



Smithsonian **JOURNEYS**

2017 / 2018 WORLDWIDE TOURS & CRUISES



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Smithsonian



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The Smithsonian Difference

Discover a journey that lasts a lifetime

With more than 45 years of experience in travel, we continue to be inspired by the Smithsonian mission of “the increase and diffusion of knowledge.” This dedication to lifelong learning and passion for exploring the world drive us to develop authentic and exceptionally enriching experiences for our travelers.

Our collection of diverse tours and cruises has grown to more than 350 departures on seven continents. From a river cruise through western Europe or along the Mekong River to watching the Great Migration on the Serengeti . . . from exploring behind the scenes at the Smithsonian to traveling to the Galápagos with your family . . . Smithsonian Journeys is an enduring and proven leader in cultural and enrichment travel.

Like the Smithsonian Institution, our tours enrich our guests’ lives and satisfy their curiosity about the world. And your participation benefits the work of Smithsonian’s nineteen museums, national zoo, and nine research centers, helping to preserve our national treasures and shape the future through science, research, and exhibitions.

Bring Your Destination to Life

With Smithsonian Journeys, you’ll explore the world with experts who are masters at bringing your destination to life. Our knowledgeable and charismatic Smithsonian Journeys Experts and dedicated tour staff will enrich your experience in a unique and personal way, bringing an insider’s perspective to every itinerary.

Behind-the-Scenes Access

From people to places, our Smithsonian connections provide you with behind-the-scenes access to iconic sites, knowledgeable guides, local experts, and exclusive events all over the world, adding even more meaning and authenticity to your travel experience.

Travel with New Friends

On any given trip, you’ll be sure to forge lasting friendships with like-minded travelers who share your passion for learning and exploration. Our journeys are welcoming for solo travelers, couples, family, and friends. Plus, our arrangements deliver an intimate journey so you’ll never feel herded or rushed.

We Know Where to Take You

From unique lodgings in far-flung regions and charming hotels in well-traveled places to the ideal cruise ship, train, or “stay” experience, you’ll always travel in comfort and style and enjoy authentic cuisine that reflects the local culture.

We’ve Got Everything Covered

When you travel with Smithsonian Journeys, there is no need for exhaustive planning or worrying about travel logistics. Our first-rate staff meticulously manages every aspect of each trip to ensure the highest quality and provide you with comfortable, stress-free travel. (And if travel dates don’t work for you, ask about our tailor-made journeys.)

Discover Real Value

Once you add up the extras that we include—experts, enrichment, meals, excursions, transfers, little luxuries, and even airfare inclusive pricing on many tours—you’ll know you’re getting more than you pay for. That’s what we call real value!



*The trip exceeded our expectations. Each day we would think
“how can they top this?” but they always did!*

Martha S., *Insider's Florence*



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Providing in-depth understanding and a sense of wonder

Among the experts who accompany you on your journey are Smithsonian scientists who are scholars in biology, ecology, geology, and other disciplines and curators who study and interpret culture, art, and history.

You'll also find experts from across the nation—scholars, scientists, diplomats, authors, naturalists, and fine arts experts—who have been selected by Smithsonian Journeys for their special knowledge and charisma. We think you'll find that the quality of our experts is a major difference between an outstanding travel experience and a mass-market alternative. Meet some of our experts and read about the tours they will lead in the pages that follow.

Roger Launius is an expert in aerospace, the solar system, and polar science, and he has written or edited more than 30 books on related topics. Roger is Associate Director for Collections and Curatorial Affairs at Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. He will lead one of our 2018 cruise departures for *Expedition to Antarctica* (page 79).

Janet Duncan Jones is an active field archaeologist specializing in Greek and Roman art and architecture, as well as ancient urbanization, technology, and environmental issues. She has conducted archaeological field work throughout the Mediterranean and Middle East. Janet will lead departures of *Southern Italy and Sicily* (page 19) and *Egypt and the Eternal Nile* (page 59).

Valerie Hedquist, an art historian with expertise in European art and architecture, focused on 17th-century Dutch art and architecture as a Fulbright Scholar; she is also an expert in the arts of Italy. Valerie will lead both departures of *Waterways of Holland and Belgium* (page 44), as well as departures of *Highlights of Italy* (page 13) and *A Stay in Italy's Lake District* (page 15).





Emilio Cueto is an expert in Cuban culture, especially colonial graphic art and music. He left Cuba at age 17, one week after the Bay of Pigs landing, and was one of the first exiles to visit in the 1970s. Emilio has returned many times since and is an avid collector of Cuban memorabilia. In addition, he has written an illustrated work on the Patroness of Cuba, *Our Lady of Charity (Virgen de la Caridad del Cobre)* (2014), a monograph on how the Cuban province of Camagüey has been featured in music (2014), and a coffee-table book on Cuba's impact in the United States (expected publication date, 2016). Emilio will lead departures of *Discover Cuba* and *Havana: A Cultural Stay* (pages 71–72).

Q. What expectations should Smithsonian Journeys travelers have about travel to Cuba?

A. Travelers should expect the unexpected. Cuba is rapidly changing in many ways, and the average Cuban resident now has more opportunities than anytime during the preceding five decades—to travel abroad, to buy and sell personal and real property, to receive unlimited remittances from abroad, to open small businesses (mostly services), to be employed by foreign firms, to practice religion with more freedom, to be exposed to more visitors (particularly Americans and Cubans living abroad), and to access the internet. Travelers will be able to witness, understand, and measure the multiple signs of this emerging new Cuba, including the widening gap between the “haves” and “have-nots”. They should also understand that Cuba is a developing country and some inconveniences and hardships cannot be totally excluded from their travel experience. Finally, travelers should expect to be questioned about their unique, exciting experience by friends upon their return to the U.S.

Q. What excites you about travel to Cuba?

A. The people. Cuba's population is the result of contributions from pre-Columbian settlers, Spanish immigrants (Spain itself being a multi-regional mosaic), African slaves (coming from different areas within the Continent's

Atlantic coast), French planters, Chinese indentured servants, Yucatan serfs, Jamaican and Haitian sugar laborers, Arab arrivals, Jewish refugees, Latin American political asylum seekers, and Eastern European socialist advisors. During the last five centuries, each of these groups has had to adapt in the pursuit of the elusive goal of living as equals and in harmony. From these various sources, the Cuban people slowly emerged, reflecting in its literature, visual arts, music, dance, customs, and character the multifaceted influences offered by the various ethnic groups.

Q. What kinds of insights do you hope to bring to our travelers?

A. I was born in Cuba and lived there until high school. I have returned to the island dozens of times during the last 39 years, and I have traveled extensively throughout all provinces, including the Island of Youth. Not only have I devoted many years to the study of Cuba's history and culture, but having family and friends in Cuba I have learned many lessons about everyday life in the island. Given my background, I believe I can share with our travelers a sense of trajectory and movement, as opposed to a still picture, in the discussion of Cuba's many realities. Last, but certainly not least, I can also bring the perspective of exile, without which no understating of the island can ever be complete.

I can share a sense of trajectory and movement...in the discussion of Cuba's many realities.

Q. What do you enjoy most about accompanying Smithsonian Journeys travelers?

A. The questions they pose. Having been born in Cuba and traveling so often to the island while living abroad, I instinctively look at Cuba through my own peculiar experience, which is to be expected. Smithsonian Journeys travelers, however, necessarily bring new perspectives into the equation, and I am challenged to see Cuba through their inquisitive eyes. This, in turn, prompts me to reflect and craft more complex and nuanced answers that allow the foreign traveler to better understand Cuba's condition. As a result, I have developed a richer understanding about my own country of origin.

Our Travel Styles

Unlock your world and transform the ordinary into the extraordinary with an exciting range of travel styles. Our travelers have myriad interests and look to us for unique itineraries that match their aspirations. When you travel with Smithsonian Journeys, you'll enjoy a unique blend of cultural insights, exceptional quality, intellectual camaraderie, and personal attention.

NORTH AMERICA

EUROPE

CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA



Classic Land Journeys

Spin the globe and chances are you'll land on a destination featured on one of our many classic tours—exciting forays into the history, culture, and natural world of either a single country or region. Meticulously planned to include visits to iconic sites and hidden gems, these 10- to 23-day programs are comprehensive but never rushed. And since they're geared for small groups (generally 16 to 24 travelers), you'll see the highlights up close alongside an intimate group of newfound friends.

Small-Ship Cruises

Unpack once and wake up to a brand-new world every day on an ocean or river voyage aboard a fleet of ideal ships that accommodate just 28 to 220 guests (with only a few that are larger). Some of our cruises exclusively host Smithsonian Journeys guests, while others are shared with leading cultural institutions. Our cruises feature exceptional itineraries to popular destinations worldwide as well as unique routes. And with our onboard experts and fascinating shore excursions, you're sure to have a memorable voyage.

Cultural Stays

Settle into one place and explore in depth! Choose a one-week "City Stay" from among 11 European destinations—from cosmopolitan Barcelona, London, or Paris to smaller cities set amid magnificent landscapes, such as the Italian Lake District. Whichever you choose, you'll enjoy the city and its environs, meet with local people, and stay in delightful centrally located accommodations. Or choose an immersive four-week "Living In" stay in Aix-en-Provence or Florence and select one or more in-depth themes to personalize your program, including language lessons, the arts, and cuisine.

Train Trips

There's a magical quality to traveling by train. Time seems to stand still as you watch a nation's landscape unfold from the comfort of your train car. Whether you are a true train buff or simply enjoy the "romance of the rails" or the ease and comfort of train travel, Smithsonian Journeys offers many fascinating trips to fulfill your dreams. Join us to experience the engineering feats of the Alpine *Glacier Express* or the American *Durango Silverton*, the romance of Africa's *Rovos Rail* or Asia's *Royal Rajasthan on Wheels*, or the adventure of crossing two continents aboard the *Trans-Siberian Express Golden Eagle*.



Special Interest Tours

Pursue your particular passion in depth on one of our specialty tours that are truly unique. Join travelers who share your interest in topics ranging from art to astronomy, and from film festivals to cars. Take a course at Oxford University, walk the route of St. James, trace the musical legacy of The Beatles, or watch the skies for the Northern Lights. Or explore our national parks—from Alaska to Maine. Wherever you go, Smithsonian Journeys opens doors, assuring you of a topnotch learning experience.

Multigenerational Family Journeys

Eager to introduce your grandchildren or children to a different culture or the wonders of the natural world? We offer a selection of multigenerational adventures (see pages 96-101) that feature meticulously planned itineraries and inspiring guides who bring new insights to everyone. We'll handle all the details so that you and your family can relax and enjoy a memorable time exploring the world and growing together.

Around the World Journeys

For the ultimate trip of a lifetime, join one of our spectacular private jet journeys and visit an incredible array of far-flung destinations in one itinerary (see pages 94-95), made possible by the convenience of a custom-fitted private jet. And naturally, a world-class team of experts accompanies you.



Tailor-Made Journeys

From Africa to Asia, Australia to South America, and now to Europe (Italy), every tailor-made journey is custom-built for you. A country specialist will work with you to design your perfect itinerary from start to finish. Whether you're celebrating a milestone moment—a special birthday, graduation, honeymoon, or family reunion—or traveling just for fun, the when and where is up to you! For details and suggested itineraries, visit SmithsonianJourneys.org/Tailormade.

Truly a trip of a lifetime! We learned so much, had a great time, and came home with new appreciation for the natural world. Judy and Bill C., African Safari

At Home in the World

By land or sea, let the journey begin

Accommodations

Whether you're enjoying the cultural treasures of Europe or the wildlife of a safari adventure in Africa, your accommodations enhance your overall experience and are often integral to a memorable trip. Traveling with Smithsonian Journeys, you can be assured of distinctive properties that reflect the character and ambiance of the local culture and meet the high standards you expect.

Experience the royal lifestyle of maharajahs on *Mystical India* when you stay at the Jai Mahal Palace in Jaipur, a heritage hotel. In Tanzania (*Tanzania Safari* and *Great Migration* tours) you'll take in commanding panoramic views and world-class style at the Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge, perhaps the finest venue the Serengeti has to offer. On *Treasures of Italy: A Family Journey*, relax and enjoy the tranquil setting of the Tuscan countryside at a 14th-century villa. Elsewhere in Europe, be completely immersed in the history of the Iberian Peninsula during our two tours featuring the *paradors* and *pousadas* of Spain and Portugal, where you'll stay in a palace, convent, castle, and town hall! And in the American West, enjoy the amenities of a desert oasis, the Arizona Inn, on *Astronomy in Arizona*.

During our popular *Northern Lights of Iceland* tour, watch the night sky from two top hotels, one of which features its own observatory! Gain additional insight into local culture during a stay at a traditional *ryokan* on *Eternal Japan* and at a boutique floating hotel in the jungle on *Vibrant Thailand*. And in Peru, your location at the Belmond Sanctuary Lodge is situated near the ancient Inca citadel of Machu Picchu (*Machu Picchu and the Galápagos*), which provides exceptional access to the site from early morning to late afternoon.

Ships

With the mindset of explorers and the goal of fresh experiences, Smithsonian Journeys travelers ply the waters of the oceans, rivers, and canals around the world. Our ships, which range from the most exquisite, all-suite, small ships on the world's oceans and rivers to comfortable expedition vessels, accommodate just 28 to 220 guests. Onboard, you can unpack once and enjoy an informal, comfortable ambiance. Casual clothes and attitudes, mixed with curious travelers and intelligent conversation, combine for an exceptional experience.

You'll easily become acquainted with fellow travelers and your Smithsonian Journeys Expert during gatherings in the ship's lounges and dining rooms. Yet you'll also feel free to slip off to read a book, or depending on your ship, enjoy a luxurious spa treatment. Plus, our ships feature excellent cuisine taken in refined dining rooms or al fresco, and all are known for their friendly and efficient staff.

With Smithsonian Journeys, you can cruise Europe's rivers aboard the deluxe Amadeus river fleet as well as the elegant *Volga Dream*, which plies the Russian waterways. Elsewhere, relax aboard the *Mekong Navigator*, an extraordinary all-suite ship specially designed for cruising the rivers of Southeast Asia, and the custom-designed *Amazon Star*, which serves as home to 28 guests along the Amazon River. Our ocean-going vessels—such as *L'Austral*, *Le Boréal*, *Le Lyréal*, and *Le Soléal*—are among the new generation of small ships reflecting a sleek design and chic décor with upscale amenities. And of course, sailing aboard *Sea Cloud II*, a three-masted barque with 23 sails, is seafaring at its finest! (See pages 102–103 for more details or go online at SmithsonianJourneys.org/ships.)



Jai Mahal Palace, Jaipur



Outside lounge on Amazon Star



Relaxing aboard Sea Cloud II



Panoramic view from Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge



Europe

Highlights of Italy



17 days from \$5,684 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

*April 1–17, April 24–May 10, May 8–24, May 22–June 7,
Aug. 31–Sept. 16, Sept. 11–27, Sept. 18–Oct. 4, Oct. 9–25,
Oct. 23–Nov. 8, 2017*

Experience the best of Italy's famed cities—Rome, Florence, and Venice—on this popular tour. From the dramatic landscapes of the Amalfi Coast to the captivating St. Mark's Square in Venice, our comprehensive journey showcases ancient sites, priceless art, and smaller towns off the beaten path.

Highlights Include

Amalfi Coast and Pompeii: View the stunning Amalfi Coast from the sea, explore some of the magical hill towns, and enjoy the breathtaking drive high above the azure Mediterranean. Spend time in Pompeii to witness the remains of everyday life in A.D. 79, when ash from Mt. Vesuvius entirely covered the town. En route to Rome, stop at the Benedictine abbey of Montecassino, lovingly rebuilt following its destruction in World War II.

Rome: Capture the essence of ancient Rome with a tour of the Colosseum, currently being restored to new glory, and the Forum. Step inside the Borghese Gallery to view masterpieces by Bernini, Titian, Caravaggio, and other major artists. Plus, a day at the Vatican showcases St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel and Vatican Museums, featuring works by Michelangelo and Raphael.

Umbria and Tuscany: Discover the arts, churches, and unique ambiance and history of these regions. Experience the scenic town and cathedral of Orvieto and view Giotto's priceless frescoes in the basilica at Assisi. See how the traditions of hand-painted Majolica ceramics continue today in Deruta. Stop in lovely Perugia and San Gimignano, famous for its medieval watchtowers that once guarded the town, many of which still pierce the sky. Walk along the medieval streets of ochre-colored Siena to explore the fan-shaped Campo and visit the Duomo with art by Michelangelo and Donatello.

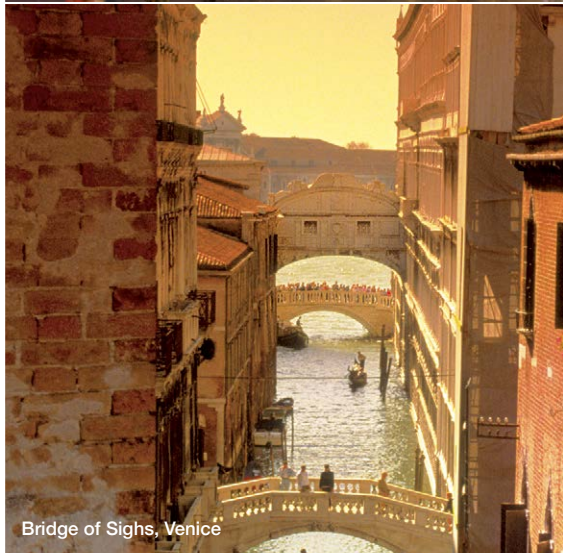
Florence: Take a walking tour of the crown jewel of Tuscany. See Michelangelo's *David* and other sculptures at the Galleria dell'Accademia and visit the revered Duomo with its stupendous dome by Brunelleschi. Enjoy time to explore more of the city's treasures on your own.

Venice: Tour St. Mark's Square and explore the museums and canals of this magical city at leisure.

*Limited to
24 Smithsonian
Journeys guests.*



Palazzo Vecchio, Florence



Bridge of Sighs, Venice



The Roman Forum

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Sara James (April 1) and **Valerie Hedquist** (Oct. 23)—art historians, and **Allan Langdale** (May 8)—art and architectural historian, all with expertise in Italy. **Carol Bresnahan** (April 24)—historian and **David Guinee** (May 22/Oct. 9)—expert in classical studies.



Vernazza, Cinque Terre



David, Florence



Skyline of Verona

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Allan Langdale (April/Aug./Oct.)—art and architectural historian and **Gail Cornell** (Sept.)—architectural historian. **Trudy Harrington Becker** and **Andrew Becker** (May)—experts in Roman history and Roman literature and culture, respectively.

Northern Italy

Featuring the Italian Lake District, Cinque Terre, Tuscany, Alpine Tyrol, and Venice



15 days from \$5,599 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

April 25–May 9, May 16–30, Aug. 29–Sept. 12,

Sept. 19–Oct. 3, Oct. 10–24, 2017

The northern regions of Italy offer an exciting perspective on a well-known and beloved land. Come experience the diverse landscapes, culture, arts, and history of the Italian Lake District, the Riviera, Tuscany, the Alpine Tyrol, and magical Venice.

Highlights Include

The Italian Lake District: Discover magnificent views of crystal blue lakes nestled amid the lower Alps during a three-night stay in Stresa, situated along Lake Maggiore. You'll cruise to the Borromean island of Isola Bella and tour its stunning 17th-century palazzo and extravagantly landscaped gardens, then savor a special lunch there. Another day, visit lovely Lake Orta and enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Stresa.

The Italian Riviera: En route to the Riviera, stop in Barolo for lunch and sample the “king of wines” at a premier vintner. Enjoy a full-day boat excursion along the rugged coastline of the Cinque Terre (a World Heritage site), stopping to visit the pastel-colored villages of Portovenere, Monterosso, and Vernazza. Stroll through the resort town of Santa Margherita, your home for three nights, and travel by boat to charming Portofino, a former fishing village now crowded with sleek yachts.

Florence and Tuscany: During a three-night stay in the heart of Florence (a World Heritage site), discover some of the treasures of the Italian Renaissance during a tour showcasing the Accademia and Duomo. You'll also visit medieval Siena, with its fan-shaped Piazza del Campo and striking cathedral of black and white marble, and the classic town of Lucca with its well-preserved city walls and ramparts.

Bolzano: Journey north to Bolzano, located in the spectacular Alpine region of South Tyrol, a gateway to the Dolomites mountain range. En route, stop in the lovely medieval city of Verona, renowned for its Roman arena and setting for three Shakespeare plays.

Venice: Conclude your journey with a walking tour of St. Mark's Square and time at leisure to explore this magical city of canals and bridges.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.





Garden on Isola Bella, Lake Maggiore



Traditional limoncello

Italy's Lake District

A One-Week Stay Featuring Lake Maggiore, Lake Como, and Lake Orta



9 days from \$3,990

Special air rates & services available

May 5–13, July 2–10, Oct. 6–14, 2017

Italy's breathtaking Lake District has inspired painters, writers, and poets. Immerse yourself in this lovely region during a one-week stay in Stresa at the Hotel La Palma, featuring views of Lake Maggiore and Alpine mountains.

Highlights Include

Lake Maggiore: Take a private boat to Isola Madre to tour its impressive English-style gardens, then visit Isola dei Pescatori and Isola Bella with its baroque villa, outstanding art collection, and exquisite gardens. During your stay in Stresa, enjoy a regional cooking class and presentations on the area's gardens, arts, and contemporary life, plus a day at leisure.

Lake Orta: Stroll along lovely streets in Orta San Giulio, then cruise to the enchanting Isola San Giulio and its Romanesque basilica.

Lake Como: Discover charming Bellagio with its villas and pastel houses and admire sweeping vistas during a private boat ride to the town of Como.

Milan: See world-famous treasures, including the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, a World Heritage site and home to Leonardo's *The Last Supper*; the museum at the legendary opera house, La Scala; and the exquisite Duomo, a Gothic masterpiece.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Gail Cornell (May)—architectural historian and **Marta Staudinger** (July) and **Valerie Hedquist** (Oct.)—art historians, all with expertise in Italy.

Sorrento

A One-Week Stay in Italy



9 days from \$3,990

Special air rates & services available

April 12–20, Oct. 18–26, 2017

In sunny Sorrento, experience Italy's southern Campania region—renowned for the Amalfi Coast, World Heritage archaeological sites, sophisticated resorts, and distinctive cuisine—during your one-week stay at the centrally located Hotel Plaza Sorrento.

Highlights Include

The Amalfi Coast: Drive along the breathtaking Amalfi Coast with its dramatic hairpin curves and spectacular views. Visit Positano, a town built along sheer seaside cliffs, then take a private boat to the charming town of Amalfi with its lovely Cathedral of Saint Andrea.

Archaeological Sites: Travel to Paestum to see three of the most well-preserved Greek temples in the world. Later, spend a day exploring the ancient Roman towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum, both destroyed by the catastrophic eruption of Vesuvius in A.D. 79.

Naples: Gaze upon the stunning art and artifacts of everyday life discovered at Pompeii and Herculaneum, now housed at the Museo Archeologico Nazionale, plus see other cultural highlights in Naples.

Capri: Explore the enchanting Isle of Capri, a sophisticated resort area since Roman times.

Regional Cuisine: Visit a farm that produces the famous buffalo mozzarella, savor Neapolitan pizza, and sip traditional limoncello at leisure.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Marta Staudinger (April) and **Sara James** (Oct.)—both art historians with expertise in Italian art.

Insider's Italy

Delve into the treasures of Florence, Venice, or Rome during these special one-week stays

Insider's Florence



8 days from \$4,495

April 8–15, Nov. 11–18, 2017

Florence boasts a wealth of Renaissance treasures, yet many of its riches elude all but the most experienced travelers. During this exclusive tour, enjoy special access to some of Florence's most celebrated sites and gain insight from local experts. Plus, step outside the Hotel Brunelleschi, your elegant boutique hotel, and you'll find yourself near the Duomo.

Highlights Include

The Uffizi Gallery: View the collections of the legendary Uffizi Gallery during a guided tour. Opened officially to the public in 1765, this renowned museum features paintings by Leonardo, Botticelli, Michelangelo, Raphael, Caravaggio, and other masters. You'll also attend a special session by a Uffizi expert about restoration issues.

Casa Buonarroti: Meet the director for an after-hours tour of this museum dedicated to Michelangelo's life and see some of the master's early pieces.

The Oltr'arno: Meet artisans in their workshops and learn about their traditional crafts, including papermaking, enameling, and silversmithing.

Iconic Sites: Accompanied by an expert in the Italian Renaissance, take a special tour of the Duomo and Baptistery before opening hours and climb up to the dome for a closer look at the frescoes.

Hidden Gems: Experience a typical Renaissance household at the Palazzo Davanzati and view a fine sculpture collection at the Bargello Museum. Enjoy a special tour of the 17th-century Palazzo Gondi followed by a reception with the owners.

Countryside Villas and Gardens: Join a landscape architect for a special tour outside Florence, featuring the Villa Gamberaia and the gardens of the Villa Medici.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Combine two or more Insider's Italy programs and save 5% on the total cost.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Elaine Ruffolo (both dates)—popular art historian who resides in Florence.

Insider's Venice



8 days from \$3,995

April 2–9, Nov. 5–12, 2017

The water-laced city of Venice lies suspended between reality and fantasy. Join us to experience the unique pleasures of this ethereal city and become part of its daily rhythms. You'll feel completely at home during your stay at the family-run Hotel Saturnia, a converted 14th-century palazzo located in the historic district.

Highlights Include

Behind-the-Scenes Access: Visit the Basilica San Marco during an after-hours tour and enjoy privileged access to areas normally closed to the public.

Iconic Sites: Be immersed in Venetian history, culture, and art during a private tour of the Doge's Palace, former political seat of the Serene Republic. Learn about the art of Titian, Bellini, Veronese, and Tintoretto during an in-depth visit to the Galleria dell'Accademia.

The Grand Canal: Experience the sumptuous style of 18th-century Venice at Ca' Rezzonico with its rich collection of frescoes and period furniture. At the Palazzo Pisani-Moretta, admire the Tiepolo ceiling, beautiful Murano glass chandeliers, and vista of the Grand Canal.

Neighborhood Walks: Visit a small museum and synagogue in the Jewish Ghetto as well as churches in the Dorsoduro district. Crossing the canal to the Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore, view architecture by Palladio during a private tour of the Cini Foundation and the nearby church, one of his masterpieces.

The Venetian Lagoon: Explore the island of Murano, home to Venetian glassblowers since 1291, and by special arrangement, visit a glassblowing factory. Savor lunch at the renowned Locanda Cipriani on Torcello and stop at the colorful fishing island of Burano.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Combine two or more Insider's Italy programs and save 5% on the total cost.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Eric Denker and **Bruna Caruso** (both dates)—experts in Italian art history.

Insider's Rome



8 days from \$4,595

Sept. 4–11, 2017

Delve deep into the history and mystery of Rome with a special look at the Eternal City's astonishing artistic treasures. You'll enjoy private tours of some of Rome's fine art collections, ancient archaeological sites, and lesser-known gems, plus stay near the Via Veneto at the boutique Rose Garden Palace Hotel.

Highlights Include

Iconic Sites: Explore the famous Colosseum on a private tour that features the newly opened third tier and underground or "backstage" area. Following a Roman-style lunch, visit the Forum with a local archaeologist who brings insight to the key temples and civic buildings.

Museum Gems: Take private tours of world-class art collections. The Borghese Gallery features impressive paintings, sculptures, and antiquities, including numerous pieces by Bernini and Caravaggio, as well as works by other masters. At the Villa Farnesina you'll admire beautiful 16th-century architecture and frescoes by Raphael.

Off-the-Beaten Track: Head out to the Old Appian Way, one of the most ancient roads in Rome, and visit the Jewish catacombs, which feature wall paintings of religious symbols, animals, and plants.

The Vatican: See the treasures of the Vatican on a guided visit, including the expansive St. Peter's Basilica (including the tomb of St. Peter) and the Vatican Museums, culminating with the Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's breathtaking ceiling frescoes.

Official Rome: Visit the Palazzo del Quirinale, one of the official residences of the president of the Italian Republic. Located on the highest of Rome's seven hills, it was begun in 1583 and became one of the world's largest palaces.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

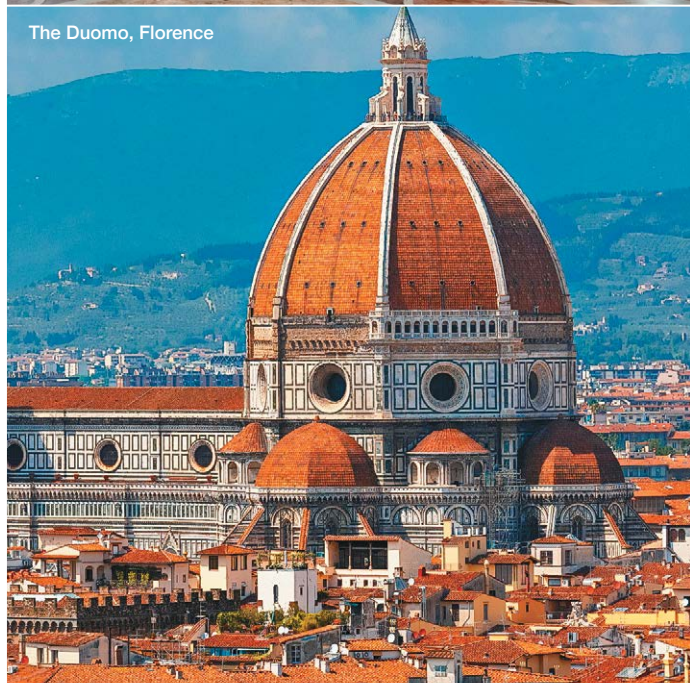
Combine two or more Insider's Italy programs and save 5% on the total cost.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Francesca Casertano—expert in archaeology and cultural heritage.



St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican



The Duomo, Florence



Gondolas and Church of San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice



Tuscan landscape with hilltop Pienza



Basilica of San Francesco, Assisi

Gems of Tuscany and Umbria



13 days from \$5,087 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

May 18–30, Aug. 31–Sept. 12, Oct. 12–24, 2017

The quintessential Tuscan and Umbrian landscapes elicit images of rolling green hills replete with ripe vineyards and punctuated with tall cypress trees, while hilltop villages with fortifications and watchtowers protect precious cathedrals and artistic heritage. During our special sojourn, explore ancient Etruscan, medieval, and Renaissance towns and their many treasures and feel like a local by staying in smaller villages and savoring traditional cuisine.

Highlights Include

Florence: Enjoy two full days to discover the “cradle of the Renaissance.” Guided tours of the historic city center, the Accademia, Pitti Palace, and Boboli Gardens showcase some of the city’s most prized artistic treasures, as does a visit to the Uffizi Gallery at your own pace. Take delight in accommodations at a country estate and an afternoon at leisure to explore independently.

Tuscany: Experience the charming rhythms of daily life in Cortona during a two-night stay in this hilltop town (featured in *Under the Tuscan Sun*), which is a classic example of Etruscan city planning and architecture. You’ll also visit medieval Siena with its fan-shaped Piazza del Campo and fine cathedral, housing art by Donatello, Michelangelo, and Bernini. In Pienza, learn about the city’s influential Renaissance design and enjoy a special tasting of Montepulciano wines.

Umbria: Stop in the dramatic white-stone city of Assisi to witness the renowned 13th-century Basilica of San Francesco and its priceless frescoes by Giotto and Cavellini, plus the Basilica of Saint Clare. While in Umbria, stay in the hilltop town of Todi, whose Piazza del Popolo ranks as perhaps the finest public square in Italy. In scenic Orvieto, located atop a dramatic plateau, visit the famous cathedral with art work by Fra Angelico and Luca Signorelli, and enjoy a cooking demonstration followed by a traditional lunch.

Rome: Conclude your tour in Rome and imagine the ancient city as you tour the Colosseum and Roman Forum.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Piazza del Campo, Siena



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Pedar Foss (May) and **Rebecca Schindler** (Oct.)—experts in classical studies. **Gary Radke** (Aug.)—expert on Italian medieval and Renaissance art and architecture.

Southern Italy and Sicily



15 days from \$5,787 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees
April 13–27, April 25–May 9, Sept. 13–27, Oct. 7–21, 2017

Explore Italy's southernmost regions—from striking Sicily to the “boot heel” of Apulia and the breathtaking Amalfi Coast—where each region reflects a unique history, architecture, and cuisine.

Highlights Include

Sicily: Stay in lovely Taormina for four days, where your boutique hotel overlooks the Ionian Sea. Visit the ancient Greek Theater and 13th-century cathedral and enjoy an afternoon at leisure exploring the town or walking along the beach. Take an excursion to the Valley of the Temples, the archaeological zone of Agrigento, whose Doric temples date to Greek rule in the 5th century B.C. Venture to Mt. Etna, the world's largest active volcano and enjoy lunch at a family-run farm amid acres of lemon trees, plus participate in a private cannoli-making lesson.

Apulia and Basilicata: Crossing to the mainland, travel to Apulia. In the town of Lecce, visit the cathedral and piazza with the town's distinctive *barocco leccese* design (ornate sandstone carvings), and savor a wine tasting and dinner in the gardens of a palazzo. Discover Alberobello, famous for its 400 *trulli* (conical houses, designated a World Heritage site), and step inside an artisan's workshop, a replica of an inhabited *trulli* home. In Basilicata's Matera, walk amid ancient troglodyte churches and *sassi* cave houses (a World Heritage site), and stay in a renovated cave dwelling in the historic district.

