **KUMASI**
Explore Kumasi's cultural highlights, including the Royal Palace Museum. Attend the vibrant Akwasidae festival*, a unique Ashanti celebration. Witness the pageantry of the grand procession and see the King and Queen Mother arrive with their retinues, adorned in gold and shaded by colourful umbrellas. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

DAYS 7-8: **AKOSOMBO**
Early start, for drive to Akosombo (six hours). In the afternoon, cruise on the Volta River. The next day, visit a Krobo community that produces glass beads in the traditional way for use as jewellery and in ceremonies. (B, L)
: Royal Senchi Hotel & Resort (Days 7-8)

DAY 9: **KPALIMÉ, TOGO**
Cross into Togo and on to the rural town of Kpalimé, set amid coffee and cocoa plantations. Take a nature walk to learn about local plants, butterflies and other insects. (B, L, D)
: Hotel Parc Residence (or similar)

DAY 10: **ATAKPAMÉ • SOKODÉ**
Head north to Sokodé, stopping en route in the hilly town of Atakpamé, where weavers create fabric called kente; and at a traditional palm alcohol distillery. This evening, witness a traditional fire dance, performed by the Tem people to hypnotic drum rhythms. (B, L, D)
: Hotel Lamirelle or Solim

DAY 11: **KARA**
Watch the Kotokoli people perform a dramatic display of horsemanship. En route to Kara, visit the Kabye people to see a blacksmiths' demonstration. (B, L, D)
: Hotel Lumen Valley (or similar) (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **ATAKORA HIGHLANDS • KARA**
Take an excursion into the remote Atakora highlands inhabited by the Batammariba people, and walk between the fortified takienta homes, which are built from layers of clay and mud in a layout shaped by animist beliefs. (B, L, D)

DAY 13: **DASSA-ZOUMÉ, BENIN**
Drive into Benin and on to Dassa-Zoumé, stopping en route at the Dankoli Fetish, a sacred Voodoo shrine. This afternoon, observe the Egungun masked dance, associated with ancestral spirits. (B, L, D)
: Hotel Jeko

DAY 14: **ABOMEY • OUIDAH**
Drive to Ouidah. En route, stop in Abomey to visit the Royal Palaces (subject to their restoration schedule); and cross Lake Nokwe by boat to visit Ganvie, one of Africa's largest stilt villages and home to Tofinu fishermen. (B, L, D)
: Casa del Papa (Days 14-15)

DAY 15: **OUIDAH**
Take a morning walking tour of Ouidah – the spiritual centre of the rich and complex Voodoo religion – passing the Python Temple and Catholic cathedral, then visit the Zinsou Foundation Museum and its collection of contemporary African art. (B, L, D)

DAY 16: **LOMÉ, TOGO**
Drive to Lomé, Togo's capital, stopping en route to attend a Zangbeto mask dance and witness a Voodoo ceremony. In Lomé, enjoy an introductory city tour. (B, L)
: Hotel 2 Fevrier

DAY 17: **LOMÉ • ACCRA, GHANA**
Visit Lomé's lively Grand Marché, where the famous Nana Benz women sell their traditional wax-print fabrics; and the Akodessawa Fetish Market, Africa's largest Voodoo market. This afternoon, return across the border to Accra and attend your farewell dinner. (B, L, D)
: La Villa Boutique

DAYS 18: **DEPART ACCRA**
Your tour concludes today in Accra. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 12 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,895
TOUR CODE: WAF

04 May - 21 May 27	22 Feb - 10 Mar 28
07 Sep - 24 Sep 27	04 Apr- 21 Apr 28
22 Oct - 08 Nov 27	19 Sep - 06 Oct 28
	20 Oct - 06 Nov 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Discovery tour: Suited to hardier travellers, with some basic accommodation outside the larger cities and rougher journeys. In parts of Togo and Benin, twin-bed rooms may not be available. We recommend a flexible approach to travel in West Africa as the itinerary may adapt due to local conditions.

***Festival Departures:** All departures coincide with the Akwasidae festival in Kumasi, except the October tour, which instead visits the Millet festival in Akosombo.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.





NORTH AMERICA

Stretching from the Tropics to the Arctic, North America is a continent of world-famous, must-see landmarks and remarkable opportunities for memorable, crowd-free adventures.

Come to Canada for its Great Lakes, welcoming cities and vast wildernesses. Although home to more than 41 million people, much of the country remains lightly populated, with the majority of Canadians living along its US border and its Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

The United States' thrilling natural features – such as the rock formations of Monument Valley and New England's kaleidoscopic autumn leaves – are complemented by centres of culture that continue to shape our age.

