# ASIA & INDIA



2019 EDITION



# **Our Mission**

To exceed expectations in providing unique travel experiences while operating with the unwavering core values of a family business. To utilize our destination expertise and passion for travel, develop customized trips that create lasting memories, broaden the awareness of other cultures and enrich the lives of our clients.

### A letter from the President

Over 32 years ago, my wife Linda and I moved from my home in Queensland, Australia, to the United States. We settled in the Greater Philadelphia Area, where Linda was born and raised. Having lived on two continents, we both had a strong passion for adventure, which we wanted to share with others. Seeing a need for more accessible travel, Swain Australia Tours was formed, offering customized travel experiences to my home country in the South Pacific. As the demand for international travel grew, so did our destination portfolio.

Throughout the years, our team has explored the globe, uncovering distinctive offerings and destinations to share with our travelers. Swain Australia Tours ultimately evolved into Swain Destinations, offering the same personalized and unique experiences for over 30 countries.

I could not be any prouder of our team and the tailored travel experiences that we curate. Our focus remains on our in-depth product knowledge, personalized service and deep-rooted relationships. We remain a family-owned and operated company and maintain those core values within every aspect of our brand.

Travel, to me, is the most wonderful gift we have on this planet. Immersing yourself into different communities, exploring unique lands and meeting friendly locals opens our eyes to diverse viewpoints and worldly understandings. I feel so fortunate that I can fulfill so many people's dreams and provide them with lasting memories, as they explore foreign destinations and cultures in the regions of the world that our team and I are immensely passionate about. Here at Swain Destinations, we share an affection for travel and for serving our customers the best possible experience, no matter where in the world you wish to go.

We look forward to welcoming you into our Travel Community.

Happy Travels!

lan Swain President & Owner

# The Swain Destinations Experience

A journey with Swain Destinations is more than just a vacation; it is a total travel experience. Our dynamic Swain Destinations Team is made up of Travel Specialists who have lived, worked, studied, and in many instances, were born in the countries for which they tailor travel adventures every day. From Australians to Zimbabweans, we share a passion and commitment to providing our travelers with our own local knowledge and exceptional service to ensure that every individual enjoys the trip of a lifetime.

During all our trips, we ensure that our travelers have peace of mind on the ground through our network of local support offices and partnerships with our preferred suppliers. With Swain Destinations, you are looked after every step of the way.

Whether celebrating a special occasion such as an anniversary, planning the ultimate family getaway or simply looking to go on a one-of-akind adventure, traveling with Swain Destinations means a personalized experience from start to finish. We treat all our Swain Destinations travelers with an extraordinary level of care and service to ensure an incredible experience, no matter where your journey takes you.





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### **Destination Info**

All of the facts, boiled down for easy navigation. We have put together maps, travel times, local weather, travel styles and regional highlights for each of our destinations.



### **Experiences**

A selection of our top touring experiences across our destinations. Ask about the different options for each experience, including small group and private touring.



### **Unique Escapes**

A selection of our favorite properties. These accommodations offer exceptional atmospheres and experiences throughout our destinations.



Customizable Sample Itineraries

Our most popular itineraries. Use these as a starting point, and go from there. Everything we offer can be completely customized to fit you.



# Touring Styles



### **Private Touring**

Enjoy the intimate feel of your own private vehicle and guide.



### **Small Group Touring**

Join up to 16 travelers in a guided touring experience in a coach or van.



### **Coach Touring**

Join up to 40 passengers on a guided touring experience in a coach.



# Travel Styles

A variety of suggestions of different things to see and do in each of our destinations—to match all types of travel styles.

### Superior

Well-equipped hotels with a superior level of comfort. These properties are often in fairly central locations or near major sightseeing destinations.

### Deluxe

Boasting luxurious and spacious surroundings, these properties offer a high level of quality accommodations and services.

### Luxury

Premier accommodations in choice settings offering exquisite surroundings, the finest guest services and indulgent amenities.

### Lodges & Luxury Tents

These properties offer superlative dining options, personalized, attentive service and luxury accommodations in spectacular areas. Each property embodies the destination through its design, service and atmosphere.

### Price Guide

under \$100	\$
\$100 - \$199	\$\$
\$200 - \$349	\$\$\$
\$350 - \$599	\$\$\$\$
\$600+	\$\$\$\$\$

Accommodations: price based per room, per night. Activities and tours: price based per person. All pricing is based on low-season travel.





### Angkor Wat, Cambodia

Built in the early twelfth century, Angkor Wat is the largest religious monument in the world. It will amaze you that this structure was built centuries ago. Visit the temple at sunrise or sunset, and you'll be treated to a magical scene as the sky transforms itself over this incredible complex.



### Balloon Over Bagan Temples, Myanmar

Take to the sky for a spectacular view of the temples in a hot air balloon! Bagan's striking landscape of over 2000 temples dates back to as early as ninth century C.E. The best time to go is at sunrise: as day breaks, you be greeted by a view you won't forget.



### Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

This city, formerly known as Saigon, provides visitors with a glimpse of its 300-year-old history while still spearheading its five million residents forward. Savor this wonderful city by stopping for breakfast in one of the many cafes or explore the myriad of museums.



### Meditate at Wat Mahathat, Thailand

Find your inner peace as you learn the art of meditation at Wat Mahathat, the headquarters of Thailand's largest monastic order and Vipassana Meditation center. Located an hour away from Bangkok, this ethereal temple is a perfect place for contemplation.



### Michelin Star Food Stall, Singapore

The Michelin Star is one of the highest culinary honors. In Singapore, two food stalls have been awarded the star. At Hill Street Tai Hwa Pork Noodle and Hong Kong Soya Sauce Chicken Rice and Noodle, you can eat a part of history, and some seriously delicious food!



### Responsible Elephant Sanctuaries, Thailand

Thailand's history with the elephant has been rough. Fortunately, there are responsible sanctuaries that are working to rescue Thailand's elephant population. These sanctuaries are a home for the elephants to live safely in their natural habitat. They teach visitors about these gentle creatures.



### Scenic Flight Over Mount Everest

Fly to the top of the world on a scenic hour-long flight over Mount Everest. Witness the sheer greatness of the most-coveted mountain peak as you get spectacular views during the flight.



### Stay in a Traditional Ryokan, Japan

Experience true old-world Japanese hospitality! Traditional Ryokans, or Japanese inns, have existed since the eighth century C.E. Accommodations feature tatami-matted rooms with private Japanese baths.



### Sunrise Over Borobudur Temple, Indonesia

Experience a tranquil sunrise over the Borobudur Temple compound, one of the world's largest Buddhist temples. Enjoy the cool earlymorning air as you marvel at the intricate architecture of this World-Heritage-listed site.



### Tiger's Nest, Bhutan

Also known as Paro Taktsang, Tiger's Nest is a Himalayan Buddhist sacred site within the Paro Valley in Bhutan. The climb is challenging, with beautiful views along the way. At the top, you will encounter a small number of temples with profound spiritual meaning.



### Track Leopards in Jawai, India

Escape to the spiritual wilderness of rural Rajasthan, where nomadic Rabari herdsmen have lived for centuries. Here you will stay in the intimate luxury of Jawai, a truly unique safari-style camp, where you can venture out to discover the landscape or track the region's famous leopards.



### Trek the Great Wall, China

Explore one of the engineering marvels of the ancient world—the Great Wall. Whether you opt for a day-long hike or just a visit, this is an experience not to be missed!



\*Map is not to scale







# Welcome to Thailand

With iconic temples nestled throughout the landscape, Thailand is a destination brimming with culture, mystery and beauty. Modern cities have risen from diverse landscapes, allowing a thriving economy to grow, where the celebrations and festivals are as energetic as the locals.

Modern Thai society has been shaped by Indian, Lao, Burmese, Cambodian and Chinese influences. With Buddhism as the dominant religion, the Thai people believe in a spiritual well-being that emphasizes positive living. This "sanuk" lifestyle seeks fun and enjoyment in all things of everyday life, and it can be seen in the abundance of smiles, the welcoming nature and carefree attitudes of the Thai people.

### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	71	75	78	80	80	80	78	78	77	77	74	70
High	89	90	92	94	92	91	90	90	89	89	88	87
Rain (in.)	0.4	1.1	1.2	2.8	7.5	6.0	6.2	7.4	12.6	9.1	2.3	0.4

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Bangkok.



Currency: Thai Baht (THB)



Time Zone: UTC +07:00



Main Arrival Airport: Bangkok (BKK)



Flight Time from New York: 23 hours



### Golden Triangle

The borders of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet at this landmark in the middle of the Mekong River.



### Thai Island Hopping

Thailand is best seen when traveling from island to island, taking in the local culture.



### Floating Markets

For an authentic Thai experience, head to the local floating market and bargain with the shop owners.



### Elephant Sanctuaries

Visit a non-riding elephant sanctuary to meet the animals and support their conservation.









# Insider Tip

Cover up your elbows and knees when visiting temples, wats, monasteries, palaces, etc. We suggest taking a light jacket or shawl even on days when a temple isn't on the itinerary; it's good to be prepared.



### Bangkok

A lively metropolis abundant with temples, Bangkok is booming with energy, sightseeing opportunities, shopping and food. Running through the heart of the city, the Chao Phraya River provides easy access to the city's hot spots. Treat your eyes to a parade of colorful canoes laden with everything from juicy mangoes to jolly-faced souvenirs at the floating markets—a real view into local livelihood.



### Chiang Mai

Dating back 700 years, Chiang Mai's focal point is its Old City, where the walled and moated remains of an imposing fortress still stand. Surrounding this historic site is a blossoming urban area containing all the characteristics of a modern town. Check out the Night Bazaar where locals sell handicrafts alongside merchants hawking jade jewelry, hammered silver plates and reams of silk.



### Chiang Rai

Chiang Rai Province is an area well known for its surrealistic mountain sceneries and some of Thailand's oldest civilizations. This region falls into an area known as the Golden Triangle, where the borders of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar converge. Relentless efforts of the Thai Royal family have transformed the agricultural landscape to one of coffee, tea, fruits and highland crops in neat, terraced fields.



### Phuket

With jagged mountains that shape Phuket's terrain, it is the island's sheltered coves and long stretches of pristine beach that draw most visitors to its shores. The warm waters of the Andaman Sea beckon an abundance of water-based activities, and they yield the best seafood in Thailand. If you can tear yourself away from that perfect spot on the beach, go on a trek to explore Phuket's lush jungles.



### Krabi

Krabi's original identity as a small fishing and trading port can still be seen while strolling through the center of the old town. Today, the province has grown into a world-renowned resort destination. The local folk maintain their rustic charm and are always ready to welcome visitors to the laid-back lifestyle of their home.



### Khao Lak

Khao Lak is a recently discovered travel destination just one hour north of Phuket. Long white-sand beaches offer an exotic escape, while the national parks and mountainous backdrops provide a sense of adventure, ideal for a picturesque and peaceful getaway.



### Koh Samui

Located in the Surat Thani province, Koh Samui is an idyllic island paradise. Surrounded by palm-fringed beaches and blanketed with coconut plantations, this one-time backpackers' nirvana is increasingly popular with a broad range of visitors seeking tranquility. Snorkel off Koh Tao island and experience languid island life or marvel at monkeys shaking off ripe coconuts.



# in Thailand



Nowhere in the world can you find street food as fresh, delicious and affordable as in Thailand, most notably, Bangkok. However, traveling to a culturally unique country like Thailand can be overwhelming for a first-time traveler, so here are some tips to help seek out the best street food in Bangkok.

1. Be prepared for a spicy meal! If you are ready to try eating as the locals do, ask for "thai spicy." However, be warned that most tourists cannot handle this level of spice!

2. Taste as much as you can.
Thai street food is known to be cheap, so order a few different dishes for a real taste into the local culture.

**3.** Look for food stalls with long lines. This will help you easily seek out the local favorites.

Grabbing a quick meal from a local food vendor can be a simple and pure way to connect with the culture. In some cases, popular local cuisine cannot be found on the menu of any restaurant but can be purchased from a street stall on your walk home.



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### Bangkok City & Temples

Visit the Temple of the Golden Buddha, home to a statue made from solid gold. The next stop is Wat Potemple of the reclining Buddha. End at Wat Benchamabophit, a monastery built with white Italian marble. Private Tour from \$



### **Grand Palace Complex**

A must-see for all visitors to Bangkok, this guided tour takes you through the Grand Palace Complex and the iconic Temple of the Emerald Buddha. Feel the spirituality of Thailand as you encounter its most revered holy object. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



### Damnoen Saduak Floating Market

Begin your day with a drive to the dock past salt fields and rice paddies. Here, you will board long tail boats, float through stalls and sample local delicacies-providing a glimpse of everyday life in Thailand. Private Tour from \$



### Klong Cruise & Grand Palace

Enjoy a morning boat ride along the Chao Phraya River. Stop at Wat Arun—Temple of Dawn—a renowned landmark. Visit the Royal Palace and Wat Phra Kaew to gaze at the Emerald Buddha.

Private Tour from \$\$



### Foodies Walking Tour

Check out amazing offers from street food stalls and meet Thai and Chinese chefs at nearby restaurants and producers at markets. Taste a sample of Thailand's most famous delicacies in search of Bangkok's best. Private Tour from \$\$



### Chiang Mai City & Temples

Visit the 600-year-old temple of Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep. After a drive up the mountain's winding road, the final climb to the site is via an enormous mythological Nagas (dragon-headed serpent) staircase of 306 steps. Private Tour from \$





### Chiang Mai Cooking Class

The Thai people have long been known for their flavorful cuisine. Take part in a cooking class for a fun and interactive way to immerse yourself in the culture while learning new skills that you'll be able to use back home.

Small Group from \$\$



# Phi Phi Island Tour (by Speedboat)

Cruise around breathtaking Phi Phi National Park, home to stunning lagoons. Enjoy the water or snorkel on the shallow reefs before lunch. Stops are made at Monkey Beach, Bamboo Island and famous Maya Bay. Small Group from \$\$



### Long Neck & Hill Tribes

Visit several hill tribes that have originated in Tibet and Myanmar. Cultural traditions and customs have been kept alive, most recognizably through the brass rings worn around the necks of the females as a symbol of individual identity and beauty. Private Tour from \$



### Sea Canoeing in Phang Nga Bay

Witness some of the most dramatic scenery in Thailand. Canoe through sea caves and tidal lagoons connected to the outside world only through stalactite-filled tunnels. Private Tour from \$\$



### Sunrise Tour & Buddhist Monks

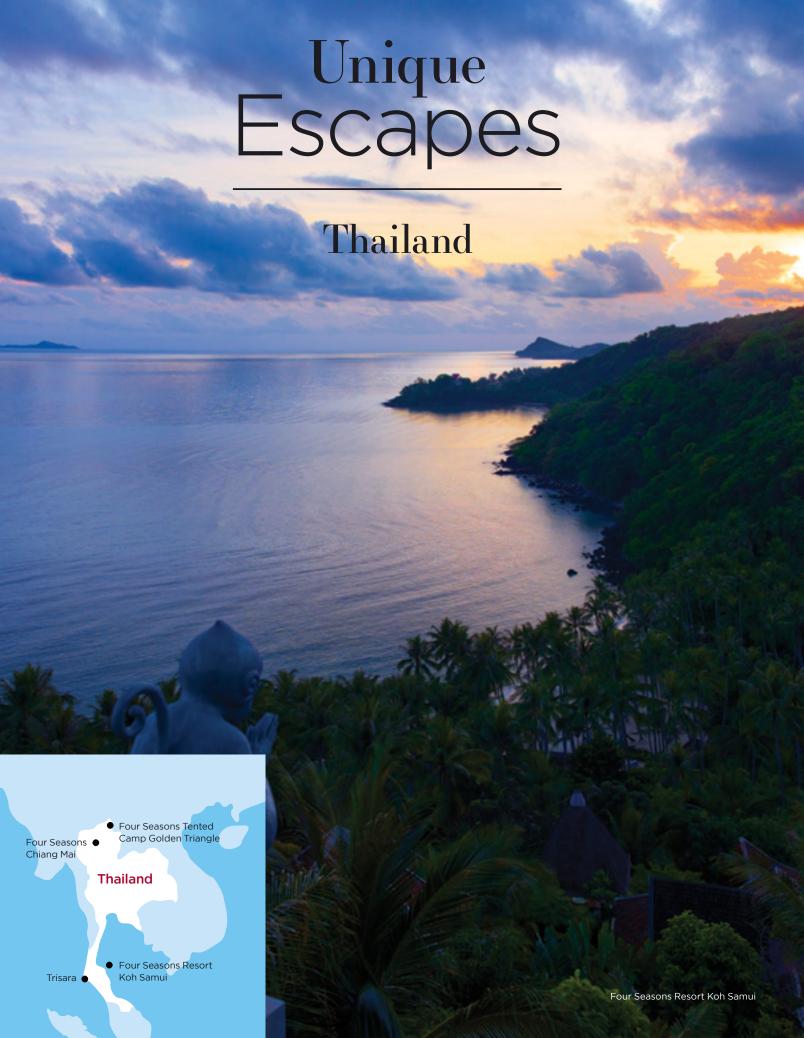
Each morning before dawn, the monks put on their saffron robes and walk with their alms bowls, receiving boiled rice and condiments from the citizens of the village. In return, people receive the monks' blessings. Private Tour from \$



## Angthong Marine Park (by Speedboat)

Enjoy swimming, walking and snorkeling, as well as visiting a volcanic inland lake. Particular features are Mae Koh, a beautiful beach, and Thale Nai, an emerald saltwater lake, both found on Mae Koh.

Small Group from \$\$





### Four Seasons Chiang Mai

Location: Chiang Mai

Immerse yourself in the lush tropics and get acquainted with local Thai culture on the terraced rice fields of the mystical Mae Rim Valley. Four Seasons Resort Chiang Mai is the perfect place to discover the treasures of Northern Thailand on your own terms, whether from a private pavilion perched above the sprawling grounds, the plush interiors of an exclusive residence or the crystal waters of a foliage-fringed pool.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



### Four Seasons Resort Koh Samui

Location: Koh Samui

Four Seasons Resort Koh Samui prides itself on being an away-from-it-all hillside resort. Spacious Thai villas are wrapped in tropical gardens and coconut groves, creating an amphitheater of sky, sea and islands. Explore a pristine world of beaches, reefs and rainforests as you revel in the beauty of Koh Samui.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



# Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle

Location: Chiang Rai

In the exotic bamboo jungles where Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet awaits a one-of-a-kind experience. With just 15 tented accommodations, the Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle covers every detail of an exotic vacation experience, from elephant mahout training to Golden Triangle excursions.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



### Trisara

Location: Phuket

Featuring natural grey marble infinity pools within villas and suites that overflow towards the Andaman Sea, Trisara's idyllic setting complements its surroundings. Offering spectacularly vibrant sunsets, the property is renowned for authentic dining experiences, spa treatments and lush surroundings, guaranteeing warm Thai service throughout your stay.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night

# My Birthday in Thailand & Cambodia





My family set off and flew to Bangkok, Thailand! Upon arrival we connected to Siem Reap, Cambodia, where we had arrived in time for my birthday. My plan was to have something special most days. The night of my birthday—we were staying at Amansara—they assisted in creating a memorable night. The night began with us hosting a giant shadow puppet show to the small children of a village close by. It was great to be surrounded by such happiness, as this was the first time they had seen this show.

Then we went to one of the ancient temples, where hundreds of candles lined the path to guide us through the maze to a dinner set up with rugs, great food, wine and a fortune teller. Looking at the stars in this 1,000-year-old temple was magic.

We then moved to Chiang Rai and the Four Seasons Tented Camp. Here, the general manager at the time, Jason, helped with a special dinner in the elephant camp. What a thrill to be there after dark with these massive animals! They had surprised me by releasing 51 Kongmings

years in the sky.

(sky lanterns) in my honor. What a thrill to see these candles

helping me celebrate for the next 50

A private cooking lesson at the Lanna Cooking School in Four Seasons

> Chiang Mai followed, where we all enjoyed learning more about Thai cooking.

> > We finished our trip in Bangkok and took small boats along the canals. We visited the grand palace and temples, and dined amongst the stars at Sirocco.

Thailand and Cambodia are such special places with wonderful resorts to stay in and enjoy the culture in luxury.







A Family Adventure with: Ian Swain President & Owner





# Welcome to Vietnam

Positioned along the eastern part of the Indochinese peninsula, Vietnam is a strip of land shaped like the letter "S." Bordered by China, Laos and Cambodia, Vietnam is often paired with journeys through Thailand and Cambodia. Vietnam's diverse natural environment, geography, history and culture have created a travel experience that is invigorating and eye-opening.

Vietnam offers an endless coastline, lush forests and beautiful mountainous regions with numerous magnificent landscapes. Vietnamese people have strong ties to their heritage with a variety of ancient architecture, constructions and wonderful legends.

### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	72	73	76	79	79	77	77	77	76	76	74	72
High	88	90	92	93	92	89	89	88	88	87	87	87
Rain (in.)	0.6	0.1	0.4	2.0	8.4	12.2	11.6	10.7	13.5	10.3	4.7	1.8

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Ho Chi Minh City.



Currency: Vietnamese Dong (VND)



Time Zone: UTC +07:00



Main Arrival Airport: Hanoi (HAN)



Flight Time from New York: 22 hours

# 2019 Highlights

### Visit Hill Tribes in Sapa

Famous Bac Ha market is a good opportunity to get to know the locals and their culture.



### Halong Bay

Sail among the soaring limestone islands and rainforests high above the calm waters of Halong Bay.



