

Travel on the "Path of the Gods" trail from Agerola to Positano, just one of several hikes on this itinerary.

# HIKING SOUTHERN ITALY: Archaeology, Volcanoes & Cuisine

May 11-22, 2025 (12 days | 16 guests) with archaeologist Crispin Corrado



#### Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer and Host



Crispin (Cris) Corrado
has spent her entire
career creating, leading,
and teaching academic
programs in Italy and
Greece. A classical
archaeologist specializing
in Roman art, Professor
Corrado has taught
American undergraduate
and graduate students
in Rome, Italy, for

the past 20 years. For several summers, she was also involved with research projects and excavations at Pompeii. Her research interests and publications focus on ancient Greek and Roman wall painting and sculpture, as well as funerary and domestic architecture. She currently teaches at several universities in Rome, including the University of California, John Cabot University, the American University of Rome, the University of Maryland, and the Catholic University of America.

Professor Corrado received a BA in Classical Studies and an MA in Art History at the University of Chicago, and a PhD in Classical Archaeology at Brown University. She has worked in a curatorial capacity in the departments of ancient art at the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago; the RISD Museum: the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; and the Vatican Museums. One of Professor Corrado's greatest joys is accompanying groups in Italy, Sicily, and Greece. In addition to leading university trips, she has guided returning student/ continuing education tours, and she created an international high school summer abroad program in the city of Rome that she directed for 10 years. Professor Corrado is the founder of the Rome Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, and led a 2022 AIA Tour in Italy for which she received excellent reviews.

Cover: Path of the Gods, (bottom from left) Herculaneum, Oplontis, wine



Welcome to an extraordinary springtime journey through the rich ancient history, breathtaking volcanic landscapes, and legendary food and wine culture of southern Italy and Sicily. Travel and hike with archaeologist Cris Corrado and local guides among active and dormant volcanoes, delight in picturesque landscapes and sea views, and explore fascinating archaeological sites. Italy is home to mainland Europe's only active volcanoes—Mount Vesuvius, Stromboli, and Mount Etna—and on this tour you will hike on all three of them.

On this well-paced tour you will rest at distinctive, four-star hotels, spending four nights in Naples, one on a comfortable ferry from Naples to Lipari, three on the Aeolian island of Panarea, and two in the heart of Mount Etna Park, Sicily. An expert tour manager handles all of the logistics, so you can relax, enjoy, and learn. On all but one of the seven hikes, an extra guide will allow us to split into two groups, so that you may choose either a longer or shorter excursion.

#### Highlights include:

- Pompeii, one of the world's most extraordinary archaeological sites, destroyed (but also preserved!) by the catastrophic eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79
- Hiking the trail of Vesuvius National Park to the crater, with amazing views over the whole Gulf of Naples
- A breathtaking hike along the "Path of the Gods," on the Sorrento Peninsula, with views of the Tyrrhenian Sea
- A ferry ride to the fabled island of Capri to hike along fragrant trails to Roman Emperor Tiberius' Villa Jovis
- A visit to the Naples Archaeological Museum, which houses one of the world's finest collections of Greco-Roman art and artifacts
- A private boat ride to Stromboli, the most active volcano in Europe, erupting at intervals of approximately 15 minutes
- A hike up Mt. Etna, Europe's largest active volcano, with panoramic views of Sicily's eastern coast
- Wine tastings at vineyards on Mt. Vesuvius, Salina, and Mt. Etna



View of Mt. Vesuvius from Pompeii

#### **ITINERARY**

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

#### Sunday, May 11, 2025: Depart home for Naples, Italy Monday, May 12: Arrive in Naples | Transfer to hotel | Welcome dinner

Upon arrival at Naples-Capodichino International Airport (NAP), you will be met and transferred to our hotel. Take some time to relax before gathering for an introductory lecture and welcome reception at the hotel followed by a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight at the 4-star Grand Hotel Santa Lucia for four nights.* (R,D)

**Tuesday, May 13: Pompeii | Mt. Vesuvius winery visit | Hiking Mt. Vesuvius | Naples** 3-hour, 3-mile hike (600 feet up and down) OR 4-hour, 5-mile hike (1,120 feet up and down)