Our Small Group Tours take in celebrated natural wonders alongside elegant, storied cities, while also introducing lesser-known places that many travellers overlook.

LEFT: INSET AND BACKGROUND: BANFF, CANADA

NEW FOR 2027

THE ATLANTIC PASSAGE: NOVA SCOTIA TO NEW ENGLAND

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $18,595 (land only)	From $32,795 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Discover Canada's seafaring history at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax.
- Follow Nova Scotia's photogenic coastline to Peggy's Cove Lighthouse and the UNESCO-listed town of Lunenburg.
- Enjoy the Cabot Trail, one of North America's most scenic drives, winding through the Cape Breton Highlands.
- Visit Prince Edward Island, home to the Green Gables farmhouse made famous in Lucy Maud Montgomery's novel.
- Journey from Atlantic Canada to coastal New England aboard the high-speed CAT ferry.





ROAD ——

Journey along the coast on this tour of North America's Atlantic shores, visiting the port cities and seaside hideaways that dot the northeastern edges of Canada and the USA. Your journey begins in Halifax, the capital of Nova Scotia, and ends in Boston, the capital of New England, with guided sightseeing at each port of call, as well as ferry crossings and coastal drives that showcase the spectacular nature of this wave-crested corner of the continent.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE HALIFAX, CANADA**
Arrive in Halifax and check into your hotel for a drinks reception. (N)
: Prince George Hotel / Hollis A DoubleTree Suites by Hilton (Days 1-3)

DAY 2: **HALIFAX**
Tour of Halifax, Canada's major Atlantic seaport, visiting the hilltop fort of Halifax Citadel and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. (B)

DAY 3: **HALIFAX**
Take an excursion along Nova Scotia's South Shore with a stop at the fishing village of Peggy's Cove, famous for its picturesque lighthouse, and continue to the UNESCO-listed town of Lunenburg. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $6,295
TOUR CODE: TAP

14 Jul - 28 Jul 27	10 Jul - 24 Jul 28
26 Jul - 9 Aug 27	24 Jul - 07 Aug 28
30 Aug - 13 Sep 27	28 Aug - 11 Sep 28
20 Sep - 04 Oct 27	18 Sep - 02 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

DAY 4: **BADDECK**
Follow Nova Scotia's Marine Highway, passing fishing villages and beaches, continuing to the picturesque town of Baddeck. Upon arrival, visit the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site, which celebrates the achievements of the telephone's inventor. (B)
: **Inverary Resort / Silver Dart Lodge** (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **BADDECK**
Follow the Cabot Trail, one of North America's most scenic drives, as it winds along the coast. (B, D)

DAY 6: **CHARLOTTETOWN**
Journey through northern Nova Scotia to Caribou, and cross to Prince Edward Island. Continue to its capital, Charlottetown. (B)
: **The Great George Hotel** (or similar) (Days 6-7)

DAY 7: **CHARLOTTETOWN**
Today's tour showcases the beauty of Prince Edward Island, with its red cliffs and green countryside. Before returning to Charlottetown, visit Green Gables, the farm that inspired Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Maud Montgomery. (B, L)

DAY 8: **MONCTON**
Cross the impressive 13-kilometre Confederation Bridge back onto mainland Canada, arriving in Moncton. Visit Hopewell Rocks Provincial Park, famous for its 'flowerpot' rock formations, and Fundy National Park, with its scenic coast, waterfalls, valleys and forested hills. (B)
: **Hyatt Place Moncton Downtown** (or similar)

DAY 9: **DIGBY**
Travel south to Saint John for lunch in one of New Brunswick's oldest cities, set on the shores of the Bay of Fundy. Next, cross the bay by ferry to the 'scallop capital of the world', the fishing town of Digby. (B, L)
: **Digby Pines Golf Resort** (or similar) (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **DIGBY**
Explore the fertile lands surrounding Digby, beginning with Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens. Continue to the village of Bear River for a tour and tasting at the Bear River Vineyards. Return to Digby for an evening at leisure. (B)

DAY 11: **BAR HARBOR, USA**
Depart early for the scenic ferry crossing to Bar Harbor in the US state of Maine. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. (B)
: **Regency Bar Harbor** (or similar) (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **BAR HARBOR**
Take a guided tour of Bar Harbor, including its waterfront, boutiques, galleries and seafood restaurants. (B)