Amalfi Coast: Spend four nights in the lovely town of Sorrento, overlooking the Bay of Naples. From here, embark on a breathtaking drive high above the glistening Tyrrhenian Sea along the winding Amalfi Coast. Devote

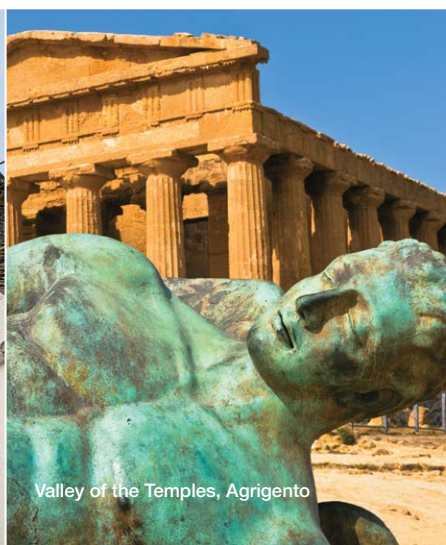
most of a day to exploring fascinating Pompeii, the city that faced destruction in A.D. 79. Walk along the ancient streets, view the remains of homes and shops, and learn about the ongoing archaeological work. Take a hydrofoil to the storied isle of Capri, where you'll tour the terraced Gardens of Augustus set over the azure sea. You'll also take part in a hands-on Neapolitan cooking lesson.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Allan Langdale (April 13/Sept.)—art and architectural historian with expertise in Italy. **John Dobbins** (April 25)—field archaeologist with special expertise in Roman sites. **Janet Duncan Jones** (Oct.)—expert in classics and classical archaeology.





The Greek Theater, Taormina

NEW

The Glory of Sicily

Join us on a cruise of Italy's captivating island of Sicily—often referred to as the “Crossroads of Cultures”—either in the spring, aboard an elegant yacht, or in the autumn, aboard a sailing ship. Smithsonian Journeys Expert **Albert Leonard** accompanies both of our cruises and draws upon his expertise as a field archaeologist specializing in the social impact of trade among ancient Mediterranean cultures, as well as ancient wine and cuisine.

A Cruise of Sicily and Malta

Aboard the 72-guest *Variety Voyager*



10 days from \$7,490

April 28–May 7, 2017

Highlights Include

Variety Voyager: Cruise aboard this small, sleek state-of-the-art yacht, built in 2012. (Find more ship details on page 103.)

Malta: Discover World Heritage sites found in Valletta, plus tour the National Archaeology Museum and a 16th-century palazzo.

Agrigento and Marsala: Gaze upon the Valley of the Temples, a World Heritage site. Cruising west, stop to see the Greek bronze statue of *The Dancing Satyr*, then enjoy lunch and a wine tasting in the countryside.

Palermo: Tour the Royal Palace in depth, including the lavish Cappella Palatina, and see the cathedral in Monreale, then dine in a seaside palazzo with the adopted son of Giuseppe Lampedusa, author of *The Leopard*.

Taormina and Syracuse: Explore the remarkable Greek Theater, then dine at a winery on the slopes of Mt. Etna and visit the Silvestri Crater. In Syracuse, walk amid the Archaeological Park, tour the Old Town and the Jewish Quarter, enjoy a cheese tasting, and view a private collection of etchings at a palazzo.

Space reserved for 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Sicily by Sea

Aboard the 75-guest *Sea Cloud II*



9 days from \$6,995

Oct. 11–19, 2017

Highlights Include

Sea Cloud II: Sail aboard an elegant three-masted barque with 23 billowing sails. (Find more ship details on page 103.)

Malta: Enjoy a special luncheon in Valletta prior to boarding *Sea Cloud II*.

Agrigento, Segesta, Mazara del Vallo: Witness the impressive Greek architecture at the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento and Segesta, then see the seven-foot bronze statue of *The Dancing Satyr*.

Palermo and Monreale: View the Regional Gallery's art collections, see the Byzantine mosaics of Palermo's Cappella Palatina and Monreale Cathedral, and enjoy a special reception at a private palazzo.

Taormina and Syracuse: Explore Taormina's remarkable Greek Theater with its backdrop of Mt. Etna. In Syracuse, gaze upon treasures found in the impressive Archaeological Zone, then take a walking tour of Ortygia (the Old Town). Conclude the day with a tour of a baroque palazzo accompanied by the owner.

Space reserved for 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Living In...

Immersive four-week stays in Florence or Aix-en-Provence

A memorable opportunity awaits solo travelers, couples, and friends eager to live the famously relaxed and graceful lifestyles of Tuscany or Provence while learning about the culture, history, and language of the destination. Fulfill your dream of living abroad during a four-week immersion program where you can customize your stay with scheduled activities and personal interests.

Each departure is limited to 36 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Program features include:

- A team of local experts who provide insightful presentations on art, history, and culture and join you on excursions to important local sites.

- An engaging and resourceful resident director who handles logistics and helps you plan your free time.
- The opportunity to personalize your experience with special enrichment tracks (at an additional cost).

Language Lessons: Sign up for an immersive language course tailored to your skill level.

Cuisine: Discover the region's culinary traditions through interactive cooking demonstrations, classes, and shopping excursions.

Art: Visit additional sites of artistic significance accompanied by an expert.

- Day trips to nearby historic towns.
- Accommodations in a modern, well-appointed Apart/Hotel.

Living in Italy

A Month in Florence



30 days from \$5,590

Special air rates & services available

April 28–May 27, Sept. 29–Oct. 28, 2017

Offering endless opportunities to explore Italy's arts, history, and culture, Florence is also small enough that you can feel at home within a very short time.

Highlights Include

Excursions, Day Trips, Presentations: Enjoy an architectural walking tour of Florence and tours of the Uffizi and Accademia galleries. Go beyond Florence on day trips to Chianti, Carrara, Lucca, Siena, Colle di Val d'Elsa, and Cortona. Plus, attend sessions on art and contemporary Italy.

Apart/Hotel: Reside in the newly opened PopArTment, modern spacious accommodations located just outside the city's historic center. Apartments feature all modern amenities, including Wi-Fi, air-conditioning, and a well-equipped kitchenette, plus a friendly, helpful staff.

Living in France

A Month in Aix-en-Provence



30 days from \$4,990

Special air rates & services available

*April 28–May 27, May 26–June 24,
Sept. 15–Oct. 14, Oct. 13–Nov. 11, 2017*

Live in vibrant, historic Aix-en-Provence, a charming small city that boasts a 600-year-old university and numerous art and cooking schools.

Highlights Include

Excursions, Day Trips, Presentations: Learn about the region's history as you explore greater Provence during day trips to Avignon, Arles and Les Baux, Marseille, and the Luberon Valley. Plus, enjoy a wine tasting and attend sessions on history, art, and wine.

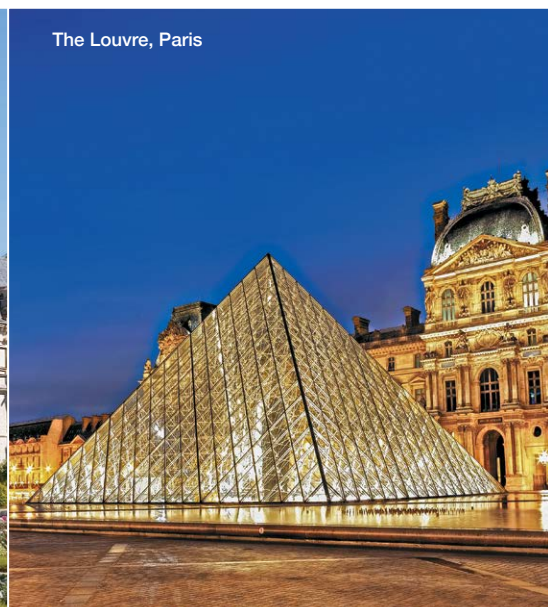
Apart/Hotel: Stay in a newly renovated apartment at the Adagio Aix-en-Provence Centre, located near the shops along Cours Mirabeau. Apartments offer satellite TV, Internet access, and a well-equipped kitchenette, plus a 24-hour reception desk and other services.



Enjoying the moment along the Arno River in Florence



Romantic Château de Chenonceau



The Louvre, Paris

France Through the Ages



15 days from \$5,796 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

April 10–24, May 22–June 5, Sept. 11–25, Oct. 6–20, 2017

Discover the essence of France—its rich history, culture, and scenic beauty—on this popular tour, featuring many World Heritage sites. From the southern regions of Languedoc and the Dordogne to the northern reaches of Normandy and Paris, appreciate much of what France offers in one amazing experience.

Highlights Include

Southern Treasures: Explore the fortified town of Carcassonne, featuring the longest medieval city walls in Europe. Stroll through the market town of Albi and see works by Toulouse-Lautrec in the city museum. In the breathtaking Dordogne region, known for its rugged countryside and lovely villages, enter the caves at Lascaux II, visit charming Sarlat and the pilgrimage site of Rocamadour, and view cliffside castles during a leisurely cruise along the Dordogne River.

Loire River Valley: Discover this romantic landscape of spectacular châteaux. During two days in this lovely region, you'll take in the romantic Château de Chenonceau, a Renaissance masterpiece that spans the River Cher; the Château Clos Luce, where Leonardo da Vinci spent his final years; and the World Heritage site of Fontevraud Abbey, original burial site of King Henry II of England, his wife Eleanor of Aquitaine, and their son Richard the Lionheart.

Normandy: Ascend cobblestone streets to the pilgrimage site of Mont St. Michel, Normandy's famed medieval abbey. Stop in Bayeux to see the city's highlight—the Tapestry Museum, home to the 1,000-year-old Bayeux Tapestry depicting the exploits of William the Conqueror. Commemorate World War II during visits to a variety of sites, including Pointe du Hoc, Utah Beach, Ste-Mère-

Eglise, the American cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach, and the Memorial Museum in Caen.

Along the Seine: Stroll through Monet's gardens at Giverny, which inspired many of his masterpieces, then conclude in Paris with a highlights tour.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



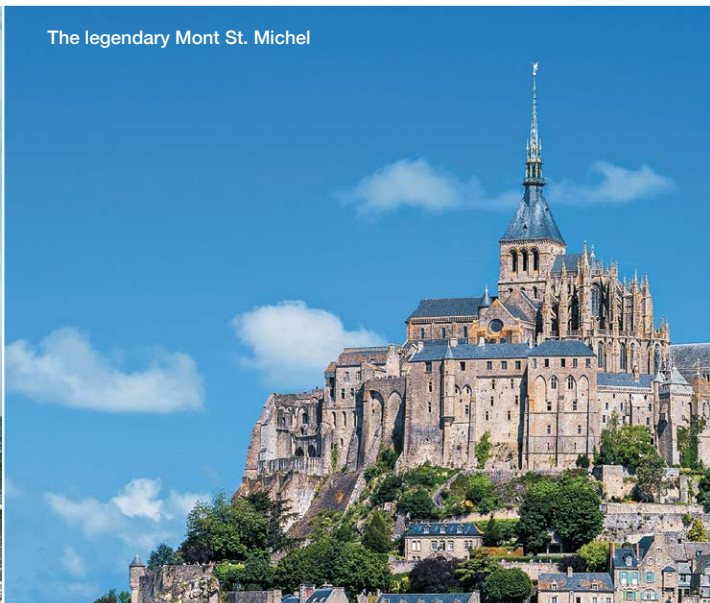
Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Cassandra Potts Hannahs (April)—historian with expertise in Celtic, Viking, and Anglo-Norman studies. **Kim de Beaumont** (May)—art historian specializing in European art from the 17th to the 19th centuries. **Kim Munholland** (Sept.)—modern European historian with expertise in France. **John Sweets** (Oct.)—historian with expertise in 19th- and 20th-century France.

Omaha Beach Memorial, Normandy



The legendary Mont St. Michel



Normandy

A One-Week Stay in France



9 days from \$3,890 / No Single Supplement—Limited Availability
Special air rates & services available

May 22–30, Sept. 11–19, Oct. 9–17, 2017

Normandy is renowned as a center of Impressionism and for its charming towns and fine cuisine. It's also remembered for major military efforts, from the Norman Conquest to the D-Day invasion of World War II. Join us for a one-week stay in Honfleur to trace the many themes of this fascinating region. You'll stay at the Mercure Honfleur Hotel, located in the historic district, which is ideal for exploring the town at leisure.

Highlights Include

Cradle of Impressionism: During a walking tour of Honfleur, see why artists flocked to this charming seaside town. In Giverny, explore the beloved home, studio, and gardens of Claude Monet, enjoy lunch in the museum's gardens, and visit the nearby Musée des Impressionnismes. Travel to Rouen, the capital of Normandy, to see the cathedral often painted by Monet, plus other important sites.

Battle of Normandy: Spend a solemn day along the beaches where World War II's Operation Overlord took place. Stirring sites include Omaha Beach, the war museum at Arromanches, the German gun positions at Pointe du Hoc, and the poignant U.S. Military Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer. You'll also visit the Peace Memorial in Caen. In nearby Bayeux, stop to view the historic tapestry depicting the Norman conquest of 1066 as well as the cathedral, a fine example of Norman Gothic architecture.

Mont St. Michel: Discover this breathtaking tidal island with its iconic abbey and historic church, which were

founded in 709. Seen from miles away, the island is one of the most remarkable sites in France and a World Heritage site.

Culinary Traditions: Savor the region's famous apple brandy, Calvados, during a tasting at a nearby distillery. Plus, sample other culinary specialties of Normandy throughout your stay.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Kim Munholland (May), **John Sweets** (Sept.), and **Nathanael Greene** (Oct.)—historians with expertise in 19th- and 20th-century France.



Notre Dame and the Seine River



Sunflowers of southern France

Paris

A One-Week Stay in France



9 days from \$4,190

Special air rates & services available

April 5–13, May 3–11, Sept. 13–21, 2017

Paris is the center of French history, culture, and art. During a one-week stay in this European capital, enjoy a balance between scheduled activities, talks by experts, and time at leisure to follow your own interests. Plus, you'll stay in the well-located Hotel l'Echiquier Opera Paris.

Highlights Include

Cultural Insights: Gain a deeper appreciation of the city's neighborhoods through a walking tour of Le Marais (one of the oldest neighborhoods in Paris), a Seine River cruise, and the view from the top of the Eiffel Tower. See powerful sculpture at the Rodin Museum and savor the flavors of France during a special culinary tour.

Day Excursions: Go beyond Paris to the Palace of Versailles and the Burgundian town of Dijon on special day excursions.

Flexible Schedule and Museum Pass: Pack your time full of activities or enjoy a more leisurely pace—it's your choice! Talks given by experts provide background knowledge for afternoon explorations—either solo or with new travel friends. Your two-day museum pass provides free and expedited entry to more than 60 city museums so that you can choose your schedule and follow your passion! Plus, you'll get around easily with Metro passes and your resident director is always available to advise on other activities.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

John Sweets (April) and **Joan Grimbert** (May)—historians, and **Stephanie Jeanjean** (Sept.)—art historian.

Southern France

Languedoc, the Pyrénées, and Provence



13 days from \$5,496

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

April 24–May 6, Aug. 28–Sept. 9, Sept. 18–30, 2017

Come with us to “le Midi” for a magical journey featuring evocative landscapes, Roman monuments, medieval villages, and celebrated art.

Highlights Include

Languedoc: Explore the fortified town of Carcassonne and the 11th-century Abbaye de Fontfroide. In the rose-colored market town of Albi (Midi-Pyrénées), visit a museum devoted to the artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. Later, travelling along the coast, stop at Collioure, the “City of Painters,” and take a cruise on the grand 17th-century Canal du Midi, a World Heritage site.

The Pyrénées: Dip into Spain, in the shadow of the Pyrénées, to learn about Salvador Dalí and Catalan culture. In Figueres, birthplace of the surrealist artist, visit the museum designed to exhibit his work.

Provence: Take a walking tour of the Roman monuments in Arles and see the famous Pont du Gard. Trace the footsteps of six popes at the medieval Palais des Papes in Avignon. Enjoy the striking villages of Roussillon and Gordes; Saint-Remy-de-Provence, where Van Gogh painted; and Aix-en-Provence, birthplace to Paul Cézanne.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

David Gariff (April) and **Stephen Clancy** (Sept.)—both noted art historians. **Gail Cornell** (Aug.)—architectural historian.

The Red Carpet, Cannes Film Festival



Smithsonian at the 70th Cannes Film Festival



10 days from \$5,995
May 21–30, 2017

The Cannes Film Festival is an annual international event—one of the most prestigious in the world—that celebrates the best in film. Through a special accreditation granted by the Festival, Smithsonian Journeys takes you into a world reserved only for film professionals. And you'll stay at the centrally located Montaigne Hotel and Spa.

Highlights Include

Special Festival Pass: Through your festival pass, join industry professionals to watch films from the “Official Competition.” You'll also view films by young directors in the *Un Certain Regard* competition, watch directors introduce their “Short Films,” and enjoy hearing from an actor, director, or producer about a newly restored Cannes Classic.

Restricted Access Areas: Visit the Film Market where the business of film is conducted and tour the International Village along the waterfront, possible only through your special pass.

Private Reception: Experience the festivity of a private reception at the American Pavilion!

Morning Briefings: Attend briefings with your Smithsonian Journeys Expert to discuss the previous day's films and hear suggestions for other screenings.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Marta Lamperova—head of the production department at FAMU, Europe's top film school, and formerly a production manager, producer, and managing director for various film production companies.



9 days from \$3,695
Includes early booking savings
May 17–25, 2017

Explore the sun-drenched region of Provence during our cruise along the Rhône and Saône Rivers.

Highlights Include

Marseille: Visit the bustling Vieux Port and the neo-Byzantine Notre-Dame de la Garde Basilica.

Arles and Avignon: During a walking tour of Arles, a World Heritage site, see the Roman amphitheater and Romanesque Cathedral de St. Trophime. In Avignon, stroll the hallways that were once home to medieval popes at the imposing Palais des Papes and see the famous Pont d'Avignon.

Orange: Stand in awe at major Roman sites such as the ancient theater and Pont du Gard aqueduct, both World Heritage sites.

Vienne and Tournon: Take a walking tour of charming Vienne, including the Roman Theater. In Tournon, visit one of France's oldest medieval cities as well as Tain-l'Hermitage, situated among the vineyards between the Rhône River and the granite slopes of Hermitage, the birthplace of Syrah.

Lyon, Beaune, Beaujolais: Enjoy walking tours of Lyon and Beaune, both World Heritage sites, and visit Beaune's 15th-century Hôtel Dieu and Château de Rully. In Beaujolais, savor a private wine tasting and take a vineyard tour at the exquisite Château Montmélas.

Space reserved for 50 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Ursula Wolfman—expert in the arts of Europe.



Fortifications of Carcassonne, France



Bonifacio, Corsica, France



Leaning Tower of Pisa, Italy

Cruising the Rivas of Italy, France, and Spain

From Rome to Barcelona

Aboard the 220-guest *Le Lyrial*



9 days from \$4,595

Includes early booking savings

Oct. 2–10, 2017

The sparkling turquoise waters and evocative coastlines of the Italian, French, and Spanish Rivas enticed the Greeks and Romans to settle here. Later, 19th-century Europeans came on the “Grand Tour,” Italian nobility influenced new developments, and artists and writers were drawn to the radiant quality of the light and the region’s glamour. Come with us on this special cruise, which showcases the history, culture, and art of the western Mediterranean.

Highlights Include

Islands of Sardinia and Corsica: Delight in the vistas of coastal villages, stylish villas, and rugged landscapes rising from azure waters. Take an excursion to one of the Bronze-Age fortresses of Sardinia and enjoy a walking tour of Corsica’s Bonifacio.

Florence or Pisa and Lucca: View the rolling hills of Tuscany en route to Florence, birthplace of the Renaissance, where you’ll admire masterpieces by Michelangelo and see the work of Brunelleschi and Ghiberti at the famous Duomo and Baptistry. Or, visit the beautifully preserved medieval cities of Lucca and Pisa, just a short drive from the port of Livorno.

Cinque Terre and Portofino: Board a small boat to explore the Cinque Terre, a World Heritage site comprising picturesque villages, stopping to visit lovely Vernazza and Riomaggiore. Spend a leisurely evening in Portofino, a fishing village of pastel houses that now attracts the glamorous with their sleek yachts.

Monaco and St. Tropez: Capture the essence of the Côte d’Azur during a walking tour of Monaco and evening at leisure in St. Tropez.

Marseille and Aix-en-Provence: Enjoy a walking tour of the Old Port of Marseille, once used by ancient Greek ships. Drive north to Aix and discover the Old World mansions and ornate fountains of the Cours Mirabeau, plus the Old Town Hall and St. Sauveur Cathedral.

Carcassonne: Tour this well-preserved World Heritage site, once home to Romans, Visigoths, Persians, Franks, and other peoples. Plus travel to the nearby 12th-century Cistercian Abbaye de Fontfroide.

Barcelona: Conclude your voyage in the city of Antoni Gaudí.

Space reserved for 58 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Stephen Clancy—art historian with expertise in ancient, medieval, and Renaissance art and architecture.

London

A One-Week Stay in England



9 days from \$4,290

Special air rates & services available

July 12–20, Aug. 2–10, 2017

Delve into the historic and dynamic city of London during our updated one-week stay program. You'll feel like a Londoner in no time as you explore the city in depth and relax at your hotel, the elegant Radisson Blu Edwardian Vanderbilt, located in posh Kensington.

Highlights Include

History and Government: Trace the course of British government during a walking tour of the Royal Borough of Westminster, where you'll explore Westminster Abbey, a World Heritage site, and the Houses of Parliament, concluding with tea in the Terrace Pavilion overlooking the Thames. Another walking tour features the Inns of Court, London's traditional legal center. And farther up the river, learn about the life of Henry VIII and the Tudor dynasty as you walk through the Great Hall and other important spaces of Hampton Court Palace.

The Arts: Enjoy special tours that highlight the arts of Britain and far beyond. A tour of the British Museum features impressive collections, such as Viking and Anglo-Saxon treasures, the Elgin Marbles and other important Greek artifacts, Egyptian wall paintings and mummies, and the iconic Rosetta Stone. At St. Paul's Cathedral, admire the stunning architecture of Sir Christopher Wren and enjoy a walking tour of its surroundings. Your visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum showcases varied collections, from the Raphael Cartoons to historical timelines of fashion, silver, furniture, and more. Plus, during an excursion to Bankside you'll glean insight into Shakespeare and the performing arts of Elizabethan England through the exhibits at Shakespeare's Globe.

Oxford and the Cotswolds: Journey through the rolling countryside and quintessential villages of the Cotswolds and visit the iconic university town of Oxford, including a look at one of its storied colleges.

British Traditions: Enjoy an afternoon tea with fellow travelers and savor pub fare for lunches on your own.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Janetta Benton (July)—art historian with expertise in medieval and Renaissance art and architecture.

Cassandra Potts Hannahs (Aug.)—expert in Celtic, Viking, and Anglo-Norman studies.

Houses of Parliament





Oxford University's Merton College



Oxford University corridor

Smithsonian at Oxford

Featuring Four New Courses of Study for 2017



SPECIALTY



STAY

8 days from \$4,895 / No Single Supplement

July 2–9, 2017

Join Smithsonian Journeys at Oxford University and immerse yourself in the intellectual and cultural environment of one of the most prestigious academic institutions in the world. Given the past popularity of this Smithsonian Journeys program, and enthusiastic requests to bring it back to our collection, we once again return to Oxford. Join us at Merton College to study a subject in depth with others who share a deep and unbridled love of learning.

Highlights Include

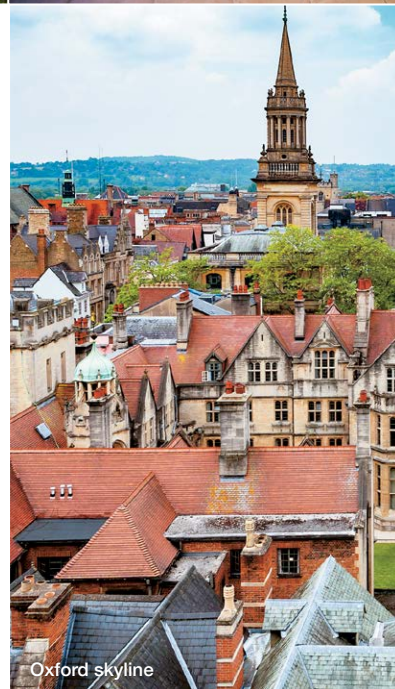
Courses of Study: Stimulate your mind in pursuit of knowledge! Choose from four popular course subjects and spend your mornings learning from an Oxford tutor. Course selections include: *20th Century History of the Country House*, “*Tragical-Comical*” *Shakespeare*, *The Archaeology of Britain*, and *Victorian Values: Culture, Crime, and Class in Victorian England*.

Excursions: Tour the Ashmolean Museum and Christ Church Picture Gallery in Oxford. Plus, take an additional excursion tailored to your specific course. Those enrolled in *The Country House* will visit Buscot Park, a neoclassical country house. “*Tragical-Comical*” *Shakespeare* features a field trip to Stratford-on-Avon and a performance at the Royal Shakespeare Company. *The Archaeology of Britain* group will travel to Birmingham to see the Staffordshire Hoard, the largest collection of Anglo-Saxon gold ever found. *Victorian Values* includes a tour of historical Bristol and the *SS Great Britain*, with a focus on Isambard Brunel, an engineering giant of the 19th century.

Lifestyle: Stay at historic Merton College, featuring the university's oldest quadrangle, and sample life as an Oxford student. Live in a dormitory room (with en suite bathroom), dine in the college hall (including the High Table at opening or closing dinner, a privileged tradition), and use Merton's common rooms and gardens. Explore the charming town of Oxford, take tea at local eateries, and enjoy Evensong at Christ Church College.

Optional London Extension: Add a four-day extension that includes guided excursions related to the Oxford courses, plus accommodations, meals, and transfers.

Each course is limited to 15 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Oxford skyline



Oxford Tutors

Professors Oliver Cox (The Country House), **Lynn Robson** (Shakespeare), **Toby Martin** (Archaeology), and **Kate Watson** (Victorian Values)—all highly respected experts in their fields.



Christmas in London



The Beatles by Andrew Edwards, Liverpool

Christmas in Victorian London

A Celebration of Charles Dickens



8 days from \$5,995

Dec. 22–29, 2017

Many popular Christmas traditions we enjoy today date back to the time of Queen Victoria and Charles Dickens. Join us in London with newfound friends to savor the traditions of an English Christmas, celebrate the upcoming 175th anniversary of *A Christmas Carol*, and explore neighborhoods frequented by Dickens.

Highlights Include

Christmas Traditions and Culinary Treats: Enjoy a special Christmas Eve theater performance. Then, on Christmas Day, savor a traditional luncheon of roast turkey with all the trimmings and pull a celebratory Christmas cracker. Savor holiday culinary treats from the time of Dickens, including mulled cider and mince pies, and learn how plum pudding is made.

Dickensian London: Take walking tours of areas frequented by Dickens, some of which have hardly changed since his time such as Southwark and Highgate, and visit St. Paul's Cathedral and Covent Garden, places that appear in his novels. Walk through his last London house that still stands, where he wrote *Oliver Twist*, which is now home to the Charles Dickens Museum.

Rochester: Learn about the author's long association with this city as you explore the High Street and the Dickens Discovery Rooms in the Guildhall Museum.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Rosalind Hutchinson—expert in British culture, history, and literature and a popular leader on holiday tours.

The Beatles and Beyond

NEW



8 days from \$6,395

May 28–June 4, Aug. 23–30, 2017

John. Paul. George. Ringo. What four names when spoken together could be more evocative of a time and place? During the 50th anniversary of *Sgt. Pepper*, immerse yourself in the history of these legends, meet people associated with them, and listen to their music in an entirely new way.

Highlights Include

Liverpool: Meet people closely associated with the “Fab Four,” including Rory Best (brother of original drummer Pete Best) and Freda Kelly (former secretary to The Beatles). Take tours of John and Paul's childhood homes, see Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields, and visit the Jacaranda Bar and the Casbah Club. Plus, take a curator-led tour of *The Beatles Story*, an award-winning exhibition devoted to the band, and enjoy an evening at the Cavern Club, the cradle of British pop.

London: Tour Abbey Road Studios, where The Beatles recorded some of their most famous albums. Take a panoramic tour of neighborhoods they loved, including where they lived, and pubs and clubs that inspired well-known lyrics. View collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum and a special exhibition at the Tate Modern, both of which showcase the visual context of the '60s, plus see John Lennon's manuscripts and notes with handwritten lyrics at the British Library.

Special Features: In May, enjoy the concert “It Was Fifty Years Ago Today,” celebrating *Sgt. Pepper* and the Summer of Love. In August, attend special events showcased at Liverpool's “International Beatleweek.”

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Bruce Spizer (May) and **Chuck Gunderson** (Aug.)—both authors and leading experts on The Beatles.



Cliffs of Moher

The Emerald Isle



13 days from \$4,992 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

May 14–26, June 25–July 7, Aug. 6–18, Sept. 3–15, Sept. 17–29, 2017

Journey from lively Dublin to the Aran Islands and Ring of Kerry and discover a country steeped in history and boasting a rich tapestry of cultural traditions and ethereal landscapes.

Highlights Include

Dublin: Enjoy a day in Dublin, home to many Irish writers past and present. Highlights include tours of St. Patrick's Cathedral and the library at Trinity College with its legendary *Book of Kells*, an exquisite illuminated medieval manuscript.

Galway, Connemara, and the Aran Islands: Traveling west, stop at 6th-century Clonmacnoise, Ireland's most important early monastic site and burial place of the last High King. From Galway, head out for a full-day excursion to Connemara, with its rugged mountains, glacial lakes, and bog lands. Visit beautiful Kylemore Abbey and enjoy spectacular views of the Twelve Bens mountain range. Another day, cross Galway Bay for Inishmor where you'll meet an islander who shares stories about the unique culture and history of the Aran Islands.

Ethereal Landscapes: Experience the dramatic Cliffs of Moher, stretching for five miles along the fabled coastline of County Clare, and pass through the Burren, the rocky landscape of craggy gray karst limestone formations. Spend a day on the Ring of Kerry with its stunning mountain and coastal scenery, a 1,000-year-old ring fort, and mysterious monument stones.

Killarney: Board a traditional jaunting cart to explore the town and tour 15th-century Ross Castle, the last stronghold to fall to Oliver Cromwell. At Muckross House, see how people lived during the 19th century in an Elizabethan-style manor, while downstairs you can

observe weavers and potters demonstrate traditional crafts. You'll also watch a sheepdog demonstration and enjoy dinner in a local family-run B&B.

Blarney, Cashel, and Kilkenny: Visit well-known castles such as Blarney and the Rock of Cashel, once home to the High Kings of Munster. In Kilkenny, Ireland's cultural capital, tour the 12th-century castle and enjoy a walking tour and time at leisure.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Christopher Griffin (May 14/Sept. 17) and **Hillary Lennon** (Aug.)—experts in Irish literature and humanities. **Cassandra Potts Hannahs** (June)—expert in Celtic, Viking, and Anglo-Norman studies. **Miriam Davis** (Sept. 3)—expert in medieval history and archaeology.

Scotland's Treasures

Featuring the Royal Military Tattoo*



12 days from \$5,978

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

June 10–21, July 31–Aug. 11*, Aug. 10–21*,
Sept. 2–13, 2017

Discover Scotland's enduring appeal as you enjoy the stunning natural beauty of the Highlands, learn about the legacy of its clans, and explore historic treasures of Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Highlights Include

Glasgow and Edinburgh: View Glasgow's unique 19th- and 20th-century architecture, visit Kelvingrove Art Gallery and other museums, and take a private curator-led tour of Pollok House. Enjoy two days in the stately city of Edinburgh with tours of Edinburgh Castle and Holyrood Palace. *Two departures also feature the famed Royal Military Tattoo.

Lower Highlands: Savor the enchanting landscape of Loch Lomond, learn about the history of Glenfinnan Monument, and make a full-day excursion to the Isle of Skye, known for its strong Gaelic influence.

Northern Highlands: Explore the ruins of Urquhart Castle, located on the shores of Loch Ness. Learn more about Scottish history at Culloden Moor and Dunrobin Castle and Gardens, and gain insight into Scottish traditions as you watch falconry and sheepdog demonstrations and visit a whisky distillery.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Rab Houston (June)—expert in modern British and European history, with special focus on Scottish culture. **Neil McGuigan** (July)—historian with expertise in Scottish and English history. **Jennifer Paxton** (Aug.)—historian with expertise in Great Britain. **Cassandra Potts Hannahs** (Sept.)—expert in Celtic, Viking, and Anglo-Norman studies.

County Mayo

A One-Week Stay in Northwest Ireland



9 days from \$3,890

No Single Supplement—Limited Availability
Special air rates & services available

June 9–17, Sept. 15–23, 2017

Experience the essence of Irish culture in Westport, County Mayo, where you'll view Ireland through the eyes of its people. During this charming stay program, enjoy day trips to iconic landscapes and historic sites, always returning to your intimate small town and the comfortable Westport Plaza Hotel.