Explore Pompeii, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one the world's most fascinating archaeological sites that was both destroyed and preserved by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79. The eruption buried the city under tons of ash, pumice, and lapilli, but excavations have revealed life in a prosperous ancient Roman city. Proceed to a winery at the base of Mt. Vesuvius for a wine tasting lunch, where each course (antipasto and spaghetti, both featuring heirloom Piennolo tomatoes; and *pastiera napoletana*, a traditional tart with sweetened ricotta, candied fruit, and boiled wheat berries) is paired with a specific local wine. In the afternoon, hike the trail of Vesuvius National Park to the crater from where you can enjoy the majesty of the volcano and views over the whole Gulf of Naples. Return to our hotel in Naples, where dinner is on your own. (B,L)

## Wednesday, May 14: Oplontis | Amalfi | Hiking the "Path of the Gods" from Agerola to Positano | Naples

3-hour, 3-mile hike (165 feet up and 860 down) OR 4-hour, 5-mile hike (165 feet up and 1,210 down) 👞

Begin the day with a visit to Villa Poppea (Oplontis), an ancient villa with superb wall paintings that was probably owned by Emperor Nero. Continue to Amalfi, once one of Italy's four great maritime republics, and visit its stunning 13th-century Cathedral and Cloister. After lunch at leisure, a short drive takes us to Agerola from where we hike the breathtaking "Path of the Gods." The panoramic trail is punctuated by insights into local life, passing shepherds' huts and ancient stone houses carved into the limestone, before descending to colorful Positano. Return to Naples and then gather this evening for dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)





Oplontis







Lipari, one of the seven Aeolian Islands off the coast of Sicily.

"Archaeologist Crispin Corrado made everything even better. She was knowledgeable, generous, savvy, and good company." - David, Michigan

#### The AIA & the AIA Tours Program

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.

#### Thursday, May 15: Hiking on Capri | Villa Jovis | Naples

4-hour, 4-mile hike (1,250 feet up and down) OR 5-hour, 5-mile hike (1,470 feet up and down)

In the morning take a ferry to the fabled island of Capri, the favorite place of Roman Emperor Tiberius. Enjoy a hike on its iconic trails, including a visit to Villa Jovis, the largest and most opulent of Tiberius' twelve villas on the island. Enjoy a picnic lunch and walk through Mediterranean vegetation, with the scents of holm oak, myrtle, and broom permeating the air, plus amazing views over the Faraglioni (three towering rock formations just off the coast) and the mainland. Hike back to the Old Town and enjoy some time at leisure to explore its famous "Piazzetta." Return to Naples by ferry and then gather for dinner at a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

Friday, May 16: Herculaneum | Naples Archaeological Museum | Overnight ferry to Lipari Explore Herculaneum which, like Pompeii, was both destroyed and preserved by the catastrophic eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. Excavations have revealed the customs, habits, and art of an ancient holiday resort for wealthy Romans. Among the most important buildings are the theater, the basilica adorned with marble and paintings, the spa with gym, and the House of Argos. Return to Naples, where we enjoy a lunch of the city's acclaimed pizza followed by a visit to the Naples Archaeological Museum, which houses one of the world's finest collections of Greco-Roman art and artifacts. The Farnese Collection includes celebrated bronze and marble statues, as well as ancient paintings and important artifacts from Herculaneum and Pompeii. This evening, embark the overnight ferry to Lipari. Dinner is on your own in the ferry cafeteria. Overnight aboard a Siremar Ferry. (B,L)

