“Al was extraordinary and extremely insightful. I am sorry I can’t take some of his courses!”

– Dan, Wyoming

JUNGLE KINGDOMS of the Ancient Maya

December 3-16, 2022 (14 days)
with Professor of Political Science Alfred Montero

Travel with Carleton alumni, family & friends
Dear Carleton College Alumni and Friends,

Although close to home, the realm of the ancient Maya is truly like a different world, full of contrasts: spectacular ancient ruins; today's indigenous peoples; and exotic tropical plants and animals. This 14-day program is a true jungle adventure with the best-paced itinerary to thoroughly explore ancient Maya sites in the dense, tropical rainforests of Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras.

Gain fascinating insights about Maya art and architecture with our expert guides as you discover for yourself huge temple-pyramids that soar above the rainforest, enormous *stelae* (carved monoliths), painted frescoes, stucco friezes, and carved lintels, plus tropical mammals and birds such as howler monkeys and toucans. We take our time to see eight (possibly nine) of the most remarkable ancient sites of the lowland Maya, four of which are World Heritage Sites; and we will have ample time to relax, reflect, bird watch, and enjoy lectures and our comfortable hotels and remote jungle lodges. Accommodations have been chosen for their comfort, charm and, most importantly, their proximity to the sites.

Your faculty leader, Al Montero, and tour manager/guide, Alfonso Escobedo, are a great team with a wealth of combined knowledge. Professor Montero is an expert on the politics and economics of Latin America, and will enhance your experience with his insights on the political history and economics of Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras. He will emphasize how Maya identities continue to be relevant to contemporary political change and local economies.

Alfonso is an experienced tour manager who will handle all of the logistics. He has been leading tours in his native Mexico and in Central America for more than four decades, and he will illuminate not only the archaeological sites that you explore but also share information about the more recent history, contemporary peoples, and natural world that you encounter along the way. Local guides will also accompany you in Guatemala and Honduras, to share their more localized knowledge.

I hope you will join Professor Montero and fellow Carls on this tropical winter adventure. Secure your space by calling Alumni Adventures at (800) 811-7244 or emailing carleton@studytours.org.

Sincerely,

Amy Bevilacqua ’89
President, Carleton Alumni Council

Cover: Pyramid at Palenque, at the western edge of the rainforest; carved details found at Palenque.
Alfred P. Montero is the Frank B. Kellogg Professor of Political Science at Carleton College, and the senior editor of the refereed journal *Latin American Politics and Society*. His main research areas are the political economy of Latin American countries and the quality of democracy. Al is the author of *Brazil: Reversal of Fortune* (Polity Press, 2014), *Brazilian Politics: Reforming a Democratic State in a Changing World* (Polity Press, 2006), *Shifting States in Global Markets: Subnational Industrial Policy in Contemporary Brazil and Spain* (Penn State University Press, 2002), and he is co-editor with David J. Samuels of *Decentralization and Democracy in Latin America* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2004). Al has accompanied a number of previous Alumni Adventures, including both land tours and small-ship cruises in Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Panama, and Costa Rica.

“Al Montero’s lectures were outstanding!”

– Nancy, New York
**Itinerary**

(B)= Breakfast, (L)= Lunch, (D)= Dinner

**Saturday, December 3, 2022: Depart home for Villahermosa, Mexico**
Depart home for Villahermosa International Airport (VSA) where, if traveling on the suggested flight, you will be met upon arrival at the airport and transferred to our hotel. For those arriving independently, a taxi can be hired for the short drive into town. *Overnight at the 4-star Hyatt Regency Villahermosa for two nights.*

**Sunday, December 4: Comalcalco | Hacienda visit | Welcome dinner**
Set out for Comalcalco, the westernmost known Maya site, and the only Maya city built with bricks of baked clay instead of stone. The site comprises the North Square, Great Acropolis, and Acropolis of the East, and it thrived as an agricultural center specializing in cacao (the seeds from which cocoa, cocoa butter, and chocolate are made). After lunch we visit a hacienda to learn about modern cacao production, returning to our hotel late in the afternoon for some time at leisure before our welcome dinner. *(B,L,D)*

