

Dickinson

Alumni Global Adventures

ART & ARCHITECTURE OF VENICE, FLORENCE & ROME

May 29 - June 9, 2016 (12 days)

With three art historians:

Dr. Eric Denker '75 • Dr. William Wallace '74 • Dr. Meredith Jane Gill



Dickinson

Alumni Global Adventures

Office of the President

Dear Friends of Dickinson,

I am pleased to invite you to share with me an extraordinary, 12-day exploration of Venice, Florence and Rome, **featuring special leaders, excursions, culinary events and accommodations** that are ideally located in the hearts of all three cities.

Travel and learn with three fascinating and engaging art historians, two of whom are Dickinson alumni:

- **Dr. William Wallace '74 is considered by many to be the world's leading expert on Michelangelo.** Bill is a professor of Renaissance art and architecture at Washington University in St. Louis.
- **Dickinson trustee Dr. Eric Denker '75 is a leading expert on Venice** and a senior lecturer at the Smithsonian's National Gallery of Art.
- **Dr. Meredith Jane Gill**, professor at the University of Maryland, is an historian of Italian art and architecture from the late medieval era through the 16th century.

Enjoy an unparalleled immersion into the stunning art and architecture of Renaissance Italy:

- Explore several of the **world's top art galleries** such as Venice's and Florence's Accademia Galleries, Florence's Uffizi Gallery and Rome's Capitoline Museums and Borghese Gallery.
- Marvel at many **magnificent cathedrals and churches** brimming with splendid paintings, frescoes and sculptures.
- Visit **spectacular private villas and palaces**, superb examples of Renaissance architecture.

Special events include:

- A private, **after-hours tour of the Vatican's Sistine Chapel** with Michelangelo's *The Last Judgement* and areas that are normally closed.
- A **private evening visit to Venice's St. Mark's Basilica**, a superb example of the Romanesque-Byzantine style.
- A **private, catered dinner in Gondi Palace** overlooking the famed Florence Cathedral.

Please join me to enjoy special events, savor delicious meals, and gain insights with our team of experts into masterpieces by Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Titian, Caravaggio, Bernini and many other celebrated artists and architects.

Sincerely,



Nancy A. Roseman

President and Professor of Biology

P.S. This trip is **limited to just 20 participants** and there is only one departure. So, I encourage you to make your reservation promptly. Please call 800-856-8951 or email Dickinson@studytours.org



ITINERARY

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

Sunday, May 29, 2016: Depart Home

Monday, May 30: Arrive Venice, Italy

Upon arrival at Venice Marco Polo Airport (VCE), individual transfers have been arranged by **private motorboats** to our refined boutique hotel, ideally located between Piazza San Marco (St. Mark's Square) and the Rialto Bridge. Late this afternoon, gather to meet our team of faculty leaders and hosts before taking a **short orientation tour led by Dr. Eric Denker**. Gather for a welcome cocktail and traditional Venetian dinner on the terrace of our hotel, overlooking a small, quiet canal. *Overnight at the four-star Palace Bonvecchiati for three nights.* (R,D)

Tuesday, May 31: Venice

This morning we meet our local guide and visit **Piazza San Marco and the Palazzo Ducale (Doge's Palace)**, the official residence of the Venetian rulers and the highest expression of Venetian art. Continue on to the **Church of San Zaccaria**, featuring a fine Renaissance façade and an interesting interior where Gothic elements blend with the new Renaissance forms. **Lunch will be at Antico Martini**, a restaurant offering excellent Venetian cuisine, located right in front of the renowned opera house, Teatro Fenice. In the afternoon, you may either enjoy some time at leisure or make an optional (included) visit to the **Church of Santa Maria Gloriosi dei Frari and Scuola Grande di San Rocco**. The Church bears witness to the Venetian Republic with 15th-century paintings by Titian and Bellini. The Scuola was founded in 1478 as a charitable institution and is famous for a series of paintings by Tintoretto. We have a **private evening visit to St. Mark's Basilica**, a superb example of the Romanesque-Byzantine style, which was built to house the body of St. Mark the Evangelist. The imposing interior in the form of a Greek cross contains a wealth of paintings and sculptures. Of particular interest are the mosaics of Veneto-Byzantine origin, some of them reconstructed from drawings by Titian, Tintoretto, and Veronese. After the visit, we enjoy **cocktails at a private palace**, arranged by Dr. Denker. Dinner is at leisure. (Dr. Denker will offer restaurant recommendations.) (B,L,R)