Highlights Include

Irish Traditions: In Westport, visit the National Museum of Ireland Country Life and historic Westport House. Enjoy a local dance and music performance, watch craftspeople at work, and join fellow travelers at the local pub.

County Sligo: Visit Lissadell House, where an expert will talk about the poet William Butler Yeats, and view Ireland's largest cemetery of megalithic tombs.

Achill Island: Experience the rugged beauty that inspired writers and artists and the Deserted Village at Slievemore, with nearly 100 abandoned cottages.

Connemara: Travel through this legendary rugged landscape, cruise along Killary Fjord, and stop at Kylemore Abbey, a 19th-century English castle.

Galway: Explore colorful Galway, often referred to as the "most Irish" of Ireland's cities.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Christopher Griffin (June)—expert in Irish literature and humanities. **Cassandra Potts Hannahs** (Sept.)—expert in Celtic, Viking, and Anglo-Norman studies.



Typical Irish cottage



Edinburgh Castle



The Northern Lights of Iceland

Northern Lights of Iceland



7 days from \$6,595

March 6–12, Sept. 17–23, Oct. 16–22, 2017

One of nature's great displays is the aurora borealis—a mysterious multicolored show that lights up the night sky. Learn about the science behind the Northern Lights as you experience its captivating shapes and colors during our unique tour in Iceland, one of the most ideal viewing locations. In addition to looking up toward the skies, you'll also discover Iceland's pristine beauty and explore its fascinating geologic features, including lava fields, geysers, and spectacular thundering waterfalls.

Highlights Include

The Night Sky: Enjoy opportunities to look for and watch the Northern Lights* amid the pristine landscape outside your hotel as your expert provides insight. At the Hotel Rangá, use telescopes to view the evening stars and in Reykjavik learn more at the Northern Lights Center.

Geologic Wonders: Visit Iceland's most famous waterfall—Gullfoss, a magnificent double waterfall that is one of the largest in Europe—and explore the geothermal pools at nearby Geysir. Discover Langjökull Glacier; Kerid, a volcanic crater lake located within an intact caldera; and the Secret Lagoon, one of Iceland's oldest natural hot springs. Plus, explore either Thorsmork (Valley of the Gods) or Skogafoss, a dramatic waterfall that cascades hundreds of feet over volcanic cliffs.

Icelandic Traditions: Spend time at Thingvellir National Park, the rift valley celebrated as the home of the Althing, the world's first democratic assembly and now a World Heritage site. Savor a private lunch at Fridheimar Greenhouse, and in Reykjavik, visit the excellent National Museum and enjoy a soak at the nearby Blue Lagoon Geothermal Spa Resort.

Ideal Accommodations: Your hotel stays feature two of Iceland's top properties for viewing the Northern Lights. The remote and stunning ION Hotel is an upscale luxury property featuring floor-to-ceiling windows and a geothermal spa. The Hotel Rangá evokes the ambiance of a traditional lodge complemented by gourmet cuisine, heated pools, and the facilities of an observatory for viewing the night sky.

**Note: Viewing conditions are dependent on weather and not guaranteed. Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.*



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Valerie Neal (March)—chair, space history department and **Michael Neufeld** (Sept.)—senior curator, space history department, and **Steven Williams** (Oct.)—geologist and chief of the STEM program, all at Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum.

Adventure in Iceland



11 days from \$4,942

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Aug. 8–18, Aug. 19–29, Sept. 5–15,

Sept. 9–19, 2017

Iceland is an island of powerful landscapes—waterfalls, volcanoes, and sheer cliff walls with nesting sea birds. Journey to both Iceland's southern and northern regions and delight in its natural wonders, gracious hospitality, and relaxed pace.

Highlights Include

Dramatic Waterfalls: Feel the power of a variety of waterfalls, each one unique and breathtaking, including popular Gullfoss and Skogafoss in the south and Godafoss, the “waterfall of the gods,” and jaw-dropping Dettifoss in the north.

Other Geologic Wonders: Gaze upon bizarre basalt rock formations on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula and in the north travel to lovely Lake Myvatn and the phenomenal national park with its bubbling mud flats, lava fields, and lunar-like volcanic craters. A volcanologist also offers insight into past eruptions.

Cultural Treasures: Learn about the renowned Icelandic saga writers, stroll through small fishing villages, and explore beautiful Vik. At Thingvellir National Park witness the spot where the world's oldest Parliament met and visit the museum in Skogar. Plus, enjoy sophisticated Reykjavik.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Brent Garry (Aug. 8), **Peter Bobrowsky** (Aug. 19), and **Katryn Wiese** (Sept. 5)—all top geologists.

Iceland Voyage

A Circumnavigation Cruise

Aboard the 220-guest *Le Soléal*



9 days from \$5,995

Includes airfare from select gateways

Aug. 1–9, 2017

Discover the stunning beauty and distinct culture of Iceland during our unique cruise that circumnavigates the “land of fire and ice.” Learn about the island's geologic wonders, see migrating birds and whales, and come to understand the unique Icelandic culture.

Highlights Include

Reykjavik: Learn about Icelandic history and culture at the National Museum.

Ísafjörður: Discover this charming fishing town and bastion of traditional Icelandic culture and tour the Maritime Museum.

Northern Wonders: Witness legendary Godafoss waterfall, Lake Myvatn, amazing lava towers, unique craters, and a geothermal field, plus cruise to Grimsey Island, located on the Arctic Circle.

Stunning East Coast: Enjoy a full-day excursion to the Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon and view the spectacular Vatnajökull Glacier, Iceland's largest ice cap.

Southern Coast: Tour the fascinating “Fire Mountain” of Eldfell to see ancient Viking ruins and still-warm lava fields on Heimaey Island and cruise past Surtsey Island, a World Heritage site.

Space reserved for 41 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Pat Abbott—highly respected geologist.



Dettifoss Waterfall



Breaching whale in Icelandic waters



Glencoe, Scottish Highlands



Viking boats, Norway



Bryggen, Norway

Scottish Isles and Norwegian Fjords

A Cruise from Glasgow to Copenhagen

Aboard the 220-guest *Le Boréal*



9 days from \$4,895

June 1–9, 2017—Limited Availability

May 10–18, 2018—Register your interest online

Voyage in the wake of Viking seafarers and experience the rugged beauty of remote islands and dramatic coastlines forever linked by their heritage. Cruise into ports in Scotland's rarely visited Orkney and Shetland Islands and through some of Norway's magnificent fjords, visit World Heritage sites, and enjoy plentiful sea birds and spring flowers.

Highlights Include

Scottish Highlands: Cruise from Glasgow to Oban, then drive through the breathtaking landscape to legendary Glencoe. Later, board the historic *Jacobite Train* for Mallaig and stop at Glenfinnan Monument, where Bonnie Prince Charlie rallied Jacobite Highlanders against King George II.

The Orkney Islands: Sail to the remote Orkney Islands, a hub of Neolithic civilization. Visit the settlement of Skara Brae, see the ceremonial Stones of Stenness and the Ring of Brodgar, and gain further insight from archaeologist and site director Nick Card. Plus, explore the Viking town of Kirkwall.

Shetland Islands: Cruise farther north to the crossroads where Scotland meets Scandinavia and legacies linger in archaeology, dialect, and traditional music. At Jarlshof, see late Neolithic stone houses, a Bronze Age village, Iron Age broch, Norse longhouses, and more.

Viking Homelands: Crossing the North Sea, enjoy the vistas once known by Vikings as they plied the waters on their longships. View dramatic mountains, sheer cliffs, and sparkling waterfalls during a day cruising through Norway's famous fjords, including Sognefjord. Plus, take a thrilling ride through this landscape aboard the *Flam Railway*.

Norway's Bergen: Continue to Bergen, founded on an old Viking settlement and later part of the Hanseatic League's trading empire. Enjoy a walking tour of Bryggen, a World Heritage site, and visit the home of composer Edvard Grieg.

Space reserved for 70 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Glenn Kranking—historian with special expertise in Scandinavian studies and Nordic explorers. **Gillian Hovell**—historian and archaeologist.



Geirangerfjord, Norway

Scandinavian Journey

Featuring Norway and Denmark



16 days from \$6,574

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

July 6–21, Aug. 10–25, Aug. 31–Sept. 15, 2017

Travel on and off the beaten path amid Scandinavia's breathtaking landscapes and cosmopolitan cities, where the Midnight Sun illuminates long summer days. Here you'll feel the legacy of the Vikings as you journey along Norway's fjords and coastlines, visit Renaissance castles in Denmark, and learn about Scandinavia's contemporary life.

Highlights Include

Denmark: During three days in Copenhagen, you'll stroll historic streets, see City Hall Square, and behold the dazzling crown jewels at Rosenborg Castle. Journey to nearby Elsinore to visit Kronborg Castle, setting for Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and a World Heritage site, and tour the house museum and bird sanctuary at the home of Karen Blixen, known as author Isak Dinesen (*Out of Africa*). After a morning at leisure, set off for Christianborg Palace, seat of the Danish Parliament, and the fishing village of Dragor.

Norway's Fjords and Dramatic Landscapes: Travel north to Lillehammer to visit the open-air museum at Maihaugen. Arriving on Norway's western coast you're sure to marvel at spectacular fjords with soaring snowcapped mountains, lush forests, and deep crystalline waters. Highlights include an exciting drive along Eagle Road to see the dramatic Geirangerfjord, a World Heritage site; a thrilling ride on the Flam Railway, which hurtles through mountainside tunnels and across the Flam River; and views of the impressive Naeroyfjord.

Bergen: In charming Bergen, explore the 14th-century Hanseatic merchants' quarter of Bryggen, a World Heritage site; tour the 16th-century Bergenhus fortress, the country home of composer Edvard Grieg; and view the lively fish market. Gain insight into modern life when you meet a family at a nearby orchard and visit a salmon farm.

Oslo: Learn more about Norway's history and contemporary culture during two days in Oslo. Here, you'll tour the Viking Ship Museum, National Gallery, Vigeland Sculpture Park, and other important sites.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Copenhagen City Hall, Denmark



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Ann-Charlotte Gavel Adams (July) and **Terje Leiren** (Aug. 10)—experts in Scandinavian studies with special interest in literature and history, respectively.

St. Petersburg and the Baltics



14 days from \$5,198

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

May 16–29, Aug. 15–28, Sept. 19–Oct. 2, 2017

Explore the vibrant cultural capitals and rich heritage of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia plus the imperial riches of Russia's St. Petersburg on this exciting tour.

Highlights Include

Lithuania: A sovereign democratic nation since 1991, Lithuania was one of the first breakaway republics from the Soviet Union. Vilnius, the attractive capital, showcases a well-preserved “Old Town.” During a tour of this World Heritage site, see Cathedral Square, Gedimino Tower, Vilnius University, and the President's Palace, plus visit the fascinating KGB Museum. Beyond Vilnius, explore the medieval castle at Trakai and learn how Lithuania once stretched to the Black Sea.

Latvia: Riga, the “little Paris of the North” and the largest of the Baltic capitals, was previously one of the Soviet Union's coveted ports. Discover its lovingly restored architecture, well-preserved Old Town, magnificent St. Mary's Cathedral, and lively arts scene. Outside the city, visit Gauja National Park and the ruins of Turaida Castle; Siauliai's Hill of Crosses, a symbol of Lithuanian nationalism; and the baroque palace of Rundale.

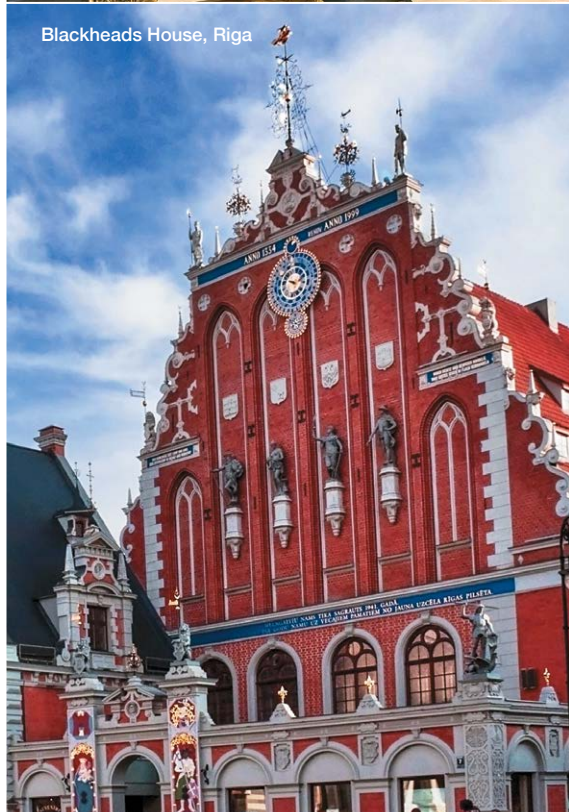
Estonia: Tallinn, the northernmost Baltic capital, has endured a history similar to its cousins: a favored port location often coveted by powerful neighbors; centuries of war with brief periods of independence; 20th-century annexing by the Soviet Union; and finally, again, independence. See layers of Tallinn's tumultuous history during a city tour of its well-preserved Old Town. Plus, travel to Rocca al Mare, an outdoor museum whose structures depict country life from Estonia's past.

Russia: St. Petersburg, built by Tsar Peter the Great, is a beautiful city laced with canals, Empire-style buildings, and exquisite treasures. Visit the awe-inspiring St. Isaac's Cathedral, Peter and Paul Fortress, and Nevsky Prospekt; enjoy lunch with a local family; and tour the world-renowned Hermitage Museum. During a day excursion to Peterhof, one of the Romanov “summer” palaces, tour the lovingly restored Grand Royal Palace and formal 18th-century gardens.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Gallery at the Hermitage, St. Petersburg



Blackheads House, Riga



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Carol Reynolds (May)—expert in music history and the arts of Europe. **Janetta Benton** (Aug.) and **Pamela Kachurin** (Sept.)—experts in art and architecture.



Harbor at Gdańsk



Russian cosmonauts

Cruising the Baltic Sea

From Copenhagen to Stockholm

Aboard the 220-guest *Le Boréal*



CRUISE

10 days—Register your interest online

June 14–23, 2018

Discover the rich history and culture of the Baltic States, and the imperial riches of St. Petersburg, on this six-country cruise. Plus, gain insight from **Lech Walesa**, former president of Poland and Solidarity leader, and **Sergei Khrushchev**, author, scholar, and son of former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

Highlights Include

“White Nights of Summer”: From Copenhagen, cruise for eight nights during near-constant daylight.

Gdańsk: Explore the many cultural sites of Poland’s capital, from a walking tour showcasing its impressive architecture to the Lenin Shipyard.

Tallinn: Revel in the medieval charms of Estonia’s Tallinn, a World Heritage site that has remained virtually unchanged for 600 years.

St. Petersburg: Spend two days exploring the treasures of Russia’s St. Petersburg, including visits to the world-acclaimed Hermitage Museum and the palaces of Pushkin and Peterhof, both World Heritage sites.

Helsinki: Discover Finland’s stunning architecture and modern design aesthetic.

Visby and Stockholm: Walk through the well-preserved walled city of Sweden’s Visby, a Baltic hub of the commercial and defensive Hanseatic League and now a World Heritage site. Then cruise through Stockholm’s scenic archipelago.

Space reserved for 50 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

A historian with special expertise in the Baltics region will accompany this cruise.

Inside the Russian Space Program



SPECIALTY

9 days from \$14,295

May 22–30, 2017*

Get as close to outer space as possible while keeping your feet on the ground! Enjoy unparalleled access to briefing sessions and VIP viewing areas in Moscow’s Star City and at Kazakhstan’s Baikonur Cosmodrome, then witness the launch of a Soyuz spacecraft.

Highlights Include

Star City: Meet with a Russian cosmonaut and examine the Mir Space Station Simulator, the Hydrolab for zero-G training, and the largest centrifuge in the world.

Baikonur Cosmodrome: Fly to Kazakhstan’s arid steppe to visit the Russian space launch facility—and witness the manned launch of a Soyuz spacecraft. Mingle with cosmodrome workers, officials, and cosmonauts at the prelaunch activities. Watch the rollout of the Soyuz from the assembly hangar to the launch pad, the raising of the rocket ceremony, and the walk along the Alley of Cosmonauts.

Soyuz Launch: Enjoy a VIP viewing as the Soyuz spacecraft breaks free of Earth’s atmosphere on its way to the International Space Station.

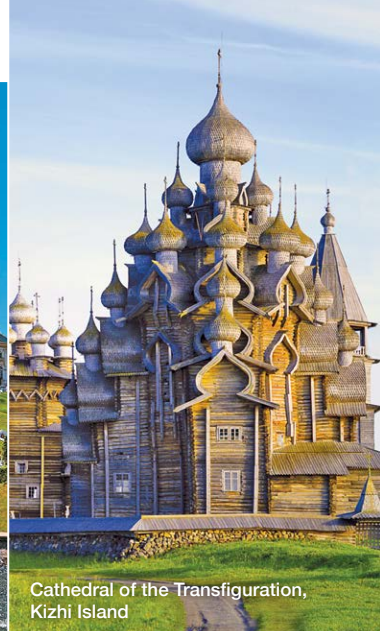
**Note: Dates subject to change depending on the Soyuz launch schedule.*

Limited to 22 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Cathleen Lewis—curator of international space programs at Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum, with expertise in Soviet and Russian programs.

The Grand Royal Palace and fountains
at Peterhof, near St. Petersburg



Cathedral of the Transfiguration,
Kizhi Island

Waterways of Russia

A Cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow

Aboard the 109-guest *Volga Dream*



12 days from \$5,695 / Includes early booking savings

June 28–July 9, 2017

Discover the essence of Russia, from its most cosmopolitan cities to the countryside immortalized by artists and writers. In St. Petersburg and Moscow you'll gain an in-depth perspective of Russia's magnificent artistic, historical, and architectural treasures. And from aboard a deluxe small ship, you'll also explore an evocative landscape of sublime golden-domed churches and quaint wooden villages that are seemingly untouched by the 21st century.

Highlights Include

St. Petersburg: Enjoy two full days in the majestic city built by Peter the Great as Russia's "Window on the West." A specially reserved entrance showcases many of the art treasures of the Hermitage Museum, a World Heritage site. A city tour also features visits to the Peter and Paul Fortress, built in 1703 to guard the only outlet to the Baltic Sea, and St. Isaac's Cathedral with its dazzling interior of malachite and lapis lazuli. Travel to the World Heritage site of Peter the Great's summer palace at Peterhof, with its magnificent palace, gardens, and fountains, and consider the option to visit Catherine Palace in Pushkin, featuring a tour of the breathtaking Amber Room.

Russian Heartland: Cruising along scenic rivers, lakes, and canals, stop to explore medieval towns such as Mandrogi. At Kizhi Island, behold the magnificent Cathedral of the Transfiguration, an architectural masterpiece featuring 22 cupolas built entirely of wood and designated a World Heritage site. Visit the 14th-century Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery near Goritsy, then explore two medieval fortified towns of the "Golden Ring," built to

protect Moscow. Yaroslavl is famous for its many evocative Russian churches while Uglich is renowned for its Church of Prince Dmitri-on-the-Blood with its vibrant frescoes.

Moscow: Enter the imposing Kremlin, the "Citadel of the Tsars" and a World Heritage site, and tour state treasures at the Armory Museum, including the world's largest collection of Fabergé eggs. You'll also see Red Square and admire the multicolored grandeur of the 16th-century St. Basil's Cathedral.

Space reserved for 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Rafael Chacón—art historian with expertise in Russian art.



Trans-Siberian Express



Naadam Festival archer



The Trans-Siberian Express

A Private Train Journey from Mongolia to Moscow Featuring the Naadam Festival

Aboard the *Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express*



TRAIN

14 days from \$16,295

July 9–22, 2017

Join us for an amazing adventure that begins in Mongolia with two days at the incomparable Naadam Festival, a centuries-old celebration of nomadic traditions. Then board the legendary *Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express* for one of the most epic journeys on Earth, where you'll explore two continents, travel nearly 4,000 miles through five time zones, and witness magnificent landscapes and diverse cultures.

Highlights Include

UlaanBaatar, Mongolia: Observe Mongolian culture up close as you attend the opening ceremony of the Naadam Festival, renowned for its long-distance horse race and archery and wrestling competitions. Plus, attend a performance of traditional Mongolian entertainment and see the giant statue of Genghis Khan at the National Park. Board your train and head north to Russia's Siberia.

Ulan Ude: Learn more about the unique cultural identity of the indigenous Buryat people. Then experience another distinctive culture as you visit a village of Old Believers, who adhere to 17th-century Russian Orthodoxy, and enjoy a concert of traditional music.

Lake Baikal: Admire the magnificent scenery of this World Heritage site as your train travels through tunnels and along the shoreline. Stop to explore sites in Listvyanka and enjoy a special barbecue along the shore.

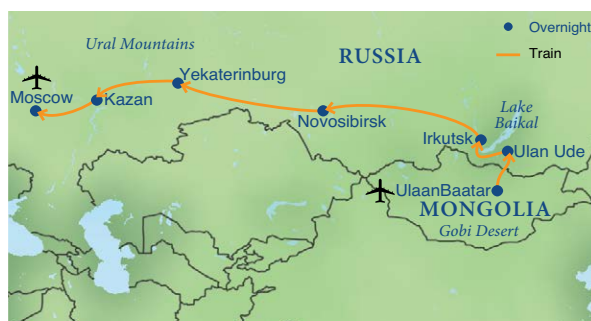
Irkutsk: In the "capital" of Siberia, known for its ornate wooden architecture, visit the Decembrist House Museum to learn about the people who settled here after the uprising in St. Petersburg and attend a special concert.

Novosibirsk and Yekaterinburg: See nearly 100 historic train cars and engines at Novosibirsk's open-air Trans-Siberian Museum. Then, crossing from Asia to European Yekaterinburg, visit the Church on the Blood at the site where Russia's last tsar and his family were executed.

Kazan: In the capital of Tatarstan, situated along the Volga River, tour the Kazan Kremlin (a World Heritage site), and learn about the cultural history of Tatars, Cossacks, and Russians.

Moscow: See major landmarks of the Russian capital during a panoramic tour. Plus, consider an optional tour extension in Moscow and St. Petersburg!

Space reserved for 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Hugh Shapiro—author, historian, and a leading expert on Central and Eastern Asia.



Cathedral and holiday market, Würzburg



Holiday decorations, Miltenberg

Holiday Markets

A River Cruise along the Rhine and Main Aboard the 160-guest *Amadeus Silver*



CRUISE

12 days from \$3,090 / No Single Supplement—Limited Availability
Special air rates & services available

Nov. 27–Dec. 8, 2017

Enjoy the start of the holiday season on a delightful river cruise as towns along the Rhine and Main open their cheerful *Christkindlmarks* (Christmas markets). Personalize your cruise with a choice of included excursions in select ports of call and visit four World Heritage sites.

Highlights Include

The Rhine River: In Cologne, choose from a morning walking tour featuring the Old Town and the Gothic cathedral or the city's Jewish heritage and the Cologne City Museum. Visit the town of Koblenz, once a Roman outpost, and sail through one of the most scenic sections of the Rhine, designated a World Heritage site, passing romantic Lorelei Rock.

The Main River: Gaze upon half-timbered houses in Miltenberg's town square, one of the most photographed sites in Germany. Travelling along the Romantic Road, you'll discover the walled city of Rothenburg, with its Old Town, market square, and Christmas Museum. In Würzburg, visit one of the most beautiful baroque palaces in Europe as well as the city center with its cathedral, churches, Old Town Hall, and bustling marketplace. Stopping in colorful Bamberg, a World Heritage site, choose to explore either the town's medieval and baroque architecture or its wide-ranging cuisine during a morning excursion. And in Nuremberg, see the site of the Nuremberg trials and choose from excursions featuring the city's architecture or other World War II sites.

Bavaria's Capital: Settle into a deluxe hotel in Munich for three nights. During a day trip to Salzburg, Austria,

stroll through the city of Mozart and visit the Hohensalzburg Fortress. Conclude your journey with a day at leisure in Munich.

Christkindlmarks: Welcome the winter season as you explore traditional holiday markets in each of the cities on your journey. Their colorful stalls feature holiday food specialties, hot mulled wine, and beautifully crafted holiday decorations.

Space reserved for 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Tim Blanning—historian with expertise in modern Europe.

Highlights of Germany



15 days from \$5,992 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

May 3–17, May 31–June 14, Aug. 2–16, Oct. 4–18, 2017

From the legendary Rhine and the beautiful Black Forest to artistic Dresden and cosmopolitan Berlin, explore Germany's scenic beauty, arts, and history.

Highlights Include

Rhine River Cruise: Discover a landscape of German tradition, history, and castles during a full-day excursion, including a relaxing cruise through the Rhine River Valley, a World Heritage site.

Heidelberg and the Black Forest: Tour the university town of Heidelberg with its evocative medieval streets, then continue through the Black Forest, a storied woodland whose pastoral beauty and natural spring waters have drawn visitors for centuries.

Bavaria: Travel through the Bavarian Alps to the fairytale castle of Neuschwanstein, Ludwig II's 19th-century Romanesque revival palace, with its fanciful turrets and towers. In Munich, Bavaria's capital, see the baroque Nymphenburg Palace and the Glockenspiel carillon in Marienplatz during a highlights tour. Visit Dachau, today a memorial to more than 40,000 people who perished there. Continue to Nuremberg, where Allied forces prosecuted Nazi leaders in military tribunals.

Saxony: The historical center of Dresden, Saxony's capital, has been beautifully restored since the devastation of World War II. Explore the beloved Semper Opera House and stand in awe at the Historic Green Vault in Dresden Castle, a European "jewel box" housing astounding treasures. In Meissen, visit the Royal Porcelain Factory where fine china has been produced since 1710.

Berlin: Germany's capital is its largest city, cultural center, and beating heart. See major sites associated with its

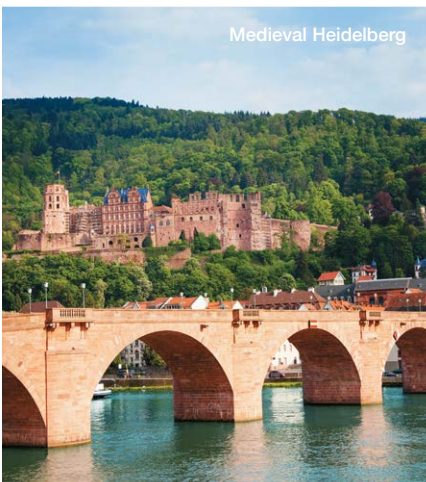
partition and reunification, such as Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag parliament building, the Berlin Wall Memorial, and Checkpoint Charlie. You'll also visit the Pergamon Museum and enjoy time at leisure to explore other important cultural sites. Plus, travel to Potsdam to tour Sanssouci, the former summer palace of Frederick the Great of Prussia and considered the "German Versailles."

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Carol Reynolds (May 3)—expert in music history and the arts of the Danube region. **Alexander Motyl** (May 31)—expert in European politics and culture. **Charles Ingrao** (Aug.) and **Tim Blanning** (Oct.)—historians with expertise in modern Europe.



Medieval Heidelberg

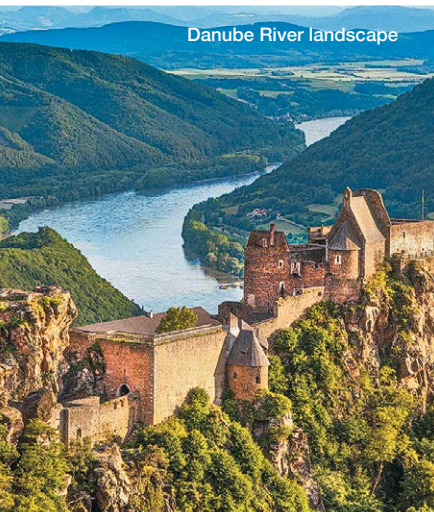


Berlin's Brandenburg Gate



Neuschwanstein Castle

Danube River landscape

St. Stephen's Cathedral,
Passau, Germany

Charles Bridge, Prague

Smithsonian Journeys Experts
Hugh Agnew (May) and **Charles Ingrao** (Sept.)—historians with expertise in European politics and culture.

A Danube River Cruise

From Bulgaria to Germany and the Czech Republic

Aboard the 160-guest *Amadeus Silver/Amadeus Silver III*



CRUISE



LAND

16 days from \$4,990 / No Single Supplement—Limited Availability
 Special air rates & services available

May 25–June 9, Sept. 1–16, 2017

The fabled Danube River flows through the heartland of Central and Eastern Europe—an evocative landscape of ancient capitals, lovely villages, and magnificent churches, palaces, and castles. Join us for this unique itinerary that showcases eight countries and many World Heritage sites, plus features a choice of specialty excursions in many cities.

Highlights Include

Bulgaria: Explore Sofia and learn about its history and culture. See the Royal Palace and stroll along Vitosha Boulevard. In Vidin, visit a 17th-century church and a 19th-century synagogue.

Romania: Enjoy a walking tour and wine tasting in Drobeta-Turnu Severin.

Serbia: Follow the Danube along the Serbian-Romanian border. Sail through the Iron Gate Gorge, a remarkable passage just 530 feet wide. In Belgrade, take a walking tour of this restored Serbian capital.

Hungary: In Pécs, you'll see Ottoman mosques and enjoy a wine tasting. Cruise into the heart of Budapest, one of Europe's most striking capitals, nestled along the banks of the Danube. Visit the Grand Market, join a tour through the old Jewish Quarter, or explore both the Buda and the Pest sections of the city.

Slovakia: Discover Bratislava, Slovakia's capital and largest city. View St. Michael's Gate and National Theater during a walking tour, enjoy an afternoon immersed in musical history, or visit the castle and Old Town.

Austria and the Wachau Valley: In Vienna, tour the lavish Imperial Apartments of the Hofburg Palace or view the incredible Schönbrunn Palace, plus enjoy an evening focused on the Viennese Waltz. Then sail through the beautiful Wachau Valley, stopping at lovely Dürnstein and the Benedictine Abbey at Melk, a masterpiece of Austrian baroque architecture.

Germany: Cruise to Passau, located at the confluence of three rivers—the Danube, Inn, and Ilz—and visit St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Old Town Hall, and other sites.

Czech Republic: Journey to Prague and enjoy three days in the capital of Old World Europe. Your stay features in-depth tours of Prague Castle and the historic district, a World Heritage site, and some time at leisure.

Space reserved for 70–90 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Great European Journey

A River Cruise and Train Trip from Holland to Switzerland

Aboard the 160-guest *Amadeus Silver II* and Featuring Three Historic Swiss Railways



11 days from \$4,495 / Includes early booking savings

June 24–July 4, 2017

Reminiscent of the 19th-century “Grand Tour,” this unique and popular journey features the heart of Western Europe—with both river cruising and train travel. In Amsterdam, board your deluxe riverboat for a five-night cruise through Holland, Germany, and France, and then enjoy panoramic vistas of the Swiss Alps from the windows of historic trains.

Highlights Include

Holland: Take a private cruise along Amsterdam’s legendary canals, a World Heritage site.

Germany and the Rhine River: Visit Cologne’s Old Town and historic cathedral, Germany’s finest example of High Gothic architecture and a World Heritage site. Cruise through the most scenic section of the Rhine River Valley, a World Heritage site where each bend in the river features a medieval castle and tranquil village. Travel to a vineyard renowned for its Riesling for a private wine tasting. And in Heidelberg, visit the magnificent 13th-century castle perched above the river.

France: Arrive in Alsace, a region whose ownership has moved between Germany and France for generations. In lovely Strasbourg visit the Old City, a World Heritage site featuring medieval houses and covered bridges spanning picturesque canals.

The Swiss Alps and Legendary Railways: Cross the rolling Swiss countryside to Bern, the historic capital and a World Heritage site. Travel through the spectacular Bernese Oberland to the snowcapped mountain peaks of

the Alps, stopping in Interlaken to admire the towering Jungfrau. Enjoy two nights each in Lucerne and Zermatt, dramatically set beneath the iconic Matterhorn. Explore these charming towns and experience the soaring majesty of the Swiss Alps from three legendary railways: the *Gornergrat Bahn*, the *Glacier Express*, and the *Pilatus Railway*, the world’s steepest cogwheel railway.

Space reserved for 100 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

John Sweets and Tim Blanning—historians with expertise in 19th- and 20th-century European history.



Waterways of Holland and Belgium

A River Cruise from Amsterdam to Ghent Aboard the 160-guest *Amadeus Silver II*



9 days from \$2,995 / Includes early booking savings

April 19–27, April 26–May 4, * 2017

Our glorious cruise of Holland and Belgium showcases magnificent art and architecture, spellbinding gardens, and enchanting medieval villages. Observe windmills, fields of flowers, and other cultural traditions of the Low Countries as you cruise along delightful canals and rivers from Amsterdam to Ghent.

Highlights Include

Gardens: Enjoy Holland's spectacular spring flower season amid the world-renowned Keukenhof Gardens, where more than seven million tulips, daffodils, and other spring flowers are expected to be in bloom across this 79-acre wooded park.

Amsterdam: Take a private cruise along the historic canals, designated a World Heritage site, which showcases the 16th- and 17th-century gabled row houses and the daily rhythms of life in this charming city.