### Street Food of Saigon

Taste dishes from across the country as you take in the unique culture of Vietnam's economic heart.



### Hoi An Cooking Classes

A foodie's dream, cooking classes in Hoi An will give any chef the secrets to cooking Vietnamese dishes.









# Insider Typ

Ho Chi Minh City pulsates with an intoxicating energy and excitement day and night. Within this vibrant city you can find hole-in-the-wall restaurants, lost-in-time cafés and bespoke encounters. Spend a little time exploring the city and find the magic in these little gems offering a little respite from the mesmerizing chaos!



### Ho Chi Minh City

Formerly known as Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City provides visitors with a glimpse of its 300-year-old history while simultaneously spearheading its eight million residents through the millennium. The old Saigon still survives in wide downtown avenues flanked by pristine colonials. Stop for a breakfast of coffee and croissants at a café before tackling a myriad of museums. Hectic and eclectic, Ho Chi Minh City has an attitude all its own.



### Hanoi

The capital of Vietnam, Hanoi is a city where tradition reigns supreme. French Colonial houses stand alongside striking skyscrapers in the Old Quarter, while languid lakes dot city parks. Beautiful, quiet streets and neighborhoods flood Hanoi, giving it a gracious, almost regal flavor. Hanoi welcomes visitors to its fine galleries, charismatic stores and exciting dining venues.



### Halong Bay

Home to some 3,000 limestone and dolomite islands (or "grottos") rising jaggedly from the Gulf of Tonkin, local lore has it that an enormous dragon created the bay as it thrashed its way toward the open sea. There is plenty to explore, and it is easy to find peaceful places to swim, fish or just relax without seeing another soul.



### Nha Trang

Finding its home on Vietnam's coast, Nha Trang is a place of soft white sand surrounded by warm waters dotted with islands. This palm-lined sandy beach is one of Vietnam's most popular destinations. A backdrop of mountains to the west and north provides picturesque scenery while serving to protect Nha Trang's weather patterns, which boast an estimated 250 days of sunshine a year.



### Hue

Bisected by the Perfume River, the banks south of Hue are home to the many tombs of the Nguyen Emperors. The best way to see the city is by bicycle or longboat. Be sure to arrange stops at Tu Duc—an extensive site with lots of character—Minh Mang, Khai Dinh and the Thien Mu Pagoda—a lovely seven-tiered structure surrounded by gardens.



### Hoi An

Boasting almost 850 historic structures and streetscapes, Hoi An is a walker's wonderland with timeless treasures waiting to be discovered around every corner. A picturesque river port, Hoi An turns its gaze inwards to its rich history. Wander among historic homes and temples, stop to lounge in an open-air café and gaze at the exotic foods in the market or take a sampan ride down the river.



#### Sapa

Nestled amongst the Hoang Lien Mountains near the Chinese border, Sapa is a wonderfully colorful town. Famous for its pristine environment, lush rice fields, unparalleled scenery and cool climate, Sapa is home to more than 30 thriving hill tribes. You will find people from the local H'mong and Dzao hill tribes selling their produce, clothing and handicrafts in the town's market every day.

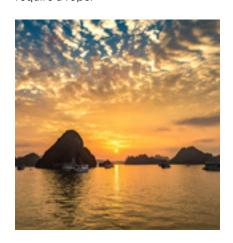


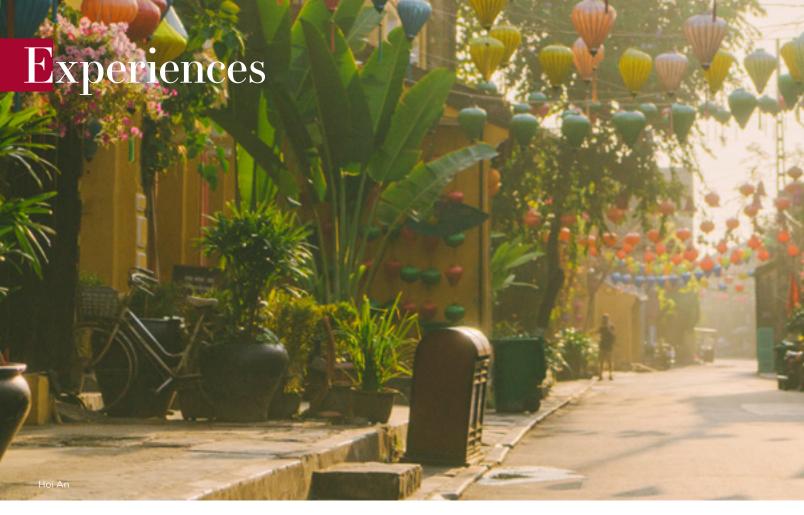


Experience one of Southeast Asia's most scenic coastal routes as you journey by bike from Hoi An to Hue. Triumphantly climb the world-famous Hai Van Pass and witness the breathtaking views. Along the way, take the time to appreciate the powerful landmarks that pass by.



For even more excitement, head to Ha Long Bay for scenic rock climbing. The dynamic topography gives way to a wide range of climbing trails. If you're a beginner, head to one of the smaller islands to try your hand at a roped climb. For a more daring adventure, try Deep Water Soloing, a type of rock climbing that does not require a rope.







### Cu Chi Tunnels

Tour the underground system built by Vietnamese guerrilla fighters during the war. Originally built by the Viet Minh, the tunnels were improved and extended by the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War in the 1960s. Private Tour from \$



### Explore the Art of Hanoi

Head to the village of Dong Ho, famous for an age-old form of woodblock printing that dates back to the 11th century. On the way back to Hanoi, stop for a visit to the studio of surrealist artist Dao Anh Khanh. Private Tour from \$



### Mekong Delta Cruise on Cai Be Princess

Embark on a Mekong River cruise and tour the floating market of Cai Be. Explore the smaller islands nestled among the narrow canals, visiting Dong Phu, Binh Hoa Phuoc and Bai Dinh Temple. Private Tour from \$\$



### Hanoi City Tour

Spend a full day touring Hanoi's most revered spots. Some of the highlights include the Temple of Literature, the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Hoan Kiem Lake. Located in the heart of Hanoi, this lake provides access to the Old Quarter.

Private Tour from \$



### Ho Chi Minh City Tour

Visit Jade Emperor Pagoda, a key meeting place for Chinese secret societies. Head to Ben Thanh Market, Ho Chi Minh's central market. Continue to the Notre Dame Cathedral and two of the city's oldest pagodas—Thien Hau and Giac Lam. Private Tour from \$



### Hanoi Food Walk and Lunch Tour

Traverse the streets of Hanoi, visiting restaurants, food stalls and the local market with your Vietnamese guide. You will be introduced to recipes and the historical background of an array of local dishes.

Private Tour from \$





### Thang Long Water Puppet Theater in Hanoi

Enjoy lighthearted comedy and skilled puppetry with a performance of vignettes depicting daily life in the countryside. Ancient tales include the legend of Hoan Kiem Lake and the peaceful founding of the city of Hanoi. Private Tour from \$



### Bac Ha Sunday Market

Every Sunday morning, many different ethnic groups gather to buy and sell local products that cannot be found elsewhere. In the afternoon, walk to the village of Trung Do and cruise along the Chay River.

Private Tour from \$\$



### Hoi An City Tour with Thu Bon River Cruise

Wander through the cobbled streets to the bustling central market. Visit a private house where family members have lived for centuries. Head to the famous Japanese Covered Bridge and cruise down the Thu Bon River.

Private Tour from \$



# Authentic Three-Generation Cooking Class

Enjoy an authentic cooking experience with a local family. In the open-air kitchen, learn step-bystep how to prepare some tasty traditional Vietnamese dishes that are typical to the region.

Small Group from \$



### My Son

Travel to My Son, the former religious center of the Champa Kingdom. The remains of the five archaeological sites are located among green hills and winding streams. Walk along forested paths to explore the ruins. Private Tour from \$



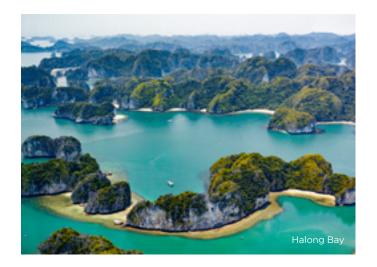
### **Hue City Tour**

Tour Hue, Vietnam's former capital for over 140 years. Venture to the Imperial Tomb of Tu Duc—Vietnam's longest-reigning emperor—the Imperial Tomb of Khai Dinh and Vinh Tu garden house.

Private Tour from \$

# Halong Bay Cruises

Halong means "Where the Dragon Descends into the Sea." From the emerald-green waters of Halong Bay, some 3,000 limestone and dolomite islands, or "grottos," rise jaggedly from the Gulf of Tonkin like medieval stone cathedral spires or the scales on a dragon's back. Local lore has it that an enormous dragon created the bay, grottos and outcroppings as it thrashed its way toward the open sea to prevent the intrusion of enemy navies. Today, local fishermen still report encountering a giant sea beast called Tarasque, sort of the Loch Ness Monster of the South China Sea. There is plenty to explore in the 1,500-square-mile body of water, where it is easy to find peaceful places to swim, fish or simply relax without seeing another soul, while surrounded by majestic scenery.





### Halong Jasmine

Jasmine is the second of Heritage Line's boutique ships in Halong Bay. Visitors looking for both comfort and adventure will enjoy Jasmine's friendly crew and understated elegance. With 23 cabins, Jasmine is designed in a traditional Vietnamese "junk" style. Jasmine's interiors and exteriors are covered in polished wood, lending Jasmine the stately appearance of an Indochina-era sailing boat.

\$\$\$\$ per cabin. Meals included.

Halong Bay





### Halong Violet

Built to resemble a traditional Asian "junk" boat, Halong Violet features gleaming wooden floors, opulent silks and velvets, and cabins with floor-to-ceiling windows that frame breathtaking views. In this petite yet luxurious craft, passengers can appreciate the bay's massive scale as the boat's red sails are dwarfed by the bay's towering limestone islands.

\$\$\$\$ per cabin. All inclusive.



### Paradise Luxury Cruises

Built according to the traditional Vietnamese "junk" boat design, Paradise Luxury Cruises presents a lavish outfit blending subtle harmony with the natural environment. This cruise is purposed for guests to enjoy the majestic views offered by the surroundings, furnished for the utmost comfort throughout the cruise. Enjoy activities onboard and an exquisite restaurant, bar and top deck for 360-degree views of the incredible bay. \$\$\$\$ per cabin. All inclusive.





## Welcome to Cambodia

Protruding from the jungle, the ancient city of Angkor Wat is the main attraction to visitors of Siem Reap. The city's proximity to the legendary sandstone complex makes it the ideal base camp for day trips and longer itineraries. Relax and unwind in a local restaurant after a long day of exploring the world's largest religious monument or don your walking shoes and set off on the 60-square-miles of passageways and palaces.

Beneath Cambodia's clatter of rickshaws and motorbikes lies the serenity of aging French Colonial mansions and temples that contrast with Phnom Penh's chaotic landscape. Housed within the showy walls of the Royal Palace sits the Silver Pagoda, a fascinating structure lined with 5,000 blocks of silver weighing over six tons. This lavish abode holds a 17th century Buddha cut from Baccarat Crystal and another Buddha made almost entirely of gold and dripping with approximately 10,000 diamonds.

### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	71	72	74	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	74	71
High	88	91	93	95	93	91	90	90	88	87	86	86
Rain (in.)	0.3	0.4	1.4	3.1	5.7	5.8	6	6.1	8.9	9.9	5.5	1.7

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Phnom Penh.



Currency: Cambodian Riel (KHR)



Time Zone: UTC +07:00



Main Arrival Airport: Phnom Penh (PNH)



Flight Time from New York: 22 hours



### Sunrise at Angkor Wat

A World Wonder that cannot be missed, Angkor Wat is the largest religious monument in the world.



### Siem Reap Night Market

Wander through the busy stalls and admire the crafts, souvenirs and silks available from local vendors.



### Floating Villages

A trip to the floating villages is a unique experience and an important way to see into the local culture.



### The Killing Fields

The Killing Fields is a vital stop for any traveler interested in getting a perspective on Cambodia's history.





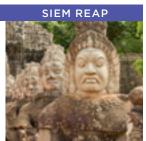




# Insider Tip

Cambodia is known for its beautiful temples. Although Angkor Wat is the most famous, Cambodia is filled with these ancient structures. Visit the Temple of Jayavarman VII to see a magnificent depiction of the country's most celebrated king.





### Angkor Thom & Angkor Wat

Visit Angkor Thom, a forbidden royal city, and see the faces of Bayon. See the Victory Gate, Baphuon, Elephant Terrace and Terrace of the Leper King. Tour Angkor Wat and see the longest continuous structure in the world. Private Tour from \$\$



### Hidden Temples and Countryside by ATV

Travel off the beaten track on an ATV to discover villages and temples. Drive through the scenic countryside past lush rice fields. Visit secluded Banteay Ampeul and enjoy a picnic lunch within the grounds of this ancient temple. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



# Temples of Banteay Srei & Ta Prohm

True temple buffs won't want to miss Banteay Srei. These tenth century buildings were done in a style unique to the high spires of Angkor, while the jungle foliage still has its hold on the temple of Ta Prohm. Private Tour from \$\$



### Phnom Penh City Tour

Tour the Royal Palace that stands on the former citadel known as Banteay Kev. In the afternoon, tour Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, formerly a high school that later became the Khmer Rouge's torture and interrogation center. Private Tour from \$



### Cambodian Cooking Class

Enjoy a hands-on and interactive cooking class in an outdoor pavilion, surrounded by banana trees and bamboo. Visit a local family and garden to learn about food superstition and beliefs and how they play into Cambodian life.

Private Tour from \$



### **Oudong Tour**

Travel to Oudong, the former capital of Cambodia. Visit the temples and remains of Vihear Preah Ath Roes, also known as Vihara of the 18-Cubit Buddha. Stop at an authentic silversmith village and enjoy a brief tour of a local workshop.

Private Tour from \$





# Welcome to Laos

Laos' ancient capital, Luang Prabang, is a sleepy town with a sumptuous past. Since its heyday as Laos' first capital in 1353, this riverside hamlet has enchanted everyone from monks to monarchs with its splendid temples and serene mountain landscape. Literally meaning "great holy image," Luang Prabang has over 30 well-preserved temples adorned with fascinating mosaics and intricately carved wooden columns. The temples hum with the chants of the faithful.

Filled with temples, colorfully clad monks and unforgettably friendly villagers, no city captures Laos' rustic charm better than Vientiane. Lovingly restored temples share the skyline with internet cafés and international hotels. Soak up Vientiane's laid-back atmosphere at the morning market by mixing with the city's most endearing attraction—its people. Pose in the arms of a gigantic Buddha at Buddha Park or meditate under a sacred bodhi tree in the impressive Phra That Luang temple.

### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	58	60	64	71	74	76	75	74	73	70	64	58
High	81	87	92	94	93	90	89	89	89	87	83	79
Rain (in.)	0.6	0.7	1.2	4.3	5.8	6.7	9	11.6	6.8	5	1.6	0.4

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Luang Prabang.



Currency: Laotian Kip (LAK)



Time Zone: UTC +07:00



Main Arrival Airport: Vientiane (VTE)



Flight Time from New York: 20 hours



### Royal Palace, Luang Prabang

Visit the Royal Palace museum to admire artifacts from crucial times in the country's history.



### Tad Sae Waterfalls

Swim through the aqua blue water below this famous waterfall, only a short trip from Luang Prabang.



### Wat Phu

Explore the ruins of a Khmer temple as you appreciate the natural beauty that surrounds.



### Pak Ou Caves

Visit the caves to see the thousands of Buddha statues that have been placed there over the years.









# Insider Tip

Don't miss swimming in the turquoise blue pools of Kuang Si Falls. Kuang Si Falls can be found just outside of Luang Prabang town, and while the falls are not as big as Niagara or Victoria Falls, Kuang Si Falls is still worth the visit. This three-leveled waterfall allows visitors to swim in the pools at the bottom.





## Beyond the Temples by Electric Vehicle

Begin at a market, as the locals do daily, sampling tasty Lao dishes. Head to the UXO Laos Visitor Center to learn about unexploded ordnances in Laos. Continue to a flute-making workshop taught by locals.

Private Tour from \$



#### Luang Prabang City Tour

Visit Wat Visou, the oldest operating temple in Luang Prabang, as well as Wat Pha That Luang and Phu Si temple. Located on the banks of the Mekong, Wat Prabat offers a lovely shaded terrace from which to enjoy the sunset. Private Tour from \$\$



#### Pak Ou Caves

Travel along the Mekong and Nam Ou rivers to a series of caves set in limestone cliffs. Pak Ou is a sacred place for the Lao. Stop at Ban Xang Hai Village, famous for the production of Lao-Lao, the local rice wine whiskey. Private Tour from \$\$



#### Lao Cuisine Cooking Class

Put your cooking skills to the test. Learn how to create three local dishes using traditional ingredients and techniques. Afterwards, relax and enjoy the feast you have created and sample some local desserts. Small Group from \$\$

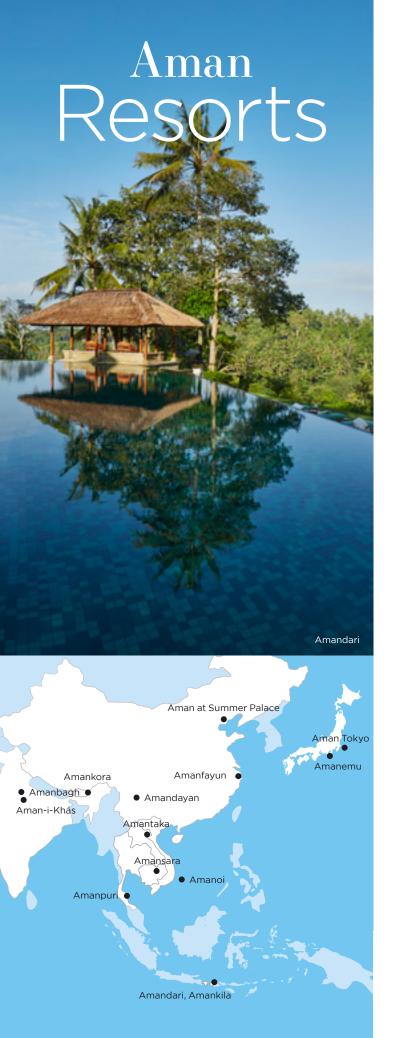


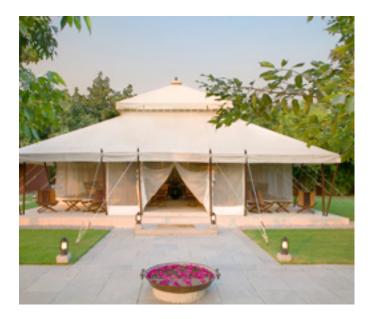
#### Vientiane City Tour

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Laos' capital city, including a visit to Wat Phra Keo, a formal royal temple. Move on to Wat Si Saket, constructed in 1818 in early Bangkok style, before heading over to Wat Si Muang, home of Vientiane's guardian spirits. Private Tour from \$

#### Good to Know

Ready to be a part of Laotian culture? Each day as the sun rises, residents pass out alms, or offerings, to the monks passing by in their saffron-colored robes. Do as the locals do—kneel when passing on your offering.





