

# UNBOUND

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE ALUMNI TRAVEL



“We wander for distraction, but we travel for fulfillment”

HILAIRE BELLOC

ALUMNI ADVENTURES AWAIT.  
DISCOVER THE WORLD.

You're driven by a passion for travel and a lifelong love of learning. You want to explore the world – and in doing so, discover more about yourself. And with your connection to Cambridge, you're already part of a global community that shares your curiosity.

THE ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAMME invites you to embark on unforgettable journeys alongside fellow alumni and expert guides. Together, you'll explore some of the world's most extraordinary destinations.

From the rugged beauty of Shetland and Orkney to the ancient wonders of Aquileia's UNESCO-listed archaeological sites, to the lush landscapes of Sri Lanka, the 'Enchanted Isle', there's an adventure waiting for you.

But this is more than just travel. It's a gateway to new perspectives, deeper understanding, and lifelong memories. All you need is your imagination.

WHERE WILL YOUR NEXT CHAPTER BEGIN?

**ACTIVITY RATING KEY:**

**H** = High   **M** = Medium   **L** = Low



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## Trip Scholars & Tour Leaders

Dr Rowena E Archer  
Emeritus Fellow of Brasenose College,  
University of Oxford

[Medieval Alsace-Lorraine](#)

Miranda Bruce-Mitford  
Course Convenor for Southeast Asia  
SOAS, University of London

[Empires of Indochina](#)

Tom Bryce-Gardyne  
Whisky and wine writer

[Food & wine of Piedmont – by bike](#)

Professor Robin Conningham  
(King's 1985)  
Chair of Early Medieval Archaeology,  
Department of Archaeology,  
Durham University

[Sacred Ceylon](#)

Margaret Cooper  
Green Badge Guide

[Shetland and Orkney](#)

Dr Desmond Cheung  
(St Catharine's 1995)  
Lecturer, Chinese Studies (Education),  
School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics,  
SOAS, University of London

[Exploring China: Land of the Dragon](#)

Chiara de Nicolais  
Co-convenor of the Arts of Islamic World,  
SOAS, University of London

[Along the Golden Road to Samarkand](#)

Lucia Ferrara  
Amalfi Coast Guide  
[Pathways of the Gods](#)

Zara Fleming  
Specialist in the Art and Culture  
of Buddhist Himalayas

[Exploring Bhutan](#)

Dr Simon Kaner  
(Selwyn 1981)  
Director, Centre for Japanese Studies,  
University of East Anglia

[Across the Bridge of Dreams](#)

Dr Alex Koller  
(Magdalene 1993)  
Specialist in art and architecture  
in Eastern Europe

[Exploring Romania](#)

[Ancient Routes of the Caucasus](#)

Stuart Laing  
(Corpus Christi 1970)  
Honorary Fellow, Corpus Christi College,  
University of Cambridge

[Forts & Frankincense](#)

Dr Chet Pager  
Tour Manager, Captain's Choice

[Guernsey, Sark and Jersey](#)

Ed Paine  
Founder, Last Frontiers

[Walking in Patagonia](#)

Professor Charles Ramble  
University Research Lecturer  
Oriental Institute, University of Oxford

[The Hidden Corners of Tibet](#)

Nirvana Romell  
International lecturer in  
West European Art and Culture

[From Aquileia to Ravenna](#)

Professor Mark J Smith  
Emeritus Professor of Egyptology,  
University of Oxford

[Egypt Beyond the Pyramids](#)

# Armchair Travel Series

EXPLORE THE WORLD FROM WHEREVER YOU ARE

THE ARMCHAIR TRAVEL SERIES invites you to journey across the globe with the Alumni Travel Programme's expert scholars, without ever leaving your home. These captivating talks transport you to remarkable destinations, offering rich insights into their history, culture, and landscapes.

Whether you're previewing a future adventure or simply indulging your curiosity, each session offers a window into the unforgettable experiences that await on our alumni tours.

RECENT TALKS INCLUDE:

- 🎧 *Korea: Crossroads of East Asia – for better or worse*
- 🎧 *The many secret so Malta*
- 🎧 *Turin – royal capital of elegance and industry*

All talks can be found  
[here](#) on the University  
of Cambridge website





MARKET ON THE RIVER MEKONG DELTA, SOUTH VIETNAM

Last Remaining Places



## Empires of Indochina

### Cambodia and Vietnam

16 JANUARY TO 2 FEBRUARY 2026  
£4,670\*

Miranda Bruce-Mitford

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The elegance and beauty of Hanoi's colonial architecture
- ◆ Explore the old imperial city of Hue, beautifully situated on the banks of the Perfume River
- ◆ Spend three days at Angkor the spiritual and political centre of the Khmer Empire



VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA are countries of captivating beauty and highly refined cultures whose people have, over the last thirty years, transformed their war-torn countries into one of the most dynamic regions in Asia. But the history and culture of Indochina goes back much further; at its height towards the end of the first Millennium the Khmer and Cham civilizations produced some of the world's most beautiful art and architecture. Learn more of the region's ancient heritage, colonial influences, and resilient cultures, offering a profound insight into the rich and diverse fabric of Southeast Asian life. Journey can be extended to include a visit to Laos.

\* Price includes domestic flights but not international flights.  
Single supplement £ 1,160

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Miranda Bruce-Mitford**  
Course Convenor for  
Southeast Asia

Miranda Bruce-Mitford is a tutor and lecturer at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London. She specialises in social anthropology, Buddhist Art and Architecture of South and Southeast Asia, and Oriental religious studies. She has travelled extensively in South-east Asia and has escorted numerous journeys to the region.

Splendid organisation. Distant Horizons got it all just about right – flexibility in the use of time, wonderful local cuisine, comfortable hotels, minimum hassle with luggage TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS

TRAVELLING TO INDOCHINA WAS A TOTALLY AMAZING EXPERIENCE WITH SO MUCH TO SEE AND ABSORB. A TRULY UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE

TRAVELLER TO INDOCHINA

CLICK HERE to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary



BAYON TEMPLE, ANGKOR, CAMBODIA



HO CHI MINH CITY (SAIGON) VIETNAM



HOA KIEM LAKE, HANOI, VIETNAM



© VISIT JERSEY

GOREY CASTLE



## Guernsey, Sark and Jersey

A Heritage Tour in the Channel Islands

24 APRIL TO 2 MAY 2026  
£2,440\*

Dr Chet Pager

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Guernsey Island tour including the German Occupation Museum, Sausmarez Manor, and the island's bays and beaches
- ◆ Day trip to the nearby island of Sark including a carriage tour of the island
- ◆ Jersey Island Panoramic Tour including Noirmont Point headland, historical and archaeological sites, bays and fishing harbours



EXPLORE THE UNIQUE history and landscapes of Guernsey, Sark, and Jersey with guided visits and insights from local experts. These self-governing islands blend English and French influences, with rich histories spanning 250,000 years, including poignant WWII remnants like bunkers and war tunnels.

