

# VMFA Member Travel Programs for 2024

Updated 1.23.2024

#### SOUTHEAST ASIA ODYSSEY February 22–March 11, 2024

19 days for \$7,397 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$6,995 air & land inclusive plus \$402 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,795 Land only: \$5,995

Exotic, diverse, intriguing ... Southeast Asia is revealed on this comprehensive, well-paced 19day small group adventure, from stunning natural wonders to energetic cities. Discover Hanoi, Vietnam's French-accented capital, then cruise on a traditional "junk" through famed Ha Long Bay's fairytale seascape. Tour charming Hoi An, riding a boat to its central market, and enjoy a Vietnamese cooking class. An unforgettable experience awaits with three nights in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and extensive touring of the astounding Angkor Wat complex. In Luang Prabang, Laos, watch an alms-giving ceremony and explore the ancient city. Join in a communal rice farm's activities and meet the magnificent animals in an elephant sanctuary. Boarding a private riverboat for a two-day Mekong cruise, visit hill tribe villages and overnight in a riverside lodge. Tour Chiang Rai, Thailand, then absorb life in fascinating Bangkok during a three-night stay. Encounter sophisticated Singapore with an optional 4-day/3-night extension post-tour extension.

For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Odysseys Unlimited at 888-370-6765.

# MOROCCAN DISCOVERY from the Imperial Cities to the Sahara March 1–14, 2024

14 days from \$5,979 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$5,195 air & land inclusive plus \$784 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,695 Land only: \$5,095

On this one-of-a-kind 14-day small group journey, you open your eyes, and heart, to a truly foreign land, an age-old culture, and genuinely hospitable people. Begin by touring the Moroccan capital, seaside Rabat, and enjoy lunch in a private home. See imperial Meknes and Volubilis' Roman ruins, two of the itinerary's five featured UNESCO sites. Next is exploration of Fez with its fascinating *medina*, and dinner in a family-run *riad*. After crossing the Middle Atlas mountains, reach Erfoud and experience a tour highlight: a sunset camel ride along the Sahara's breathtaking dunes. En route to Ouarzazate, encounter the spectacular, snowtopped High Atlas, including dramatic Todra Gorge. Traverse the fabled "Route of a Thousand *Kasbahs*" and visit scenic Ait ben-Haddou village. In alluring Marrakech, tour the *medina* and the city's heart, Djemaa el Fna Square. The final destination is storied Casablanca, where a highlight is touring the magnificent Hassan II Mosque.



#### PARADORES & POUSADAS Historic Lodgings of Spain and Portugal April 11–25, 2024

15 days from \$5,274 total price from Washington, D.C.
(\$4,595 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and departure fees)
Single supplement: \$1,195
Land only: \$4,295
Feel the spell of Iberia's rich Roman and Moorish past – and the pull of its vibrant contemporary
life – on this distinctive 15-day journey through the Iberian Peninsula to the intimate lodgings of
Spain's paradores and Portugal's pousadas. Your small group begins with Lisbon's highlights,

including iconic Belém Tower, and visits the lovely National Palace of Queluz. Travel through the picturesque Alentejo region to one of Portugal's finest *pousadas* in Evora, a UNESCO site replete with Roman and Moorish relics. Crossing into Spain, encounter Mérida's outstanding Roman ruins. During a three-night Carmona sojourn, experience Seville's romance and tour its renowned Catédral. Visit Cordoba, a cultural gem and UNESCO site. After exploration of Granada with its extraordinary Alhambra, discover beautiful hilltop Toledo. With three final nights in monumental Madrid, touring includes the Royal Palace, the world-renowned Prado, and Plaza Mayor. Enjoy Spain's spirited cultural capital, Barcelona, with an optional 4-day/3night post-tour extension.

For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Odysseys Unlimited at 888-370-6765.

# NATIONAL PARKS OF THE SOUTHWEST

April 14–24, 2024

11 days for \$4,595 total price land only11 days for \$5,195 total price from Washington, D.C.Single supplement: \$1,195

It's a land of scenes epic in scope, from the immense Grand Canyon and the sinuous Colorado to the sandstone spires of Bryce and the red-rock cliffs of Zion. Your small group first sets out from Phoenix to Williams, exploring Old Town Scottsdale followed by dazzling Sedona, with its towering red sandstone formations on an open-air Jeep tour. Spend a memorable day at the awe-inspiring Grand Canyon, a UNESCO site. Staying next at a hotel on Lake Powell's shores, discover the spectacular Upper Antelope Canyon with its "flowing" rock walls, then embark on a rousing Colorado River motorized rafting excursion. With two nights in stunning Bryce Canyon National Park, marvel at the park's otherworldly hoodoo rock formations. Admire Zion National Park's wondrously diverse natural world while exploring the park during a two-night stay. After this immersion in outdoor grandeur, toast the Southwestern adventure at a farewell dinner in Las Vegas.



