

## TRIP ITINERARY





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.

# Austria, Slovenia, & Italy | ALPE ADRIA

Thank you for your interest in this fantastic journey to the Alps. We have handcrafted this tour from our own experience and hope you fall in love with the area—as we have!

#### THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS JOURNEY

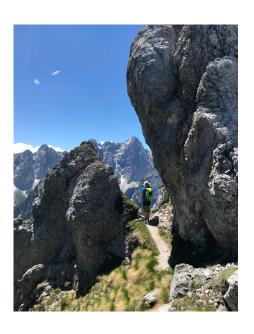
Hiking is a way of life in Europe. Thousands of miles of trails criss-cross the continent, traversing the undulating terrain over high passes and dipping into valleys. People who live in the mountains have long maximized the terrain to sustain their livelihood and connect villages by walking paths. It is no surprise, then, that new official routes are regularly being developed to maintain this aspect of mountain culture.

The Alpe Adria Trail is one of Europe's newest long-distance hiking routes, and has been designed to end at well-located accommodations with easy access to iconic regional cuisine. We hike the highlights, beginning at the foot of Austria's Grossglockner in an area that Austrians refer to as "the Garden of Eden." The route continues into Slovenia's Julian Alps, known for pristine mountain lakes and rivers. And finally, we cross into wine-growing regions, before ending in Trieste, Italy, on the coast of the Adriatic Sea. Experience three different countries connected by a shared Alpine culture, each of which offers spectacular scenery that will leave you with unforgettable memories.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Hiking some of the most iconic stretches of the 460-mile long Alpe Adria
   Trail, selected to include diverse and breathtaking landscapes
- Delighting in regional specialties such as Austria's schnitzels and strudels, Slovenia's jota stew, Italy's Aperol spritzes, and plenty of local cheese and wine along the way
- Experiencing iconic landmarks including Pasterze Glacier, Garnet Gate,
   Vrsic Pass, Jasna Lake, and a gondola ride up Lussari Mountain

TOUR OVERVIEW	4
THE JOURNEY	.6
ACCOMMODATIONS	.9
WHAT TO EXPECT	10
OUR ALPE ADRIA TEAM	12
NEXT STEPS	13
BOUNDLESS BEYOND	14



# TOUR OVERVIEW



#### THE BASICS

Duration: 8 days / 7 nights
Tour start: Salzburg, Austria
Tour end: Trieste, Italy

Accommodations: Boutique inns and hotels

Trip rating: 1 2 **3** 4 5

Easy . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Strenuous

(See page 11 for more information)

Land cost: \$5,495 per person

Single Supplement: First single per departure: \$325

(Must reserve at least 120 days ahead)

Additional: \$825



#### 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 in the itinerary, except dinner on Day 5
- · All activities as noted in the itinerary
- · Local wine and beer with included dinners
- · All on-tour transportation
- · All gratuities except for those for your guide(s) 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

Austria: Depart Salzburg for Heiligenblut via the Grossglockner High Alpine Road, enjoying stops for photographs and short hikes along the way.

#### DAY 2

Austria: Explore the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe information center, then descend to Pasterze Glacier. Loop hike at the base of the glacier and the Grossglockner.

#### DAY 3

Austria: Cheese tasting, followed by a hike to Garnet Gate and along the Path of Love above Lake Millstatt.

#### DAY 4

Slovenia: Transfer to Vrsic Pass. Hike the historic Vrsic Trail and around beautiful Lake Jasna.

#### DAY 5

Italy: Gondola ride up Monte Lussari. Hike to the base of Cima Cacciatore. Afternoon hike around Laghi di Fusine.

#### DAY 6

Slovenia: Hike along the emerald waters of the Soca River and lunch at an *agriturismo*. Transfer to the Brda wine region.

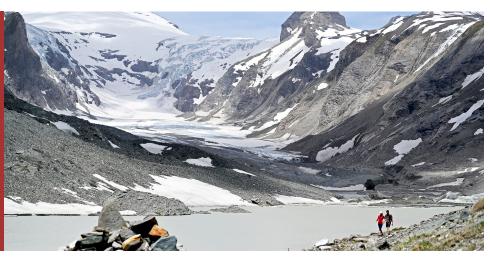
#### DAY 7

Italy: Hike in the Valley of Rosanda, ending in the town of Trieste. Farewell dinner.

#### DAY8

Departure, with one group transfer to Trieste Airport.

