SIERRA CLUB
Outings

2021

International Trips
Welcome to our new catalog! Unlike the annual catalog, which showcases more than 300 offerings in North America and beyond, these pages are devoted exclusively to our international journeys. Here you'll find a full spread of experiences, from history and culture tours in Europe to African wildlife expeditions and extended treks in Asia. As always, these trips are led by our skilled and knowledgeable volunteer leaders, who personally invite you to discover their favorite corners of the globe and join in the fight for their preservation.

This is a precarious time for travel, with the coronavirus pandemic in full swing at home and around the world. We’ve canceled most 2020 trips to protect our travelers and staff, but we’re optimistic that the trips listed here will run. We will continue to monitor the situation and make decisions accordingly. To stay up-to-date on how we’re responding, visit us at sc.org/outings.

Finally, if you received our annual catalog before, you may notice that we’ve upgraded from a glossy finish to a natural matte look, using a paper that boasts the smallest environmental footprint in North America.

We hope you enjoy it and we can’t wait to get outdoors with you soon.

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CENTRAL AMERICA

Natural Highlights of Costa Rica. December 20, 2020–January 1, 2021. Sample Costa Rica’s major ecosystems on a visit to six national parks and several private preserves. Among our adventures, we will explore secluded waterfalls, search for wildlife by boat along a jungle river, snorkel in the ocean, view the forest canopy by skywalk, and bathe in hot springs. We will look for monkeys, coatis, crocodiles, iguanas, the famous quetzal, and a host of other wildlife. Accommodations will be in clean, comfortable lodges and hotels. Leader: Elaine Grace. Price: $3,895. [21510A]

Up Close in Undiscovered Costa Rica. January 15–25. Sample Costa Rica’s least toured treasures in the Osa Peninsula’s Corcovado National Park, Marino Ballena National Park, and Savegre. We’ll view wildlife with a naturalist guide on early-morning bird walks, hike through cloud forests and rainforests, and engage in a variety of outdoor activities, including kayaking, whale-watching, and river boating. Our unique lodgings will include a mountain retreat, a hand-built and fully sustainable lodge, and an eco-lodge overlooking the Pacific coast. Leader: Pat Stevens. Price: $3,675. [21520A]

Hiking the Natural Beauty of Southern Costa Rica and Northern Panama. February 3–15. Explore the trails less traveled in two ecologically friendly countries. We’ll hike through cloud forests and rainforests and over mountainous volcanic terrain to stunning vistas and cascading waterfalls. Accompanied by a naturalist guide, we’ll look for abundant wildlife and colorful wildflowers in national parks, conservation areas, and private reserves. We’ll hike up Panama’s tallest mountain for views of the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea and visit the Osa Peninsula, which National Geographic calls “the most biologically intense place on Earth.” Leader: Tom Miller. Price: $3,675. [21535A]

One-Week Active Marine Adventure in Bocas del Toro Archipelago, Panama. February 20–27. Join us on an eight-day, action-packed adventure on an infrequently-visited group of tropical islands in the Caribbean Sea. Our base for the week will be a secluded eco-lodge set in a lush and pristine national marine park. We’ll embark on daily kayak, snorkel, beach, and jungle excursions, and in the evenings, enjoy sunsets and birding from our observation tower high above the canopy. We’ll also visit the Smithsonian research facility to learn about climate change and the human impact on Caribbean ecosystems. Leader: Carol Marty. Price: $3,545. [21555A]
Raft, Kayak, Wildlife, and Waterfalls: An Active Costa Rica Adventure. March 6–14. Renowned for its diverse natural beauty, Costa Rica is the perfect setting for our active water and nature adventure. We’ll raft for two days on the famous Pacuare River, kayak Caribbean backwaters teeming with wildlife, and hike through forests to a giant waterfall near smoking Arenal Volcano, with plenty of time to rest and relax. Accommodations will be in comfortable eco-lodges and inns, and we’ll travel by air-conditioned minibus. Recent rafting or similar experience is required. **Leader: Patrick Tierney. Price:** $3,345. [21580A]

Panama’s River of Raptors: Fall Migration Spectacular. October 23–30. Millions of migrating raptors squeeze through the Isthmus of Panama each fall for one of the greatest natural spectacles on Earth. From the top of our eco-lodge’s observatory deck and from the highest hill in Panama City, we will enjoy the aerial parade and sharpen our identification skills. We’ll marvel at the abundance of tropical birds in the canopy, among the Pipeline Road’s forest floor, and buzzing around the hummingbird feeders at our comfortable lodge. **Leader: Pati Rouzer. Price:** $2,975 (8–10)/$3,295 (7 or fewer). [21855A]

