General Information

This is The Traveller newsletter.

It is published twice a year.

The Traveller describes several trips around the world which are offered by ROM Travel.

This is Volume 54, published in the Fall of 2019.

ROM Travel is organized by the Royal Ontario Museum’s Department of Museum Volunteers to provide support for the museum.

These trips are available exclusively to members of the Royal Ontario Museum.
The first trip is to China to explore the ancient Silk Road.

This trip will take place from October 10 to 28, 2020.

Information about this Destination

Journey along the Silk Road’s historic trading route and awaken your senses with Sara Irwin, former manager of the renowned Asian collections at the ROM.

After visiting the royal palace in Beijing and the Terracotta Warriors in Xian, we will travel to Kashgar in Xinjiang, the westernmost region of China.

Very close to the old Soviet Union, this exotic city has for a millennium been a colourful meeting point for merchants.

Visit the bustling Sunday market, the mosque of Emperor Qianlong’s Fragrant Concubine, and the Id Kah Mosque, the largest in China.

In Turpan, view the unique Karez irrigation system, then sample the wine it makes possible and enjoy lunch under the grape vines.
Explore Jiaohe, a deserted garrison town built by the Han in the 2nd century BC and abandoned by the Tang in the 9th century AD.

Wander through the Uyghur village of Tuyoq, nestled within the Flaming Mountains.

In Gansu, ascend the westernmost end of the Great Wall at Jiayuguan Fort.

The fortress was built in 1372 during the Ming Dynasty and was the only military and trade link between China and the deserts of Central Asia.

Explore the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, and in Tianshui, the Maijishan Grottoes with their 7,000 sculptures in niches that can only be reached by climbing up the cantilevered stairs.

Experience a sunset camel ride at Crescent Lake and the Echoing Sand Dunes.

Our trip ends in vibrant Shanghai, which offers a delightful insight into China, past and present.

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Marion Ho.
Contact Marion at

Phone 416.586.8034 or e-mail to marionhohoho@yahoo.ca

The cost of this trip is $ 10,930 per person based on double occupancy.

Note that international flights are not included.

Travel arrangements are by Tour East Holidays (Canada) Inc.

This travel agency operates on behalf of ROM Travel.

The travel agent for this trip is Steve Hope.

Contact Steve at

Phone 416.929.0888 or 1.877.578.8888 or e-mail to steve.hope@toureast.com

This travel agency is registered to operate in the province of Ontario.

Its TICO registration number is 67531472.
The second trip is to the High Arctic.

This trip will take place from August 10 to 22, 2020.

Information about this Destination

The Canadian Arctic is both iconic and majestic.

Learn about the Inuit way of life and art.

Experience polar bears, walruses, seals, caribou, vast ice floes, pack ice, and the arctic summer with wildlife abounding and wild flowers spread across the tundra.

Come see the Canadian High Arctic before it disappears.

Your special guide to understanding the Arctic is Canada’s favourite science journalist, Bob McDonald, of CBC’s Quirks and Quarks.

Bob makes science accessible, entertaining and fascinating.

We travel through the historic Northwest Passage, stopping at Inuit communities and the Franklin grave site.

Then it’s across to Greenland to some of the most amazing sites where icebergs calve off glaciers into the ocean.
We end at Nuuk, one of the world’s northernmost capitals.

This is a unique trip with features exclusive to ROM Travel.

There is limited space still available.

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Eric Morrison.

Contact Eric at

Phone 416.691.6770 or e-mail to morrison.eric07@gmail.com

The cost of this trip depends on the cabin category chosen.

Cabin costs are from $ 7,595 USD per person based on double occupancy.

Note that flights are not included.

Travel arrangements are by Adventure Canada.

This travel agency operates on behalf of ROM Travel.

The travel agent for this trip is Sheryl Saint.
Contact Sheryl at

Phone 905.271.4000 ext 224 or 1.800.363.7566 or e-mail to sheryl@adventurecanada.com

This travel agency is registered to operate in the province of Ontario.

Its TICO registration numbers are 4001400 and 50021860.

**The third trip is to the Great Rift Valley in Tanzania.**

This trip will take place from March 1 to 15, 2021.

**Information about this Destination**

Have you ever wanted to experience the greatest animal migration on the face of the Earth ... millions of wildebeest and their predators on the move?

Have you ever wanted to see the famous Olduvai Gorge and learn about the equally famous husband-and-wife team, the Leakeys, who found some of the earliest human remains?
Have you ever wished to see the snow-capped peak of Kilimanjaro or have a sundowner on the plains of the Serengeti?

Now you can do all this with one of Canada’s great science story-tellers, Bob McDonald, of CBC’s Quirks and Quarks, with all the customized service and behind the scenes insights for which ROM Travel trips are renowned.

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Eric Morrison.

Contact Eric at

Phone 416.691.6770 or e-mail to morrison.eric07@gmail.com

The cost of this trip is to be announced.

Note that international flights are not included.

Travel arrangements will be by Merit Travel Group Inc.

This travel agency operates on behalf of ROM Travel.

The travel agent for this trip is Georgia Kourakos.
Contact Georgia at Phone 416.366.5268 ext 4259 or 1.866.341.1777 or e-mail to gkourakos@merittravel.com

This travel agency is registered to operate in the province of Ontario.

Its TICO registration number is 4499356.

The fourth trip is to the northern islands of Scotland.

This trip will take place from June 14 to 24, 2021.

Information about this Destination

Sail from Glasgow to Aberdeen on Adventure Canada’s ship, the Ocean Endeavor, threading your way through the misty and enchanting Scottish isles.

From Islay’s whisky to Harris’ hand-woven tweeds, from Skye’s craggy peaks to St. Kilda’s bird sanctuaries, this trip has something for every traveller.