Charming Dutch Towns: Learn about Holland's famous Golden Age of Trade in Hoorn, the capital of the Dutch East India Company. Take a canal cruise of Giethoorn, regarded as the most picturesque village in Holland with its abundance of interlacing canals. See the oldest fortified Dutch town of Maastricht during a walking tour of the historic city center.

Celebrated Art: Admire works by Vincent van Gogh and other major artists at the Kröller-Müller Museum, set amid Holland's largest national park, the picturesque De Hoge Veluwe. View masterpieces by Peter Paul Rubens in Antwerp, a city where the 16th-century Grote Markt features beautifully preserved guildhalls that once bustled with merchants and tradesmen. See the Van Eyck

brothers' magnificent polyptych altarpiece of the *Adoration of the Mystical Lamb* in St. Bavo's Cathedral in Ghent.

Bruges: Visit this World Heritage site of treasured architecture, virtually untouched since the 15th century and one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Europe. Enjoy exploring this charming town, built around a double ring of picturesque canals and connected by arched footbridges, during a private walking tour.

**Note: The April 26 departure runs in the reverse direction. Space reserved for 30-65 Smithsonian Journeys guests.*



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Valerie Hedquist (both dates)—art historian with expertise in the art and architecture of the Low Countries, especially Holland.



Canal in Bruges



Tulips in Keukenhof Gardens

Voyage Through Europe

From Amsterdam to Budapest

Featuring the Rhine, Main, and Danube Rivers

Aboard the 160-guest *Amadeus Silver II*

NEW



16 days from \$4,990

No Single Supplement—Limited Availability

Special air rates & services available

Sept. 22–Oct. 7, 2017

Join us for our new European river cruise and explore the cultural landscapes of five fascinating nations situated along three magnificent rivers. Throughout your voyage, you'll witness eight World Heritage sites and enjoy a choice of excursions in many medieval towns and cities.

Highlights Include

The Netherlands: Begin your voyage amid charming canal-laced Amsterdam. Here you can take a tour of the Rijksmuseum with its important collection of Old Master paintings, a walking tour of the Herengracht canal district, or a bicycle ride through the rural area north of the city.

Germany: Your cruise along the legendary Rhine takes you to the important cities of Cologne, with its magnificent cathedral, and Koblenz, located at the confluence of the Mosel and Rhine. Following walking tours in each city, your ship makes its way through the breathtaking Rhine Gorge, adorned with hilltop castles and the legendary Lorelei Rock. Picking up the Main River, you'll cruise through the medieval towns of Miltenberg, Würzburg, and Bavarian Bamberg, a World Heritage site, plus stop in Nuremberg, known for its associations with World War II. Continue along the Danube River to well-preserved Regensburg and lovely Passau.

Austria: Stop at the impressive Benedictine abbey at Melk, then cruise along the beautiful Wachau Valley, both World Heritage sites. In Dürnstein, enjoy a walking tour, take a bicycle ride along the river, or enjoy a tour and tasting at a local winery. Arriving in cosmopolitan Vienna, enjoy a choice of excursions that feature the World Heritage sites of Hofburg Palace or Schönbrunn Palace (the lavish summer residence of the Habsburgs), or the art treasures of Klosterneuburg Monastery.

Slovakia: Given Bratislava's associations with Hummel, Liszt, Bartok, Beethoven, and Hayden, choose a tour featuring the city's musical heritage or its medieval architecture or Castle Hill.

Hungary: Your river voyage concludes in Budapest, one of Europe's most beautiful cities situated along the Danube River. Here, enjoy an excursion featuring the city's highlights, Jewish heritage, or cuisine.

Space reserved for 35 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Carol Bresnahan—historian with expertise in Western and Central Europe.



The Parliament Building and Chain Bridge, Budapest, Hungary



Dürnstein, Austria



Art Across Switzerland



8 days from \$5,195

June 12–19, Sept. 3–10, 2017

The art of Switzerland reflects a sweeping range of cultural and regional influences. During this new journey, delve into the arts—both past and contemporary—through visits to cultural venues in the breathtaking regions surrounding Lake Geneva, including Lavaux, medieval Bern, and of course Basel, site of Art Basel.

Highlights Include

Art of Switzerland: Enjoy Switzerland's finest museums, including Lausanne's Musée de l'Élysée, Bern's Museum of Fine Arts, and Winterthur's Oskar Reinhart collections. You'll also tour Basel's Kunstmuseum, Switzerland's largest and most important public art collection, and the Fondation Beyeler, designed by Renzo Piano and home to pieces from Van Gogh and Picasso to Calder and Warhol.

Cultural Sites: Take a cruise on Lake Geneva to the terraced vineyards of Lavaux for a wine tasting and tour of this World Heritage site.

Art Basel: In June, attend the highly anticipated Art Basel, an annual showcase for the best in contemporary and modern art.

Vitra Design Museum: In September, view modern and contemporary design at the renowned Vitra Design Museum in Basel and learn about the famous Swiss art of watch-making in Geneva.

Limited to 25 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Stephanie Jeanjean (June)—art historian with expertise in European art.

Old World Europe

Poland, Hungary, Austria, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic



17 days from \$5,297

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

*April 27–May 13, May 16–June 1,
Aug. 29–Sept. 14, Sept. 9–25, 2017*

Discover five distinctly different and fascinating nations in Central and Eastern Europe, featuring many World Heritage sites.

Highlights Include

Poland: Tour the Old Town areas of Warsaw and Krakow and the Wieliczka Salt Mine, plus attend a private piano recital and visit Auschwitz and Birkenau.

Hungary: In Budapest, widely regarded as one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, explore both the Buda and Pest sides of the Danube, attend a curator-led tour of the art museum, and indulge in some time at leisure.

Austria: Travel past medieval castles and the Danube River en route to Vienna. Here, follow in the footsteps of imperial Habsburgs with tours of the opera house and Schönbrunn Palace, a concert of classical music, and more.

Slovakia: Take a walking tour of the historic castle area of Bratislava and dine in the restaurant of a local family.

The Czech Republic: Immerse yourself in medieval Prague. Explore the Hradcany castle district and the Jewish area of Josefov, plus enjoy a private tour of the Lobkowicz Museum (devoted to music), time at leisure, and a farewell dinner in the palatial setting of Prague Castle.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Thomas Emmert (April) and **Hugh Agnew** (Sept.)—historians, **Alexander Motyl** (May)—expert in political science, and **Carol Reynolds** (Aug.)—expert in music history and the arts.



Design Museum, Basel



Old Town, Warsaw



Gothic Basilica of the Virgin Mary, Krakow's Old Town



Astronomical clock, Prague

Krakow

A One-Week Stay in Poland



9 days from \$3,590

Special air rates & services available

June 2–10, Sept. 1–9, 2017

Considered one of Europe's most enchanting cities, Krakow is a major center for Poland's cultural and academic life. Explore the city's history as well as many important sites nearby during this new one-week stay at the Hotel Unicus, ideally situated in the historic area.

Highlights Include

Krakow: Highlights of your city tour include the Old Town (a World Heritage site), Wawel Castle courtyard and royal cathedral, Market Square, the Gothic Basilica of the Virgin Mary, and the 15th-century Renaissance Cloth Hall.

Wieliczka Salt Mine: Walk amid extensive sparkling salt carvings and underground lakes (442 feet below ground) in Europe's oldest salt mine, a World Heritage site.

Zakopane: Take a day trip to the foothills of the Tatra Mountains to explore this charming resort town.

World War II Sites or Ojcow National Park: Visit Auschwitz and Birkenau to commemorate the many lives lost here during World War II. Or choose to spend the day at a scenic national park and tour Pieskowa Skala Castle, the pearl of the Polish Renaissance.

Warsaw: Take the train to this capital city where you'll visit the Chopin Memorial, the Warsaw Ghetto Memorial, Madame Curie's house, the Royal Castle, and St. Anna's Church in delightful Old Town.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Carol Reynolds (June) and **Ursula Wolfman** (Sept.)—art historians with expertise in the arts and music of the region.

Prague

A One-Week Stay in the Czech Republic



9 days from \$4,190

Special air rates & services available

May 12–20, Sept. 29–Oct. 7, 2017

The magical cityscape of Prague, a World Heritage site along the Vltava River, features a fascinating history, eight centuries of superb architecture, and a special focus on classical music. Delve into the essence of Prague during this one-week stay as you reside at the newly opened Hotel Cosmopolitan, located in the Old Town.

Highlights Include

Prague's Iconic Sites: Visit Prague Castle, including Strahov Monastery and St. Vitus Cathedral, as well as Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, and St. Nicholas Church, then take a private cruise on the Vltava River. Walk along the hallowed lanes of the Jewish Quarter, home to many synagogues and the Old Jewish Cemetery. You'll also devote a morning to the city's Art Nouveau architecture and artist Alphonse Mucha.

In the Footsteps of Mozart: Enjoy a private concert at the neo-classical Estates Theater and a private performance of *Don Giovanni* at the National Marionette Theater, plus go backstage at the theater.

Day Excursions: Travel to two important medieval towns in Bohemia. In Pilsen, tour the historic underground area and enjoy a tasting at a brewery. Plus, discover Cesky Krumlov, a World Heritage site renowned for its charm.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Charles Ingrao (May)—historian with expertise in modern Europe. **Aneta Georgievska-Shine** (Sept.)—art historian with expertise in the Renaissance and Baroque eras.



Oporto and the Douro River, Portugal

Across Northern Spain and Portugal

Featuring Historic *Paradores* and *Pousadas*



17 days from \$5,778 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

April 11–27, May 9–25, June 13–29, Sept. 22–Oct. 8, Oct. 8–24, 2017

Join us for a fascinating journey from Lisbon across northern Spain to vibrant Barcelona. Highlights of this popular tour feature fortified cities and tiny fishing villages, rugged Atlantic coastline and commanding Pyrenees peaks, iconic shrines to both religion and fine art, and intimate lodgings in historic *paradores* and *pousadas*.

Highlights Include

Paradores and Pousadas: Enjoy stays in four distinctive inns, including a former palace built in 1742, a hospital for pilgrims built by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, a 16th-century monastery, and historic pilgrimage lodgings in the Pyrenees.

Lisbon and Oporto: Discover the treasures of Lisbon, including the rococo-style Queluz Palace, and stop in the small fortified town of Obidos and seaside Nazare. In Oporto, a World Heritage site, take a city tour and short cruise on the Douro River, and enjoy a winery tour and tasting of its famous fortified wine.

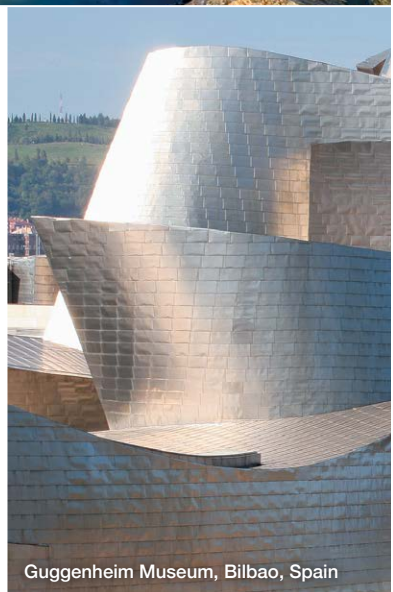
Santiago de Compostela: See this World Heritage site, considered the last stop on the celebrated pilgrimage route of the Way of St. James.

León and Bilbao: Encounter the architectural and historical heritage of León, with visits to its beautiful 12th-century cathedral and Casa Botines, a modernist structure designed by Antoni Gaudí. In Bilbao, stroll through the medieval Old City and see the cathedral, then tour the Guggenheim Museum, designed by Frank Gehry, and the Fine Arts Museum, with its rich collection of Spanish and Basque art.

The Basque Country and the Pyrenees: Make stops in poignant Gernika, the town razed during the Spanish Civil War, and various seaside villages that reflect the Basque culture. Travel through the Pyrenees to Pamplona, and Bielsa, where you'll visit an important national park.

Barcelona: Pay homage to native son and architect Antoni Gaudí at Casa Mila, Parc Guell, and his surreal cathedral, the Sagrada Familia. Stroll through the Gothic Quarter and bustling Las Ramblas and enjoy some time at leisure to explore this exciting city on your own.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Ruth MacKay (April), Francisco Garcia-Serrano (June), and Dianne Konz (Sept.)—all historians. Lawrence Butler (May) and Marta Staudinger (Oct.)—art historians.



Plaza de España, Seville, Spain

Treasures of Southern Spain and Portugal

Featuring Historic *Paradores* and *Pousadas*



15 days from \$4,978 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

March 23–April 6, April 17–May 1, May 15–29, May 25–June 8, Sept. 16–30, Oct. 12–26, 2017

An exciting history of explorers and invaders is etched across the gentle landscapes of the Iberian Peninsula. Hilltop citadels, striking Roman sites, and elaborate cathedrals and palaces speak of the many cultures that graced southern Spain and Portugal.

Highlights Include

Paradores and Pousadas: Spend eight nights in distinctive historic inns, including a medieval convent, 14th-century Moorish castle, stately Renaissance palace, and a medieval town hall overlooking a dramatic gorge.

Lisbon and Evora: Delight in Portugal's lively capital with visits to Belem Tower, the Jeronimos Monastery, and the Monument to the Discoveries, plus the National Palace in nearby Queluz. Also explore the university town of Evora, featuring Roman and Moorish sites.

Merida, Seville, Cordoba: Crossing into Spain, stop in Merida to see the impressive Roman theater, temple, and aqueduct. In Seville, a city known for colorful Spanish tile work, tour the large Gothic cathedral and the delicately ornate Moorish *Alcazar* (royal palace). Nearby Cordoba holds a rich legacy where Moorish, Christian, and Jewish cultures flourished, as reflected in your walking tour, which features the magnificent mosque.

Ronda and Granada: In tiny Ronda, perched dramatically on a bluff overlooking a plunging gorge, take a walking tour and enjoy time at leisure to discover the impressive Moorish architecture, spectacular views, and amenities of your *parador*. Then travel to Granada and the World Heritage site of the legendary Alhambra, a sprawling palace complex featuring the epitome of exquisite Moorish architecture and evocative gardens.

Toledo and Madrid: Feel the ambiance of medieval Toledo, the city of El Greco, as you discover the massive Gothic cathedral, exquisite synagogue, and other sites. In Madrid take a city tour featuring Plaza Mayor, the Moorish medieval district, and the opulent Royal Palace. Plus, enjoy a day at leisure to explore the city's museums.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Allen Fromherz (March), Dianne Konz (April), Francisco Garcia-Serrano (May 15), and Ruth MacKay (Sept.)—all historians. Allan Langdale (May 25) and Rafael Chacón (Oct.)—art historians.

A Cruise of Spain and Portugal

From Barcelona to Lisbon Aboard the 220-guest *Le Lyrial*



9 days from approximately \$4,295 / Includes early booking savings

Oct. 9–17, 2017

Trace the cultural highlights of Iberia's historic trade routes on this popular cruise of Spain and Portugal. The Moorish, Jewish, and Christian cultures that flourished here led to great leaps in the sciences and arts. This blossoming of knowledge became the impetus behind the Golden Age of Discovery when ships sailed from these shores to the New World.

Highlights Include

Spain's Balearic Island: Enjoy a full day in Palma de Mallorca, where you'll visit the famous Carthusian Monastery and former residence of composer Frédéric Chopin and enjoy a piano recital of classical music.

Valencia: Founded as a Roman colony, Valencia is known today as the "City of Arts and Sciences" for its many museums, impressive architecture, and cultural abundance. Enjoy a panoramic tour featuring a visit to the World Heritage-designated Silk Exchange, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture.

Granada: The magnificent Alhambra is a priceless architectural legacy of the Nasrid Dynasty monarchs who ruled the last Muslim kingdom in Spain for 250 years. Explore this World Heritage site, a masterpiece of medieval Moorish art and architecture, along with the magnificent Generalife Gardens.

Strait of Gibraltar: Look out from the "Top of the Rock," the 1,400-foot-high limestone promontory guarding the strait that separates Europe and Africa.

Seville: Cruise up the Guadalquivir River to Andalusia's lively capital, where you'll visit the Plaza de España, with its pretty tile work and flowers; the legendary *Alcazar*, the distinctive 14th-century, Mudéjar-style former residence

of Moroccan and Spanish rulers and now a World Heritage site; and the immense late Gothic cathedral, Europe's second-largest Christian house of worship.

Portugal's Algarve Region: Walk along the ramparts of the 12th-century Moorish castle in Silves and visit the cathedral, a unique fusion of Romanesque, Gothic, and baroque architecture. In the scenic port town of Lagos, once the center of trade between Moorish Portugal and Africa, admire the baroque Church of St. Anthony.

Space reserved for 60 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Roger Crowley—historian and author specializing in the Mediterranean region.



Evocative gardens at the Alhambra, Granada, Spain



Rocky coast, Algarve region, Portugal

NEW

Barcelona

A One-Week Stay in Spain



9 days from \$3,690

Special air rates & services available

May 13–21, Sept. 22–30, Oct. 20–28, 2017

Discover the essence of Barcelona, a Catalan jewel that showcases stunning artistic and architectural wonders. Settle into the centrally located Renaissance Barcelona Hotel, savor traditional Catalan cuisine, and enjoy the lively ambiance of this cosmopolitan coastal city.

Highlights Include

History, Art, and Culture: Stroll through one of the most complete Gothic Quarters in Europe; tour Palau de la Música Catalana, a Modernist concert hall and World Heritage site; and visit the El Born district, site of medieval jousting and trade guilds.

Antoni Gaudí: Come to understand this architect's unique vision of Modernisme during a day of visits to Casa Batlló, La Sagrada Família, and Parc Guell (together designated a World Heritage site).

Early Picasso: Visit sites connected to Picasso's early life and tour the Picasso Museum, a showcase for his formative art work.

Day Excursions: Explore medieval Girona, then continue to Figueres and the museum devoted to surrealist artist Salvador Dalí. Journey to the Benedictine monastery at Montserrat and sample famous sparkling cava in the Penedès wine region.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Ana Afzali (May) and **Dianne Konz** (Oct.)—experts in Spanish history and culture. **Marta Staudinger** (Sept.)—art historian with expertise in Spanish Modernism and contemporary culture.

The Way to Santiago

A Walking Tour in Northern Spain



13 days from \$7,995

April 28–May 10, June 2–14, 2017

For more than a millennium, pilgrims have walked the *Camino de Santiago*, the Way of St. James, to Santiago de Compostela. Become part of a centuries-old tradition as you walk along the most interesting sections of this sacred route.

Highlights Include

Pilgrimage Route: Following a stay in Pamplona, nestled in the foothills of the Pyrenees, begin the Camino walk in Roncesvalles.

Historic Sites: Explore awe-inspiring cathedrals and monasteries in Nájera, León, and other pilgrimage cities. See the artistic treasures of the 15th-century Cartuja de Miraflores monastery in Burgos during a specially arranged after-hours visit and view examples of architecture by Antoni Gaudí.

Santiago de Compostela: Your journey concludes in Santiago de Compostela. A walking tour of this World Heritage site is followed by Mass at the cathedral, where the traditional incense-burning ceremony will be performed especially for your group.

Comfort Levels: This moderately active program features visits to historic and World Heritage sites along with walks ranging from 1.5 to 5.5 miles at a comfortable pace (with two days without walks). Each evening, you'll settle into upscale historic properties or luxury *paradores*.

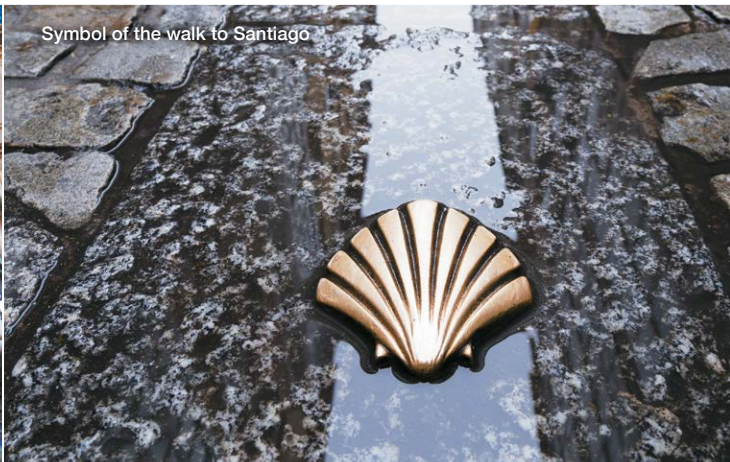
Limited to 25 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Ana Afzali (April) and **Jodi Campbell** (June)—experts in Spanish history and culture.



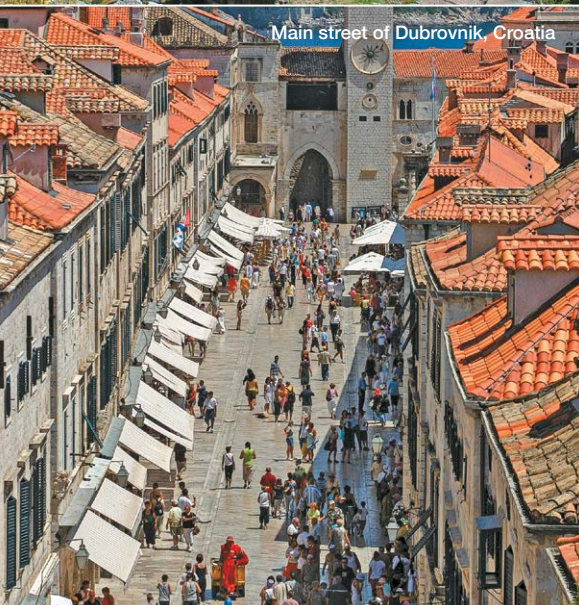
Casa Batlló, designed by Antoni Gaudí



Symbol of the walk to Santiago



Sacred site of Delphi, Greece



Main street of Dubrovnik, Croatia



Goddess, Corfu, Greece

A Cruise of the Aegean and the Adriatic

From Athens to Venice Aboard the 220-guest *Le Lyrial*



9 days from \$4,295

Includes early booking savings

May 8–16, 2017

Board your ship outside Athens and pass through the Corinth Canal for the Adriatic, where you'll cruise along the dazzling, island-studded Dalmatian Coast to Venice. This luxurious voyage showcases five countries, six World Heritage sites, and the cultural influence of Greek, Roman, Venetian, Byzantine, and Slavic civilizations.

Highlights Include

Greece: From Piraeus, cruise through the dramatic Corinth Canal, a thrilling highlight for sea captains and travelers, since this ultra-narrow passage cuts through the rocky Isthmus of Corinth and is navigable only by small ships. Stop along the Gulf of Corinth to ascend the trail to the ancient site of Delphi, home to the mythical Oracle and considered by the Greeks to be the center of the world. Arriving at the Ionian island of Corfu, take a walking tour of its Old Town, whose cosmopolitan influences are reflected in elegant French boulevards, Georgian mansions, a Greek temple, and a Venetian citadel.

Albania and Montenegro: From the port of Sarandë, Albania, travel overland to the Greek and Roman archaeological remains of Butrint, a World Heritage site. See a splendid 3rd-century B.C. amphitheater, which accommodated 1,500 people, and buildings erected later by the Roman Emperor Augustus. Then sail into the spectacular Bay of Kotor, deeply carved into the Montenegrin mountains, and admire the Venetian baroque Old Town of Kotor.

Croatia: In exquisite Dubrovnik, see the most famous landmarks of this iconic 15th-century walled city, a World Heritage site. Plus, meet with local residents and watch a folk music performance aboard ship. Tour the charming island city of Korcula with its priceless collection of medieval manuscripts and works by Tintoretto. Enjoy a walking tour of Split's historic center, which encompasses the immense retirement palace built by Roman Emperor Diocletian. Then continue sailing along the Adriatic to conclude your voyage in Venice.

Space reserved for 60 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Glenn Bugh—historian with expertise in the Mediterranean region and Central and Eastern Europe.



View from a cliffside village on Santorini



The town of Poros

A Cruise to Ancient Greece

Round-trip from Athens

Aboard the 220-guest *Le Lyrial*



9 days from \$4,495

Includes early booking savings

Sept. 18–26, 2017

Discover rare gems and important World Heritage sites of the Greek islands on this exceptional odyssey.

Highlights Include

Meteora: Visit one of the active Greek Orthodox monasteries, a World Heritage site almost suspended in air due to its location perched atop a sandstone pinnacle.

Delos and Mykonos: Walk the sacred island of Delos, paramount religious sanctuary of the ancient Greek world, then enjoy time in lively Mykonos.

Pátmos: Visit the Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. John and meet people from the island.

Rhodes: Trace the history of the Knights of St. John who erected the 14th-century Palace of the Grand Masters, and travel to the ancient village of Lindos.

Crete: Walk through the legendary Palace of Minos at Knossos, noted in Greek mythology, and visit the archaeological museum with its world-class Minoan artifacts.

Santorini: Cruise into this wondrous setting, explore the archaeological site of Akrotiri, and enjoy time in Fira.

Space reserved for 42 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Bob Stieglitz—archaeologist with expertise in cultural diffusion via Greek and Phoenician seafaring.

Athens and Poros

A Stay in Greece



11 days from \$3,790

No Single Supplement—Limited Availability
Special air rates & services available

April 19–29, Sept. 6–16, 2017

Immerse yourself in the history and culture of Greece during this special program featuring three nights in Athens and a six-night stay on the quiet island of Poros at the New Aegli Hotel, located on the beach.

Highlights Include

Athens: Ascend the steps of the mighty Acropolis to view the Parthenon, then view many of its artifacts in the Acropolis Museum. Plus, see the university area during a city tour and enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

Poros Town: Feel the essence of quiet Greek life by staying on the island of Poros. Explore the lovely main town during a walking tour, visit the archaeological museum, and get to know residents during a special event.

Epidauros and Mycenae: Take two full-day excursions to visit these World Heritage sites. Epidauros is home to the best-preserved ancient Greek theater, which is still in use today. Ancient Mycenae was the most powerful kingdom in Greece for centuries and, according to legend, was the seat of Agamemnon's kingdom.

Hydra: Cruise to this nearby Saronic Island—noted for its distinctive architecture, rugged terrain, and lack of cars—for a day of exploration.

Corinth Canal: Returning to Athens by land, stop off to see the famous Corinth Canal.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Stephanie Larson (April) and **Bella Vivante** (Sept.)—both highly respected experts in classics.



Africa

African Safari

South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, and Victoria Falls



14 days from \$7,454 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees
March 26–April 8, April 16–29, May 14–27, July 23–Aug. 5,
Aug. 13–26, Sept. 24–Oct. 7, Oct. 29–Nov. 11, 2017

Consistently rated among Smithsonian Journeys top ten tours, our exceptional *African Safari* is truly the trip of a lifetime! Enjoy thrilling game drives in search of the elusive “Big Five,” marvel at magnificent Victoria Falls, and discover Lower Zambezi National Park by guided canoe trips and sunset river cruises. Plus, stays in deluxe lodges add to your safari experience.

Highlights Include

Victoria Falls Private Game Reserve: During three days at this World Heritage site, experience the thundering falls with its 300-foot-deep gorge. Look for hippo, elephant, crocodile, and the elusive rhino in the surrounding jungle and from the deck of a “sundowner” dinner cruise boat on the Zambezi River. And, on an exhilarating tour of the iconic Victoria Falls Bridge, learn about its construction from atop the catwalks.

Botswana's Chobe National Park: Known for its diverse terrain, Chobe National Park embraces 7,000 square miles of protected land and features an exceptional array of wildlife, including the world's largest elephant population (120,000), zebra, lion, giraffe, and wildebeest. During your three-day stay, take early morning game drives and boat safaris that provide abundant opportunities to view wildlife and some of the 450 species of birds.

Zambia: From your 14-room luxury lodge on the banks of the Zambezi River, enjoy two days of game viewing activities in Lower Zambezi National Park. The park is known for its elephant herds and large lion prides, plus buffalo, waterbuck, antelope, impala, zebra, and leopard.

South Africa: Learn about the history of South Africa during a special tour of Johannesburg's Soweto. You'll see the home of former Archbishop Desmond Tutu, visit Nelson Mandela's home and the Hector Pieterse Museum (a monument to the Soweto Uprising), and meet a local Sowetan who shares stories of contemporary life in this township.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Two giraffes



Lion on watch



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Don Wilson (March), **Grant Nel** (April/ July/ Aug.), and **David Clapp** (Oct. 29)—highly respected naturalists with expertise in biodiversity and conservation. **Robyn Keene-Young** (May)—travel and nature writer on southern Africa.

Treasures of South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana

Featuring *Rovos Rail*



16 days from \$7,990 / Special air rates & services available

Sept. 12–27, Sept. 26–Oct. 11, 2017

Discover the rich natural and cultural heritage of southern Africa as you explore three of the continent's most fascinating countries: South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana. Our extraordinary adventure features the cultural and political heritage of South Africa, a rail journey aboard the legendary *Rovos Rail*, safaris in three important parks, and an excursion to the incomparable Victoria Falls.

Highlights Include

South Africa: A comprehensive overview of Cape Town includes views from Table Mountain and Cape Point, a visit to Boulder Beach to see African penguins, and a tour of Robben Island prison where Nelson Mandela and other political dissidents made strides in attaining equal rights. In Soweto township, visit many of the sites associated with important leaders in the anti-apartheid movement.

Rovos Rail: Savor the romance of the Golden Age of train travel during a three-night rail journey from Pretoria to Victoria Falls. Ride in vintage carriages restored to mint condition and impeccably appointed, and take in sweeping landscapes from the observation car or lounge.

Safari Adventures: Experience the thrill of up-close encounters with animals in the wild—lion, elephant, leopard, Cape buffalo, rhino, zebra, giraffe, hippo, and more—during safaris at three important parks. Spot the “Big Five” on game drives during a three-night stay at South Africa's Thornybush Nature Reserve. Stop at Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park to watch animals gather at The Hide's water hole. Plus, see the renowned elephant

herds at Botswana's Chobe National Park and take a boat safari on the Chobe River during your two-night stay.

Victoria Falls: Feel the awesome power of Victoria Falls, a World Heritage site and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. These immense falls plunge into the basalt gorges below creating a mist that can be seen for 50 miles.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Patty Hostiuck (Sept. 12)—highly respected naturalist.
Robert Schrire (Sept. 26)—one of South Africa's leading political analysts and expert in ethnic conflict and economic policy.



Victoria Falls



Watching wildlife from *Rovos Rail*



Cranes, wildebeest, and flamingos, Ngorongoro Crater



Exciting game drive on the savanna

Tanzania Safari

The Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, and Zanzibar



LAND

15 days from \$8,041

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

*July 22–Aug. 5, Aug. 23–Sept. 6, Sept. 20–Oct. 4,
Oct. 25–Nov. 8, 2017*

Journey from the depths of Ngorongoro Crater and the vast plains of the Serengeti to exotic Zanzibar. You'll discover the breadth of Tanzania's riches, including abundant wildlife, varied cultures, and valued traditions.

Highlights Include

Arusha National Park: With a backdrop of snowcapped Mt. Kilimanjaro, take a game drive in search of leopard, zebra, and giraffe.

Ngorongoro Crater: Descend to the floor of the crater, a World Heritage site that represents Africa in a microcosm: grasslands, swamps, lakes, forests, and some 25,000 mammals, including elephant, black rhinoceros, lion, hippo, and zebra. Plus, visit a local Maasai village to learn about their traditional lifestyle.

Serengeti National Park: Take exciting game drives in search of Africa's "Big Five," plus wildebeest, zebra, and Thomson's gazelle.

Zanzibar: Learn about Zanzibar's reputation as the "Spice Island" and discover Stone Town, an ancient town that is Tanzania's capital and a World Heritage site.

Limited to 18 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Robyn Keene-Young (July)—travel and nature writer on southern Africa. **David Clapp** (Aug.) and **Grant Nel** (Oct.)—highly respected naturalists with expertise in biodiversity and conservation. **Kirt Kempter** (Sept.)—popular geologist.

Southern African Adventure

Featuring the *Zambezi Queen*



LAND



CRUISE

17 days from approximately \$9,895

Jan. 30–Feb. 15, Feb. 13–March 1, 2018

Travel the breadth of southern Africa on a unique and thrilling safari adventure featuring South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. Look for the "Big Five" in private game reserves and on a private river safari aboard the five-star *Zambezi Queen*.

Highlights Include

Zambezi Queen: Embark on a special three-night river safari in northern Namibia, where you'll enjoy excursions with local guides on small boats on the Chobe River, ideal for game viewing, bird watching, and fishing.

Victoria Falls: Walk the trail along the edge of thundering Victoria Falls, a World Heritage site.

Chobe National Park and MalaMala Private Game Reserve: Go on exciting game drives in parks renowned for their wildlife populations— Botswana's Chobe National Game Park with its immense elephant herds and South Africa's MalaMala Private Game Reserve with its famous leopard viewing.

South Africa: Explore the country's cultural history in Johannesburg, Soweto, Pretoria, and Cape Town, and enjoy the breathtaking landscapes and gardens of Cape Town.

Limited to 22 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Francisco Dallmeier (Jan.)—senior conservation biologist and director of Smithsonian's Center for Conservation and Sustainability. **Don Wilson** (Feb.)—senior scientist and curator emeritus of mammals at Smithsonian's Natural History Museum.