#### Aman-i-Khás

Location: Ranthambore, India

A Mughal-style tented camp, Aman-i-Khás is located in a forest on the edge of Ranthambore National Park. Surrounded by wilderness, this tranquil retreat intertwines history and nature. The property's ten tents are positioned for privacy with classic furnishings.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### Amanyangyun

Location: Shanghai, China

Amanyangyun is the culmination of architectural and ecological conservation. Designed to complement the surrounding woodland, the 24 suites create a balance of old and new. Located just outside downtown Shanghai, the property offers a close proximity to cultural, dining and shopping attractions.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### Aman Tokyo

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Aman Tokyo is a monument to the modern-day Japanese capital, a place where urban dynamism is tempered with serenity. Set in Otemachi, the hotel is within easy reach of Tokyo Station and the Nihonbashi District.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### **Amandari**

Location: Ubud, Bali, Indonesia

Amandari is a spiritual haven deeply connected to its community. The resort, set on sacred ground 129 steps above a Hindu shrine and statue dating from the seventh century, looks out over rice terraces amidst the wilderness of the Ayung Valley.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### Amanbagh

Location: Rajasthan, India

An oasis among the rugged outcrops of the Aravalli Range, Amanbagh is a Rajasthani retreat influenced by Mughal style. Just 90 minutes from Jaipur, the Bengal tiger sanctuary of Sariska National Park is a short drive away.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night

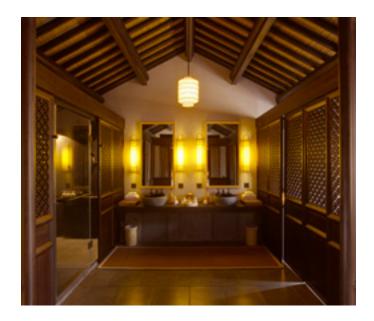


#### Amandayan

Location: Lijiang, China

Arranged around calm courtyards, Amandayan's dwellings are imbued with clean lines and architectural aesthetic. Built with locally sourced materials, including Yunnan pine and elm from Dong Bei, the design lends to the indigenous Nakhi people.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### Amanfayun

#### Location: Hangzhou, China

Surrounded by tea plantations and bamboo groves, Amanfayun is a spiritual sanctuary formed by Chinese tradition and Buddhist monastic culture. Explore this centuries-old village, which has been restored using time-honored techniques.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### **Amankila**

#### Location: Karangasem, Bali, Indonesia

Amankila's layout draws inspiration from the nearby Karangasem palaces, including the nested motif of the Maskerdam building. A highlight of this main building is the serene three-tiered pool tumbling down the hillside like a cascading rice field.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### Amanemu

#### Location: Shima-shi, Japan

Amanemu embraces the ancient Japanese bathing tradition of onsen. It uses nutrient-rich thermal springs to provide a contemplative and restorative retreat set among serene natural surroundings. The resort overlooks Ago Bay, known as the Bay of Pearls—a blue expanse dotted with oyster rafts and islets.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### **Amankora**

#### Location: Bhutan

The Kingdom of Bhutan is a place of soaring 21,000-foot Himalayan peaks, glacial river valleys and evergreen forests. Amankora comprises five lodges dotted across this ancient land. All five Amankora lodges feature traditional dzonginspired architecture with gently sloping roofs and woodpaneled interiors.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### **Amanoi**

#### Location: Vinh Hy Bay, Vietnam

One of Vietnam's largest natural conservation sites, Amanoi is a meditative retreat on the coast of Nui Chua National Park. Hugged by rolling evergreen-covered hills, the resort looks over the East Sea and pristine Vinh Hy Bay.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### **Amansara**

#### Location: Angkor, Cambodia

Encircled by forests and rice paddies, Angkor's ruins are the last vestiges of the Khmer Empire. Explore more than 1,000 temples from Amansara's location near the archaeological park, including Angkor Wat, Bayon and Banteay Srei.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night

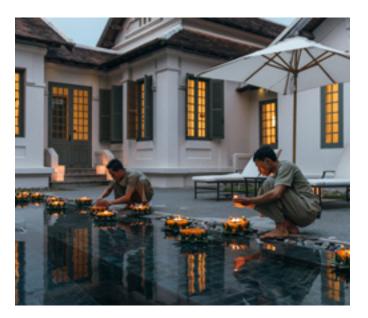


#### Amanpuri

#### Location: Phuket, Thailand

This timeless retreat on the west coast of Phuket is in harmony with its idyllic setting. Ancient Ayutthayan architecture informs the design of its pavilions and villas, which overlook lush vegetation and the pristine Andaman Sea.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



#### **Amantaka**

#### Location: Luang Prabang, Laos

Natural beauty, spirituality and regal history come together in Luang Prabang, Laos. With more than 30 to visit, temples define the town's daily rhythms. Discover another side of Laotian life at the nearby Ban Chok village.

\$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night





#### Bali



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## Welcome to Bali

A popular tourist destination for surfers and romantics alike, Bali is a predominantly Hindu island where the scent of burning incense from offerings to the gods dances along the ocean breezes. A small island with a lot to offer, Bali boasts miles upon miles of rugged coastline, beautiful beaches and an equal amount of rice paddies and mountainous terrain.

With no lack of temples, culture and unique experiences, Bali is ideal for all types of travelers. Whether you are looking to relax on the sand, bike through the rice fields, hike through the hillsides or take to the water for world-class diving, you will find it all in Bali.

#### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	78	78	78	78	78	77	76	76	76	77	78	78
High	86	86	87	87	86	85	83	83	85	86	87	86
Rain (in.)	13.7	11.3	8.4	3.7	3.0	2.8	2.0	0.9	1.6	3.6	6.1	11.5

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Ubud.



Currency: Indonesia Rupiah (IDR)



Time Zone: UTC +08:00



Main Arrival Airport: Denpasar (DPS)



Flight Time from New York: 26 hours

## 2019 Highlights

#### Rice Paddies of Ubud

Be amazed by this visually-stunning agricultural invention that is a big part of Bali's history and culture.



Surfing at Kuta Beach Bali is known for its incredible surfing, and Kuta Beach has something for everyone.



Snorkeling with Manta Rays Get up close to Bali's most unique and majestic animals in their natural environment.



Monkey Forest in Ubud Journey through Monkey Forest to see beautiful temples, unique trees and, of course, plenty of monkeys.



<sup>\*</sup>Map is not to scale







## Staff Typ

Bali offers more than breathtaking infinity pools and stunning sunsets. Spirituality is deeply ingrained in the daily lives of the Balinese, and it's worth exploring this fascinating aspect of their culture. Embrace the slow-paced, communal lifestyle and become enchanted by the magic of the island. Wander off the beaten track, have a chat with the genuinely happy and friendly locals. -Kathryn F., Travel Consultant



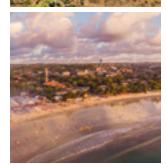
#### Ubud

Located in the center of the island, Ubud is Bali's cultural hub. Ubud is home to countless temples and landscapes dotted with rice paddies. The main streets are energetic, and the locals are laid-back and warm. Turn down any side street and you will be whisked into the heart of Balinese village life. Ubud has become a center for fine food, with restaurants blending Balinese, Indonesian and Western elements.



#### Nusa Dua

Located in southern Bali, Nusa Dua is a beach area where luxury resorts abound. Spend time here relaxing on the beaches, enjoying the variety of luxury spas and the exclusive golf courses. The beaches on this side of the island hold clear waters and white sand, something that varies from beach to beach on the island.



#### Jimbaran Bay

Jimbaran Bay offers a curve of white sand beach, lined with palm trees, perfect for swimming and water sports. Jimbaran is best known for sunset dining directly on the beach. With a variety of beachfront restaurants, you can choose from various types of fresh seafood and dine amidst the songs of the waves lapping in the background.



#### Seminyak

Vibrant and lively, Seminyak is the nightlife hub of Bali. Featuring trendy restaurants, beach clubs and souvenir shops, Seminyak is a pulsating beach town where all the action happens. It is an easy jumping-off point, located a short ride away from the airport. From here you can visit nearby temples and beaches or head off to the island's interior.



#### Lombok

A 30-minute flight east of Bali, Lombok is home to the majestic Mount Rinjani. An island where nature and adventure thrive, visitors travel here to escape the vibrancy of Bali's shores, trading in nightlife for hiking and surfing. Trek up volcanoes, cycle through the lush rice paddies or relax on the island's many beaches.



#### Gili Islands

Made up of Gili Air, Gili Meno and Gili Trawangan, the Gili Islands are a trio of pristine islands off the coast of Bali. Turquoise waters, powdery sand beaches and horsedrawn carriages make up this island chain. With no motor vehicles allowed across the three islands, bicycles are the preferred method of transport.





A major factor for Balinese culture is Tri Hita Karana. This means all aspects of life relate to three things: the spiritual relationship of humans, God and the environment. This is evident through the Balinese lifestyle: the people are loving and laid-back, and community is highly emphasized in the culture.



Furthermore, the Balinese people are known to be extremely polite. As part of their culture, the locals strive to be in harmony with their environment, avoiding conflict and commotion.







#### Authentic Ubud Nature Walk

Join a Balinese local and visit his village. Learn about the traditional temples, houses and culture. Hear about the tiered rice fields and irrigation system used since the 9th century. Enjoy a traditional Balinese picnic lunch.

Private Tour from \$



#### East Coast Bali Discovery

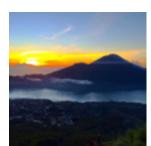
Discover the history of Bali. Visit Pura Kehen and Pura Besakih, known as the Mother Temple. Ride through nearby villages and see the local customs at work while you take in all of the spectacular scenery. Private Tour from \$\$



#### Bali Adventure by Land Cruiser

Take in the surroundings and local village scenes of Bali. Stop at a rural farmhouse for a view of traditional Balinese life. Lunch is served at a nearby restaurant before finishing up with a cup or two of locally grown coffee.

Private Tour from \$\$



#### Sunrise Trekking on Mt. Batur

Ascend up Mount Batur, reaching the summit before the sun peeks over the horizon. As the sun rises, you will see spanning views out to the three inner island lakes and the Mount Rinjani volcano on neighboring Lombok Island.

Small Group from \$\$



#### Bali Cooking Class

Visit the local market to browse the colorful vegetables, tropical fruits and exotic spices before you learn to cook authentic and traditional Balinese cuisine. Finish out the class feasting on the meal you've just created.

Small Group from \$\$

#### The Quieter Side

The Island of the Gods, Bali has long been a popular destination to visit because of the warmer temperatures year-round, inviting Balinese hospitality, ancient history and rich, natural beauty. Visitors concentrate on the southern beaches or travel to Ubud for culture, art and wellness. For those looking to escape, visit the low-key Lovina or peaceful village of Pemuteran, both located on the very north of the island and less visited than the south of Bali.





Over an hour away from the notorious bustling parts of Bali, Amankila is a remote hideaway up a winding hill on the East Coast. Tucked within a lush mountainside overlooking the Lombok Strait, Amankila means "peaceful hill," and it truly exudes a sense of tranquility. It's perfect for discerning travelers seeking an exclusive escape in paradise.

Upon arriving in the open-air lobby, guests are greeted by smiling staff members and panoramic cliffside outlooks. Mesmerizing views continue as you are escorted past the iconic three-tiered infinity pool towards the standalone suites, where a ginger and passionfruit frozen sorbet awaits on your terrace. Amankila makes your check-in a breeze, so you can quickly soak up the blissful setting.





Concrete stilts support the elevated walkways that link the 34 suites to the main complex. Mango, coconut and frangipani trees line the paths, and their fragrances fill the air. All suites have authentic alang-alang thatched roofs, spacious marble bathrooms, and coconut wood, rattan, and bamboo décor. Tan and cream tones create a warm, sensual ambiance. Private decks have a daybed and dining table, ideal for relaxing and eating at any time of day or night.

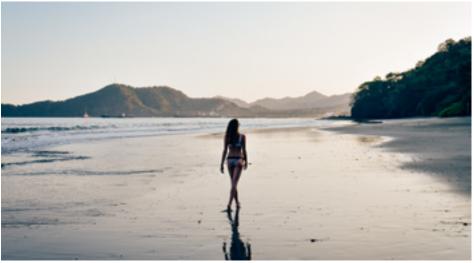
Resort facilities include two restaurants and a bar, spa services, a library, gallery, gift shop, well-equipped beach club and an expansive pool area. Set above the pools, the primary alfresco dining venue offers Balinese and international cuisine. Executive Chef Shane Lewis highlights the region's bounties utilizing

native Indonesian cooking methods, such as slow cooking and grilling with coconut husks. Afternoon tea, served by the library, features handmade Balinese cakes, "Kopi Bali" coffee, and ginger and honey tea. You'll have the opportunity to chat with locals from the village and watch them create ornate offerings.

Reserve a few hours to relax by the breathtaking three-tiered pool. Lounge chairs are plentiful, and the pool staff treat you like royalty. They'll happily deliver whatever you desire—from magazines to freshly caught lobster. The staff anticipate your needs and provide you with what you want before you get the chance to voice it, like a refill on ice water and a cold towel slightly scented with jasmine. Stylish poolside cabanas provide respite from the sun and are a comfortable way to soak up the heavenly atmosphere.

A steep five-minute walk or on-demand buggy ride transports you down to sea level to the Beach Club, where you'll find a coconut grove fitted with hammocks, swings, fitness equipment and a soccer field. Wispy trees create ever-changing reflections in the 135-foot-long lap pool.





On the other side of the pool lies an enchanting black sand beach. Made of volcanic minerals and lava from Mount Agung, the sand is surprisingly soft, and the specks of black and silver glisten in the sun. Take advantage of the waterfront activities, such as paddle boarding, kayaking, sailing and boogieboarding. Signature experiences include visits to ancient palaces and lush gardens,

romantic hilltop picnics and bonfire beach dinners, cooking classes, village encounters, trekking and cycling adventures. If you're into snorkeling or scuba diving, charter the Aman XII—a 50-foot traditional outrigger equipped with a plush cushioned top deck. Cruise around Amuk Bay and enjoy a sumptuous champagne breakfast or light lunch after swimming beside an array of sea life.



welcoming staff, the sprawling and secluded grounds make it feel like a home away from home. Amankila will leave you inspired and rejuvenated and is an idyllic haven to end a Balinese vacation.



Find Inner Peace with:  $Kathryn\ Fischer$  Travel Consultant

## MYANMAR





## Welcome to Myanmar

A nation where Buddhists make up 85% of the population, Myanmar is the largest country in Southeast Asia. A must-see destination, Myanmar is filled with vibrancy, color and culture. The country first opened its border to tourists in 2011, and it retains that "untouched by the world" feeling today.

Throughout Myanmar, more than 100 ethnic groups, languages and dialects coexist. Locals don traditional attire while showcasing their deeply rooted cultures through festivals, cooking and hospitality. Temples lie tucked away in lush forests and jungles. Once you experience the culture and landscapes of Myanmar, you will find it hard to leave.

#### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	64	67	71	76	77	76	75	75	76	76	72	66
High	90	94	97	99	92	86	85	85	87	89	90	89
Rain (in.)	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.6	11.8	20.3	18.4	19.8	12	8.1	2.4	0.3

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Yangon.



**Currency:**Burmese Kyat (MMK)



Time Zone: UTC +06:30



Main Arrival Airport: Yangon (RGN)



Flight Time from New York: 20 hours



#### Biking Past Bagan's Temples

Cycle past the famous temples for a truly serene experience, removed from the chaos and large tours.



#### Shwedagon Pagoda

Learn more about Buddhism and local culture at the most sacred landmark of Myanmar.



#### Hot Air Ballooning in Bagan

Ride among the clouds for a unique perspective of the magnificent landscape and temples below.



#### Sunrise Cruise Over Inle Lake

Watch the sun slowly rise over stilted houses in the horizon and fishermen search for daily catch.









## Staff Typ

ATMs are common in the airports and big cities in Myanmar. However, the machines are out of service often. To avoid being without money, carry USD to exchange for local currency. It is best to bring higher-denomination bills like \$100 for the best exchange rate. The banks will only accept bills in pristine condition, so make sure there are no rips or markings.

-Donna V., Travel Consultant



#### Yangon

Combining traditional and modern Southeast Asian styles, Yangon is an ancient city with a cosmopolitan flair. Busy food stands line every street, feeding tourists the local flavors. Restaurants also offer a welcoming cultural experience. The highlight of any trip to Yangon is a visit to the golden Shwedagon Pagoda, one that inspires all who see it.



#### Bagan

An astounding 2,230 temples are within the city of Bagan, making it overwhelmingly beautiful. With so much to see and do, the best way to temple-hop Bagan is by bike or on a hot air balloon tour. This spiritual city is located on the mystic banks of the Irrawaddy River, providing a stunning backdrop for the many historical landmarks. Bagan immerses visitors in the culture of Myanmar, from the architecture to activities.



#### Mandalay

Known as the "last royal city," Mandalay's ornate bridges, temple peaks, monasteries and pagodas contribute to its character. The city's most famous landmark is the Kuthodaw Pagoda, leaving visitors awestruck for centuries. Meditate at the Buddhist temples in the Sagaing region or stroll along the edges of the Irrawaddy River. Another main attraction for tourists is the botanical gardens, decorated in local flowers and plants. Mandalay is an ideal destination for relaxation and exploration.



#### Inle Lake

Learn about the lifestyles of the indigenous Intha people at Inle Lake. Famous for their stilted houses, residents have adapted to the landscape by learning how to plant their vegetables in floating gardens and becoming skilled fishermen. Explore the lake on a traditional longboat journey before trekking to lavish pagodas. Learn the ways of the peaceful monks at Shwe Yan Pyay Monastery; or be one with the Buddha at the Pindaya Caves, where there are almost 800 Buddha statues.

## Myanmar Culture



With over 130 distinct ethnic groups, the people of Myanmar eagerly embrace their cultural diversity. Visitors to the country are welcomed, even encouraged, to learn more about Myanmar's traditions in order to create a relationship of understanding between the locals and the tourists.



For a full cultural immersion, travelers are given the opportunity to join a Meditation Retreat. This experience offers visitors peace and relaxation while providing a look into the culture. These retreats are available across the country, in both busy cities and secluded forests, providing opportunity for enlightenment, no matter where you are traveling in the country.









#### Dala & Twante

On your way to Shwesandaw Pagoda, travel to Dala and take a trishaw ride past the local fish market for a dose of local legend. Proceed to Twante to see local industries, including bamboo raft and pottery making.

Private Tour from \$\$





Well-known pagodas, the national museum and the local market are features on this day of exploration around Yangon. The day culminates at Shwedagon Pagoda, the highlight of any visit to Yangon.

Private Tour from \$\$



#### Discover the Beauty of Bagan

Discover the temples and unique stories of Bagan. Learn about the intricate process of lacquerware-making and decoration. Enjoy a panoramic view of the sun setting over Bagan's horizon from one of the ancient pagodas.

Private Tour from \$\$



#### Mount Popa

Take a day trip to Mount Popa, a curiously cylindrical hill rising sharply from the surrounding landscape, considered to be the home of Myanmar's most important spirits. Ascend to a monastery and temple complex.

Private Tour from \$



#### Mandalay City Tour

Travel to a selection of Mandalay's most interesting temples and palaces. Featured sites include the golden teak monastery and a craft workshop specializing in bronze casting, marble carving, woodcarving and puppetry. Private Tour from \$



#### Inle Lake

Enjoy the spectacular scenery and observe the skilled local fishermen. Visit the floating gardens, a floating market and the Intha Village around the lake. Then head to a lotus and silkweaving village and monastery. Private Tour from \$







## Welcome to Japan

Japan is a country rich with a culture and heritage that has persevered across generations. The vibrancy of the country pulses throughout the people, cities and landmarks. Tour incredible shrines, temples and castles that have stood the test of time. With each city as unique as the next, Japan offers an authentic adventure along with many contemporary touches, as seen within Japan's most notable cities.

Alongside the energy of bustling cities and the richness of ancient temples, you will uncover natural icons such as Mount Fuji and Hakone National Park. Combine these nature-based experiences with relaxing visits to famed hot springs—a traditional Japanese experience

#### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	34	35	40	50	59	66	72	75	68	58	48	39
High	49	50	55	65	73	77	84	88	80	70	62	54
Rain (in.)	1.8	2.4	3.9	4.9	5.4	7.3	5	5.8	7.1	6.5	3.5	1.8

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Tokyo.



Currency:
Japanese Yen (JPY)



Time Zone: UTC +09:00



Main Arrival Airport: Tokyo (NRT)



Flight Time from New York: 14 hours



#### Toyosu Fish Market, Tokyo

The largest seafood market in the world, Toyosu is still an epicenter of life and a community on its own.



Kyoto's Bamboo Forest

Walk through the incredibly tall tunnel of emerald-green bamboo for a truly unforgettable experience.



#### Authentic Ramen Dishes

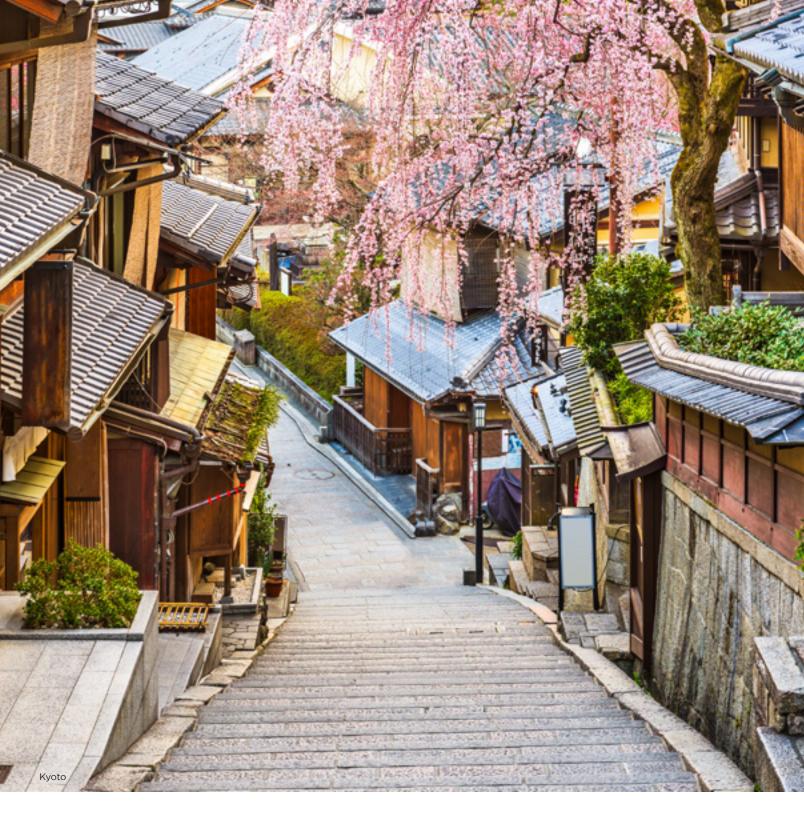
Every trip to Japan needs a warm bowl of ramen. Taste the dish the way it was intended to be eaten.



#### Sushi from the Origin

Eat some of the freshest fish in the world and understand why sushi gained a global popularity.









## Staff Typ

Surprisingly, it can be quite difficult to find an ATM that accepts foreign cards, even in Tokyo. ATMs that you would be able to use can be found in 7-Elevens, post offices and Citibank. Do yourself a favor by double-checking that you are able to use your card for withdrawals on your trip; this will save you a lot of frustration. Japan is still very much a cash-based society, so this is still the best method of payment in most cases.

-Anne F., Africa, Asia and India Manager



#### Tokyo

Tokyo is a modern metropolis that boasts neatly clipped bonsai trees and kimono-clad residents. In the spring, the city is under a pink cloud of fragrant cherry blossoms in Ueno Park. In the morning, the city awakens to the tuna auctions at Tsukiji Fish Market. The Tokyo National Museum is home to the world's largest collection of Japanese art. A visit to Sensoji, Tokyo's oldest temple, is the start to any cultural journey across the country.