Wednesday, June 1: Venice

After breakfast, Dr. Denker lectures on "Venetian Art," and then we will spend the rest of the morning at **Accademia Galleries**, one of the most important museums in Italy. Essential for the study of 14th- to 18th-century art history, it hosts an extraordinary collection of works by some of the greatest Venetian painters, including Giorgione, G. Bellini, Carpaccio, and Tintoretto. Afterward, a private launch will take us to small, very old **Torcello Island for lunch at the legendary Locanda Cipriani**. Continue on to **Burano Island**, famous for lace production and the bright colors of its simple houses. The evening is at leisure. (B,L)

Thursday, June 2: Venice | Florence

After breakfast, a private launch will take us to the **Island of San Giorgio Maggiore**, opposite St. Mark's Square. Visit its impressive Benedictine church designed by Andrea Palladio, enjoy the beautiful view of Venice from the bell tower, and visit the **Cini Foundation**—one of the main centers of Venetian culture created to revive the Island which was heavily damaged by nearly 150 years of military occupancy. Our launch then takes us to **Giudecca Island for an early lunch at Trattoria Altanella**, and onward to Santa Lucia railway station, where we board a **Frecciargento fast train for a two-hour trip to Florence**. Upon arrival, transfer by motor coach to luxurious five-star hotel, ideally located next to Ponte Vecchio, the world-renowned, medieval stone bridge over the Arno River. After getting settled, **join Dr. William Wallace for a short orientation tour** of Florence's historic center before heading to **Gondi Palace, where the Marquis will welcome us for an aperitivo on the terrace overlooking the Cathedral and a seated, catered dinner in the Palace's dining room**. *Overnight at the five-star Hotel Lungarno for three nights.* (B,L,R,D)



Our expert on Venice, Dr. Eric Denker '75, will discuss Venetian art and architecture; our hotel is near the Rialto Bridge (above) and St. Mark's Basilica. Our trio of experts will provide insights into the art and architecture of Florence such as the magnificent Florence Cathedral (below) by Brunelleschi.



Friday, June 3: Florence

This morning will be dedicated to Michelangelo. Accompanied by Dr. Wallace and our local guide, we will visit **San Lorenzo**, the family church of the Medici family, a superlative example of Renaissance architecture housing numerous masterpiece paintings; the **Medici Chapels**, where members of the family were buried from the mid-15th century onwards; and the **Laurentian Library**, originally founded to house the collection of manuscripts of Cosimo il Vecchio (1389–1464) and opened to the public in 1571. Also visit the 15th-century **Medici Riccardi Palace**, which became the prototype of Renaissance civil architecture and today offers the chance to retrace over four centuries of the history of art, architecture, and collections in Florence. Our last stop of the morning is the **Accademia Gallery**, without a doubt most famous for its sculptures by Michelangelo, and above all for the magnificent statue of David. The main halls also feature works by Sandro Botticelli, Domenico Ghirlandaio, Andrea del Sarto, Alessandro Allori and Orcagna, to name just a few. Lunch and the afternoon are at leisure. Those who are interested may choose to take an optional (included) guided visit to **Santa Croce Church**, a large Gothic church that dominates the square with its massive structure. Inside are frescoes as well as graves of many Italians who were well known in the fields of art, literature, and science such as Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli. The refectories frescoed with the Last Supper are among the most interesting artistic monuments in Florence, and no fewer than seven Last Supper frescoes exist within the confines of the ancient city center. The Last Supper scene was a truly Florentine tradition, found all over the city's monasteries from the 1300s to the late 1500s. This optional tour will also include the 15th-century **Convent of San Marco**, which played an important role in the cultural and religious life of Florence, especially at the time of Savonarola. Its museum owes its renown especially to the paintings of Beato Angelico, one of the great artists of the Renaissance, who frescoed extensive parts of the convent. Dinner is at a local restaurant. (B,D)



Dr. William Wallace '74, the leading expert on Michelangelo, will share insights on many of the artist's masterpieces. In Florence we'll see his famous statue of *David* (above), his painting *Doni Madonna* (below), and the Tomb of Giuliano Duke of Nemours with the statues Day and Night (bottom).

