







1.800.941.8010 | www.boundlessjourneys.com

### How we deliver

## THE WORLD'S GREAT ADVENTURES

A passion for travel. Simply put, we love to travel, and that infectious spirit is woven into every one of our journeys. Our staff travels the globe searching out hidden-gem inns and lodges, taste testing bistros, trattorias, and noodle stalls, and discovering the trails and plying the waterways of each remarkable destination. When we come home, we separate wheat from chaff, creating memorable adventures that will connect you with the very best qualities of each destination.

Unique, award-winning itineraries. Our flexible, hand-crafted journeys have received accolades from the world's most revered travel publications. Beginning from our appreciation for the world's most breathtaking and interesting destinations, we infuse our journeys with the elements of adventure and exploration that stimulate our souls and enliven our minds. Whether you are looking for a challenging physical expedition or a leisurely cultural exploration, Boundless Journeys has exceptional itineraries to match your sense of adventure.

**Insider connections.** There is simply no substitute for traveling with a knowledgeable insider, and our expert local guides will open doors for you that other travelers miss, like dinner with their extended family in Peru's Sacred Valley, or meeting an art scholar in Florence. Relationships developed over many years allow you to experience our destinations through a well-connected friend.

**Small groups.** Although the camaraderie of a group of likeminded travelers often enhances the journey, there can be too much of a good thing! We tread softly, and our average group size is just 8–10 guests, allowing us access to opportunities that would be unthinkable with a larger group.

Flexibility to suit your travel style. We offer both scheduled, small-group departures and custom journeys so that you can choose which works best for you. Not finding exactly what you are looking for? Let us customize a journey to fulfill your travel dreams.

Customer service that goes the extra mile. Having trouble finding flights that work for you? Want to surprise your traveling companion with a bottle of champagne at a tented camp in the Serengeti to celebrate an important milestone? There is no request that is too big—or too small—for our staff to handle. From your first call, we guide you through choosing your trip, provide advice on preparing for your adventure, and hold your hand until you return home.





Multi-year recipient of *Travel + Leisure* magazine's "World's Best Tour Operator"; and recognized by the editors of *National Geographic ADVENTURE* magazine as one of the Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth.

# Italy | DISCOVERING PUGLIA

Thank you for your interest in this fantastic journey to Italy's Puglia region. We have hand-crafted this tour from our own experience and hope you fall in love with the area—as we have!

#### THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS JOURNEY

We love Italy—the scents, flavors, scenery, and the people. The landscapes are soul-stirring, with sweeping vistas of vineyard-cloaked hills, stately cypress trees, and gnarled olive groves grounded in red earth.

The Puglia region, located in the heel of Italy's "boot," is known for its unique whitewashed architecture in seaside towns, lack of tourists, and farmland that cascades into coastlines. It is a place where the union of art, food, and nature has been celebrated for thousands of years, in a region that has endured numerous wars, invasions, and dozens of civilizations—all of which have left their mark on the land and culture. Join us as we venture to this western "gateway to the East" and explore a lesser-known side of Italy the crowds have yet to find.

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#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- · Discover the unique architecture and villages of the Italian heel
- · Visit the UNESCO World Heritage towns of Alberobello and Matera
- Explore the region on foot, including walks along the Adriatic coast, through olive groves, and on the cobbled streets of historic towns
- Savor delicious cuisine and delve further into local gastronomy with a cooking class, olive oil tasting, and cheese tour





#### THE BASICS

Duration: 8 day trip
Tour start: Bari, Italy
Tour end: Bari, Italy

Accommodations: 7 nights in 4-star boutique hotels
Trip rating: 1 2 3 4 5

Easy . . . . . . Strenuous (See page 10 for more information)

Land cost: \$4,995 per person

Single Supplement: First one reserved on each

departure: \$300 (Must reserve at least 120 days ahead); Additional:

\$800 (limited availability)

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#### WHAT'S INCLUDED

Just pack your bags—we've got you covered! When you're on a Boundless Journeys adventure, every detail is taken care of for you, so you can relax and truly experience each moment. Put your wallet away, leave your travel books behind, fold up your maps, and BE there. Your Boundless Journeys adventure includes:

- · Expert leadership
- · All accommodations
- · All meals as noted except dinner on Day 3
- · All activities as noted in the itinerary
- · Local wine and beer with included dinners
- · Group transfer to Lecce on Day 1 and to the airport on Day 8, and all transportation while on tour
- · All gratuities except for those for your guide and driver, which are at your discretion
- Explorers Club savings on your next scheduled, small-group trip (conditions apply)

International airfare is not included in the price of your trip. Please contact your local travel agency or the airlines directly to make any arrangements you may need. If you would like assistance with booking your flights or other travel plans, please contact Boundless Journeys directly at 1.800.941.8010 for a referral to our partners who will best fulfill your needs.