Late April offers sunny days and vibrant wildflowers across cliffs and woodlands. Enjoy stunning scenery, charming towns, and excellent local cuisine. The tour includes stays in two boutique hotels, with time to relax and explore at leisure.

\* Price excludes international flights.  
Single supplement £698

[jonbainestours.com](http://jonbainestours.com)

### Tour leader profile



Dr Chet Pager  
Tour Manager

Dr Chet Pager, originally from Honolulu, is a dual-qualified medical doctor in the UK and Australia. He studied at Harvard, Stanford, Cape Town, and Yale, and has worked in education, policy, and Indigenous health. Since completing his PhD in 2015, he's been based in London. Chet has volunteered in medical settings across Africa and Asia and travelled to over 140 countries. He's led 50+ tours and expeditions, including with Captain's Choice, Golden Eagle Luxury Trains, and UK Charity Challenge. In 2023, he helped lead The Perse School's ascent of a 6,200m Bolivian peak as a medical technical advisor.

Chet was truly excellent. Knowledgeable, polite, patient, helpful, punctual  
ANGUS GORDON, MEDICINE IN CUBA, FEBRUARY 2025



VIEW OVER MOULIN HUET FROM THE HEADLAND, GUERNSEY



© VISIT JERSEY

NORTHWEST COAST OF JERSEY

The local guides were very well informed and clear to hear all the important information and points of special interest  
JOHN GARD AND MARIE-LOUISE WARDLE, GUERNSEY AND JERSEY, MAY 2023



© VISIT JERSEY

RHS - ST. AUBIN

CLICK HERE to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





BRAN CASTLE, TRANSYLVANIA



## Exploring Romania

Wooden Villages, Painted Churches and Saxon Citadels

29 APRIL TO 8 MAY 2026

£2,760\*

**Dr Alex Koller**  
(Magdalene 1993)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Stay in some wonderfully located hotels delightfully converted from medieval houses
- ◆ Visit Sighisoara the only inhabited citadel remaining in Romania
- ◆ Meet a number of local experts to experience a broad view of Romania's history and its future
- ◆ Experience how Romania's layered history has shaped its vibrant traditions, architecture, and cuisine



DR KOLLER WILL explore the rich cultural heritage of Romania's three historic principalities: Transylvania, Moldavia, and Wallachia. Romania's identity has been shaped by ancient Greeks, Romans, Slavs, Bulgarians, Hungarians, Byzantium, German settlers, Ottoman Turks, and the Habsburgs—all blending with the indigenous Geto-Dacians. This fusion has created one of Europe's most diverse cultures, reflected in its art, architecture, traditions, music, costume, viticulture, and cuisine—all featured in the itinerary. Romania also boasts spectacular landscapes, dense forests, rustic farms, and traditional villages.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £350

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Dr Alex Koller**  
Specialist in art and architecture in Eastern Europe

Dr Koller whose family comes from Romania has researched the art and architecture of the Orthodox and other Oriental churches in several countries in Eastern Europe. He has accompanied three very successful visits to Romania for the alumni.

It was excellent having two guides, one Romanian, one the Trip Scholar, both so efficient and interesting and they created a very successful atmosphere. Absolutely 11 out of 10 for both. Stunning countryside, good food, interesting company, fascinating churches. Loved it

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



VORONET MONASTERY, BUKOVINA

Dr Koller and the local guide were exemplary guides and the perfect combination of country knowledge and cultural/historical expertise. Dr Koller was erudite and entertaining and very generous with his knowledge

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



SUCEVITA MONASTERY, MOLDAVIA



BRASOV, TRANSYLVANIA

[CLICK HERE to view the full itinerary](#)





BASILICA SAN VITALE, RAVENNA



## From Aquileia to Ravenna

### Three Lagoons, Politics and Mosaics

3 TO 14 MAY 2026  
£3,360\*

Nirvana Romell

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Marvel at UNESCO-listed archaeological sites, the patriarchal basilica, and mosaics of Aquileia, once second only to Rome in wealth and influence
- ◆ Travel by private boat to Torcello, a quiet island in the Venetian Lagoon, to visit Sta Maria Assunta Cathedral and explore the lagoon's early Christian and Venetian history
- ◆ Explore Ferrara's UNESCO-listed historic centre, a harmonious blend of medieval and Renaissance architecture, tranquil streets, and elegant palaces within ancient city walls



THE LAGOONS OF the northern Adriatic hold centuries of stories, of conquest, empire, and cultural fusion. From the mosaics of Aquileia, once a major Roman city, to the Byzantine and Frankish legacies in its basilica, the region's layered history is vividly preserved.

In Ravenna, explore dazzling mosaics reflecting early Christian dogma and the union of Church and state. Stroll through Ferrara, shaped by the rational Renaissance of the D'Este dukes, and cruise the Po Delta, rich in birdlife and fishing traditions. The journey traces the rise of Christianity and the shifting powers of Rome, Byzantium, the Franks, and Venetians—brought to life through expert guides, local cuisine, and regional delicacies.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £570

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Nirvana Romell**  
International lecturer  
in West European  
Art and Culture

Nirvana Romell is a born and bred Dalmatian. After graduating from the University of Zagreb with a degree in History of Art she moved to England in 2003. Since then, she has been working as a freelance lecturer/curator across the globe on the history of Western art, including Balkan art. She has accompanied several very successful journeys to the region with alumni.

So, to sum up, an excellent itinerary, well set up by Distant Horizons, with a leader who was exceptional. Nirvana not only shared a great deal of knowledge but also organised so much to make the trip relaxing and difficulty-free for us all

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH NIRVANA ROMMELL  
& DISTANT HORIZONS

[CLICK HERE to view the full itinerary](#)



ESTE CASTLE, FERRARA



BURANO ISLAND, VENICE



AQUILEIA



DREAMSTIME\_52535800

SIGIRIYA ROCK FORTRESS



## Sacred Ceylon

Sri Lanka's ancient capitals, pilgrimage sites & colonial legacy

4 TO 15 JULY 2026

£3,150\*

**Professor Robin Coningham**  
(King's 1985)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Uncover the secrets of the ancient capital of Anuradhapura with the archaeologist who co-directed its most significant excavation
- ◆ Experience one of the world's most beautiful rail journeys through Sri Lanka's highlands, with sweeping views of valleys, waterfalls, and terraced hills
- ◆ Sample outstanding Sri Lankan cuisine and stay in historic, stylish and boutique hotels throughout



SRI LANKA, ONCE known as Ceylon, is an island of contrasts and deep spirituality. This tour traces the evolution of its civilisation and Buddhism through its most significant sites. Begin at Anuradhapura, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's oldest inhabited cities. Continue to Sigiriya's dramatic rock fortress, Dambulla's cave temples, and Polonnaruwa's reclining Buddha and ancient irrigation systems.