DAY 13: **BOSTON**
Your drive to Boston via Kennebunkport and Salem is a classic New England coastal journey, showcasing rugged shorelines, fishing villages, and historic seaports. (B)
: **Hilton Boston Park Plaza** (or similar) (Days 13-14)

DAY 14: **BOSTON**
Embark on a walking tour of downtown Boston, following the 'Freedom Trail' that connects major Revolutionary War sites such as Boston Common, Paul Revere House, Old North Church and Faneuil Hall. Later, attend your farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 15: **DEPART BOSTON**
Your tour concludes today in Boston. (B)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

OPPOSITE AND ABOVE: PEGGY'S COVE, HALIFAX, CANADA; BELOW: BOSTON, USA



NEW FOR 2027

EASTERN CANADA: RAILS, RIVERS AND REFINED CITIES

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
15 days, 14 nights	From $15,495 (land only)	From $25,445 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Voyage to the base of Niagara Falls, followed by time in the heritage town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and lunch at Inniskillin Winery.
- Enjoy scenic journeys aboard Canada's famous VIA Rail trains, travelling in Business Class.
- Explore Indigenous culture with a stay in Wendake, complete with storytelling around the fire of an authentic longhouse.
- Discover the UNESCO-listed old quarters of Québec City, the only walled city in North America.
- Experience the natural beauty of Algonquin Provincial Park and the Muskoka Lakes region.





RAIL ++++
ROAD ——

Take the scenic route through Eastern Canada on this comprehensive group tour, sightseeing by road, rail and boat. You journey from the big-city bustle of Toronto and the thunderous Niagara Falls to French-Canadian Montréal and Québec City, then on to the Canadian capital of Ottawa. Along the way, visit charming heritage towns and areas of abundant natural beauty – picture crystalline lakes, rolling hills and unspoilt forests.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE TORONTO**
Arrive in Toronto and check into your hotel for a drinks reception. (N)
: Sheraton Centre (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **TORONTO**
Take a sightseeing tour of Toronto, including its urban parks and landmarks, from the modernist City Hall and its Romanesque predecessor to the famous CN Tower, where you later enjoy dinner with the chance to visit the sky-high observation deck. (B, D)

DAY 3: **NIAGARA FALLS**
Head south, skirting the industrial towns of Oakville and Hamilton, and heading through the vineyards of the Niagara Peninsula. Enjoy a boat tour on the Niagara River for a closer view of the thundering falls. The rest of your day is at leisure. (B)
: **Sheraton Fallsview** (or similar) (Days 3-4)

DAY 4: **NIAGARA FALLS**
Follow the scenic Niagara Parkway to the historic village of Niagara-on-the-Lake, host of the Shaw Festival of theatre. Explore the village before continuing to Inniskillin Winery for lunch. (B, L)

DAY 5: **KINGSTON**
Return to Toronto and board the VIA Rail Corridor train, travelling in business class past rolling hills, sparkling lakes and farmland to Kingston. In the evening, depart on a *sunset dinner cruise through the Thousand Islands archipelago. (B, L, D)
: **Kingston Marriott** (or similar) (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **KINGSTON**
Take a tour of Kingston, a lively riverside city that was once a French fortress, became a British citadel and served as Canada's capital from 1841 to 1844. Visit Fort Henry to learn about the city's military past. (B)

DAY 7: **MONTRÉAL**
Ride the VIA Rail Corridor train out of the 1000 Islands region to Montréal, the second-largest French-speaking city in the world. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)
: **Montreal Marriott Chateau Champlain** (or similar) (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **MONTRÉAL**
Embark on a guided sightseeing tour of Montréal, including the French Quarter, Old Montréal, Mount Royal, an outside view of the 1976 Olympic site and other points of interest. Next, venture inside the 19th-century Notre-Dame Basilica, a masterpiece of gothic revival architecture, followed by time at leisure. (B)

DAY 9: **QUÉBEC CITY • WENDAKE**
Follow the St Lawrence River via the scenic Chemin du Roy Highway, arriving in Québec City. Enjoy a guided tour, exploring within the walls of the UNESCO-listed historic district. Depart to Wendake and transfer to your hotel. (B, D)
: **Hôtel-Musée Premières Nations** (Days 9-10)



DAY 10: **WENDAKE**
Begin your day around the fire in the Ekionkiestha National Longhouse, with an Indigenous storyteller. Later, take a tour of the wider museum to learn about the Huron-Wendat Nation. (B, L, D)