#### ITINERARY AT-A-GLANCE

#### DAY 1

Group transfer from the Oriente Hotel in Bari to Lecce (approximate 2-hour drive), where we check into our hotel and have a brief orientation with our guide before tonight's welcome dinner.

#### DAY 2

Guided walking tour of Lecce to discover its beautiful Baroque architecture, often referred to as the "Florence of southern Italy." Cooking class to learn about local cuisine.

#### DAY 3

Day in Otranto, touring the medieval historic town, its Spanish castle, and cathedral. Walk along the coast to view the famous Salento coves, take a dip in the Adriatic Sea, and visit a lighthouse before returning to Lecce for dinner this evening.

#### DAY 4

Visit a typical *masseria* to learn about this traditional style of architecture, then tour an ancient underground olive oil mill and enjoy a tasting. Explore "the White City" of Ostuni independently until dinner together this evening.

#### DAY 5

See the beautiful Parco Dune Reserve on foot today, walking along an ancient Roman road surrounded by olive trees. Learn how farmers produce cheese using a 500-year-old recipe. Visit a nearby wetland and meet the local fishermen. Enjoy time relaxing on the beach before our return to Ostuni.

#### DAY 6

Guided walk through the Grotte di Castellana, a large complex of caves known for beautiful stalagmites and stalactites in a limestone plateau. Afternoon transfer to Alberobello for a tour of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Conclude the day with a winery visit and tasting, and dinner at a local farmhouse. Overnight in an authentic trullo house.

#### DAY 7

Day trip to Matera for a guided walk of the Sassi district. Free afternoon to explore independently before returning to Alberobello for our farewell celebratory dinner.

#### DAY8

Group transport to Bari Airport after breakfast.

# THE JOURNEY



#### DAY 1: Arrival and Transfer to Lecce

Activity Overview: 2 hours drive time

Welcome to Puglia! We meet our guide at 2 p.m. in the lobby of the Hotel Oriente, centrally located in downtown Bari. We then drive south approximately two hours along the Mediterranean coast toward the tip of Italy's "heel" and the city of Lecce. Upon arrival, we check-in to our hotel and have a brief orientation meeting with our guide followed by dinner together, where we toast to our adventures to come!

Accommodation: Risorgimento Resort, Lecce

Meals: D

DAY 2: Lecce

**Activity Overview: Walking on city streets** 

**Activity Level: Easy** 

Activity Length: 2-4 hours, about 3 miles

After breakfast, we meet our specialist guide for a walking tour of Lecce. Known for its dazzling array of Baroque architecture, Lecce also has deep roots in Ancient Greece, a long history of papier-mâché craft, and the lively ambience that accompanies a university town. We learn about the history and culture of this "Florence of the South" as we stroll through piazzas, admire ornate stonework full of allegorical meaning, and visit a local papier-mâché workshop.

Later this afternoon, we head into the kitchen for an opportunity to create a typical Pugliese meal, from appetizer to dessert. Puglia's cuisine is deeply steeped in the region's agricultural tradition and an instinct for self-sufficiency. Many of the most representative dishes have their origins in "cucina povera" (peasant cooking), based on natural,

genuine ingredients, like vegetables, legumes, seafood, olive oil, homemade pasta and bread.

We reap the benefits of our efforts this evening and enjoy the bountiful feast we have created.

Accommodation: Risorgimento Resort, Lecce

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 3: Otranto and the Adriatic Sea

Activity Overview: Walking on country roads, trails, and

along the coast

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

Activity Length: 3-5 hours, about 7 miles

Today begins with a guided exploration of another iconic town in Puglia—Otranto. Teeming with history, Otranto lies at the easternmost point of Italy on the Adriatic Sea—historically, a prime location for a port during the expansion of global trade, but which also left it susceptible to attack by foreign seafarers. We hear tales of conquest as we walk through the streets of this medieval old town, tour the Spanish castle, and visit the Otranto Cathedral—known for its enormous 12th-century "Tree of Life" floor mosaic.

