

ITINERARY

**EMPEROR PENGUINS IN THE WEDDELL SEA:  
In search of Antarctica's most iconic bird**

November 12-25, 2019



*The Emperor Penguin is the iconic Antarctic resident. While we can't guarantee that we will see them, we will do our best to get a good view of these enchanting creatures. Even if we are not able to visit the colony on Snow Hill island, we'll watch for the Emperors at sea, and we will see many other amazing, rarely seen inhabitants of the Weddell Sea.*

*Photograph by participant Joyce Takamine.*

**A**psley Cherry-Garrard's words from his account of Robert Falcon Scott's second polar expedition (1910-1913) introduce us to one of the hardest animal species on earth: "Take it all in all, I do not believe anybody on Earth has a worse time than an emperor penguin." We are excited to venture to Antarctica in search of this most iconic bird of the Antarctic, the Emperor Penguin.

Our itinerary is structured to give us the best possible chance to find Emperor Penguins at sea, and if possible, to make an approach to the Emperor colony near Snow Hill Island in the Weddell Sea. This is a true adventure on the edge of the world, and all routing decisions must be made with safety in mind. If weather and sea conditions allow, we will make helicopter shuttle flights to a point near the Emperor Penguin colony and then hike ~45 minutes to the edge of the colony. **There is no guarantee of a successful visit to the Emperor Penguin colony.** Oceanwide Expeditions summarizes recent trips: "Attempts to reach Snow Hill Island during the voyages of 2012 – 17 did not always succeed. In 2013 and November 2017 conditions were favorable to land by helicopter on Snow Hill Island and to visit the emperor penguin rookery." If we can't make it to the Emperor Penguin colony, we'll search for them at sea away from the colony site. This strategy gives us a good chance of encountering Emperor Penguins.

**\*\*Note\*\* This focused tour does not visit the Falkland Islands or South Georgia.**

Field Guides offers this tour as a partnership with Oceanwide Expeditions, a Dutch company that specializes in oceanic voyages to polar regions. Your Field Guides leader(s) will work with the Oceanwide staff to tailor this experience to maximize your birding and wildlife-watching opportunities. This 11-day tour will take place on the 116-passenger Ortelius, a 91 meter-long ship with an ice-strengthened hull and the capacity to carry helicopters. More information about Ortelius can be found on Oceanwide's website at: <https://oceanwide-expeditions.com/our-fleet/m-v-ortelius>

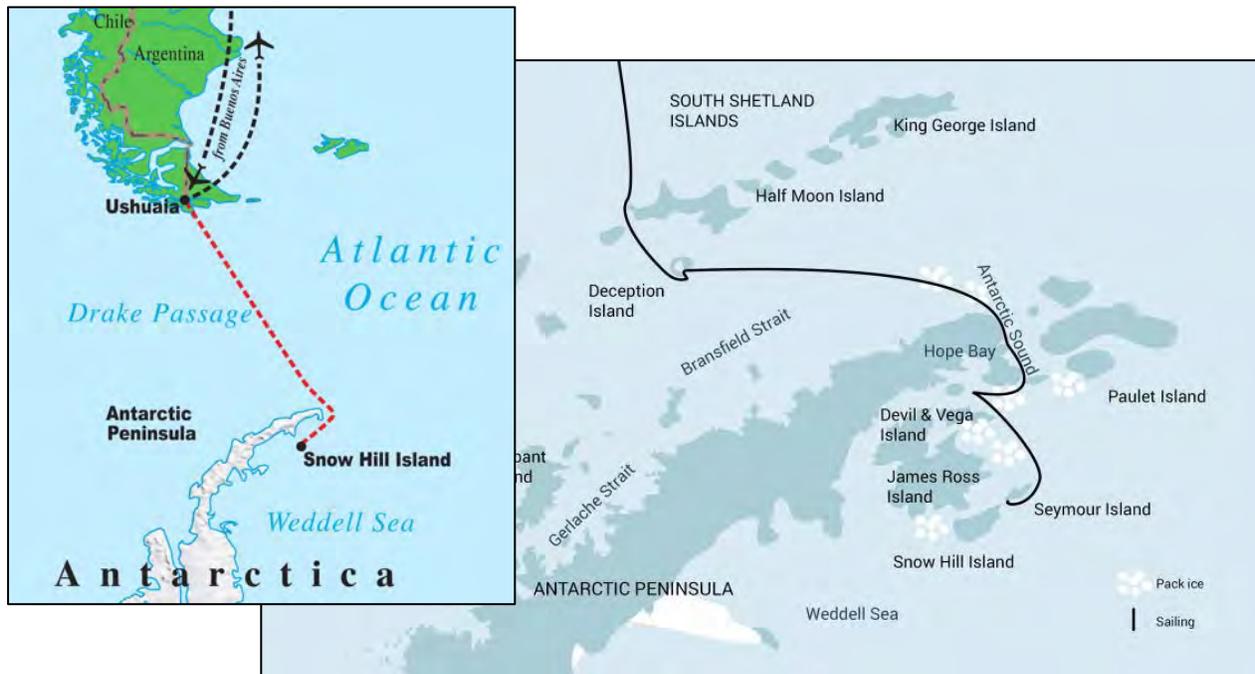
Oceanwide's details about our cruise can be found online here: <https://oceanwide-expeditions.com/antarctica/cruises/otl22-19-weddell-sea-in-search-of-the-emperor-penguin-incl-helicopters>

**About the Physical Requirements & Pace:** To participate in this expedition, it is important for you to be in good shape and health. Once at sea, medical issues take on heightened significance due to the difficulty in transporting passengers to medical facilities (but don't worry, there will be a doctor on the ship to address any issues that might arise during the tour). It is important for you to be able to get into and out of a zodiac (inflatable boat used as cruising and landing craft for 8-10 people at a time) or helicopter. We will also walk on uneven and sometimes icy terrain, sometimes with a considerable incline.