Costa Rica’s Tropical Trails. December 26, 2021–January 4, 2022. Join us for an exceptional adventure in Costa Rica, a haven of biodiversity, stunning vistas, lush forests, and wildlife. We’ll walk and float in lowland forests, soak in volcano-heated hot springs, swim below a waterfall, picnic along a gorgeous beach, learn about conservation projects, and hike a world-famous cloud forest reserve. Along the way, we’ll observe howler monkeys, keel billed toucans, and scarlet macaws. Accommodations will be in simple but comfortable eco-lodges and locally-owned hotels. **Leader: Cyril Englert. Price:** $3,545 (10–12)/$4,095 (9 or fewer). [22510A]

The Enchanted Galápagos Islands, Ecuador. May 4–15. Discover the unique ecosystems of the Galápagos Islands on this active, land-based adventure. Our itinerary will include snorkeling among marine life, hiking through blue-footed-booby rookeries, and strolling among multitudes of birds. We will also search mountain pastures for giant tortoises and visit the Charles Darwin Research Center to learn about these great symbols of the islands. There will be plentiful opportunities for up-close photographs, and we’ll stay in cozy hotels. **Leader: Wendy Van Norden. Price:** $5,525. [21615A]

Discover the Wild Heart of Patagonia, Chile and Argentina. February 22–March 9. Experience the snowcapped peaks, stunning waterfalls, and sapphire-blue lakes of the breathtaking Andes range in two fascinating countries. We’ll witness nature at its most dazzling on day hikes featuring volcanic peaks, massive glaciers, and a myriad of plant life. Wild and windswept vistas, guanacos and rheas, gaucho culture, and wonderful cuisine await us on this extraordinary journey. **Leader: Angela White. Price:** $6,445. [21560A]

Machu Picchu Eco-lodge Trek, Peru. March 27–April 7. Forgo the crowded Inca Trail and strike out instead along a less traveled route through the Cordillera de Vilcabamba. After five days of challenging hikes past snow-mantled 20,000-foot peaks—and five nights in comfortable eco-lodges—our journey will culminate in a full day at the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu. A guided tour of Cuzco, Peru’s ancient capital, will also be included. The small group size (maximum 11) and sumptuous, remote lodges make this an intimate and comfortable trek. The trip will begin and end in Cuzco. **Leader: Francy Rubin. Price:** $5,295. [21585A]

Pure Peru: Machu Picchu and the Qhapaq Ñan. August 27–September 10. Indulge in the adventure of a lifetime as we follow the footsteps of the Incas to places rarely visited by adventurers. After an inspiring visit to Machu Picchu, we’ll travel to the Cordillera Blanca to mount an expedition on a pristine portion of the Qhapaq Ñan, also known as the Main Andean Road, one of the preindustrial world’s true engineering marvels. We’ll be part of the first U.S.-based group to walk this remote and rugged swath of Peru’s northern Andes. **Leader: Tom Brown. Price:** $5,975 (10–12)/$6,575 (9 or fewer). [21770A]
Orcas, Dolphins, Penguins, and More: Wildlife Watching in Northern Patagonia. October 9–16. Discover the magical Península Valdés, a World Heritage site and global conservation area for sea life. We’ll spend our days exploring diverse coastal and marine ecosystems and their inhabitants, including southern right orca whales, elephant seals, dolphins, and penguins. We’ll also observe abundant land mammals like maras, rheas, armadillos, and guanacos. Staying in comfortable hotels, we’ll enjoy comfortable lodging and guidance from our master naturalist. Leader: Jennifer Moon. Price: $6,125. [21820A]

Galápagos Islands and Machu Picchu: The Best of Ecuador and Peru. October 18–30. Imagine combining two trips of a lifetime—the enchanting Galápagos Islands and mystical Machu Picchu—into one unforgettable adventure. In Ecuador, we’ll stroll among giant tortoises, iguanas, sea lions, a multitude of birds, and many other creatures in the living laboratory that inspired Darwin. We’ll then fly to Peru to tour the Sacred Valley, visit Pisac Market, and explore the lost city of Machu Picchu, a World Heritage site and an archaeological treasure. Leader: Aurora Roberts. Price: $7,625. [21850A]

Trekking the Patagonia Circuit, Argentina and Chile. November 16–28. Discover culture and cuisine in two countries while enjoying dramatic vistas and spectacular hiking in the vast Patagonian Andes. In Chile, we will trek the “W” in spectacular Torres del Paine National Park. In Argentina, we will explore the major highlights of Los Glaciares National Park, including the Perito Moreno Glacier and the famous Fitz Roy massif area. Our itinerary will also include visits to an estancia (ranch) and a glacier museum. Hikes can accommodate various fitness levels and interests. Leader: Lee Thomas. Price: $5,325. [21880A]