#### Saturday, May 17: Lipari: Archaeological Museum | Hiking Vulcano | Panarea

2-hour, 3-mile hike (1,650 feet up and down) 👞

Disembark the ferry at Lipari and enjoy breakfast at a local café. Lipari is the largest island of the Aeolian archipelago, comprising seven islands off the coast of Sicily: Lipari, Panarea, Vulcano, Stromboli, Salina, Alicudi, and Filicudi. They were all created by the still-active volcanoes of Stromboli and Vulcano, and today they are a UNESCO World Heritage (natural) Site. We visit the Archaeological Museum, tucked inside Lipari Castle, which stands out on the island's eastern bay. After lunch at leisure, we take a private boat to Vulcano that, according to Greek mythology, was the home of Hephaestus/Vulcan, the god of fire, metalwork, and the fine arts. Hike to the top, from where it is possible to observe numerous volcanic phenomena, including smoke clouds, vapor spouts, and sulphuric mud holes known for their therapeutic properties. Continue to Panarea, the only car-free island of the archipelago, and have dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at the 4-star Hotel Lisca Bianca for three nights. (B,D)

#### Sunday, May 18: Hiking Stromboli | Panarea

4-hour, 5-mile hike (1,310 up and down) OR 6-hour, 9-mile hike (2,950 feet up and down) 🧆

Take a private boat to nearby Stromboli, the most active volcano in Europe, which has been erupting for at least 2,000 years at intervals of approximately 15 minutes, with lava flow that runs down into the sea. Enjoy a full-day excursion here, including a picnic lunch. On our way



A view from Vulcano, one of the seven Aeolian Islands.

back to Panarea, stop at one of the smallest rock formations to see underwater vapor spouts and swim in hot waters, weather permitting. Gather for dinner at a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

#### Monday, May 19: AM at leisure | Salina | Hike to Hauner Winery | Panarea

3-hour, 3-mile hike (900 feet up and down) OR 4-hour, 6-mile hike (2,170 up and 3,150 feet down)

The morning is at leisure to relax at the hotel pool, explore the village on your own, go to the beach, or independently hike the beautiful island. After an independent lunch, we take the ferry to the island of Salina, home to a beautiful, wooded area of ferns (*la Fossa delle Felci*) located on jagged cliffs above the island's gorgeous beaches. Stop to taste the renowned *granita*, a local crushed-ice treat with all-natural flavors such as peach, mulberry, almond, and pistachio. Then we set out on a hike ending at Hauner Winery for a tasting of its very special Malvasia delle Lipari wine. Return to Panarea by private boat and enjoy an evening at leisure. (B)

#### Tuesday, May 20: Milazzo, Sicily | Taormina | Mount Etna

Leaving Panarea behind, we take a ferry to Milazzo, on Sicily, considered one of the most beautiful villages of Italy, and then drive to Taormina. After an independent lunch, we take a walking tour through the upper town, perched on a cliff overlooking the Ionian Sea. Labeled by Goethe "a corner of paradise," Taormina has drawn visitors since its days as an essential stop on the Grand Tour. Visit the celebrated ancient Greek theater, with its spectacular view of volcanic Mt. Etna and the turquoise sea far below. Continue on to our resort in the heart of Mount Etna Park and gather for dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star Cavanera Etnea Resort for two nights.* (B,D)

#### Wednesday, May 21: Hiking Mt. Etna | Wine tasting | Farewell dinner

2.5-hour, 3-mile hike (850 up and down) OR 4-hour, 6-mile hike (2,625 feet up and down)

Europe's largest active volcano, Mt. Etna, is a UNESCO World Heritage (natural) Site that dominates eastern Sicily. Rifugio Sapienza (at 6,000 feet) is the starting point of our walk today. Cinder cones and extinct craters are features of the desolate landscape. From high on the mountain, there is a wonderful panorama of Sicily's eastern coast. Depending on the weather and volcanic conditions, take 4x4 Jeeps to 9,500 feet and then continue on foot to 11,000 feet, escorted by an alpine guide. At the end of the excursion, reach an extraordinary winery on the slopes of this legendary volcano and behold a fascinating lava landscape forged by countless eruptions. Enjoy a wine tasting lunch, before driving back to our resort for some time at leisure. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

#### Thursday, May 22: Fly home

Take a private transfer to Catania-Fontanarossa Airport (CTA) for flights homeward. (B)

"The local guides' info coupled with Cris's additional contextual information really enriched the experience!"