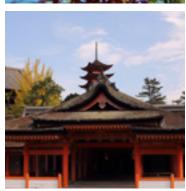
#### Hakone

Hakone offers up everything from hot spring resorts to magnificent views of Mt. Fuji. Enjoy the vistas as you skim across Lake Ashi by boat before entering an alpine wonderland. For an authentic experience, stay in a ryokan—a traditional Japanese-style inn where guests can get a taste of traditional Japanese home life.



#### **Kyoto**

Home to 20% of Japan's national treasures, Kyoto is a massive museum, housing over 700 well-preserved Buddhist temples and 300 Shinto shrines. Kinkakuji, the Temple of the Golden Pavilion, is Kyoto's most famous and elaborate attraction. You will have to shade your eyes from the brilliance of this three-story pavilion covered in gold leaf and crowned by a phoenix.



#### Hiroshima

A modern city laced with rivers and wide tree-lined boulevards, Hiroshima is full of vitality and purpose despite its troubled past. Ironically, Hiroshima's tragedy of 1945 is now the city's largest tourist draw, with visitors from around the world coming to see Peace Memorial Park and its haunting but meaningful museum. Hiroshima has certainly rebuilt itself, and it is home to intriguing attractions, including several excellent museums.



#### Osaka

A merchant's mecca, Osaka is Japan's third-largest city whose elaborate history is steeped in commercial pursuits. Osaka's waterfront is buzzing with ships and shopping centers, aquariums and adventure parks. Brimming with exciting cuisine and boasting an impressive arts community, Osaka is famous for its Kabuki and Bunraku Puppet Theater.



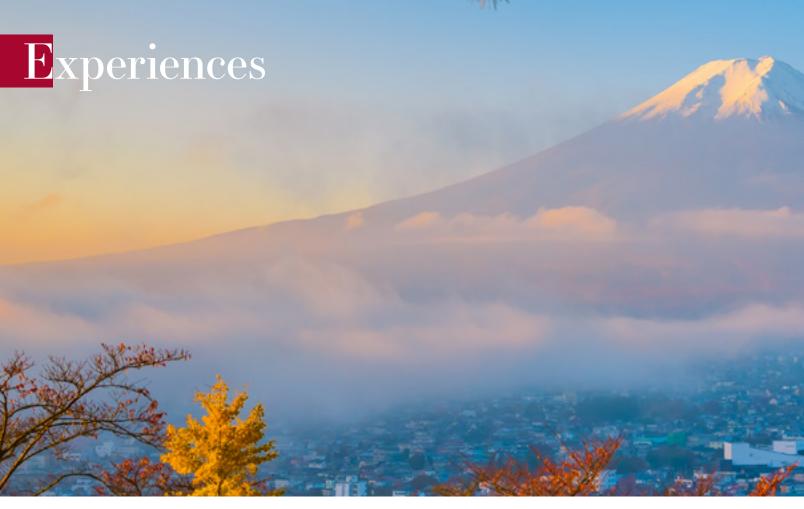


Chefs may study for decades to master the art of sushi-making. Applying basic sushi etiquette and appreciating their creations the proper way shows respect to generations of effort. When preparing to eat sushi, a wet towel is provided to cleanse your hands before you dig in, mostly because the traditional way to eat maki and nigiri sushi is with the fingers.

When it comes to soy sauce, pour only a small amount, as wasting soy sauce is taboo in Japanese dining etiquette. And though you may enjoy mixing wasabi in the soy sauce, that is not the proper way to eat sushi. However, this is acceptable behavior when eating sashimi. Sashimi is typically eaten with chopsticks, but the traditional way is to lift a piece between your thumb and middle finger, dipping only the fish (never the rice!) in the soy sauce. Pieces should also be eaten fish-sidedown to experience the complex flavors of the sushi.

The most important rule on how to properly eat sushi is to enjoy every bite! Upon exiting an establishment, give a deep, respectful bow to the chef to show your appreciation for the meal.







#### Become a Ninja

Train like a ninja during a private workshop. Masters of disguise, ninjas were members of a secret society. Your ninja lesson offers hands-on instruction in meditation, weaponry and fighting techniques. Small Group from \$\$\$\$



#### Sushi Making & The Tsukiji Outer Fish Market

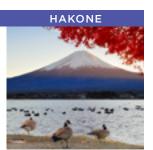
Take part in a sushi-making lesson and learn this ancient craft. Then take the train to the world's busiest seafood market and enjoy a guided walking tour of the outer fish market and its wholesale and retail shops. Coach Tour from \$\$



#### **Dynamic Tokyo**

Take to the observation deck at Tokyo Tower for 360-degree views of the city. Visit Happo-en Garden to witness a tea ceremony. Stop at the Imperial Palace and the traditional Edo-era neighborhoods before driving through Ginza.

Coach Tour from \$\$



#### Mt. Fuji & Hakone Tour

While driving to Hakone, stop halfway up Mt. Fuji for lunch at 5th Station.
Once there, take a minicruise on Lake Ashi and a cable car ride to Mt. Komagatake for spectacular views of Mt. Fuji and Hakone National Park. Coach Tour from \$\$



#### Hidden Kamakura

Kamakura is a seaside Japanese city south of Tokyo and the chief city of centuries-old dictators. Visit monuments before participating in a Matcha green tea experience at Jomyo-ji temple.

Coach Tour from \$\$



#### Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine & Sake Tasting

Travel to the Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum, where precious sake-making tools are preserved. Enjoy a sake and plum wine tasting. Afterwards, visit the Fushimi-inari-taisha Shrine, one of the most famous Shinto shrines. Small Group from \$\$





#### Kyoto & Nara Tour

Countless temples, Zen gardens and the Kyoto Imperial Palace are just a few stops on your tour of Kyoto and Nara. In Nara, surround yourself among the 1,000 tame deer that roam the city. Coach Tour from \$\$



#### Walking in Sagano-Arashiyama

Stroll through the Sagano-Arashiyama district in Western Kyoto, an area of stunning beauty and a popular Kyoto tourist destination. This area is best explored on foot to take in all of the area's hidden sights. Group Tour from \$\$



#### Maiko Lunch Experience

Enjoy a meal of Kyoto-style cuisine made with seasonal flavors, served by a geisha in training, known as a "maiko." Stroll through Kyoto's historical preservation district. You will see Yasaka Shrine and Gion District and sip tea at Tomikiku Teahouse. Small Group from \$\$\$\$\$\$



#### Hiroshima & Miyajima Tour

When you see modern-day Hiroshima, it is hard to imagine it was the scene of such widespread devastation just over 70 years ago. Visit Peace Memorial Park and observe the museums, statues, memorials and sculptures that line the streets.

Coach Tour from \$\$\$\$



#### Koyasan Tour

One of Japan's most sacred mountains, Koyasan, is located outside of Osaka. Spend the day touring cultural icons, including the Danjo Garan Temple. End the day with a cable car ride down the mountain. Group Tour from \$\$\$\$



#### Osaka Walking Tour

Make your way by foot around Osaka with your guide. Visit the Floating Garden Observatory for a panoramic view of the city. Take in Osaka Castle and cruise on the Yodo River to see the Twin Towers, City Hall and Nakanoshima Isle. Group Tour from \$\$

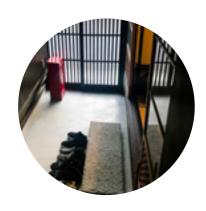


Throughout our trip to Japan, which included visits to Fukuoka Osaka, Kyoto and Tokyo, we found ourselves saying "if only we had another day here" as we left each city.

This was most true of Kyoto; home to many famous historic landmarks in the country, it is a must-see destination when traveling to Japan, especially if it is your first time visiting.

### The Machiya

We decided to forgo staying in a hotel while in Kyoto and elected to stay at a machiya—a traditional Kyoto townhouse. We wanted to make sure to spend time in a traditional Japanese home. When entering the house, there is a small room where you remove your shoes before entering the main house. Once your shoes are off, you slide open the wooden door to reveal a simple, warm space that instantly reminds you that you are in Japan.



The walls are plain yet detailed, the floors are covered with tatami mats and the furniture is all designed for use while kneeling or sitting on the ground. The space, which none of us had ever experienced before, was so inviting that we felt as if we had just walked into our home. While there were two normal beds in one bedroom, the second bedroom was much more traditional, with two futons available to complete the machiya experience. The bathroom had a regular shower only with a wooden soaking tub that allowed you to relax and look out into the small garden at the back of the property. Staying in the machiya felt as if it was integral to our experience in Kyoto, and we quite enjoyed our time relaxing and taking in the experience of simply being in the house.



#### **Authentic Ramen**

We knew we wanted ramen for dinner the first night in Kyoto, and we knew of one restaurant that offers a unique take on the dish. Menbakaichidai Ramen serves traditional Japanese ramen with one big twist: fire. Commonly referred to as "Fire Ramen." this small restaurant serves up ramen that is literally set on fire in front

of you. The fire ignites when the chef pours a small amount of hot oil onto a healthy amount of green onion that is piled on top of the bowl. This ignites a flame that reaches several feet in the air and lasts for maybe about a second. The process releases a unique flavor into the dish unlike any ramen you have ever had. Depending on which set you order, you can add sides of fried rice, gyoza and karaage (Japanese-style fried chicken) to your meal. A spectacle that is every bit as entertaining as it is delicious, combined with extremely friendly staff, makes this a definite stop for any ramen fan.

### The Highlights of Kyoto

At the recommendation of the staff at Fire Ramen, we made our way over to the nearby Nijo Castle. While this site is generally closed in the evening, in the fall season it is sometimes open to the public after dark. We not only got to explore the grounds, but also took a walk through the palace, which was beautifully lit for the evening hours.

The next morning was Fushimi Inari-taisha, one of Kyoto's most famous shrines, and rightfully so. The shrine is located at the base of Inari mountain. Two-and-a-half-miles of trails take you up and down the mountain, with smaller shrines scattered all along the way. The most unique aspect of Fushimi Inari is the seemingly endless number of torii gates that line the trails. Walking the trail and passing under these beautiful gates is an extremely relaxing experience that takes anywhere from two to three hours to complete.

Those who take the time to really explore the trails and find some lesser traveled paths will be rewarded with breathtaking views of Kyoto. Be sure to get there early in the morning to avoid large crowds and have a much more enjoyable experience.

We then made our way to
Kiyomizu-dera, another
beautiful Kyoto landmark.

This Buddhist temple is located on a hillside near the edge of the city and offers stunning traditional architecture, spectacular views of the surrounding areas and a rich historical experience.







### Arashiyama District

Finally, we decided to make a trip to the Arashiyama district. Arashiyama offers visitors a great variety of historic temples and shrines, a plentiful number of small shops and restaurants, and of course, the famous Bamboo Grove. Much quieter than central Kyoto, this area feels like a small getaway within the city.

Kyoto is an amazing city with a rich history that keeps anyone who visits captivated. While we did see quite a bit of Kyoto, we only scratched the surface of what the city has to offer. This, of course, just makes the build-up to the next trip to Japan that much more enticing.



Spiritual Discovery with: Richard Siegel

Travel Consultant







#### Common Travel Times

Singapore to

Bangkok

2.5 hours

Hong Kong

4 hours

Ho Chi Minh City

- 01

Ho Chi Minn City

2 hours

Bali

2.5 hours

## Welcome to Singapore

A fresh and fashionable metropolis, Singapore is a city, an island and a country all rolled into one. With what started as a melting pot of Arab merchants, Malaysian settlers, Indian businessmen and Chinese traders, Singapore's signature vibe is now an exciting blend of cultures. Textile warehouses and crowded food markets blend seamlessly with striking glass towers and high-class hotels.

Relive Singapore's Colonial past by sipping a Singapore Sling under the whisper of ceiling fans at the legendary Raffles Hotel, or shop for sarongs on Arab Street. Have fun in the sun at Sentosa Island, celebrate on luxurious Orchard Road, or visit Singapore Zoo and see why it gives San Diego Zoo a run for its money.

#### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	74	74	75	76	76	76	76	76	75	75	75	74
High	86	88	89	89	89	88	87	87	87	88	87	85
Rain (in.)	7.8	6.1	6.7	5.6	6.2	5.5	5.7	5.6	7	6.6	9.9	12

Popular Travel Periods.



**Currency:** Singapore Dollar (SGD)



Time Zone: UTC +08:00



Main Arrival Airport: Singapore (SIN)



Flight Time from New York: 21 hours



#### Local Food Stalls

Head to the Maxwell Food Center to stroll among the many food carts full of local favorites.



Marina Bay Sands SkyPark

Walk across the world's largest platform and admire the gardens, infinity pool and extraordinary views.



#### The Singapore Flyer

The Singapore Flyer provides unobstructed views of various historical landmarks.



#### Singapore Botanic Gardens

Explore the beautiful gardens and see why Singapore earned the reputation as "a City in a Garden."



<sup>\*</sup>Map is not to scale







## **✓** Insider Tip

Singapore is an all-year-round destination. With a tropical climate, there is plenty of sun throughout the year, except in February when there is the possibility of a little more rain. If you are keen on shopping, June is the time to visit, as the entire city has a major sale.





#### Footsteps of Raffles

Start off today at the Raffles' Landing Site where Sir Stamford Raffles is believed to have set foot in Singapore. Continue to the Raffles Hotel for afternoon tea before boarding a bumboat to cruise along Clarke Quay. Private Tour from \$\$\$



#### Morning at Sentosa

Experience the colorful culture and vibrant heritage of Singapore, retold through life-size figures, animatronics and special effects. End the tour with a scenic cable car ride, taking in the beautiful landscape of the city. Private Tour from \$\$



#### Night Out in Chinatown

Discover the historical beginnings of Chinatown at the Chinatown Heritage Centre. Go back in history and learn about life in the time of the early Chinese immigrants. Today's Chinatown comes alive with the hustle and bustle of the Night Market. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



#### Peranakan Trail & Food Tasting

Journey into the history, lifestyle and unique character of the Peranakan, descendants of the very early Chinese immigrants to Singapore. See a fascinating display of Peranakan costumes, beadwork, jewelry, porcelain and furniture. Private Tour from \$\$



#### Round Island Tour

Circle Singapore and learn about history at the World War II museum. Head to Changi Museum to learn about the POWs imprisoned here. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before ending the tour at Gardens by the Bay. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



#### Singapore City Tour

An orientation tour of the city begins with a drive through the town's colonial heart for a view of Padang, Cricket Club, Parliament House and City Hall. See temples, Mount Faber and the National Orchid Garden. Private Tour from \$\$

## CHINA





## Welcome to China

Culturally diverse, geographically unique and distinctly unlike anywhere else on earth, China offers hundreds of cultural experiences and ancient sites to share with its guests. Visitors are enveloped in the country's distinguishing foods, language and population. Home to over 160 cities with their populations in the millions, China's urban explosion has raced past all other countries around the world.

From city centers to rural Chinese villages, two ways of life coexist. With a handful of the world's most impressive and natural wonders, China's diverse landscape offers awe-inspiring views ranging from lush rice terraces and massive limestone structures to booming metropolises.

#### Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	15	20	31	45	56	65	71	69	58	45	31	20
High	35	39	52	68	80	87	87	85	78	66	50	38
Rain (in.)	0.1	0.2	0.4	1	1.1	2.8	6.9	7.2	1.9	0.7	0.2	0.1

Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Beijing.



Currency: Chinese Renminbi (CNY)



Time Zone: UTC +08:00



Main Arrival Airport: Beijing (PEK)



Flight Time from New York: 13 hours



#### Terracotta Warriors of Xi'an

The life-sized warriors are meant to protect Qin Shi Huang, the first <u>Emperor</u> of China, in the afterlife.



#### Giant Panda Sanctuaries

Giant Panda Sanctuaries play an important role in captive breeding of these endangered animals.



#### Traveling Down the Li River

Pass by traditional villages hidden among the hills and watch as water buffalo graze by.



#### Shanghai's Bund

The Bund is a beautiful waterfront landmark in Shanghai and a great spot to admire the architecture.









## Insider Tip

The Chinese way of life is very different to most Western cultures, so we suggest to read up on traditions and etiquette practices in the region you are traveling to before you go. Learning a few phrases in the language will go a long way.



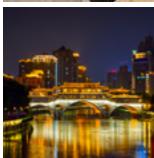
#### Beijing

Beijing is China's capital and the country's secondlargest city, and it is home to several of the country's most revered icons, with more than 50 museums and cultural centers. Stroll through palaces, temples and parks where emperors once walked. Be sure to visit the alleys, known as hutongs, which give a view into Beijing's cultural past. Though filled with history, Beijing is a modern-day metropolis.



#### Xi'an

Capital of Shaanxi Province, Xi'an dates back more than 3,000 years. An important stop on the famous Silk Road, Xi'an has long been a stopover for those from Central Asia and the Middle East. In modern days, the city is known for the Terracotta Warriors. Unearthed from the tomb of Emperor Qin Shinhuang, more than 7,000 life-sized soldiers stand as one of China's most alluring historical sites.



#### Chengdu

Capital of the Sichuan region, Chengdu is famous for its giant pandas and spicy cuisine. Chengdu is also home to many teahouses, an important part of its cultural heritage. A significant part of the city is the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, a sanctuary for these endangered animals. Nearby is the Wolong National Nature Reserve, home to golden monkeys, golden langurs and more than 500 pandas.



#### Shanghai

Formerly known as the "Paris of the East," Shanghai is a contemporary city with much to offer. From the Bund on the Huangpu River, facing toward Pudong, to the impressive sculptures found in the Shanghai Museum, the city boasts an air of modernity. Wind your way through a maze of Ming Dynasty pavilions in the Yu Yuan Garden, or shop and people-watch on Nanjing Road.



#### Suzhou

Surrounded by remnants of a moat and canals, Suzhou has become a protected historical district in which little tampering exists. The outlines of old Suzhou are imprinted through its maze of waterways and bridges. No other Chinese city contains such a large concentration of gardens, among which the most perfect is the Master of the Nets Garden, a landscape hidden at the end of a blind alley.



#### Guilin

With bamboo forests and mist-covered hills, Guilin's surroundings look surreal. Guilin is bisected by the Li River, so you can spot oxen grazing at the river's edge or marvel at the sight of limestone hills. For subterranean splendor, look no further than the Reed Flute Cave. Walk through the vast network of chambers dripping with stalactites and elaborate rock formations while learning of their role in local folklore.

# Lantern Festival



Festivals play a major role in Chinese culture. One of the most well-known is the Lantern Festival. This celebration marks the last day of the traditional celebration of the Chinese New Year. For many, letting the lantern fly away into the night symbolizes letting go of the past and moving into the new year with a fresh start. The lanterns are traditionally red, a color that represents good fortune in Chinese culture.



Many years ago, when the festival began, young Chinese people flooded the streets in hopes of finding love. The brightest lanterns symbolized good luck and hope, characteristics of a good love match. Although the tradition of finding love during the festival no longer remains true, the symbols of luck and hope are still representative of the annual Lantern Festival today.







## Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven & Court Cuisine

Walk in the steps of ancient emperors as you tour the Forbidden City, hidden from public view for over 500 years. Enjoy lunch featuring cuisine from former Chinese dynasties.

Private Tour from \$\$



Tang Dynasty Show

Experience the color and pageantry of the Tang Dynasty. The performance showcases the music, dance and colorful costumes that have graced the region for centuries. Private Tour from \$



#### Great Wall at Mutianyu & Summer Palace

Walk along the promenade of this world wonder and take in the sights of Mutianyu, a restored section of the Great Wall. Visit the Summer Palace, formerly an imperial garden and palace for the Qing emperors.

Private Tour from \$\$



#### Terracotta Warriors & Shaanxi Provincial Museum

Travel to the home of the Terracotta Army, an archaeological site of unimaginable size and importance. Continue to the Shaanxi History Museum for a cultural and historical overview of the province.

Private Tour from \$\$



#### **Hutong Tour**

Surround yourself with the local day-today dealings of Beijing's alleys. Interact with shop vendors and families in the alleys of the old city and experience how generations of Chinese live. This is a great way to learn about a vanishing part of Beijing's culture. Private Tour from \$



#### Giant Panda Experience

Visit the Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding and see these animals within their large naturalistic habitats. Visitors will learn how these animals live in the wild. This excellent recreational area is a highlight of any visit to Chengdu.