Extraordinary Adventure to the Seventh Continent, Antarctica. January 17–February 4. Experience one of the last untamed areas on Earth, a land of ruggedly beautiful landscapes and amazingly varied wildlife. We’ll explore the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctic Peninsula by boat and foot; follow in polar explorer Ernest Shackleton’s footsteps; get close to King Penguins and penguin chicks; and view whales and orcas in this awesome, ice-filled landscape. Leader: Kath Giel. Price: $16,075. [21505A]

Active Exploration on the Seventh Continent, Antarctica. January 3–15, 2022. Looking for a genuine trip of a lifetime? On this rare adventure, we’ll leave our comfortable boat to hike, snow-shoe, sea kayak, visit research stations, explore by Zodiac raft, and even camp for one night. Evenings will feature lectures and videos by our onboard naturalists and other experts. Anticipate massive icebergs; colonies of penguins, whales, and albatross; and basking in the unparalleled splendor of the seventh continent. Leader: Margie Tomenko. Price: $9,675. [22515A]

Hike, Bike, and Kayak in Vietnam. December 18, 2020–January 1, 2021. Experience the magic of Vietnam on our multisport adventure in this diverse land. Our journey will begin in the bustling Hanoi Old Quarter and end with two nights on a beautiful yacht in Ha Long Bay, where we’ll kayak to secluded caves and floating fish farms. Along the way, we’ll hike and bike to waterfalls, caves, rice paddies, and remote villages. We’ll also dine on local delicacies, experience a fish pedicure, and learn about the endangered langur. **Leader: Francy Rubin. Price: $3,325. [21500A]**

Rebuilding a Village in Earthquake-Damaged Nepal. February 13–March 3. Trek through the forests, villages, and fields of the Himalayan foothills to reach the village of Badel, home to many of the staff who have supported Sierra Club treks over the years and whose houses were damaged or destroyed in the 2015 earthquakes. We’ll work for a week under professional supervision to help rebuild homes with a quake-resistant design. During our stay, we’ll learn how villagers live in harmony with their environment without many of the conveniences we take for granted. **Leader: Cheryl Parkins. Price: $4,395. [21545A]**

Treasures, Tigers, and the Taj Mahal, India. February 15–March 1. Focused on culture and wildlife, our journey will take us by rail and bus to two incredible national parks, where we’ll have a chance of seeing wild tigers, exotic birds, and possibly all of the big game animals of the Indian subcontinent. We will explore the beguiling treasures of this ancient land, including New and “Old” Delhi, many World Heritage ancient temples and monuments, and of course, the magnificent Taj Mahal. **Leader: Rudy Scheffer. Price: $4,895. [21550A]**

Vietnam Adventure. February 27–March 14. Join us on an exploration of southern, central, and northern Vietnam, visiting many of the most beautiful, important, and interesting natural and cultural sites from Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi. We’ll hike in two national parks, snorkel in Nha Trang Bay, and kayak on Ha Long Bay (all physical activities are optional). We’ll also stay overnight in a traditional village; experience Vietnamese culture through music, dance, and water-puppetry performances; and enjoy exquisite cuisine. **Leader: Barbara Kamm. Price: $3,295. [21570A]**

Upper Dolpo Trek, Nepal. May 8–June 13. At the southern edge of the Tibetan Plateau lies wild and open Dolpo—the most remote and sparsely populated region in Nepal. This is an extraordinary 31-day trek. After crossing the Toudje La (18,250 feet) beyond Dhaulagiri, we will descend into a world of snow leopards, yak caravans, blue sheep, and medieval villages and their monasteries, including Yangser, Samling, Shey (Crystal Mountain), and Ringmo, on the shores of unearthly Phoksundo Lake. **Leader: Cheryl Parkins. Price: $7,335. [21705A]**

Hiking Japan’s Ancient Kumano Kodo Pilgrimage Trail. May 20–28. The Kumano Kodo pilgrimage tour is a fully-guided walking tour between the vibrant, modern city of Osaka, the mountain temple community of Mt. Koyasan, and the Japanese imperial shrine at Ise. One of only two World Heritage pilgrimage routes in the world, the Kumano Kodo is a journey through a thousand years of Buddhist history on Japan’s beautiful Kii Peninsula, which connects these iconic sites. **Leader: Todd Duncan. Price: $5,695 (8–10)/$5,995 (7 or fewer). [21605A]**