- Troy, Ohio



Stromboli has been in almost continuous eruption for the past 2,000 years.



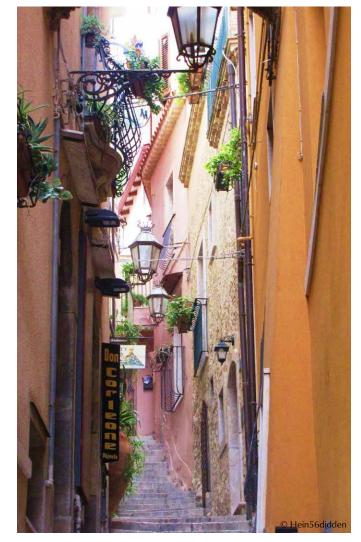
Taormina's ancient Greek theater with Mt. Etna, which we will hike, in the background.

#### What to Expect



STRENUOUS: Must be physically fit and prepared for multiple hours of activity per day.

This tour combines a good introduction to hiking in Italy, including trails on volcanoes, with visits to cultural and archaeological sites, and is geared toward people with an elevated level of fitness and good health. In addition to Professor Corrado, two local guides will be available so that we may offer both a shorter and a longer hiking option on most hiking days. Hiking distances, including the elevations in both directions, plus their estimated durations, are provided in the itinerary. The actual itinerary is subject to variables such as the abilities and interests of the group and weather conditions. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/ Operator, local staff, and host country laws. Any participant showing signs of illness will be asked to wear a mask when in close proximity to others. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot participate in a hike or visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you. Lunches will be packed and eaten (mostly outside) at appropriate points during excursions/hikes. Hotels have been chosen for their excellent locations and generous comfort. In May, average temperatures in Naples, the Aeolian archipelago, and Taormina range from 57° to 75° F. Trekking poles and layered clothing are recommended; complete pre-departure details and packing suggestions will be sent to participants.



A charming side street in Taormina.



Left to right: Taormina shops, Salina, Panarea, local cuisine

#### Tour Prices Per Person (10 Nights)

Double Occupancy (13 to 16 participants)	\$7,995
Double Occupancy (11 to 12 participants)	\$8,395
Single Supplement	\$1,295

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability). With fewer than 11 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.

#### **Prices Include:**

- Leadership of AIA lecturer/host Crispin Corrado and services of professional local guides and a tour manager
- Private and/or group arrival and departure airport transfers
- Nine nights' accommodations in 4-star hotels, as per the itinerary
- All boat and ferry tickets as indicated in the itinerary and one night aboard an **overnight ferry**
- Breakfast daily, five lunches, and seven dinners. All meals include a soft drink, bottled water, and coffee/tea; dinners also include wine. Welcome reception and dinner and farewell dinner include cocktails, beer and/or wine
- All excursions and entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Surface transportation by **air-conditioned motorcoach** and hikes with filtered water and appropriate snacks provided
- **All gratuities** to tour manager, guides, driver(s), hotel and restaurant staff, and porters
- Baggage handling at hotels (one bag per person)
- Comprehensive pre-departure information, including a suggested reading/media guide, travel guide, and packing list

#### Flights & Transfers

Airfare from/to home is not included. Private and/or group transfers are provided upon arrival on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Naples-Capodichino International Airport (NAP) and to Catania-Fontanarossa Airport (CTA) for departure on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, based on flight itineraries. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to the tour. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking non-refundable airline tickets before this time, please contact our office first. We do not accept any liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

Prices Do Not Include: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; personal tips; items of a personal nature, such as laundry, medical expenses, taxi, telephone, and fax charges; meals and alcoholic or other beverages (except as noted); deviations from scheduled tour; other items not listed as included.

Payments: A deposit of \$2,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "Eos AIA-SItalyHiking5/25." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

Participant Cancellation Fees: All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 180 days prior to departure (November 12, 2024) are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received from 179 through 121 days (January 10, 2025) prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$500 per person. Cancellations received from 120 through 91 days prior to departure will forfeit full amount of deposit, \$2,000 per person. Cancellations received from 90 through 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

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

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

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions are available upon confirmation or request, and can be viewed online at <a href="https://www.aiatours.org">www.aiatours.org</a>.

