ENDANGERED AND ANCIENT

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WELCOME
Oxford Journeys travel programme is an opportunity for lifelong learning through global exploration. Our small-group journeys, comprised of around 20 like-minded travellers, provide educational travel opportunities unlike any other.

Understand the world
Whether you would like to have a private viewing of the Sistine Chapel (p10), explore the volcanoes of Indonesia (p16), cruise the wetlands of Brazil (opposite) or learn more about the Large Hadron Collider at CERN (p8), our journeys are designed to take you on an academic exploration to gain a deeper understanding of the world.

Carefully curated
Created by specialist tour operators in collaboration with carefully selected academics, these are no ordinary trips. An Oxford Journey offers you an exclusive opportunity to immerse yourself in your chosen destination, whilst learning from a trip scholar who will accompany your small group.

Incomparable expertise
Our trip scholars are all authorities in their respective fields and will provide you with the very latest academic research, while answering your questions and challenging your thinking. From volcanology to medieval history and architecture to wildlife conservation – no matter where your interests lie, you will benefit from a deeper understanding of your destination and area of study. Where possible, our trip scholars help to open doors to special activities and sites just for Oxford travellers.

In good company
Oxford alumni and friends of the University are invited to bring partners, family and friends or to travel solo with a group. Enjoy lively exchanges and in-depth discussions and experience a world of new ideas and interesting places; there is always something to learn from your fellow travellers.

For more details on any journey and to book a trip, please contact the appropriate tour operator, whose details are listed at the bottom of each trip description.

CHRISTINE FAIRCHILD
Director of Alumni Relations
University of Oxford

While Oxford Journeys tours are designed primarily for Oxford Alumni, enrolment is open to all members of the Oxford University community including current and past staff and friends of the University. Some tours are run jointly with the University of Cambridge Alumni Relations Office and a small number with North American universities. In the case that the minimum number of participants to run a tour is not reached, the tour may be opened to bookings from enthusiastic travellers seeking an educational travel experience.

The University is a charity which protects its assets for the benefit of its charitable activities of teaching and research. Therefore, please note that the trips on our website and in our brochure are offered, organised and run by the various commercial tour operators, and not by the University. Responsibility for taking bookings and organising and running each trip rests with the operator, and any queries or concerns you may have about a trip should be addressed to the operator. You take part in a trip at your own risk. The operator is responsible for ensuring the safety and proper running of the trip; therefore the University does not accept any liability for any loss or damage, or for the cancellation of the event. Tour operators will make every effort to operate journeys as advertised but they reserve the right to modify itineraries if necessary.
Journey from colonial Paraty, a charming coastal town whose cobbled centre has been declared a national historic monument, to iconic Rio de Janeiro. Professor Speight will guide the exploration of the Atlantic rainforest that cloaks this verdant stretch of coast with visits to forest reserves and Rio itself. Learn about the fascinating imperial, colonial and industrial history of this area, and discuss the efforts being made to conserve it. Fly north to Manaus, Brazil’s gateway to the Amazon, and journey along the river aboard the charming Tucano riverboat. Navigate remote creeks and admire macaws, parrots, caimans, monkeys and colourful butterflies. Professor Speight and the local guides will discuss the relationship between the forest, its plants and wildlife, and the remote communities who depend on it for their survival.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Visit Rio’s fascinating and beautiful botanic gardens
- Spend four nights exploring the Amazon aboard a traditional riverboat, looking for pink river dolphins and giant river otters
- Visit Manaus Opera House, built during the rubber boom of the 19th-century
- See Rio’s Statue of Christ and ascend the famous Sugar Loaf mountain

Trip scholar
Professor Martin Speight, Emeritus Professor in Zoology and Tropical Ecology, St Anne’s College, University of Oxford

BOOKING DETAILS
Last Frontiers
alumni@lastfrontiers.com
Tel: +44 (0) 1296 653000

“A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.”
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
**Peru: Inhabiting the Andes**

**STARTS:** 6 APRIL 2018  
**ENDS:** 18 APRIL 2018  
**PER PERSON:** FROM £4,480

This trip includes fascinating pre-Inca sites not normally visited on a trip to Peru and will show the dazzling range of the country’s geography, from desert coast to the green valleys and soaring peaks of the Andes. Dr Nicholas James will discuss the history of the region’s inhabitants and their relationship with the landscape over the millennia. The journey includes a visit to Lima’s 5th-century Huaca Pucllana pyramid and the most important monuments of the northern coastal Moche (100–800AD) and Chimú (900–1470AD) cultures around Trujillo and Chiclayo. Finally, fly to the Sacred Valley and the centre of the Inca empire, visiting ancient sites and vibrant present-day Andean communities around Cusco.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- See the dazzling range of Peru’s geography from desert coast to the soaring peaks of the Andes
- Visit the renowned Larco Museum, whose exhibits span 4,000 years of pre-Columbian history, accompanied by the museum’s curator
- Learn about the remarkable Moche and Chimú coastal cultures
- Explore the markets, picturesque villages, salt pans and terraces of the Sacred Valley of the Incas
- Discover Machu Picchu, one of the world’s most iconic archaeological sites

**Trip scholar**  
Dr Nicholas James, Director of Studies in Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge

**BOOKING DETAILS**  
Last Frontiers  
alumni@lastfrontiers.com  
Tel: +44 (0) 1296 653000

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**Colombia: A rich and fascinating cultural history**

**STARTS:** 10 NOVEMBER 2018  
**ENDS:** 23 NOVEMBER 2018  
**PER PERSON:** FROM £3,740

Colombia’s diverse, colourful culture is an amalgamation of several influences, from a rich and fascinating pre-colonial history to the Spanish conquest and subsequent battles for independence. On this tour Dr Alexander Herrera will bring the ancient and modern cultures of this friendly and welcoming country to life. Admire Lake Guatavita, setting of the El Dorado ceremony of the pre-Columbian Muisca people. Tour a coffee plantation near Popayán, an old religious centre and colonial hub linking the viceroyalty of New Granada to Lima and Quito. Explore and experience modern Colombia before ending the trip on the Caribbean coast with visits to the Tayrona National Park and the beautiful city of Cartagena.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Visit Bogotá’s extraordinary Gold Museum
- Explore the archaeological park at San Agustín, containing the largest collection of monuments and megalithic sculptures in South America
- Admire the most important art collection in Latin America at the Botero Museum
- Visit Pueblito, the heart of the Tayrona civilisation which flourished before the arrival of the Spaniards
- Stay in the romantic walled city of Cartagena, with its colonial buildings and narrow cobbled streets

**Trip scholar**  
Dr Alexander Herrera (Camb), Associate Professor at the Department of Art History, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

**BOOKING DETAILS**  
Last Frontiers  
alumni@lastfrontiers.com  
Tel: +44 (0) 1296 653000
WILDLIFE OF COSTA RICA: CENTRAL AMERICA’S GARDEN OF EDEN