From here, we head to the coast for an easy walk along the coves and creeks for which this area is famous, and perhaps take a dip in the Adriatic Sea if the weather is warm. En route back to Lecce, we stop for a short walk to the hidden Palascia lighthouse, high on a cliff with views of the sea all around.

Arriving back in Lecce, the evening is yours to relax, explore, and dine at your leisure.

Accommodation: Santa Chiara Suite Hotel, Lecce

Meals: B. L



#### DAY 4: Ostuni

**Activity Overview: Walking on city streets** 

Activity Level: Easy
Activity Length: 3 hours

Our destination this morning is Ostuni, often called *la Città Bianca*, or "the White City," for bright, whitewashed walls. Originally painted with lime to brighten the dark medieval alleys, the white walls also kept the interior temperature of buildings cool. In later centuries, the practice continued during epidemics to quell the spread of disease.

Our first visit is a typical *masseria*, a farmhouse located on an expanse of land that was traditionally used for agriculture. These were often owned by wealthy barons and showcase an architectural style that is a hybrid of rustic country living and the elegance demanded by the noblemen who built them. We tour their ancient underground olive oil mill and taste the farm's current products.

This afternoon, we have time to settle in to our accommodations and independently explore the crooked streets of Ostuni. The uniform white color catches the colorful light of dawn and dusk, and it is a delight to get lost in the labyrinth of narrow passages. From the pinnacle above town, take in sweeping views of the surrounding landscape and Adriatic coast. Perhaps enjoy an *aperitivo* before wending back through the maze to rejoin the group for dinner this evening.

Accommodation: Masseria Valente, Ostuni

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 5: Parco Dune Natural Reserve

Activity Overview: Walking on country roads and trails

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

Activity Length: 4-5 hours, up to 6 miles

We begin today with a short drive for a walk at a natural dune reserve. Our guide leads us on foot along an ancient Roman road surrounded by olive trees, some of which are thousands of years old! Along our route, we stop at a masseria, where local farmers tell us how they produce a traditional style of cheese using a 500-year-old recipe.

After lunch, we visit a nearby wetland and meet fishermen working in the area. We enjoy the beach, perhaps taking a walk or relaxing in the sun, before returning to Ostuni for dinner and leisure time this evening.

Accommodation: Masseria Valente, Ostuni

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 6: Alberobello

Activity Overview: Walking on paths and stairs

**Activity Level: Easy** 

Activity Length: 2-3 hours, about 2 miles

This morning, we transfer to a large complex of caves known as Grotte di Castellana that are set in a limestone plateau. A specialist guide leads us through this otherworldly underground cavern. Along our walk, we learn about its wide array of stalagmites and stalactites, fossils and formations—millions of years old!

Next, we head deeper into the beautiful Itria Valley to Alberobello, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its



trulli. A trullo house is a dry stone dwelling with a conical roof—a style of architecture completely unique to towns in this valley, with some structures dating back to the 14th century. We explore the old districts of Rione Monti and Rione Aja Piccola, with over 1,600 trulli, and are invited into one of these buildings to learn more about this ancient construction technique.

Later today, we visit a family-owned winery to learn about the local viticulture and wine production of this region. Of course, we have the opportunity to taste a selection of their wines!

At day's end, our immersion in Pugliese gastromy and culture continues at a traditional farmhouse where we meet the owners and enjoy a home-cooked dinner using products from the farm.

Accommodations: Trulli Holiday or Corte dell'Astore,

Alberobello Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 7: Matera

Activity Overview: Walking on cobblestone streets

Activity Level: Easy
Activity Length: 2-3 hours

We drive inland about an hour this morning to Matera, a UNESCO World Heritage town located in the Basilicata region. Set on the edge of a ravine, Matera claims to be the oldest city in Italy and has been inhabited continuously since the Paleolithic Era. Here, we have a guided walk of the Sassi district, known for its homes carved out of the limestone caves and cliffs. Formerly, the area was one of

Italy's poorest, with entire families living alongside their livestock in cave dwellings that lacked running water or power. This led to a near-constant outbreak of malaria and other diseases, and the area was often referred to as "Italy's shame." The city began to modernize in the mid-20th century when the government demanded inhabitants move out of the grottoes and into newer buildings. Today, the revitalized Sassi district showcases a well-preserved living history, with some former cave dwellings now operating as restaurants and inns.