**Monday, December 5: La Venta Park | Palenque**
Visit La Venta Park to see a magnificent outdoor collection of stone sculpture that originally came from the Olmec site of La Venta. The Olmec were one of the earliest cultures developed in Mesoamerica, preceding the Maya by centuries. Their monumental stone carvings and strange mythological beings puzzle archaeologists to this day. After lunch, drive to Palenque, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the great western capitals of classic Maya civilization that some have called “the Paris of the Maya.” We will check-in to our charming hotel and have time for relaxation, exploring the surrounding lush forest, and swimming in the unusual pool. *Overnight at the 3-star Chan-Kah Resort Village for two nights.* *(B,L,D)*
Tuesday, December 6: Palenque | Jungle trail walk | Palenque site museum
Explore Palenque’s many exquisite examples of 7th- and 8th-century Maya architecture, including the Temple of the Inscriptions, Palace, Temples of the Cross Group, Temples XIX and XXI, and much more. We finish the morning walking a beautiful downhill jungle trail, across waterfalls and hidden ruins, to get a true sense of the rainforest and all its beauty. After lunch at an outdoor, palm thatch restaurant, visit the Palenque site museum, with many world-famous pieces of Maya ceramics, jades, and stone carving. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, December 7: AM at leisure | Bonampak | Frontera Corozal
Enjoy some time at leisure, perhaps to stroll around the resort grounds, do some hiking, take a swim, or relax on our bungalows’ individual verandas, before departing for Bonampak. Lunch today will be in a rustic jungle restaurant. The discovery of the painted murals at Bonampak in the 1950s changed the way the world saw the Maya. Although the murals are faded and difficult to view, they remain a sight to see. The site is run by Lacandon Maya, and we may get a chance to interact with them during our visit. Continue on to Frontera Corozal, a Chol Maya community on the banks of the Usumacinta River, the famous “river of ruins.” Along its banks, classic Maya civilization built some of its grandest cities. We are now traveling deep into the heart of Maya country, and we will stay at a remote, rustic jungle lodge. Overnight at Escudo Jaguar Lodge for two nights. (B,L,D)

Thursday, December 8: Yaxchilán
After breakfast, travel by small boat down the Usumacinta River to the great classic Maya site of Yaxchilán, whose high-crested temples and palaces climb the steep hills above a large plaza upon a terrace by the river. We will spend all day at this fantastic site, enjoying a picnic lunch under the forest canopy. Beautiful monolithic stelae (standing stone monuments) and lintels spanning the temple doorways display intricate reliefs. Howler and spider monkeys and many tropical birds may accompany us as we explore the steep jungle trails, climbing to the higher elevations overlooking the ancient Maya landscape. We return by boat to our lodge late this afternoon. (B,L,D)

Friday, December 9: Tikal, Guatemala
Journey upriver and cross over into the heart of Guatemala, to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Tikal. As with most Maya sites, Classic Period constructions cover those from earlier times, and ancient structures are scattered for miles in every direction from its center. Overnight at the 4-star Jungle Lodge Hotel for three nights. (B,L,D)

For questions, and to reserve your space: 800-811-7244 or carleton@studytours.org

“Traveling with Carls lived up to my high expectations!”
- Susan, Minnesota
Saturday, December 10: Tikal
Spend a full day at Tikal, which contains thousands of ancient structures, the majority of which remain unexcavated. This vast site has spectacular pyramids, numerous plazas, a sprawling main palace and several lesser royal residences, multiple ball courts, causeways, dozens of stelae, and much more. It is estimated that more than 50,000 people lived at Tikal in its heyday, and the story of the city and its rise and fall mirrors the larger story of Maya civilization itself. Following the glories of the Classic Period, the site was largely abandoned by A.D. 900. (B,L,D)

Sunday, December 11: Optional pre-dawn hike | Tikal site museum | PM at leisure or Yaxhá
Weather permitting, there will be an optional, pre-dawn hike for breathtaking sunrise views from Tikal’s Temple IV—the site’s tallest pyramid at 230 feet, and the largest Maya shrine built in the 8th century. After breakfast, we will visit the Tikal site museum. The remainder of the day is free for you to revisit Tikal, relax, or join us on a 1.5-hour drive to Yaxhá, a large and important ancient Maya site that is infrequently visited. Located in dense jungle on a ridge overlooking turquoise Lake Yaxhá, the vast site includes numerous altars and stelae, nine temple pyramids, and two ball courts. Boxed lunches will be enjoyed at the site for those that choose this option. (B,L,D)