Saturday, June 4: Florence

After a lecture by Dr. Meredith Jane Gill on "Renaissance Art in Florence," we will visit the **Uffizi Gallery**. With its immense artistic legacy, it is one of the most important museums in the world. Following a substantial reorganization in the 17th century, the Uffizi mainly became a picture gallery, with thousands of works ranging from the 13th to the 18th centuries. Its masterpieces include works by Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael, Titian, Veronese and Tintoretto, Albrecht Dürer, Hans Holbein and El Greco, Caravaggio, Rubens, and Van Dyck; plus ancient sculptures, miniatures, and tapestries from the Medici collections. Enjoy **lunch at Trattoria Il Latini**, a very well-known osteria inside Palazzo Rucellai that offers genuine, traditional food in a lively atmosphere. The afternoon is at leisure. Those who are interested may choose to take an optional (included) guided visit to the **Baptistry and Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore (Florence Cathedral)**, the third largest cathedral in the world (after Saint Peter's in Rome and Saint Paul's in London). At the time of its consecration in 1436 it was the largest in Europe, and the octagonal Baptistry is one of the city's oldest buildings. Its **bronze East Doors**, decorated with scenes from the Old Testament, were declared by Michelangelo "worthy to be the Gates of Paradise." Also visit the church of **Santa Maria Novella**, the first of the great Florentine basilicas and the first large-scale Gothic building in the city; the **Church of Santa Trinita**, one of the most beautiful realizations of Florentine Gothic style; and the **Church of Ognissanti**, which was part of the monastery complex of the Humiliated, a Lombard order that arrived in Florence in 1239. We will gather together this evening at **Bar Rivoire**, in Piazza della Signoria, for a talk by Dr. Wallace while enjoying an *aperitivo*. Dinner is at leisure. (B,L)



Sunday, June 5: Florence | Rome

Check out of our hotel this morning and take the **Fracciarossa fast train to Rome**, where we arrive about 1.5 hours later and walk to the nearby **Santa Maria della Vittoria church**—one of the richest examples of Baroque decoration for its wealth of marble, stucco, and decoration. See **Bernini's impressive masterpiece**, *The Ecstasy of St. Teresa*, and then walk to nearby **Santa Maria degli Angeli church**, which incorporates what was once the vast antechamber and the tepidarium (warm bath) of the Baths of Diocletian. Our private coach will then transfer us to our luxurious, five-star hotel, ideally situated in the Via Veneto area, on a hill directly above the historic center of Rome with magnificent views of the gardens of Villa Borghese. After a **light lunch on the hotel's beautiful terrace**, take a walking introduction to medieval and Renaissance Rome, guided by Drs. Wallace and Gill. Visit **Piazza Navona**, one of the most elegant



and cheerful of all Roman piazzas, built on the site of the Stadium of Domitian in the 1st century A.D.; the **Campo de' Fiori market**; and **Piazza Farnese**, a beautiful square in the heart of medieval Rome. Our walk ends in **Trastevere**, the most typical district of Rome full of small alleys, where we **dine at Enoteca Ferrara**, with an excellent wine cellar and refined cuisine in an elegant atmosphere. *Overnight at the five-star Splendid Royal Hotel for four nights.* (B,L,D)

Monday, June 6: Rome | Vatican City | Rome

A morning lecture by Dr. Wallace on “The Two Michelangelos: Buonarroti and Merisi” introduces us to the major sights to be seen this day: Caravaggio paintings *in situ*, and the Sistine Chapel. Walk from our hotel to **San'Agostino church**, where a chapel houses the famous 1604 **Caravaggio painting of the Madonna of the Pilgrims**. Continue on to **San Luigi dei Francesi church to see the greatest Caravaggio paintings in situ**, dedicated to St. Matthew. After an independent lunch, the afternoon is devoted to visiting the **Vatican (Holy See)**, whose **Palace** and **St. Peter's Basilica** were by far the largest building projects of Renaissance Rome. We explore both the Basilica and the extraordinary collections of ancient and Renaissance works in the museums, plus we take a **private, after-hours tour of the Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's masterpiece, The Last Judgement, including areas that are normally closed**, such as the Bramante Staircase, the Cabinet of Masks, and the Chapel of Nicholas the V. **Dinner will be at a traditional kosher Roman restaurant, Nonna Betta**, in the heart of the Jewish ghetto. (B,D)