In Kandy, visit the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, Sri Lanka's most revered Buddhist site. Travel by scenic train to Ella, a colonial hill station surrounded by tea estates and endemic wildlife. Conclude in Galle, a coastal city with a 17th-century Dutch fort, cobbled streets, and palm-fringed beaches.

\* Price excludes international flights.  
Single supplement £850

[templeworld.com](http://templeworld.com)

### Trip scholar profile



**Professor Robin Coningham**  
Chair of Early Medieval Archaeology

Professor Coningham studied archaeology and anthropology at King's College, Cambridge and has spent over 25 years conducting archaeological research across South Asia, including co-directing a major excavation at Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka. He holds the Chair of Early Medieval Archaeology at Durham University and in 2014 was appointed the inaugural holder of UNESCO's Chair on Archaeological Ethics and Practice in Cultural Heritage.

The sites and other opportunities were so varied and interesting, so that we always had plenty to look forward to sites ancient and less ancient, traditions and ceremonies, waterfalls, safari, tea plantation, forts the list is never ending.

ARTHUR WALFORD, PREVIOUS SRI LANKA TOUR PARTICIPANT



ISTOCK/TUNATURA

GALLE FORT AND SEA



DREAMSTIME\_5336

ASIAN ELEPHANTS AT UDAWALAWE NATIONAL PARK



DREAMSTIME\_45371013

PLANTATION PICKERS

It was in a word excellent. The itinerary which I believe was put together with the assistance of Robin Coningham was both interesting and suitably varied. The archaeology came alive with Professor Coningham's huge knowledge shared with us with his demonstrable great enthusiasm for his subject

DR J GIBSON, PREVIOUS SRI LANKA TOUR PARTICIPANT

[CLICK HERE to view the full itinerary](#)





COLIN KELDIE

THE CHURCHILL BARRIERS, ORKNEY



# Shetland and Orkney

## The Northern Isles

**30 AUGUST TO 7 SEPTEMBER 2026**  
**£2,470\***

**Margaret Cooper**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ In Shetland visit Jarlshof, one of Europe’s most important archaeological sites, with a history encompassing the Bronze and Iron ages, Pict settlements, the Vikings and the medieval period
- ◆ Visit Skara Brae, Skaill House, the Ring of Brodgar and Maeshowe. Orkney’s human history stretches back 6,000 years to its Neolithic origins, which are evident in a breathtaking landscape of ceremonial stone circles, tombs, prehistoric villages and many other ancient monuments
- ◆ Take a tour of the Highland Park Distillery in Orkney, the world’s most northern whisky distillery



JOURNEY TO THE northernmost reaches of the UK, where the magnificent islands of Shetland and Orkney reveal landscapes shaped by millennia and histories rich with Neolithic sites, Bronze and Iron Age settlements, Pictish stones, Viking legacies, and modern-day culture. Though neighbours, each island retains its own distinct character, explored at a relaxed pace with expert local guides.

Uncover layers of archaeology, geology, and folklore while enjoying encounters with puffins, seals, and Shetland ponies. The itinerary coincides with the Orkney Science Festival, offering a vibrant mix of talks, art, film, music, and guided walks—adding a contemporary dimension to this immersive northern adventure.

*\* Price excludes international flights.  
 Single supplement £396*

[jonbainestours.com](http://jonbainestours.com)

### Tour leader profile



**Margaret Cooper**  
 Green Badge Guide

Margaret Cooper has lived in Shetland for 33 years, developing a deep connection to the Isles. A qualified Green Badge Guide, she’s completed three guiding seasons and works with Shorex companies and the Mousa Boat. Her local expertise is valued by visiting Blue Badge Guides. Passionate about Shetland’s heritage, she earned distinction in the “History of Shetland in 100 Sites” course. Originally trained as a nurse in Glasgow, she later held senior roles across Shetland’s hospitals. Her work on nearly every inhabited island gave her rare insight into island life, featured in the BBC series *Island Medics*.



VISIT SCOTLAND

EARL'S PALACE, ORKNEY

**MARGARET IN THE SHETLAND WAS HELPFUL WITH LOTS OF INFORMATION ABOUT SHETLAND AND LOTS OF INTERESTING ANECDOTES!**

**STEPHEN SMITH, SHETLAND AND ORKNEY THE NORTHERN ISLES, SEPTEMBER 2024**



GAADA STACK, SHETLAND



SKARA BRAE, ORKNEY

[CLICK HERE to view the full itinerary](#)





SHUTTERSTOCK 719556634 / CHAI

THE GREAT WALL AT PANLONGSHAN



# Exploring China: Land of the Dragon

Past, Present and Future

3 TO 20 SEPTEMBER 2026

£5,460\*

**Dr Desmond Cheung**  
(St Catharine's 1995)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Enjoy a breathtaking five-hour walk to view a stunning, unrestored section of the Great Wall spiralling through jagged mountain peaks
- ◆ Step back 600 years in Anhui villages, where beautifully carved courtyard houses and narrow alleyways reflect Confucian principles of harmony between man and nature
- ◆ Visit Hangzhou's famed Longjing tea plantations, where neat rows of "green queen" bushes cling to mountain slopes and bamboo forests. Longjing tea has grown here for over 1,200 years



EXPLORE CHINA'S DRAMATIC transformation alongside its ancient roots. In Beijing, historic landmarks like the Forbidden City contrast with futuristic architecture, while the Great Wall winds through mountain peaks. Travel by bullet train to Pingyao, a preserved financial hub with traditional courtyards and city walls. In Xi'an, discover the birthplace of unified China and the Silk Route's starting point.

Head south to Yellow Mountain, famed for misty peaks and poetic landscapes. Journey through rice paddies and tea plantations to Hui villages with elegant architecture. Visit Hangzhou's West Lake, admired since the Southern Song dynasty. Conclude in Shanghai, where historic lane houses meet dazzling modernity in a city transformed into a global powerhouse.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £1,230

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

## Trip scholar profile



**Dr Desmond Cheung**  
Lecturer in Chinese Studies

Dr Desmond Cheung is a historian of Imperial China at SOAS, University of London. His current work focuses on the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). He is currently completing a book on the creation and meanings of the famous sites of Hangzhou during the Ming.