A herd of wildebeest during the Great Migration



On safari

Tanzania's Great Migration



LAND

12 days from approximately \$7,995

Includes early booking savings

Feb. 9–20, Feb. 25–March 8, March 13–24, 2018

One of the most spectacular moments in nature is to observe thousands of large mammals on the grasslands of the Serengeti during the Great Migration. In the winter, more than a million wildebeest, zebra, gazelle, and Cape buffalo are attracted to the Serengeti by rains that replenish the savannas with fresh grasses. These herds are also followed by lion, leopard, and cheetah. Join us on safari in February or March—prime time to view this amazing once-in-a-lifetime spectacle—and enjoy daily game drives and a privately chartered flight, which provides the best way to witness this phenomenal event.

Highlights Include

Tanzania by Air: Enjoy a bird's-eye view of the Great Rift Valley and experience the thrill of the African plains from the air. The privately chartered flight also saves time in getting from the Serengeti to Arusha.

The “Big Five” and Other Game: Experience the breathtaking sight of splinter herds of thousands of wildebeest and zebra crowding the grasslands during the Great Migration. Watch for the “Big Five”—lion, elephant, rhinoceros, Cape buffalo, and leopard—and in addition to hundreds of bird species, observe giraffe, troops of baboon, and other wildlife.

Renowned Game Parks: Take spectacular game drives in four of Tanzania's finest game parks. A highlight is the Great Migration in Serengeti National Park, a World Heritage site. At Ngorongoro Conservation Area, another World Heritage site, descend 2,000 feet to the crater floor to view a remarkable sanctuary for hundreds of mammal and bird species, then return to your lodge perched on the crater rim. You'll also explore the natural wonders of Lake Manyara and Tarangire National Parks.

Anthropology: Listen to an expert illuminate the prehistory of humans at Oldupai Gorge, the most famous archaeological site in East Africa, where Mary and Louis Leakey made important discoveries.

Safari Comfort: Stay in the deluxe Serena Lodges and a comfortable tented camp, which puts you where the largest concentration of wildlife flourishes—often seen up close at your lodges.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Zebra on the Serengeti



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Robyn Keene-Young (Feb. 9/25)

—travel and nature writer on southern Africa. **Grant Nel** (March)—highly respected naturalist with expertise in biodiversity and conservation.



Ait ben-Haddou



The Great Pyramids

Splendors of Morocco

From Imperial Cities to the Sahara



LAND

14 days from \$5,579

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

April 21–May 4, Sept. 22–Oct. 5,

Nov. 24–Dec. 7, 2017

Morocco is a land of dramatic contrasts—vast deserts and snowcapped mountains, ancient ruins and sacred mosques, and imposing *kasbahs* and spirited *souks*. Here, one can see the influence of Phoenicians, Romans, Berbers, Jews, Arabs, and the Portuguese and French.

Highlights Include

Ancient Imperial Capitals and World Heritage Sites:

Journey to Fez, Meknes, and Marrakech, as well as uninhabited Ait ben-Haddou and Volubilis. Tour Casablanca with its magnificent Hassan II Mosque, and explore Rabat, an ancient imperial city and Morocco's present-day capital.

High Atlas Mountains: Follow the “Route of a Thousand Kasbahs,” a fabled caravan route, and experience the spectacular Todra Gorge.

Sahara Desert: Watch the sun set on endless sand dunes from atop a camel and stay at a kasbah-style hotel at the edge of the Sahara.

Cultural Experiences: Meet with a family in Fez and with a local imam who discusses the Muslim faith. Enjoy dinner at a family-run *riad*, watch artisans make pottery, and attend a concert of enchanting Arabic music.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Ken Perkins (Sept.)—expert in history, politics and culture of the Middle East and North Africa. **Joseph Snyder** (Nov.)—expert in international affairs and former foreign service officer at the State Department.

Egypt and the Eternal Nile

Featuring an Optional Extension to Petra, Jordan



LAND



CRUISE

15 days from \$4,897

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Oct. 19–Nov. 2, Nov. 2–16,

Nov. 30–Dec. 14, 2017

Journey through antiquity as you explore Lower Egypt's bustling Cairo and the Great Pyramids, as well as Upper Egypt, featuring Abu Simbel, a cruise on Lake Nasser, and a classic Nile River voyage from Aswan to Luxor.

Highlights Include

Cairo and Giza: View world-famous antiquities at the Cairo Museum and spend a day exploring the iconic pyramids and Sphinx, plus Memphis and Sakkara. Another day highlights sites in Old Cairo.

Abu Simbel and Aswan: Stand in awe at the colossal statues of Ramses II and Nefertari at Abu Simbel. A four-night cruise on Lake Nasser features Nubian villages and temple sites, plus tours of the Aswan High Dam and the sublime temple to Isis on Philae Island.

Nile River Cruise: From a traditional Nile riverboat, visit the ancient trading town of Kom Ombo, the Temple of Sobek, and Edfu, known for its Temple of Horus.

Luxor, Karnak, Royal Tombs: Explore temples and monuments dating from 2755 B.C. in the Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens, and in Luxor walk amid the temple complexes of Karnak and Luxor.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

David Price Williams (Oct.) and **Janet Duncan Jones** (Nov. 2)—both archaeologists with expertise in Egypt. **Allan Langdale** (Nov. 30)—art and architectural historian.



Asia & the Pacific

NEW

Cruising the Mekong River

Vietnam and Cambodia

Aboard the 68-guest *Mekong Navigator*



16 days from \$5,795

Includes early booking savings

Feb. 6–21, March 13–28, *2018

Venture off the beaten path on our new cruise of the Mekong River, one of Asia's vital waterways. Following three nights in Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, embark our elegant all-suite riverboat for a thought-provoking seven-night cruise along the Mekong River. A three-night stay in Siem Reap allows for an in-depth exploration of Cambodia's Angkor Wat, a World Heritage site.

Highlights Include

Ho Chi Minh City: Explore the many faces of the former Saigon. Important wartime sites include the Reunification Palace, the War Remnants Museum, and the infamous Cu Chi Tunnels. Observe stunning French architecture during visits to Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, and the Hotel de Ville, Saigon's City Hall. You'll also visit the Jade Emperor Pagoda, a Taoist temple.

Mekong River Cruise: During your seven-night cruise, experience lush landscapes; ride sampans into river towns such as Cai Be, Sa Dec, and Tan Chau; and visit hilltop Wat Hanchey and the city of Kampong Cham. You'll meet with artisans at family workshops and visit monasteries, temple complexes, villages, and a school as people go about their daily routines.

Phnom Penh: Take a guided rickshaw ride through the city center, tour the Royal Palace and National Museum, and attend an Apsara dance performance. You'll also make a somber visit to the Choeung Ek Memorial at the Killing Fields and the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum.

Temples of Angkor: Delve into this City of Temples, one of the largest religious sites worldwide, which reflects the deities and iconography of different Hindu and Buddhist beliefs of the 12th-century Khmer Empire. Discover the exquisite treasures of Angkor Wat, with its intricate bas relief carvings; the remarkable Angkor Thom with its Elephant Terrace, the Terrace of the Leper King, and the stunning Bayon Temple featuring more than 200 enigmatic, smiling stone faces; and Ta Prohm, where roots and branches of ancient Banyan trees have overwhelmed the stone structures. Explore in depth and take home the memory of viewing this magnificent site at sunset.

Space reserved for 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

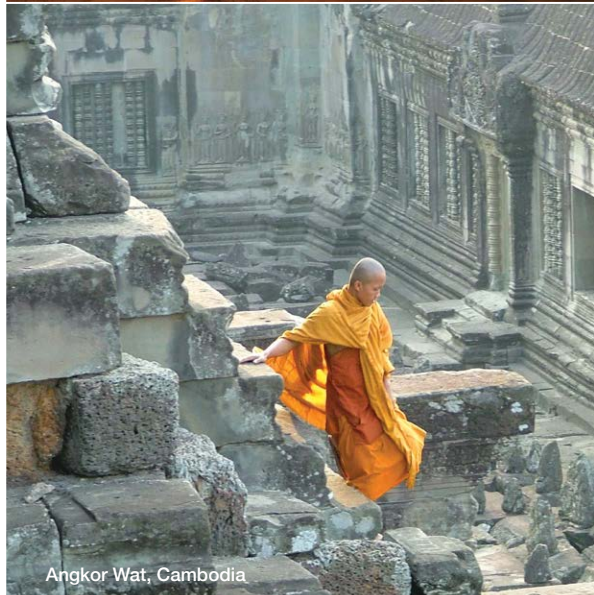
**The March departure will run in reverse and feature a slightly different itinerary.*

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Joseph Snyder (Feb.) and **Hugh Neighbour** (March)—both former U.S. State Department diplomats with expertise in Southeast Asia.



Vietnamese fisherman, Mekong River



Angkor Wat, Cambodia





Temple of Literature, Hanoi



Ha Long Bay

NEW

Discovering Vietnam



16 days from \$4,457

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Oct. 26–Nov. 10, Nov. 27–Dec. 12, 2017

With its breathtaking beauty and enduring traditions, Vietnam provides endless rewards for the thoughtful traveler. Join us for this popular and magical journey.

Highlights Include

Royal Cities: Experience the grandeur of the imperial capital of Huế and the fascinating ancient traditions of village life in Hoi An, both World Heritage sites. Tour the acclaimed Cham Museum in Da Nang. Plus, take a cruise along Huế's Perfume River and visit peaceful Thien Mu Pagoda, a Buddhist monastery, and the palatial Tomb of Minh Mang.

Ha Long Bay: Enjoy a boat ride through this legendary and breathtaking waterway, a World Heritage site comprising 3,000 islands and a karst landscape of limestone cliffs.

Mekong River: Spend two days on the Mekong, where boats take you along small tributaries and inlets to the bustling floating market at Cai Rang and to other traditional villages.

Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City: Take in-depth tours of the political and cultural capital of Hanoi and spirited and cosmopolitan Ho Chi Minh City.

Cultural Experiences: Savor local cuisine during a private cooking lesson, visit a farming settlement, and have lunch in the home of a local historian.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Elvira Masson (Oct.)—historian with expertise in East and Southeast Asia, including Vietnam.

A Cruise along Vietnam's Coast

From Hong Kong to Ho Chi Minh City

Aboard the 220-guest *L'Austral*



11 days from \$7,195

Includes early booking savings and airfare from Los Angeles or San Francisco—Limited Offer

Oct. 18–28, 2017

Discover the mystique of ancient traditions juxtaposed with vibrant modernity as you cruise from Hong Kong to evocative sites along the coast of Vietnam.

Highlights Include

Hong Kong: Be on deck for the spectacular sail away from this island of skyscrapers.

Hanoi and Ha Long Bay: Explore the ancient Temple of Literature and more modern Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Hoa Loa Prison (the infamous “Hanoi Hilton”). Cruise the mist-shrouded World Heritage site of Ha Long Bay aboard a traditional wooden junk.

Huế and Hoi An: Visit highlights of both of these World Heritage sites, respectively an imperial city on the Perfume River and an ancient trading post. Plus, drive along the breathtaking, mountainous Hai Van Pass.

Ho Chi Minh City: Old Saigon reflects the vibrant convergence of French and Vietnamese cultures. See the 19th-century European-style Central Post Office and Notre Dame Cathedral, then visit the former Presidential Palace and the War Remnants Museum, offering a unique perspective on the Vietnam War.

Optional Cruise Extensions: Extensions are available in Hong Kong and Angkor Wat/Siem Reap.

Space reserved for 50 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Hugh Shapiro—historian with expertise in Asia.

Classic China and Tibet

Featuring a Yangtze River Cruise



19 days from \$6,987 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

April 5–23, May 3–21, Oct. 12–30, 2017

Immerse yourself in the cultural landscapes of China and Tibet! Our comprehensive journey features highlights of Beijing, Xi'an, and Shanghai, plus a Yangtze River cruise. You'll also travel to the Himalayas for an insider's look at Tibet's Buddhist culture.

Highlights Include

Beijing: Explore legendary sites such as the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, and the Great Wall—all World Heritage sites. You'll also view the collections of the National Museum of China and take a rickshaw ride through Beijing's *hutongs*, or old neighborhoods.

Xi'an: Witness the extraordinary Terra-Cotta Warriors and walk along the city's ancient walls. Explore the treasures of the impressive history museum, and, at the Great Mosque, reflect on the eastern terminus of the Silk Road.

Lhasa, Tibet: See evidence of traditional Buddhism at the 17th-century Potala Palace (a World Heritage site), the vast Sera Monastery, and at Jokhang, Tibet's holiest temple. You'll also enjoy a specially arranged meeting with a Tibetan family in their home and visit Norbulingka.

Chongqing: Stroll through the local zoo, home to beloved pandas, and go beyond the city to the ancient Dazu Rock Carvings, a World Heritage site located nearby.

Yangtze River Cruise: Gaze upon panoramic views showcasing spectacular gorges that evoke scenes from ancient Chinese scroll paintings during a three-night cruise on the legendary Yangtze, prized for its haunting natural beauty. Plus, tour the immense Three Gorges Dam Project, one of the largest feats of modern engineering worldwide.

Shanghai: Discover the treasures of dynamic Shanghai during visits to the Shanghai Museum, with its renowned art collections, and the peaceful gardens of Yu Yuan.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Bob Shepherd (April)—expert in international development and contemporary Chinese society and political science. **Virginia Bower** (May)—expert in Chinese art and archaeology. **Rose Lee** (Oct.)—art historian, curator, and editor of Asian art.

ALSO AVAILABLE

Imperial China & the Yangtze

Featuring a similar itinerary exclusively in China

14 days from \$5,284

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

May 10–23, Sept. 13–26, Oct. 11–24, 2017

The Great Wall of China





Tiger's Nest monastery, Bhutan



Traditional prayer flags



Stupa at Swayambhunath, Nepal

Himalayan Kingdoms

Nepal and Bhutan

NEW



15 days from \$5,697

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Sept. 5–19, Oct. 24–Nov. 7, 2017

Enthralling and thought-provoking, a journey to the Himalayan kingdoms of Nepal and Bhutan can be spiritual and life-changing. Journey to the “top of the world” where you’ll walk amid dzongs that are home to Buddhist monks and temples devoted to Hindu deities, feel the rarified atmosphere and ambiance of breathtaking mountains, and meet the people of these devout and distant lands.

Highlights Include

Nepal: Explore the ancient temples and palaces of legendary Kathmandu and other notable Buddhist sites such as Swayambhunath; Patan Durbar Square, a World Heritage site; Boudhanath, one of the holiest Buddhist pilgrimage sites; and Kopan Monastery, home to 360 monks and lamas. Set off for a stay in mountain-top Nagarkot, where you’ll revel in watching the sun rise over the Himalayan peaks, sacred in both Buddhism and Hinduism. Along the way, stop at ornate Pashupatinath Temple, Nepal’s oldest and holiest Hindu shrine and home to followers of Lord Shiva, and at Bhaktapur, a living open-air museum with fine artisans and temples.

Cultural Enrichment: In Nepal, share lunch with a family in their home and meet people in the mountain village of Nagarkot. In Bhutan, attend a cultural performance and dine in the home of a local family. En route to Punakha, stop at Dochula Pass, with its spectacular views of the Himalayan peaks, and follow the sacred tradition of raising prayer flags in the name of peace and compassion.

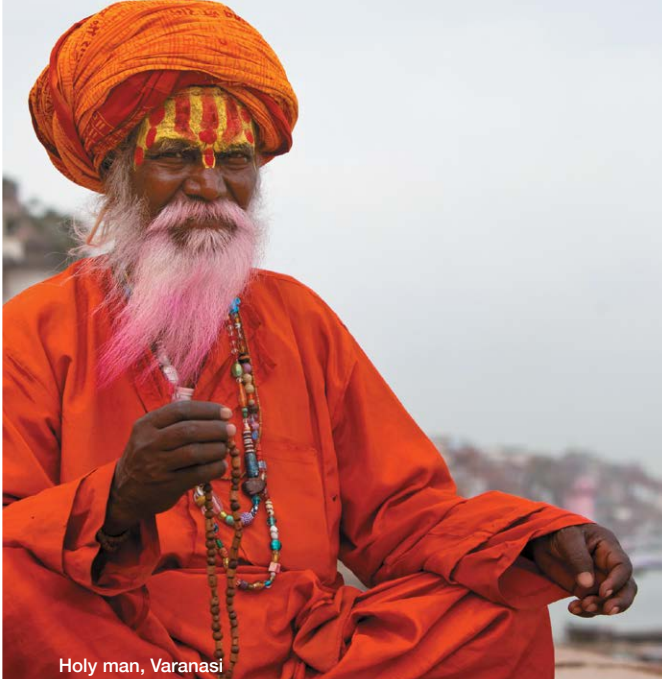
Bhutan: In Thimphu, take in many art and cultural treasures; the historic fortress and monastery of Tashichho Dzong; and Memorial Chorten, one of Bhutan’s best-loved religious landmarks. Take an exhilarating rafting trip on the Mo Chu River and visit Punakha Dzong, one of the country’s most attractive fortress monasteries. A highlight of your trip is a pilgrimage hike to Paro Taktsang, the sacred Tiger’s Nest monastery and temple complex. (The monastery is perched on a cliff some 3,000 feet above the upper Paro Valley, itself at an altitude of 10,200 feet. Horses are available to take guests part way.)

Limited to 18
Smithsonian
Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Preston Scott (both dates)—expert in the cultures and traditions of Nepal and Bhutan.



Holy man, Varanasi



Peacock, Jaipur

Mystical India

The Golden Triangle and Varanasi
With an Optional Extension to Nepal



17 days from \$5,287
Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Oct. 22–Nov. 7, Nov. 26–Dec. 12, 2017

Mystical and spiritual, chaotic and confounding, India is a land rich in contrasts. Explore northern India's culture, history, and traditions as you travel through the classic Golden Triangle and east to Varanasi.

Highlights Include

Delhi: Tour both Old and New Delhi and ride a rickshaw through colorful Chandni Chowk market.

Jaipur: Explore the historic Amber Fort, the royal palace with its magnificent art collections, and an ancient observatory.

Ranthambore National Park: Search for the elusive Bengal tiger, langur monkey, and exotic birds.

Agra: Stand in awe at the majestic Taj Mahal and tour the imposing Agra Fort.

Varanasi: Witness the powerful spiritual rituals along the Ganges River.

Cultural Experiences: Learn about the ancient discipline of yoga at a private demonstration, watch craftsmen work at traditional block printing, enjoy a cooking lesson, and meet local Meena tribespeople in their homes.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Rita Sodha (both dates)—art historian and studio artist who lives in India.

Northern India's Royal Rajasthan

Featuring the *Royal Rajasthan on Wheels* Train



14 days from \$10,990

Feb. 14–27, 2018

Discover the cultural traditions and World Heritage sites of royal Rajasthan and enjoy a five-night train journey aboard *Royal Rajasthan on Wheels*.

Highlights Include

Distinctive Travel: Spend a day in Delhi and enjoy the amenities of the Oberoi Delhi Hotel. After a flight to Jodhpur, stay for two nights at a Taj hotel, then board a classic train designed to re-create the splendors of the royal maharajas. During our five-night train journey from Jodhpur to Agra, you'll experience the very best of Rajasthan in true comfort.

Princely Capitals: Discover regal cities built by maharajas—with their palaces, museums, and forts—from Jodhpur and Udaipur to Jaipur.

Wildlife: Along the way, search for endangered Bengal tigers in Ranthambore National Park and rare birds at Keoladeo Ghana National Park, accompanied by a naturalist.

Spiritual Centers: Witness the intricately carved sandstone temples of Khajuraho and observe Hindu rituals on the Ganges River in holy Varanasi.

Breathtaking Sites: Stand in awe at silent Fatehpur Sikri and Agra's ethereal Taj Mahal.

Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Doranne Jacobson—anthropologist and photographer with special expertise in India.

Eternal Japan



13 days from \$5,991 / Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

April 15–27, Sept. 16–28, Oct. 4–16, Oct. 23–Nov. 4, 2017

Join us to discover the essence of Japan. From Mt. Fuji, Kanazawa, and Kyoto to Tokyo, you'll discover a land of sublime art, unsurpassed natural beauty, and fascinating traditions, as well as bustling commerce and modernity. Throughout your trip, meet local people, stay in a genuine *ryokan* (inn), and experience age-old cultural traditions, such as a ritualized tea ceremony and a sake tasting.

Highlights Include

Vibrant Tokyo: See the highlights of this cosmopolitan city, including the Shinto Meiji Shrine, a peaceful enclave of temples and gardens; the important Edo-Tokyo Museum; the historic Imperial Palace, home of the imperial family; and Tokyo's oldest temple, Buddhist Asakusa Kannon.

Majestic Mt. Fuji: Delight in breathtaking Mt. Fuji and take a relaxing cruise on nearby Ashi Lake.

Japanese Alps: Go off the beaten path to lovely Takayama, one of the country's most attractive towns with its 16th-century castle and old buildings. Later, visit the World Heritage site of Shirakawago Gassho-Zukuri Village, a vibrant community whose residents work to preserve its unique traditional architecture.

Kanazawa: Tour the breathtaking Kenrokuen Garden, a national landmark with origins dating to 1676. Also see Ishikawa Gate, the only remaining section of the town's original castle; a museum celebrating the art and craft of gold leaf technology; the Higashi Chayagai tea house and geisha area; and Nagamachi Samurai district, where the ruling family's samurai warriors lived.

Traditional Kyoto and Nara: Enjoy two days exploring Kyoto's many temples, shrines, gardens, and well-preserved architecture. Highlights include visits to

Kinkaku-ji (the lakeside Temple of the Golden Pavilion) and ostentatious Nijo Castle, where the shogun asserted control over the city and its people. You'll also see the Gion District, where geishas gather, as well as other neighborhoods. During a day trip to nearby Nara, Japan's ancient capital, take a walking tour that features Todai-ji Temple, the Kasuga Taisha Shrine, and the Nara National Museum.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Lee Makela (Sept.)—historian with expertise in urban architecture, garden design, and popular culture.

Carol Morland (Oct. 4)—art historian with expertise in the Edo period. **Constantine Vaporis** (Oct. 23)—historian with expertise in Japan and East Asia, with specialty in the Edo period.



The iconic Mt. Fuji



Young geishas



Sher Dor Madrassah, Samarkand, Uzbekistan



Grand Palace, Bangkok

The Silk Road: A Journey to Central Asia

Featuring the Five “Stans” of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan



16 days from \$7,495

April 15–30, Sept. 30–Oct. 15, 2017

Central Asia is the exotic heart of the Silk Road, ancient caravan routes used for the silk and spice trade between East and West. Experience the past and present of five Central Asian countries on this adventure featuring six World Heritage sites.

Highlights Include

Legendary Cities: Trace the ancient Silk Road through Central Asia as you journey to Ashkabad, Nisa, Khiva, Bukhara, Samarkand, Khujand, Tashkent, Bishkek, and Almaty.

Religious Sites and Museums: Visit historic mosques, including the Tillya Sheikh Mosque with the world’s oldest Koran, and various *madrassahs* (religious schools). Tour an ancient observatory and museums focused on history, ethnography, and art.

Cultural Programs: Meet with scholars and artisans, attend engaging performances of dance and music, visit a traditional Kazakh falcon farm, dine in private homes, and explore colorful bazaars.

Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Diane Perushek (April) and **Kenneth Hammond** (Sept.)—experts in the Silk Road, Asian studies, and China.

Vibrant Thailand

With an Optional Extension to Angkor Wat

NEW



15 days from \$4,692

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Oct. 19–Nov. 2, Nov. 16–30, 2017

In Thailand art and beauty reign, Lord Buddha is revered, and gentleness prevails. Join us to encounter the country’s ancient religious traditions in art and philosophy and learn more about its modern history.

Highlights Include

Bangkok: Discover the colorful flower market and tour “hidden” Bangkok aboard long-tail boats. View the massive Reclining Buddha at Wat Pho Temple and the elaborate Temple of the Emerald Buddha at the immense Grand Palace.

Ancient and Modern: Explore the palaces and pagodas of Ayutthaya, once the capital of Siam and now a World Heritage site. Experience traditional Thai farming life, visit a village of ethnic Mon people, and enjoy time in Sai Yok National Park. Plus, you’ll tour World War II sites associated with the construction of the Burma Railway.

The North: Near Chiang Rai, see the infamous Golden Triangle, boat along the Mekong River, and visit the “White Temple” celebrating Buddha’s purity. From your stay at a country retreat, take a sunrise biking trip, engage in gardening and cooking activities, and learn about endangered wildlife at an elephant park. Near Chiang Mai, visit important temples and the San Kamphaeng district, home to the region’s renowned cottage crafts.

Limited to 22 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Bryce Beemer (Oct.)—expert in the history, arts, and culture of Thailand and Southeast Asia.



Rice terraces in Bali



Queenstown and Lake Wakatipu

A Journey from Bangkok to Bali

Featuring the *Eastern & Oriental Express*



TRAIN



LAND

13 days from \$7,390
Special air rates & services available
Oct. 28–Nov. 9, 2017

Gain insight into ancient histories and diverse cultures of the exotic East as you travel through breathtaking, ever-changing landscapes. During your journey, enjoy the comfort and amenities of a luxury train and at some of the world's top hotels.

Highlights Include

Bangkok: Visit the Grand Palace with its Temple of the Emerald Buddha and, at Wat Pho, see the famous Reclining Buddha. Take a leisurely cruise along the Chao Phraya River and a *tuk-tuk* ride through vibrant Bangkok and watch a captivating Thai dance performance in a beautiful pavilion.

Eastern & Oriental Express: Enjoy a three-night journey through lush tropical landscapes, stopping off to boat down the River Kwai and learn about the Thailand–Burma Railway. Explore the fascinating royal town of Kuala Kangsar in Malaysia.

Singapore: Explore this modern city-state on a tour that includes the diverse neighborhoods of Kampong Glam, Chinatown, and Little India.

Bali: Fly to the luxuriant island of Bali for a three-night stay. Meet students and teachers at a school and take in the rice fields that are so central to the culture. Visit an ancient temple and the ARMA Museum, learn about Balinese music, and stop at the artistic enclave of Ubud with its famous craft market.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Dawn Rooney—art historian with expertise in Southeast Asia.

Journey Through New Zealand

From Auckland to Queenstown



LAND

16 days from \$7,187
Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

March 2–17, April 27–May 12, Nov. 30–Dec. 15, 2017

Take an unforgettable adventure through New Zealand's North and South Islands where you'll gaze in awe at magnificent landscapes and meet the "Kiwi" people.

Highlights Include

Breathtaking Landscapes: A full-day excursion to renowned Fiordland National Park features a cruise of serene Doubtful Sound, noted for its mountain peaks and waterfalls. Take an exciting rail journey to the Southern Alps and Arthur's Pass. And in Westland National Park, encounter the spectacular Franz Josef Glacier, walk through the Glacial Valley, and see rare kiwi birds at a wildlife center. On the North Island, witness geysers, bubbling mud pools, and hot springs at the Te Puia Thermal Reserve.

Cultural Enrichment: Take a cruise of Auckland's glittering harbor and see prized cultural artifacts at the Auckland Museum. In Rotorua, gain insight into the indigenous Maori at the Rotorua Museum and at the Maori Cultural Center, where you'll meet elders, observe cultural traditions, and enjoy a *hongi* feast and performance. Savor private wine tastings at celebrated Hawke's Bay and the award-winning Gibbston Valley Vineyard. Learn about the vital sheep farming industry at a private farm. Visit Wellington's acclaimed Te Papa National Museum and discover the English heritage of Christchurch as you tour the Botanic Gardens and Cathedral Square. Plus, indulge in a day at leisure in Queenstown, with its spectacular setting on Lake Wakatipu.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Neville Peat (March)—expert in New Zealand's cultural and natural history. **David Clapp** (April)—highly respected naturalist with expertise in biodiversity and conservation.

Splendors of Australia and New Zealand



22 days from \$9,457

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Sept. 27–Oct. 18, Oct. 28–Nov. 18, 2017

Venture “Down Under” for an exploration of some of the world’s most stunningly diverse landscapes—from colorful coral reefs and lush forests to stark deserts and dramatic fjords!

Highlights Include

Great Barrier Reef: Learn about this World Heritage site from a marine biologist and see the reef up close as you swim, snorkel, or view it from a glass-bottomed boat. You’ll also take a thrilling journey aboard the historic Kuranda Railway and travel through the rain forest canopy on the world’s longest gondola cableway.

The Australian Outback: Watch the sun set over Ayers Rock at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Relax around a campfire and look for the Southern Cross as you savor a traditional “bush” dinner. Learn about the Walpiri Aboriginal people during a “Dreamtime” tour.

Sydney: Enjoy two fascinating days exploring Sydney, where highlights include tours of the iconic Sydney Opera House, the Royal Botanic Gardens, and the Koala Sanctuary Harbour, plus time at Sydney’s Northern Beaches and at leisure.

New Zealand’s South Island: Venture to the Southern Alps and Mt. Cook, where you’ll experience the mountainscape and visit the Hillary Gallery, commemorating Sir Edmund’s achievements, including the first ascent of Mt. Cook’s south face. Look in awe upon breathtaking Milford Sound, a World Heritage site, during an afternoon cruise through the fjords. Plus, savor a wine tasting and enjoy independent time in Queenstown.

The North Island: In Rotorua, meet with a group of Maori people and enjoy a traditional *hangi* dinner and cultural performance. Plus, observe famed geothermal features such as geysers and thermal hot springs at a nearby park. Conclude your spectacular journey with a two-night stay in Auckland, the “City of Sails,” where a half-day city tour features the War Memorial Museum, Auckland harbour, and the America’s Cup Village.

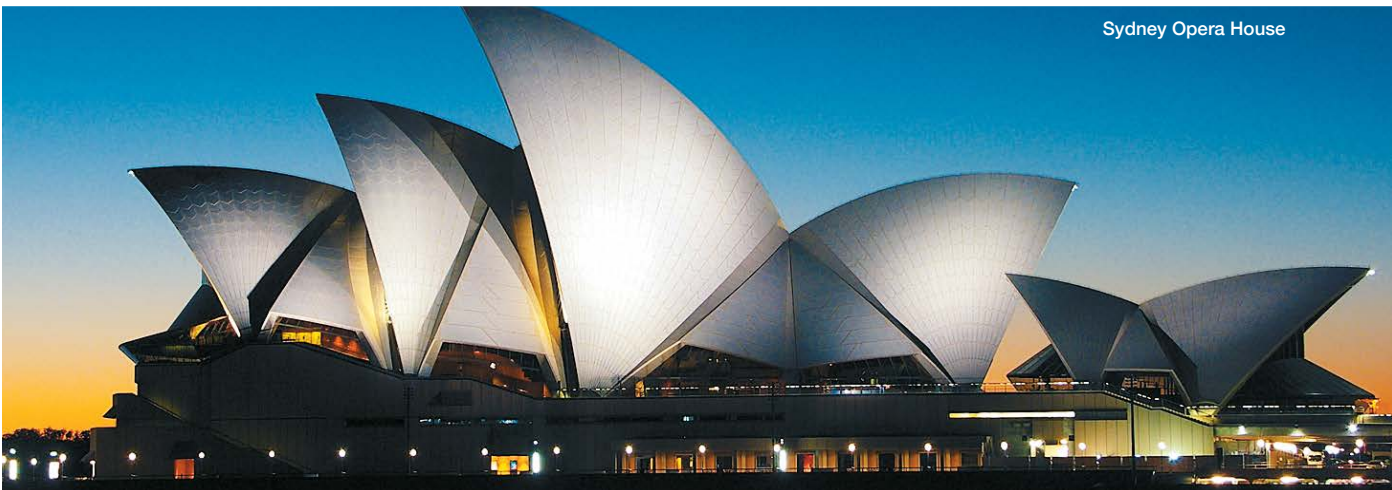
Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Francisco Dallmeier (Sept.)—senior conservation biologist at Smithsonian’s Natural History Museum.
Ed Kanze (Oct.)—respected naturalist.

Sydney Opera House





The Americas

Discover Cuba

Featuring Havana, Cienfuegos, and Trinidad



9 days from \$6,295 / Includes special savings

April 7–15, Oct. 27–Nov. 4, Nov. 3–11, Nov. 10–18, 2017
& Dec. 29, 2017–Jan. 6, 2018

The energetic changes taking place in Cuba today are palpable and alluring. Now is the time to delve into Cuba's history and culture, meet the people, and better understand the issues for the future. During this popular program, enjoy stays in the historic capital of Havana and the French-influenced provincial city of Cienfuegos, plus make a day trip to Trinidad. Through our experts, gain a deeper understanding of this enigmatic nation and its World Heritage sites, and enjoy uniquely Cuban accommodations throughout your travels.

Highlights Include

Unique Panel Discussion: Attend a thought-provoking panel discussion in Miami where experts will share insights into the Cuban economy, political structure, and culture, followed by a lively question and answer session.

Architectural Preservation: Visit a restoration facility to meet experts responsible for the rehabilitation of Havana's crumbling buildings. At the Historian's Office, hear about the achievements and challenges of preserving 16th-century Trinidad.