Immerse yourself in history among prehistoric villages, moss-covered standing stones and ancient monasteries.
Meet the welcoming locals and share their music, dance, stories and crafts.

Explore sea caves and bird cliffs alive with vast colonies of puffins, gannets, guillemots and kittiwakes.

Wander through twisting lanes between granite houses in remote fishing ports.

Be awed by brooding mountains, spectacular sea cliffs and deep lochs.

On board, learn from Adventure Canada’s experts about the islands’ flora and fauna, culture and history.

Make new friends over meals in the ship’s welcoming dining room.

Or just sit on deck and watch the mountains glide by.

Best of all, drop into a pub to drink a dram before a peat fire.

Savour Scotland slowly – like the best whisky.

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Virginia Van Vliet.
Contact Virginia at

Phone 416.925.5891 or e-mail to virginiavanvliet@rogers.com

The cost of this trip depends on the cabin category chosen.

Cabin costs are from $ 5,995 USD per person based on double occupancy.

Note that international flights are not included.

Travel arrangements are by Adventure Canada.

This travel agency operates on behalf of ROM Travel.

The travel agent for this trip is Sheryl Saint.

Contact Sheryl at

Phone 905.271.4000 ext 224 or 1.800.363.7566 or e-mail to sheryl@adventurecanada.com

This travel agency is registered to operate in the province of Ontario.

Its TICO registration numbers are 4001400 and 50021860.
The fifth trip is to Argentina.

This trip will take place from February 29 to March 14, 2020.

Information about this Destination

Become enchanted with Buenos Aires, “the Paris of South America”, the city that combines European grandeur with Latin passion.

Visit art galleries, museums, the opera house, antiques markets, the birthplace of tango and navigate the Parana River delta.

Tour the city’s more traditional neighbourhoods and its most trendy.

Discover a variety of Patagonian landscapes.

In Ushuaia, take the “Train to the End of the World”.

Then navigate the Beagle Channel and observe its penguins, sea lions and bird colonies, while savouring the rich local seafood.
At El Calafate on the shores of Lago Argentino, view the awe-inspiring glaciers, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and taste the flavourful Patagonian lamb.

At Bariloche and San Martin de los Andes in the gorgeous Lake District, enjoy a great variety of specialty beers, surrounded by the Andes mountains.

Uncover the largest dinosaurs on Earth at Neuquen under the guidance of Dr. David Evans and visit the “wineries of the end of the world”.

Enjoy a trip filled with marvelous cuisine, heady wines and tango culture!

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Elida Huignard.

Contact Elida at

Phone 416.586.8034 or e-mail to elida8@gmail.com

The cost of this trip is $10,690 per person based on double occupancy.

Note that international flights are not included.

Travel arrangements will be by Gateways International / The Joy of Travel Ltd.
This travel agency operates on behalf of ROM Travel.

The travel agent for this trip is Vivian Cilia.

Contact Vivian at

Phone 905.889.0483 ext. 243 or 1.800.268.0900 or e-mail to vivianc@gateways-international.com

This travel agency is registered to operate in the province of Ontario.

Its TICO registration numbers are 2171876 and 2472491.

The following trips are in the planning stage.

The sixth trip is to Russia.

This trip will take place in September 2021.

Information about this Destination

Imperial Russia’s onion-domed cathedrals, palaces, thrones, crown jewels and the art masterpieces of the famous Hermitage Museum are world-renowned!

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Margaret Magdziak.
Contact Margaret at

Phone 416.268.3921 or e-mail to margaretmagdziak@gmail.com

The cost of this trip is to be announced.

A travel agency has not been selected yet.

Travel arrangements will be announced.

**The seventh trip is to Japan.**

This trip will take place in November 2021.

**Information about this Destination**

Japan intrigues and fascinates.

It is, at the same time, one of the oldest and most modern of civilizations.

It is a complex and rewarding destination.

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is John Golla.
Contact John at

Phone 416.239.1855 or e-mail to goljohn09@gmail.com

The cost of this trip is to be announced.

A travel agency has not been selected yet.

Travel arrangements will be announced.

**The eighth trip is to Morocco.**

This trip will take place in February 2022.

**Information about this Destination**

Come explore imperial cities, beautiful kasbahs, an enchanting desert and breathtaking landscapes in Morocco with Fahmida Suleman, the ROM's new Curator of Islamic Art and Culture.

Discover the mystical cities of Casablanca, Fes and Marrakesh.

Visit a Berber family in the High Atlas Mountains and ride a camel in the dazzling Sahara desert.
Explore the Roman ruins at Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and partake in sumptuous cuisine and deluxe accommodation.

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Neera Chopra.

Contact Neera at

Phone 416.441.9259 or e-mail to neerachopra7@gmail.com

The cost of this trip is to be announced.

A travel agency has not been selected yet.

Travel arrangements will be announced.

**The ninth trip is to Spain.**

This trip will take place in May 2022.

**Information about this Destination**

Join Jonathan Edmondson, distinguished research professor and an expert in Roman Spain, as we discover the highlights of Spain, before and after the Romans.
We’ll visit the ancient city of Empuries, the Roman ruins at Tarragona, Merida, Italica and Cartagena, and the Arab palace-city of Medina Azahara.

Not to be missed are the beautiful cities of Barcelona, Granada, Cordoba, Sevilla and Madrid.

The ROM Travel Coordinator for this trip is Ann Dandy.

Contact Ann at

Phone 647.346.4334 or e-mail to ann_dandy@yahoo.com

The cost of this trip is to be announced.

A travel agency has not been selected yet.

Travel arrangements will be announced.

**Would you like to hear earlier about ROM Travel 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 ROM Travel.

**Information about this newsletter**

The Editor of this issue was Elizabeth Masters.

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