# THE JOURNEY



#### DAY 1: Salzburg to Heiligenblut

**Activity Overview: Hiking** 

Activity Level: Easy with minimal elevation gain and loss Activity Length: 2-3 hours hiking, 1.5 hour driving

We meet our guide for a briefing at 8:30 am in the lobby of the Sheraton Hotel in Salzburg before departing for Höhe Tauern National Park. Our journey takes us into the mountains along the High Alpine Road, one of the most picturesque Alpine roads in all of Europe. While the total transfer time will be about 90 minutes driving, we stop along the way to learn how the road was built, stretch our legs on short walks, and take in the stunning vistas—including the 360-degree views from the Edelweissspitze, the highest accessible point on the road.

After lunch (and perhaps, a dessert of fluffy *Kaisershmarn*), we continue to the charming little Alpine hamlet of Heiligenblut. Here, we have time to rest, enjoy the onsite sauna, or explore the village before gathering for our celebratory welcome dinner this evening.

Accommodation: National Park Lodge, Heiligenblut, Austria Meals: L, D

### DAY 2: Grossglockner & Pasterze Glacier

**Activity Overview: Hiking** 

Activity Level: Moderate, 1,135' elevation gain and 1,870' loss

Activity Length: 4 hours, 5.5 miles

Following a hearty breakfast, we set off for the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe information center and the official starting point of Alpe Adria Trail. The visitor center was named for

the Kaiser, a great fan of the mountains, after he hiked to that spot from Heiligenblut to marvel at the Grossglockner—Austria's highest peak—in the mid-19th century.

After taking in the panoramic view of the tallest mountain in Austria ourselves, we hike down to Pasterze Glacier, the oldest remaining glacier in Austria. The descent is steep, on a mix of rocky singletrack trail and large steps. Hiking poles may be helpful here. At the bottom, we enjoy views of the glacier and a hike along the base of the Grossglockner, then return to Heiligenblut in the afternoon. Once again, there is time to walk around the village and enjoy the amenities of our lodge before dinner.

Accommodation: National Park Lodge, Heiligenblut, Austria

Meals: B, L, D

### DAY 3: Millstatter Alps

**Activity Overview: Hiking** 

Activity Level: Moderate, 1,500' elevation gain and loss Activity Length: 3 hours hiking, 5-6 miles, 2 hours driving

This morning, we transfer south to Millstatter Lake and the adjacent resort town of Millstatt. In the hills above town, we first stop at Lammersdorfer Hut, known for their local delicacies. After enjoying a taste of their cheeses and cured meats, we follow a dirt trail through idyllic cow pastures to Garnet Gate, where we are rewarded with a beautiful vista above the fjord-like lake. We continue our hike along the Path of Love and end back at Lammersdorfer Hut.

This evening, we enjoy the accommodations of Naturhotel Alpenrose, a very unique and relaxing place. This familyrun hotel makes their own delicious pastries and strudels,



and we have time this evening to enjoy the patio and sauna. Please note this hotel does not have Wi-Fi, which may allow you to have a brief digital detox.

Accommodation: Naturhotel Alpenrose, Millstatt, Austria

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 4: Vrsic Pass, Kranjska Gora

**Activity Overview: Hiking** 

Activity Level: Moderate, 1,300' elevation gain and loss Activity Length: 3-4 hours hiking, 3.7 miles, 1 hour driving

Today, we bid *auf wiedersehen* to Austria and *zdravo* (hello) to Slovenia! We drive up to Vrsic Pass, the highest pass in Slovenia, to the start of our hike on the "old Vrsic trail"—a historic trail used by hunters and smugglers. Flanked by larch trees, the dirt and grass path climbs gently upward toward the craggy limestone cliffs of the Julian Alps. At the top, we stop for lunch at a hut where we can savor traditional Slovenian stews and *struklji*—a sweet dough rolled with fruit that is still made by hand here.

Returning to Kranjska Gora, we take a short walk around the idyllic, crystal-clear Lake Jasna before transferring just over an hour to our small, family-run boutique hotel. We enjoy dinner together at the onsite restaurant, run by young progressive chefs who are part of the Jeune Restaurateurs Europe. They choose the best local ingredients of the season and include the culture and traditions of Austria, Italy, and Slovenia in their culinary creations.

Accommodation: Skipass Hotel, Kranjska Gora, Slovenia

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 5: Monte Lussari, Laghi di Fusine

**Activity Overview: Hiking** 

Activity Level: Moderate with strenuous sections, 1,750'

elevation gain and loss

Activity Length: 4-5 hours, 6-7 miles

We cross into nearby Tarvisio, Italy this morning and take a 15-minute gondola ride up to Monte Lussari, a popular ski mountain in the winter. From the top, we have a grand view of the Julian Alps as we follow the pilgrims' path to the mountaintop village.