The Arts: Step inside *Finca Vigia*, Ernest Hemingway's home for 20 years. Hear the complex rhythms of uniquely Cuban music styles, from *son* to rumba and jazz, throughout your journey. Discover Cuba's sophisticated art traditions during meetings with artists in their studios and a tour of the National Museum of Fine Arts.

Religion: Gain insight into the African origins of the Cuban Santería religion as you talk with practitioners. Plus, learn about Cachita, the patron saint of Cuba.

Natural Bounty and Industry: Hear about efforts to maintain Cuba's rich biodiversity at the Cienfuegos Botanical Gardens. Travel to an old sugar mill town where a historian and residents describe the importance of Cuba's once thriving sugar industry.

And More: Enjoy conversation with an economics professor who discusses Cuba's economic history and ongoing reforms. Meet with future entrepreneurs and college students who share their hopes and challenges for the next generation. And mingle with local residents at a community gathering in Cienfuegos.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Franklin Knight (April 7)—expert in Latin American social, political, and cultural history. **Emilio Cueto** (Oct. 27/Nov. 10/Dec. 29)—expert in Cuban culture, particularly music and art. (Read an interview with Emilio Cueto on page 7.) **Felix Masud-Piloto** (Nov. 3)—expert in Latin American political science, international relations, and history.



Musician in Havana





Rumba dancer



Street in Havana



More Ways to Experience Cuba

NEW

Havana: A Cultural Stay



LAND

5 days from \$3,495 / Includes special savings

April 5–9, Nov. 1–5, Nov. 29–Dec. 3, 2017

Following a panel discussion with experts in Miami, capture a taste of lively Havana. **Old Town:** Enjoy a walking tour of beautifully restored plazas and buildings and meet with an architectural historian who discusses preservation successes and challenges. **Academia and Entrepreneurs:** Tour the University of Havana; hear about economic reforms, women's rights, and thoughts on Cuba's future; and learn how non-state community projects support the society. **Finca Vigia:** Visit Ernest Hemingway's Havana home. **Agriculture:** Meet community members working on an urban farm and at a cigar factory. **Smithsonian Journeys Experts:** Emilio Cueto (April), Franklin Knight (Nov. 1), and Felix Masud-Piloto (Nov. 29). Limited to 25 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

NEW

Cuba by Land and Sea

A Full Island Discovery Aboard the 64-guest *Le Ponant*

CRUISE



LAND

10 days from approximately \$6,995

Jan. 31–Feb. 9, Feb. 12–21, 2018

Take a deep look into Cuba's culture and geography through our new cruise exploration from Santiago de Cuba in the east to Havana and Pinar del Rio in the west. Begin your program in Miami with a special panel discussion, then enjoy the amenities of a deluxe small sailing ship for six nights and end at a charming hotel in Havana's Miramar district. **Santiago de Cuba:** During three days in this vibrant city, explore the history of the island's religious and Afro-Cuban traditions as well as the Spanish-American War and Cuban Revolution. Visit the World Heritage site of Castillo San Pedro de la Roca and see the 15th-century Casa de Diego Velázquez, the oldest house in Cuba. **Trinidad:** Enjoy activities featuring the arts and history of this colonial town, a World Heritage site. Explore museums showcasing the history of Trinidad and watch rumba and salsa performances at an outdoor music center. **Cienfuegos:** Learn more about Ernesto "Che" Guevara in nearby Santa Clara, the gateway to Cuba's historically and agriculturally rich central region. **Havana:** Meet with people engaged in urban cultural themes, visit Ernest Hemingway's former home *Finca Vigia*, and take a guided tour of Old Havana to learn about the preservation of its art and architecture. **Pinar del Rio:** Spend a day in the Vinales Valley, a World Heritage site known for Cuba's agricultural efforts and western landscapes. Visit an organic farm and enjoy a home-style lunch with the farmer and his family. Space reserved for 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Sea Cloud II



Hummingbird

Hamilton's Caribbean

A Round-trip Cruise from Barbados
Aboard the 75-guest *Sea Cloud II*



CRUISE

8 days from \$5,995

Jan. 25–Feb. 1, 2018

Thanks to the popular musical *Hamilton*, Americans have been captivated by the often-overlooked story of one of our most influential Founding Fathers who was born in the British West Indies. Gain insight into Alexander Hamilton's early life in the Caribbean during a voyage aboard the elegant tall ship *Sea Cloud II*, plus enjoy modern pleasures such as swimming and snorkeling.

Highlights Include

Nevis: Learn about Alexander Hamilton's Caribbean roots at his childhood home, which now houses the Nevis House of Assembly, and stroll through a spectacular botanic garden featuring tropical plants, orchid terraces, and a rain forest conservancy.

St. Kitts and St. Eustatius: Trace the history of these two small Caribbean islands, which helped to shape the course of the American Revolution. Visit sites such as Brimstone Hill, a World Heritage site known as "the Gibraltar of the West Indies" for its extensive battery.

St. Barthélemy: Swim at exquisite white-sand beaches and snorkel in clear blue waters.

Iles des Saintes: Step ashore at the 17th-century Fort Napoleon, site of a significant naval battle between the British and the French, which now features exotic gardens.

St. Lucia: Soak in mineral-rich mud baths fed by Soufrière Volcano or tour the lush Diamond Falls Botanical Gardens.

Space reserved for 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

An expert in the history of the Caribbean Islands and Alexander Hamilton will accompany this cruise.

Costa Rica's Natural Treasures



LAND

12 days from \$3,681

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

March 20–31, Oct. 30–Nov. 10, Nov. 27–Dec. 8, 2017

Nestled between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean, Costa Rica possesses a wealth of natural beauty and a variety of wildlife that belies its diminutive size. Join us to discover its pristine landscapes and learn about exotic flora and fauna and unique environments of cloud and rain forests.

Highlights Include

Monteverde Biological Reserve: During nature walks in this unique cloud forest, be amazed by hundreds of species of plants, mammals, and birds (including the dramatic but elusive Resplendent Quetzal), plus a hummingbird gallery and butterfly garden.

Palo Verde National Park: Explore this important park, comprising an extraordinary wetland and also one of the world's last tropical dry forests.

Volcanoes: Gain insight into geology at Poas Volcano and during night viewing at Arenal Volcano.

Active Adventure: Discover the forest canopy from hanging bridges and enjoy a "float safari" featuring plentiful wildlife sightings along the river. Plus, engage in optional active adventures at a resort overlooking the Pacific.

Cultural Experiences: Learn about Costa Rica's coffee industry (one of its largest exports) and impressive educational system during special visits, plus enjoy a private cooking class.

Limited to 18 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Patty Hostiuck (March) and **Dennis Wille Sáenz** (Oct./Nov.)—highly respected naturalists with expertise in conservation.



Metal Mark butterfly



Lock at the Panama Canal



Flora at STRI



Poison Dart frog

A Cruise of Panama and Costa Rica

Featuring a Panama Canal Transit and

Visit to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

From Puerto Caldera to Colón Aboard the 170-guest *Star Breeze*



9 days from approximately \$4,795 / Includes early booking savings

Feb. 9–17, 2018

Join us for a spectacular cruise featuring the rain forests of Costa Rica and a full daylight transit of the historic Panama Canal. As you journey through its waterways and mighty locks, which opened more than a hundred years ago, come to understand the worldwide impact of this amazing engineering feat. Get up close to spectacular flora and fauna at important national parks. Plus, enjoy an exclusive in-depth visit to the highly respected Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, where scholars and scientists take you beyond the visual world to the science of ecology, biology, botany, and more.

Highlights Include

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute: Meet with Director Matthew Larsen and STRI scientists who discuss their latest investigations in tropical ecology and evolution and visit STRI's Punta Culebra Nature Center to view the Institute's work firsthand.

Panama Canal: Make a full daylight transit of the Panama Canal, one of the greatest man-made wonders worldwide. Also visit the Aqua Clara Visitor Center to view the Panama Canal Expansion (flight times permitting).

Treasures of Costa Rica: Discover the magnificent flora and fauna of Manuel Antonio National Park and Curú National Wildlife Refuge. And in San José visit the National Museum and National Theater.

Active Adventure: Go snorkeling and take rain forest hikes at Panama's Isla Parida.

San Blas Islands: Cruise to these remote islands and meet with the indigenous Kuna people.

Space reserved for 100 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Smithsonian Journeys Expert
Matthew Larsen—director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

Amazon River Cruise

Round-trip from Lima

Aboard the 28-guest *Amazon Star*



10 days from \$5,295

Featuring No Single Supplement—Limited Availability

March 10–19, July 7–16, Aug. 11–20, Oct. 13–22, 2017

The Peruvian Amazon River basin is an enthralling world of verdant tropical waterways and rain forests. Join one of our small-ship adventures aboard *Amazon Star* and navigate more than 500 miles of the Amazon River, where you'll witness an exciting variety of animals and birds and come to understand traditional village life.

Highlights Include

Pacaya-Samiria Reserve: Awake to the ever-changing panorama of jungle life in this special area, the best chance for rare wildlife sightings.

Tropical Wildlife: Gain up-close views of gray and pink Amazon River dolphins, red howler and squirrel monkeys, monk sakis, sloths, and other animals. You'll also see colorful parrots, toucans, blue-and-gold and scarlet macaws, and the distinctive hoatzin.

Active Adventure: Take exciting daily expeditions by 18-passenger excursion boats or kayak and enjoy nature walks that take you into the rain forest.

River Villages: Visit small villages along the shore, accompanied by your local guides, to learn about the lives of the Ribereño people and their medicinal plants and folklore, visit a school, or join a soccer game.

Amazon Star: Our riverboat is ideal for traveling through the wilderness given its modern comforts, spacious decks and public areas, along with an open-air top deck offering incredible wildlife viewing by day and stargazing by night.

Entire ship reserved for Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Squirrel Monkey



On excursion on the Amazon



View from Amazon Star

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Nina Zitani (March/July) and **James Karr** (Oct.)—respected naturalists with expertise in biodiversity.

Blue-footed Booby



Galápagos iguana



Nazca Boobies

A Voyage Aboard the 90-quest *Santa Cruz II*



Jan. 15–23, Jan. 29–Feb. 6, Feb. 12–20, 2018

Highlights Include

Featured Islands: Cruise to North Seymour, a tiny sandy-shored isle known for exceptional whale watching as well as sea lions, swallow-tailed gulls, and large colonies of Blue-footed Boobies and Frigate birds. Observe the volcanic peaks of Isabela and Fernandina Islands as you scan the vistas for dense wildlife or go snorkeling. Isabela is also known for its orca whale and dolphin populations and land iguana and tortoises. On Santa Cruz, learn about efforts to protect the rare giant tortoises at the Charles Darwin Research Station, plus enjoy the sparkling white-sand beaches. You'll also call at Floreana, one of the first islands to be settled by Europeans, as well as Baltra Island.

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Smithsonian Journeys Experts
Wayne Ranney (Jan. 15)—expert in natural and earth sciences. **Brent Garry** (Feb.)—geologist at NASA.

Space reserved for 25
Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Machu Picchu and the Galápagos



15 days from \$8,193

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Monthly Departures: March through Nov. 2017

South America is home to many unique and amazing sites, and this favorite tour features two of its most popular cultural and natural treasures—the World Heritage sites of Machu Picchu and the Galápagos Islands. Journey first to Cuzco and the Sacred Valley to learn about ancient Inca culture and ascend into the Andes, where you'll experience the enigmatic site of Machu Picchu. Then immerse yourself in the fascinating world of the Galápagos Islands. During three magical days, explore the unique wildlife that Charles Darwin encountered during the early 1800s.

Highlights Include

Cuzco and the Sacred Valley: Venture to the World Heritage site of Cuzco where you'll visit the Museum of Pre-Columbian Art and Sacsayhuaman and meet a local family during a traditional meal. Come to understand the Inca culture, both past and present, during excursions to Pisac, Chinchero, and Ollantaytambo.

Machu Picchu: Explore the stunning “Lost City of the Incas.” Absorb the beauty and mystery of Machu Picchu as your small group moves nimbly throughout the site. Plus, by staying overnight at the nearby Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, you'll experience Machu Picchu without the crowds—allowing you to feel its true spirit.

The Galápagos Islands: Immerse yourself in a fascinating landscape showcasing unique natural wonders during an exciting three-night stay on Santa Cruz Island. Here you'll settle into a beautiful hotel in the lush highlands and visit the Charles Darwin Research Station to see and learn about the giant Galápagos tortoises. During excursions on a privately chartered yacht you'll also explore other islands, including North Seymour and Santa Fé.

Active Adventure: Experience the natural wonders of the Galápagos while swimming and snorkeling and during nature walks and boat rides.

Wildlife: In addition to giant Galápagos tortoises, observe sea lions and iguana, aquatic and migratory birds (such as Blue-footed Boobies, flamingos, and Frigate birds), and reefs teeming with colorful fish.

Limited to 19 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Llama at Machu Picchu



Galápagos tortoise



Sally Lightfoot crabs

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Patrick Abbott (April 1) and **Jim Reynolds** (May 20)—noted geologists. **Anita Cook** (June 1)—expert specializing in anthropological archaeology in Andean South America. **Scott Palmer** (June 3)—expert in international relations and political science, specializing in South America.



Legendary Peru

World of the Inca and Machu Picchu



11 days from \$4,749
Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

March 6–16, May 29–June 8,
Sept. 20–30, Oct. 23–Nov. 2, 2017

A land of archaeological, cultural, and natural treasures, Peru offers a memorable travel experience. The Inca Empire was a highly developed civilization and at one time comprised some six million people. View spectacular sites and artifacts that bear silent testimony to this culture and learn about contemporary Peruvian culture from local people.

Highlights Include

Machu Picchu: Stay overnight near this World Heritage site (in Aguas Calientes) and view it with the early morning sun bathing the stones—the ideal time to explore, before the crowds appear.

Sacred Valley: Observe a native ceremony and weaving demonstration and spend an afternoon at Ollantaytambo.

Cuzco: Enjoy a traditional meal in the home of a local family, visit the Pre-Columbian Art Museum, and see the ruins of Sacsayhuaman.

Lake Titicaca: Meet with the top-hatted Uros people who live on islands made of reeds.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Bill Sapp (March/Sept.) and **Abigail Levine** (May)—archaeologists with expertise in Inca sites. **Regina Harrison** (Oct.)—expert in the language of the Incas and Latin American literature.

Chile's Patagonian Frontier

With an Optional Extension to Easter Island



15 days from \$6,897
Includes airfare, taxes & all fees
Nov. 27–Dec. 11, 2017

NEW

Discover South America's last great frontier on our new itinerary featuring Chile's majestic landscapes and national parks. You'll also travel to the exciting capital city of Santiago and have the option of a four-day extension to mysterious Easter Island!

Highlights Include

Vicente Pérez Rosales National Park: During a full-day excursion to this stunning park, set mostly in the Andes, see Petrohué Waterfalls and Osorno Volcano.

Punta Arenas: Experience life of a working *estancia* (ranch) as you visit with the cowboys who work there, watch sheepdog and sheep-shearing demonstrations, and enjoy a traditional *asado* (barbecue) lunch.

Cruising Patagonia: Witness the stunning Patagonian scenery of mountains and glaciers during a day cruise. Another day cruise takes you through the Strait of Magellan and stops at Magdalena Island, home to more than 120,000 Magellanic penguins.

Torres del Paine National Park: Spend two full days exploring the park's glaciers, mountain peaks, turquoise lakes, and rushing rivers and waterfalls.

Santiago: Savor Chile's capital during a city tour, winery tour and tasting, and visit to Bellavista, a colorful bohemian barrio.

Limited to 24 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Jeff Cole—historian in Latin American studies.

Expedition to Antarctica

A Round-trip Cruise from Ushuaia, Argentina

Aboard the 220-guest *Le Boréal*



14 days from approximately \$9,695

Includes early booking savings

*Jan. 4–17, Jan. 11–24, * 2018*

Experience the White Continent of Antarctica in its unspoiled state—fantastically shaped icebergs, vast rocky promontories, and turquoise glaciers—during the lingering light of the austral summer. And discover firsthand how a diverse array of marine wildlife flourishes in this seemingly harsh environment.

Highlights Include

Cruising Antarctica: From Ushuaia, Argentina, the world's southernmost city, cruise through the Beagle Channel and cross the legendary Drake Passage en route to the outer shores and islands of the Antarctic Peninsula, the Earth's last frontier. Here, below the 60th parallel, explore some of the world's most pristine wilderness, where towering mountains of ice and lava create precipitous coastlines and islands and constantly changing patterns of ice stretch as far as the eye can see.

Wildlife: Observe the antics of chinstrap penguins on Half Moon Island. In Paradise Bay, named by 19th-century whalers who sought shelter in its coves, and other fascinating stops along your route, watch for breaching fin, humpback, and minke whales; crabeater and Leopard seals; Gentoo penguins; and countless seabirds. Explore Brown Bluff's reddish-brown cliffs and marvel at a flourishing colony of Adélie penguins who may approach you for an up-close encounter.

Zodiac and Land Excursions: Embark on sturdy Zodiacs with expert naturalists for unforgettable excursions amid ice floes. During shore excursions, explore rocky landscapes and diverse wildlife habitats. Walk along the black-sand beaches of Deception Island's Telefon Bay and learn how volcanic activity played a pivotal role in Antarctica's natural history. Visit Port Lockroy, originally constructed as an intelligence post for British espionage during World War II and later converted into a whaling station and scientific base. Gain insight into the lives of past explorers at the British Antarctic Survey Museum.

Buenos Aires: During a stop in Argentina's colorful capital, explore the city's many diverse neighborhoods, including the La Boca District, Monserrat, Palermo, Puerto Madero, and San Telmo, plus Recoleta Cemetery.

Space reserved for 60 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

**The January 11 departure is aboard *Le Soléal*.*

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Roger Launius (Jan. 4)—aerospace historian and associate director for collections and curatorial affairs, Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. **Jeff Cole** (Jan. 11)—historian with expertise in Latin American studies.



Chinstrap penguins



Towering mountains of ice





U.S. & Canada

Celebrate Smithsonian

A Behind-the-Scenes Gala Event



4 days from \$3,495

Sept. 13–16, 2017

Join us to celebrate Smithsonian at a gala event offering an insider's look into your national museum. This year our exclusive one-time-only program features Smithsonian's newest museum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture. We'll usher you behind the scenes to see this historic museum with its dazzling exhibitions, plus take you to a major center for ecological research, and introduce you to top curators and researchers, whose conviviality and passion create a uniquely immersive experience.

Highlights Include

National Museum of African American History and Culture:

Enter this dazzling and thought-provoking museum after public hours. Tour many of the exhibitions with curators, then enjoy a gala reception and dinner and listen to a presentation by a curator. Return to the museum the next morning for private tours.

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center: Travel to our environmental research center (located on an estuary of the Chesapeake Bay), which leads research on coastal ecosystems to inform real-world decisions for wise policies, best business practices, and a sustainable planet. Tour the facility in small groups to learn more about the fascinating research conducted here.

Exclusive Presentations: Enjoy a discussion by a curator from the Smithsonian American Art Museum following lunch at the historic Willard Hotel, then explore the treasures of the Renwick Gallery, noted for its exceptional arts and crafts collections. In the evening, enjoy an exclusive talk by a Smithsonian curator with expertise in dinosaurs, who will provide the latest updates on fossil research and plans for Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History National Fossil Hall, scheduled to reopen in 2019.

Smithsonian Castle: Enjoy a gala dinner at Smithsonian's oldest building, which opened in 1855 and was home to the first Secretary of the Institution and all of its collections.

The Hay-Adams Hotel: Stay in this elegant historic landmark hotel, located near the White House and Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery.

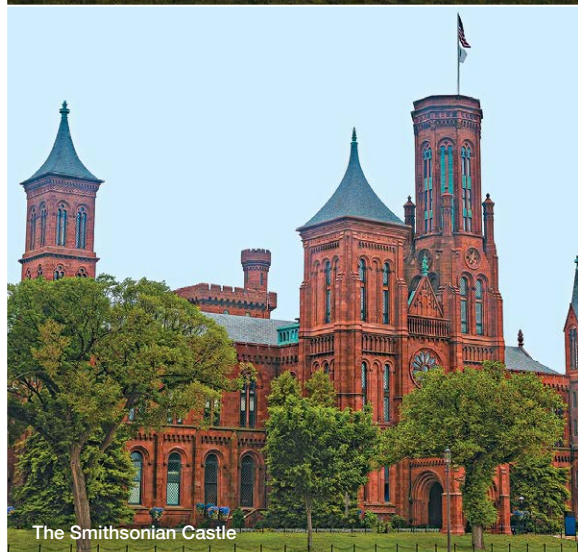
Limited to 45 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Top Smithsonian scholars will be featured throughout this event. Check our website for details!



National Museum of African American History and Culture



The Smithsonian Castle





Glacier Bay National Park



Exploring Alaska's Coastal Wilderness

A Cruise from Sitka to Juneau Aboard the 62-guest *National Geographic Sea Bird*

Featuring an Optional Extension to Denali National Park



8 days from \$5,890 / See our website for special airfare offers!

May 27–June 3, June 8–15, Aug. 27–Sept. 3, * 2017

Experience the pristine wilderness of “the Last Frontier” up close during our small-ship adventure to Southeast Alaska. Witness breathtaking glaciers, enchanting fjords, and secluded coves as you cruise the narrow, shallow channels that larger ships can’t access. With only a small group of travelers, venture out in a Zodiac or kayaks to hear the call of the eagle and the crash of calving glaciers, see brown bears hunting along the shores, and immerse yourself in the essence of Alaska’s natural wonders.

Highlights Include

Juneau, Petersburg, and Sitka: Explore downtown Juneau, including the new Alaska State Museum with its vast collections of natural history and cultural artifacts. Cruising to Petersburg, where only small ships can visit due to its location, search for humpback whales and see a multitude of bald eagles. In Sitka, get even closer to eagles, hawks, and falcons at the Raptor Rehabilitation Center. Plus, visit the onion-domed St. Michael’s Russian Orthodox Church, a strong symbol of this city’s heritage.

Straits and Bays: Navigating Icy Strait, the region’s richest whale waters, look for whales, porpoises, and sea lions. Explore Frederick Sound, another excellent whale-viewing site; Tracy Arm, a spectacular fjord with a cascading waterfall; and South Sawyer Glacier or Dawes Glacier, some 20 stories high and one mile across.

Active Adventure: Travel with an experienced team of naturalists who know where to take you. Each day features a new adventure by kayak, Zodiac, or hiking. And cruising aboard our small ship allows flexibility to change course for wildlife sightings, such as marine life, moose, brown bears, and a myriad of birdlife.

Glacier Bay National Park: Established in 1980, this national park is a true highlight of the Inside Passage. By special permit, you’ll enjoy a full-day cruise along its spectacular fjords and calving glaciers, hear about the park’s geology, and spot marine life and sea birds. A native Tlingit interpreter and National Park Service Ranger also join you onboard to share ancient legends of the area.

Space reserved for 20 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

**The August departure is aboard National Geographic Sea Lion and will run in reverse.*



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Patty Hostiuck (June) and **Dennis Wille Sáenz** (Aug.)—top naturalists with expertise in polar regions.



Astronomy in Arizona

Featuring Smithsonian's Whipple Observatory



5 days from \$3,150

May 22–26, 2017

Few places on Earth offer better opportunities to study astronomy than the ultra-clear skies of southern Arizona. Join us on a spectacular intergalactic journey and discover for yourself an infinite array of celestial phenomena during hands-on telescope viewing, in-depth lectures, and tours of some of the world's great centers for astronomical research.

Highlights Include

Smithsonian's Whipple Observatory: Gain special insight during an exclusive visit high atop Mt. Hopkins. Enjoy a VIP visit to see the massive 6.5 Meter Mirror Telescope (MMT) and other powerful optical telescopes.

University of Arizona Steward Observatory Mirror Lab: Tour this incredible scientific production facility, which is producing the most advanced giant telescope mirrors in the world.

Active Star Gazing: Visit Mt. Lemmon SkyCenter, part of the University of Arizona Steward Observatory, where you'll view planets, stars, and galaxies through the center's 32-inch Shulman telescope and smaller telescopes. Learn how to photograph stars and planets and use sky charts to view the night sky.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

David Aguilar—former director of public affairs and science information at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and an astronomer and author.

Yellowstone and Grand Teton Adventure



7 days from \$4,345

July 9–15, Sept. 21–27, 2017

Discover the wonders of America's national parks on this spectacular adventure to historic Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons. Enjoy leisurely walks or more strenuous hikes in both parks and keep your camera and binoculars handy as you search for eagles, wolves, coyotes, grizzly and black bears, moose, bison, and more!

Highlights Include

Yellowstone (est. 1872): Marvel at Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone—where two staggered falls spill water twice the height of Niagara—and Hayden Valley, one of the best places in the park to view wildlife. Witness geysers, hot pools, and mud pots at the limestone terraces of Mammoth Hot Springs and the geyser basins at Norris and Old Faithful.

Grand Tetons (est. 1929): Enjoy a float trip along the Snake River through the heart of the park, offering spectacular panoramas and prime wildlife viewing. Hike along Jenny Lake, just one of a string of jewel-like lakes set within this landscape.

Accommodations: Stay at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge, one of the newest full-service hotels in the park, and the Rustic Inn, a boutique hotel near Jackson's lively town square.

Limited to 22 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Nathanael Dodge (both dates)—expert in outdoor education, geology, and natural history.

National Parks of the American Southwest



7 days from \$3,825

June 10–16, 2017—New Departure!

Discover the stunning landscapes and rich history of the American Southwest during gentle hikes through four distinctly different parklands in Utah and Colorado.

Highlights Include

Arches National Park (est. 1929): This small jewel of the national park system contains the world's largest concentration of natural sandstone arches and other unusual rock formations. See over 20 arches during your walks, including the famous Delicate Arch.

Canyonlands National Park (est. 1964): Hike through the renowned canyons carved out by the Colorado and Green Rivers. Some walks provide spectacular vistas while others follow trails into canyons, over slickrock, and through the bizarre rock world of the Needles District.

Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park (est. 1964): Stand in awe at some of the most definitive images of the American West—red mesas and immense free-standing rock formations—which lie within the Navajo Nation. Learn about this wilderness and the history of the Navajo from your local Navajo guide.

Mesa Verde National Park (est. 1906): Look into the lives of the ancestral Puebloan people who lived here for more than 700 years and visit some of the most notable archaeological sites.

Limited to 18 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Nathanael Dodge and **John Ninnemann**—both expert naturalists.

Bryce, Zion, and the Grand Canyon



7 days from \$3,845

June 3–9, Sept. 16–22, 2017

Explore three of America's most iconic national parks in one engaging and enlightening tour. During leisurely hikes accompanied by an expert naturalist, you'll experience the Grand Canyon, a 277-mile-long gorge exposing nearly two billion years of geological history; Bryce, a spectacle of orange-hued pinnacles showcasing the effects of natural erosion; and Zion, the first national park established in Utah.

Highlights Include

Grand Canyon (est. 1919): From the North Rim, look out over the spires and buttes into the canyon below. Hike the relatively flat Transept Trail along the canyon rim and take in the lush flora and breathtaking scenery that surround you.

Bryce (est. 1928): Enjoy panoramic and up-close views of the colorful “hoodoos,” the legendary rock formations dramatically sculpted by erosion.

Zion (est. 1919): Walk among unique sandstone cliffs, ranging in color from cream to pink and rusty red, and hike along the soaring walls of Zion Narrows. Abundant with vegetation, Zion is home to more than 900 species of plants found nowhere else in Utah.

Accommodations: Stay at Grand Canyon and Bryce Canyon Lodges, both listed on the National Historic Register and located inside the parks.

Limited to 18 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

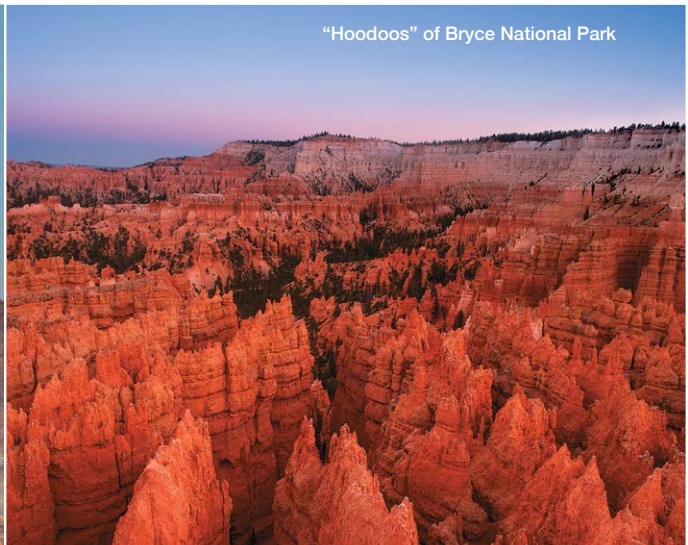
Smithsonian Journeys Expert

John Ninnemann (both dates)—expert naturalist.

Delicate Arch, Arches National Park



“Hoodoos” of Bryce National Park





Treasures of Yosemite



6 days from \$4,095

June 15–20, 2017

Yosemite National Park (est. 1890) is home to some of the most magnificent scenery in the American West. During this active adventure, take leisurely hikes to discover the towering cliffs, expansive vistas, and cascading waterfalls that comprise this World Heritage site.

Highlights Include

Classic Sites: Travel into the heart of Yosemite to witness the classic features of El Capitan, Half Dome, and Sentinel Peak. For many, Half Dome is the park's signature landmark, with walls etched by vertical joints and the trails of past glaciers. Others find it to be Bridalveil Falls and Yosemite Falls.

John Muir and Ansel Adams: Learn about the legacies of the important naturalist and photographer and their roles in preserving California's Sierra Nevada. Plus, hear about new conservation efforts to protect the park's majestic character and visit the Pioneer History Center.

Kings Canyon National Park (est. 1940): Stop here to marvel at the giant sequoia trees, including the General Grant, the third tallest tree in the world!

Accommodations: Stay at Big Trees Lodge and the majestic Yosemite Hotel, formerly the legendary Ahwahnee Hotel, located in Yosemite National Park.

Limited to 22 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Nathanael Dodge—expert naturalist.



6 days from \$3,995

Aug. 5–10, 2017

Glacier and Waterton National Parks

Montana's Glacier National Park and Alberta's Waterton Lakes National Park form the first international Peace Park and protect a vast wilderness of spectacular geology, diverse wildlife, and vivid wildflowers. Discover nature at its best on this new national parks program, accompanied by top naturalists who lead leisurely hikes and walks through breathtaking valleys surrounded by snowcapped mountains.

Highlights Include

Glacier National Park (est. 1910): Journey along the spectacular Going-to-the-Sun Road, renowned for its landscape of deep valleys, glacial features, craggy mountains, wildflowers, and wildlife. Discover the wonders at Many Glacier during a variety of hikes; view massive mountains, active glaciers, sparkling lakes, and abundant wildlife; and learn why this area is a favorite for visitors the world over.

Waterton National Park (est. 1895): Travel north to Canada and marvel at dramatic mountains rising abruptly from gentle prairie grassland. Experience several different ecological regions in a landscape shaped by wind, fire, and flooding, and that feature abundant plants and wildlife.

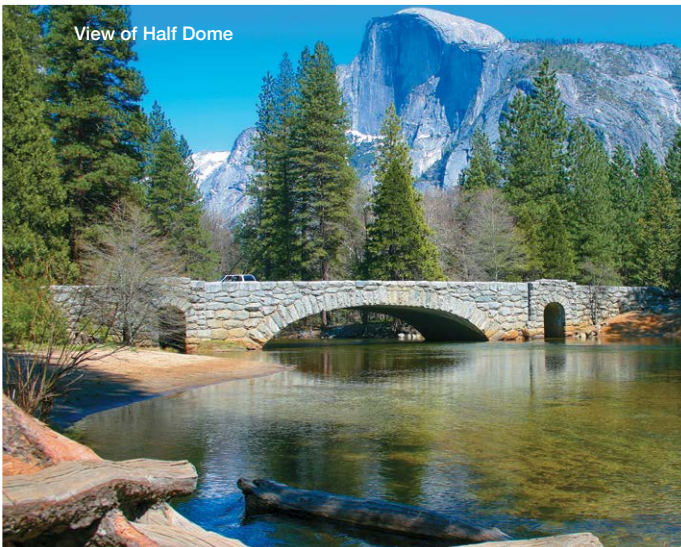
Wildlife Viewing: Bring along your binoculars and keep a constant lookout for plentiful wildlife, including moose, Big Horn sheep, mountain goats, bears, and more.

Limited to 16 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Leslie Stolz and Patty Walton—expert naturalists.

View of Half Dome



Glacier National Park



In the Wake of Lewis and Clark

Cruising the Columbia and Snake Rivers

Aboard the 62-guest *National Geographic Sea Bird*



7 days from \$4,390

Includes early booking savings

Oct. 14–20, 2017

Enjoy autumn colors and clear blue skies while cruising one of America's great waterways—the Columbia, Snake, and Palouse Rivers—from Astoria to Clarkston. Explore the westernmost route of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery expedition, which carved a pathway to the West, and take in the natural beauty, museums, and historic sites that feature the best of Oregon and Washington.