DAY 11: **OTTAWA**
Drive to Ottawa, pausing en route for lunch at an authentic "sugar shack" restaurant. Upon arrival, see the sights of Canada's capital, including Parliament Hill, the residences of the Prime Minister and Governor General, the National Arts Centre and ByWard Market. Your evening is at leisure. (B, L)
: **Lord Elgin** (or similar) (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **OTTAWA**
Explore more of Ottawa, starting with the National Art Gallery. Head to ByWard Market to find somewhere for lunch, then take a tour of the Royal Canadian Mint. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. (B)

DAY 13: **GRAVENHURST**
Journey to Gravenhurst, passing sparkling lakes, rushing streams and quintessentially northern towns. Stop en route at Algonquin Park's Logging Museum and its visitor centre to learn all about the human and natural history of this area. (B)
: **Residence Inn & Suites Gravenhurst Muskoka Wharf** (or similar) (Days 13-14)

DAY 14: **GRAVENHURST**
Enjoy a relaxing lunch cruise on Lake Muskoka, passing dense forests and waterfront cottages. After, enjoy leisure time before your farewell dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 15: **DEPART TORONTO**
Your tour concludes today in Toronto. (B)

GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $4,445
TOUR CODE: ECR

14 Jul - 28 Jul 27	12 Jul - 26 Jul 28
18 Aug - 01 Sep 27	16 Aug - 30 Aug 28
08 Sep - 22 Sep 27	06 Sep - 20 Sep 28
13 Oct - 27 Oct 27	11 Oct - 25 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

***The sunset dinner cruise** through the 1000 Islands will not be operating for the Oct departure. Instead, dinner will be included on Day 5, and there will be a morning 1000 Islands cruise on Day 6.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

OPPOSITE: NIAGARA FALLS; ABOVE: QUÉBEC CITY; BELOW: ALGONQUIN PARK



NEW FOR 2027

ROCKIES TO PACIFIC: MOUNTAINS, RAINFORESTS AND COASTAL CITIES

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
14 days, 13 nights	From $23,045 (land only)	From $23,595 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Travel through Banff National Park and Lake Louise, where the Rocky Mountains rise above glacier-fed lakes.
- Board the Rocky Mountaineer for a two-day rail journey from the Canadian Rockies to the Pacific, tracing mountain passes, river canyons and forests.
- Cruise the Gulf Islands to Victoria, tour the 22-hectare (55-acre) Butchart Gardens, and take afternoon tea at the Fairmont Empress, a ritual the hotel has kept alive since it opened in 1908.
- Explore coastal Vancouver: watch orca and humpback whales off the Pacific coast, cross the 137-metre (450-feet) Capilano Suspension Bridge, and ride the gondola up Grouse Mountain.
- Experience one of the world's great scenic drives along the Icefields Parkway before venturing onto the Athabasca Glacier aboard a specially designed Ice Explorer.





RAIL ++++
ROAD ——

The beauty and majesty of Alberta and British Columbia come to life on this two-week, river-deep, mountain-high tour of western Canada. See the peaks, waterfalls and hot springs of Banff National Park, tread the ancient ice of Athabasca Glacier, then ride the Rocky Mountaineer train from the slopes to the coast, to take in the delights of Vancouver.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE CALGARY**
Arrive in Calgary and check into your hotel. Enjoy a welcome reception with your tour group. (N)
: The Westin Calgary (or similar)

DAY 2: **CALGARY • BANFF**
Take the Trans-Canada Highway into the rolling foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The snow-dusted peaks fill the horizon as you approach your destination: Banff National Park. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. (B).
: Hotel Canoe (or similar) (Days 2-4)

DAY 3: **BANFF**
Tour Banff National Park, Canada's oldest, taking in the historic Banff Springs Hotel, Tunnel Mountain and Bow Falls. Travel on to Lake Louise, one of the most beloved beauty spots in Canada; return to Banff in the late afternoon and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. (B)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $6,395
TOUR CODE: RTP

18 Jun - 01 Jul 27	16 Jun - 29 Jun 28
06 Aug - 19 Aug 27	04 Aug - 17 Aug 28
24 Sep - 07 Oct 27	08 Sep - 21 Sep 28
	22 Sep - 05 Oct 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

DAY 4: **BANFF**
Enjoy a day to experience Banff at your own pace. Stroll through the streets of this pretty mountain town – first developed as a hot-spring resort in the 19th century – or take an optional ride on the Banff Gondola for views of the Rockies. (B)