STARTS: 14 APRIL 2018
ENDS: 26 APRIL 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £3,295

Nestled between the Pacific and the Caribbean, fringed by powder-white beaches, Costa Rica is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world. In this stunning setting, discover some of the world’s most unusual mammals such as sloths, tapirs and armadillos, as well as a host of monkeys and fabulous birds from bright toucans, macaws and parrots to the prized resplendent quetzal. Accompanied by zoologist and ornithologist Professor Nick Davies, explore the waterways of Tortuguero, the rainforests, waterfalls and lakes of Arenal Volcano, the mist-covered Cloud Forests of Monteverde and the jungle beaches of Manuel Antonio.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Explore dramatic habitat diversity, from rainforests to powder-white sand beaches
- Encounter incredible wildlife including squirrel monkeys, cheeky white-faced capuchins and white-nosed coatis
- Look for birds such as roseates and northern jacanas and stunning butterflies such as the blue morpho
- Enjoy carefully selected hotels and eco-lodges, convenient for exploring the national parks
- Optional three night extension to the rainforests of Osa Peninsula and Corcovado National Park, an area National Geographic termed ‘the most biologically intense place on earth’
- Extend your understanding of the destination with engaging lectures from zoologist Professor Nick Davies

Darwin’s Galapagos: Cruise and colonial Quito

STARTS: 10 SEPTEMBER 2018
ENDS: 19 SEPTEMBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £4,995

Journey with Dr Sally Gibson and witness nature in its most unaffected state while sailing the Galapagos archipelago. Dr Gibson has been researching in the Galapagos for more than ten years and will discuss the Charles Darwin and Galapagos Islands Fund, a partnership between Christ’s College, where Darwin studied, and the Galapagos Conservation Trust. Explore isolated islands rich with unique creatures and dramatic scenery, and encounter miracles of evolution during this wildlife-filled adventure. You will also discover the history and culture of Colonial Quito.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Learn about the Galapagos’ incredible ecosystems during interpretive walks and boat rides with specialist Dr Sally Gibson and a naturalist guide
- Trace Darwin’s history of evolution and witness the legendary giant tortoise
- Encounter migratory and endemic species from blue-footed boobies and sea lions to land iguanas and albatross
- Visit Post Office Bay, where 18th-century whalers used a barrel as a mail drop
- Explore centuries-old Quito, awash with history, ornate cathedrals and fascinating museums

BOOKING DETAILS
Temple World
info@templeworld.com
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114

Trip scholar
Professor Nick Davies (Wolfson, 1973), Professor of Behavioural Ecology at the Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge

BOOKING DETAILS
AHI Travel Europe
info@ahitravel.com
Tel: 0808 1013425

Trip scholar
Dr Sally Gibson, Reader in Petrology & Geochemistry, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge

PHOTO CREDITS: From top: tzooka, Fredkuhl, Maxim Tarasyugin

PHOTO CREDITS: From top: Kanokratnok, Jess Kraft, Don Mammoser
Join maritime historian John Harris to go beyond the stunning beaches and lush scenery of the tropical Leeward Islands and delve into their colonial history. With sugar, slavery and sea power throwing Britain, Spain and France into continuous conflict in the 17th and 18th centuries, the contrasting islands of Antigua, St Kitts and Nevis have a fascinating story to tell as part of Britain’s once mighty empire. Visiting all three islands, discover their well-preserved harbours, plantations and forts and learn about the slavers, plantation owners, bankers, slaves and sailors whose lives were all interlinked during this time.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Delight in the islands’ colonial architecture including historic churches, botanical gardens and plantation houses, as well as historic barracks and fortifications
- Explore English Harbour in Antigua, the finest example of a preserved Georgian naval dockyard in the world, with a talk from a local historical expert
- Visit sugar and cotton estates on Antigua and Nevis, as well as the UNESCO World Heritage site Brimstone Hill Fortress on St Kitts
- Learn about Horatio Nelson’s life set against the broader subject of the naval history of the Caribbean, and visit the site of his marriage on Nevis in 1787
- Extend your holiday with an optional private beach stay in Nevis, Antigua and beyond (from £600 per person for seven nights, all inclusive)

**BOOKING DETAILS**
Temple World
Email: info@templeworld.com
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114

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Accompanied by ecologist and University of Oxford lemur expert Ryan Burke, discover the incredible flora and fauna of Madagascar, uninhabited by man until just 2,000 years ago. Witness what happens when an isolated island is left to evolve without large predators for 165 million years. 80% of Madagascar’s species are endemic and its protected reserves and rainforests contain amazingly diverse wildlife. Go in search of impish ring-tailed lemurs, dancing sifakas and brightly coloured chameleons, frogs and butterflies.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Delight in finding a diverse range of the island’s 33 species of lemurs, a primate found nowhere else on earth
- Discover totally unique flora and fauna – 5% of all known animal and plant species worldwide are found only in Madagascar
- Learn about some of the island’s six endemic baobab tree species
- Enjoy some of Madagascar’s glorious white sand beaches and unspoiled Indian Ocean coastline
- Discover some of the island’s 70 species of singing birds and parrots

**BOOKING DETAILS**
Temple World
Email: info@templeworld.com
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114

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**Trip scholar**
John Harris, Maritime historian and Emeritus Student of Christ Church, University of Oxford

**Trip scholar**
Ryan Burke, MPhil researcher, Biodiversity Institute, University of Oxford
SRI LANKA
Endangered animals and ancient cultures

STARTS: 21 APRIL 2018
ENDS: 4 MAY 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £3,970 WITH FLIGHTS*

The island of Sri Lanka boasts one of the highest rates of biological endemism in the world. Join zoologist Dr Andrew Kittle and Sri Lankan ecologist Anjali Watson in this biodiversity hotspot to explore the domain of its threatened apex predator, the Sri Lankan leopard. Learn about the integral role this endemic sub-species plays in the effective functioning of the island’s diverse ecosystems. Discover the regions where the leopards still roam, from the remote national park wilderness of Gal Oya into the midst of the hills in the tea country. Gain insight from conservationists about the endangered Asian elephant and how Sri Lanka is at the forefront globally of elephant conservation and management. Explore the island on foot, on private game drives and by boat safari.

Trip scholars
Dr Andrew Kittle and Anjali Watson, Co-founders of the Wildlife and Wilderness Conservation Trust (WWCT), research partners with the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), Department of Zoology, University of Oxford

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Glimpse white-bellied sea eagles, grey, and purple herons and several species of cormorant on an exclusive boat safari in Gal Oya National Park
- Visit an ancient Vedda tribe community of forest-dwelling indigenous people and learn about the tribe’s use of medicinal plants and the location of their ancient hunting grounds
- Explore Yala National Park with esteemed elephant conservationists Drs Prithiviraj Fernando and Jennifer Pastorini from the Centre for Conservation and Research (CCR)
- Enjoy exclusive access to remote leopard and elephant research stations and practical demonstrations in the field

OPTIONAL POST-TOUR TO THE MALDIVES
4–8 MAY 2018
Gain genuine insight into the real Maldives with an optional post-tour and learn about issues affecting the country, its people and its fragile ecosystem. This exclusive post-tour allows you an unparalleled insight into local life, with accommodation in comfortable guesthouses on local islands. The vast majority of tourists to the Maldives stay on resort islands; however, this tour offers a truly new experience and certainly not a typical luxury Maldivian holiday. Further details can be requested from the tour operator.