Monday, December 12: Rio Dulce | Southeastern Petén Regional Museum, Dolores
Depart Tikal for Rio Dulce, where we enjoy lunch and get an overview of the area, including viewing a 17th-century Spanish fortress, the Castle of San Felipe de Lara, located where the river meets Lake Izabal. Also visit the Southeastern Petén Regional Museum, in the town of Dolores, with a significant collection of Classic Maya artifacts. Late this afternoon, we check-in to our waterside hotel. Overnight at the 3-star Hotel Catamaran. (B,L,D)

“I was a political science major, and having the opportunity to pretend I am back in school with access to lectures by a professor who clearly loves to teach and fellow students of kindred spirits, is a privilege.”

~ Mary, Minneapolis

For questions, and to reserve your space: 800-811-7244 or carleton@studytours.org
Tuesday, December 13: Quiriguá | Motagua Valley | Paleontology and Archaeology Museum, Estanzuela | Copán, Honduras
After a short boat ride, continue to Quiriguá, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to the tallest Maya stelae—one weighs 65 tons and is 35 feet above ground and eight feet underground. Sculpture here is like no other place, with spectacular cosmograms in the likeness of divine crocodiles and jaguars carved in the round from huge boulders. Here we also find a rare description of mythical events which took place at the origin of the calendar Great Cycle that ended in 2012. After leaving Quiriguá, we have lunch in the Motagua Valley, the primary jade source for all of Mesoamerica; and stop in Estanzuela to visit the small Roberto Wookfolk Saravia Paleontology and Archaeology Museum. Continue on, crossing the border into Honduras, and check-in to our hotel. Overnight at the 4-star Hotel Marina Copán for two nights. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, December 14: Copán
A short drive brings us to the archaeological site of Copán, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, known as Hux Wintrik (translation uncertain). If Palenque was the “Paris of the Maya,” then Copán was the “Athens of the Maya.” The magnificent acropolis, plazas, courtyards, and standing sculptures are the hallmarks of this southernmost Maya capital. Enjoy a splendid picnic lunch at the site and then visit the excellent site museum, which has a full-scale replica of the funeral shrine of the founder of the Copán dynasty and many fabulous pieces of Maya sculpture. Dinner is on your own this evening in Copán. Dining suggestions will be provided by your tour manager. (B,L)

Thursday, December 15: Sepulturas Group | Rastrojón | San Pedro Sula | Farewell dinner
Tour the Sepulturas Group, located a few miles from the site of Copán, which also housed a residential area for non-Maya (perhaps foreign merchants) around A.D. 800. Also visit Rastrojón, a defensive site with panoramic views of the valley that is the latest Harvard University-sponsored archaeological project at Copán. We have now traveled from the western capital of Palenque, through the heartland at Tikal, and on to the southern capital of Copán, giving us a sense of the enormity of ancient Maya civilization in its heyday. After lunch at a local restaurant, drive to San Pedro Sula, where we check-in to our hotel, get settled, and then gather for a farewell dinner. Overnight at the 3-star InterContinental Real San Pedro Sula. (B,L,D)

Friday, December 16: Fly home
Transfer to the airport in San Pedro Sula (SAP), Honduras, for flights home. (B)
Accommodations

Hyatt Regency Villahermosa for two nights
Escudo Jaguar Lodge for two nights
Hotel Catamaran for one night
Chan-Kah Resort Village for two nights
Jungle Lodge Hotel for three nights
Hotel Marina Copán for two nights
InterContinental Real San Pedro Sula for one night

Pool at Chan-Kah Resort Village

What to Expect

You must be able to make long walks, unassisted, over uneven terrain and up and down steps that may be steep and without handrails. Some sites require strenuous and/or brisk walking or climbing, sometimes with difficult footing. Participants who are not able to walk or stand unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you. Hotels have been chosen for their excellent locations and generous comfort. At the time of year that we visit this region the weather is generally sunny and dry, with temperatures in the mid-70s to mid-80s F during the day and in the 60s F at night. There is always a chance of light to moderate rain showers. Complete pre-departure details, including up-to-date COVID-related protocols, will be sent to participants.
Tour Prices Per Person (13 nights)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Double Occupancy (18-20 participants)</td>
<td>$7,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Occupancy (15-17 participants)</td>
<td>$7,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Supplement</td>
<td>$1,095</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability). With fewer than 15 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.