DAY 5: **BANFF • JASPER**
Head north along the Icefields Parkway, taking in blue-green lakes, streams, forests and snow-frosted peaks, to the Columbia Icefield. Venture out onto the Athabasca Glacier in an all-terrain Ice Explorer, take a walk on the ice, then head to Jasper. (B, L)
: Forest Park Lodge (or similar) (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **JASPER**
Embark on a full tour of Jasper National Park, taking in the craggy Maligne Canyon* and the placid waters of Maligne Lake – the largest body of water in the Canadian Rockies. (B)

DAY 7: **JASPER • KAMLOOPS**
Enjoy some of the most breathtaking and varied scenery found beside any railway tracks in the world, aboard the Rocky Mountaineer train. See Mount Robson, as well as glittering lakes, vast ranches on the Cariboo Plateau and coastal rainforests in Fraser Canyon. Stay in Kamloops. (B, L)
: Accommodation arranged by Rocky Mountaineer

DAY 8: **KAMLOOPS • VANCOUVER**
Take the Rocky Mountaineer train to its terminus: Vancouver's Pacific Train Station. (B, L)
: Georgian Court (or similar)

DAY 9: **VANCOUVER • VICTORIA**
Cruise to Vancouver's Gulf Islands and visit Butchart Gardens before travelling on to Victoria, once a gold-rush town, but now the verdant capital of British Columbia, with fine museums and public gardens. (B)
: Inn at Laurel Point / Coast Victoria (or similar) (Days 9-11)

DAY 10: **VICTORIA**
Enjoy a morning tour of Victoria, including such highlights as the Beacon Hill Park, Thunderbird Park and Oak Bay. Later, enjoy Afternoon High Tea at the Empress Hotel and the rest of the day at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 11: **VICTORIA**
Take a whale-watching excursion, to see orcas, minkes and humpback whales, among other species. Afterwards, enjoy a day at leisure, with the option to visit the Malahat Skywalk – a tall, spiral forest walkway – as well as the totem poles on display at the nearby city of Duncan. (B)

DAY 12: **VICTORIA • VANCOUVER**
Cruise through the Gulf Islands, a summer retreat for residents of both British Columbia and Washington State, take a sightseeing tour of Vancouver, stopping off at Granville Island's food stalls, market and galleries, before continuing to Stanley Park to see its display of totem poles. (B)
: Georgian Court (or similar) (Days 12-13)

DAY 13: **VANCOUVER**
Tour the North Shore of Vancouver, visiting the Capilano Suspension Bridge, Grouse Mountain and the thrilling Cliffwalk, a heart-stopping journey along the granite cliffside offering panoramic views of the canyon below. Ride the Blue Grouse Gondola for views of the city. Finish with a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 14: **DEPART VANCOUVER**
Your tour concludes today. (B)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

***Note:** Access to Maligne Canyon is subject to reopening following the Jasper wildfires. Inclusion in the itinerary is conditional upon confirmed public access at the time of travel.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

OPPOSITE: VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA; ABOVE: VANCOUVER ISLAND; BELOW: STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER



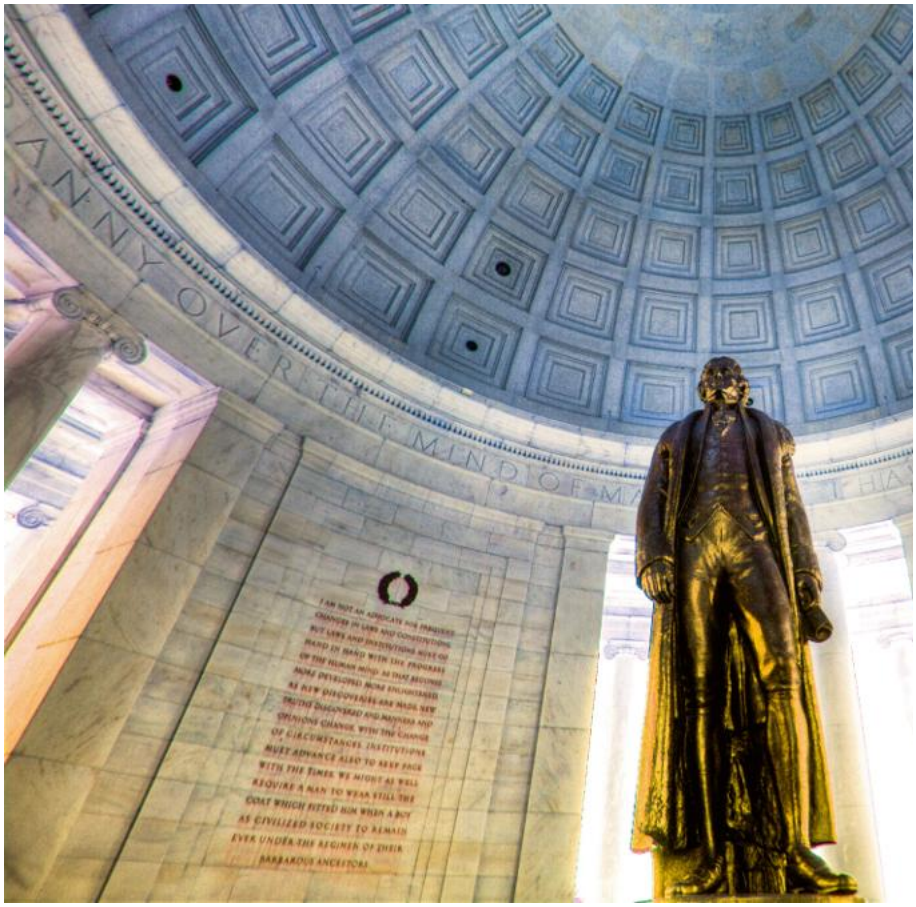
NEW FOR 2027

AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE TRAIL

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
11 days, 10 nights	From $13,245 (land only)	From $23,395 (land only)	Signature	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Tour the landmarks of Washington, D.C. and explore the nation's story at the National Museum of American History.
- Visit Independence Hall, where both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were signed.
- Gain moving insights into the American Civil War at Gettysburg National Military Park.
- Discover the legacy of Thomas Jefferson at his historic residence of Monticello.
- Step back into 18th-century America with full access to the Colonial Williamsburg living museum.





ROAD ——

Trace the foundational story of the United States, from the American Revolution and Civil War, right back to colonial times, on this insightful tour of its key heritage sites. You visit Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, Gettysburg, Charlottesville and Williamsburg, following in the footsteps of the Founding Fathers and leaving with a deeper understanding of the people and places that forged this modern-day superpower.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE WASHINGTON, D.C.**
Arrive and check into your hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner in the historic neighbourhood of Georgetown. (D)
: Capitol Hilton Hotel (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **WASHINGTON, D.C.**
Embark on a guided coach tour of Washington DC's historic and cultural landmarks, including the White House, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument and the National Mall. Then guide yourself around the National Museum of American History, which traces the cultural and technological history of the USA through its collection of significant artefacts. (B)

DAY 3: **BALTIMORE**
Explore Baltimore by coach with a two-hour guided overview, taking you from the historic Inner Harbor, through the waterfront neighbourhood of Fell's Point to the cultural district of Mount Vernon, with views of Camden Yards and Johns Hopkins University. After, take a self-guided tour of Fort McHenry, a pentagonal bastion that defended the city's harbour during the War of 1812. (B)
: Kimpton Hotel Monaco Baltimore Inner Harbor

DAY 4: **PHILADELPHIA**
Arrive in Philadelphia for a guided coach tour of the "City of Brotherly Love", passing by leafy Fairmount Park, the historic buildings of Boathouse Row, and Benjamin Franklin Parkway – a boulevard modelled on the Champs-Élysées and lined with cultural institutions. Your tour includes time to relax and explore on foot. (B)
: The Notary Hotel, Autograph Collection (Days 4-5)

DAY 5: **PHILADELPHIA**
Begin the day viewing the cracked Liberty Bell, an enduring symbol of American independence; then visit Independence Hall, where both the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution were signed; finally, admire the eclectic collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. (B, D)

DAY 6: **GETTYSBURG**
Visit Gettysburg, site of one of the most pivotal battles in the American Civil War and where Lincoln delivered his immortal address. At the museum and visitor centre, you can view an illuminating documentary and the 19th-century cyclorama depicting Pickett's Charge. Then join a tour of the battlefield. (B)
: Hotel Gettysburg

DAY 7: **CHARLOTTESVILLE**
En route to Charlottesville, visit Luray Caverns, a subterranean world of monumental stalagmites and stalactites millennia in the making. You also have access to the Caverns' Car and Carriage Caravan Museum, Heritage Village and Toy Town Junction. (B)
: The Draftsman Hotel (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **CHARLOTTESVILLE**
Visit Monticello, home of Founding Father Thomas Jefferson, with a 45-minute guided experience. Have lunch at the 18th-century museum-cum-restaurant, Michie Tavern, then go to the historic Downtown Mall shopping area. (B, L)