Tuesday, June 7: Rome

Make a morning visit to the 5th-century **Basilica di San Pietro in Vincoli** to admire its most notable piece of artwork, **Michelangelo's magnificent Moses**; and to the **Piazza del Campidoglio, on top of the Capitoline Hill**, where Drs. Wallace and Gill will introduce us to the Renaissance revival. Then **choose from two (included) excursion options: a guided visit of the Capitoline Museums OR to the ancient Roman Forum and Colosseum**. The Capitoline Museums are the world's oldest public museums—housed in fine medieval/Renaissance buildings, they contain some of the most famous pieces of Roman sculpture, such as the Capitoline Wolf, the equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, and the Capitoline Venus. Alternatively, visit the 1st-century Colosseum, which accommodated Roman games of great popular appeal, such as hunts and gladiatorial fights; and the Forum, comprising temples, basilicas, and public spaces, which was the social, commercial, and political center of ancient Rome. Lunch and the balance of the day are at leisure. (B)

Wednesday, June 8: Rome

This morning we visit **Villa Borghese**, Rome's most popular public park, as well as its **Borghese Gallery**, one of the largest and most impressive art collections in Europe. On view are some of the finest masterpieces of Western art including a series of **Bernini sculptures** (*Aeneas, The Rape of Proserpina, Apollo and Daphne*, and *David*) and **Caravaggio paintings** including *David with the Head of Goliath*. **Lunch will be at Casina Valadier**, inside the park, whose terrace offers a wonderful view of Rome. The afternoon is at leisure or choose an (included) Acqua Vergine (“water walk”) with Drs. Denker, Wallace and Gill, beginning at the **Spanish Steps**, including the **Pantheon**, and ending in **Piazza Navona**. We gather this evening for our **farewell dinner**. (B,L,D)

Thursday, June 9: Depart Rome

Private transfers are provided to Fiumicino/Leonardo da Vinci International Airport (FCO) for flights homeward. (B)



The magnificent Piazza Navona (above).
Vatican City with St. Peter's Basilica (below).



Tour the Capitoline Museums or the ancient Roman Forum and Coliseum (above). The Galleria Borghese has masterpieces of painting and sculpture such as Bernini's *Rape of Proserpina* (below).



Special Dickinson Lecturers & Hosts

Three fascinating and engaging art historians will enhance your travel experiences.

Dr. Eric Denker graduated Dickinson College in 1975. He is a **Senior Lecturer at the Smithsonian's National Gallery of Art**, where he has been since 1978. From 1998 to 2006, Dr. Denker also served jointly as the Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, overseeing the permanent collection and coordinating an active exhibition schedule that included the catalogue and show of Whistler and his Circle in Venice. **He is a Trustee of Dickinson as well as the President of the Friends of the Trout Gallery.** He received his doctorate from the University of Virginia. In addition to serving as an adjunct professor at Cornell University, Dr. Denker frequently lectures in Italy for the Smithsonian Institution and for the Scuola Internazionale di Grafica in Venice. He is the co-author, with Judith Martin, of *No Vulgar Hotel: The Desire and Pursuit of Venice* (2007), exploring the contemporary visitor's passions for the unique lagoon city. He is the author of numerous articles for guidebooks about Venice and Italy.

Dr. William E. Wallace graduated Dickinson College in 1974. He is **an internationally-recognized authority on Michelangelo and his contemporaries.** He received his Ph.D. in Art History from Columbia University in New York in 1983 and is currently Professor in the Department of Art History and Archaeology at Washington University in St. Louis. He teaches Renaissance art and architecture 1300-1700. In addition to more than eighty essays, chapters and articles (as well as two works of fiction), he is the author and editor of six different books on Michelangelo, including *Michelangelo at San Lorenzo: The Genius as Entrepreneur* (Cambridge, 1994), *Michelangelo: Selected Scholarship in English* (Garland, 1996), *Michelangelo: The Complete Sculpture, Painting, and Architecture* (Hugh Lauter Levin, 1998), *Michelangelo: Selected Readings* (Garland, 1999), and his biography, *Michelangelo: The Artist, the Man and his Times* (Cambridge University Press, 2010). Dr. Wallace's spouse, **Elizabeth Fagan**, graduated Dickinson College in 1975. She is fluent in Italian and has managed many trips to Italy.