BOOKING DETAILS
Experience Travel Group
hello@experiencetravelgroup.com
Tel: +44 (0) 20 3355 7873

* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options
**Italian and Adriatic highlights**

**STARTS:** 11 SEPTEMBER 2018  
**ENDS:** 25 SEPTEMBER 2018  
**PER PERSON:** FROM £2,795 WITH FLIGHTS

Join Dr Damian Robinson, Director of the Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology, on this leisurely paced cruise around Italy and along the glorious Adriatic coast to Venice. Discover the marvellous Amalfi coast, cruising past the romantic island of Capri and volcanic island of Stromboli on your way to Taormina, Sicily, before heading across the Ionian Sea to the Greek island of Corfu. The fascinating Graeco-Roman site of Butrint, Albania, leads to the charming Croatian ports of Dubrovnik and Split, then the cruise culminates in Venice for an overnight stay with a special evening event.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Free cabin upgrade: one category upgrade on selected cabin grades
- Two-night pre-cruise hotel stay in Rome with visit to the Colosseum
- Visit the evocative ruins of both Pompeii and Herculaneum
- A rare visit to the Albanian archaeological site of Butrint, a rich repository of the past and a designated UNESCO World Heritage location
- Explore the Palace of Diocletian in Split, one of the greatest of all Roman sites
- Discover the Amalfi and Dalmatian coasts
- Enjoy an exclusive group excursion and special event (subject to minimum numbers)

**Trip scholar**
Dr Damian Robinson, Director of the Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, University of Oxford

**BOOKING DETAILS**
Voyages to Antiquity  
reservations@voyagestoantiquity.com  
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 410131

**PHOTO CREDITS:** All: Voyages to Antiquity

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**Iceland, Faroes and Scotland No-fly cruise**

**STARTS:** 5 AUGUST 2018  
**ENDS:** 20 AUGUST 2018  
**PER PERSON:** FROM £2,995

With its deep fjords, rainbow-arched waterfalls, volcanic peaks, gushing geysers and creeping glaciers, Iceland puts on one of the most dramatic natural spectacles on the planet. Join wildlife expert, ornithologist and research ecologist Peter Mawby on an itinerary designed to ensure you don’t miss the many highlights this remarkable land has to offer. Peter welcomes the opportunity to enhance your experiences of the wildlife with commentaries out on deck and on tours, during the cruise.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Free cabin upgrade: one category upgrade on selected cabin grades
- Visit the small volcanic island of Heimaey in the remote Westmann archipelago
- Explore the dramatic landscapes of Thingvellir National Park and sail to Isafjordur on the edge of the Arctic Circle
- Enjoy Akureyri, with its magnificent green pastures, waterfalls and whale-filled bays, and the impressive geothermal Myvatn Nature Baths
- Discover Scottish castles and Viking settlements in the Faroe Islands and the remote Orkney and Shetland Islands
- Enjoy an exclusive group excursion and special event (subject to minimum numbers)

**Trip scholar**
Peter Mawby, ornithologist, research ecologist & wildlife expert

**BOOKING DETAILS**
Voyages to Antiquity  
reservations@voyagestoantiquity.com  
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 410131

**PHOTO CREDITS:** Filip Fuxa, Kjel Ove Stornik, Trym Ivar Bergumo

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* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options.
Baltic treasures: Latvia and Lithuania

STARTS: 3 OCTOBER 2018
ENDS: 10 OCTOBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £2,240 WITH FLIGHTS*

Discover the ‘old-world’ charm of two beautiful countries with their strong central European values, traditions and cultures. Though Latvia and Lithuania are close neighbours, each has its own distinct history and traditions. Lithuania was a Grand Duchy and one of the most powerful states in Eastern Europe. Latvia by contrast was dominated for a long time by a German Order that brought Christianity and later a financial boom. In Riga this led to an unrivalled growth of Art Nouveau architecture which can still be admired today. Professor Leporc will explain how these proud peoples are once again building a distinct cultural heritage that was almost destroyed prior to the breakup of the Soviet Union.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore Vilnius with its fusion of eastern European and western architecture
- Enjoy Roman Catholic, Lutheran and Orthodox churches exemplifying many cultures, nationalities and religions since the 14th century
- Visit the magnificent 140-room Rundāle Palace, built by Bartolomeo Rastrelli, whose buildings characterise St Petersburg
- Explore the vibrant town of Kaunas, home to the M K Ciurlionis Museum of Art with an eclectic collection of Western paintings from the 16th to 20th centuries
- Enjoy a ballet or opera at one of the wonderful theatres in Riga or Vilnius

Exploring Romania: Wooden villages, painted churches and Saxon citadels

STARTS: 30 SEPTEMBER 2018
ENDS: 10 OCTOBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £2,570 WITH FLIGHTS*

Over the course of its turbulent history, Romania has been subjected to the cultural influences of the ancient Greeks and Romans, Slav, Bulgarian and Hungarian invaders and, more recently, German settlers and Ottoman Turks. Under the expert guidance of Gillian Gloyer, learn how all these have blended with one another and with the ancient indigenous civilisation of the Geto-Dacians to give Romania a rich and varied culture with particularly wonderful art and architecture. Travellers will experience spectacular landscapes, dense mountainous forests and traditional villages with brightly painted wooden churches and houses trimmed in elaborate wood carvings.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Private meetings with a number of experts from the world of academia
- Learn about a range of historical, artistic and cultural issues with a good balance between contemporary and medieval
- Stay in Sighişoara, the only inhabited fortified citadel remaining in Romania
- Visit Peles Castle, a bizarre mixture of pseudo-Renaissance, Byzantine and Moorish styles
- Stay in small and delightfully located hotels converted from old medieval houses
- Dine at restaurants carefully chosen to reflect the great variety in Romanian cuisine

Trip scholar
Professor Alexei Leporc, Curator of Western European Art at the Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg

BOOKING DETAILS
Distant Horizons
info@distanthorizons.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 151 625 3425

Trip scholar
Gillian Gloyer (Wadham, 1979), International Election Observer, ex-President, Oxford University Archaeology Society

BOOKING DETAILS
Distant Horizons
info@distanthorizons.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 151 625 3425

PHOTO CREDITS From top: Krivinis, Aivita, Vikau
* Based on London departure; contact tour operator for other options
STARTS: 17 MARCH 2018  
ENDS: 28 MARCH 2018  
PER PERSON: FROM £1,944 WITH FLIGHTS*

Embark on Hurtigruten’s definitive 12-day winter voyage in search of the mesmerising Aurora Borealis along Norway’s beautiful coastline. Immerse yourself in Norwegian culture and unravel the mysteries of the cosmos under the expert guidance of astrophysicist Professor Martin Bureau.

HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Enjoy a series of informative astrophysics lectures by Professor Martin Bureau, Professor in Astrophysics, University of Oxford
2. The deck of Hurtigruten’s MS Richard With, far from artificial ambient light, is the best place to see the Norwegian Northern Lights, if they appear
3. Food served on board is fresh, seasonal and sustainably sourced from local suppliers along the coastal route.
4. Add to the adventure with a wide range of pre-bookable, optional excursions such as husky dog sledding and a visit to the North Cape
5. Exclusive tour of the Science Centre in Tromsø

STARTS: 17 JUNE 2018  
ENDS: 21 JUNE 2018  
PER PERSON: FROM £1,995

Join experimental particle physicist Professor Ian Shipsey on a visit to Geneva to explore fundamental questions about the structure of our universe. Enjoy a private visit to CERN, home to the world’s largest and most complex scientific instruments including the Large Hadron Collider. Here, physicists are conducting ground-breaking research into dark matter and subatomic particles, with consequences which could forever change our understanding of our existence. While in Geneva, there will also be time to explore some key city sights as well as visiting the ISDC Data Centre to learn about the fascinating field of observational astrophysics.

HIGHLIGHTS:

6. Discuss complex questions about the universe and the matter of which it is made during a private visit to CERN
7. Gain special insights from Professor Ian Shipsey who has conducted research using the LHC at CERN
8. Travel to nearby Versoix and the ISDC Data Centre for Astrophysics and Astronomical Observatory to learn about High Energy Astrophysics and Young Stars
9. Enjoy lakeside Geneva with a walking tour of the old town and visit the beautiful Art Deco Palais des Nations, Europe’s UN headquarters
10. Discover the Bibliotheca Bodmeriana, one of the most important private libraries in the world, containing some of the oldest papyri from the New Testament

Trip scholar:

Professor Martin Bureau, Lindemann Fellow and Tutor in Physics at Wadham College and Professor in Astrophysics, University of Oxford

Trip scholar

Professor Ian Shipsey, Professor of Experimental Physics, University of Oxford

BOOKING DETAILS

Hurtigruten  
uk.groups@hurtigruten.com  
Tel: 0208 846 2633

BOOKING DETAILS

Temple World  
info@templeworld.com  
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114

* Based on London departure; contact tour operator for other options

PHOTO CREDITS From top: Øle C. Salomonsen, Ivan Mervillie, Villmarkssenter

PHOTO CREDITS From top: Kamell, Bogdan, Nwanda76
The art treasures of St Petersburg: Legacy of the Tsars

STARTS: 15 FEBRUARY 2018
ENDS: 20 FEBRUARY 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £2,260 WITH FLIGHTS*

The beautiful city of St Petersburg, often known as the ‘Venice of the North,’ was founded by Peter the Great to demonstrate his wish that Russia was a major power with its roots firmly fixed in Europe. Accompanied by Professor Alexei Leporc, Curator of Western European Art at the Hermitage, explore this grandest of cities with its elegant buildings and unsurpassed palaces located both in the city and the surrounding countryside. The visit has been specially planned for March when the snow makes everything picturesque and the city looks magnificent. The theatres are open, the vodka and furs come out and the insides of the buildings are kept cosy and warm. More importantly one can enjoy the city’s wonderful architecture and superb museums without the crowds later in the year.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Enjoy two visits to the Hermitage to view its unrivalled collection of Western art
- Immerse yourself in a ballet or opera in one of Europe’s grandest theatres
- Your hotel is ideally located only a few minutes’ walk from the city’s main sights of interest such as the Palace Square, the Hermitage and Saint Isaac’s Cathedral
- Visit the newly opened and stunning Fabergé Museum
- This journey can be extended to include a three day visit to Russia’s ‘Holy Mother’, Moscow

Florence: A private view

STARTS: 16 OCTOBER 2018
ENDS: 20 OCTOBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £2,575 WITH FLIGHTS*

Take a very special tour of Florence in the company of historian and art expert Anthony Majanlahti. Venture far beyond the popular icons and tourist traps and away from the crowd. Enjoy captivating lectures and access to palaces and gardens that are not normally open to the general public. You will also enjoy private visits to some of the city’s most famous museums. The tour will focus on the great works of art commissioned by the Medici family and the great fresco paintings of Florence. This carefully curated tour will bring to life Renaissance Italy in all its wonder.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- An exclusive evening visit to the Bargello, the greatest collection of Renaissance sculpture in the world
- An exclusive evening dinner at one of Florence’s most magnificent private palaces
- A visit to the Villa Medici, one of the city’s most beautiful private homes and gardens
- A tour of a magnificent private palazzo and art collection

PHOTO CREDITS All: Ferrante Ferranti
* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options

BOOKING DETAILS
Distant Horizons
info@distanthorizons.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 151 625 3425

BOOKING DETAILS
Art Tours Ltd
carly@arttoursltd.com
Tel: +44 (0) 207 4499707

Trip scholar
Professor Alexei Leporc, Curator of Western European Art at the Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg

Trip scholar
Mr Anthony Majanlahti, historian, author, Fellow of the British School in Rome

PHOTO CREDITS From top: Valerija, Weredragon, Roman Eugene
* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options
A once-in-a-lifetime trip to Rome filled with private visits to palaces not open to the public and in the company of Rome scholar Anthony Majanlahti. The tour will focus on the major art collections in Rome, formed over the centuries by some of Italy’s most famous papal families. Enjoy a fascinating mix of painting, sculpture, architecture and history. This spectacular tour of Rome has been specially curated for the alumni community and is timed to coincide with Meeting Minds: Alumni Weekend in Rome, 16–18 March 2018.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Lectures from Rome author and art expert Anthony Majanlahti
- An exclusive evening visit to the Vatican to see Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel, the Raphael stanzas and the sculpture collection
- An exclusive visit to the Palazzo Colonna, one of Europe’s greatest private art collections
- Visits to at least two other important private palaces
- Walks through the historic centre of Rome learning about buildings and history missed by most visitors