Hike, Bike, and Kayak in Vietnam. December 18, 2020–January 1, 2021. Experience the magic of Vietnam on our multisport adventure in this diverse land. Our journey will begin in the bustling Hanoi Old Quarter and end with two nights on a beautiful yacht in Ha Long Bay, where we’ll kayak to secluded caves and floating fish farms. Along the way, we’ll hike and bike to waterfalls, caves, rice paddies, and remote villages. We’ll also dine on local delicacies, experience a fish pedicure, and learn about the endangered langur. **Leader: Francy Rubin. Price: $3,325. [21500A]**

For detailed trip information or to register, call 415.977.5522 or visit our website.
Beyond Manaslu: A Himalayan Journey, Nepal. October 11–31. Trek beyond Manaslu (8,761 feet), the world’s eighth-highest mountain, located in one of Nepal’s less toured regions. Closed to trekkers until 1991, much of our trek will follow an ancient salt-trading route, crossing the high pass of Larkya La at 16,752 feet. With experienced guides showing us the way and porters carrying all but our day packs, we’ll enjoy unsurpassed views of towering peaks and spend evenings in simple trekking lodges along the way. Leader: Steven Veit. Price: $3,975. [21835A]

Trekking to Mt. Everest, Nepal. October 14–November 5. Follow the historic Khumbu Valley route on this classic trek to the base of Mt. Everest. Accompanied by Nepalese guides and porters, we’ll explore bustling Namche Bazaar, sit with monks at the renowned Tengboche Monastery, and view Ama Dablam, Nuptse, Pumori, and countless other Himalayan giants. After reaching Everest Base Camp (17,600 feet), we’ll ascend to the 18,450-foot Kala Patthar viewpoint. Before and after the trek, we’ll experience the cultural riches of Kathmandu. Leader: Bill Flower. Price: $4,755. [21845A]

Scenic China: Xi'an and Beijing. October 24–29. Explore Xi’an and Beijing, two of China’s most important cultural destinations, on this five-day extension to “Scenic China: Mountains, Villages, and Classic Gardens” (see trip 21830A, p. 6, for details). In Xi’an, we’ll visit the ancient city wall, the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, and of course, the Terracotta Army, one of the most stunning archeological finds in history. In Beijing, we’ll walk on the Great Wall and tour the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven, and Tiananmen Square, all World Heritage sites. Leader: Kathie Fowler. Price: $2,395. [21860A]

Land of the Thunder Dragon: Bhutan. October 25–November 8. Travel to a land rarely visited by Westerners, with one of the most intact ecological systems on Earth. Bhutan’s Himalayan terrain and Buddhist culture make it a fascinating place to visit, and our combination of day hikes and trips to cultural and artistic sites will open up many wonders to us. Tiger’s Lair, Divine Madman, and Buddhist culture make it a fascinating place. Leader: Kathie Fowler. Price: $2,395. [21860A]

Devilish Tasmania: Australia’s Wilderness Wonderland. February 8–19. Hike and tour the wild island of Tasmania, home to a vast array of endemic wildlife and a near-pristine World Heritage wilderness. We’ll explore scenic beaches, high mountains, temperate rainforests, and rugged, rocky coastlines. We will also cruise along fjords and the golden-sand beaches of New Zealand’s famous track system, and dine at a royal palace, raft, hike mountainous terrain; visit sacred sites, including Uluru and Kata Tjuta; converse with an Aboriginal elder; and hike along weathered mountain ranges and rocky gorges. In the evenings, we’ll sleep under a starry outback sky along the oldest river in the world. Leader: Becky Wong. Price: $5,955. [21875A]

Hidden Gems of New Zealand’s South Island. February 22–March 10. Discover the lesser-known wonders of the “Land of the Long White Cloud” on a unique adventure focusing on natural history and hiking on the South Island. Accompanied by a knowledgeable naturalist guide, we will dayhike in national parks, forested valleys, and a 1,000-year-old kahikatea rainforest. We’ll also get close to a massive glacier, hike portions of New Zealand’s famous track system, and cruise along fjords and the golden-sand beaches of the Tasman Sea. Leader: Daniel Pettit. Price: $6,345. [21565A]

Australia: Journey through a Timeless Land. June 14–25. Explore the ancient and rugged landscape of Australia’s Red Centre. From Sydney, we’ll fly into Alice Springs to learn about Aboriginal culture; visit sacred sites, including Uluru and Kata Tjuta; converse with an Aboriginal elder; and hike along weathered mountain ranges and rocky gorges. In the evenings, we’ll sleep under a starry outback sky along the oldest river in the world. Leader: Patrick Tierney. Price: $4,845. [21865A]