Dr. Meredith Jane Gill, is an **historian of Italian art and architecture from the late medieval era through the 16th century.** Her scholarly interests focus on the intersections of art and spirituality, with an emphasis on theology and philosophy. Dr. Gill is the author of *Augustine in the Italian Renaissance: Art and Philosophy from Petrarch to Michelangelo* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), and *Angels and the Order of Heaven in Medieval and Renaissance Italy* (Cambridge University Press, 2014). She has contributed chapters to *Rome: Artistic Centers of the Italian Renaissance* (ed. Marcia Hall) (Cambridge University Press, 2005) and to *The Renaissance World* (ed. John Jeffries Martin) (Routledge, 2007). Dr. Gill is a co-editor, with Karla Pollmann, of *Augustine Beyond the Book* (Brill, 2012), a collection of interdisciplinary studies on Augustine's reception.



Michelangelo's ceiling in the Sistine Chapel (top) and Statue of Moses (above left). Detail of Botticelli's *La Primavera* in the Uffizi Gallery, Florence (above right). Aerial view of Venice (below).



WHAT TO EXPECT

Participants should be in good physical condition and able to walk, unassisted, over uneven terrain and up and down steps that may not have handrails, and be able to keep pace with an active group. 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 this program is appropriate for you. All participants are expected to be physically active, to enjoy travelling as part of a group and to be ready to experience cultural differences. The weather in Italy in June is sunny and warm, but you should be prepared for occasional rain showers. The sea and the latitude influence Venice's weather, which is usually cooler than Florence and Rome. Average temperatures in Venice, Florence, and Rome in June range from 59 to 89 degrees F.

AIR ARRANGEMENTS & TRANSFERS

International airfare from home to Venice and returning from Rome is not included. Private motorboat transfer on arrival in Venice and by private motor vehicle on departure to Rome's airport plus train transfers are all included.

Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should contact your preferred travel agent or airline to book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.



For questions and reservations please contact:

Dickinson

Alumni Global Adventures

800-856-8951

Toll: 603-756-4004 • Fax: 603-756-2922

Email: Dickinson@studytours.org

Website: www.dickinson.edu/alumnitravel

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608

PER PERSON PRICES

DOUBLE Occupancy (15-20 participants)\$9,945

DOUBLE Occupancy (12-14 participants)\$10,645

SINGLE Supplement (limited availability)\$2,345

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required.

With fewer than 12 participants a surcharge will be added.

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Special lecturers and hosts: Dr. Eric Denker '75, Dr. William Wallace '74, Dr. Meredith Jane Gill, Elizabeth Fagan '75, and Dickinson College President Dr. Nancy Roseman
- Ten nights' four- and five-star accommodations per the itinerary
- 22 meals total: 10 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 6 dinners with bottled water, soft drinks, coffee or tea, plus wine with lunches and dinners. Three receptions are also included.
- All entrance fees to sites in the itinerary including a private, after-hours visit to St. Mark's Basilica in Venice and a private, after-hours visit to the Sistine Chapel and closed areas of the Vatican
- Surface transportation in air-conditioned motor coach with bottled water plus Business Class seats on fast trains Venice/Florence and Florence/Rome
- Private motorboat transfer on arrival in Venice and private transfers on departure to Rome's airport, plus train transfers
- Expert trip manager and English-speaking guides
- All gratuities to trip manager, guides, drivers, waiters, and porters
- Service charges and taxes, including VAT
- Handling of two pieces of checked luggage per person
- Practical and cultural information and a suggested reading guide

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE: International airfare from home to Venice and returning from Rome; passport and inoculation charges; all airport departure taxes; cost of personal, trip-cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; alcoholic beverages other than indicated; taxi, telephone, and fax charges; independent excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; and any items not specifically indicated as included.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing. Cancellations received at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) per person. Cancellations received between one hundred nineteen (119) and eighty nine (89) days prior to departure are subject to a penalty of 50 percent of the tour cost. Cancellations received ninety (90) days or less before departure are subject to a penalty of 100 percent of the tour cost. *You are strongly encouraged to obtain trip-cancellation insurance (an application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit).*

NOTE: Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing 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. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you are unable to or choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Prices, leaders, hotels, restaurants and itinerary are subject to change.