DAY 9: **WILLIAMSBURG**
Transfer to Williamsburg, stopping first for a self-guided tour of the American Revolution Museum before going on to Yorktown Battlefield, site of the final battle of the American Revolution. (B)
: Woodlands Hotel & Suites (Days 9-10)

DAY 10: **WILLIAMSBURG**
Enjoy a day to explore the Colonial Williamsburg living museum, where interpreters and heritage buildings transport you back to the 18th century. Join your farewell dinner here. (B, D)

DAY 11: **DEPART WASHINGTON D.C.**
Return to Washington, D.C., via Mount Vernon, George Washington's former estate. Your tour concludes today. (B)





GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $3,495
TOUR CODE: AHT

02 Jun - 12 June 27	07 Jun - 17 Jun 28
07 Jul - 17 Jul 27	05 Jul - 15 Jul 28
25 Aug - 04 Sep 27	23 Aug - 02 Sep 28
08 Sep - 18 Sep 27	06 Sep - 16 Sep 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

SUGGESTED TOUR COMBINATIONS: Select departures of this journey may be combinable with The Atlantic Passage: Nova Scotia to New England (pg 202) and Eastern Canada: Rails Rivers and Refined Cities (pg 204). Speak to one of our specialists or your travel advisor to find out more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Signature tour: Based in four-star accommodation or above.

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

OPPOSITE: THE JEFFERSON MEMORIAL, WASHINGTON, DC; ABOVE: ELFRETH'S ALLEY, PHILADELPHIA; BELOW: GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

NEW FOR 2027

TREASURES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

DURATION	SMALL GROUP TOUR	PRIVATE TOUR	TOUR STYLE	ACTIVITY LEVEL
13 days, 12 nights	From $14,645 (land only)	From $27,445 (land only)	Select	Moderate

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- Journey through the dramatic Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, with visits to Multnomah Falls and Smith Rock State Park.
- Discover Crater Lake National Park, home to the deepest lake in the US, with lunch overlooking its waters.
- Taste the flavours of Oregon wine country, both in Ashland and the scenic Umpqua Valley.
- Follow the coastline from Yaquina Head Lighthouse to Cannon Beach, taking in sea lion colonies, ocean vistas and the landmark Haystack Rock.
- Explore Washington State's wild beauty with a stay beside Lake Quinault, scenic touring through Olympic National Park and a ferry crossing into Seattle.





ROAD ——

Little known, yet hugely rewarding, America's Pacific Northwest is filled with natural and manmade beauty, from the calm deep waters of Crater Lake and tumbling torrents of Multnomah Falls to the divine wines of Umpqua Valley and delicate fragrances of Portland's rose gardens. This tour rewards curious travellers with a gratifying journey among bustling harbour towns, surf-cuffed beaches and pristine wildernesses, before arriving in the metropolitan streets of Seattle.

DAY 1: **ARRIVE PORTLAND**
Arrive in Portland and check into your hotel in time for your welcome dinner. (D)
: Dossier Hotel (or similar) (Days 1-2)

DAY 2: **PORTLAND**
Visit the International Rose Test Garden, to enjoy its 10,000 roses, representing 610 varieties from across the world. (B)

DAY 3: **BEND**
Travel to Bend, a city set amid the forests of Deschutes County. En route, visit the Columbia River Gorge, Multnomah Falls – Oregon's tallest falls – and Smith Rock State Park's deep river canyons. (B)
: Best Western Peppertree Bend (or similar) (Days 3-4)



GROUP DEPARTURES 2027-2028

GROUP SIZE: Average 14 (max 18)
SINGLE SUPP: From $4,795
TOUR CODE: TPN

24 May - 05 Jun 27	22 May - 03 Jun 28
07 Jun - 19 Jun 27	05 Jun - 17 Jun 28
19 Jul - 31 Jul 27	17 Jul - 29 Jul 28
09 Aug - 21 Aug 27	07 Aug - 19 Aug 28
06 Sep - 18 Sep 27	04 Sep - 16 Sep 28

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES: For departure dates that have reached the minimum number of guests, and are therefore guaranteed to run, please visit our website.

GUIDELINE PRICES: The guideline tour prices are all per person in Australian dollars, based on two people sharing a twin / double room, and do not include flights to / from the destination. Flights required for travel within a group tour itinerary are included. All prices are subject to availability. For up-to-date prices for all departure dates, please visit our website.