Small Group from \$\$





#### Shanghai Bund with Jade Buddha & Yu Gardens

Visit the Yuyuan Garden and Shanghai Old Street before stopping at the Bund on Shanghai's waterfront. Drive along the former French Concession District, then tour the Museum of Ancient Chinese Art and the Jade Buddha Temple. Private Tour from \$\$



GUILIN

#### Li River Cruise and Yangshou

Take in the dramatic landscapes of the Li River. Enjoy lunch onboard with local favorites and fresh catches. Once you arrive in Yangshuo, stroll amid its colorful bustling marketplace of local street vendors. Private Tour from \$\$\$



#### Shanghai Jewish Tour

Visit the classic 1930s-era Peace Hotel and Roof Garden. See Ohel Rachel Synagogue before visiting Ohel Moshe Synagogue, a center of an active Jewish community prior to World War II. Then see the Hongkou District. Private Tour from \$\$



#### Longsheng Terrace Fields

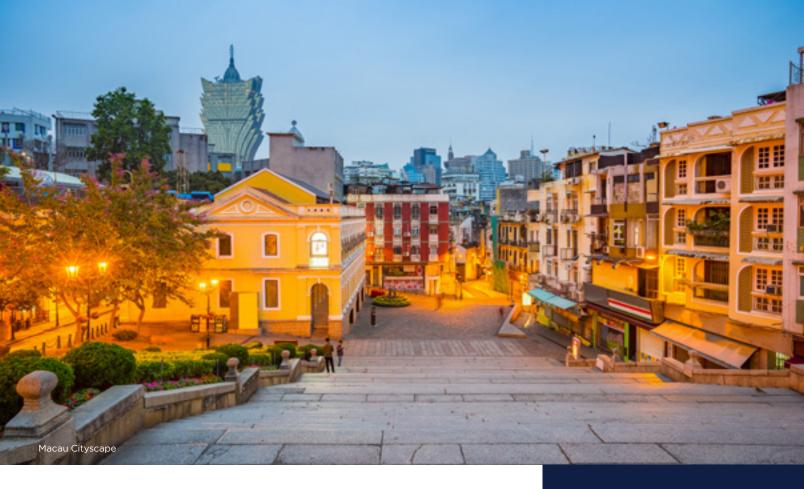
As you pass through quaint Ya and Zhuang villages, the highpoint of today is seeing Longji Titian. Known as the Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces, this is a beautifully sculpted landscape of terraced rice fields 17 miles outside of Longsheng. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



#### Zhujiajiao Water Village

Travel to Zhujiajiao, a classic 400-yearold water village along the Cao Gang River. You can stroll the maze of paths and bridges, and take a boat ride passing by the preserved residences. After sightseeing, stop to learn about and shop for colorful silk. Private Tour from \$\$ Language barrier can be a hurdle while traveling throughout China. Learning a few phrases in the local language will be beneficial during the journey, and will impress the locals!

How are you?—Nǐ hǎo ma? (Nee-haoww-mah)
Thank you—Xièxie (sshyeah-sshyeah)
Good or Ok—Hǎo
Not good—Bùhǎo
Do you have ...?—Yǒuméiyǒu? (Yoh-may-yoh)



## Welcome to Hong Kong & Macau

Thriving businesses, an energized population and an iconic skyline describe Hong Kong's worldly flair. Within the city, ancient traditions stand adjacent to modern skyscrapers. A variety of museums provides a glimpse of Hong Kong's rich past. Outside the city, hiking trails, beaches and evergreen forests provide an escape from the bustle of Hong Kong's booming neighborhoods.

Located less than 40 miles off the coast of Hong Kong, Macau is a small island with a loud voice. Glitzy casinos paired next to World Heritage-listed sites combine old world charm and new world style on an island of less than 700,000 people. The city's architecture, art, religion and food are highlights of any Macau visit.



## Insider Tip

Egg Waffle is a street food that originated in the streets of Hong Kong in the 1950s. Consisting of waffles shaped like "eggs," this interesting dish comes in a variety of flavors and is very delicious. For the best in Hong Kong we recommend Mammy's Pancake!



Currency: Hong Kong Dollar (HKD)



Time Zone: UTC +08:00



Main Arrival Airport: Hong Kong (HKG)



**Flight Time from New York:** 16 hours



#### Victoria Peak

Visit Hong Kong's highest peak for a view of Victoria Harbour and the incredible cityscape.



Iconic Junk Boat Cruises Sail through Victoria Harbour in a traditional fishing boat with modern luxury amenities.







## Victoria Harbour Night Cruise

Cruise to the colorful Western District, once a busy waterfront trading center, onboard a traditional junk boat. Enjoy the open-bar hospitality and see the fantastic night views of Victoria Harbour. Small Group from \$



#### Hong Kong Orientation Tour

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Hong Kong Island with a visit to Victoria Peak, bypassing Wan Chai. Visit Aberdeen Fishing Village, haven of fishing fleets and floating restaurants, before heading to Stanley Market to browse the stalls. Private Tour from \$\$\$



#### Hong Kong Heritage Tour

Experience firsthand the efforts to preserve Hong Kong's rich cultural heritage. Stop at the Tai Po Market, Tang Chung Ling Ancestral Hall and the villages of Lo Wai. All sites in this experience are rich in local history. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



#### Lantau Island & Skyrail Tour

Discover a pristine beach and traditional fishing village, populated by houses built on stilts. Visit the majestic Giant Buddha, enjoy lunch in a monastery and take a cable car ride aboard the Ngong Ping Skyrail. Coach Tour from \$\$



## Hong Kong Old and New Walking Tour

Tour the business district before walking through the streets of the old city where modern Hong Kong arose. Highlights include the old Bank of China building, the Court of Final Appeal and Saint John's Cathedral. Private Tour from \$\$

## Good to Know

English is widely spoken throughout Hong Kong. Most visitors are able to communicate with minimal problems. Also, all official signs and public transport announcements, as well as most menus, are in both English and Cantonese.

## Yangtze River Cruises





## Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer

Life aboard the spacious Sanctuary M.S. Yangzi Explorer is tranquil and unhurried. Carrying just 124 passengers, this vessel offers a highly personalized experience. All cabins boast floor-to-ceiling windows, providing access to private balconies. Onboard facilities include a la carte dining, a luxury spa, an observation deck, 24-hour room service, a two-floor theater, a library and beautiful fitness facilities.

\$\$\$\$\$ per cabin



### Victoria Jenna

The Yangtze's largest river cruising vessel, the Victoria Jenna boasts the most suites of any ship on the river. All cabins feature private balconies. Facilities include two restaurants, a single-seating main dining room, an a la carte restaurant on the top deck, four elevators, a three-story atrium lobby, two lounges, three bars, a fitness center, two full-sized lecture rooms, a library, the Oasis beauty salon, artist corners and a gift shop.

\$\$\$\$ per cabin





### Victoria Anna

Boasting deluxe style and décor from tastefully appointed cabins and elegant atriums, the overall feeling throughout is of American and European influences on top of Asian accents. The ship features a single-seating main dining room, Internet access, a beauty salon, a fitness room, a library and an elegant Yangtze Club used for colorful cultural presentations, traditional fashion shows and the sounds of traditional Chinese music.

\$\$\$\$ per cabin



### Victoria Katarina

This premier ship was constructed with Victoria Cruises' personal touches, blending both modern and elegant architecture. Excursions culturally enlighten travelers with informative lectures, painting demonstrations, acupuncture demonstrations, Tai Chi, Mandarin language lessons, calligraphy and the making of silk kites.

\$\$\$\$\$ per cabin







### 

## Welcome to Bhutan

Bhutan houses a pristine environment with high rugged mountains and deep valleys. Its location and unique geographic and climatic variations make it one of the world's last remaining biodiversity hot spots. The country recognizes the importance of conservation through its many national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.

Bhutanese culture runs deep within the country through not only its freedom of religion, but also its cuisine, clothing and festivals. Enjoy the national dish of Bhutan—known as Ema Datshi—or explore the Punakha Dzong, the second-oldest and most beautiful dzong in the country. Venture through one of the many national parks or sanctuaries to glimpse a snow leopard, tiger or the endangered takin. While Bhutan is one of the smallest countries in the world, its cultural diversity and environmental richness are profound.

## Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	21	25	32	39	45	50	52	50	48	39	30	23
High	45	48	54	59	63	64	64	64	63	61	54	50
Rain (in.)	0.4	0.4	1.3	3.2	7.1	16.4	21.6	16	10.2	3.3	0.4	0.2

• Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Paro.



Currency: Ngultrum (BTN)



Time Zone: UTC +06:00



Main Arrival Airport: Paro (PBH)



Flight Time from New York: 26 hours with an overnight stay in Bangkok



#### Tiger's Nest Monastery

Tiger's Nest is a sacred site and a beautiful temple built into the cliffs above Paro Valley.



#### Gangtey Monastery

The monastery offers panoramic views of the valley. Spot the rare black-necked cranes in the winter.



#### Punakha Dzong

Punakha Dzong serves as a community center and houses sacred relics of Tibetan Buddhism.



#### Zuri Dzong Hike

Hike to the oldest dzong in the country and see the cave where Buddha came to meditate.



<sup>\*</sup>Map is not to scale







## **☑** Insider Tip

After a long day of hiking, indulge in a Bhutanese bathing ritual. This practice is taken from both Indian Ayurvedic practices and traditional Tibetan medicine. It's the perfect way to soothe aching limbs and should not be missed!



#### Paro

A wide valley covered in fertile rice fields, this picturesque region is the gateway to Bhutan. Accentuating the natural beauty are the many elegant traditional-style houses that dot the valley and surrounding hills. Paro has grown in recent years and offers visitors a choice of restaurants, bakeries and cafes, as well as hiking and temple touring. Home to one of the most iconic monasteries, Taktsang, or Tiger's Nest, this interesting town is a must-do destination.



#### Thimphu

Thimphu is Bhutan's capital and most modern city; it offers guests an abundance of restaurants, internet cafes, nightclubs and shopping centers. However, it still retains a cultural identity and traditional values amidst the signs of modernization. Thimphu is one of the few towns in Bhutan equipped with ATM banking facilities, and it is a good place to stock up on some currency.



#### Punakha

At an elevation of 4,000 feet above sea level, Punakha Valley has a pleasant climate with warm winters and hot summers; thus, it offers favorable conditions for rice farming. Visitors to Punakha Dzongkhag will be met with beautiful scenery, as well as the majestic Punakha Dzong. It is the second-oldest and second-largest dzong in Bhutan, and it served as the country's capital from 1637 to 1907.



#### Bumthang

Bumthang is located in central Bhutan, an area with the greatest abundance of historic and religious sites. Here, temple-touring enthusiasts can find some of the country's oldest monasteries and Buddhist temples. Bumthang Dzongkhag consists of four main valleys: Ura, Chumey, Tang and Choekhor. Carved by ancient glaciers, these wide and scenic valleys draw a large number of tourists each year.



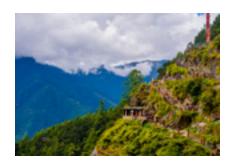
#### Gangtev

Considered one of the most beautiful spots in Bhutan, Gangtey is a flat valley with very few trees, and it is quite different from the rest of the country. This area is home to Jigme Singye Wangchuk National Park, a natural habitat for a variety of wildlife, including nesting grounds for endangered black-necked cranes. Witness these graceful birds at the Gangtey Monastery, where they spend the winter before returning home to Tibet.

# Tiger's Mest Monastery



Taktsang Palphug Monastery, also known as Tiger's Nest, is a cultural icon of Bhutan. A popular tourist attraction, this monastery is nothing short of unforgettable. The famous Buddhist structure clings to the side of a mountainous cliff, providing unbelievable views of surrounding mountains and luscious valleys.



The impressive architecture of the structure reflects Buddhist tradition. Gold is prominent across the design, bringing attention to the illuminated golden idols. Almost every room is equipped with a balcony, allowing the impressive natural surroundings to be proudly featured. An important landmark for the Buddhist religion, countless famous monks have visited the monastery since it opened.









#### **Common Travel Times** Delhi to 1 hour Jaipur Mumbai 2.25 hours Varanasi 1.5 hours 1.25 hours Udaipur Mumbai to Varanasi 2.25 hours Jaipur 2 hours Udaipur 1.5 hours

## Welcome to India

\*Map is not to scale

India is a developing nation, unique to any other country on earth. Made up of 29 states, India's north lies on the Himalayan Mountains, while to the south, the country enjoys a more tropical climate. With a high diversity of regional cultures, the cuisine of India varies by geographic locale. Most widely known for the Taj Mahal, India not only boasts a unique culture and cuisine, it has many great landmarks to visit and explore.

A magical land of high mountains, deep seas, golden deserts and splendid plains, India's natural beauty is uniquely blended with the country's deep-rooted heritage and culture, making India a destination that is pleasing to the eyes and soul.

## Average Monthly Weather

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low	46	50	60	71	79	82	81	79	77	67	56	47
High	70	74	85	97	103	102	95	93	94	91	83	73
Rain (in.)	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	1	2.8	9.3	9.3	4.5	0.7	0.4	0.4

• Popular Travel Periods. Weather based on Delhi.



Currency: Indian Rupee (INR)



Time Zone: UTC +05:30



Main Arrival Airport: New Delhi (DEL)



Flight Time from New York: 14 hours

## 2019 Highlights

#### The Taj Mahal

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the palace is famous for its architectural achievement and timeless beauty.



#### Jaipur's Palace of the Winds

Hawa Mahal, or Palace of the Winds, is known for its elaborate façade made from pink sandstone.



#### Agra's Red Fort

This iconic complex encloses the former capital of India, where the Mughal emperors resided.



#### Backwaters of Kerala

This serene collections of lakes, canals and lagoons parallels the coast of the Arabian Sea.









## Staff Typ

I loved the early-morning tour of Madurai; our guide, Karthik, took us through small streets and off the beaten path. The city was waking up to the hustle and bustle of the local Tamil morning traditions, and it was a wonderful way to see how ordinary people live their day-to-day lives—a must for all travelers. Another place we visited was the flower market. The market, with roses and jasmine, is full of fragrance.

-Bela B., Travel Consultant, India



#### New Delhi

Considered an icon of old and new India, New Delhi is a lavish blend of malls, colonial mansions and tree-lined avenues. The centerpiece of India's carefully planned capital is Connaught Place, a vibrant circle of bars and banks, restaurants and renowned shopping. Stroll down the beautiful Raj Path and enjoy its quaint gardens and ornamental ponds.



#### Agra

Discover the timelessness of love in Agra, home of the Taj Mahal. Agra served as capital for the Mughal Empire during the 16th and 17th centuries and flourished as a center of art, drawing inspiration from a mix of styles. It has been immortalized by the Taj Mahal, yet Agra has so many more monuments that tell a rich narrative of the tides and times of man.



#### Jaipur

Jaipur is known as "the pink city" for the color of its older buildings. Traditionally, pink was considered the color of hospitality. The city's hue is brilliantly displayed in the Hawa Mahal, or Palace of Winds, which radiates an orange-pink glow in the rising sun. Exquisitely carved gates divide the city into neat rectangles, making sightseeing surprisingly easy.



#### Udaipur

Known as the "City of Sunrise," Udaipur is described as the most romantic city in India. The city is built around the picturesque Lake Pichola. The labyrinth of temples and havelis (ornate houses) invites hours of quiet contemplation. The two islands in the lake command attention with their lotus-lined waters and floating palaces, one of which was formerly the royal summer palace.



#### Varanasi

A crumbling maze of a city that rises from the steps on the western banks of the Ganges, Varanasi is in many senses the quintessential India. Seen by devotees as the holiest of Indian pilgrimages, Varanasi is where the devout come to wash away their sins. Cruise the waterfront at dawn and witness the most surreal scenes when devotees come to bathe and meditate.



#### Mumbai

Mumbai, formerly known as Bombay, contains the heart of Hindi cinema known as Bollywood. Crammed onto a narrow strip of land that curls from the coast into the Arabian Sea, Mumbai has morphed from being a fishing settlement into a sprawling megalopolis of 12 million people. Mumbai attracts people from all backgrounds, classes and social strata, coming together in search of economic prosperity and growth.



#### Kumarakom

Kumarakom is an unbelievably beautiful paradise of mangrove forests, emerald green paddy fields and coconut groves, interspersed with enchanting waterways and canals. Once you are situated on the Vembanad Lake within this small water world, happen upon plenty of traditional country crafts, boats and canoes that will take you into the heart of the scenic lake.

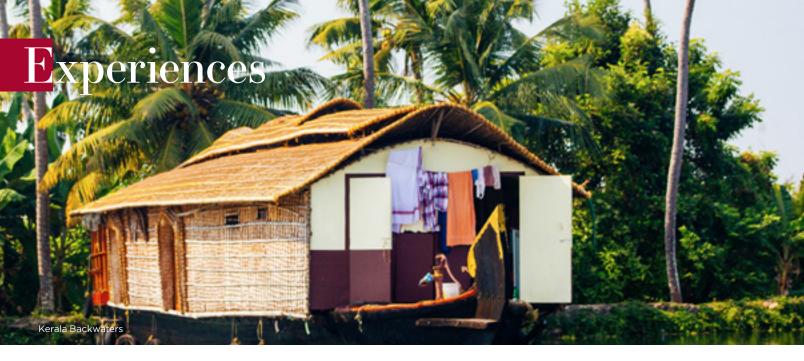




Holi is the traditional Hindu celebration to acknowledge the arrival of spring. A true picture of togetherness, the festival floods the streets with thousands of people. Donned in clean white clothing, neighbors and strangers begin to sprinkle each other with gulal, a colored powder. Each color has a meaning: red represents love and happiness, while blue is symbolic of vitality. Music fills the air as smiling friends and family dance through the streets. Holi is an experience that cannot be missed.



Diwali is known as the festival of lights. For five days, the festival celebrates the return of exiled King Rama and is one of the most important traditions in Indian culture. All buildings and homes are decorated with bright lights and colorful flowers. During this holiday, it is customary to exchange gifts with loved ones, as well as offer a simple "Happy Diwali" to anyone you may pass.





#### Old Delhi by Rickshaw

Take an exhilarating rickshaw ride from Jama Masjid through the narrow lanes of the old city to the Red Fort. The Bazaars of Old Delhi are legendary, with narrow streets lined with shops and goods spilling on to the pavement. Private Tour from \$\$



#### City Palace of Udaipur

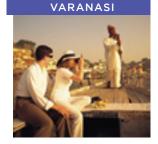
Explore the City Palace's blend of stern Rajput military architecture and lavish Mughal-inspired decorative art. This is the largest palace in Rajasthan, sprawled out over an area of five acres, built between the 16th and 20th centuries.

Private Tour from \$\$\$



#### Agra Fort & Taj Mahal at Sunset

Take in the sunset at the Taj Mahal, an extravagant marble monument of love. This beautiful mausoleum, in pure white marble, took 22 years and 22,000 craftsmen to build. Visit Agra Fort, the original red sandstone fort. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



## Morning Boat Ride on the Sacred Ganges

Cruise down the Ganges at dawn. As you head down river, you will have a perfect vantage point to watch the steps that lead down to the river as they come to life with locals offering prayers and meditating.

Private Tour from \$\$



#### Jaipur City Tour & Amber Fort

The Amber Fort is a blend of Hindu and Muslim architecture in Jaipur, built in red sandstone and white marble. The highlight of the fort is the Sheesh Mahal, or Mirror Palace, known for its craftsmanship in mirrors. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$



#### Kumarakom Backwaters

Take a boat journey on the backwaters of Kerala through a labyrinth of shimmering waterways lined with dense vegetation. Witness the real culture and lifestyle of Kerala countryside as you observe locals on the banks of the lake.

Private Tour from \$\$\$

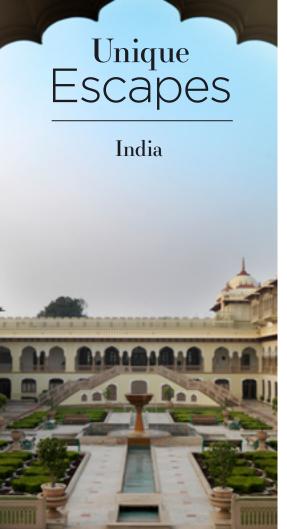


#### Mumbai at Dawn

Witness Mumbai come to life at dawn. Walk down Sassoon Dock and take part in a traditional fish auction. The morning markets buzz with color and sound. End by sampling fresh, revitalizing coconut water driven to Mumbai from Kerala. Private Tour from \$\$\$\$

#### Good To Know

Taking photographs at military locations, airports and temples is not allowed. If you are visiting any tourist areas, try to avoid taking pictures of people or the locals, as they might not like it.

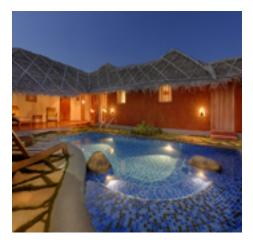




## The Oberoi Amarvilas

#### Location: Agra

Enjoy the luxury of your own private view of the greatest monument of love. The Oberoi Amarvilas, located just 600 meters from the Taj Mahal, offers breathtaking views of the monument. The resort is a splendid display of terraced lawns, fountains, reflection pools and pavilions with rich interiors. An interlude at The Oberoi Amarvilas is truly unforgettable. \$\$\$\$\$ per room, per night

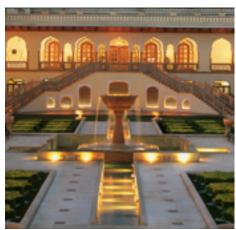


## Orange County Kabini

#### Location: Karnataka

Set in a prime location on the banks of Kabini River, Orange County Resort offers comfortable accommodations situated on 15 acres of grounds. The inspiration for the buildings comes from the mud-walled thatched dwellings of a local tribe, the Kadu Kurubas. All suites are notably spacious and beautifully finished in a traditional safari style with plenty of facilities.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night





## Rambagh Palace

#### Location: Rajasthan

In the finest tradition of Rajput hospitality, the Rambagh Palace offers its guests a taste of royal living—a luxury and extravagance that was once the sole preserve of kings. Its elegantly appointed rooms, marbled corridors and majestic gardens echo with history as every corner has a story to tell. \$\$\$\$ per room, per night

### Glenburn Tea Estate

#### Location: Darjeeling

Set to awe-inspiring views, the Glenburn Tea Estate is an expansive retreat for those seeking tranquility. Vases of fresh flowers, wooden flooring, four post beds, handembroidered linen and wicker chairs set on open verandas lend a feeling of an English country cottage. High tea, warm delicious meals and the inexhaustible mountain air add to the Glenburn magic.