# **EUROPEAN COASTAL CIVILIZATIONS**

**May 2-11, 2023** From \$6,295 plus air

#### Commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day on this 8-night cruise itinerary!

Explore the storied legacies and dynamic cultures of coastal Portugal, Spain, France, and England. Discover Portugal's renowned wine country, walk in the footsteps of ancient pilgrims in Santiago de Compostela, visit Bilbao's iconic **Guggenheim Museum**, and see UNESCOinscribed Mont-Saint-Michel's impressive abbey. Meet guest speaker **Dwight David Eisenhower II**, grandson of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, as he joins us on a special anniversary tour of the hallowed Normandy beaches. Extend your journey with the Lisbon Pre-Program and London Post-Program options.

> For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Gohagan & Co. at 800-922-3088.

# **PROVINCIAL FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE**

May 6-20, 2024 15 days for \$6,097 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$5,495 air & land inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,195 Land only: \$5,095

Experience the beauty, allure, and hospitality of provincial France at an easy pace and in a unique style on this 15-day small group tour. Set out from Toulouse to discover the rich history of Carcassonne and Albi with its Toulouse-Lautrec Museum. During a three-night stay in the medieval gem of Sarlat, see Lascaux IV's cave paintings, cruise the Dordogne River, and tour cliffside Rocamadour. Saumur offers a picturesque base for a three-night Loire Valley sojourn, with visits to a winery and the impressive Chenonceau château. Traveling to Normandy for a three-night stay, tour the renowned Mont-St-Michel abbey. See the 1,000-year-old Bayeux Tapestry and visit Caen's Memorial Museum. A poignant day's touring includes Normandy's D-Day Landing Beaches and the American Cemetery. Walk through Monet's famed Giverny gardens, then get acquainted with enchanting Paris during a two-night stay. Savor more time in the "City of Light" with an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension.



#### PORTRAIT OF ITALY May 18–June 2, 2024

16 days for \$5,874 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$5,295 air & land inclusive plus \$579 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,095 Land only: \$4,895

From the breathtaking Amalfi Coast to eternal Rome, through the gentle Umbrian and Tuscan countryside to treasured Venice, this wide-ranging 16-day small group tour showcases ancient sites, contemporary life, priceless art, and unique accommodations. Begin on the storied Amalfi Coast, experiencing this stunning region by sea and by land and visiting Pompeii's exquisite ruins. Continuing on to the Eternal City for a three-night stay, tour the Colosseum, the Forum, monumental St. Peter's Square, and the sublime Sistine Chapel, and explore independently. Spend three nights in Italy's "green heart" of Umbria, enjoying a cooking demonstration in Orvieto and a visit to beloved Assisi. Journeying to alluring Tuscany, tour splendid Siena. Discover Florence, living monument to the Renaissance, and encounter classic Tuscany in the hill town of San Gimignano. Sample a local winery's offerings before concluding your tour in wondrous Venice. Savor more time in Venice with an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension.

For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Odysseys Unlimited at 888-370-6765.

# MACHU PICCHU TO THE GALAPAGOS June 25–July 10, 2024

16 days for \$9,393 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$8,495 air & land inclusive plus \$898 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$2,595 Land only: \$8,295

Machu Picchu's enigmatic ruins and the fascinating Galapagos Islands rank among South America's greatest treasures, and a small group tour is the ideal way to experience both. This outstanding 16-day adventure begins with Lima's highlights. Traverse the magnificent Sacred Valley, visiting impressive Incan sites and indigenous villages during a two-night stay. After taking a scenic train ride to Machu Picchu, tour and absorb this astounding site on two separate days, overnighting nearby. Then encounter the history and beauty of Cuzco and Quito, both UNESCO sites. Spend the next four nights on the Galapagos' beautiful Santa Cruz Island; the relaxed stay here includes cruising on a private yacht to two nearby islands to learn about Darwin's incredible "living laboratory" from an expert naturalist guide. After this unique experience, return to Quito for a final day of touring. Discover the Amazon's amazing flora, fauna, and villages with an exceptional 4-day/4-night pre-tour option.