A brilliant trip, unlike anything I have ever done before. Faultlessly organised and perfectly executed. Very congenial company

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



WEST LAKE, HANGZHOU

AN ABSOLUTELY FASCINATING TRIP; EVERYTHING WENT VERY SMOOTHLY. THE FOOD IN CHINA WAS VERY GOOD AND VARIED

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



SHANGHAI



GUILIN

[CLICK HERE to view the full itinerary](#)





CYCLIST ON VINEYARD TRACK



## Food & Wine of Piedmont – By Bike

An easy-going cycling tour

12 TO 19 SEPTEMBER 2026

£3,850\*

Tom Bryce-Gardyne

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Delight in the lovely scenery seen from Piedmont’s quiet backroads, from wooded valleys and undulating vineyards to quaint hilltop villages
- ◆ Enjoy accommodation in carefully chosen boutique hotels, private villas and charming agriturismo
- ◆ Experience tastings at top wineries such as Ruggeri Corsisni, Marchesi de Gresy and the Pelassa, and wonderful Piedmontese meals with locally sourced produce



CAMBRIDGE ALUMNI TOUR Programme’s first cycling tour explores the scenic landscapes, food, and wines of Piedmont, Italy, part of the UNESCO-listed Langhe-Roero and Monferrato regions. Led by author and wine journalist Tom Bruce-Gardyne, the week combines relaxed cycling with tastings of Barolo, Barbaresco, and lesser-known wines, plus home-cooked regional cuisine.

Cycle through wooded valleys and family-owned vineyards, staying in scenic agriturismo and private villas. Daily rides cover 30–40 miles, with rest days for wine tastings and relaxation. Bikes or e-bikes can be rented or brought from the UK. A support van carries luggage and offers a lift when needed. Alongside Tom, a specialist cycle guide joins the group throughout.

\* Price excludes international flights and bike hire. Single supplement £950

[templeworld.com](http://templeworld.com)

### Tour leader profile



**Tom Bryce-Gardyne**  
Whisky and wine writer

Tom Bruce-Gardyne has been a drinks writer for almost 20 years and has twice won the Louis Roederer “Drinks Writer of the Year” Award. He has written for the FT, Sunday Times, Decanter and Unfiltered on both whisky and wine (especially Italian), and was the Glasgow Herald’s drinks columnist for seven years. As a sideline, he runs wine and whisky cycling tours in Scotland, Ireland and Italy.

**[!] SPECIAL NOTE** You must be able to cycle 30-40 miles every other day



VIEWS OF LA MORRA AND VINEYARD

My wife and I were extremely fortunate to join a *Saddle Grape and Grain Tour* to Piedmont in 2024. From the very beginning it was clear that we were in good hands.

Throughout we were brilliantly looked after by Aiden and Tom with bike maintenance and provision of snacks, energy drinks and al fresco lunches making the taxing hill climbs so much easier to cope with. I can only heartily recommend this wonderful tour arranged by the team at *Saddle Grape and Grain*

DR NICK CARROLL PRESIDENT & FELLOW, MAGDALENE COLLEGE



ITALIAN GRAPE VINE BEING HELD

**CLICK HERE** to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary



CYCLIST WITH VINEYARDS IN THE BACKGROUND



BUKHARA KAYLAN SQUARE



## Along the Golden Road to Samarkand

A Journey through Central Asia

15 TO 29 SEPTEMBER 2026

£3,270\*

Chiara de Nicolais

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Visit the Registan in Samarkand described as the 'noblest square in the world'
- ◆ Cross the great Karakum Desert dotted with Spring flowers
- ◆ Explore Dushanbe with its historic landmarks, set against the backdrop of stunning mountain scenery



FEW LANDMARKS HAVE tantalised the minds of travellers more than the legendary cities of Central Asia. Originally caravanserais on the Golden Trade route across Central Asia, they developed into thriving centres of commerce and culture. Under the ferocious medieval warriors Genghis Khan and then Tamerlane, they assumed inimitable power and splendour.

Travel through the spectacular Pamir mountains of Tajikistan and visit Panjikent sometimes referred to as 'Oriental Pompei'. Cross into Uzbekistan and visit the legendary city of Samarkand. Explore 'Divine Bukhara', a town of hundreds of mosques, madrassas and minarets. In Khiva, experience the timelessness of a central Asia town.

\* Price excludes international flights.  
Single supplement £490

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Chiara de Nicolais**  
Co-convenor of the Arts  
of the Islamic World

Chiara de Nicolais graduated from Islamic art and architecture from SOAS and after spending ten years in the commercial sector at Christie's and then Sotheby's as a specialist in Islamic art, she was a curator in the Middle East department at the Victoria & Albert Museum and is now is a lecturer at SOAS on Islamic Art. She has accompanied previous journeys for Distant Horizons.

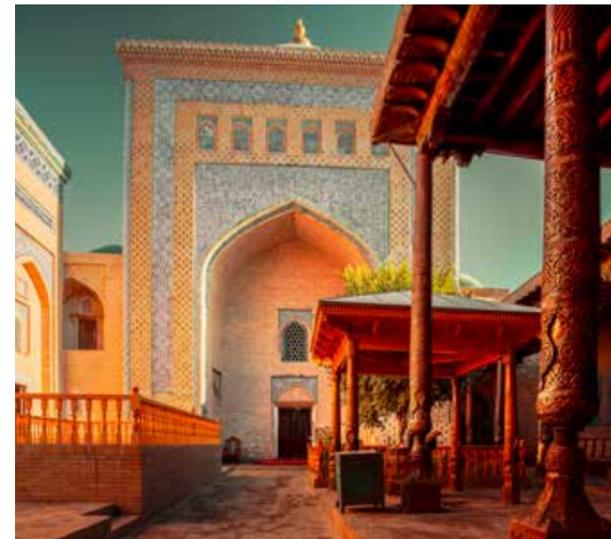
**[!] SPECIAL NOTE** Special note:  
This journey is being organised in  
conjunction with the alumni of SOAS,  
University of London



UZBEKISTAN BHUKARA CENTRAL ASIA

Chiara demonstrated an in-depth knowledge of Islamic art. She was detailed and thorough in her presentation. She was also very kind and thoughtful

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



UZBEKISTAN KHIVA LR

CHIARA WORKED TIRELESSLY TO EXPLAIN THE SIGHTS AND TO PUT THEM INTO A HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



DUSHANBE TAJIKISTAN

CLICK HERE to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





ATRANI



## Pathways of the Gods

Walks along the Amalfi Coast

21 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

£2,940\*

Lucia Ferrara

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Enjoy six moderate walks (4 – 6 hours) around Amalfi, Sorrento, Positano and Capri
- ◆ Explore Naples, Italy's high-octane masterpiece of art and culture
- ◆ Enjoy two nights in a wonderful farmstead which grows and serves much of its own food



WITH ITS PASTEL hued villages perched on rocky outcrops overlooking the turquoise blue of the Mediterranean, the Amalfi coast is incomparably beautiful. It is also an area of outstanding cultural and historical interest. This is a walker's paradise, as an ancient network of routes leads across a range of breath-taking landscapes with magnificent views in almost every direction.

The journey has been specially designed to mix spectacular walks with visits to several of Italy's most important historical sites at Paestum, Pompei and Herculaneum. The region is known for its food, wine and delightful restaurants. For on the Amalfi Coast, one eats and walks well!