\$\$\$\$ per room, per night



Glenburn Tea Estate

India

Rambagh Palace

Orange County, Kabini





## Day 1

I flew from Bangalore to Madurai before embarking on a two-hour drive to Chettinad, where I stayed at the Visalam Hotel.

In February, when the weather is pleasant in South India, I traveled to Chettinad and Tamil Nadu to explore the Hindu temples of Madurai and Thanjavur. The exquisite Chettiar cuisine was another reason for my visit! I flew from Bangalore to Madurai—a short non-stop flight on Jet Air. Unfortunately, the airline didn't transport my bag to Madurai, so I was forced to go shopping.

Equipped with local colorful clothes, I was excited! After an easy two-hour drive from Mudurai to Chettinad, I arrived at the Visalam Hotel. It is a grand 75-year-old house that has been converted to luxurious simplicity. The rooms are very large, and one could feel the heritage, art and architecture of olden times.

## Day 2

Today, I explored Chettinad on a bullock cart.

After a delicious steaming local South Indian filter coffee, we walked around the village and admired the abandoned mansions that lie still with its history of the past. Later on, I took a bullock cart ride and stopped by some local structures. Its architecture of open courtyards, tall steel pillars and beautiful tile work was impressive. It seemed

that time has stopped here and I was living in the past. The Chettiars—a caste of traders and bankers—built these mansions beginning in mid-19th century and ending just after India's independence. Most of these homes are looked after by caretakers now—the Chettiars long gone from them.

This place is so unlike any other part of India. The region is also full of beautiful boutique hotels, local tours and cooking classes. I was lucky enough to also visit the cotton weavers, the Athangudi Tile Factory and a Shiva temple.

Late Morning, I visited Chettinad's capital of Karaikuddi. I enjoyed a lunch with a 75-year-old doyen of Chettinad culture and cuisine at Bangala Mansion. Her mansion was full of guests from all over the world enjoying the cuisine!

I drove to Thanjavur and enjoyed a culinary session and cultural performance at Hotel Svatma.

From Chettinad to Thanjavur—
the drive was about three hours.
Welcomed by tall trees and the beautiful
fragrance of jasmine, I arrived at Hotel
Svatma. The hotel has a spiritual feel with
an indulgence of luxury. In the afternoon,
I took part in a culinary session with a
local chef. I learned to make the South
Indian snack of paniyarams and a
traditional South Indian sweet sheera.

In the evening, I enjoyed an amazing dance performance of Bharat Natyam. The young dancer had traveled six hours from Chennai to perform! That night, my lost bag (completely intact!) arrived at the hotel. I was more than delighted!

## Day 3

Today, I visited the 11th century Brihadeeswarar Temple and toured the Thanjavur streets.

The morning began quietly with the local in-house priest chanting the Vedas. My guide for the day took me to the 11th century Brihadeeswarar Temple—a

UNESCO World Heritage monument. Of its sculptures, the most distinct ones are those of Shiva's 108 dancing postures. Following this, I visited the bronzecasting and bronze gallery. Afterwards, we walked Thanjavur's streets to explore its cultural heritage. I met the Tanjore painting artist and explored Bommai Kolu— the wooden and clay dolls. I even bought a clay doll as a souvenir since they are locally crafted.

## Day 4

I explored the 16th century Nayakar Palace and visited the famous Meenakshi Temple.

> The breakfast at Svatma was a wonderful spread of East and

West cuisines.
Omelets for the
Western palates
and fresh, thin
rice and lentil
pancakes (called
dosa) for those who
wanted to try the
local fare. An easy drive
on a well-paved road was

a comfortable way to reach Madurai. After checking into the hotel, I went to explore the palace and then the famous Meenakshi Temple. Many people were there for prayers and blessings. The architecture of the temple is stunning.







## Day 5

On my last day, I participated in an interactive walking tour for an authentic experience of the local lifestyle in Madurai.

I loved the early-morning tour of Madurai. We went to small streets where our guide, Karthik, took us to off-thebeaten-path back streets and fruit and vegetable markets.

The city was waking up to the hustle and bustle of the local Tamil morning traditions. My favorite stop was the flower market—the scent of roses and jasmine filled the air. After some leisure time at the hotel, I caught my flight to Bangalore.



A Colorful Journey with:  $Bela\ Banker$  Travel Consultant



## Our Story

Redefining luxury travel, Swain Destinations is the leading U.S. provider of completely customized exotic vacation experiences. Since 1987, cofounders lan and Linda Swain and their dedicated team of destination experts have offered American travelers the opportunity to design distinctive trips to intriguing international locales, including Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific, Asia, India and Africa. From adventure-packed trips to leisurely getaways, Swain Destinations curates itineraries based on each individual's travel preferences.

## **Show Us Your Adventurous Side!**

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Tag your travel photos with #swaindestinations to be featured on our Swain Destinations Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds.



One of our consultants, Kat, went skydiving in Wanaka, New Zealand. This was captured just before taking the leap of a lifetime!



 $\Omega$ 7



This girl hopped up in the middle of dinner to join us, as if she owned the place. She then proceeded to leave with our hearts.









Bangkok | Chiang Mai | Phuket

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip transfers
- · Fast Track Arrival Service
- 9 nights accommodations
- Canals and Grand Palace tour
- Bangkok City and Temples tour
- Damnoen Saduak Floating Markets tour
- Doi Suthep and Meo Hilltribe tour
- 9 breakfasts

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Bangkok

Begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Bangkok, Thailand.

#### Days 2-5: Bangkok

An exciting brew of traffic and temples, luxury hotels and labyrinth-like streets, the "City of Angels" is a hectic haven. Stop at the Temple of Dawn and visit the Royal Palace and Wat Phra Kaew—home to the Emerald Buddha. Bangkok is a city that displays a great variety of colorful architecture. Treat your eyes to a parade of vibrant canoes laden with fresh produce, or paddle up to a floating restaurant for fresh pad thai.

#### Days 5-7: Chiang Mai

Chiang Mai is the gateway city to Thailand's lush northern towns and its rustic hill-tribe villages. Vibrant markets, delicious local eateries and stunning temples make up this cultural hub.

Trek to the summit of Doi Suthep and visit the 600-year-old temple of Wat Phra That Doi Suthep. Here, you will enjoy views of the surrounding region as you take in the vistas from the top of the mountain.

#### Days 7-10: Phuket

Although Phuket's name is derived from the Malaysian word "Bukit," meaning mountain, it is the island's sheltered coves and long stretches of pristine beach that draw most visitors to its shores. The turquoise waters are enhanced by the stunning limestone structures that protrude from the sea. With many natural attractions nearby, your days can be as

action packed or laid back as you would like. Be sure to visit Khai Island, renowned for beautiful rocks, coral and isolated beaches.

#### Days 10-11: Bangkok

A night will be spent at an airport hotel, providing easy access to Suvarnabhumi Airport for your flight home.

#### Day 11: Fly Bangkok to USA

Make your way to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	Shoulder Season	High Season
Superior	\$1,600	\$2,320	\$2,640
Deluxe	\$3,500	\$3,800	\$4,010
Luxury	\$4,840	\$5,320	\$5,995

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$590 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Hanoi | Halong Bay | Hoi An Ho Chi Minh City

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip private airport transfers
- 9 nights' accommodations
- · Hanoi city tour
- Thang Long Water Puppet Theater
- · Halong Bay Overnight Cruise
- · Hoi An city tour
- · Cai Be Princess Mekong Delta Cruise
- · Saigon city tour
- · 9 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Hanoi

Begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Hanoi, Vietnam.

#### Days 2-4: Hanoi

Fine galleries, charismatic stores and exciting dining venues—mixed with a thriving culture—make Hanoi a top tourist destination. Visit One Pillar Pagoda and the Temple of Literature, one of the best-preserved examples of traditional Vietnamese architecture. Additional highlights include Hoan Kiem Lake, Museum of Vietnamese History and a visit to the final resting place of Ho Chi Minh.

#### Days 4-5: Halong Bay

Discover the incredible splendors of Halong Bay aboard a beautifully outfitted boat that combines classic elegance with modern comfort. Take in the changing scenery as you pass by the massive limestone structures that protrude from the bay to create one of the world's most impressive masterpieces.

#### Days 5-8: Hoi An

A picturesque river port, Hoi An turns its gaze inwards to its rich history rather than outwards to the West for inspiration. Visit the Japanese Covered Bridge, explore Sa Huynh Museum and see Phung Hung House.

#### Days 8-11: Ho Chi Minh City

Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as Saigon, is a large metropolis. Yet within this mega city there are many years of timeless traditions and a beautiful ancient culture that still shows its presence. Foodstall-lined streets, luxurious hotels and complicated alleyways are just the start to this dynamic city.

Visit the Jade Emperor Pagoda, a key meeting place for Chinese secret societies. Embark on a Mekong River cruise aboard the Cai Be Princess for a historic journey down this iconic river. Tour the colorful floating market of Cai Be and explore the smaller islands found among the narrow canals and by the waters of the Mekong Island.

#### Day 11: Fly Ho Chi Minh City to USA

Wrap up your Vietnam vacation as you are transferred to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	High Seaso
Superior	\$2,200	\$2,370
Deluxe	\$2,560	\$2,710
Luxury	\$4,660	\$4,890

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$690 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Bangkok | Chiang Rai | Chiang Mai | Siem Reap | Phuket

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip transfers
- Fast Track Arrival Service
- 14 nights' accommodations
- Canals and Grand Palace tour
- Bangkok City and Temple tour
- Damnoen Saduak Floating Market tour
- Activities at Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle
- · Doi Inthanon National Park tour
- Private Angkor Wat temple touring
- 14 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 5 dinners

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Bangkok

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#### Days 2-5: Bangkok

An exciting brew of traffic and temples, luxury hotels and labyrinth-like streets, the "City of Angels" is a hectic haven. From the immense variety of local delicacies to the shop-lined streets offering up every product imaginable, there is no city quite like Bangkok. Bustling, thriving and lively, this metropolis brings Southeast Asia to life. Experience the beauty of the Temple of Dawn and visit the Royal Palace and Wat Phra Kaew—home to the Emerald Buddha. Bangkok is a city that displays a great variety of colorful architecture.

Treat your eyes to a parade of vibrant canoes laden with fresh produce, or paddle up to a floating restaurant for fresh pad thai.

#### Days 5-8: Chiang Rai

Chiang Rai is the heart of the Golden Triangle, an area where the borders of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar converge. This region is filled with lush jungles and rich culture. Take in the experiences at Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle. Trek elephants across the jungle along spectacular mountain trails and head on a cruise down the majestic Mekong River in a traditional longboat.

#### Days 8-10: Chiang Mai

Chiang Mai is the gateway city to Thailand's lush northern towns and its rustic hill-tribe villages. Vibrant markets, delicious local eateries and stunning temples make up this cultural hub.

Take a scenic drive through the mountainous countryside to Doi Inthanon National Park. Visit twin pagodas before stopping at the Karen Hilltribe Village. Here, you will learn about the Royal Project before trekking to the beautiful Vachiratharn waterfall.

#### Days 10-12: Siem Reap

Cambodia's third-largest city, Siem Reap's streets are dotted with restaurants dishing up local cuisine and markets selling goods and souvenirs. A town with a lively nightlife, Siem Reap is a gem found in the lush northern region of Cambodia.

Protruding from the surrounding jungle, the Angkor temple complex is the main attraction to Siem Reap's visitors. One of the wonders of the world, the temple complex and Angkor Wat bring history to life as you explore the many structures







and their hidden passageways. The complex boasts the longest continuous structure in the world, narrating stories from Hindu mythology.

Visit the awe-inspiring temple, Angkor Wat, the world's largest Hindu temple and a structural marvel. On the same tour, you will explore Angkor Thom—a forbidden royal city—and Bayon, best recognized by its large stone faces.

#### Days 12-15: Phuket

Although Phuket's name is derived from the Malaysian word "Bukit," meaning mountain, it is the island's sheltered coves and long stretches of pristine beach that draw most visitors to its shores. The turquoise waters are enhanced by the stunning limestone structures that protrude from the sea.

With many natural attractions nearby, your days can be as action packed or laid back as you would like. Be sure to visit Khai Island, renowned for beautiful rocks, coral and isolated beaches.

#### Days 15-16: Bangkok

A night will be spent at an airport hotel, providing easy access to Suvarnabhumi Airport for your flight home.

### Day 16: Fly Bangkok to USA

Make your way to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

Low Season Shoulder Season High Season

Luxury \$10,680 \$11,925 \$14,200

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$1,350 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Bangkok | Chiang Mai | Siem Reap Ho Chi Minh City

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- Damnoen Saduak Floating Market tour
- Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom& Ta Phrom tour
- Saigon city tour & Chinatown
- Cai Be Princess Mekong Delta Cruise
- 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch

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Chiang Mai is the gateway city to Thailand's lush northern towns and its rustic hill-tribe villages. Vibrant markets, delicious local eateries and stunning temples make up this cultural hub.

Chiang Mai's original gates have been lovingly restored, and the chanting of monks drifts softly through the narrow streets from three of the area's most revered temples. Enjoy time at leisure to experience the bright bazaar where locals sell handicrafts. Then explore the temples and sample the regional cuisine.

#### Days 7-9: Siem Reap

Protruding from the surrounding jungle, the Angkor temple complex is the main attraction to Siem Reap's visitors. One





of the wonders of the world, the temple complex and Angkor Wat bring history to life as you explore the many structures and their hidden passageways. The complex boasts the longest continuous structure in the world, narrating stories from Hindu mythology.

Visit the awe-inspiring temple, Angkor Wat, the world's largest Hindu temple and a structural marvel. On the same tour, you will explore Angkor Thom—a forbidden royal city—and Bayon, best recognized by its large stone faces. End your journey at Ta Prohm, one of Angkor's most popular attractions and an idyllic place to take in the Cambodian sunset.

#### Days 9-12: Ho Chi Minh City

Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as Saigon, is a large metropolis. Yet within this mega city there are many years of timeless traditions and a beautiful ancient culture that still shows its presence. Foodstall-lined streets, luxurious hotels and complicated alleyways are just the start to this dynamic city.

Visit the Jade Emperor Pagoda, a key meeting place for Chinese secret societies. Embark on a Mekong River cruise aboard the Cai Be Princess for a historic journey down this iconic river. Tour the colorful floating market of Cai Be and explore the smaller islands found among the narrow canals and by the waters of the Mekong Island.

#### Day 12: Fly Ho Chi Minh City to USA

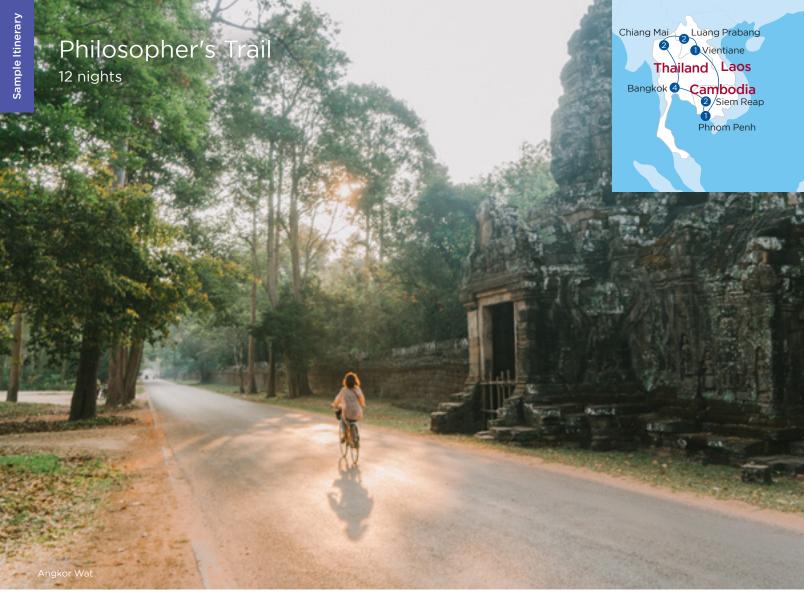
Wrap up your Southeast Asia vacation as you are transferred to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	Shoulder Season	High Season
Superior	\$2,180	\$2,340	\$2,530
Deluxe	\$3,000	\$3,345	\$3,570
Luxury	\$5,470	\$5,665	\$6,280

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$650 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Bangkok | Siem Reap | Phnom Penh Vientiane | Luang Prabang | Chiang Mai

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip transfers
- Fast Track Arrival Service
- 12 nights' accommodations
- Canals and Grand Palace tour
- Bangkok City and Temples tour
- Damnoen Saduak Floating Market tour
- Angkor Thom & Angkor Wat tour
- Banteay Srei and Ta Prohm tour
- Phnom Penh city tour
- Vientiane city tour
- Luang Prabang city tour
- Morning sunrise tour
- · Chiang Mai City and Temples tour
- 12 breakfasts

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Bangkok

Begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Bangkok, Thailand.

#### Days 2-5: Bangkok

An exciting brew of traffic and temples, luxury hotels and labyrinth-like streets, the "City of Angels" is a hectic haven. From the immense variety of local delicacies to the shop-lined streets offering up every product imaginable, there is no city quite like Bangkok.

Bustling, thriving and lively, this metropolis brings Southeast Asia to life. Experience the beauty of the Temple of Dawn and visit the Royal Palace and Wat Phra Kaew—home to the Emerald Buddha. Bangkok is a city that displays a great variety of colorful architecture. Treat your eyes to a parade of vibrant canoes laden with fresh produce, or paddle up to a floating restaurant for fresh pad thai.



#### Days 5-7: Siem Reap

Cambodia's third-largest city, Siem Reap's streets are dotted with restaurants dishing up local cuisine and markets selling goods and souvenirs. A town with a lively nightlife, Siem Reap is a gem found in the lush northern region of Cambodia.

Protruding from the surrounding jungle, the Angkor temple complex is the main attraction to Siem Reap visitors. One of the wonders of the world, the temple complex and Angkor Wat bring history to life as you explore the many structures and their hidden passageways. The complex boasts the longest continuous structure in the world, narrating stories from Hindu mythology. Visit the awe-inspiring



temple, Angkor Wat, the world's largest Hindu temple and a structural marvel. On the same tour, you will explore Angkor Thom—a forbidden royal city—and Bayon, best recognized by its large stone faces.

#### Days 7-8: Phnom Penh

Beneath Cambodia's clatter of rickshaws and motorbikes lies the serenity of aging French Colonial mansions and temples of Phnom Penh's chaotic landscape. Venture to Wat Phnom, both a temple and location of the first pagoda built in 1372. You will visit the Royal Palace, tour the Silver Pagoda and the National Museum, containing a collection of Khmer art.



#### Days 8-9: Vientiane

Laos is a country of ornate temples, colorfully clad monks and unforgettably friendly villagers. All around, you can see the lush, pristine landscapes and marvel at the breathtaking views. Embrace spirituality, creativity and culture as you explore this seemingly uncharted land. You will spend your time in Vientiane visiting Pha That Luang—the most important national monument—and Ho Phra Keo, the formal royal temple.

#### Days 9-11: Luang Prabang

Laos' ancient capital, Luang Prabang, is a sleepy town with a sumptuous past. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Luang Prabang has over 30 well-preserved temples with fascinating mosaics and intricately carved wooden columns that hum with the chants of the faithful. Explore many of the temples to take in the culture. A highlight is your sunset visit to Mount Phousi, offering beautiful views over the temples and river.

#### Days 11-13: Chiang Mai

Chiang Mai is the gateway city to Thailand's lush northern towns and its rustic hill-tribe villages. Vibrant markets, delicious local eateries and stunning temples make up this cultural hub. Visit a local Buddhist temple, where you will offer alms to the monks as they pass by in their distinct saffron-colored robes. Take in some more culture as you head to Chiang Mai's temples for a tour of some of the city's most famous landmarks.

#### Days 13-14: Bangkok

A night will be spent at an airport hotel, providing easy access to Suvarnabhumi Airport for your flight home.

#### Day 14: Fly Bangkok to USA

Make your way to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.

#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	Shoulder Season	High Season
Superior	\$2,820	\$2,925	\$3,210
Deluxe	\$3,910	\$4,410	\$4,720
Luxury	\$7,050	\$7,530	\$8,060

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$1,150 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Yangon | Bagan | Mandalay | Inle Lake

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- 10 nights' accommodations
- · Yangon city tour
- Discover the Beauty of Bagan tour
- · Bagan sightseeing tour
- · Amarapura, Ava & Sagaing tour
- · Mandalay tour
- · Mingun tour
- Inle Lake tour
- Boat Excursion to Mine Thauk Village
- 10 breakfasts

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Yangon

Begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Yangon, Myanmar.

#### Days 2-4: Yangon

Yangon lies in the fertile delta of southern Myanmar on the wide Yangon River. The city is filled with tree-shaded boulevards and shimmering temple tops that float above the trees. Enjoy a day touring Yangon's highlights. You will be introduced to the temples before stopping at a local market. Finish out your full day with a sunset at Shwedagon Temple, a breathtaking sight and perfect end to a great day.

#### Days 4-7: Bagan

Explore the vast and fascinating area of Bagan and discover temples with unique stories, features and architecture.

Bagan's spectacular plain stretches away from the Irrawaddy River and is dotted with over 2,000 temple structures dating back over 800 years. Spend time exploring the temples and hearing the fascinating history and stories behind these imposing structures.

Travel to Mount Popa, a curious cylindrical hill rising above the flat land below.

Considered to be the home of Myanmar's most important spirits, a connection to the land can be felt on your journey.

Ascend up a winding staircase encircling the mountain. At the top, a monastery and temple complex provide the perfect place for breathtaking views.

