

ROME & BEYOND FOR THE COGNOSCENTI

MAY 6 – 16, 2019

Rome, the Eternal City, offers something for everyone. Whether this will be your first visit or your tenth, this trip has sights specially chosen to appeal by our Resource Ken Bartlett. You will become one of the “cognoscenti” - those “in the know” about Rome!

“Must sees” included are the Vatican Museums, St. Peter’s and the Galleria Borghese, with its Caravaggios and Berninis. We’ll experience Ancient Rome when we visit the Forum, the iconic Roman works in the Capitoline Museum, and Hadrian’s Villa in Tivoli, which has been a resort since ancient times. Imagine the life of



A view of the park at the Garden of Ninfa, Lazio, Italy
Courtesy of Wikipedia and Greymouser



Interior, Palazzo Doria Pamphilj, Rome - Courtesy of Wikipedia and Sailko

noble families at the sumptuous Palazzo Colonna and the art-filled Palazzo Doria Pamphilj. The Villa Farnesina with its Raphael frescoes exemplifies the Renaissance.

For something quite different, we’ll visit Cinecittà, the largest film studio in Europe, where many famous movies were shot. We will have several exclusive visits not usually available to the public as well as some surprises.

Our boutique hotel is well located for exploring the city and has two Roman temples just across the street! Outside Rome, we will venture into surrounding Lazio for more wonderful sights, many of which are less well-known. For example, in Bomarzo we’ll be amazed by the Renaissance garden, the “Park of the Mon-

sters”, and we’ll discover Orvieto’s Etruscan history and impressive Duomo. We will spend three nights near Orvieto in a former monastery, now an atmospheric four-star hotel.

And this is Italy, so of course there will be lots of delicious food and wine!

COORDINATOR:

Anne Lindsey 416.489.0251
aylindsey@sympatico.ca

PRICING: \$10,700 pp/dbl occ
(International flights not included)

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Georgia Hardy Tours
Kathleen Hardy 416.483.7533
1.800.813.4509
kathleen@ghardytraveltours.com
TICO Registration Number:
2747543

EXPLORE HAIDA GWAI



Totem Poles, Haida Gwaii - Courtesy of Marion Ho

CANADA'S GALAPAGOS

JUNE 7 - 16, 2019

Ninstints, Tanu, Skedans, just names until you cruise the eastern coast of Moresby Island on board the "Island Solitude", a brand new 82-foot ocean sailing vessel with ensuite facilities. From the deck, observe a profusion of sea-birds, seals, dolphins, whales and underwater invertebrates. On land, visit villages where great totem poles were carved bearing clan crests of eagles, ravens, bears and killer whales. With Haida Watchmen, walk the pristine ancestral grounds in the

shade of giant hemlocks and red cedars, nature's rare jewels. Listen to ancient stories told with pride and dignity, and learn about the art and history of Haida people. Be one of twelve to join this special "once-in-a-lifetime" voyage.

COORDINATOR:

Marion Ho
marionhohoho@yahoo.ca

PRICING: \$8,463 pp/dbl occ
(International flights not included)

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Adventure Canada
Sam Freeberg
905.271.4000 Ext 503 or
1.800.363.7566 Ext 503
sam@adventurecanada.com
TICO Registration Number:
04001400

To the top of the world! This is an exciting opportunity to experience the culture, history and magnificent scenery of these three Himalayan lands with their Buddhist and Hindu traditions. Bhutan, a country that measures its success by happiness, is a delight. Admire the country's unique architecture. Enjoy the Royal Collection on a private visit to the textile museum hosted by the Director. Explore the dzongs (fortresses) of Thimphu and Punakha. The Tiger's Nest monastery, clinging high on a cliff, will impress. Meet local people and savour Bhutanese specialties.

Kathmandu will very quickly introduce you to the very different culture and pace of life in Nepal. Explore the three royal cities in the Kathmandu valley, all UNESCO World Heritage Sites. View the Himalayas at sunrise and experience a jungle safari in Chitwan National Park.

In Tibet, tour stunning Potala Palace, former residence of the Dalai Lama, and Jokhang Temple.

BHUTAN, NEPAL & TIBET

OCTOBER 6 - 25, 2019



Potala Palace, Lhasa, Tibet - Courtesy of Sandra Lin

Outside Lhasa, we will explore the Tibetan plain and beautiful Yamdrok Lake.

Sara Irwin's expert knowledge of the arts and culture of Southeast Asia will enhance our experience.

COORDINATOR:

Ron McDougall | 416.450.4169
ronmcdoug@gmail.com

PRICING: \$13,640 pp/dbl occ
(International flights not included)

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Blyth Educational Travel
Biljana Brunning
416.960.3552 x107 or
1.866.960.3552
biljana.brunning@blytheducation.com
TICO Registration Number:
50016735

SOUTH INDIA

SANDALWOOD, SAFFRON AND BACKWATERS

FEB 17 - MAR 5, 2020



Explore the southernmost states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka as you experience vibrant tropical landscapes, stunning opulent temples, sandy beaches and charming hospitable people. Marvel at the magnificent temples in Mamallapuram, Kanchipuram, Tanjore and Madurai; feel the French colonial vibe of Pondicherry; take in the lush spice and tea plantations in Periyar, the 'Land of the Spices'; and cruise the tranquil, green backwaters of Kerala.