**BOOKING DETAILS**
Art Tours Ltd
Carly@arttoursltd.com
Tel: +44 (0) 207 449 9707
In 1813 Wellington defeated three French armies in an epic battle at Vitoria. The French suddenly found themselves with their backs to the Pyrenees, fighting to prevent the invasion of France. Take a riveting journey in the company of expert historians Colonel Nick Lipscombe and Professor Jeremy Black, through the dramatic landscape that witnessed the concluding events of Napoleon’s struggle for control over the Iberian Peninsula. Learn how combined British, Portuguese and Spanish armies finally broke Joseph Bonaparte’s French forces. Follow Wellington’s campaigns to capture the two remaining French strongholds in north-eastern Spain: San Sebastián and Pamplona.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Visit key locations associated with Wellington’s military encounters between June and October 1813
- Discover the magnificent battlefield east of Vitoria, site of Wellington’s epic confrontation with three French armies
- Be transported back to the Cold War at Hack Green Secret Nuclear Bunker
- Visit the Battle of the Atlantic Gallery at the Merseyside Maritime Museum
- Explore Manchester’s Museum of Science and Industry and the Imperial War Museum North

**BOOKING DETAILS**
ACE Cultural Tours
ace@aceculturaltours.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 841055

**FOOTNOTE:**
* Based on London departure; contact tour operator for other options.

**PHOTO CREDITS:**
From top: Fonds Ancely, Georgios Kollidas, Oleg Podzorov

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The only thing that ever frightened Winston Churchill during the war, he once wrote, was ‘the U-boat peril’. Masterminded in Liverpool from the now carefully restored basement bunker of Western Approaches Command, the Atlantic campaign was crucial to ensuring a steady supply of men and provisions from America. On this tour, travel with one of the UK’s most experienced speakers on WWII intelligence, Dr Mark Baldwin. Discover the only surviving WWII U-boat in Britain at Birkenhead, and explore Fort Perch Rock, Hack Green Nuclear Bunker and sites in Manchester, where Alan Turing lived and worked from 1947 until 1954.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Travel with one of the country’s most experienced speakers on WWII intelligence with a particular expertise in code breaking
- U534 offers an immersive look into life on board a WWII U-boat
- Be transported back to the Cold War at Hack Green Secret Nuclear Bunker
- Visit key locations associated with Wellington’s military encounters between June and October 1813
- Discover the magnificent battlefield east of Vitoria, site of Wellington’s epic confrontation with three French armies
- Appreciate the majestic coastal city of San Sebastián, location of Wellington’s famous siege, and relive the Battle of the Pyrenees at Sorauren and Maya
- Sample Basque hospitality on both sides of the border and stay at two of the best Parador hotels in Spain

**BOOKING DETAILS**
ACE Cultural Tours
ace@aceculturaltours.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 841055

**PHOTO CREDITS:**
From top: Geoff3Cae, Thevergori, Dafinka

**FOOTNOTE:**
* Based on London departure; contact tour operator for other options.

**PHOTO CREDITS:**
From top: Fonds Ancely, Georgios Kollidas, Oleg Podzorov

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**Trip scholars**
Colonel Nick Lipscombe, Napoleonic historian and lecturer at the Department for Continuing Education, University of Oxford
Professor Jeremy Black (St John’s College, 1978), Professor of History, University of Exeter

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**BOOKING DETAILS**
ACE Cultural Tours
ace@aceculturaltours.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 841055

**PHOTO CREDITS:**
From top: Fonds Ancely, Georgios Kollidas, Oleg Podzorov

* Based on London departure; contact tour operator for other options.
Medieval Loire: A hotel barge cruise along the Canal Latéral à la Loire

STARTS: 20 SEPTEMBER 2018
ENDS: 26 SEPTEMBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £2,595

Join medieval historian Dr Rowena Archer on this very popular barge itinerary, cruising through the picturesque villages and vineyards of the Upper Loire. Cruise peacefully along the picturesque Canal Latéral à la Loire aboard an intimate hotel barge, chartered for exclusive use. Medieval treasures await at the Château de la Chapelle d’Angillon, an 11th-century Romanesque chateau, and the Cluniac priory church of Sainte-Croix-Notre-Dame. Explore the thousand-year-old vineyards and cellars of Sancerre and Pouilly Fumé amid outstanding scenery. Also stunning are the floral gardens of Apremont-sur-Allier, one of France’s most beautiful villages.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Cruise through picturesque countryside within easy reach of Paris and the Eurostar from London
- Discover romantic Nevers with its maze of medieval houses, imposing Ducal Palace and 12th-century church of Saint Etienne
- See the UNESCO-listed Sainte-Croix-Notre-Dame church at La Charité-sur-Loire, part of the Way of St James
- Travel aboard exclusively chartered stylish hotel barge Deborah, with just 11 ensuite cabins with picture windows
- Bicycles carried on board offer the opportunity of cycling along the towpath

Trip scholar
Dr Rowena Archer, Lecturer in Medieval History, University of Oxford

BOOKING DETAILS
Temple World
info@templeworld.com
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114

Ancient Macedonia: Alexander the Great and the birthplace of the Hellenistic World

STARTS: 5 MAY 2018
ENDS: 12 MAY 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £2,595

Discover the tumultuous forces which propelled the small ancient kingdom of Macedon (in modern-day Greece) into an unrivalled global empire. Its realms extended through Asia Minor, the Levant, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Persia and even as far as modern Pakistan. With classicist Dr Alphonso Moreno, learn about Macedon’s most influential rulers, Philip II and his son, the self-proclaimed demi-god Alexander the Great. Through their actions, Macedon became the hub of global advances in philosophy, arts, literature, engineering and science, changing the face of Europe and Asia forever.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Explore the UNESCO World Heritage city and royal tombs of Aigai where recent research proves Philip II is buried and where Alexander was proclaimed king
- Discover the impressive mosaics in the ancient city of Pella, Alexander’s capital, and Philip II’s eponymous city Philippi with its fine theatre
- See the Temple of the Nymphs where a young Alexander was taught by the philosopher Aristotle, and Aristotle’s birthplace Stageira
- Stroll around Lefkadia and the sacred city of Dion, now the site of several exciting archaeological finds
- Enjoy vibrant Thessaloniki, Greece’s second city, with wonderful Classical, Byzantine and Ottoman remains

Trip scholar
Dr Alphonso Moreno, Tutorial Fellow in Ancient History, Faculty of Classics, University of Oxford

BOOKING DETAILS
Temple World
info@templeworld.com
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114
Journey through Israel, the West Bank and Jordan, whose origins date back to the dawn of civilisation. Learn more of Israel’s fascinating history, encompassing the Old and New Testaments and the more recent Israeli–Palestinian peace process. Discover Israel society today and its unique mix of history, people, religions and cuisine. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is a well-travelled bridge between sea and desert, East and West. It is a land of beauty and contrasts, from the fertile and ever-changing Jordan Valley to the remote desert canyons.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Visit Haifa, the greatest harbour of Israel, and the beautiful Baha’i Gardens with its impressive temple
- Explore the mystical city of Safed with its narrow, winding alleys and flourishing artists’ quarter
- Visit the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea – the lowest point on earth
- Explore the Old City and Mount of Olives and walk the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem (referred to by the UN as Israeli occupied territories)
- Enjoy the ‘rose-red city’ of Petra
- Experience the desert and stunning rock formations at Wadi Rum
- Meet with leading analysts to better understand the region’s challenges