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Alumni Global Adventures

Art & Architecture of Venice, Florence & Rome

May 29 - June 9, 2016 (12 days)

Name 1:
(as it appears on passport) (Dickinson class year)Name 2:
(as it appears on passport) (Dickinson class year)

Address:

City:

State: Zip:

Phone (h):

Phone (w):

Phone (cell):

Email:

☐ I/We have read the "What to Expect" section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

☐ Double (*one bed*) ☐ Twin (*two beds*) ☐ Single☐ I will be sharing with:☐ Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)I am a ☐ Non-smoker ☐ Smoker

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. **Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure.** You will receive an invoice for final payment. **Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment.** All prices and payments are in U.S. dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):

☐ Check payable to: Eos Passenger Account-DC Italy 5/16☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express

CC#

Exp. Date Security Code

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, sign the release statement below, enclose your deposit and mail or fax to:

Dickinson Alumni Global Adventures

P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938 • Fax: 603-756-2922

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to the Terms & Conditions on the reverse and throughout.

Signature Date

Signature Date

Terms & Conditions

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 passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason nor to passengers whose required documentation for entry into any country on the itinerary is delayed or denied. **RESPONSIBILITY:** Dickinson College and its agent, Eos Study Tours (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator, and/or its agents (hereinafter "Operator") assume no liability for failure to provide the services, transportation, lecturers and accommodations referred to in this brochure to the extent that such services and accommodations cannot be supplied due to delays or other causes beyond the control of Operator, which include but are not limited to sickness, epidemics, pandemics, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, and acts of God. In the absence of negligence on the part of Operator, the participant agrees that Operator has no responsibility or liability of any nature whatsoever for damage to or loss of property, or injury to, or death of persons due to any act, omission or negligence of any carrier, hotel, restaurant, bus carrier, tender service, sightseeing company, or any other persons rendering any of the services or ground portions of the itinerary. The participant further waives any claim against Operator and Sponsors for any such damage, loss, injury or death. Operator and Sponsors shall not be responsible for any additional expenses, delays, substitution of equipment, and/or any act or omission whatsoever by the suppliers of such services, their agents, servants and employees, and the participant hereby waives any claim arising there from. Operator and Sponsors reserve the right to decline, accept or retain any participant at any time. 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Participants are encouraged to purchase airline tickets no sooner than 60 days before the tour begins to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Sponsors and Operator accept no liability for the purchase of non-refundable airline tickets to the tour departure city and return. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. By forwarding of deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers. Itinerary: Sponsors and Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary due to weather conditions, availability of anchorages, political conditions and other factors beyond our control without consulting the participants. Participants have no right to any refund or other considerations in the event of these itinerary changes. Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing 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. **AS A CONDITION OF ACCEPTANCE, EACH PARTICIPANT MUST AGREE TO AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING RELEASE OF LIABILITY: RELEASE:** Notwithstanding anything set forth above or otherwise contained herein, the signatory clearly understands that the Sponsors are in no way responsible and can assume no liability of any nature whatsoever for the tour and any acts, omissions or negligence by the Operator or by companies and persons with whom the Operator may contract. The signatory has carefully read the list of activities, requirements and conditions as listed in the brochure and application for the tour and is/are aware that the tour and its activities involve the risk of personal injury or death and damage or loss of property. In consideration of the benefits to be derived from participation in the tour, the signatory voluntarily accepts all risk of personal injury or death and property damage or other loss arising from participation on the tour and hereby agrees that he/she and his/her dependents, heirs, executors and assigns, do release and hold harmless Sponsors and the employees, officers, directors, trustees or representatives of Sponsors, from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, illness, personal injury, death or property damage or loss, however caused, arising from or related to this tour. The signatory has read carefully this agreement, and will abide by the conditions set by Sponsors and the Operator as described in the brochure and in the Terms and Conditions of this and other sections as stated herein or elsewhere published. The signatory affirms that he/she has not received or relied on any oral or written representation of Sponsors as a basis for executing this Release.