Tour highlights include culinary traditions with local hosts, ashram visits, ancient tradition of martial arts and kathakali, wildlife sanctuary, Fort Cochin and Mysore Palace. Be spellbound by the Dravidian style architecture of the massive Meenakshi and Brihadeeswarar temple complexes, both designated UNESCO world heritage sites. Visit Srirangapatnam, a fortress once the seat of warrior king Tipu Sultan.

See St. Francis Church, Santa Cruz Cathedral, the Dutch palace and the famous Chinese fishing nets in Cochin. Be amazed by witnessing the art forms of bronze statue casting, Tanjore paintings and silk sari weaving. Stay in luxury and heritage hotels and experience the impeccable hospitality of the people of South India.

COORDINATOR:

Neera Chopra
416.441.9259
neerachopra7@gmail.com

PRICING: TBD

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Tourcan Vacations
Vivek Khanna
416.391.0334 x 2670 or
1.800.263.2995
vivek@tourcanvacations.com
TICO Registration Number:
2679578

SICILY

May 2020

Join classical historian and archaeologist, Trinity Jackman, as we discover Sicily, a ruggedly beautiful island surrounded by sparkling seas. Situated at the crossroads of the Mediterranean, Sicily's long history has seen it at the heart of great civilizations and often under foreign rule. Nowhere else have the Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, French, Germans, Spanish, Italians and British left such an indelible impression. From Greek temples, to Byzantine facades, to Roman arches, to Norman churches and Baroque palaces, this island gem boasts six UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Sicilian cuisine is as rich as its history, with its locally produced

artisanal cheeses and olive oil, seafood delicacies, and fine wines. Centuries of domination by various cultures have also enriched the range of typical local dishes with new flavours; although it has much in common with Italian cuisine, Sicilian food also has Greek, Spanish, French and Arab influences.

In addition to its historical treasures, Sicily offers varied dramatic landscapes - Mt. Etna, Europe's largest volcano, undulating hills covered with olive trees and rows of vineyards, sandy beaches, rocky cliffs and crystal-clear blue sea. Join us in discovering the many and varied delights of Sicily!



COORDINATOR:

Ann Dandy
647.346.4334
ann_dandy@yahoo.com

PRICING:

TBD

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

TBD

HIGH ARCTIC EXPLORER

WITH BOB MCDONALD
AUGUST 10 - 22, 2020

The Canadian Arctic. Iconic. Majestic. A huge part of the way we view ourselves. Vast ice flows, polar bears, walrus, seals, caribou, pack ice and huge icebergs the size of hotels calving off the glaciers. The arctic summer with wildlife abounding and wild flowers spread across the tundra. Franklin's expedition doomed while searching for the North West passage. The Inuit way of life and art. But for how long? ROMTravel invites you to come see the Canadian High Arctic, before it disappears, in a truly unique and exclusive experience that only ROMTravel provides.



Disko Bay - Courtesy of Mark Edward Harris and Adventure Canada

Your special Resource Person and guide to understanding the Arctic is Canada's favorite science journalist Bob McDonald of CBC's Quirks and Quarks. Bob makes science accessible, entertaining and fascinating. He has been reporting on and studying climate change for 30 years.

Come travel the famous North-West passage. If you have ever

wanted to go, now is the time and this is the one of a kind trip from ROMTravel. It will be the experience of a lifetime full of images, memories and people never to be forgotten.

COORDINATOR:

Eric Morrison
416-691-6770
morrison.eric07@gmail.com

PRICING: From \$7595 pp/dbl occ (International flights not included)

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Adventure Canada, Sheryl Saint
905.271.4000 ext 224
sheryl@adventurecanada.com
TICO Registration Numbers:
4001400/50021860

LOOKING FORWARD UPCOMING TRIPS



Tomb of Apakh Hoja, Kashgar, China
Courtesy of Wikipedia and Colegota

SILK ROAD

SEPTEMBER 2020

Come see the best of China. Join us as we experience the aura of mystery and adventure as we follow in the footsteps of Marco Polo along the Silk Road. Leading us will be an experienced resource person to provide insights and history into the marvels of this trip.

COORDINATOR: Marion Ho
marionhoho@yahoo.ca | 416.492.9989

PRICE: TBD
(International flights not included)



Tango Dancers, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Courtesy of Wikipedia and Jenny Mealing

ARGENTINA

JAN. 8 - 18, 2020

Become enchanted with Buenos Aires, "The Paris of South America". Enjoy the vistas and the wineries at the foot of the Andes in Mendoza. See and learn about whales, penguins and sea lions in their natural habitat, Peninsula Valdes. All the while enjoying marvellous cuisine, heady wines and tango culture.

COORDINATOR: Elida Huignard
elida8@gmail.com

PRICE: TBD
(International flights not included)

Would you like to hear earlier about ROMTravel trips? When a trip brochure is first issued, it is sent by e-mail to everyone on The Traveller electronic mailing list. This first notification helps your travel planning and enables you to avoid discovering that a trip has sold out. To put your name on The Traveller electronic list, send your request along with your e-mail address to travel@rom.on.ca. Your contact information will only be used by ROMTravel.

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Editor: Richard Peirce
Layout Editor:
David Stasyna
Circulation:
Geetanjali Pathak

Subscriptions, letters to the editor:
travel@rom.on.ca
416.586.8034

ROMTravel c/o
Department of Museum
Volunteers
100 Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2C6