DAY 4: **BEND**
Visit the High Desert Museum, which both conserves and showcases the wildlife and habitats of Oregon's "high desert" region through its various indoor and outdoor exhibition spaces. Afterwards, take a guided tour of Deschutes Brewery, a beloved local craft brewery. (B)

DAY 5: **ASHLAND**
Travel to the leafy city of Ashland. En route, visit Crater Lake National Park, which has the deepest lake in the US; enjoy lunch overlooking its pristine waters. (B, L)
: Ashland Springs Hotel (or similar) (Days 5-6)

DAY 6: **ASHLAND**
Take a guided walking tour of Ashland to learn about its past. Then visit a local winery for a tasting, discovering firsthand how this part of Oregon produces some of the most diverse wine varietals in the Pacific Northwest. (B)

DAY 7: **NEWPORT**
Move on to the city of Newport. En route, enjoy a winery tasting and lunch in the Umpqua Valley and a visit to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area – the largest expanse of coastal dunes in the US. (B, L)
: Best Western Plus Agate Beach Inn (or similar) (Days 7-8)

DAY 8: **NEWPORT**
Visit Oregon's tallest lighthouse, Yaquina Head Light, whose original Fresnel lens was manufactured in Paris in 1868 before being shipped to the tip of this ruggedly beautiful headland. Continue to Newport Sea Lion Docks, where hundreds of wild sea lions swim, bask and play. (B)

DAY 9: **ASTORIA**
En route to Astoria, visit the coastal cities of Depoe Bay and Cannon Beach – a great place to view the natural landmark of Haystack Rock. Arrive in Astoria and visit the Columbia River Maritime Museum, home to the largest trove of maritime artefacts in the region, where you can board a floating lighthouse. (B)
: Lloyd Hotel Astoria Bayfront (or similar)

DAY 10: **QUINAULT**
Follow the Quinault Rain Forest Loop, a circular drive beside the Quinault River into Olympic National Park and back, with opportunities to stop for waterfalls, wildlife, short walks and photographs. (B)
: Lake Quinault Lodge (or similar)

DAY 11: **SEATTLE**
Head to the Olympic National Park visitor centre to learn about this UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its coastal meadows and Roosevelt elk herds. Catch the ferry from Bainbridge Island to Seattle. (B)
: The Kimpton Hotel Monaco Seattle (or similar) (Days 11-12)

DAY 12: **SEATTLE**
Explore Seattle, stopping first at its most famous landmark: the Space Needle. This 184-metre (600-feet) observation tower affords 360-degree views over the city. Then go to Chihuly Garden and Glass, an urban garden and gallery dedicated to the glasswork of Dale Chihuly. Afterwards, enjoy a cruise from Seattle Harbour and a farewell dinner. (B, D)

DAY 13: **DEPART SEATTLE**
Your tour concludes today in Seattle. (B)

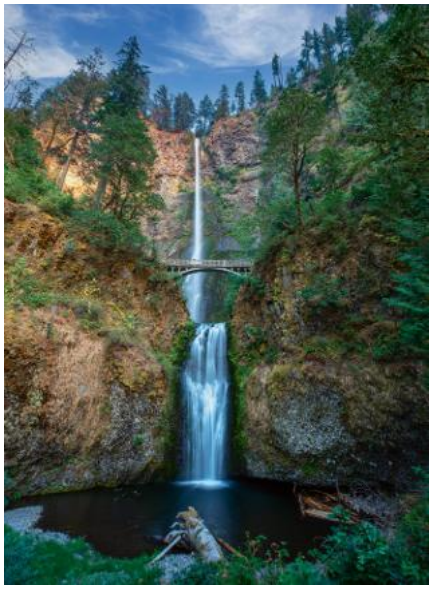
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Select tour: Simpler in emphasis, based in three- or four-star accommodation (or best alternative).

Hotel choices may be subject to change.

Meal basis: As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

OPPOSITE: THE OREGON COASTLINE; ABOVE: SEATTLE; BELOW: MULTNOMAH FALLS, OREGON





Contact your travel advisor or one of our experienced travel specialists and start planning your next Cox & Kings adventure.

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For further inspiration, visit

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TERMS & CONDITIONS:
Our full terms and conditions are available on
coxandkingstravel.com/booking-conditions

OPPOSITE: Inset: Samarkand's traditional architecture, Uzbekistan; background: Uzbek silk carpets

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NOTE: Featured pricing is in Australian Dollars, and is accurate as at 5 October 2026. Please see website for up-to-date information including availability, dates and pricing.

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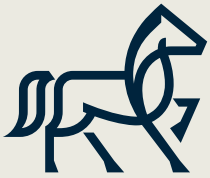

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