Vietnam: Hiking, Coffee, Tea, and More. November 9–22. Experience a sensational coffee and tea journey through the lush mountains of Vietnam. We’ll hike to coffee and tea plantations to learn how it is processed from bean and leaf to cup. In the capital city of Hanoi, we’ll visit quirky coffee shops and sip the absolute best, freshly roasted arabica coffee from the central highlands. We’ll also cruise beautiful islands in Lan Ha Bay, visit caves, kayak, and enjoy abundant local delicacies. Leader: Hurston Roberts. Price: $2,975 (11–14)/$3,325 (10 or fewer). [21875A]

Hidden Gems of New Zealand’s South Island. February 22–March 10. Discover the lesser-known wonders of the “Land of the Long White Cloud” on a unique adventure focusing on natural history and hiking on the South Island. Accompanied by a knowledgeable naturalist guide, we will dayhike in national parks, forested valleys, and a 1,000-year-old kahikatea rainforest. We’ll also get close to a massive glacier, hike portions of New Zealand’s famous track system, and cruise along fjords and the golden-sand beaches of the Tasman Sea. Leader: Daniel Pettit. Price: $6,345. [21565A]

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Jewels of Northern Vietnam and Cambodia. December 1–14. Join us on an extraordinary journey in northern Vietnam and Cambodia featuring two World Heritage sites, ancient temples and pagodas, water-puppet shows, and exquisite cuisine. In Vietnam, we’ll hike in two national parks; spend two days on a yacht while exploring, swimming, and kayaking Ha Long Bay; and stay overnight in a traditional village and experience local culture through music and dance. In Cambodia, we will tour the temples of Angkor Wat, bicycle through villages, and visit a floating community. All physical activities are optional. Leader: Rudy Scheffer. Price: $3,025. [21890A]

Natural and Historical Highlights of Israel. March 2–15. Discover unique history and incredible biodiversity on a comprehensive journey through this enduring land. Traveling from the verdant north, where the Jordan River starts, to the southern desert, we’ll visit history-rich cities, like Jerusalem and Jaffa (the oldest port town in the world), as well as the famous Dead and Red Seas. Our travels will also include hikes in nature reserves, sea snorkeling, birdwatching, and evenings in hotels and on a kibbutz. Leader: Shlomo Waser. Price: $4,945. [21575A]
**AFRICA**

**Gorillas, Chimpanzees, and More in Uganda and Rwanda.** January 12–28. With only 900 mountain gorillas left in the wild, the privilege of observing them at close range is a rare and humbling experience. We’ll spend four days on challenging hikes to view these gorillas as well as playful chimpanzees, and we’ll visit national parks for lion tracking, boat safaris, jungle walks, and game drives. We’ll observe up to 13 species of primates and 1,000 species of birds as well as hippos, elephants, Cape buffalo, and Uganda kob; explore the friendly local culture; and stay in comfortable, scenic lodges. **Leader: Barry Morenz. Price: $9,695.** [21530A]

**Kilimanjaro and Safari, Tanzania.** January 16–31. See the snows of Kilimanjaro before they’re gone and reach the highest point in Africa on this nontechnical climb. Our journey will take us from lush grasslands to cloud forest, moorland, and finally, the tundra zone. Eight days on the remote Lemosho Route will ensure maximum acclimation and the greatest chance of success. Afterward, we’ll celebrate our accomplishment on a five-day safari featuring big game animals, showy birds, and mischievous baboons. Excellent condition is required for this strenuous trek. **Leader: Lynn McNamara. Price: $6,695.** [21525A]

**Botswana and Zimbabwe: A Living Eden.** June 2–14. Botswana still feels like the Africa of old: vast savannas with free-ranging herds of graceful antelope, all the big cats, giraffes, hyenas, 500 species of spectacular birds, and more. With plenty of time to observe and photograph, we will move with our comfortable mobile camp from the premier game territories of the Okavango Delta to arid Savuti to the Chobe National Park waterfront, with its large elephant herds. In Zimbabwe, we’ll hike at world-famous Victoria Falls. **Leader: Rudy Scheffer. Price: $9,595.** [21665A]

**Magical Madagascar.** August 12–28. Remote, exotic, and rich in flora and fauna, Madagascar, the “eighth continent,” is the fourth-largest island in the world. It separated from Africa more than 100 million years ago, and this long isolation has created an evolving environment that is home to many endemic mammals, orchids, and other unique species, including the world’s largest population of lemurs. Our tour will take us to verdant rainforests and spiny dry forests, which we will reach by bus and air transport. Warm and generous Malagasy hospitality will greet us throughout our journey. **Leader: Jenny Roberts. Price: $6,395.** [21765A]