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £560

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Tour leader profile



**Lucia Ferrara**  
Amalfi Coast Guide

Lucia Ferrara (known to all as Zia Lucy or Aunt Lucy) comes from a family of fishermen in Positano. Her grandmother was a seamstress who entertained writers and artists from all over the world. Lucy's family and friends made her passionate about the coastal mountains and culture. She accompanied a very successful Amalfi journey for the alumni in 2023.



**CLICK THROUGH** to the **University of Cambridge website to view Footsteps of the Gods: Naples and The Amalfi Coast**



WALING TRAIL FROM BOMERANO



GREEK AND ROMAN SITE AT PAESTUM

The balance of walking and culture worked perfectly to give a wonderful insight into a fascinating and beautiful region

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



CATHEDRAL SANT'ANDREA, AMALFI

**CLICK HERE** to view the full itinerary





ISTOCK.COM/SELCKONER

RUINS OF HERAKLEIA



## Cruising to Ephesus

The sites of Ancient Caria and Ionia by gulet

26 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER 2026  
£3,995\*



### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Delight in the classical city of Priene, one of the most beautiful in Asia Minor
- ◆ Compare well-known ancient sites with lesser-visited gems such as Labranda and Laodicea, set amidst dramatic mountain scenery
- ◆ Sample award-winning modern wines at a boutique vineyard a stone's-throw from Ephesus, where viticulture goes back to Hittite times
- ◆ Enjoy a relaxed cruise lifestyle whilst aboard our privately chartered gulet, with plenty of time for reading, cruising, and swimming

CRUISE THE TURKISH Aegean coast aboard a traditional gulet, a spacious schooner-style vessel with ensuite cabins, offering a relaxed way to explore the ancient sites of Caria and Ionia. Embark in Bodrum, ancient Halicarnassos, and visit evocative classical sites including Mindos, Didyma, Priene, and Iasos. Discover Miletos with its grand theatre, Euromos in olive groves, and Heraklea under Latmos on Lake Bafa.

Continue by road to the white calcium travertine pools of Pammukkale, the superb sculptures of Aphrodisias, and end at the magnificently preserved site of Ephesus. Along the way, enjoy swimming, delicious meals, expert insights, and relaxed conversations with fellow travellers.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £1,895

[templeworld.com](http://templeworld.com)



EPHESUS CELSUS LIBRARY SALIH ALTUNTAS



BODRUM AND CRUSADER CASTLE



PRENSES SELIN © ED BURNS

TURKISH GULET MOORED IN A TURQUOISE BAY

TO START THE TOUR ON THE GULET WAS A GREAT PLAN. IT ALLOWED US TO RELAX, TO GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER A LITTLE, AND TO START TO DEVELOP AN APPRECIATION OF THE CONTEXT OF WHAT WE WERE TO SEE LATER IN THE TOUR

A. PADFIELD, LYCIA & CAPPADOCIA

The itinerary was very well put together. We covered an edifying variety of sites, but the pace was well judged with enough time to rest when needed

MR & MRS DE VRIES, TURQUOISE COAST TOUR



EPHESUS ARCH DETAIL

[CLICK HERE](#) to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





BARGE JEANINE CRUISING ON A CANAL



## Medieval Alsace-Lorraine

A barge cruise along historic canal

30 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER 2026

£3,250\*

Dr Rowena E Archer

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Discover Strasbourg's medieval riverside district and visit the striking Notre Dame Cathedral
- ◆ Explore medieval Colmar and the picturesque 15th-century town of Riquewihr
- ◆ Marvel as the barge is lifted 150 feet at the unique Arzwiller Inclined Plane, linking the Marne and Rhine canals
- ◆ Visit Sarrebourg's Cordeliers Chapel to see Marc Chagall's stunning stained glass window



TRAVEL IN AN exclusively chartered hotel barge through the heart of Alsace-Lorraine, where French and German culture entwine to create one of France's most enchanting regions. Journey on the privately chartered 11-cabin barge MS Jeanine through the dramatic scenery of the Zorne Valley and Vosges Mountains from Strasbourg to Lagarde, whilst enjoying local wines, cheeses and French cuisine prepared by the on-board chef. Enjoy escorted visits with your trip scholar to some of France's most important Medieval sites, with expert lectures in the evening for a deeper understanding of the history of this prized region, which changed hands four times in just 75 years.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £1,950

[templeworld.com](http://templeworld.com)

### Trip scholar profile



**Dr Rowena E Archer**  
Emeritus Fellow of  
Brasenose College,  
Oxford

Dr Rowena E Archer is an Emeritus Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford and former director of Medieval Studies for the University of Cambridge's International Summer Programme. During her time as a lecturer in Oxford's Faculty of History at Brasenose and Christ Church, her research focused on the late medieval English Nobility and the experiences of women in this period. Dr Archer has published on a wide variety of aspects of women's lives making considerable use of the late fourteenth century Franco-Italian writer Christine de Pizan (d. 1431). She is currently writing a life of Alice Chaucer, the poet's granddaughter (d. 1475). She continues to do some teaching on the late Middle Ages and in particular on Joan of Arc (born in Lorraine) and her age, 1419-1435. During her directorship of the long running Medieval Studies Programme for Cambridge's International Summer Programme, she regularly taught at Madingley Hall. She travels to France at least twice a year, partly for work and partly for pleasure.

The barge was lovely – designed with hidden storage in the small cabins and pleasant public areas; the staff were faultless and so friendly. Transport was comfortable and meals were excellent. PAMELA GORDON, PREVIOUS TOUR PARTICIPANT MEDIEVAL ALSACE-LORRAINE

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the full itinerary



RIQUEWIHR

We both enjoyed ourselves very much and found the intimate atmosphere of the barge really delightful. The food was excellent and the company was great. I felt we got to know our travelling companions much better than we had on previous tours. We thought Rowena Archer was incredibly well informed and dedicated. She worked hard throughout the whole trip.

MARK ATKINS, PREVIOUS TOUR PARTICIPANT



CHAGALL WINDOW AT SARREBOURG



ISTOCK/DAVIDKERKHOFF

THE STEP PYRAMID OF DJOSER AT SAQQARA



## Egypt Beyond the Pyramids

With Alexandria & Siwa Pre-tour

**2 TO 12 OCTOBER 2026**

**£3,995\***

**Professor Mark J Smith**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Journey from Cairo to Luxor, visiting off-the-beaten-track sites in-between the well-known highlights
- ◆ Enjoy a behind-the-scenes visit to the Great Palace in Tel el Amarna, where Cambridge archaeologists will reveal the team's work uncovering this pivotal site
- ◆ Take a 4x4 safari to Wadi al-Hitan and the Valley of the Whales with its invaluable fossil remains of the Archaeoceti
- ◆ Discover the Middle Kingdom tombs at Beni Hasan, showcasing vivid wall paintings and insights into provincial life during Egypt's classical age



THIS IN-DEPTH JOURNEY through ancient Egypt combines iconic highlights with lesser-known treasures. Begin in Cairo with the pyramids of Giza, the Step Pyramid at Saqqara, and Tutankhamun's treasures. Travel south overland to explore early pyramids at Dahshur, Meidum, and Hawara, and take a 4x4 safari to Wadi al-Hitan, a UNESCO site with fossilised whale remains.