We have the afternoon free to explore independently before returning to Alberobello, where we gather for a farewell dinner to celebrate our successful journey!

Accommodations: Trulli Holiday or Corte dell'Astore,

Alberobello Meals: B, L, D

### DAY 8: Departure

Today, we say *arrivederci* to Puglia! A group transfer to Bari Airport will be provided after breakfast.

Meals: B

PLEASE NOTE: This is a typical itinerary, and actual activities may vary to take advantage of weather conditions, local events, and to allow serendipity to play a hand in your experience. Accommodations are as outlined in the itinerary, although we reserve the right to change these should the need arise. See our booking terms and conditions for more information about our change policy.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**



#### NIGHTS 1, 2, & 3

#### **Risorgimento Resort**

19 Via Augusto Imperatore

Lecce, Italy

Tel: +39 0832 246311 | info@risorgimentoresort.it

The elegant Risorgimento Resort offers luxurious 5-star accommodation in the heart of Lecce. Two restaurants serve delicious cuisine and Le Quattro Spezierie Roof Garden is the perfect place to enjoy spectacular views over the rooftops of Lecce. The hotel's bar and library offer a relaxed ambiance and the spa offers indulgent treatments and a hammam.



#### NIGHTS 4 & 5

#### Masseria Valente

SP 21 Contrada Valente

Ostuni, Italy

Tel: +39-0831-1593048 | info@masseriavalente.it

This 18th-century typical farmhouse is set in a large garden and is located mid-way between Ostuni and the coast. Relax and enjoy quintessential Italian countryside, the onsite pool and veranda, and well-appointed rooms.



#### NIGHTS 6 & 7 (MAY)

#### Trulli Holiday

1 Piazza A. Curri

Alberobello, Italy

Tel: +39-080-4325970 | info@trulliholiday.com

This unique accommodation offers guests an opportunity to spend the night in an authentic trulli house, a traditional style of architecture in the Itria Valley. Rooms are comfortable and tastefully decorated to accentuate the rustic-chic interior.



#### NIGHTS 6 & 7 (SEPTEMBER)

#### Corte dell'Astore

8 Via 7 Liberatori della Selva

Alberobello, Italy

Tel: +39 320 945 7634|info@lacortedellastore.com

La Corte Dell'Astore, a luxury resort where sophistication and tradition fuse with style and splendor. Everything is designed to inspire calm and tranquillity – from the beautifully designed suites set in trullo houses built out of ancient stone, to the on-site farm where time can be spent in the company of friendly horses, hawks and more.

# WHAT TO EXPECT



#### TRIP RATING

Boundless Journeys' trips are designed for energetic and flexible individuals who like to be active and have a spirit of adventure and a positive attitude. *Italy: Discovering Puglia* is rated 2, easy, on a scale of 1-5 (with 5 being the most strenuous). It features walks of varying lengths and easy -to-moderate difficulty that average 3-6 hours per day. Walks on this tour will be on varying terrain, including cobblestone streets in and around villages and some dirt roads and trails. Walks are broken up by rest, cultural activities, and meals. Please refer to the detailed itinerary for descriptions of the activities on each day of the trip.

#### PREPARING FOR THIS TRIP

It is very important that you realistically assess your physical condition with regard to the demands of this trip. The more well-prepared you are for the activities, the more you will enjoy yourself. As a general guideline, we suggest that you engage in easy to moderate aerobic activities (such as walking, hiking, jogging, or cycling) for at least 30-45 minutes several times a week for 4-6 weeks before the trip. If you live in a flat area, try to incorporate some stairs into your workout, or use a treadmill with varying incline capability (consult your doctor before undertaking any new fitness program). Please contact us if you have any doubts regarding your physical match with this tour.

#### **WEATHER**

The weather in late spring and early fall is usually very pleasant, with daytime temperatures ranging from the low 60s to the upper 80s, dropping to the 50s and 60s at night. While these months are not in Italy's "rainy season," there can be cool breezes or showers at any time.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE °F (HIGH/LOW			
	MAY	SEPT	
Bari	72/55	78/61	
Otranto	68/55	75/64	

You may obtain more detailed weather information at www. weatherbase.com.

#### WHFN TO GO

The shoulder seasons of late spring and early fall take advantage of warm weather while avoiding the crowds of (often Italian!) tourists who flock to Puglia in July and August. Day time temperatures during May and September are usually warm enough to swim, but still cool enough for comfortable walking. Springtime sees colorful wildflowers in bloom, cascading over stone garden walls. In the fall, vineyards burst with purple grapes as the harvest begins.