**Tanzania Safari: Migration Over the Mara River.** September 15–25. Witness the incredible abundance of wildlife in Tanzania, including the famous wildebeest migration over the crocodile-infested Mara River and other dramatic sights, on this classic safari. We’ll tour the widely acclaimed Serengeti, fly over its limitless expanse, and visit the bottom of the Ngorongoro Crater. We will have many opportunities to observe and photograph the profuse animals and birds on our game drives. Accommodations will include safari lodges and private luxury camps. **Leader: Margie Tomenko. Price: $7,945.** [21800A]

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Exploring North Holland by Bike and Barge. April 14–24. Cycle through the quaint towns and former fishing villages of North Holland during the height of the tulip blooming season. Beginning in Amsterdam, we’ll spend three days exploring canals and world-renowned museums, then embark on a circular route from the east to the west coast. After daily jaunts cycling and exploring the countryside with a multilingual guide, we’ll return to our exclusive barge, which offers twin rooms, en suite restrooms, and daily meals. Leader: Francy Rubin. Price: $4,975. [21595A]

Hike Ireland’s Natural and Ancient Wonders: Dublin to the Aran Islands. April 20–30. Discover the natural wonders, history, and culture of Ireland on an incomparable hiking adventure, from Neolithic tombs near Dublin to the rugged western shores of the Atlantic. We’ll visit ancient and medieval sites dotting the countryside near Galway and on the Aran Islands and take inspiring hikes along the breathtaking coastline, through scenic valleys, and among dramatic mountains. Lodging will be in comfortable bed-and-breakfasts and small country inns. Leader: Brian Anderson. Price: $3,445. [21600A]

England’s Coast-to-Coast Walk: From the Irish Sea to the North Sea. May 3–16. Embark on a grand cross-country walking tour through three of England’s most beautiful national parks: the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales, and the North York Moors. Our moderate-to-strenuous day hikes will take us to Grasmere, Keld, and Robin Hood’s Bay while a minivan transports our luggage to comfortable bed-and-breakfasts. Local British friends will share daytime walks and evening talks in colorful pubs. Leader: Hurston Roberts. Price: $4,295. [21625A]

Vienna to Prague: Walking the Czech Greenways, Austria and Czech Republic. May 6–19. Explore four World Heritage sites and two UNESCO biosphere reserves while hiking along a system of medieval trade routes. We’ll start in the great cultural center of Vienna and end in magical Prague. Our walks will take us across the southern Czech areas of Moravia and Bohemia, where we’ll discover fairy-tale castles, old town squares, and the World Heritage sites of Telc and Cesky Krumlov. We’ll enjoy moderate hiking with bus support and spend our nights in quaint village inns. Leader: Tom Brown. Price: $5,425. [21620A]

Portugal Traverse: Hiking through History from the Mountains to the Sea. May 9–23. Our traverse from Porto to Lisbon will explore Portugal’s historical and natural landscapes, including cork oak montado forest, granitic mountains, and dramatic coastline. We’ll immerse ourselves in the culture and livelihoods of the Portuguese people and discover what attracted Iberians, Phoenicians, Romans, Muslims, and Christians to this land as we visit rural villages, hilltop castles, terraced vineyards, the Douro Valley, monasteries, ancient ruins, and a sustainable farm. Our itinerary involves moderate hiking on hilly terrain. Leader: Laura Bonds-Johnson. Price: $6,025 (12–15)/$6,735 (11 or fewer). [21840A]

Hiking the Franciscan Trail, Umbria, Italy. May 15–27. Following the path of Saint Francis, patron saint of the environment, we’ll hike through forests and wildflowers and past ancient mills, Etruscan tombs, Roman roads, springs, vineyards, and olive orchards. Hiking three to six miles daily, we’ll visit remote abbeys, monasteries, hill towns, and churches with priceless art. A contessa, a priest, and locals will be...
our guides. We will visit Cortona of Under the Tuscan Sun fame, enjoy local cuisine, and stay in a country inn. Leader: Stu DeLaCastro. Price: $4,895. [21640A]

**TREASURES OF SICILY AND THE AEOLIAN ISLANDS, ITALY.** May 17–28. Sicily, the largest of the Mediterranean islands, offers diverse art, archaeology, architecture, cuisine, and nature. We will explore the fascinating cultural abundance resulting from centuries of occupation by Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, and Normans. On the Aeolian Islands, we’ll hike along stunning coastlines and through mountain forests and climb a volcano. We will be accompanied by local experts who will help us understand Sicily’s unique mix of cultures and landscapes. Leader: Jenny Roberts. Price: $4,725. [21635A]