Highlights Include

History: Reflect on Lewis and Clark's expedition as you walk through the full-scale reconstructed Fort Clatsop, located near the mouth of the Columbia River, where the explorers hunkered down for the wet winter of 1805–1806. At Cape Disappointment, stand in the same spot where expedition members beheld their first view of the Pacific Ocean. You can also opt to follow their footsteps along the Clearwater River near Clarkston and at several of their actual campsites.

Museums: Visit the Columbia River Maritime Museum, which chronicles the history of river navigation. See extensive collections of Native American baskets and beadwork, sculptures and drawings by Rodin, and other fine galleries at the Maryhill Museum.

Locks, Dams, and Falls: Gain further perspective on river navigation as you transit a series of eight locks that lift or lower your ship some 700 feet.

Northwest Beauty: Admire dramatic landscapes, including Mt. Hood, Multnomah Falls, and the Columbia River Gorge near Portland and the more easterly Palouse River and Falls, where cascading waters plunge into a pool below. Learn about the geologic causes that created this varied landscape at the Columbia River Gorge Discovery Center and throughout your voyage.

Active Adventure: Discover natural treasures up close by kayak and Zodiac, as well as by hikes and bicycle rides. Plus, take a jet-boat ride into spectacular Hells Canyon.

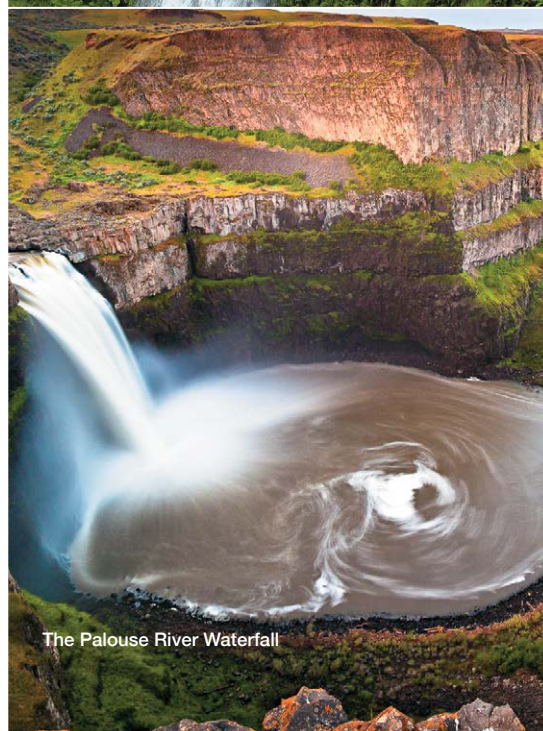
Farm to Table: Savor award-winning wines at a local vineyard and enjoy the region's coveted culinary scene aboard ship through seasonal, sustainable, and locally sourced cuisine and local wines and craft beers.

Entire ship is reserved for Smithsonian Journeys guests.



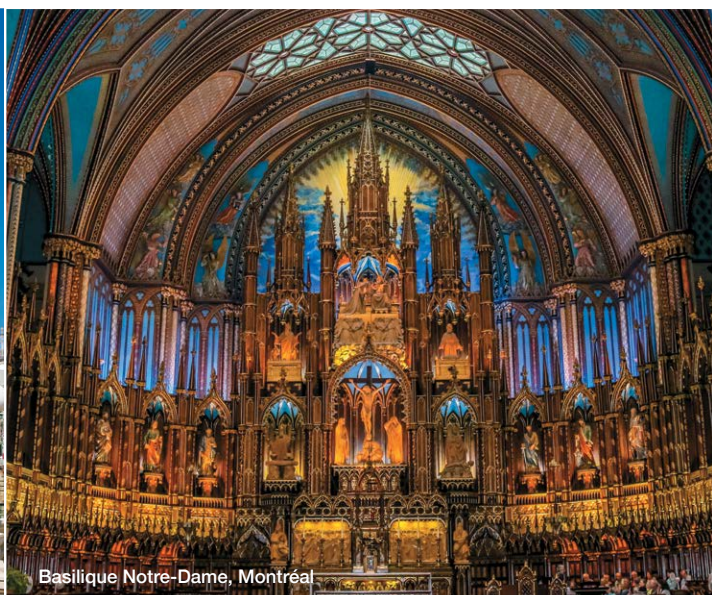
Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Harry Fritz—historian with expertise in the Lewis and Clark expedition.





Chicago architecture



Basilique Notre-Dame, Montréal

The Arts of Chicago



6 days from \$3,490

Sept. 3–8, Sept. 24–29, 2017

Journey to cosmopolitan Chicago to explore one of America's treasured cities of art and architecture.

Highlights Include

Architectural Masterpieces: Take a coach tour of “the Loop” featuring many of the city's architectural masterpieces. In the Hyde Park area, home to the University of Chicago campus, stroll amid neo-Gothic buildings and past Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House. Enjoy a private tour of the Chicago Symphony Center, designed by Daniel Burnham, and Millennium Park with the Frank Gehry-designed Pritzker Music Pavilion.

Architecturally Themed River Cruise: Learn about many of Chicago's architectural masterpieces, such as the Tribune Tower, Wrigley Building, and Marina City, during a leisurely river cruise.

Art Museums: Tour the renowned Art Institute of Chicago, with its Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings, European Old Masters, American works, and the modern wing designed by Renzo Piano. Later, a visit to the stunning Driehaus Museum provides a fascinating look at a palatial home built during the Gilded Age.

Adler Planetarium: See one of the most complete collections of astronomical artifacts at this important science museum, a Smithsonian Affiliate.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Jason LaFountain (Sept. 3) and Amanda Douberley (Sept. 24)—both experts in art history and architecture at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Montréal and Québec

An Anniversary Celebration!



7 days from \$4,995

July 16–22, 2017



Join us in 2017 to celebrate two major Canadian anniversaries: the 150th anniversary of the Canadian Confederation and the 375th anniversary of the city of Montréal! Spend three nights each in Montréal and Québec and delve into the art, architecture, culture, and history that make up these special cities.

Highlights Include

Montréal: Learn about the city's earliest history in Vieux-Montréal, then visit the Basilique Notre-Dame, known for its Gothic Revival architecture and stained glass windows. Visit the studio of a prominent stained glass craftsman. Enjoy tours of the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts and Le Musée du Château Dufresne, a museum housed in a Beaux Arts-style mansion once owned by a prominent French family. Visit the Jacques Cartier Bridge to see the interactive illumination set to mark Montréal's 375th anniversary.

Québec: Take a walking tour of the Upper Town and visit the Ursuline Convent, the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, and the Parliament Building. Spend time exploring the Lower Town, part of the Old Québec area, a World Heritage site. Explore the Museum of Civilization, designed by Moshe Safdie, then celebrate the 150th anniversary of Canada with a cocktail reception aboard one of the 50 tall ships scheduled to dock in Québec Port.

Limited to 28 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Robert Bothwell—historian with expertise in Canada and foreign relations.



Previous performance at Spoleto



Performance of Don Giovanni



SPECIALTY

Cultural Tours in the United States

Unique cultural tours showcasing America's art, architecture, and performing arts

Smithsonian at the Spoleto Festival

6 days from \$3,695 / June 5–10, 2017

Experience an exciting variety of world-class music, opera, dance, and theater at Charleston's Spoleto Festival USA, accompanied by music scholar **Stan Engebretson**. **Performances:** Enjoy prime seating for six of Spoleto's top events along with presentations by a Smithsonian Journeys Expert. (See our website for performance selections.) **Special Access:** Attend exclusive VIP lectures and meetings with Spoleto Festival staff, including General Director Nigel Redden. **Charleston:** See the city of Charleston during a horse-drawn carriage ride, visit historic sites, and dine at some of the city's famed restaurants.

Smithsonian at the San Francisco Opera

4 days from \$3,695 / June 13–16, 2017

Acclaimed for its lavish productions, accomplished artists, and beautiful setting, the San Francisco Opera will intrigue and delight longtime opera aficionados and novices alike. **Performances:** Enjoy premier seating for three outstanding operas, including Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, and Puccini's *La Bohème*. **Backstage Tour:** Go backstage at the historic opera house and meet with tomorrow's superstars from the Merola Opera Program. **Opera Expert:** Smithsonian Journeys Expert **Arthur Kaplan** presents daily lectures to enhance your enjoyment of each performance.

NEW

Smithsonian at Chautauqua

"The Supreme Court: At a Tipping Point?"

8 days from \$3,595 / July 22–29, 2017

With an astonishing array of programs clustered around specific "theme weeks," the Chautauqua Institution is a center for educational pursuits and a renowned summertime destination in southwestern New York. Join us on this popular program for a thought-provoking week! **Engaging Discussions:** Attend daily in-depth presentations by scholars at the Main Stage lecture series and with **Nancy Kassop**, Supreme Court and presidential scholar. Supreme Court topics will include the balance of power in the U.S. government and potential court appointments and their impact on Court decisions. **Performances:** Enjoy selected events from Chautauqua's roster of opera, theater, and music performances. **Historic Hotel:** Stay at the Hotel Athenaeum, featuring sweeping views of Lake Chautauqua and all meals.

American Art in Philadelphia



5 days from \$3,395 / March 6–10, 2017

Delve into exceptional art collections in Philadelphia and its environs accompanied by art historian **Jason LaFountain**.

Philadelphia: At the Philadelphia Museum of Art see important works by American artists, plus the special exhibition *American Watercolor in the Age of Homer and Sargent*. Take a private tour of the Barnes Foundation and see the special exhibition *World War I and American Art* at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. **Brandywine Valley:** See the nation's premier collection of American decorative arts at Winterthur during a curator-led tour.

Masterpieces of American Art

5 days from \$2,850 / April 4–8, 2017

Celebrate the genius of American art on this popular tour, accompanied by art historian **Jason LaFountain**. **Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art** (Bentonville, Arkansas): Visit the first major museum dedicated to American art to open in nearly 50 years and view iconic paintings by Durand, Rockwell, Warhol, and others. **Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art** (Kansas City, Missouri): Tour this extensive collection of American masterpieces, featuring works by Cole, Church, Homer, Hassam, and Remington. Plus, visit Thomas Hart Benton's artist studio and residence and the charming artist haven of Eureka Springs.

Iconic Art and Architecture of America's Heartland



4 days from \$2,550 / May 16–19, 2017

Travel to Indiana and explore the iconic art and architecture of America's heartland accompanied by popular art historian **Amanda Douberley**. **Indianapolis Museum of Art:** Tour the extensive American art collection, plus the exquisitely restored Lilly House estate with gardens designed by the Olmsted Brothers. **Eiteljorg Museum of Art:** View works by O'Keeffe, Henri, Warhol, and other artists as you celebrate early modern art. **Architectural Design in Columbus:** Explore this Modernist mecca, where more than 60 public buildings have been designed by I.M. Pei, Eero and Eliel Saarinen, César Pelli, Richard Meier, and other master architects.



Diamond Shoal, Winslow Homer, Philadelphia Museum of Art



Gallery at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art



Original LOVE sculpture, Indianapolis Museum of Art



Fall foliage, New York City's Central Park

Art Along the Hudson

A Fall Foliage Cruise Round-trip from New York City
Aboard the 100-guest *American Star*



9 days from \$4,825

Oct. 13–21, 2017

Experience the blazing fall colors of the Hudson River Valley, often the subject of paintings by Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, and Jasper Cropsey, during this popular and unique cruise. From New York City to Albany, you'll visit fine Hudson Valley museums and historic homes of literary, artistic, and political figures.

Highlights Include

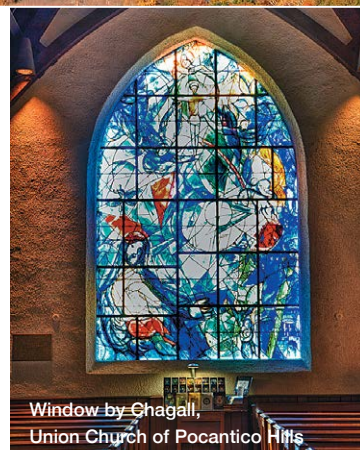
New York City: View the extensive American art collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, including spectacular paintings by Hudson River School artists—the ideal introduction to this cruise.

Lower Hudson: Cruise up the Hudson to Tarrytown and Kykuit, the palatial estate that was home to three generations of the Rockefeller family. Take an in-depth tour of the house, featuring superb art and antiques, lush gardens and grounds, and panoramic view of the Palisades. Other highlights include a stop at the nearby Union Church of Pocantico Hills, with its exquisite windows designed by Matisse and Chagall, and a tour of the Gothic Revival mansion of Lyndhurst.

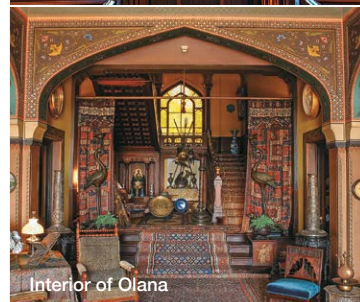
Mid-Hudson: Tour the United States Military Academy at West Point, founded in 1802, including the imposing Cadet Chapel with its impressive church organ. Cross the Hudson for historic Hyde Park and the home of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. Walk through rooms filled with history, including the room where he gave his famous fireside chats, and have time at the Presidential Library and new visitors center. At Vassar College, view impressive art collections that feature many Hudson River School painters, then enjoy an afternoon of cruising the Hudson amid the brilliant fall foliage.

Upper Hudson: Arriving in Albany, tour the history and 19th-century art collections at the Albany Institute of History and Art, as well as the more modern art at the Empire State Plaza. Then step into the private world of Frederic Church, a founder of the Hudson River School. Tour his Moorish-style home, Olana, which offers special insight into this important painter, plus magnificent views across the river of the Catskills.

Entire ship is reserved for Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Window by Chagall,
Union Church of Pocantico Hills



Interior of Olana



Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Jason LaFountain—art historian with expertise in the Hudson River School.

Portland Lighthouse



Queen of the Mississippi

Art Along the Coast of Maine

A Round-trip Cruise from Portland
Aboard the 100-guest *Independence*



9 days from \$4,825

July 28–Aug. 5, 2017

Maine's magnificent coastline is a delight to visitors and an inspiration to many American artists. Discover its unique and enduring appeal on our popular cruise showcasing evocative seascapes, charming towns, and art by Maine's most famous painters—the Wyeths, Winslow Homer, and Thomas Cole.

Highlights Include

Picturesque Ports: Cruise through protected waters to experience some of Maine's most picturesque ports, including Bar Harbor, Rockland, Castine, and Camden, considered the "tall ship capital of Maine."

Art and History: Take exclusive museum tours at the Farnsworth Art Museum and Portland's Museum of Art, home to works by Maine's most famous painters. Visit the Penobscot Marine Museum, with its paintings, scrimshaw, models, and 19th-century sea captain's home, which chronicles the area's rich seafaring history.

Acadia National Park: Travel through the natural beauty of Acadia National Park, made famous by Thomas Cole and Frederic Church.

Space reserved for 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Janice Simon—art historian with expertise in American artists of New England.

Voyage on the Mississippi

A River Cruise from Memphis to New Orleans
Aboard the 150-guest *Queen of the Mississippi*



9 days from \$5,070

May 12–20, Nov. 17–25, * 2017

Journey to the heart and soul of America aboard our paddle wheeler. From lively Memphis to antebellum Natchez and spirited New Orleans, learn about the Mississippi's enormous influence on American history and culture.

Highlights Include

Memphis: Enjoy a specially arranged tour of Memphis and a visit to the National Civil Rights Museum.

Civil War Sites: Sail south and explore the Civil War museum at Helena and national military park at Vicksburg.

Historic Towns: Tour legendary towns such as Natchez, the "Golden City of the South" with its 500 stately antebellum homes; St. Francisville, full of unique treasures and plantations; and the state capital of Baton Rouge.

Plantations: Step ashore to visit Oak Alley, a classic Greek revival antebellum home and designated National Historic Landmark.

Mississippi Paddle Wheeler: Feel the spirit and tradition of cruising this historic river, savor the finest in southern cuisine, and listen to traditional music all the way to New Orleans.

Space reserved for 40 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

** Aboard the new 185-guest America.*

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Will Greene (both dates)—military historian with expertise in the Civil War.

Rail Journeys in the U.S. & Canada

Railroading the Rockies



7 days from \$4,995

July 23–29, 2017

Gaze upon the breathtaking scenery of the Rocky Mountains from the windows of historic trains, travel to 19th-century mining towns, and learn about the region's fascinating and colorful rail history.

Highlights Include

Georgetown Loop: Depart from Denver on a spectacular stretch of three-foot narrow gauge railroad that brings you deep into scenic Clear Creek Valley.

Garden of the Gods: Observe the breathtaking views of 300-foot-high sandstone rock formations against the backdrop of snowcapped Pikes Peak. Enjoy a trail walk and the newly renovated nature center and museum.

Silverton Narrow Gauge Railway: Ride this train for an unforgettable journey through the mountains to historic Durango.

Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad: Visit the village of Chama, New Mexico, and ride this historic train, which served the silver mines of the San Juans.

Royal Gorge Route Railway: Follow the winding, tumbling Arkansas River and view the granite cliffs of Colorado's Royal Gorge.

Manitou and Pikes Peak Cog Railway: Ride to the summit of Pikes Peak, a National Historic Landmark rising over 14,000 feet, where you'll marvel at sweeping vistas of the Great Plains, the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, and the Collegiate Range.

Limited to 34 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Durango Silverton train

A Canadian Rockies Adventure

From Vancouver to Banff

Featuring two days on the *Rocky Mountaineer*



8 days from \$7,395

Aug. 6–13, 2017

Experience some of North America's most stunning scenery on this popular epic journey through the Canadian Rockies.

Highlights Include

Vancouver: Enjoy a full day in this cosmopolitan city and explore many of its treasures.

The Rocky Mountaineer: View coastal forests, roaring river canyons, and snowcapped mountain ranges from the comfort of the train's observation car and lounge.

Jasper National Park (est. 1907): Explore the park for a full day and take a cruise on Maligne Lake, one of the largest glacier-fed lakes in the world. Travel along Icefields Parkway, where wildlife such as grizzly bear, moose, elk, and mountain goat are easily spotted.

Banff National Park (est. 1885): Journey deep into the park to the Columbia Icefield and enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime "ice coach" tour of the Athabasca Glacier. You'll see stunning Moraine Lake, the Valley of the Ten Peaks, and Lake Louise, often called the "Jewel of the Canadian Rockies."

Yoho National Park (est. 1886): Cross Kicking Horse Pass, entering British Columbia and Yoho National Park. See the famous Spiral Tunnels and the spectacular scenery of Emerald Lake and dramatic Takakkaw Falls.

Limited to 34 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Rocky Mountaineer



Railroading in California

From the Sierra Nevada to the Napa Valley



8 days \$5,895

Sept. 16–23, 2017

From historic railways that supported the logging industry to the metropolitan transport that moves today's residents of San Francisco around the Bay Area, California has known more than a hundred years of train history. Join us for a unique journey to ride the rails from the Sierra Nevada to the Napa Valley.

Highlights Include

Sierra Nevada Railways: Journey to Railtown 1897 State Historic Park to ride the *Sierra Railway*, featured in many Hollywood films, including *Back to the Future*. Travel aboard the *Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad*, a vestige of the Sierra Nevada logging railroads that operates gear-driven Shay steam locomotives.

San Francisco Cable Cars: Ride these world-famous icons and learn about their history.

Napa Valley Wine Train: After crossing San Francisco Bay by ferry, enjoy lunch aboard this acclaimed restaurant on wheels.

California Western Railroad: Travel through coastal Redwood forests on the *Skunk Train*, a onetime lumber-hauler that has attracted summer visitors since 1911.

California State Railroad Museum: Learn about the rich and colorful history of California's railroads and the resulting economic development during a visit to this highly recognized museum in Sacramento.

Limited to 34 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Railroading in New England

A Fall Foliage Adventure



6 days \$4,795

Sept. 28–Oct. 3, 2017

This unique tour of New England showcases two special themes: the region's breathtaking fall foliage and its historic train lines. Learn how historic railways brought urban Americans to the shores and mountains of Maine and New Hampshire as you experience spectacular autumnal views of New England.

Highlights Include

Boston and Beyond: Tour the historic city of Boston, then journey farther into New England by train from Boston's North Station.

Maine and New Hampshire: Experience the unique two-foot gauge railroads that were essential to Maine's lumber industry for half a century. In New Hampshire's Mt. Washington Valley, ride a former *Boston & Maine* railroad line, tracing the route of late 19th-century summer resort travelers to the White Mountains.

Mountain Summit: Travel aboard the *Conway Scenic Railroad* to the White Mountains, ascending 18 miles to reach Crawford Notch, which provides incredible views of the famous New England foliage. Journey on a cog railway to the 6,288-foot summit of Mount Washington and enjoy the stunning vistas.

Limited to 34 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Rail Expert

All rail journeys in the U.S. & Canada accompanied by **Frank Ackerman**, rail historian and former curator of education at the Nevada State Railroad Museum.



Napa Valley Wine Train

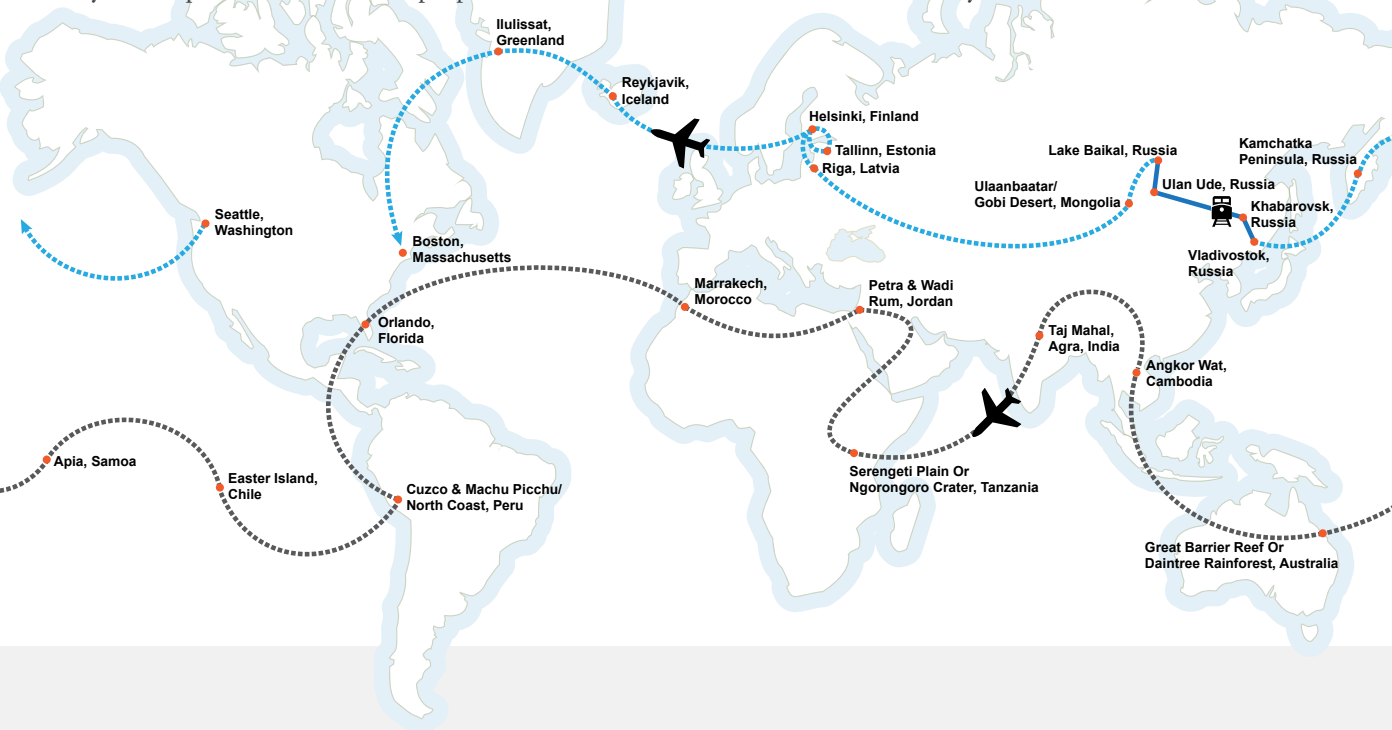


Historic train in the White Mountains

Around the World

by *Private Jet*

Join us for one of our incredible around-the-world journeys and discover a new way to explore the world. Our tours immerse you in the sights, sounds, and culture of each destination, creating unforgettable moments. Our knowledgeable experts and staff share their insights while you travel in the comfort of our custom-configured Boeing 757 for just 80 guests. Enjoy action-packed days filled with iconic sites, remote places, and engaging activities that allow you to experience firsthand the people and customs and natural world of each country.



Northern Summer

A Journey Around the World featuring Russia's *Golden Eagle* Train



PRIVATE JET

June 18–July 10, 2018
23 days from \$81,950

Experience the Midnight Sun in some of the most exceptional places on Earth on this new journey. You'll discover a diversity of cultures as you jet across the northern hemisphere from Russia and Mongolia to Europe and Greenland.

Highlights Include In far eastern Russia, explore the scenic Kamchatka Peninsula, then board the *Golden Eagle* train in Vladivostok for a four-night train journey across the Siberian landscape. Enjoy time-honored Mongolian hospitality in the Gobi Desert and learn more about the culture at the Gandan Monastery in Ulaanbaatar. Visit the Baltic capitals of Riga, Helsinki, and Tallinn where you'll be immersed in the cultural milieu of exceptional architecture, music, history, and World Heritage sites. Stand in awe at Iceland's Gulfoss waterfall and famous geysers and soak in the natural hot springs of the Blue Lagoon. And in western Greenland, enjoy a flightseeing tour over the Ilulissat Icefjord, take an easy hike to a glacier, cruise past the expansive Egi Glacier, and explore Inuit ruins at Sermermiut.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

A scholar with expertise in the world's northern regions will accompany this new around-the-world journey.



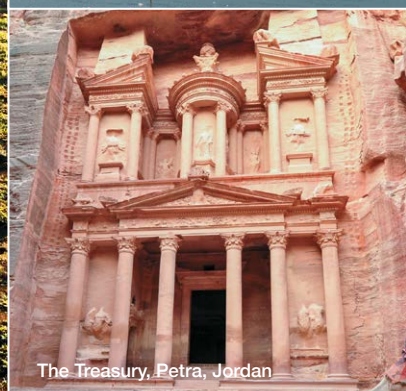
Moai statue, Easter Island



Machu Picchu, Peru



Icy landscape, Greenland



The Treasury, Petra, Jordan

Around the World Classic

The World's Greatest Treasures and Legendary Places



PRIVATE JET

Sept. 27–Oct. 20, 2017 & Sept. 27–Oct. 20, 2018
24 days from \$79,950 (2017) & from \$82,950 (2018)

Our classic private jet journey offers a life list of destinations to some of the world's most iconic places. During this breathtaking journey around the world explore cultural and natural treasures that have inspired and captured the imagination of humankind for centuries!

Highlights Include Climb the terraced steps of the ancient Inca citadel of Machu Picchu. Feel the protective gaze of the *moai* statues of Easter Island. Bask in the radiant beauty of tropical Samoa. Immerse yourself in the underwater splendor of the Great Barrier Reef. Welcome the sun among Angkor Wat's beautiful temples. Watch the play of light on the magnificent, beloved Taj Mahal. Experience the thrill of an African landscape alive with one of the world's greatest concentrations of wildlife. Step into the well-preserved ancient world of Jordan's "Lost City" of Petra. Explore the colorful *souks* and treasures of Berber kings in the celebrated *medina* of Marrakech.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Mary O'Neill (2017)—art historian with expertise in the arts worldwide, from Europe to Asia and beyond.

Grant Nel (2018)—highly respected naturalist with expertise in biodiversity and conservation.



Family

Cruising the Rhine: A Family Journey

From Basel to Amsterdam

Aboard the 168-guest *Amadeus Silver III*



9 days from \$3,190 (adult), \$2,190 (child)
Special air rates & services available

July 3–11, 2017

Create family memories on our new Rhine River cruise! With your children or grandchildren, listen to Rhine River legends as you scan the hillsides for fairy-tale castles, learn about the Middle Ages as you explore the university town of Heidelberg, and take on the Dutch way of life with your kids during a bicycle trip outside Amsterdam. Our cruise offers a selection of family and adult excursions, plus two Youth Directors offer onboard programming for young people while adults attend special lectures and more!

Highlights Include

Germany: While cruising in Germany, enjoy family-focused excursions. For example, from Freiburg, travel to the fabled southern Black Forest where a family program features a walk plus a swim in Lake Titisee. In Heidelberg, visit the city center and hike up the famous “Philosopher’s Way” for spectacular views of the castle and the university town. Your family trip to Oberwesel features a walk along the city’s well-preserved fortification walls and towers. (Or adults can choose an excursion to sample the local wine.) Cruise through the Rhine Gorge, then dock in Koblenz and experience dinner together in a medieval castle. And in Cologne, tour the Old Town and visit the magnificent Gothic cathedral.

France: In Strasbourg, a city situated on the French and German border, children will learn how cultures can blend. With your children, choose to take a cruise along the canals of the Petite France district, featuring 16th- and 17th-century timber-framed houses that sheltered fishermen, millers, and tanners. You may also choose to join a culinary tour showcasing Alsatian cuisine.

The Netherlands: Introduce your kids to the Dutch Masters in Amsterdam’s newly refurbished Rijksmuseum or learn about occupied Holland and the Frank family during World War II at the Anne Frank House. Alternatively, experience the traditional Dutch way of life during a family bike ride. Later, take a scenic canal cruise showcasing the city’s architecture and waterways.

Space reserved for 70 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



View of medieval Heidelberg from the castle



Biking with grandparents

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Carol Reynolds—expert in music history and the arts of Germany. Smithsonian Journeys Youth Directors **Drew Kopas** and **Jessica Shearer Kopas**—both experts in the performing arts and leaders for Smithsonian Summer Camp programs.



FAMILY

Go Together! Grow Together!

Our multigenerational family programs feature thoughtfully planned itineraries that will bring insights to everyone. We'll handle all the details so that you and your family can relax and enjoy time exploring the world together. Featuring either a Smithsonian Journeys Expert or a local expert, these small-group tours are designed for families with kids ages 8 and older unless noted otherwise.

Adventures in Alaska

9 days from \$5,995 (adult), \$5,595 (child)

July 8–16, 2017

NEW

Experience the wonders of Alaska with your family! In Anchorage learn about the rich heritage of Alaska's 11 major cultural groups at the Alaska Native Heritage Center, which features storytelling, song and dance, games, and more. During a three-night stay in Talkeetna, take a thrilling jet boat ride and a tranquil paddle trip into the breathtaking wilderness near Denali National Park. Accompanied by expert naturalist guides, you'll see Alaska's wildlife up close, including bears, beavers, and eagles. Traveling south, learn about other Alaskan traditions as you pan for gold, meet dogs in training for the Iditarod, and talk with a local bush pilot. Plus, take a full-day boat tour of Prince William Sound and get up close to breathtaking glaciers.

Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Discover Japan

11 days from \$4,995 (adult), \$4,595 (child)

July 8–18, 2017

NEW

Discover modern Tokyo and traditional Kyoto with your family! In Tokyo, spend a day focusing on the popular topic of *anime*. You'll also meet a Japanese family in their home, check out a fish market, and learn to make sushi. Take a nature hike in the forests of Mt. Fuji and enjoy a stay at a traditional *ryokan* (inn). Then take a thrilling ride on the bullet train to Kyoto. Here, learn about traditional drawing and indigo dyeing techniques as well as kimono dressing or Taiko drumming. Plus, explore stunning temples and imperial palaces such as Kinkaku-ji Temple (the Golden Pavilion), Nijo Castle, and Kiyomizu Temple, all World Heritage sites.

Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Discover Ireland

9 days from \$4,295 (adult), \$3,495 (child)

Aug. 4–12, 2017

NEW

Join us in the Emerald Isle, always a popular destination for families, as you travel from Dublin to Killarney and Galway. Explore Dublin's vibrant past during a special "duck boat" tour and learn about Gaelic football and hurling when you meet with trainers from the Gaelic Athletic Association. Visit castles such as Howth, Malahide, and Blarney, as well as the iconic Rock of Cashel. Stop in Adare, one of the prettiest villages in Ireland, cruise along the Cliffs of Moher, and visit lively Galway. You'll learn about the Gaelic language and see demonstrations of Irish dancing, sheep dogs in action, and falconry. Plus, you'll sleep like royalty during your stay at the 12th-century Dromoland Castle.

Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Bear with cubs in Alaska



Japanese Taiko drumming



Irish dancer



Exploring London and Paris



10 days from \$5,995 (adult), \$5,495 (child)
June 24–July 3, July 8–17, July 15–24, 2017

London and Paris are ideal destinations for a summer learning vacation with grandchildren and children. Explore the history, arts, and culture of each city and take the exciting Eurostar train below the English Channel for an easy transfer.

Highlights Include

London: Make a special visit to the Tower of London with a Beefeater, hear stories about Britain's monarchs at Westminster Abbey, and watch the "Changing of the Guard" at Buckingham Palace. Introduce young travelers to Shakespeare at the Globe Theatre, experience "Secret London" or Harry Potter's "hometown" during themed walking tours, and participate in distinctive programs at the Tate Modern or National Theatre. You'll also enjoy a scenic cruise along the Thames that concludes at the iconic London Eye with a breathtaking view over London.