# JOURNEY through CENTRAL EUROPE July 23–August 7, 2024

16 days for \$5,597 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$4,995 air & land inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,395 Land only: \$4,595

Leisurely and comprehensive, this 16-day small group tour provides a generous overview of four fascinating Eastern European nations. The journey begins in Poland's capital, Warsaw, where sightseeing includes the faithfully rebuilt Old Town and moving visits to the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps. Next is historic Krakow with its celebrated medieval Old Town, and touring of the Wieliczka Salt Mine, a virtual underground city carved from salt. Travel through the snowcapped Tatra Mountains to Budapest and get acquainted with the "Paris of the East," with its splendid architecture and lively café culture. After stops along the scenic Danube Bend, reach beloved Vienna and enjoy a classical music performance and visits to the grand Opera House and majestic Schönbrunn Palace. In elegant Prague, the final destination, touring includes the medieval Old Town, the Castle District, and the historic Jewish Quarter. Experience Germany's cosmopolitan capital with an optional 4-day/3-night post-tour Berlin extension.

For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Odysseys Unlimited at 888-370-6765.

#### SCANDANAVIA AND THE BALTIC SEA July 31–August 10, 2024 From \$6,995 plus air

Discover the lands and legacies forged by centuries of Baltic history on a 9-night cruise to visit 7 countries, featuring special guest speaker Lech Wałesa, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and former President of Poland. This Polish national hero will be speaking by exclusive arrangement about the establishment of the Polish Solidarity labor movement and the struggles he overcame when confronting a Soviet-backed regime—a message that will be more poignant than ever. Explore the cultural rebirth of Scandinavia and the Baltic states on this one-of-a-kind itinerary with excursions to Gothenburg, Sweden; Copenhagen, Denmark, Gdansk, Poland; Riga, Latvia; Helsinki, Finland; and Tallinn, Estonia. Enhance your journey with the Wonders of Norway Pre-Program and/or the Stockholm Post-Program options.

For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Gohagan & Co. at 800-922-3088.



#### SCOTLAND: HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS August 12–23, 2024

12 days for \$7,096 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$6,395 air & land inclusive plus \$701 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,595 Land only: \$5,895

From city to country, loch to glen, encounter breathtaking natural beauty, a colorful past, and a cosmopolitan present on this sweet small group journey. The 12-day Scottish sojourn begins in vibrant Glasgow with a tour highlighting its distinct architecture, and a private tour of historic Pollok House. Setting out for the scenic Highlands and stays in Fort William and Aviemore, stop at bonnie Loch Lomond and dramatic Glencoe. Embark on a stunning Isle of Skye excursion, and a boat ride on fabled Loch Ness. History unfolds at Urquhart Castle and the evocative Culloden Moor battle site. After a falconry demonstration, sample a local distillery's whisky. Watch a sheepdog demonstration en route to Saint Andrews for exploration of this legendary town. With three nights in stately Edinburgh, see Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood, and other highlights, and explore independently. As a special treat, enjoy a performance of the famed Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

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# NORTHERN ITALY from the Alps to the Adriatic September 7–21, 2024

15 days for \$5,974 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$5,395 air & land inclusive plus \$579 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,395 Land only: \$4,895

This leisurely 15-day exploration of Italy's varied northern regions offers your small group a refreshing perspective on a well-known land. Experience the Lake District with a relaxing threenight stay on Lake Maggiore, visiting charming Orta San Giulio and cruising to the beautiful island of Isola Bella. Sample the "king of wines" at a Barolo winery. A three-night sojourn in an Italian Riviera town, Santa Margherita, follows, with a boat trip to renowned Portofino and an excursion to the spectacular Cinque Terre. Journeying to beloved Tuscany, stop in atmospheric Lucca; then explore wondrous Florence, Tuscany's crown jewel, during a three-night stay. Discover exquisite Siena and storied Verona and spend two nights in Bolzano, gateway to the magnificent Dolomites. Two nights in treasured Venice, with touring of iconic St. Mark's Square and independent exploration, conclude the journey. Savor more time in this most beautiful of cities with an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension.