**BOOKING DETAILS**
Distant Horizons
info@distanthorizons.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 151 625 3425

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Resting between the steppes of Asia and the fertile crescent of the Mediterranean, Iran is a stepping-stone between East and West. Persia’s vast empire once stretched from India to Egypt. Discover this land of incomparable beauty with some of the finest monuments in the Islamic world and extraordinary archaeological sites. Accompanied by Professor Michael Roaf, explore Iran’s vaulted bazaars of turquoise domes and exquisite gardens where the sound of running water and the chatter of the tea house is never far away.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Explore the beautiful city of Shiraz, famous for its poets and busy teahouses
- Visit Persepolis, city of Persians, one of the world’s most inspiring archaeological sites
- Experience Yazd, a traditional Persian town and the last home of the Zoroastrian religion
- Discover Isfahan, the most beautiful of all Iranian cities with its soaring minarets and domes of glistening turquoise and blue
- Enjoy visiting Kashan, the epitome of everything that is typically Persian from its mosques, caravanserais and stately gardens
- The journey can be extended to visit the north-west and the beautiful green and lush provinces around the Caspian Sea with visits to Tabriz and Ardebil

**BOOKING DETAILS**
Distant Horizons
info@distanthorizons.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 151 625 3425

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**Trip scholar**
Professor Nicholas de Lange (Christ Church, 1962), Professor of Jewish and Hebrew Studies, University of Cambridge

**Trip scholar**
Professor Michael Roaf (Christ Church, 1965), Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology at the University of Munich and formerly a Fellow of Wolfson College, University of Oxford

PHOTO CREDITS: From top: gorsh13, Vanbeets, Ido Meirovich

PHOTO CREDITS: Tunart, Orionna, Distant Horizons
Along the Burma Road: Walks in the borderlands of Burma, China and Vietnam

STARTS: 10 OCTOBER 2018  
ENDS: 29 OCTOBER 2018  
PER PERSON: FROM £3,480

Accompanied by Dr Charles Ramble, enjoy a number of easy walks (up to six hours per day) through this beautiful mountainous region, home to many ethnic minority groups who, over generations, have been marginalised to these remote lands. The journey begins in Burma’s Kachin State, one of the least visited areas in Asia and only just opening up to foreigners. Continue on to the southern borderland area of China with some of the country’s best preserved ancient villages. Cross into north Vietnam, an area of pristine beauty whose forests and eco-systems are internationally recognised.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Visit the Shan royal town of Hsipaw, situated in beautiful hill country, north-east of Mandalay
- Learn more about the lowland and highland ethnic groups on the Burmese/China border including the Dai, Deang, Lisu and Achang
- Walk through the spectacular Yangyang River Terraces etched into the steep Ailo Mountains
- Explore the ancient town of Jianshui which dates back to the Jin Dynasty of 300AD
- Spend three nights in Sapa, an old French hill station situated amongst the towering peaks of North Vietnam
- Finish in Hanoi, a delightful contrast from the hill tribes and beauty of the last couple of weeks

Crossing the ancient Silk Road: China and Central Asia

START: 19 AUGUST 2018  
ENDS: 6 SEPTEMBER 2018  
PER PERSON: FROM £3,580

The term ‘Silk Road’ did not refer to a single route but a vast network of roads stretching from Xi’an to the Eastern Mediterranean. Linking India, Europe and the Far East, routes passed through spectacular cities and tiny hamlets, through harsh forbidding mountains, gentle steppe lands and hot deserts. Along its length, intrepid merchants traded in a huge number of items such as beautiful silks, porcelain, jade and fine carpets. Dr Greenbaum will show that the Silk Road was not simply a highway for the trade of precious items: it was the main East–West artery for the flow of ideas. Buddhist monks from India rubbed shoulders with Persian Manichean priests and Zoroastrians, while Nestorian Christians sought converts among the travellers and settlers of the roads.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore Kyrgyzstan and Lake Issykul, the world’s second-highest navigable lake
- Journey through the spectacular Tien Shan Mountains past herds of Bactrian camels and Tajik camping grounds
- Visit Kashgar and its famous Sunday Market
- Explore the oasis town of Turfan with its gardens and orchards – an extraordinary contrast to the barren desert
- Discover the caves at Dunhuang in Central China and Longmen Caves in Eastern China, two of the world’s richest treasure troves of Buddhist art

Trip scholar
Professor Charles Ramble (Hertford, 1979), former Lecturer in Tibetan and Himalayan Studies, University of Oxford and an Emeritus Fellow of Wolfson College

BOOKING DETAILS
Distant Horizons  
info@distanthorizons.co.uk  
Tel: +44 (0) 151 625 3425

Trip scholar
Dr Jamie Greenbaum, Visiting Fellow in the School of Culture, History & Language, Australian National University

BOOKING DETAILS
Distant Horizons  
info@distanthorizons.co.uk  
Tel: +44 (0) 151 625 3425
China has a tradition of garden-making and landscape appreciation considerably older than that in the west. The journey will introduce the historical and stylistic development of different types of garden in China, particularly imperial, scholarly and merchant gardens, setting them in the context of the appreciation of landscape in the Chinese tradition. There will also be several visits to some of China’s most inspiring landscapes. Dr Alison Hardie is a leading expert on Chinese garden history, and a cultural historian of late-imperial China. She will interpret the historical, social and stylistic features of Chinese gardens, offering a deeper insight into the Chinese people and Chinese culture.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Learn more of the Imperial Gardens in Beijing
- Visit the sacred mountain of Hungshan – an inspiration for landscape painting and garden design
- Learn more of ‘scholar’ gardens of Suzhou and the context of the culture which inspired them
- View some of China’s greatest art in Shanghai’s wonderful museums
- Visit the intimate and classical Qing gardens, symbolic of pavilions, terraces, halls, bridges, lakes and hills

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The continent that stretches from Central Asia to the East China Sea boasts some of the richest and most varied cuisine on earth. Accompanied by English-speaking chef and author Ms Jen Lin-Liu, journey through some of the most important centres of Chinese regional cuisine. Discover the historical origins of China’s most famous delicacies and the role they have played in everyday life for thousands of years. This is a hands-on learning experience and there will be cooking classes in each destination. There will also be visits to snack streets, wet markets and popular local restaurants as well as visits to important historical and cultural sights to give a good balance to the journey.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Learn about imperial cuisine and take a cooking class in a Beijing Hutong (old courtyard neighbourhood)
- Visit the Terracotta Army in the Silk Road terminus city of Xi’an, famous for its dumpling dishes
- Visit a cooking studio and learn how to cook more contemporary Chinese dishes
- Discover the intricacies of one of China’s most popular flavourings with access to the kitchens of a popular Sichuan restaurant in Chengdu
- Sample the sweet flavours of Huiyang Cuisine and select your own seafood before cooking it yourself
- Take a cooking class inside the Hangzhou Cuisine Museum

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**BOOKING DETAILS**
**Distant Horizons**
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**BOOKING DETAILS**
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**Trip scholar**
Dr Alison Hardie (Somerville, 1972), retired Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies, University of Leeds

**Trip scholar**
Ms Jen Lin-Liu, author, Chinese chef and food writer
The making of the Himalaya: A geological traverse across Bhutan

STARTS: 8 NOVEMBER 2018
ENDS: 21 NOVEMBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £4,985 WITH FLIGHTS*

Traverse the Kingdom of Bhutan, entering at Paro in the west and departing from the south east along the land border to Assam, India. During the journey you will explore the major building blocks of the Himalayan mountains and discuss their role in throwing up the highest mountain range on Earth and their impact on the Bhutanese who live amongst them. Journey with specialist Professor Nigel Harris who has published extensively on the geology of the Himalaya since 1985, when he crossed Tibet with Professor Augusto Gansser, the grandfather of Himalayan geology.