#### Days 7-9: Mandalay

Known as Myanmar's "last royal city," Mandalay evokes feelings of a bygone era with its royal palace. Located on the banks of the Irrawaddy River, Mandalay is home to the U-Bein Bridge and three former capitals—Amarapura, Ava and Sagaing. Tour these unique settings, visit a monastery and ride around the peaceful countryside in a horse cart. Travel to Mingun to enjoy the views of the river life,

including fishing villages, market boats and children playing in the water. Ruins are explored at several pagodas.

#### Days 9-11: Inle Lake

Spend a relaxing two nights at Inle Lake, a serene escape where still waters and colorful brush frame the slow-moving fishing canoes. Rolling high hills hug the lake on all sides. Enjoy the awe-inspiring scenery and meditate on the one-of-a-kind skills of the local fishermen who make use of their legs in a unique rowing technique to glide gracefully around the lake.

#### Days 11-12: Yangon

Spend a night in Yangon before departing the country the next morning.

#### Day 12: Fly Yangon to USA

Today concludes your Myanmar trip as you depart for the USA.



All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

High Season

 Superior
 \$3,200

 Deluxe
 \$3,800

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Internal airfare is included in this package. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Ubud | Jimbaran Bay

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- · Round-trip transfers
- 8 nights' accommodations
- Culture, Nature and Active Volcano tour
- · Scenic Adventure tour
- Royal Temple, Monkey Forest and Floating Temple tour
- 8 breakfasts

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Bali

Today will begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Bali, Indonesia.

#### Days 2-5: Ubud

The beauty of Bali embraces you almost instantly as the stunning landscape, filled with rice terraces and misty peaks, rises from the sea. Culturally rich, Bali is sure to enchant with its Buddhist temples, alleyway bazaars and stunning backdrops.

Spend your days in Ubud exploring the enchanting surroundings. Tour the sights and sounds of Bali as you explore its cultural, natural and artistic aspects. In the village of Batubulan, take in a cultural performance. Continue through the rural villages and rice fields, visiting holy temples along the way. Your experience concludes at Mount Batur and its crater

lake. Breathtaking views are around every corner. As Mount Batur rises from the fields, you are sure to feel the immense power of the Balinese landscape.

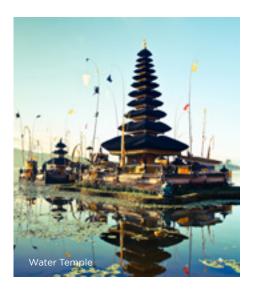
#### Days 5-10: Jimbaran Bay

Dotted with luxury properties, Jimbaran's beachfront location is highly prized. Great for surfing, swimming and boasting plenty of nearby restaurants and bars, it is the perfect coastal locale. Experience the fascinating highlights of Bali with a scenic tour of the island. Travel through the back roads to feel the cultural heart of the island. Local villages, tropical rainforests and ancient temples are just a few stops of your adventure tour. A true highlight, the Ulun Danu water temple on Lake Bratan is an icon of the island as it rises from the lake surrounded by mountains on every side.

Visit the sacred Monkey Forest for an upclose-and-personal encounter with some of the island's most revered residents. Explore the local art of the island with a stop at the Batik processing center. Also included is a stop at the Taman Ayun temple, finishing out the day at Tanah Lot with a beautiful sunset as your backdrop for this oceanside temple.

#### Day 10: Fly Bali to USA

Wrap up your Bali vacation as you are transferred to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	Shoulder Season	High Season
Superior	\$2,260	\$2,370	\$2,500
Deluxe	\$2,615	\$2,820	\$2,970
Luxury	\$7,075	\$8,640	\$8,780

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Beijing | Xi'an | Guilin | Yangshuo Hong Kong

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- · Round-trip transfers
- 11 nights' accommodations
- Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven and Court Cuisine
- Great Wall at Mutianyu and Summer Palace tour
- Terracotta Warriors & Shaanxi Provincial Museum tour
- Longsheng Rice Terraces
- Li River Cruise from Guilin to Yangshuo
- · Yangshuo bicycle tour to Moon Hill
- · Hong Kong Island Orientation
- 11 breakfasts, 5 lunches

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Beijing

Begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Beijing, China.

#### Days 2-5: Beijing

Emperors and entrepreneurs have both called China's flashy capital, Beijing, home. Explore the Forbidden City and walk in the steps of ancient emperors. Traverse the stone promenade of the Great Wall winding its way over 3,000 feet to the crest of a mountain, a World Wonder and a truly incredible feat.

#### Days 5-7: Xi'an

Tour the archaeological site of the Terracotta Warriors, which, so far, has yielded some 7,000 life-sized terracotta soldiers and horses. Visit the Provincial Museum, Big Wild Goose Pagoda and City Gate.

#### Days 7-9: Guilin

Guilin's serene landscape of bamboo forests and mist-covered hills is mystical and inspiring. Pass through quaint villages to Longji Titian (Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces)—a beautifully sculpted landscape of terraced rice fields—to see how the locals thrive.

#### Days 9-10: Yangshuo

Cruise on the mirrored waters of the Li River to Yangshuo, where quiet river activities enhance the misty pinnacles and gentle green riverbanks of the surrounding landscape. Disembark in the heart of this small town where many stalls selling traditional Chinese arts and crafts line the streets. Take a bicycle tour of Yangshuo's Moon Hill area for awe-inspiring views.

#### Days 10-13: Hong Kong

A vibrant and bustling city that never seems to sleep, Hong Kong is crowned by the imposing Victoria Peak, providing stunning 360-degree views of Kowloon Peninsula. There is no other view quite like it in the world. Travel to Aberdeen Fishing Village, haven of the fishing fleets and floating restaurants, for a real feel of the local culture. A visit to Stanley Market for souvenirs and collectibles rounds out your experience.

#### Day 13: Fly Hong Kong to USA

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.

#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	Shoulder Season	High Season
Superior	\$3,880	\$4,070	\$4,320
Deluxe	\$4,300	\$4,450	\$4,730
Luxury	\$6,860	\$7,070	\$7,370

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$840 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Shanghai | Yangtze River Cruise | Xi'an Beijing

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip transfers
- 11 nights' accommodations
- Bund. Jade Buddha and Yu Garden tour
- Shanghai Acrobatics Show
- Yangtze River Cruise,
   Yichang to Chongqing
- Yangtze River excursions
- Terracotta Warriors & Shaanxi Provincial Museum tour
- Tang Dynasty Show and Dinner
- Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven and Court Cuisine
- Great Wall at Mutianyu and Summer Palace tour
- 11 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 5 dinners

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Shanghai

Begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Shanghai, China.

#### Days 2-4: Shanghai

Shanghai's colonial and Art Deco architecture grace each side of the Huangpu River, mixing tradition and modern influences seamlessly. Visit the riverfront Bund, Jade Buddha, enchanting Yuyuan Garden and Shanghai Old Street. Wrap up with an astounding performance by the Shanghai Acrobatics, worldrenowned for the incredible skill and grace of the performers.

#### Days 4-8: Yangtze River Cruise

The Yangtze is the longest river in Asia and the third longest in the world. Travel along the Daning River, a tributary of the Yangtze, as it winds its way 20 miles through the beautiful Lesser Gorges where the water is strikingly clear. Don't miss the Qutang Gorge, the shortest, narrowest and most dramatic portion of the river. Two mountains guard the entrance to these gorge-line castle doors.

#### Days 8-10: Xi'an

Tour the archaeological site of the Terracotta Warriors, which, so far, has yielded some 7,000 life-sized terracotta soldiers and horses. Enjoy the Tang Dynasty Performance, which introduces Changan music and dance, originating thousands of years ago.

#### Days 10-13: Beijing

Tour the Forbidden City and walk in the steps of ancient emperors. Visit the Temple of Heaven, where Ming and Qing emperors prayed for good harvest. At Mutianyu, the Great Wall winds its way over 3,000 feet to the crest of the mountain, a World Wonder and incredible feat. Round out your tour at the Summer Palace, formerly an imperial garden and palace for the Qing Emperors.

#### Day 13: Fly Beijing to USA

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	Shoulder Season	High Season
Superior	\$3,110	\$3,200	\$3,340
Deluxe	\$3,540	\$3,950	\$4,160
Luxury	\$6,375	\$6,865	\$7,270

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$1,050 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Tokyo | Hakone | Kyoto | Hiroshima | Osaka

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip transfers
- 9 nights' accommodations
- Dynamic Tokyo tour
- · Kamakura, Yokohama and Tokyo Bay tour
- Tokyo to Hakone (via Mt. Fuji)
- · Mt. Fuji and Hakone tour
- Bullet Train (Odawara to Kyoto)
- · Nara city tour
- · Kyoto city tour
- Bullet Train (Kyoto to Hiroshima)
- · Hiroshima and Mijyajima tour
- Bullet Train (Hiroshima to Osaka)
- · Ohara Museum of Art and Kurashiki tour
- 9 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 dinner

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Tokyo

Today will begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Tokyo, Japan.

#### Days 2-5: Tokyo

From its bright billboards and crowded sidewalks, Tokyo could be confused for New York City. Hiding amongst the shadows of this skyscraper-filled city are neatly clipped bonsai trees, which frame ancient wooden houses as kimono-clad women shuffle down narrow streets. Head up to Tokyo Tower for a panoramic view of this incredible city. Stops to witness a tea ceremony demonstration, the Miji Shrine and the Japanese House of Parliament are also included in the morning tour. Visit the Hama-Rikyu Garden, embark on a river cruise and admire Tokyo's oldest temple before



driving through the famous district of Ginza, Tokyo's Fifth Avenue. A full day is spent exploring the shrines and temples of Kamakura and Yokohama for a view into life outside the city.

#### Days 5-6: Hakone

On your way to this favorite weekend getaway for Tokyoites, you will stop at the iconic Mt. Fuji. Surrounded by five lakes and standing 12,388 feet tall, it is a well-known symbol of Japan and is frequently depicted in artwork.

In Hakone, after a scenic lake cruise, take a cable car ride to Mt. Komagatake and enjoy spectacular views overlooking Lake Ashi, the distant Mt. Fuji and the surrounding landscape.

#### Days 6-9: Kyoto

Experience a ride on the Shinkansen Bullet Train as you journey from Hakone to Kyoto. Fly at speeds of over 186 mph as the scenery of Japan passes by your window.

With its Zen rock gardens, Kyoto is a city for lovers. Take a day trip to Nara, a past capital of Japan, where the city's historic monuments and excavated remains of the Imperial Palace paint a vivid picture of past centuries. Highlights include Todaiji Temple—with its huge image of Buddha—and Kasuga Shinto Shrine, famous for its hundreds of stone lanterns. Take time to mingle with the local residents, as Nara is home to over 1,000 tame deer that roam freely through Nara's Peace Park.

On a day tour through Kyoto discover the Nijo Castle, the old residence of the Tokugawa Shogun. Visit Heian Shrine—brightly colored with vermilion pillars—and Kiyomizu-dera, a grouping of Buddhist temples in Eastern Kyoto, located on a steep hill. With sweeping views over the city, it's one of the best-known sights in the city.





#### Days 9-10: Hiroshima

Miyajima is a treasure of an island just slightly more than a mile off the mainland in the Seto Inland Sea. Visit Itsukushima Shrine, guarded by its famous red torii structure that rises out from the water. Dedicated to peace, the city is also committed to art. You will see statues, stone lanterns, memorials and sculptures lining the city streets.

#### Days 10-11: Osaka

Tour the Ohara Museum of Art where the first collection of Western art was permanently exhibited in Japan. After lunch, continue to Okayama and visit Korakuen Garden before transferring to the train station for the JR Bullet Train for Shin-Osaka.

Osaka is Japan's third largest city, and its history is steeped in commercial pursuits. Take time to explore Osaka's waterfront,

which can be found buzzing with ships and shopping centers, aquariums and adventure parks.

#### Day 11: Fly Osaka to USA

Wrap up your Japanese adventure as you are transferred to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	High Seasor
Superior	\$5,705	\$6,025
Deluxe	\$7,345	\$7,710
Luxury	\$13,255	\$13,995

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Tokyo | Hakone | Kyoto

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip transfers
- 5 nights' accommodations
- Dynamic Tokyo tour
- Coach transfer from Tokyo to Hakone (via Mt. Fuji)
- Mt Fuji and Hakone tour
- Bullet Train (Odawara to Kyoto)
- · Nara city tour
- · Kyoto city tour
- 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches

#### Day 1: Fly USA to Tokyo

Today will begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Tokyo, Japan.

#### Days 2-4: Tokyo

From its bright billboards and crowded sidewalks, Tokyo could be confused for New York City. Hiding amongst the shadows of this skyscraper-filled city are neatly clipped bonsai trees, which frame ancient wooden houses as kimono-clad women shuffle down narrow streets. Head up to Tokyo Tower for a panoramic view of this incredible city. Stops to witness a tea ceremony demonstration, the Miji Shrine and the Japanese House of Parliament are also included in your



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#### Day 7: Fly Kyoto to USA

This morning you are transferred from Kyoto to Kansai International in Osaka for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	High Seasor
Superior	\$2,445	\$3,450
Deluxe	\$4,015	\$4,190
Luxury	\$8,645	\$9,185

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



Thimphu | Punakha | Gangtey | Paro

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Roundtrip private airport transfers
- All transfers
- 1 night's accomodations in Bangkok
- 2 nights' accomodations in Thimphu
- Thimphu Valley touring
- 2 nights' accomodations in Punakha
- · Punakha hike
- 2 nights' accomodations in Gangtey
- · Gangtey touring
- 2 nights' accomodations in Paro
- Hike to Taktsang Monastery
- 9 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners

## Days 1-2: Fly USA to Thimphu (via Bangkok)

Today will begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to Thimphu via Bangkok. On arrival in the bustling city of Bangkok, link up with your prearranged transfer and be driven to your accommodations.

#### Days 3-4: Thimphu

Fly from Bangkok to Paro Airport, and then be driven to Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan. Take in the scenery of the picturesque roads of the Paro River. Stop at Tashichho Dzong, an impressive building also known as "the fortress of the Dharma Raja." It has traditionally been the seat of the Druk Desi, the head of Bhutan's civil government.

Explore the Memorial Chorten, also known as the Thimphu Chorten. It is a large Buddhist Monastery and a landmark in the city. Venture to the Folk Heritage Museum, where you will get a glimpse into the traditional Bhutanese culture and way of life. The National Library of Bhutan is a permanent home for sacred religious books and manuscripts. Learn about the concepts of merging the allopathic and traditional systems of healing at the National Institute of Traditional Medicine.

#### Days 5-6: Punakha

On your way to Punakha, the Dochula Pass offers panoramic views of the Himalayan mountain range. Chimi Lhakhang is flanked with hundreds of prayer flags that sit on a round hillock near Punakha. The majestic Punakha Dzong is the second-largest dzong in Bhutan.

Hike through Punakha to Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten, a fine example of Bhutanese architecture and artistic traditions. Built on a beautiful ridge above Punakha Valley, this four-story temple has been dedicated to the well-being of the kingdom and its people. The Chorten was built to remove the negative forces and promote peace, stability and harmony.



#### Days 7-8: Gangtey

Begin the drive to Gangtey, where you will closely view the mesmerizing black mountain ranges, as well as the beautiful Phobjukha Valley. Explore Phobjukha Valley and Gangtey Monastery. The Phobjukha Valley is a marshland in Bhutan best known for its cultural uniqueness.

Explore Gangtey through a short hike. The hiking trail starts from the Mani stone wall to the north of the Gangtey Gonpa and ends in Khewa Lhakhang, passing through pine forests and small bamboo plants.

#### Days 9-10: Paro

Drive to Paro while stopping to view the Paro Dzong, which means "Fortress on a heap of jewels." This dzong is the finest example of Bhutanese architecture.

Also stop by the National Museum in Paro Ta Dzong whose collection preserves a snapshot of the rich cultural traditions of the country. Taktsang Monastery is perched on the side of a vertical cliff. A slightly more challenging

hike, the Taktsang Monastery is the best known of the 13 caves in which Guru Padmasambhava meditated. Located close to the Paro Airport, the Kyichu Lhakhang is an important Himalayan Buddhist Temple. Built in the seventh century, this is one of the oldest religious sites in Bhutan.

#### Day 11: Fly Paro to USA (via Bangkok)

Culminate your Bhutanese adventure as you are transferred to the airport to begin your journey to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

High Season

Superior \$5,040

Deluxe \$9,315

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.



New Delhi | Agra | Ranthambore | Jaipur Udaipur | Mumbai

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Round-trip transfers
- 12 nights' accommodations
- · New Delhi city tour
- · Agra Fort tour
- Taj Mahal tour
- Ranthambore game-viewing safari
- Jaipur city tour
- Udaipur city tour
- Mumbai city tour
- 12 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners



#### Day 1: Fly USA to New Delhi

Today will begin your customized itinerary as you fly from the USA to New Delhi, India.

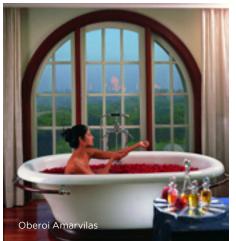
#### Days 2-4: New Delhi

New Delhi is a lavish blend of malls and colonial mansions, tree-lined avenues and taciturn government offices. Ride a rickshaw through narrow streets to visit the Jama Masjid, a grand mosque built in 1656. Stop at the bazaars of Old Delhi before viewing the tomb of the second emperor, Humayun.

#### Days 4-6: Agra

Agra is world-famous as the home of the magnificent Taj Mahal, one of the wonders of the world. The Taj Mahal was built by Shah Jahan as a memorial to his queen, Mumtaz Mahal, and it took 22 years and 22,000 craftsmen to build. Visit Agra Fort, the original red sandstone fort built by Mughal Emperor Akbar in 1565.







#### Days 6-8: Ranthambore

Ranthambore National Park covers 820 miles and is home to jackals, panthers, abundant bird life and tigers. Spot predators like tigers and leopards, along with other carnivorous animals like hyenas and jackals.

#### Days 8-10: Jaipur

The capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur is known as the "pink city," a color that symbolizes hospitality in Rajput culture. Tour the walled city of Jaipur, a shopper's paradise famous for handicrafts and jewelry. The Amber Fort is an example of a fascinating blend of Hindu and Muslim architecture.

#### Days 10-12: Udaipur

Visit the City Palace and marvel at the rooms with mirrored walls and ivory doors. Explore the Temple of the Sun God with its erotic sculptures before checking out the city's lovely gardens, the Jagdish Temple and the local museum.

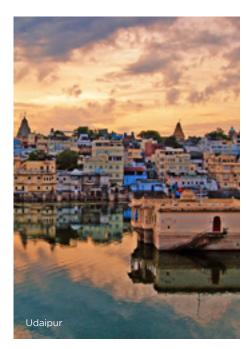
#### Days 12-14: Mumbai

Visit the Prince of Wales Museum, built to commemorate King George V's first visit to India. Browse the Modern Art Gallery,

a must for any connoisseur of art, as well as the gateway of India. It is Mumbai's foremost landmark overlooking the harbor.

#### Day 14: Fly Mumbai to USA

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight to the USA.



#### All itineraries are customized to your preferences. Prices are based on travel season.

	Low Season	Shoulder Season	High Season
Superior	\$3,655	\$4,225	\$4,510
Deluxe	\$3,810	\$5,540	\$5,855
Luxury	\$6,200	\$8,280	\$8,760

Price includes land arrangements, per person/twin share. Add internal airfare from approximately \$150 per person. Call for lowest international airfares. For additional travel dates, visit us online.