**POETS AND PILGRIMS: A LITERARY WALKING TOUR OF IRELAND.** June 14–25. Experience Ireland through the eyes of four of its master storytellers. We’ll walk the streets of James Joyce’s Dublin, sail to John M. Synge’s remote Aran Islands, hike Hazel Woods to Yeats’s “Lake Isle of Innisfree,” and explore Patrick Kavanagh’s rural County Monaghan. A literary guide will accompany us on our pilgrimage across the Emerald Isle as we combine sightseeing and hiking for a remarkable cultural adventure. Leader: Katie Fowler. Price: $4,325. [21685A]

**Hiking through Time along Hadrian’s Wall, England.** June 14–28. Experience life as a Roman centurion while hiking the 84-mile path of Hadrian’s Wall. Built in A.D. 122 by Emperor Hadrian, the wall once crossed northern England from coast to coast. Beginning in metropolitan Newcastle, we’ll walk through rolling hills and farmland into the rugged interior, visiting fort ruins, archaeological digs, castles, and museums. Our journey will end in the wetland sanctuary of Bowness-on-Solway. Lodging will be in comfortable hotels and bed-and-breakfasts with luggage transport. Leader: Melinda Goodwater. Price: $4,145. [21680A]

**Eiger and Jungfrau Up Close, Switzerland.** June 27–July 5. The Eiger’s imposing North Wall and the massive Jungfrau are two of the most iconic features in the Bernese Alps. We’ll visit them and other dramatic scenery on our daily hikes. Along the way, we’ll stop to admire cows in high pastures, glorious wildflowers, and shimmering waterfalls and to sample cheese and chocolate. We’ll stay in cozy hotels; eat healthful, hearty meals; and supplement our hiking with gondola lifts and trains, including the famous Jungfrau cog railway. Leader: Steven Veit. Price: $4,195. [21695A]

**Hiking the Alps of Bavaria and Tyrol, Germany and Austria.** July 5–17. Explore the mountain paths, lakes, forests, and wildflower meadows of the Berchtesgaden and Ammergau Alps in Bavaria and the Karwendel range of Austria’s Tyrolean Alps. We’ll hike to lovely baroque country churches and the fantasy castles of King Ludwig II, cruise the fjordlike Lake Königssee, tour Salzburg and Munich, enjoy a Mozart dinner concert, and sample the delicious local cuisine. In the evenings, we’ll return to small, family-run hotels with unbeatable alpine views. Leader: Shlomo Waser. Price: $3,645. [21725A]

**Day Hikes in the Dolomites: Treasures of South Tyrol, Italy.** July 9–16. The Dolomites are among the most dramatic mountains on Earth. Though not as big as the nearby Alps, they are even more striking in their color and the way their pale, craggy peaks rise abruptly from the surrounding meadows. This comfortable, hotel-based trip will feature daily hikes on easy-to-moderate trails through these stunning mountains. Leader: Steve Welter. Price: $2,325. [21732A]

**Adventures above the Arctic Circle, Lofoten Islands, Norway.** July 7–18. Enjoy some of the most spectacular mountains and fjords in the Lofoten Islands. We will travel through a large part of the islands, hike several mountains and coastlines, visit quaint villages, and experience the lifestyle of an earlier era. Our hiking and chance for kayaking will be interspersed with travel by coach. We will stay in traditional fishermen’s housing in charming coastal towns and enjoy local cuisine. Leader: Pritpal “Pepi” Singh Kochhar. Price: $4,955. [21730A]

**Volcanic Vacation: Hut-to-Hut Trekking in Iceland.** July 19–30. Trek an otherworldly volcanic landscape where few have gone before. Our route will take us from Landmannahellir through the Reykjadalur geothermal valley to Landmannalaugar, then up into the highlands and down to the southern coast. We’ll encounter a wide range of landscapes, including multicolored volcanic mountains, black-sand deserts, glaciers, volcanic rifts, and craters, with the chance to discover new lava fields and craters from the 2010 eruption of the Eyjafjallajökull volcano. Leader: Daniel Pettit. Price: $4,925. [21740A]