Paris: A specially designed scavenger hunt at the Louvre engages children in historic works of art, while a visit to the Musée d'Orsay (housed in a 19th-century train station) features works by more modern masters. View the magnificent stained glass windows and high arches of Notre Dame Cathedral and ascend the Eiffel Tower. You'll enjoy special walking tours of the Latin Quarter and Montmartre and a cruise along the Seine River, and participate in a cooking class. Plus travel to Louis XIV's chateau of Versailles and stroll the Hall of Mirrors!

Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Experts

Lisa Passaglia Bauman (June/July 15) and **Stephanie Jeanjean** (July 8)—art historians with expertise in European art.

Treasures of Italy



9 days from \$4,495 (adult), \$3,795 (child)
June 24–July 2, July 8–16, 2017

Bring your family to Florence and Rome and go off the beaten path along the way! Our unique family trip features something for everyone—from ancient architecture and Renaissance art to gladiator school, Ferraris, and gelato-making!

Highlights Include

Rome: Explore ancient Rome during tours of the Colosseum and Roman Forum, and learn secrets of the gladiator games while attending gladiator school! Gaze upon the treasures of the Vatican, including the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica, then top it off with a gelato-making class.

Umbria: Stop at the medieval hilltop town of Perugia, the capital of Umbria, and sample sweets from one of its renowned chocolate factories.

Tuscany: Enjoy a four-night stay in a 14th-century Tuscan villa, reflecting the charm and history of a bygone time, and make day trips to nearby gems. Take a walking tour of Florence and learn about Michelangelo during visits to the Duomo, the Church of Santa Croce, and the Accademia, then enjoy time at leisure to discover as a family. Spend a day exploring the nearby towns of Siena and San Gimignano, a fortified hill town that still features 13 of its 76 medieval watchtowers.

Ferrari: Farther north in Emilia-Romagna, learn about Enzo Ferrari, father of the Italian sports car, and the history of this famous Italian symbol.

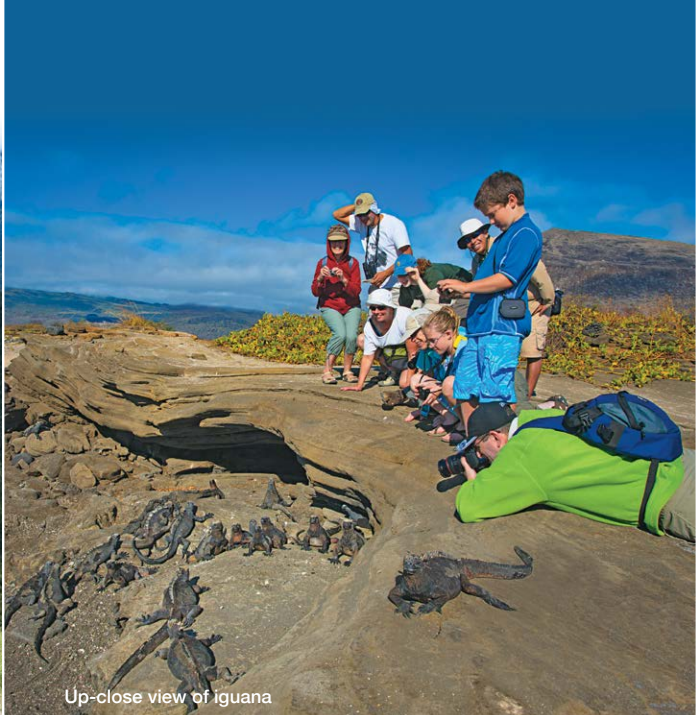
Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Smithsonian Journeys Expert

Luca Zavagno (both dates)—historian with expertise in the Middle Ages.



Teen at Machu Picchu



Up-close view of iguana

Exploring Peru



7 days from \$3,090 (adult), \$2,990 (child)

June 24–30, July 15–21,

Dec. 26, 2017–Jan. 1, 2018

Open new windows of understanding, knowledge, and wonder for your family during a journey to the center of the Inca Empire—Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley—in the company of expert local guides.

Highlights Include

Machu Picchu and Other Inca Sites: Introduce your kids or grandkids to history and archaeology in an exciting way at the famed “Lost City of the Incas,” Machu Picchu. Learn about the construction of this mountain citadel and take the opportunity to hike to the sacred summit of Huayna Picchu. As a family, experience the power of the ancient Inca way of life as you discover the cities, temples, and even farming methods at important archaeological sites such as Sacsayhuaman, Pisaq, and Ollantaytambo.

Cross-cultural Andean Connections: Cuzco promotes further cultural discussion. Once the capital of the Inca Empire, it is also a center of Spanish colonial architecture and traditional Andean culture. Meet with local experts and artisans who explain the importance of textiles to the Peruvian culture and economy. Visit the Awanacancha Llama Center and learn about llamas and alpacas and their importance to Peruvian culture. Plus, visit the studio of a renowned Peruvian ceramicist who works with traditional techniques and designs. Watch local Quechua women demonstrate the age-old Andean craft of back-strap weaving in Chinchero, then explore the ruins of a once-grandiose Inca palace.

Limited to 16 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Galápagos Adventure



9 days from \$6,290 (adult), \$5,990 (child)

June 24–July 2, Dec. 26, 2017–Jan. 3, 2018

Join us in the Galápagos Islands for an active adventure and learning experience. You'll gain insight into Charles Darwin, see unique wildlife, and enjoy snorkeling, swimming, and nature walks. Settle into hotel stays on Santa Cruz and San Cristobal Islands and explore these and other islands in depth with your local expert guides, then conclude your journey with a day in Guayaquil.

Highlights Include

Wildlife and Adventure: Gaze in amazement (and amusement!) at Blue-footed Boobies, flightless cormorants, seals, iguanas, Sally Lightfoot crabs, and more during nature walks! Enjoy active adventure as you swim and snorkel amid colorful tropical fish, green sea turtles, and graceful seals.

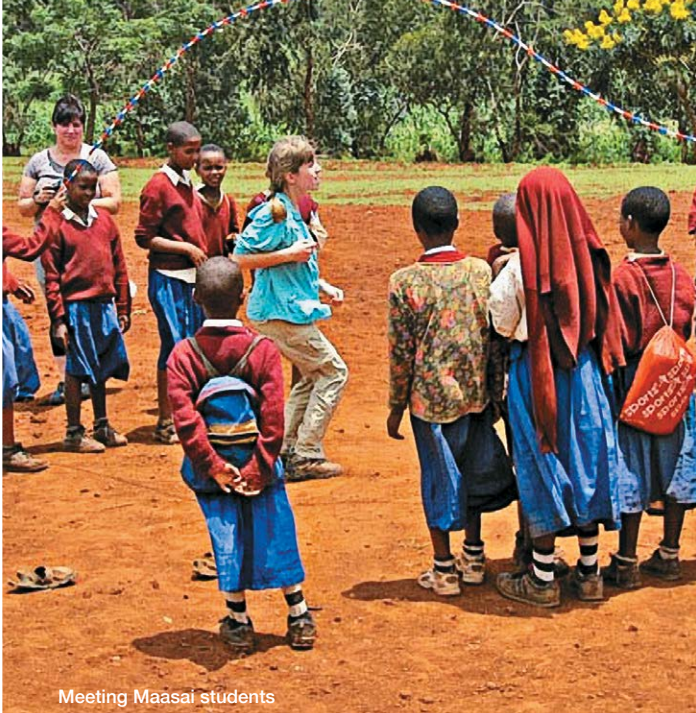
Santa Cruz Island: Spend four magical nights on Santa Cruz Island. You'll see giant Galápagos tortoises up close at a private farm in the highlands, visit an immense lava tunnel, go sea kayaking, and meet a family at their farm to learn about sugar cane and coffee production. Take short boat rides to Santa Fé and North Seymour Islands, where you'll look for unique species, go hiking and snorkeling, and meet a local fisherman who will be your host for conversation and dinner.

San Cristobal Island: During two nights on this island, learn more about Charles Darwin and see the bay where he first disembarked. Enjoy time kayaking and snorkeling and watching wildlife. You'll also sample delicious Ecuadorian chocolate at a special tasting.

Limited to 16 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Ready for the zip line



Meeting Maasai students

Exploring Costa Rica



8 days from \$2,995 (adult), \$2,695 (child)
June 24–July 1, July 22–29,
Dec. 26, 2017–Jan. 2, 2018

Lush, tropical Costa Rica is a veritable playground for families, providing endless opportunities for fun. Enjoy an active adventure that also teaches the kids about nature, conservation, and sustainability.

Highlights Include

Active Adventure: Catch beautiful vistas of Arenal Volcano from a zip line and hanging bridges. Plus, relax in the thermal hot springs of the area. Hike through the Los Angeles Cloud Forest Private Nature Reserve and glide along the waves during family surf lessons on the stunning beaches of Manuel Antonio National Park.

Incredible Wildlife: Glimpse beautiful native bird species and a rainbow of multihued butterflies as you walk through private nature reserves. Tour Manuel Antonio National Park on foot to scope out sloths, iguanas, rare and mischievous squirrel monkeys, and colorful little crabs.

Conservation and Sustainability: Explore Costa Rica's famous Cloud Forest from your home base at Villa Blanca, a sustainable, luxury hotel with a kid's nature club featuring daily activities to engage all ages. Learn about crops and the economy during visits to vanilla and coffee plantations, a sugar mill, and a rural mountain village. And throughout your adventure, learn about rain forest ecology and conservation efforts in Costa Rica.

Limited to 30 Smithsonian Journeys guests.

Tanzania Safari



9 days from \$6,240 (adult), \$5,740 (child)
June 29–July 7, Dec. 22–30, 2017

Going on safari is a dream for many people, so to share such an experience with your family is truly amazing! Join our expert local guides for this active adventure, where you'll stay on a private nature reserve in the eastern Serengeti. The campsite provides the perfect place to explore by foot, engage in authentic Maasai cultural programs, and enjoy flavorful local cuisine.

Highlights Include

Serengeti and Ngorongoro National Parks: Spend your time in two spectacular national parks, where wildlife is plentiful and game drives are always exciting.

Wildlife: Seeing wildlife in their native habitat is truly special. During your many game drives, observe lion, elephant, giraffe, zebra, Cape buffalo, rhinoceros, and other big mammals at an up-close but comfortable distance.

Maasai Cultural Experiences: Enjoy a warm welcome from the Maasai people and learn about their traditions. Meet a Maasai elder who shares traditional folktales, visit a women's cooperative and learn about their skills in using their art to bolster their local communities, and exchange stories with children (and pen pals) at a local school.

Cradle of Humanity: Learn about the historic work of anthropologists Louis and Mary Leakey at Oldupai Gorge, one of the world's most important prehistoric sites.

Limited to 18 Smithsonian Journeys guests.



Amadeus Provence



Amazon Star



American Star



L'Austral



Mekong Navigator

Small-Ship Cruising

For more details and other ships, visit SmithsonianJourneys.org/ships

Amadeus Provence, Silver, Silver II, Silver III

Pages 25, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45

The Amadeus river fleet comprises deluxe riverboats that ply the waterways of Europe, accommodating 146–180 guests. Spacious, stylishly appointed cabins feature satellite telephone and TV and all modern amenities. Meals are served in a single unassigned seating in the elegant Panorama Restaurant, which showcases continental cuisine and complimentary wine and beer with lunch and dinner. Public facilities include a lounge and bar that open onto a panoramic deck, a library, Internet station, salon, and fitness studio with massage services and exercise classes. The sun deck features the Lido Bar.

Amazon Star Page 75 **See our video online!**

Our cruises aboard the custom-designed *Amazon Star* (also known as *La Estrella Amazonica*) are ideal for plying the waters of the Amazon wilderness. Each of the 14 spacious cabins offers a private balcony and floor-to-ceiling windows, local décor, individually controlled air-conditioning, and private baths with hot showers. The ship boasts unrivaled public spaces, such as spacious decks, lecture room, library, covered bar area, and fitness room. Our 28 guests enjoy rain forest views while savoring delicious regional cuisine in the dining room. An open-air top deck offers incredible wildlife viewing by day and views of the southern constellations at night. The vessel also features two large excursion boats and a skilled, personable crew.

American Star & Independence Pages 90, 91

The 100-passenger *American Star* and *Independence* were purpose built for cruising American rivers and inland waterways. The over-sized staterooms have large picture windows, a king-size bed or two twin beds, and spacious en suite bath; most staterooms also feature private balconies. The spacious dining room accommodates all passengers at one seating. Guests can enjoy the passing scenery from the observation deck, which features shaded and non-shaded areas, and two other outside deck areas. A glass-enclosed lounge also offers a comfortable venue at the ship's bow for gathering inside, and a well-stocked library provides books and videos about the destinations for educational enrichment.

L'Austral, Le Boréal, Le Lyrial, Le Soléal

Pages 26, 33, 34, 36, 50, 52, 53, 62, 78

These sister ships are among the new generation of small ships, reflecting a sleek design and chic décor, for 220 guests. Most staterooms and suites have private balconies and all offer satellite flat-screen TV, wireless Internet access, writing desk, and all modern amenities. International and regional cuisine is served in two stylish dining rooms and 24-hour room service, plus a complimentary open bar is featured throughout the cruise. Each ship features a panoramic lounge, nightly entertainment in the main lounge, and presentations in the theater. There is also a library, Internet center, sun deck, pool, beauty salon, spa, large fitness center, and infirmary. Two elevators service all stateroom decks.

Mekong Navigator Page 61

This extraordinary all-suite ship is specially designed for cruising the rivers of Southeast Asia. The ship combines elegant décor of the French colonial period with exotic Asian notes. Cabins have twin beds convertible into a queen and some suites have one king-sized bed. Suites are air-conditioned, with all the modern amenities, including minibar, satellite TV, universal docking station, ample closet space, and Wi-Fi. Some suites have private verandas or balconies. Dining features the regional French-Indochine inspired cuisine as well as western dishes. Evening meals are taken in the casually elegant dining room in a single, open seating, while other meals can also be taken on deck. The ship offers a delightful lounge, sun deck and observation deck, library, Internet lounge, and health center and spa.

Santa Cruz II Page 76

The intimacy and personal service of a small-ship experience are the hallmarks of the newly refitted first-class expedition vessel M.V. *Santa Cruz II*, designed specifically to navigate the Galápagos archipelago. Refurbished in 2015, the air-conditioned vessel accommodates 90 guests. Each cabin is appointed with a window or porthole, private bathroom, and mini-safe. International and Ecuadorian specialties are served in a single seating in the ship's dining room. Public facilities include a lounge, library and reading room with Internet, bar, observation deck, jacuzzi, and gym. The ship features Zodiacs for island excursions as well as snorkeling equipment.

Sea Cloud II Pages 20, 73

Sailing aboard this tall ship is seafaring at its finest. *Sea Cloud II*, featuring 23 sails on a three-masted barque, is faithfully modeled on *Sea Cloud* (Marjorie Merriweather Post's four-masted barque). Her 75 guests are certain to appreciate the attention to historic detail and modern amenities. Cabins feature windows or portholes, sitting area, and all modern amenities. The elegant dining room serves all guests in a single unassigned seating and features savory continental cuisine with a complimentary open bar. The expansive decks provide space to relax or enjoy lunch, while the sumptuous indoor lounge is an ideal gathering spot for the evening.

Star Breeze Page 74

The *Star Breeze* is a graceful, state-of-the-art all-suite yacht of the Windstar fleet, accommodating 170 guests for the Panama and Costa Rica cruise. Many suites have private verandahs and all offer separate sitting area, flat-screen TV with DVD player, wireless Internet access, writing desk, queen-size bed, en suite bathroom, and all modern amenities. International and regional cuisine (with complimentary wine at dinner) is served in the stylish dining room and 24-hour room service. The ship features a panoramic lounge and bar, smaller lounge, and outdoor lounge. There is also a library, computer center, sun deck, pool, whirlpool, beauty salon, spa, fitness center, and infirmary. Two elevators service most decks.

Variety Voyager Page 20

Built in 2012, the *Variety Voyager* is a sleek state-of-the-art yacht that accommodates just 72 guests. Spacious cabins and public areas are finished with warm fabrics, rich marbles, and fine wood paneling. Cabins have double windows or oversized portholes, individually controlled air-conditioning, TV/DVD, Internet, and en suite bathrooms. Guests can savor meals with wine in the spacious dining room or on deck, and enjoy the shaded sun deck lounge bar, the Internet corner and library, and a mini-spa with massage room, sauna, and fitness equipment. A staff of 30 friendly and professional crew members takes care of guests throughout the cruise.

Volga Dream Page 38

The *Volga Dream* is a deluxe riverboat meticulously designed to meet Western standards. Rebuilt in 2007, this 109-passenger vessel that plies the Russian waterways features elegant appointments, impeccable service, and exceptional food and wine. Each cabin offers outside views, satellite flat-screen TV, and all modern amenities. Live musical entertainment is planned each evening in the inviting panoramic lounge. The ship has a library with Internet access, sun deck, boutique, hair salon, and fitness center with sauna. The elegant dining room serves all passengers in a single unassigned seating and features continental and regional cuisine with complimentary house wine and beer.



Santa Cruz II



Sea Cloud II



Star Breeze

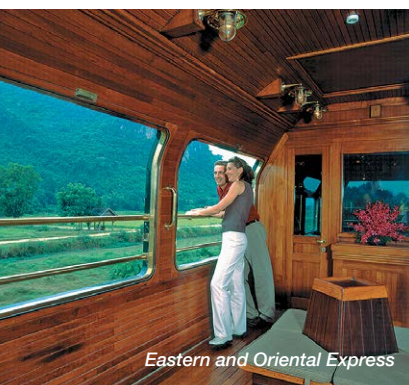


Variety Voyager



Volga Dream

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Eastern and Oriental Express

Featured Trains

Eastern & Oriental Express Page 68

The Eastern & Oriental Express reflects the Golden Age of rail travel as it winds through some of the most exotic, untouched countryside on Earth. The sister train to Europe's *Venice–Simplon Oriental Express*, the *E&O* offers an equally luxurious experience. Guests can listen to the sounds of the forest from the open-air observation car, sip a cocktail while the resident pianist plays in the piano bar, and enjoy gourmet cuisine and refined service in the lavishly decorated dining cars. Each air-conditioned Pullman cabin is paneled in cherry wood and marquetry and features large picture windows for excellent views, a banquette during the day and beds at night, 24-hour steward service, and an en suite bathroom with shower.



Pilatus Railway

Legendary Railways of the Swiss Alps Page 43

Awesome, breathtaking, and dynamic—superlatives for Switzerland's landscapes, but also for three of the world's great railways. The *Gornergrat Bahn*, Switzerland's oldest electrified cog railway, climbs 4,800 feet (from Zermatt to the lofty Gornergrat) in just seven miles, featuring views of the great Matterhorn. Lucerne's *Pilatus Railway*, completed in 1889, offers majestic views along its three-mile run from Lake Lucerne to the summit of Mount Pilatus and features a vertical ascent of 5,344 feet over a grade up to 48 percent. The *Glacier Express*, built in 1930, is a major engineering marvel as it crosses the spine of the towering Alps, showcasing spectacular Swiss vistas, and also penetrates the mountains via a nine-mile tunnel.



Rovos Rail

Rovos Rail Page 56

Rovos Rail is an exquisitely restored, luxurious train that truly captures the golden age of rail travel. The highly trained staff is exceptionally gracious and provides exemplary service. Wood-paneled private sleeper compartments have been splendidly refurbished in period style with an eye for all the modern comforts, including air-conditioning and elegant en suite bathrooms, individual climate control, mini bar, sitting area, and wardrobe. The dining car offers a highly sophisticated, luxurious ambiance and serves fine cuisine, while the complimentary bar service includes some of South Africa's finest wines. Large windows in the observation car ensure unobstructed views of the passing scenery.



Royal Rajasthan on Wheels

Royal Rajasthan on Wheels Page 65

Modeled after the personal railway coaches of royal maharajas, the *Royal Rajasthan on Wheels* captures the elegance of a bygone era, incorporating contemporary amenities that make this the perfect way to travel in northern India. The newly built *Royal Rajasthan* offers magnificent interiors, sumptuous meals, superior wines, and friendly, personalized service. The air-conditioned cabins are appointed with finely carved wooden furniture, Internet access, satellite TV, and en suite facilities. Guests dine on specialties from India, the Continent, and China in the train's two luxuriously decorated dining cars, which also serve as lounges. The train also features a spa carriage car.



The Trans-Siberian Express

The Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express Page 39

A true highlight of *The Trans-Siberian Express* train journey is the legendary train itself. The *Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express* private train, which travels between Mongolia and Moscow, is the most comfortable train available for this adventurous journey. Dining cars provide traditional Russian and European cuisine and the bar/lounge car is a relaxing place to gather with other guests. The train offers a choice of comfort levels with different styles of sleeping cars. Each car features two attendants and each cabin offers well-appointed convertible berths, modern amenities, air-conditioning, and private bathroom/shower.

Smithsonian Journeys 2017/2018 Planning Calendar

Visit SmithsonianJourneys.org for details and special offers

TOUR / CRUISE TITLE				PG#	TOUR DAYS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
EUROPE	Highlights of Italy	13	L	17					●	●			●	●	●		
	Gems of Tuscany and Umbria	15	L	13					●	●			●	●	●		
	Italy's Lake District: A One-Week Stay	15	ST	9					●	●		●			●		
	Northern Italy	14	L	15					●	●			●	●	●		
	Insider's Florence: A Stay in Italy	16	ST	8					●					●		●	
	Insider's Rome: A Stay in Italy	17	ST	8										●			
	Insider's Venice: A Stay in Italy	16	ST	8					●							●	
	Italian Cars	18	SP	11						●							
	Sorrento: A One-Week Stay in Italy	18	ST	9					●							●	
	Southern Italy and Sicily	19	L	15					●					●	●		
	A Cruise of Sicily and Malta	20	C	10					●								
	Sicily by Sea Aboard <i>Sea Cloud II</i>	20	C	9												●	
	Living in Italy: A Month in Florence	21	ST	30					●					●			
	Living in France: A Month in Provence	21	ST	30					●	●				●	●		
	France Through the Ages	22	L	15					●	●				●	●		
	Paris: A One-Week Stay in France	24	ST	9					●	●				●			
	Normandy: A One-Week Stay in France	23	ST	9						●				●	●		
	Southern France: Languedoc to Provence	24	L	13					●				●	●			
	Smithsonian at the 70 th Cannes Film Festival	25	SP	10						●							
	A River Cruise of Provence	25	C	9						●							
	Cruising the Rivas of Italy, France, and Spain	26	C	9												●	
	Christmas in Victorian London	29	SP	8													●
	Smithsonian at Oxford	28	SP	8								●					
	London: A One-Week Stay in England	27	ST	9								●	●				
	The Beatles and Beyond	29	SP	8						●			●				
	County Mayo: A One-Week Stay in Ireland	31	ST	9							●			●			
	Scottish Isles and Norwegian Fjords	34	C	9						★	●						
	Scotland's Treasures	31	L	12							●	●	●	●			
	The Emerald Isle	30	L	13						●	●		●	●			
	Adventure in Iceland	33	L	11				●				●	●	●			
	Northern Lights of Iceland	32	SP	7				●						●	●		
	Iceland Voyage	33	C	9									●				
	Highlights of Germany	41	L	15						●			●		●		
	Holiday Markets: A Rhine and Main River Cruise	40	C	12												●	
	Art Across Switzerland	46	SP	8							●			●			
	Waterways of Holland and Belgium	44	C	9					●								
	Great European Journey: From Holland to Switzerland	43	C/T	11							●						
	Voyage Through Europe	45	C	16										●			
	A Danube River Cruise	42	C	16						●				●			
	Old World Europe: From Poland to the Czech Republic	46	L	17					●	●			●	●			
	Krakow: A One-Week Stay in Poland	47	ST	9							●			●			
	Prague: A One-Week Stay in the Czech Republic	47	ST	9						●				●			
	Across Northern Spain and Portugal	48	L	17					●	●	●			●	●		
	Treasures of Southern Spain and Portugal	49	L	15				●	●	●				●	●		
	Barcelona: A One-Week Stay in Spain	51	ST	9						●				●	●		
	The Way to Santiago: A Walking Tour in Northern Spain	51	SP	13					●		●						
	A Cruise of Spain and Portugal	50	C	9											●		
	A Cruise of the Aegean and the Adriatic	52	C	9						●							
	A Cruise to Ancient Greece	53	C	9										●			
	Athens and Poros: A Stay in Greece	53	ST	11					●					●			
	Scandinavian Journey: Norway and Denmark	35	L	16								●	●				
	Cruising the Baltic Sea: Copenhagen to Stockholm	36	C	10							★						
	St. Petersburg and the Baltics	37	L	14						●			●	●			
	Inside the Russian Space Program	37	SP	9						●							
	Waterways of Russia	38	C	12							●						
	Trans-Siberian Express: A Train Journey	39	T	14								●					
WORLD	Northern Summer by Private Jet	94	PJ	23							★						
	Around the World by Private Jet	95	PJ	24										●	★		
	Expedition to Antarctica	79	C	14	★												

TOUR TYPE: L—Land; ST—Stay; SP—Specialty; C—Cruise; T—Train; F—Family; PJ—Private Jet; ★—2018 Departure; ●—2017 Departure

TOUR / CRUISE TITLE		PG#	TOUR	DAYS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
AFRICA	Tanzania's Great Migration	58	L	12		★	★						●	●		
	South Africa, Zimbabwe & Botswana: Rovos Rail	56	L/T	16									●	●		
	Tanzania Safari	57	L	15							●	●	●	●		
	African Safari: South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Victoria Falls	55	L	14			●	●	●		●	●	●	●		
	South African Adventure (Chobe River)	57	L/C	17		★	★									
	Egypt and the Eternal Nile	59	L/C	15										●	●	
	Splendors of Morocco	59	L	14				●					●		●	
	Eternal Japan	66	L	13				●					●	●		
	Classic China and Tibet: Featuring a Yangtze River Cruise	63	L/C	19				●	●					●		
	Cruising the Mekong River	61	C	15		★	★									
ASIA & PACIFIC	Himalayan Kingdoms: Nepal & Bhutan	64	L	15									●	●		
	Imperial China and the Yangtze	W	L/C	14				●	●				●			
	Tracing the War in Vietnam	W	SP	14										●	●	
	Discovering Vietnam	62	L	16										●	●	●
	A Cruise along Vietnam's Coast	62	C	11										●	●	
	Mystical India	65	L	17										●	●	●
	Northern India's Royal Rajasthan	65	T	14		★								●	●	
	Vibrant Thailand: Bangkok to Chiang Mai	67	L	15										●	●	
	The Silk Road: A Journey to Central Asia	67	L	16				●					●			
	A Journey from Bangkok to Bali	68	L/T	13										●	●	
THE AMERICAS	Journey Through New Zealand	68	L	16			●	●							●	
	Splendors of Australia and New Zealand	69	L	22									●	●		
	A Cruise of Panama and Costa Rica (Canal Transit)	74	C	9		★										
	Costa Rica's Natural Treasures	73	L	12			●							●	●	
	Legendary Peru	78	L	11			●		●				●	●		
	Machu Picchu and the Galápagos	77	L	15			●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
	Wonders of the Galápagos Islands	76	C	10	★	★										
	Amazon River Cruise	75	C	10				●			●	●		●		
	Patagonian Explorer: Argentina & Chile	W	L/C	17										●		
	Chile's Patagonian Frontier	78	L	15											●	
U.S. & CANADA	Discover Cuba: Its People and Culture	71	L	9				●						●	●	●
	Havana	72	L	5				●							●	
	Cuba by Land and Sea	72	L/C	10	★	★										
	Caribbean aboard <i>Sea Cloud II</i>	73	C	8	★											
	Celebrate Smithsonian	81	SP	4									●			
	Smithsonian at the Spoleto Festival	88	SP	6						●						
	Smithsonian at the San Francisco Opera	88	SP	4						●						
	Smithsonian at Chautauqua	88	SP	8							●					
	The Arts of Chicago	87	SP	6									●			
	Iconic Art and Architecture of America's Heartland	89	SP	4					●							
FAMILY	American Art in Philadelphia	89	SP	5			●									
	Masterpieces of American Art	89	SP	5				●								
	Astronomy in Arizona	83	SP	5					●							
	Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons Adventure	83	L	7							●		●			
	National Parks of the American Southwest	84	L	7						●						
	Bryce, Zion, and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon	84	L	7						●			●			
	Treasures of Yosemite	85	L	6						●						
	Glacier and Waterton National Parks	85	L	6								●				
	Exploring Alaska's Coastal Wilderness	82	C	8					●	●		●				
	Art Along the Coast of Maine	91	C	9							●					
FAMILY	Art of the Hudson: A Fall Foliage Cruise	90	C	9										●		
	Voyage on the Mississippi	91	C	9					●						●	
	In the Wake of Lewis and Clark: The Columbia River	86	C	7										●		
	Montréal and Québec	87	L	7							●					
	Canadian Rockies Adventure	92	L/T	8								●				
	Railroading in California	93	T	8									●			
	Railroading in New England	93	T	6									●			
	Railroading the Rockies	92	T	7							●					
	Cruising the Rhine: A Family Journey	97	F/C	9							●					
	Discover Ireland	98	F/L	9								●				
FAMILY	Discover Japan	98	F/L	11							●					
	Treasures of Italy	99	F/L	9						●	●					
	Exploring London and Paris	99	F/L	10						●	●					
	Adventure in Alaska	98	F/L	9							●					
	Exploring Costa Rica	101	F/L	8						●	●					●
	Galápagos Adventure	100	F/L	9						●						●
	Tanzania Safari	101	F/L	9						●						●
FAMILY	Exploring Peru	100	F/L	7						●	●					●

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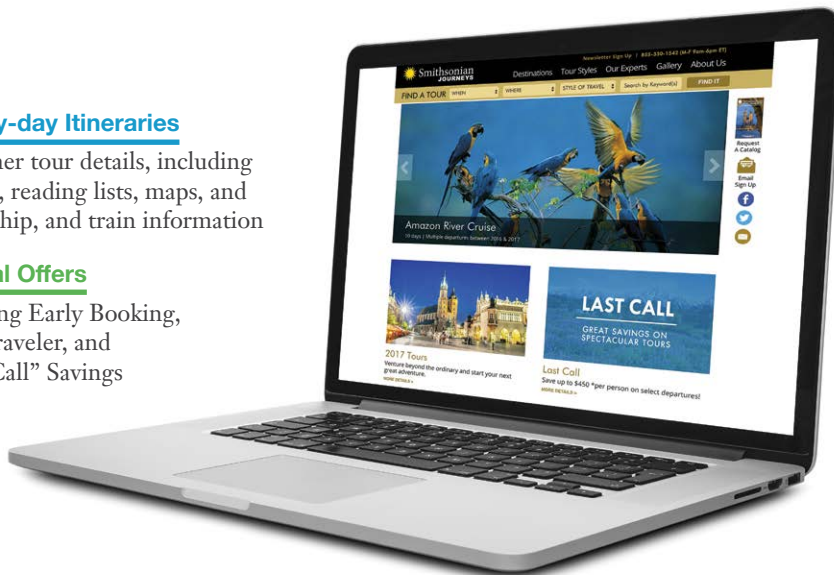
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Death Valley

6 days from \$4,400

March 5–10, 2017

California's Death Valley National Park abounds in contrasts and extremes, providing beauty in unlikely forms. Explore its exceptional geological formations and flora and fauna during leisurely hikes amid dramatic canyons, sand dunes, salt flats, and Badlands. Gaze upon a breathtaking sunrise at Zabriskie Point and sunset views of the pastel-colored volcanic ash deposits of Artist's Palette. Enjoy stargazing and see why Death Valley is an officially recognized “Gold Tier” Dark Sky Park. Plus, relax during a restorative stay at the famous and luxurious Furnace Creek Inn, a historic property located within the park.



Patagonian Explorer

17 days from \$7,769

Includes airfare, taxes & all fees

Oct. 7–23, Oct. 21–Nov. 6, 2017

Marvel at the awesome natural wonders of the southernmost regions of South America. Cruise the Strait of Magellan and the Beagle and Murray Channels to Cape Horn for three nights aboard the m/v *Stella Australis*, calling at Magdalena Island, home to more than 120,000 Magellanic penguins. Take leisurely hikes through Chile's Torres del Paine National Park—renowned for its mountain peaks, glaciers, turquoise lakes, and thunderous waterfalls—and witness dramatic Petrohue Waterfalls and Osorno Volcano at Vicente Pérez Rosales National Park. Plus take in the cultural ambiance of Buenos Aires and Santiago.



Voyage to French Polynesia

Aboard the 148-guest *Wind Spirit*

Includes airfare from Los Angeles

Feb. 6–16, 2018

Escape winter and bask in the legendary beauty of French Polynesia. This unforgettable and captivating sailing experience takes you to the islands and atolls of Tahiti, Papeete, Cook's Bay, Raiatea, Taha'a, Bora Bora, Huahine, and Moorea. Snorkel among colorful corals and tropical fish and explore pristine white- and black-sand beaches. Learn about the culture of the South Pacific and discover places that sparked the imagination of scores of writers and artists, including Herman Melville and Paul Gauguin.



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