HIGHLIGHTS:
1. Enjoy visits to astonishing Bhutanese fortresses and monasteries
2. Visit the vertiginous cliffs of Takshang Gompa, providing the most spectacular example of the core gneisses
3. Examine evidence of climate change from accelerated glacial melting causing major flood events in the Himalayan valleys
4. Discuss the thick sediments of the Tethyan Ocean, formed between India and Asia before the collision which heralded the Himalaya 50 million years ago
5. Enjoy stunning views from the high passes of the High Himalaya, including several Bhutanese and Tibetan peaks over 7,000 metres

PHOTO CREDITS All: Indus Experiences
* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options

BOOKING DETAILS
Indus Experiences
holidays@indusexperiences.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8901 7320

SIXTEEN

Volcano hopping through Indonesia

STARTS: 26 MAY 2018
ENDS: 10 JUNE 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £3,985 WITH FLIGHTS*

As the world’s largest archipelago, Indonesia sits between two of the most active seismic regions, the notorious Pacific Ring of Fire and the Alpide belt. Consequently the islands experience some of the strongest earthquakes and most powerful volcanic eruptions known on earth. Under the expert guidance of Professor Jürgen Neuberg, this itinerary will hop from volcano to volcano along the islands of Java, Bali and Lombok, taking in eight volcanoes along the way (some are dormant, others will be very active).

HIGHLIGHTS:
1. Explore the volcano caldera of Mount Bromo and the Ijen crater then watch the sunrise from a prime viewing spot in Penanjakan
2. Enjoy an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour into the operations of Indonesia’s Volcanology Centre, followed by a lecture with volcanologist Dr Surono
3. Journey by local train through incredibly diverse scenery, rural villages, plantations and tropical rainforest
4. Experience the spectacular Dieng Plateau, home to volcanic craters, sulphur springs, hot muddy geysers and mineral lakes and some of the oldest Hindu temples in Java, dating back to the 8th and 9th centuries
5. Discover the stunning Buddhist temple complex at Borobudur, one of South East Asia’s most impressive UNESCO sites

PHOTO CREDITS All: Destination Asia
* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options

BOOKING DETAILS
Experience Travel Group
hello@experiencetravelgroup.com
Tel: +44 (0) 20 33557873

SIXTEEN

Trip scholars

Professor Nigel Harris (Camb), Professor of Tectonics, Open University. He will be joined by Lecturer Dr Tom Argles, specialist on Himalayan structures and metamorphism

Trip scholar

Professor Jürgen Neuberg, (Camb), Professor of Physical Volcanology in the School of Earth & Environment, University of Leeds
The Hindu and Buddhist temples of Angkorean Cambodia are some of the most evocative monuments to survive from the ancient world. Begin in the modern city of Siem Reap visiting the pearls of Cambodian Hindu and Buddhist architecture in Angkor itself. See the walls and gates of Angkor Thom, the decorated Elephant and Leper King terraces, and the ‘Tomb Raider’ temple of Ta Prohm. Travel to the oldest standing temples in Cambodia at Sambor Prei Kuk, dating from the 7th century CE. Beyond Siem Reap, journey by road to visit other famous Angkor-era temples at Koh Ker, Beng Mealea, Preah Khan of Kampong Svay and Banteay Chhmar.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Enjoy illuminating lectures from specialist Professor Peter Bellwood about the majestic Hindu and Buddhist temples of Angkor and other Angkorean locations across Cambodia
- Explore predecessor temples dating from the 7th to the 11th century AD
- Visit the spectacular cliff-top sanctuary of Preah Vihear, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Journey through the tropical Cambodian landscape of rice fields, villages and distant mountains
- Immerse yourself in the local culture and enjoy stops to experience local life

BOOKING DETAILS
Indus Experiences
holidays@indusexperiences.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8901 7320

PHOTO CREDITS: All: Indus Experiences
* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options

STARTS: 9 SEPTEMBER 2018
ENDS: 20 SEPTEMBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £2,995 WITH FLIGHTS

Discover one of the last unspoiled corners of Southeast Asia on this exploration of Laos and northern Thailand. Accompanied by Human Geographer Professor Philip Hirsch, enjoy the beguiling UNESCO World Heritage city of Luang Prabang as well as rural Pak Ou and Pakbeng on a six-night Mekong cruise aboard boutique ship Mekong Sun. Continuing overland, explore the lush mountain scenery of the Golden Triangle and the Thai cities of Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai. The region’s dense jungles and mist-shrouded mountains are dotted with hill tribes including the Hmong and Akha people, facing many environmental and political challenges.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Gain personal and academic insights from Professor Hirsch, who has lived and worked in Thailand and Laos for decades and speaks fluent Thai and Lao
- Enjoy Luang Prabang, once Laos’s royal capital and today a delightful blend of French colonial architecture, traditional Hmong markets and golden-roofed temples
- Visit remote caves packed with Buddha statues and learn about the traditional lives and modern-day challenges for remote Khmu and Hmong villagers
- See the compact, laid-back city of Chiang Rai and the historic city walls and glittering temples of Chiang Mai, the former seat of the medieval Lanna Kingdom

BOOKING DETAILS
Temple World
info@templeworld.com
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114

PHOTO CREDITS From top: Rodriogolab, Viewapart, Loca4Motion

STARTS: 6 OCTOBER 2018
ENDS: 17 OCTOBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £3,395

Trip scholar
Professor Peter Bellwood (Camb), Emeritus Professor in Archaeology, Australian National University, Fellow of the British Academy

Trip scholar
Professor Philip Hirsch (St Edmund Hall, 1975), Professor of Human Geography, University of Sydney
STARTS: 18 NOVEMBER 2018
ENDS: 2 DECEMBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £4,365 WITH FLIGHTS*

Experience India’s rich history, vibrant heritage and natural wonders including rivers, jungles and wildlife. During your adventure you will experience thousands of years of history, including ancient palaces, medieval mosques and buzzing bazaars. Your exposure to India’s wildlife begins at Chambal, where you will see giant gharial (large, fish-eating crocodiles), turtles and the rare Ganges river dolphin. Journey to splendid Lucknow, known as the Golden City of India, which boasts historical architecture and a rich tradition of music and dance. Finish your trip in the Dudwa National Park where you’ll track tigers, and spot the rare one-horned rhino.