**In Search of Pack Ice, Polar Bears, and Whales in the Land of the Midnight Sun, Norway.** July 20–29. Experience unparalleled scenery and wildlife viewing on a cruise through Norway’s Svalbard archipelago. From our comfortable and spacious vessel, we’ll view enormous colonies of seabirds, seals, and walruses hauled out on ice floes; observe the thrilling antics of whales; and search for the Arctic’s iconic polar bears. Onboard scientists and naturalists will discuss natural history and environmental impacts, and we’ll enjoy a variety of optional activities, including Zodiac side trips, snowshoeing, and hiking. Leader: Kath Giel. Price: $6,875. [21745A]

**Walking the Witches Trail from Inn to Inn, Harz Mountains, Germany.** July 20–August 1. In the heart of Germany lie the Harz Mountains, a region rich in folklore and diverse geologic features. We’ll enjoy easy-to-moderate hikes along the Witches Trail as it winds through valleys, moors, and meadows, with stops at World Heritage sites and in medieval towns. We’ll also walk in the footsteps of Goethe; explore the fabled Brocken, believed to be a traditional meeting place of witches; and ride a narrow-gauge railway through

Exploring Norway’s Fjords and Glaciers. July 22–August 1. Our adventure will begin in the historic city of Bergen, gateway to the fjords, with an introduction to Norse history and culture. We will travel by ferry up the Sognefjord to the artists’ community of Balestrand, where we will begin our hikes through valleys, over passes, and past waterfalls and glaciers, before a train ride and a tour of cosmopolitan Oslo. We’ll enjoy dramatic scenery, excellent cuisine, and delightful accommodations in hotels and a traditional farmhouse with full amenities. Leader: Pritpal “Pepi” Singh Kochhar. Price: $3,975. [21755A]

Advanced Trekking and Via Ferrata in the Dolomites, Italy. July 25–August 2. Combine trekking and via ferrata (a protected climbing route using steel cables) on this exceptional journey in Italy’s legendary Dolomites. Under the guidance of certified local mountain guides, we will navigate the world-famous Via delle Bocchette and spend five days trekking, with walks up two dramatic peaks. Each night will be spent in a well-appointed mountain refuge or our base hotel. No climbing experience is necessary to enjoy this rare adventure. Leader: Mike Abbott. Price: $3,325. [21775A]

Hiking the Greek Islands. September 21–October 4. Join an Aegean adventure exploring the unique character, culture, and historic sites of the Cyclades Islands. Climbing Mt. Zas, the highest peak in the islands; marvel at the Temple of Apollo; swim in crystal-clear waters; and absorb the wonderful ambiance of the waterfronts. We will island-hop across the cerulean Aegean Sea by fast boat and ferry, then return to magnificent Athens to discover the magic and mystery of the ancient Acropolis and Parthenon. Accommodations will be in locally run hotels. Leader: Aurora Roberts. Price: $4,325. [21805A]

In Pursuit of Blue Zone Longevity Secrets in Sardinia, Italy. September 24–October 2. What makes Sardinia a blue zone, where an above-average number of citizens live to over 100 years? We’ll pursue its secrets as we hike rugged mountains, boat and swim in cerulean Mediterranean waters, and share in the traditional social values, culture, cuisine, and wine that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. A one-day excursion will also take us to the French island of Corsica. Leader: Carol Marty. Price: $3,975 (10–12)/$4,875 (9 or fewer). [21810A]

Naples to Brindisi: Secrets of Southern Italy. October 1–12. Discover Italy’s deep south, a prime destination for vacationing Italians, known for its stunning landscapes and delicious food. Our tour of the Mezzogiorno will take us to Campania, Basilicata, and Puglia, where we’ll walk along Europe’s most picturesque coast, the Amalfi, and speak with locals about their farming methods and vineyards. We’ll also cruise to Capri for views of the Bay of Naples, tour the baroque architecture of Lecce, visit Greek ruins and two World Heritage sites, and swim along the white-sand beaches of the Adriatic. Leader: Pritpal “Pepi” Singh Kochhar. Price: $4,495. [21812A]

Hidden Trails of Cinque Terre and the Italian Riviera, France and Italy. October 4–15. Extending north from the famed Cinque Terre (Five Lands) to the border of France, the magnificent Italian Riviera abounds with World Heritage sites and nature reserves. We’ll hike lesser-known trails, enjoy stunning vistas of the crystal-blue sea, and visit charming little towns that have retained their ancient beauty and cultural traditions. Highlights will include Portovenere, Monterosso, Riomaggiore, Portofino, Camogli, Sestri Levante, Noli, and Varigotti in Italy and Menton and Gorbio in France. Leader: Pat Stevens. Price: $4,625. [21720A]
HIKING IN THE DOLOMITES, ITALY. CREDIT: RICHARD TORREY

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