#### INSIDER'S JAPAN September 25–October 7, 2024

13 days for \$7,884 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$7,195 air & land inclusive plus \$689 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,695 Land only: \$5,895

A truly foreign and fascinating land of rich traditions and dizzying modernity is revealed on this well-crafted 13-day small group tour. See Tokyo and Kyoto's highlights, engage in local life, and head off the beaten path to alluring historic destinations. Begin in amazing Tokyo, where sightseeing includes the imposing Imperial Palace, Meiji Shrine, and a calligrapher's gallery. Then encounter magnificent Mt. Fuji and cruise on scenic Ashi Lake. After overnighting in a traditional *ryokan* inn, travel by express train to lovely Takayama in the Japanese Alps. A traditional tea ceremony and a cooking class offer opportunities to experience Japanese culture firsthand. In culturally rich Kanazawa, visit famed Kenrokuen Garden and a gold leaf museum. Touring of Japan's cultural capital, Kyoto, includes the beloved Golden Pavilion temple, the extravagant Nijo-jo Castle, and the important Fushimi Inari shrine. Discover cosmopolitan Hiroshima, reborn from its atomic destruction, with an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension.

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# TREASURES OF PERU with Machu Picchu & Lake Titicaca September 25–October 5, 2024

11 days for \$5,087 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$4,395 air & land inclusive plus \$692 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$995 Land only: \$3,995

A land of treasures archaeological, cultural, and natural awaits your small group on this engaging 11-day tour. The Peruvian adventure begins with Lima's highlights, both colonial and modern, including the historic Casa Aliaga and the renowned Larco Herrera Museum. In historic Cuzco, visit the sacred sites of Koricancha and Santo Domingo. Experience Peru's rich cultural heritage in the beautiful Sacred Valley, exploring Pisac's colorful Indian market, admiring Ollantaytambo's massive ruins, and visiting indigenous villages. After a scenic train ride, encounter Machu Picchu's astounding ruins on two guided tours, overnighting at a nearby hotel. Returning to Cuzco, see Sacsayhuamán's impressive ruins and enjoy a tour highlight: lunch in a gracious family's home. Traverse Peru's dramatic *altiplano* with its snowcapped mountains to stunning Lake Titicaca, where a full-day exploration includes a boat ride to the Uros people's floating reed islands. Discover the Amazon rainforest's many wonders on an optional 4-day/4-night post-tour extension.



# DISCOVERING PROVENCE with the French Riviera September 30–October 11, 2024

12 days for \$5,297 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$4,695 air & land inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,195 Land only: \$4,195

Discover beloved Provence, nestled between the Rhone and the Mediterranean, on this 12day small group journey par excellence. A three-night stay in charming Aix-en-Provence offers a quintessential Provençal experience, from an excursion to the scenic Luberon region, including a Renaissance château and picturesque Roussillon, to visiting Cézanne's studio and dinner and a tasting at a winery. Explore historic Arles and witness the impressive Pont du Gard Roman aqueduct. Avignon sightseeing includes the massive Papal Palace, then enjoy a small group highlight: a Provençal cooking class. A multimedia art exhibition and visits to Les-Bauxde-Provence and Saint-Rémy-de-Provence follow. After touring medieval Aigues-Mortes, experience life at a traditional ranch in the rugged Camargue, and see the region's iconic pink flamingos. The journey ends with two nights in the prized French Riviera, where touring includes artists' haven Saint-Paul-de-Vence and cosmopolitan Nice. Savor more time in the French Riviera with an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension.

> For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Odysseys Unlimited at 888-370-6765.

# ACROSS NORTHERN SPAIN & PORTUGAL with Paradores & Pousadas October 13–29, 2024

17 days for \$5,974 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$5,295 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,495 Land only: \$4,995

Fortified cities and fishing villages, rugged Atlantic coastline and commanding Pyrenees peaks, and intimate lodgings in historic *paradores* and *pousadas* – it all awaits on this singular 17-day small group journey. Your travels begin with highlights and independent exploration of fascinating Lisbon. In Oporto, take a Douro River cruise and sample the region's famed port wine. Discover beautiful Santiago de Compostela – last stop along the celebrated Way of St. James pilgrimage route – and then León's impressive architectural heritage. Continuing to Bilbao, visit the acclaimed Guggenheim and Fine Arts museums. Embark on a day-long excursion along the rugged Basque coastline, with a poignant stop in Guernica. Spending two nights in the stunning Pyrenees region, tour fabled Pamplona and experience the Chistau Valley's natural beauty. The journey's finale: a three-night stay in world-class Barcelona with touring and time at leisure. Discover more of this spirited city independently with an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension.