PRICES INCLUDE:

- Leadership of Carleton professor Alfred Montero plus an experienced tour manager/guide and/or local guides, and drivers
- Group arrival and departure airport transfers for those taking the suggested flights (schedule to be provided)
- All ground and river transportation as indicated in the itinerary, with bottled water during excursions
- 13 nights’ accommodations in comfortable hotels and remote jungle lodges
- Breakfast daily; 12 lunches; and 11 dinners, including welcome and farewell dinners with cocktails, beer, or wine
- A soft drink or beer with lunches and dinners
- All entrance fees to sites listed in the itinerary, plus border fees and Honduras departure tax
- All tips for the tour manager, guides, drivers, maids, waitstaff, and porters
- Comprehensive pre-departure information, including what to pack and a suggested reading/media guide

Flights & Transfers

Airfare from/to home is not included, but a suggested flight schedule will be sent to all participants. In conjunction with the suggested flights, group transfers are included on arrival at Villahermosa International Airport (VSA) and on departure from San Pedro Sula (SAP) airport. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to the tour. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking non-refundable airline tickets before this time, please contact our office first. We do not accept any liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

Prices do not include: Any airfare; passport and visa fees; meals on day of arrival; beverages (except as indicated); arrival or departure transfers not in coordination with suggested flights; excess baggage charges; personal, baggage, and trip cancellation insurance; all items of a personal nature such as laundry, medical expenses, and room service; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; and other items not listed as included.

Payments: A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to “EOS-Passenger Account-CAA MayaJungle12/22.” Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

Participant Cancellation Fees: All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by Alumni Adventures. Cancellations received at least 180 days prior to departure are fully refunded. Cancellations received between 179 and 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of $250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. Participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

New: Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leaders are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at carleton.org/alumni/adventures/
“Our local guide and leader, Alfonso, was fantastic. He shared much historical information and is so immersed in the area, culturally and socially, that we were able to link the present to the past very easily.”

- Brenda, Virginia
To fill out an online reservation form, click here. Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.

--- RESERVATION FORM ---

Jungle Kingdoms of the Ancient Maya
December 3-16, 2022 (14 days | 20 guests)
with Professor of Political Science Alfred Montero

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-811-7244 or carleton@studytours.org.

Participant Name 1         Carleton Class of:
(as it appears on passport)

Participant Name 2         Carleton Class of:
(as it appears on passport)

Address

City       State       Zip

Phone (home) Phone (cell)

Email(s)

☐ I/We have read the ‘What to Expect’ section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, _____________________________________________________

How did you hear about this tour?
☐ eNewsletter ☐ mailing ☐ website ☐ friends/family ☐ other ___________________________

ACCOMMODATIONS:
☐ Double (one bed) ☐ Twin (two beds) ☐ Single
☐ I will be sharing with: ________________________________
☐ Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)
☐ Please share my contact Information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:
A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. You will receive an invoice for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):
☐ Check payable to: EOS Passenger Account–CAA MayaJungle12/22 ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express ☐ Already paid by phone

CC#

Exp. Date 3- or 4-Digit Code

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement.
Submit via email, mail, or fax to:

Carleton Alumni Adventures - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938
Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: carleton@studytours.org

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

Signature (participant #1)                Date

Signature (participant #2)                Date

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

EOS Passenger Account–CAA MayaJungle12/22
RESPONSIBILITY: Carleton College and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter “Sponsors”), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively “Sponsors/Operator”) do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, pandemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES: Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. REFUNDS: Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant’s behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. TRIP INSURANCE: Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. PRICES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION: Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant’s option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to dispute resolution in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL: Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices and https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html. ASSUMPTION OF RISK: Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. MISCELLANEOUS: Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant’s purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner’s risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. APPEARING IN PHOTOS: Photos from Alumni Adventures’ trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future Alumni Adventures promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.