Our hike departs from here and climbs toward Cima del Cacciatore. The rocky path is primarily uphill single track, with some exposed sections along the way. We end at the col below Cima del Cacciatore, with spectacular views looking out over the surrounding mountains and valley. Our route in reverse is primarily downhill on the same trail, and we stop for lunch before our return gondola ride down the mountain.

This afternoon we explore more of the Friuli region, transferring to the crystal-clear turquoise waters of Laghi di Fusine. Here, we walk along an easy dirt trail that circumvents the lake, with numerous photo opportunities of the idyllic landscape. Dinner is free to enjoy independently this evening, with time to explore the Alpine resort town of Kranjska Gora.

Accommodation: Skipass Hotel, Kranjska Gora, Slovenia

Meals: B, L



#### DAY 6: Soca Trail

**Activity Overview: Hiking** 

Activity Level: Easy, 331' elevation gain and 750' loss Activity Length: 3.5 hours hiking, 5 miles, 2.5 hours driving

Our excursion today brings us to yet another pristine body of water—the Soca River. We hike along a trail that follows the undulating river and wends in and out of dense forest, where the sound of rushing water adds to our immersive nature experience.

Toward the end of our hike, we stop for lunch at an agriturismo known for their sheep cheese and delicious, traditional Jota stew made with sauerkraut, beans, and potatoes. Each cook has their own take on the recipe, but it is a signature dish of the region.

Our day ends at a village on the border between Slovenia and Italy, in Brda wine region, known for outstanding wine. Before dinner this evening, we have a chance to sample some local wine while overlooking the landscape where it was grown.

Accommodation: Hotel San Martin, Smartno, Slovenia

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 7: Valley di Rosanda to Trieste

**Activity Overview: Hiking** 

Activity Level: Easy, 750' elevation gain and loss

Activity Length: 2 hours, 4 miles

Our last hike together will be in the Valley of Rosanda. The landscape is markedly different here than in other areas we

have traversed. The lower elevation brings considerably more plant diversity and lusher vegetation.

We end the more active portion of our day in the town of Trieste, which was an important hub for coffee import in the country. Nowadays it is home to the famous espresso company, Illy.

We have some time to sit back and celebrate our adventure with an espresso, Aperol Spritz, or gelato on Piazza Unita overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. Our final celebratory dinner tonight will be full of fresh ingredients and authentic Italian flavors.

Accommodation: Hotel Excelsior Savoia, Trieste, Italy

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 8: Departure

The tour ends after breakfast. There will be one group transfer to Trieste Airport.

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

#### **National Park Lodge**

Heiligenblut, Austria

Tel: +43 4824 22440 | info@nationalparklodge.at

Located in the center of town and featuring panoramic views of the Grossglockner and nearby mountains, the National Park Lodge is built in a traditional chalet style typical of the region. Enjoy wood-accented interiors, a restaurant and bar, and a traditional Austrian spa.



#### NIGHT 3

#### **Naturhotel Alpenrose**

Millstatt, Austria

Tel: +43 4766 2500 | info@naturhotel-alpenrose.at

This family-run hotel above Lake Millstättersee is surrounded by lush meadow, gardens, and forest. The property was built and is operated with a nature-oriented philosophy; food is grown nearby by local farmers, there is no Wi-Fi, and the building was constructed using locally-sourced, sustainable materials.



#### **NIGHTS 4 & 5**

#### **Hotel Skipass**

Kranjska Gora, Slovenia

Tel: +386 4 582 10 00 | info@skipasstravel.si

Located at the edge of Triglav National Park in the lovely Alpine town of Kranjska Gora, the Hotel Skipass is an embodiment of warmth and hospitality. With views of the mighty peaks of the Julian Alps from the hotel, it is the ideal starting point for a hiking adventure.



#### **NIGHT 6**

#### **Hotel San Martin**

Smartno, Slovenia

Tel: +386 5 330 56 60 | info@sanmartin.si

A former abandoned school, the San Martin Hotel is the result of hard work by a devoted Slovenian couple in love with the Brda landscape. Completely and thoughtfully renovated, the hotel offers twenty ensuite rooms, a restaurant, a bio-herbal Finnish sauna, a salt room, and a private terrace with views of vineyards and olive groves.