Visit the Middle Kingdom tombs at Beni Hasan and enjoy a specially arranged behind-the-scenes visit to Tell el-Amarna, where Cambridge archaeologists are uncovering exciting finds. Continue to Abydos and Dendera before reaching Luxor, home to spectacular temples and the Valley of the Kings.

*\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £950*

[templeworld.com](http://templeworld.com)

### Trip scholar profile



**Professor Mark J Smith**

Emeritus Professor of Egyptology

Mark Smith is Emeritus Professor of Egyptology at Oxford University and Emeritus Lady Wallis Budge Fellow in Egyptology at University College, Oxford. He specialises in Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt, as well as Coptic Christianity. His particular interest is in Egyptian religion, especially Egyptian conceptions of the afterlife. During his tenure at Oxford, Professor Smith's lectures covered all aspects of ancient Egypt: history, civilization, archaeology, art, literature, religion, and society, and he teaches all phases of the Egyptian language, from Old Egyptian through to Coptic, and all ancient Egyptian scripts. Professor Smith has written many books and countless articles on his subject, and his own research focused on ancient Egyptian religion, in particular conceptions of the afterlife and how these changed and developed over time. His research into the demotic graffiti at the stone quarries of Gebel es-Silsila is particularly pertinent to the tour, which will visit the site. He has led previous Temple World tours to Egypt with great success.

**[!] SPECIAL NOTE** Optional pre-tour extension to Alexandria and the desert oasis of Siwa, where according to legend, Alexander The Great was proclaimed ruler of Egypt by the Oracle of Amun

This was an outstanding tour. From the very thorough pre-tour briefings to the surprise extra outing, this trip was planned meticulously, executed considerately and even adapted to reflect the personal needs of the group and individuals. I love alumni tours for the fascinating and engaging people you meet experience.

LYNDSAY WRIGHT, ETERNAL EGYPT 2024



DREAMSTIME 315566513

THE BRAND NEW GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM AT GIZA

I really, really enjoyed the tour - learning is for life, and this tour was both educational and rewarding on so many levels. I would recommend it to anyone, and may well be back myself.

CRISPIAN DENBY, ETERNAL EGYPT 2024

**CLICK HERE to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary**





BAMBOO FOREST, KYOTO



## Across the Bridge of Dreams

The History and Culture of Japan

4 TO 20 OCTOBER 2026

Price to be confirmed

Dr Simon Kaner  
(Selwyn 1981)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Explore Korakuen one of Japan's most important Gardens
- ◆ Visit Nikko – a centre of Buddhist and Shinto Mountain worship
- ◆ Travel on the Shinkansen, Japan's iconic Bullet Train, to Kanazawa, where it is still possible to get 'a pre-modern view' of the country



THIS JOURNEY WILL examine the fascinating history and culture of Japan, from its beginnings during the Nara period, through the rise and fall of the Shoguns into an era of modernisation and economic power. Explore the country's cultural heritage as it is reflected in the tranquility of the Shinto, the great castles of the Samurai culture, the distinct architecture of the Edo period and today's modern way of life that exists in the skyscrapers of Shinjuku. Learn more of the delicate technique of the fine arts, the expressive drama of the Kabuki Theatre and the exquisite elegance of the tea ceremony.

\* Price excludes international flights.

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Dr Simon Kaner**  
Director, Centre for Japanese Studies

Dr Simon Kaner is Director of the Centre for Japanese Studies at the University of East Anglia and Head of the Centre for Archaeology and Heritage at the Sainsbury Institute. His current research interests include the urban historic environment in Japan and the international role of Japanese heritage management.



NIKKO

Distant Horizons clearly put a great deal of time and effort into planning this tour, allowing for an unforgettable and once in a lifetime experience

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



GIANT BUDDHA, KAMAKURA

This was an absolutely first rate tour in every respect. I cannot think of a single criticism. The shape of the tour was superb. The guides were hardworking and super-efficient. I shall run out of superlatives

2023 TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



NANZEN-JI TEMPLE AND GARDEN, KYOTO

[CLICK HERE](#) to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





JVARI CATHEDRAL, MTSKHETA GEORGIA



## Ancient Routes of the Caucasus

Georgia and Armenia

6 TO 20 OCTOBER 2026

£3,660\*

**Dr Alex Koller**  
(Magdalene 1993)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Discover Kakheti with its wonderful vineyards and historic monuments including the soaring Alaverdi Cathedral
- ◆ Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Sites at Mtskheta and the cave fortress town of Uplistsikhe
- ◆ Spend a night on the shores of Armenia's Lake Sevan



FROM THE LEGEND of the Golden Fleece to the stories of ancient Ararat, Georgia and Armenia share turbulent histories, extraordinary cultural traditions and spectacularly beautiful landscapes. Situated at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and the Middle East and following the adoption of Christianity in the 4th century, the regions buildings and monuments constitute a magnificent architectural, ecclesiastical and artistic heritage. This is a region renowned for its rich history, culture, wonderful music and fine wines and cuisine.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £630

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Dr Alex Koller**  
Specialist in art and architecture in Eastern Europe

The journey will be accompanied by Art Historian, Dr Alex Koller who has studied in Vienna, Salzburg and Cambridge. He studied Art History, in Vienna, one of the cradles of the art-historical evaluation of the architecture of the Transcaucasus. Alex has been accompanying Alumni journeys since 2004 including two previous very successful journeys to the Caucasus for the alumni.



**CLICK THROUGH** to the University of Cambridge website to listen: *Building Two Nations: The Architecture and Landscapes of Georgia and Armenia*



TBILISI, GEORGIA



GARNI TEMPLE, ARMENIA

The organisation was superb. All in all this ranked as one of the top 6 trips that I have made and I have travelled very extensively

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



DILIJAN, ARMENIA

**CLICK HERE** to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





GYANTSE



## The Hidden Corners of Tibet

Walks in the Ancient Kingdoms of Kham, Amdo & Ü-Tsang

11 TO 30 OCTOBER 2026

£6,260\*

Professor Charles Ramble

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Travel the Qinghai-Tibet railway across the spectacular plateau to Lhasa
- ◆ Visit vibrant monasteries along the Bailong River in Amdo
- ◆ Explore the majestic Potala Palace and spiritual life in Lhasa
- ◆ Moderate walks (up to six hours) are included to access remote sites, with time for reflection and discovery throughout



THIS UNIQUE JOURNEY explores the three Tibetan regions of Amdo, Kham, and Ü-Tsang, each with distinct cultural and linguistic traditions. Begin in Kham's alpine landscapes, where 6,000m peaks overlook ancient kingdoms near the Yellow River. Continue into Amdo's lush pastures, visiting vibrant monasteries like Geerdeng and Sezhi. Travel by boat to the 5th-century Bing Ling grottoes before boarding the Qinghai-Tibet railway – one of the world's most dramatic train journeys – across the Tibetan plateau to Lhasa.