## Recommended Properties

### Thailand

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Bangkok	AriyasomVilla	Superior	\$\$\$
Bangkok	Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Bangkok	Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel & Towers	Superior	\$\$
Bangkok	Shangri-La Hotel, Bangkok	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Bangkok	The Peninsula Bangkok	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Bangkok	The Siam Hotel	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Bangkok	The Sukhothai Bangkok	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Chiang Mai	137 Pillars House	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Chiang Mai	Anantara Chiang Mai Resort & Spa	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Chiang Mai	Four Seasons Resort Chiang Mai	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Chiang Mai	Rachamankha	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Chiang Mai	RatiLanna Riverside Spa Resort	Superior	\$\$
Chiang Mai	Siripanna Villa Resort & Spa, Chiang Mai	Superior	\$\$
Chiang Rai	Anantara Golden Triangle Elephant Camp & Resort	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Chiang Rai	Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Koh Samui	Anantara Bophut Koh Samui Resort	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Koh Samui	Bo Phut Resort & Spa	Superior	\$\$\$
Koh Samui	Four Seasons Resort Koh Samui	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Koh Samui	Six Senses Samui	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Koh Samui	The Tongsai Bay	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Krabi	Phulay Bay, A Ritz-Carlton Reserve	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Krabi	Rayavadee	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Phuket	Amanpuri	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Phuket	Katathani Phuket Beach Resort	Superior	\$\$
Phuket	Mom Tri's Villa Royale	Superior	\$\$\$
Phuket	Sri Panwa	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Phuket	The Shore at Katathani	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Phuket	Trisara	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$

#### Vietnam

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Hanoi	Hilton Hanoi Opera	Superior	\$\$
Hanoi	Lotte Hotel Hanoi	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Hanoi	MK Premier Boutique Hotel	Superior	\$\$
Hanoi	Sheraton Hanoi Hotel	Deluxe	\$\$
Hanoi	Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Ho Chi Minh City	Caravelle Saigon	Deluxe	\$\$
Ho Chi Minh City	Hotel Majestic Saigon	Superior	\$\$
Ho Chi Minh City	Hotel Nikko Saigon	Deluxe	\$\$
Ho Chi Minh City	InterContinental Asiana Saigon	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Ho Chi Minh City	Park Hyatt Saigon	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Ho Chi Minh City	Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon	Superior	\$\$
Hoi An	Anantara Hoi An Resort	Superior	\$\$\$
Hoi An	The Nam Hai	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Hoi An	Victoria Hoi An Beach Resort & Spa	Superior	\$\$
Hue	La Residence Hotel & Spa	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Hue	Pilgrimage Village	Superior	\$\$

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Hue	Vedana Lagoon Resort & Spa	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Nha Trang	Evason Ana Mandara	Superior	\$\$\$
Nha Trang	Six Senses Ninh Van Bay	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Sapa	Victoria Sapa Resort & Spa	Superior	\$\$\$
Vinh Hy Bay	Amanoi	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$

#### Cambodia

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Phnom Penh	La Rose Boutique Hotel & Spa	Superior	\$\$
Phnom Penh	Raffles Hotel Le Royal	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Siem Reap	Amansara	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Siem Reap	Belmond La Residence d'Angkor	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Siem Reap	Park Hyatt Siem Reap	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Siem Reap	Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Siem Reap	Shinta Mani Resort	Superior	\$\$
Siem Reap	Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa	Superior	\$\$

#### Laos

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Luang Prabang	Amantaka	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Luang Prabang	Belmond La Résidence Phou Vao	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Luang Prabang	Le Sen Boutique Hotel	Superior	\$\$
Luang Prabang	The Luang Say Residence	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Vientiane	Green Park Boutique Hotel	Superior	\$\$
Vientiane	Salana Boutique Hotel	Superior	\$\$
Vientiane	Settha Palace Hotel	Deluxe	\$\$\$

#### Bali

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Indrakila	Amankila	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Jimbaran Bay	Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Nusa Dua	Amanusa	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Nusa Dua	The Mulia Resort & Villas	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Tabanan	Alila Villa Soori	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Ubud	Amandari	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Ubud	COMO Shambhala Estate Bali	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Ubud	Mandapa, A Ritz-Carlton Reserve	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Ubud	Four Seasons Sayan Resort	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Ubud	The Chedi Club Tanah Gajah	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Ubud	Viceroy Bali	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Ubud	COMO Uma Ubud	Superior	\$\$\$\$
Uluwatu	Belmond Jimbaran Puri	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Uluwatu	Bulgari Resort Bali	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$

### Myanmar

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Bagan	Aureum Palace Hotel	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Bagan	Bagan Lodge	Deluxe	\$\$
Bagan	The Hotel @ Tharabar Gate	Superior	\$\$\$
Inle Lake	Aureum Palace Resort & Spa	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Inle Lake	Villa Inle Resort & Spa	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Mandalay	Bagan King Hotel	Superior	\$\$

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Mandalay	Mandalay Hill Resort	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Mandalay	Rupar Mandalar Resort	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Yangon	Belmond Governor's Residence	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Yangon	PARKROYAL Yangon	Superior	\$\$\$
Yangon	Sule Shangri-La, Yangon	Deluxe	\$\$\$

#### Japan

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Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Hakone	Gora Kadan	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Kyoto	Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Kyoto	Hotel Granvia Kyoto	Superior	\$\$\$
Kyoto	Hyatt Regency Kyoto	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Kyoto	Kyoto Hotel Okura	Superior	\$\$\$
Kyoto	The Ritz-Carlton, Kyoto	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Osaka	Imperial Hotel Osaka	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Osaka	Hotel New Otani	Superior	\$\$\$
Osaka	The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Shima-shi	Amanemu	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Tokyo	Aman Tokyo	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Tokyo	ANA InterContinental Tokyo	Superior	\$\$\$\$
Tokyo	Imperial Hotel, Tokyo	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Tokyo	Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo	Superior	\$\$\$
Tokyo	Park Hotel Tokyo	Superior	\$\$\$
Tokyo	Park Hyatt Tokyo	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Tokyo	The Peninsula Tokyo	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$

## Singapore

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Singapore	Marina Bay Sands	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Singapore	Novotel Singapore Clarke Quay	Superior	\$\$\$
Singapore	The Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Singapore	Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Singapore	The Fullerton Hotel Singapore	Luxury	\$\$\$\$

### China

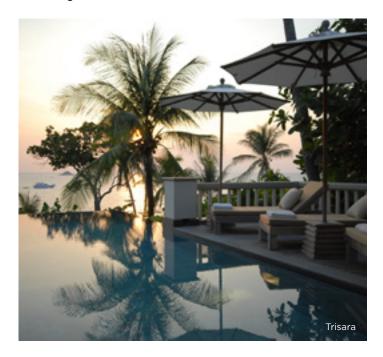
Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Beijing	Aman Summer Palace	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Beijing	Park Plaza Beijing Wangfujing	Superior	\$\$
Beijing	Raffles Beijing	Luxury	\$\$\$
Beijing	Shangri-La Hotel, Beijing	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Beijing	The Peninsula Beijing	Luxury	\$\$\$
Beijing	Waldorf Astoria Beijing	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Chengdu	Crowne Plaza Chengdu City Center	Superior	\$\$
Chengdu	Rhombus Park Aura Chengdu Hotel	Deluxe	\$\$
Chengdu	Shangri-La Hotel, Chengdu	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Chengdu	The Ritz-Carlton, Chengdu	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Guilin	Shangri-La Hotel, Guilin	Luxury	\$\$
Guilin	Sheraton Guilin Hotel	Deluxe	\$\$
Hangzhou	Amanfayun	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Hong Kong	InterContinental Grand Stanford Hong Kong	Superior	\$\$\$
Hong Kong	InterContinental Hong Kong	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Hong Kong	Kowloon Shangri-La, Hong Kong	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$
Hong Kong	The Peninsula Hong Kong	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Hong Kong	The Ritz-Carlton, Hong Kong	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Lijiang	Amandayan	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Shanghai	Sofitel Shanghai Hyland	Superior	\$\$
Shanghai	The Peninsula Shanghai	Luxury	\$\$\$
Shanghai	The Portman Ritz-Carlton, Shanghai	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Shanghai	Waldorf Astoria Shanghai on the Bund	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Xi'an	Grand Mercure Xian on Renmin Square	Superior	\$
Xi'an	Shangri-La Hotel, Xi'an	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Xi'an	Sofitel Xian on Renmin Square	Deluxe	\$\$

### India

Location	Hotel	Category	Price
Agra	The Oberoi Amarvilas	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Darjeeling	Glenburn Tea Estate	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Jaipur	The Oberoi Rajvilas	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Jaipur	The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel	Deluxe	\$\$\$
Karnataka	Orange County Kabini	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
New Delhi	The Imperial, New Delhi	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
New Delhi	The Oberoi, New Delhi	Luxury	\$\$\$\$
Rajasthan	Amanbagh	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Rajasthan	Rambagh Palace	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Ranthambore	Aman-i-Khás	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Ranthambore	The Oberoi Vanyavilas	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Udaipur	Taj Lake Palace	Deluxe	\$\$\$\$\$
Udaipur	The Oberoi Udaivilas	Luxury	\$\$\$\$\$
Varanasi	The Gateway Hotel Varanasi	Superior	\$\$\$

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#### Swain Destinations Terms and Conditions

The following Terms and Conditions represent the agreement you enter with Swain Destinations when submitting payment for any services provided by Swain Australia Tours (2003) Inc. doing business as Swain Destinations (collectively "Swain"). Please read these terms and conditions carefully prior to submitting payment.

#### A. Limited Principal and Agent Relationship

These Terms and Conditions establish a relationship of principal and agent between you, as principal, and Swain, as agent. As your agent, Swain acts pursuant to your authority and may bind you only to the extent of such authority. Swain may dispose of funds received from you only with your express authorization. By these Terms and Conditions, you grant Swain such express authorization for the purpose of booking travel. Swain is also an agent of transportation carriers and other third-party suppliers of services ("suppliers"). All suppliers are independent contractors. When coordinating travel services, Swain receives funds from you and transmits those funds to suppliers. In exchange, suppliers provide you with travel services, which are coordinated by Swain. Swain is a broker between suppliers and customers. Swain receives only a portion of the funds collected from you as a commission, which compensates Swain for services it has rendered to you.

#### B. Payment Schedule

For airfare arrangements, the full fare must be paid at time of booking. All airfare payments are in addition to the booking deposits for land arrangements.

All travelers must pay a \$500 non-refundable land deposit, per person, at the time of reservation and, if applicable, the non-refundable insurance premium. Certain special or customized itineraries may require an additional deposit. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. For Africa Travel, a 25% land deposit of the total booking cost is due at time of reservation and, if applicable, the non-refundable insurance premium. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure. Certain special or customized itineraries may require an additional deposit. For late bookings within 30 days of departure, full payment is due immediately. An additional fee of \$50 per person will be charged for rush handling. Festive seasons vary by destination and calendar year. Travel during festive seasons may require an earlier deposit date or increased deposit. This will be advised at time of quote.

#### C. Cancellations, Revisions and Changes

All deposits are non-refundable. All booking cancellations, revisions, and changes are subject to terms and limitations.

Independent Travelers. If you cancel 60 or more days prior to departure, only the deposit is forfeited. If you cancel 59 to 7 days prior to departure, you forfeit 30% of the total cost. If you cancel 6 days or less prior to departure, you forfeit 100% of the total cost. For Africa Travel: If you cancel 100 or more days prior to departure, only the deposit is forfeited. If you cancel 99 days or less prior to departure, you forfeit 100% of the total cost.

Escorted Tours. If you cancel 60 or more days prior to departure, only the deposit is forfeited. If you cancel 59 to 15 days prior to departure, you forfeit 30% of the total cost. If you cancel 14 to five days prior to departure, you forfeit 35% of the total cost. If you cancel four to one days prior to departure, you forfeit 60% of the total cost. If you cancel on or after the date of departure, you forfeit 100% of the total cost. For air-only itineraries, all cancellations are subject to a \$100 Swain processing fee, and are further subject to the terms and conditions of the airline(s).

Swain will make no refund for elements of a travel package not used by the customer. In all cases, all travelers are solely responsible for charges assessed by land suppliers, cruise companies, and airlines. A handling fee of \$50 per person plus any fees charged by the supplier will be charged for any alterations or revisions to a reservation. Spelling corrections to clients' names after tickets have been issued are subject to airline revision fees. A change of trip date will be treated as a cancellation and new booking and regular cancellation fees will apply.

Swain reserves the right to cancel an escorted tour prior to departure, and in such cases, all payments made to-date will be refunded and shall constitute full settlement.

#### D. Additional Price and Service Terms

Prices are quoted per person, double occupancy, and do not include U.S. or foreign government fees and taxes, or airline or airport surcharges. Price does not include airfare unless otherwise stated. Swain reserves the right to cancel a trip, change the itinerary or adjust rates whenever in its sole judgment conditions warrant, or if Swain deems it necessary for your comfort, convenience or safety. Every effort will be made to operate itineraries as planned, but alterations may occur after an itinerary has been finalized. Swain reserves the right to adjust prices due to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. Swain reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar quality at any time or to make changes in itinerary of similar quality. Please understand that not all museums and attractions are open every day of the year. Swain reserves the right to vary the sequence of

sightseeing and/or to re-route the order of cities if that will enable you to visit all listed excursions. Swain reserves the right to decline or accept any person as a member of an escorted tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from an escorted tour at any time who presents a significant risk to the health or safety of himself or others, or whose behavior is, in the sole judgment of Swain, unreasonable or inappropriate.

#### E. Credit Card Payments

Credit card payments are accepted through the Swain website. You state that you are an authorized user of the credit card and that the associated information entered (account holder name, account number, billing address, etc.) is accurate. You authorize Swain to charge the amount you have requested to your credit card. You also authorize Swain to return to your credit card any funds due to you.

Credit card transactions are administered by a third-party service provider. You accept and consent to your personal data being provided to the third-party service provider for sole purpose of offering and administering the credit card transaction. If a charge is declined or reversed by the credit card issuer or network, you agree to pay Swain a service charge and to reimburse Swain for all reasonable costs of collection and all costs incurred as a result of the charge being declined or reversed. You further agree that Swain may refuse to book travel on your behalf and may terminate any or all services to you.

#### F. Authority to Contract

You represent and warrant that (i) you are at least 18 years of age; (ii) you possess the legal authority to create a binding legal obligation; (iii) you will use the services provided by Swain in accordance with these terms and conditions; (iv) you will only use Swain to make legitimate reservations for you or for another person for whom you are legally authorized to act; and (v) you will inform such other persons about these Terms and Conditions that apply to the reservations you have made on their behalf.

#### G. Consent to Be Contacted

You expressly consent and give your permission to be contacted by Swain, its agents, employees, and assigns, including by telephone call, text message, email, fax, U.S. mail, and private parcel carrier, at any phone number, fax number, email address, or physical address provided to Swain. This express consent and permission extends to calls placed to cellular telephones using an automatic telephone dialing system and/or prerecorded message.

#### H. International Travel, Visas and Passports

You acknowledge that you are solely responsible for ensuring that you meet foreign entry requirements and that your travel documents, such as passports and visas, are in order. A valid passport is required for U.S. citizens traveling outside of the U.S. Passports must be valid for six (6) months after the return of your journey as well as have sufficient blank passport pages for entry and exit stamps. Travelers are advised to consult with their appropriate government authority to determine any necessary documents, allowances and requirements for travel to their intended destination. Many destinations require a visa for U.S. citizens. You may be refused boarding or country entry without liability for refund, payment, compensation, or credit of any kind if you do not have proper documentation. You acknowledge that you are solely responsible for obtaining vaccinations and other appropriate medical care prior to departure. Swain is not a medical authority. Medical advice should be obtained from your travel doctor.

#### I. Liability Disclaimer & Unconditional Release

You acknowledge that travel carries with it certain risks, including risks which may not be foreseeable, and that you are responsible for your own health and safety. Swain makes no representation or warranty regarding your health or safety during or as a result of your trip. Swain is not responsible for your health and safety.

You agree to hold harmless and release Swain from any direct, indirect, punitive, incidental, special or consequential damages arising out of any acts, errors, omissions, representations, warranties, breaches or negligence by Swain, its officers, directors, agents, or employees. By arranging travel to particular countries and regions, Swain does not represent or warrant that travel to such areas is advisable or safe, and is not liable for damages or losses that may result from travel to such destinations. Risks such as political instability, crime, terrorism, war, disease, and natural disasters are not confined to particular countries or regions, and may impact travelers anywhere in the world. As such, travelers are advised to seek reliable and timely health and safety information prior to traveling, including from the U.S. State Department's travel website (http://travel.state.gov/), and the Centers for Disease Control travel website (www.cdc.gov/travel/).

By arranging for particular activities, Swain does not represent or warrant that such activities are advisable or safe, and is not liable for damages or losses that may result from such activities. There are many inherent risks in adventure travel of the type involved here, which can lead to illness, injury, or even death. These risks are increased by the fact that these trips take place in remote locations, far from medical facilities. Guest assumes all such risks associated with participating in these trips.

Photographs seen in Swain brochures or on Swain's website may not necessarily depict the same experience that travelers will have due to the very nature of travel. Pictures and descriptions of locations, facilities, and activities do not constitute an implied or express warranty.

The airlines, hotels and other suppliers providing travel, lodging, or other services are not agents or employees of Swain. Swain in no way owns or operates the vehicles or facilities to be used during the trip. Swain is not liable for the acts, errors, omissions, representations, warranties, breaches or negligence of any such suppliers or for any personal injuries, death, property damage, or other damages or expenses resulting therefrom. This liability falls on the supplier. Swain has no liability in the event of any delay, cancellation, overbooking, strike, terrorism, force majeure or other causes beyond their direct control, and they have no responsibility for any additional expenses, omissions, delays, re-routing or acts of any government or authority.

If, despite the disclaimers and release above, Swain is found liable for any loss or damage which arises out of or in any way connected with travel arranged by Swain, then the liability of Swain will in no event exceed, in the aggregate, the greater of (a) the fees you paid to Swain, or (b) One-Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). The disclaimers, release, and limitation of liability reflect the purposeful allocation of risk between the parties.

#### J. Copyright & Trademark Notices

Unless otherwise indicated by us, the Swain website and all content and other materials therein, including, without limitation, all logos, designs, text, graphics, pictures, information, data, software, and sound files are the proprietary property of Swain, or its licensors, and are protected by U.S. and international copyright and trademark laws.

#### K. Disputes with Swain

In the event that a dispute arises between you and Swain in connection with or related to travel services provided to you by Swain, you consent to the jurisdiction of and venue in the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, United States. These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, United States of America without regard to conflict of any law's provisions that would result in the application of the laws of any other jurisdiction.

#### L. Supplier Rules and Restrictions

Many suppliers are likely to impose their own terms and conditions, which are separate and apart from these Swain Terms and Conditions. Please read these additional terms and conditions carefully. In particular, if you have purchased an airfare, please ensure you read the full terms and conditions of carriage issued by the airline, which can be found on the airline's website.

Some hotel suppliers may require you to present a credit card or cash deposit upon check-in to cover additional expenses incurred during your stay. Such deposit is unrelated to any payment received by us for your hotel booking.

You acknowledge that some third-party providers offering certain services and/or activities may require you to sign their liability waiver prior to participating in the service and/or activity they offer. You understand that any violation of any such supplier's rules and restrictions may result in cancellation of your reservation(s), in your being denied access to the applicable services, in your forfeiting any monies paid for such reservation(s), and/or in our debiting your account for any costs we incur as a result of such violation.

#### M. Cancellation Charges

All cancellation fees are per person. Charges assessed by land suppliers, cruise companies, airlines and third parties are additional to fees. All deposits and money paid is non-refundable. Special event periods may incur additional event-specific penalties. Air-only cancellations incur a \$100 penalty in addition to the cancellation penalties of the airfare carrier.

Independent Travel		
Days prior to departure	Cancellation charges	
60 days or more	\$500	
59 to 7 days	30% of tour cost	
6 days to departure date	100% of tour cost	
For Africa Travel Only		
100 days or more days	Deposits paid	
99 days to day of departure	100% of tour cost	
Escorted Tours		
60 days or more	\$500	
59 to 15 days	30% of tour cost*	

14 to 5 days	35% of tour cost*	
4 to 1 day	60% of tour cost*	
On or after departure date	100% of tour cost*	
For Africa Travel Only		
101 days or more days	Deposits paid	
100 to 15 days	30% of tour cost*	
14 to 1 day	60% of tour cost*	
On or after departure date	100% of tour cost*	
Customized Group Tours	All deposits and money paid is	
Custoffized Group Tours	non-refundable.	

#### N. Travel Insurance

As sometimes the unexpected does occur, all guests should purchase some form of travel protection to cover for losses in the event you need to cancel your vacation. Swain Destinations Travel Protection or Swain Destinations Preferred Travel Protection through Arch Insurance Company for Itineraries with a trip cost under \$15,000. You can review your state-specific insurance policy by visiting https://archinsurancesolutions.com/coverage/Swain or https://archinsurancesolutions.com/coverage/SwainPreferred. The plan cost amount must be paid at time of deposit, and if desired, is priced as follows:

Trip Cost (per person)	Travel Protection	Preferred Protection
Up to \$1000	\$89.00	\$124.00
\$1,001 - \$2,000	\$119.00	\$154.00
\$2,001 - \$3,000	\$179.00	\$214.00
\$3,001 - \$6,500	\$299.00	\$334.00
\$6,501 - \$8,000	\$439.00	\$474.00
\$8,001 - \$14,999	6.5% of trip cost	6.5% of trip cost
\$15,000 and above	On request	On request

For itineraries with a trip cost of \$15,000 or above, Swain Destinations Travel Protection or Swain Destinations Preferred Travel Protection is offered through Allianz. These plans vary by itinerary details, and are available on request.

#### O. This is a Binding and Complete Contract

This is a binding and complete contract, executed when you electronically indicate that you accept these Terms and Conditions. In calculating the cost of your trip, Swain has relied on your agreement and consent to these Terms and Conditions, and in the absence of these Terms and Conditions, the trip cost would have been higher. Swain expressly disclaims any warranties, representations, or statements contrary to the express terms of these Terms and Conditions.

#### **Consumer Disclosure Notice**

Please read the Terms & Conditions carefully, as your deposit and payment for a trip constitutes consent to all conditions and general information contained in this brochure. These Terms and Conditions are current as of printing date of November 1, 2017. For the most up to date Terms and Conditions, visit www. swaindestinations.com/terms

#### **Brochure Pricing**

All pricing within this brochure is an approximation, per person, twin/double share in USD. Although not expected, published prices may be modified due to unexpected significant external factors not forecasted at the time of printing. Travel may be restricted to certain days of the week. Hotels and tours remain subject to availability. Please note blackout dates may apply to Christmas, New Year's Eve and local special event periods. Pricing may increase over Holiday and special event periods and may not be reflected in price grid. Prices indicated remain subject to change without notice. Prices are not guaranteed until full payment is received and processed.

Australia

Bhutan

Botswana

Cambodia

China

Cook Islands

Egypt

Fiji

French Polynesia

Hong Kong

India

Indonesia

Japan

Kenya

Laos

Mauritius

Mozambique

Myanmar

Namibia

Nepal

New Zealand

Papua New Guinea

Rwanda

Seychelles

Singapore

South Africa

Tanzania

Thailand

Uganda

United Arab Emirates

Vietnam

Zambia

Zimbabwe