SINGAPORE, BALI, AND INDONESIA October 17–November 1, 2024 From \$6,745 plus air

Spend 2 nights in Singapore, 2 nights in Bali, and 8 nights cruising the islands of Indonesia, including Bali, Java, and Komodo Island on a luxury itinerary that blends nature, culture, and history. Visit the UNESCO-inscribed **Borobudur Temple**, one of the largest Buddhist monuments in the world, and Prambanan Temple, the largest complex of Hindu temples in Indonesia. Enjoy a guided walking safari of UNESCO-designated Komodo National Park, home to the largest lizard on Earth, the Komodo dragon. Enhance your tour with a Pre-Program visit to Cambodia and **Angkor Wat** and/or the Post-Program option in Bali.

For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Gohagan & Co. at 800-922-3088.

# EGYPT & THE ETERNAL NILE October 28–November 11, 2024

15 days for \$5,397 total price from Washington, D.C. (\$4,795 air, land, & cruise inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and departure fees) Single supplement: \$1,295 Land only: \$4,395

Accompanied by an expert Egyptian guide, this singular 15-day small group journey through antiquity reveals a storied land's treasures. In Cairo, visit the acclaimed Egyptian Museum, Memphis's open-air museum, splendid Sakkara, and the astounding Pyramids of Giza with their Great Sphinx. Traveling to Abu Simbel for a fascinating three-night Lake Nasser cruise, see its imposing temples – the setting for a dramatic sound-and-light show – then sail on to ancient Nubia's other outstanding temples: Amada, Wadi el-Seboua, New Kalabsha, and Philae. After touring Aswan's massive dam, depart on a classic four-night Nile voyage, enjoying a sail aboard a traditional *felucca* and visiting Kom Ombo's unusual temple and Edfu's remarkably preserved Temple of Horus. Reaching Luxor, explore its awe-inspiring temple complexes. With two final nights in Cairo, tour the exotic Khan el-Khalili bazaar and historic Old Cairo. Discover fabled "rose red" Petra, ancient Jerash, and Amman with an optional 5-day/4-night post-tour Jordan extension.



THE ARABIAN GULF November 11–23, 2024 From \$7,495 plus air

Experience the architectural wonder and breathtaking scenery of the Arabian Gulf on an extraordinary, 5-star land and sea itinerary that includes 2 nights in Dubai, 2 nights in Muscat, and a 7-night cruise from Muscat back to Dubai. On your city tour of Dubai, see the famous 7-star Burj Al Arab hotel and visit the world's tallest building, the iconic Burj Khalifa. Also experience the stunning new observation deck on the 52<sup>nd</sup> floor of The Palm Tower, located on the world's largest man-made island, engineered in the shape of a palm tree. Explore Oman's majestic capital city of Muscat and enjoy a full-day excursion to the Jabreen Forts, two of the best preserved of their kind in Oman. Discover the royal private home of the Ruler of Sarjah, beautiful mosques, ancient sites, and world-class museums on your cruise with calls at United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain, and Qatar. Extend your journey with a 3-night Pre-Program Option in Kuwait and/or a 2-night Post-Program Option in the Arabian Desert.

For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Gohagan & Co. at 800-922-3088.

# CHRISTKINDLMÄRKTE along the DANUBE RIVER December 6–14, 2024

9 days from approximately \$3,495 plus air

This seven-night river cruise from Vienna, Austria, to Nuremberg, Germany will feature traditional Christmas Markets during the Advent Season, as well as iconic sites in Vienna, Melk, and Salzburg. Enhance your trip with the Vienna Pre-Program and Munich Post-Program Options.

> For more information, or to register for this trip, please contact Gohagan & Co. at 800-922-3088.



#### **VMFA Member Travel**

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Member Travel Program brings together museum members at every level who share a desire for cultural enrichment and social engagement, as well as a spirit of discovery. The program was created more than thirty years ago to offer domestic and international excursions tailored to this unique community, drawn together by their membership in the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. We hope to increase the presence of VMFA in the lives of our members beyond the physical confines of our museum through experience with the origins of our collections, exposure to the cultures that gave life to these artistic expressions, and personal interactions with the dedicated museum staff who bring VMFA's treasures to the public. The VMFA Member Travel Program is designed to develop and strengthen the relationship between members and the museum. Our distinctive combination of cultural enrichment, fellowship and exceptional amenities distinguish the VMFA Member Travel Program from other commercially available tour offerings. If you are not already a member of VMFA and wish to participate in a Member Travel program, you may join the museum online using our website at: <u>About Membership - Membership (vmfa.museum)</u>

> For more details, check the Member Travel Website at: <u>Member Travel - Membership (vmfa.museum)</u>

Note: Information above is correct as of 1.15.2024, but details and pricing may be subject to change.