In Lhasa, Tibet's spiritual heart, explore the Potala Palace and witness living traditions. Journey across breathtaking landscapes to Gyantse, crossing two high Himalayan passes. The tour concludes in Chengdu before flying home.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £1,140

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Professor Charles Ramble**  
Former University  
Lecturer in Tibetan  
and Himalayan Studies

Professor Ramble is a former lecturer in Himalayan Studies at the Oriental Institute of Oxford University. He lived in the Himalayas for fifteen years, working as an anthropologist and a naturalist, and has travelled and researched extensively in the region. He is the author of some fifty articles and several books on the culture and history of the Himalayan countries and has accompanied five very successful Himalayan journeys for alumni since 2014.

**[!] SPECIAL NOTE** The walks do not require any special technical abilities but will involve about 4 – 6 hours of walking per day over uneven and in places steep ground

Dr Ramble was an absolute star. Apart from his erudition, encyclopaedic knowledge, he was warm, witty, friendly and very good company. We felt very privileged to have such an expert accompany us on our travels

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



TONGPAN IN AMDO PROVINCE



POTALA PALACE, LHASA, TIBET

It was a tour first of all very imaginatively conceived, the omission of any one of the areas visited would have reduced the interest considerably. Many thanks for my second excellent tour with Distant Horizons

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH CHARLES RAMBLE & DISTANT HORIZONS



TASHI LHUNPO MONASTERY, SHIGATSE

**CLICK HERE** to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





BUMTANG VALLEY



## Exploring Bhutan

The Land of the Thunder Dragon

16 TO 31 OCTOBER 2026

£4,840\*

Zara Fleming

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Enjoy the Jakar festival (a real social, spiritual and colourful high point for many Bhutanese) in the more remote Bumthang valley
- ◆ Visit Tashiccho Dzong (fortress) and Punakha Dzong, two of the largest and most spectacular buildings in Asia
- ◆ Discover the eastern and much less visited region of Bhutan which offers the chance to learn more of the country's deeply rooted traditions, crafts, spirituality, and natural beauty



ISOLATED FROM THE outside world for centuries, the tiny Kingdom of Bhutan measures its progress in Gross National Happiness and is the only carbon negative country in the world. No bigger than Switzerland, Bhutan is one of the last two remaining Buddhist Kingdoms in the world. This is a beautiful land, of strange legends, ancient monastery fortresses, outstanding art and fascinating people. On this specially designed journey which takes in the much less visited eastern part of the country, learn more of the country's unique achievements in architecture, ecology, spirituality, textiles and other crafts; many of which are distinct from other Himalayan regions.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £480

[distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### Trip scholar profile



**Zara Fleming**  
Himalayan Art and History Expert

Zara Fleming is a cultural historian specialising in Himalayan history, art and culture. Since her first visit to the Himalayas in 1973, she has travelled extensively in the region and since 2008 she has accompanied seven visits to Bhutan for Cambridge University alumni. She is also the Vice-President of the Tibet Society and Tibet Relief Fund of the UK.

A memorable trip made special by the depth of Zara's understanding of Bhutan. We can't believe how fortunate we were not only to visit Bhutan, but with an excellent leader, wonderful Bhutanese guides and drivers plus interesting fellow travellers

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER TO BHUTAN WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



BUMTANG FESTIVAL



PUNAKHA DZONG

THE JOURNEY WAS BOTH FASCINATING AND MOVING. THE CAREFUL PLANNING ANTICIPATED OUR NEEDS AND MADE FOR AN ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH DISTANT HORIZONS



TIGER'S NEST, PARO VALLEY

CLICK HERE to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





BAHLA FORT



## Forts & Frankincense

Oman North to South including Wahiba Sands & the Empty Quarter

31 OCTOBER TO 9 NOVEMBER 2026

£3,495\*

**Stuart Laing**  
(Corpus Christi 1970)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Enjoy a walk through preserved mud-brick villages amidst tranquil terraces of date palms, roses and pomegranate groves, with the trickling of water running along the ancient falaj irrigation all around
- ◆ Camp beneath a canopy of stars in the golden dunes of the Wahiba Sands—an unforgettable immersion into Bedouin culture
- ◆ Enjoy the charming Omani, a kind and hospitable people who wish to preserve and share their vivid culture and rich heritage



EXPLORE OMAN'S ANCIENT wonders and dramatic landscapes, beginning in Muscat with its gleaming architecture, Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, and bustling Muttrah Souq. Trace maritime heritage along the corniche before heading inland to Nizwa.

Discover Jabrin Castle's frescoes and the shifting dunes of Wahiba Sands. In Dhofar, explore the frankincense ports of Al-Balid and Khor Rori, stroll Salah's coconut fringed streets, and visit Wadi Dawkah's frankincense trees. Venture into the Empty Quarter to uncover the fabled city of Ubar.

Guided throughout, this immersive journey reveals Oman's rich Islamic scholarship, maritime history, and desert mystique offering breathtaking scenery and cultural encounters.

\* Price includes internal flights, but excludes international flights. Single supplement £980

[templeworld.com](http://templeworld.com)

### Trip scholar profile



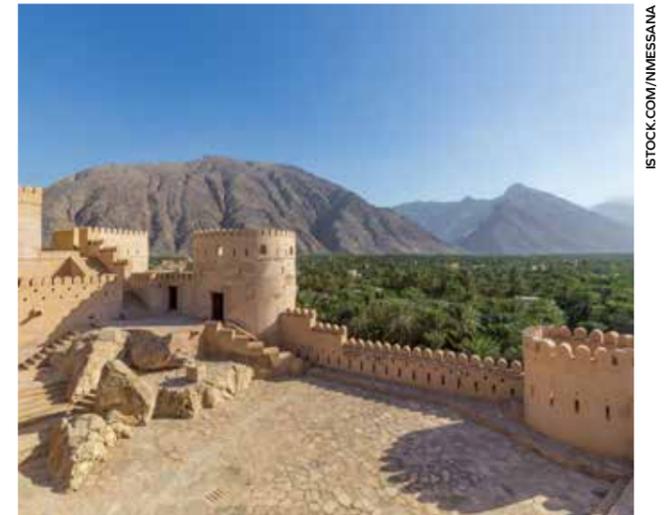
**Stuart Laing**  
Honorary Fellow,  
Corpus Christi College,  
University of Cambridge

Stuart Laing is an Honorary Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, having been Master of the College from 2008 to 2018. After studying Classics at Cambridge (Corpus Christi, 1967–70), his first career was in the British Foreign Service, where he specialised in Arab and Middle Eastern affairs. After Arabic language study in Lebanon, he served in Saudi Arabia and in Cairo, and also in Brussels and Prague. He was High Commissioner in Brunei (1998–2003), then Ambassador in Muscat (2002–05), and later in Kuwait (2005–08). He researches, writes and lectures on Arab and African history, and on Middle East politics. He is co-author (with Robert Alston) of a book on Omani-British history, *Unshook Till the End of Time*, and has published a biography of Tippu Tip, the Arab-African ivory trader.