Trip scholar
Professor Claudio Sillero, Deputy Director of WildCRU, Associate Professor of Conservation Biology, University of Oxford and Bill Travers Fellow for Wildlife Conservation, Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford

HIGHLIGHTS:
- View the magnificent Taj Mahal at daybreak
- Spot giant gharial and Ganges river dolphins in Chambal
- Explore the Bada Imambara and other heritage sites of Old Lucknow
- See one-horned rhinos in the Dudhwa National Park
- Track Bengal tigers in the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve

BOOKING DETAILS
Indus Experiences
holidays@indusexperiences.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8901 7320

PHOTO CREDITS Main: Bigstock / Rest: Indus Experiences
* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options
Join Rosemary Crill, a leading authority on India's textile traditions and history, as you travel through India's most fascinating yet little-known regions. Odisha (formerly Orissa) in East India offers ancient Buddhist and Hindu temples with rich traditions of village craft production and tribal culture. This unique programme also includes some of the key traditional textile centres in the southern state of Telangana. During the trip you will gain insight into the extraordinary range of textiles still being made today. Discover ikat-weaving, natural dyeing, tussar silk production, block-printing and hand-drawn kalamkari. Explore remote villages and tribal markets as well as the most important and beautiful historic monuments of the area.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Visit the textile museum at the Sanskriti Foundation in New Delhi
- Explore the stunning 9th-century Hindu temples in Bhubaneshwar and the famed Sun Temple at Konarak, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Meet locals at traditional ikat-weaving villages and learn about resist-dyeing and weaving
- Discover craft villages specialising in pottery, applique work and painting
- Experience tribal culture at local markets and villages of Odisha
- Visit Chowmohalla Palace and the bazaar and Old City of Hyderabad

Rajasthan is well known for its many forts and fine palaces built over many centuries by its former Rajput kings and warlords. This trip focuses on the northern and central parts of the region, bordering the Thar Desert, where the royal architecture developed its own unique idiom as architects and craftsmen responded to the challenges of the terrain. Journey through the major cities of the region, which vary from the infamous metropolis of Jaipur to the delightfully quiet and remote outpost of Nagaur.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Learn about the magnificent fort and palace museum of Mehrangarh in Jodhpur
- Stay within the walls of the fort in Nagaur and explore the recently restored Garden Palace
- Visit Bikaner and stay in the Maharaja’s former shooting lodge by the lake at Gajner
- Explore the deserted towns of Shekhawati, famed for its painted houses
- Explore the busy markets and palaces of Jaipur

Trip scholar
Dr Rima Hooja (Camb), Consultant Director at MSMS II Museum, Jaipur, Managing Trustee of Jaipur Virasat Foundation and Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain & Ireland

BOOKING DETAILS
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PHOTO CREDITS All: Indus Experiences
* Based on London departure, contact tour operator for other options
Nagaland and Myanmar: A cultural odyssey

STARTS: 31 OCTOBER 2018
ENDS: 17 NOVEMBER 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £4,470 WITH FLIGHTS

Travel into wild landscapes and learn about the fascinating tribal cultures of Northeast India with expert Zara Fleming. The remote state of Nagaland is situated at the eastern edge of the Himalayas, inhabited by intriguing indigenous communities who live in harmony with the environment. Discover high hills, dense forests, lush jungles and an astonishing diversity of culture, flora and fauna. Continue to Myanmar (Burma), a country of rich cultural heritage, relatively new to tourism after decades of isolation imposed by its former military dictatorship. Explore the fading colonial beauty of Yangon and Buddhist pagodas of Bagan and meet the gentle people whose entire way of life is permeated by their Buddhist faith.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Experience the way of life of the Naga communities and delight in their traditional textiles, wood carving and body ornaments
- Visit Ahom temples and tea gardens in Assam
- Visit Kohima, the famous WW2 site where the Japanese forces were finally halted
- Explore the thousands of temples at Bagan with their outstanding murals
- Journey down the Irrawaddy River observing life in rural Myanmar
- See the arts and crafts of Myanmar, including the gold-beating workshops of Mandalay

Trip scholar
Zara Fleming, specialist in the art and culture of the Buddhist Himalayas, Victoria & Albert Museum, the Orient Foundation and Asia House

BOOKING DETAILS
Indus Experiences
holidays@indusexperiences.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8901 7320

Primates of Uganda: Chimpanzees and gorillas

STARTS: 24 JUNE 2018
ENDS: 4 JULY 2018
PER PERSON: FROM £4,590

Teeming with life, Uganda is reclaiming its place as Africa’s foremost wildlife destination. One of the only places on the continent to see mountain gorillas and chimpanzees in the wild, the Big Five are also here, including tree-climbing lions and the greatest concentration of birds in Africa. Uganda is a staggeringly beautiful country, home to Africa’s tallest mountain range, its largest freshwater lake and the legendary source of the Nile. Half of the world’s remaining endangered mountain gorillas live here and arguably no other wildlife experience on earth is more exhilarating.

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Journey with Dr Nicholas Newton-Fisher, a primatologist and expert in wild chimpanzee behaviour who has conducted fieldwork in Uganda
- Search for playful chimpanzees in Budongo and Kibale Forest National Parks, observing their behaviour and learning about local conservation efforts
- Track endangered mountain gorillas through the misty rainforest of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
- Enjoy game drives at Queen Elizabeth National Park, with an abundance of wildlife including buffalo, elephant and Uganda’s famous tree-climbing lions
- Discover the source of the Nile at Jinja, cruising to the base of Murchison Falls, while a further cruise along the Kazinga channel reveals a multitude of birds

Trip scholar:
Dr Nicholas Newton-Fisher (Camb), Senior Lecturer in Primate Behavioural Ecology, University of Kent

BOOKING DETAILS
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info@templeworld.com
Tel: +44 (0) 208 940 4114

PHOTO CREDITS All: Indus Experiences
PHOTO CREDITS From top: Surz01, Dvrcan, Ksumano

* Based on London departure; contact tour operator for other options
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TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY

We recognise that tourism can have environmental, economic and social impacts and we aim to minimise these impacts and ensure our trips benefit local people and places. All of our journeys involve learning about the places visited from both academic experts and local guides, allowing you to have a deeper understanding of the local culture and environment. Travelling in small groups also helps to reduce the environmental impact. Please contact the relevant tour operator for details of their responsible tourism policy.

YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

We love seeing the images you take while on our trips. Occasionally we use the best of them in our publications and online. Please send yours to: travel@alumni.ox.ac.uk

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