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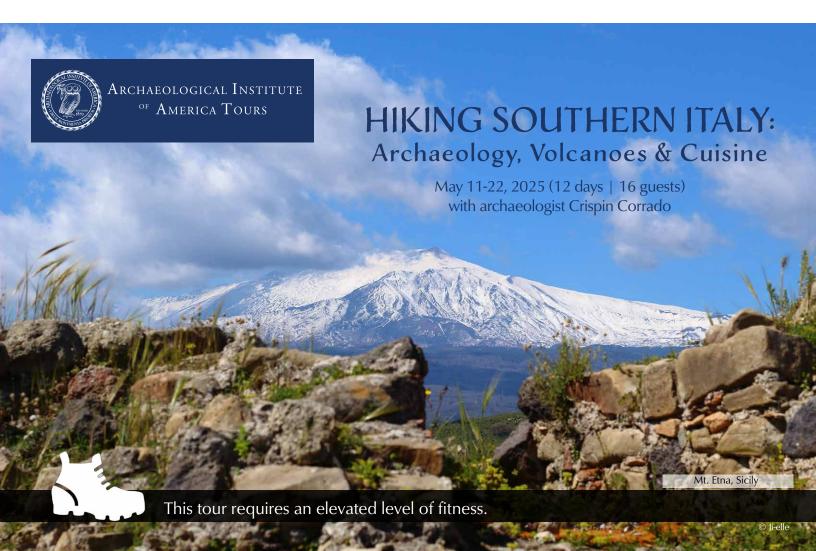


Naples Archaeological Museum

"All the tour arrangements were remarkably good, from the preparatory mailings to the excellent bus drivers to the knowledge and good humor of the tour staff. I can't think of anything that went wrong the entire [trip]." - Linn, Ohio

## HIKING SOUTHERN ITALY: Archaeology, Volcanoes & Cuisine

May 11-22, 2025 (12 days | 16 guests) with archaeologist Crispin Corrado



To fill out an online reservation form, <u>click here</u>. Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.

#### - RESERVATION FORM -



### Hiking Southern Italy:

Archaeology, Volcanoes & Cuisine May 11-22, 2025 (12 days | 16 guests) with archaeologist Crispin Corrado

To hold your reservation for seven days wh	nile this form and your deposit are in the mail,	please contact us at 800-748-6262 or aia@studytours.org.
Name 1		
(as it appears on passport)		
Name 2 (as it appears on passport)		
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Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone (home)	Phone (cell)	
Email(s)		
☐ I/We have read the 'What to Expect' s	section and am/are physically able to pa	articipate fully on the program.
Are you traveling with any other parties	on this program? Yes,	
How did you hear about this tour? 🗖 eN	ewsletter □ mailing □ website □ frier	nds/family 🗖 other
	ACCOMMODATIONS	
	(Accommodation preferences are not guara	anteed.)
□ Double (one bed) □ Twin (two beds)	<u>o</u>	
☐ I will be sharing with:	•	ease assign a roommate (not guaranteed).
	☐ Please sh	are my contact information with potential roommate(s).
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	son is required to confirm a reservation. Fina cards are not accepted for final payment. All	al payment is due 90 days prior to departure. I prices and payments are in US dollars.
	DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK	K ONE):
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Name on Card		
Please complete this reservation	n form, choose/enclose your method of Submit via email, mail, or fax	deposit, and sign the release statement below. to:
AIA	Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole,	NH 03608-0938
	ax: 603-756-2922 • Email: aia@st	
		to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.
Signature (participant #1)		Date
Signature (participant #2)		Date

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reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. PRICES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE **RESOLUTION**: Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to binding arbitration in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. <u>U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS</u> FOR DISEASE CONTROL: Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <a href="https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/">https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/</a> notices\_and\_https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/ alertswarnings.html. ASSUMPTION OF RISK: Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/ Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. MISCELLANEOUS: Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. APPEARING IN PHOTOS: Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.