ISTOCK.COM/FOTOMEM



CAMELS ON THE ROAD IN DHOFAR



NAKHAL FORT

THIS WAS (FOR ME) THE SECOND ALUMNI HOLIDAY AND YOU GET FULL MARKS FOR ALL THE ORGANISATION AND FOR THE HELP YOU PROVIDED

PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH TEMPLE WORLD



OMANI FRANKINCENSE TREE

CLICK HERE to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary





OSORNO VOLCANO



## Walking in Patagonia

Conservation-focused of Chile's national parks

6 TO 18 APRIL 2027

£8,450\*

Ed Paine

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Kayak in Vicente Pérez Rosales National Park, Chile's oldest national park
- ◆ Explore Pumalín National Park, home to 4,000-year-old alerce trees and dramatic fjords
- ◆ Wildlife spotting in Parque Patagonia, where you could see guanacos, huemul deer, condors, and possibly pumas
- ◆ Walk with like-minded people in remote areas of outstanding beauty



DISCOVER CHILE'S BREATHTAKING natural beauty on an active tour led by Ed Paine, founder of Last Frontiers. Begin in Santiago before heading south to the Lake District, where Osorno volcano reflects in Lake Llanquihue. Enjoy gentle kayaking in Vicente Pérez Rosales National Park and explore Pumalín's temperate rainforest, home to ancient alerce trees. Spend three days in Parque Patagonia, a haven for wildlife including guanacos, huemul deer, and condors. Guided walks and excursions are supported by bilingual experts and conservationists. A good level of fitness is essential, with walk lengths adjustable to suit the group.

\* Price excludes international flights. Single supplement £1,820

[lastfrontiers.com](https://www.lastfrontiers.com)

### Tour leader profile



**Ed Paine**  
Founder, Last Frontiers

Edward studied Agricultural and Forest Sciences at Oxford, followed by a decade running large farms in South America, and land conservation has always been a keen interest. On his return to England he set up Latin America specialist tour operator Last Frontiers, which has been sending travellers to the continent for over 30 years. Ed was chairman of the Latin American Travel Association for ten years and was a founder trustee of the LATA Foundation. He has visited nearly every country in Central and South America, and accompanied alumni groups to Argentina, Chile and Mexico.

THANK YOU FOR A SUPERB TRIP AND EXCEPTIONAL ORGANISATION! WE HAD A BRILLIANT TRIP - ENJOYED IT IMMENSELY PREVIOUS TRAVELLER WITH LAST FRONTIERS



PATAGONIA NATIONAL PARK



CALETA GONZALO (PUMALÍN)

Last Frontiers did a superb job of planning and executing an amazing itinerary, with memorable and worthwhile activities each day, and taking care of the transport, accommodation and meal arrangements so seamlessly ALUMNI TRAVELLER WITH LAST FRONTIERS



RIVER BAKER (PATAGONIA NATIONAL PARK)

CLICK HERE to see more details of the trip & request an in-depth itinerary



# Fitness requirements

Travel can be rewarding and thrilling, but there are physical challenges and risks in any of the alumni tours. Your safety and comfort are our top priorities. This guide provides a description of the capabilities and mindset appropriate for travelling on each trip, providing you, as a potential traveller, a clear understanding about the physical demands of each tour.

Due to the nature of many of the alumni tours, there is a basic level of fitness required:

- ◆ Be able to walk one and a half miles at a responsible pace, unaided
- ◆ Be able to navigate three flights of stairs and walk along uneven terrain
- ◆ Be able to walk at least 8,000 steps in one day

## Activity levels

Each tour will be labelled with an activity level rating.

### LEVEL LOW

A fair amount of walking (at least one and a half miles per day) with excursions lasting up to three hours at a time. Sufficient rest or free time.

### LEVEL MEDIUM

Half and full-day outdoor activities, with several excursions lasting more than three hours at a time. Two hours or more of walking and standing without the opportunity to sit per day will be required. Limited rest or free time.

### LEVEL HIGH

Full-day outdoor activities, with long days of hiking or trekking part of the activities scheduled. Very limited rest or free time.

## ACTIVITY RATING KEY:

**H** = High   **M** = Medium   **L** = Low

## Declaring requirements

We advise potential travellers to declare specific requirements when enquiring about a tour as each trip on the Alumni Travel Programme has its own features and fitness requirements. On several tours, alternative arrangements can be made.

For more details on the specific demands and questions about accessibility, please contact the Tour Operator who is responsible for the trip.

# For further information and to book

To find out more about a trip that interests you, or to book, please contact the individual operator, either by email or phone. All the operator contact details are listed below. They are more than happy to provide further information to help you make your booking decision, and to discuss whether a trip is right for you. More information about the Cambridge Alumni Travel Programme can be found at [www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/travel](http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/travel), where you can search for a trip by destination, date or favourite trip scholar.

## IMPORTANT NOTE

All the trips in this brochure are run by tried and tested travel operator partners. The operators have sole responsibility for the trips and the University has no control over or responsibility for the operation of the tours. All queries about individual trips should be addressed to the operator concerned. The information provided in this brochure is for general information only; and is correct as of time of publishing (September 2025). If you are interested in making a booking, please contact the travel operator directly and indicate you are a Cambridge alumnus/a.

## TOUR OPERATORS 2026

### JON BAINES TOURS

Hyde Park House  
5 Manfred Road  
London, SW15 2RS  
**T** +44 (0)207 2239485  
**E** [info@jonbainestours.com](mailto:info@jonbainestours.com)  
**W** [jonbainestours.com](http://jonbainestours.com)

### LAST FRONTIERS

The Mill, Quanton Road  
Waddesdon,  
Buckinghamshire, HP18 0LP  
**T** +44 (0)1296 653000  
**E** [alumni@lastfrontiers.com](mailto:alumni@lastfrontiers.com)  
**W** [lastfrontiers.com/alumni](http://lastfrontiers.com/alumni)

### DISTANT HORIZONS

13 Melloncroft Drive  
Caldy, Wirral, CH48 2JA  
**T** +44 (0)1516 253425  
**E** [info@distanthorizons.co.uk](mailto:info@distanthorizons.co.uk)  
**W** [distanthorizons.co.uk](http://distanthorizons.co.uk)

### TEMPLE WORLD

13 The Avenue  
Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2AL  
**T** +44 (0)208 940 4114  
**E** [alumni@templeworld.com](mailto:alumni@templeworld.com)  
**W** [templeworld.com/alumni](http://templeworld.com/alumni)

“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.”

ROBERT FROST



istock/FotoGabbiz