#### TRAVELER'S RESPONSIBILITY

As a trip participant, you have responsibilities to Boundless Journeys, your fellow travelers and guide, and the local people you encounter. This includes understanding and preparing for the conditions described in the itinerary, ensuring it meets your interests and abilities, and following the health and safety guidelines of Boundless Journeys, local authorities, and/or the CDC. At their discretion, a guide may ask a guest to leave the trip if further participation may be detrimental to the individual or other participants.

We strongly urge any guest feeling ill shortly before departure to cancel their trip. To help cover your investment, we highly recommend purchasing travel insurance with supplemental "Cancel for Any Reason" coverage. If you feel unwell during



the tour, please immediately inform your guide, who can help take the appropriate next steps. We appreciate your cooperation.

#### **SMALL GROUP TRAVEL**

Small group travel affords us the opportunity to seek out the most remote and exotic destinations on the planet. Often we are exploring these locales with just 8-12 guests. The nature of active group travel is such that not all participants have the same ability level or interests. Traveling at a pace that is comfortable for the entire group, with a spirit of flexibility and adventure, are all part of this shared experience.

#### **DRINKS WITH MEALS**

At Boundless Journeys we believe group dinners are a time to celebrate our day, while enjoying the best of local cuisine, and good company. In keeping with this spirit, we typically include local beer and wine with group dinners. If you prefer premium wine, or liquor, please feel free to order what you like, and you may settle your tab at the end of the meal.

#### **DRINKING WATER**

We provide purified or bottled water on all trips; however, in an effort to reduce waste, we strongly encourage you to bring a water bottle to refill where safe to do so. This will be the case in much of Europe, as well as a few other destinations, where tap water is safe to drink. In parts of the world where water must be purified, bottled water may be our only option. Here, we do our best to provide purified water from larger containers to refill your bottles, rather than using many small single-use bottles throughout your trip. This is just one small way we strive to travel more responsibly and we appreciate your efforts in helping us to protect the extraordinary places we visit.

Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge, too, and learn more about TAP's efforts at www.travelersagainstplastic.org.

#### **CUISINE**

Italy is famous for its cuisine, and with good reason. Located in the heel of Italy's "boot," Puglia is a traditional agricultural region, known for homestyle, country-inspired cuisine. Local wheat, tomatoes, artichokes, beans, fennel, peppers, onions, beef, and lamb are commonly found in many dishes. The Pugliese pride themselves on their pasta, *orecchiette*, shaped like little shells and usually served with meat and vegetable-based sauces. It is traditionally made only from durum wheat flour, water, and salt, because eggs were historically considered a luxury. In addition, fresh *burrata*, an abundance of seafood on the coast, and desserts made from regional almonds, honey, and sweetened ricotta cheese ensure a complete experience of local flavors.

One dinner (on Day 3) is not included in as we believe that venturing out on your own is an important part of discovering a new culture.

Please inform us of any specific dietary restrictions by completing your Smartwaiver form, and we will do our best to accommodate you. Please call our office with any questions or concerns about our ability to meet your needs.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

All on-tour transportation is provided in private, airconditioned, passenger vans.

## **OUR PUGLIA TEAM**

#### TRIP MANAGER



#### **Deborah Tobey**

Originally from Long Island, NY, Deborah has lived and worked around the country. After a decade out west adventuring as a river guide and ski instructor, Deborah was drawn back east to be closer to family. She joined the Boundless Journeys home team in 2010 initially managing Ecuador, Palau, and Spain. Now, her portfolio includes Croatia, Norway, Portugal, Italy, Iceland, and Costa Rica. She loves being on the water, hiking in Vermont's Green Mountains, and camping with her family and dog, Winston.

#### **GUIDES**

With a Boundless Journeys guide, your experience is that of friend and local adventurer. We believe strongly in working with local guides, experts in the areas to which we travel, and they hold the keys to unlocking the hidden delights of your chosen destination. Although you will never know they are at work—the mark of a truly great leader—our guides make magical things happen and add a dimension to your trip that you could not experience on your own.

Over the years we have forged bonds with some of the best guides in the world, and we typically work with a small team of guides in each region. You will be informed of the guide for your trip one month prior to your departure.