#### NIGHT 7

#### **Hotel Excelsior Savoia**

Trieste, Italy

Tel: +39 040 638260 | reservations.savoiaexcelsior.ts@starhotels.it

The Hotel Excelsior Savoia remains an emblem of the majesty, sophistication and peerless style that distinguished the first grand hotels at the end of the 19th century. Overlooking the sea, this hotel is the perfect way to end our trip.

# WHAT TO EXPECT



#### TRIP RATING

Boundless Journeys' trips are designed for energetic and flexible individuals who like to be active, bring a spirit of adventure, and have a positive attitude. Hiking the Alpe Adria is rated 3, moderate with some strenuous sections, on a scale of 1-5 (with 5 being the most strenuous). The hikes on this trip range from 3-6 hours, not including stops. The terrain is mixed, with both gradual and steep sections encountered on most days. Hikes are on unpaved paths and trails, which are a mix of dirt, rocks, and scree, with minimal vehicle support. Trails may be wet at times, and some sections of trails are exposed, which may be difficult for people with vertigo.

#### PREPARING FOR THIS TRIP

It is very important that you realistically assess your physical condition with regard to the demands of this trip, and consult your doctor regarding any concerns. The more prepared you are for the activities, the more you will enjoy yourself. As a general guideline, we suggest regularly engaging in aerobic activities (such as walking, jogging, or cycling) in the months leading up to 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. Of course, nothing can beat training by hiking! We recommend spending consecutive days on your local trails whenever possible in preparation for your journey. Please contact us if you have any doubts regarding your physical match with this tour.

#### **WEATHER**

In an alpine environment, weather is variable throughout the day and by elevation. A warm, sunny day in the valley can be anywhere from pleasantly cool to downright brisk at higher elevations. Therefore, dressing in layers will be essential to your comfort. Rain is possible at any time, and weather conditions can change rapidly in the mountains, so having rain gear on hand is advisable. The sun is strong at higher elevations, and therefore adequate precautions should be taken to prevent sunburn, even on cool, sunny days. In general, this trip moves from higher to lower elevations, so you can likely expect warmer temperatures toward the end.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE °F (HIGH/LOW)				
	JUNE	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	
Heiligenblut	64° / 44°	67° / 47°	62° / 42°	
Millstatt	73° / 50°	76° / 53°	69° / 47°	
Kranjska Gora	69° / 46°	72° / 49°	66° / 44°	
Trieste	78° / 64°	81° / 67°	75° / 62°	

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

#### 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 6-12 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 (please review Immunizations & Health Concerns for more information). 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**

The Alpine countryside is dotted with small family farms, and food is often organically grown. Cuisine in this region is influenced by the food culture of all three neighboring countries of Austria, Slovenia, and Italy. Of course, notable regional specialities will be highlighted along the way, including wiener schnitzel and strudels in Austria, Slovenian jota stew and traditional struklji, and pasta and gelato in Italy, to name just a few. Lunches will be primarily in mountain huts, and feature soups, stews, and pasta dishes. Our evening meals are usually enjoyed at our hotels, or at some of the best restaurants in the area. Dinners typically include local cheeses and wines, pasta, fish, meat, and salads.

Please inform us of any specific dietary restrictions 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, with the exception of the cable car ride up Lussari Mountain.

## OUR ALPE ADRIA TEAM

#### TRIP MANAGER



#### **Emily Trostel**

Originally from Pennsylvania, Emily spent several years adventuring and teaching in Wyoming, California, and Colorado before driving cross-country to relocate in Vermont. She joined the Boundless Journeys home team in 2017, and her portfolio includes New Zealand, Spain, England, Peru, Vermont, and our Alpe Adria trip. Emily loves any and all water activities—swimming, hot springs, and boats that require paddling. She also enjoys food and wine, literature, and hiking with her wife and their three dogs.

#### **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.



#### Mitja Kamplet

Mitja's interests cover all types of terrain, from mountains and seas to rivers and ski slopes! He loves the wilderness, secret trails, and secluded bays and is happiest when surrounded by amazing landscape and good people.

Mitja has been guiding for several years in addition to working as a civil engineer. He guides in his home country of Slovenia, in neighboring countries on the Balkan peninsula, and in the Austrian and Italian Alps. When off season in Europe, he guides trekking tours in Patagonia and explores the wildernesses of Greenland and Himalayas. While usually in hiking boots or on skies, Mitja is also an avid reader and photographer, and enjoys showing guests viewpoints for great photos while on tour.



#### 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**

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- · special promotions
- · detailed itineraries
- · inspiring photography
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#### 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 connection to and understanding of 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 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.