#### Giuseppe La Stella

Giuseppe was born in northern Puglia in the town of Corato, famous for a superb variety of olive oil. He currently lives in Bari, where he has been guiding since 2014. Giuseppe enjoys wandering through the world and exploring authentic spaces. Those who have been on his trips can testify to his warm, enthusiastic, and creative approach to guiding.



#### Maria Merlini

Maria grew up in the Sicilian city of Catania and also speaks the local dialect. She has traveled extensively herself and has previous experience working as an international aid worker. She is passionate about showing off the wonders and beauty of her beloved country, as well as introducing guests to the culture, food, and way of life of Italian people. Maria currently splits her time between Sicily and South Africa, where she is also a guide.



#### TO MAKE A RESERVATION

You can call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, request a reservation online, or contact your travel agent. We will confirm your spot with a deposit of \$500 per person and the payment of internal airfare, payable by check or credit card.

#### **ONCE YOU RESERVE**

As soon as you confirm your adventure, we will provide you with an extensive, detailed trip planner that includes arrival and departure instructions, a complete packing list, regional information, required documents, a reading list, and other details.

#### **CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY**

Please check our Terms & Conditions page on our website for our comprehensive cancellation and refund policies: www.boundlessjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions.

#### TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE

In addition to your detailed trip planner, we will email you a quote for Travel Guard trip insurance. Please let us know if you would like us to purchase a policy on your behalf. Boundless Journeys strongly recommends purchasing Trip Insurance.

#### QUESTIONS? WHICH TRIP IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Adventure travel may involve exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, and activities that may be new to you. If you have any questions about the level of comfort, difficulty, or activities included on your trip, please call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, or email us at info@ boundlessjourneys.com. Our travel experts look forward to helping you select the perfect adventure.

#### **VISIT US ONLINE**

www.boundlessjourneys.com for:

- · additional departures
- · special promotions
- · detailed itineraries
- · inspiring photography
- guide bios

#### **ENJOY FOOD & WINE?**

Check out. . .

- PORTUGAL: Porto, the Douro Valley & Lisbon
- SPAIN & MOROCCO:
   Granada to Fes Walking

#### **EXTENDING YOUR TRIP?**

Consider. . .

· ITALY: Dolomites Hiking

#### PREFER A PRIVATE TRIP?

The perfect option for alumni and family reunions, birthdays and anniversaries, or just to catch up with friends in fabulous destinations. Mark your calendar and leave the planning to us! Call our travel experts today: 800-941-8010.

# BOUNDLESS BEYOND



#### **RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL**

At Boundless Journeys, our goal is to create meaningful experiences that protect the delicate ecosystems and attributes of every location we visit. We aim to educate our guests on the best responsible travel practices for each destination.

#### WE ARE COMMITTED TO

**Making connections**. Our local guides offer insider knowledge of their country, including tips on etiquette and customs. They facilitate meaningful interactions with the people and places we visit, such as dinner at the home of a local family. While you may arrive in a destination as a visitor, you leave with a deeper understanding and connection to each place.

**Going local.** Boundless Journeys' small group size stems from a desire to provide a more intimate traveler experience, giving us the freedom to move through the tight alleys of old towns on foot, eat and sleep at traditional guesthouses, participate in immersive cultural exchanges, and leave a smaller footprint on all of the locales we visit. This mobility allows us to support local economies directly, forging strong relationships with our partners and friends abroad as we return year after year.

Respecting people and the environment. We support organizations working to protect ecosystems and improve the livelihoods of local communities. On many of our trips, we explore stunning natural landscapes where conservation is of the utmost importance. As visitors, we practice Leave No Trace ethics and actively contribute to the conservation of parks and protected areas.

#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**Give back**. Instead of receiving a Boundless Journeys t-shirt or water bottle, you can opt to donate the value of your gift to our travel scholarship fund, which will be awarded to a local student for an educational or service-based travel opportunity.

**Learn more.** Visit boundlessjourneys.com/responsible-travel to read more about how our values are reflected in our trip offerings. We also offer a selection of Resources for the Responsible Traveler, which suggests ways to tread lightly and ensure your journey has a positive impact.

**Join us.** Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge at travelersagainstplastic.org.

#### **CONSERVATION IN ACTION**

Boundless Journeys is a proud member of the Adventure Travel and Trade Association, a global network of adventure seekers who believe in the protection and promotion of local communities and wilderness areas.