Motion sickness is a real possibility as the Southern Ocean is a windy place with occasional high seas. We also intend to fly in helicopters; though flights will most likely be made on relatively calm days, and some people are susceptible to motion sickness while in flight. Motion sickness can be managed with medication including Bonine and Scopolamine. Please contact your physician for detailed information.

If you are uncertain whether this tour is a good match for your abilities, please don't hesitate to contact our office; if they cannot directly answer your queries, they will put you in touch with one of the guides.

## About the Birding Areas



**Ushuaia** – The tour begins and ends in Ushuaia, Argentina. The world's southernmost city serves as a fantastic jumping-off point for Antarctic trips, and is also a good birding destination in its own right. In the harbor, South American Terns and Chilean Skuas course over both Flying and Flightless Steamer-ducks, and Baird's and White-rumped Sandpipers ply the shores while South American Snipe and Correndera Pipits patrol the marshes and uplands.

**Antarctic Peninsula/ Weddell Sea** – Though the wildlife diversity is lower around Antarctica proper as compared with South Georgia and the Falklands, some of the world's most iconic animals live here. We are likely to meet Chinstrap and Adelie Penguins at their colonies, and we'll search for Weddell, Crabeater, and Leopard seals on floating chunks of ice. When we venture into the icy Weddell Sea, we'll be scanning carefully for Emperor Penguins in the water and on the ice. If the weather and ice conditions cooperate, we will draw close to Snow Hill Island and seek Emperor Penguins at or near their breeding colony on ice adjacent to the island.

**Pelagic birding at sea** – We plan to maximize our time on the ship at sea in between Ushuaia and Antarctica. This means spending plenty of time on the deck of the ship in search of species that we're only likely to encounter in pelagic waters offshore. These include (but are certainly not limited to) Northern and Southern Royal Albatross, Gray-headed Albatross, Blue Petrel, Prions (Slender-billed, Antarctic, and Fairy), Magellanic, Common, and South Georgia Diving-Petrels, Soft-plumaged Petrel, Kerguelen Petrel, Antarctic Petrel, and Wilson's, Gray-backed, and Black-bellied Storm-Petrels. Distinct zones of birdlife will become obvious as we travel along, with the more northerly birds of the Falkland

Plateau/ South American continental shelf transitioning to those of the Drake Passage and then the cold waters south of the Antarctic Convergence. Spending time outside on deck while at sea is essential to have a good chance at finding these seabirds; however, don't worry – you can always nip inside for a cup of tea and some biscuits for a quick break. We'll also spend time watching and identifying marine mammals when the opportunity presents itself.



*The lovely Snow Petrel is an Antarctic specialist, one of the few birds that breed in this harsh environment.  
Photograph by guide Tom Johnson.*

## Itinerary for Emperor Penguins in the Weddell Sea

**\*\*Important note\*\* - This itinerary reflects a plan based on ideal conditions and the Oceanwide Expeditions itinerary. Please note that all sites and landings are subject to change due to weather and the discretion of the captain and expedition staff.**

**Days 1-2, Tue-Wed, 12-13 Nov. Flights from the US to Buenos Aires/Buenos Aires to Ushuaia.** Most flights depart the US in the evening and fly overnight to reach Buenos Aires early the next morning in time to make connections to Ushuaia. The airport in Ushuaia is about 10 minutes from our hotel by taxi. On the evening before we board the Ortelius, we'll meet in the hotel lobby at 7:30 p.m. for dinner and to discuss the following day's plan. Night in Ushuaia.

*Please note: A full buffer day in Ushuaia is recommended to mitigate against problems stemming from flight or baggage delays. This would mean departing the US on November 11<sup>th</sup>, arriving in Ushuaia on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Our office will be happy to assist you with reservations for extra nights.*

**Day 3, Thu, 14 Nov. Boarding day in Ushuaia, Argentina.** Following instructions provided by Oceanwide Expeditions, we'll stage our luggage and arrive at the pier in Ushuaia to board the ship. We'll check into our staterooms (just like arriving at a hotel, really!) and explore the ship, becoming acquainted with the various decks, lounges, and dining facilities. Your Field Guides leaders will host a welcome meeting to go over our strategy for the tour, and Oceanwide's staff will hold briefings to outline the expedition's plans. Our Field Guides group (capped at 15 with one leader) will represent a subset of the participants of the cruise (up to 116 guests total), and it will be a good idea to start getting to know each other before we're fully underway. Of course, we'll want to keep an eye outside as we begin our eastward transit of the Beagle Channel, and we're sure to see our first Southern Giant-Petrels and Black-browed Albatrosses arcing against the dramatic, forested slopes of Tierra del Fuego. All subsequent nights will be on the *ship*.



*This Leopard Seal looks fairly benign, but these are fierce predators that feed on other seals, penguins, and many other prey items. We'll watch for marine mammals like this in addition to the penguins and other Antarctic residents.*

*Photograph by guide Tom Johnson.*

**Days 4-5, Fri-Sat, 15-16 Nov. At sea across the Drake Passage.** We'll leave the Beagle Channel at night and head south into the open ocean toward Antarctica. En route, we'll get used to the motion of the open sea and begin to get acquainted with the seabirds of the region including massive Royal and Wandering albatrosses, White-chinned Petrels, diving-petrels, and prions. As we reach the colder waters of the Antarctic Convergence to the south, we might find our first Blue Petrels, Southern Fulmars, and more. Your guide will be outside as much as possible, helping you to key in on the characteristic flight style and field marks of the wonderful seabirds that we'll encounter. This leg of the journey can also be good for finding dolphins and other marine mammals. The expedition staff will brief us on zodiac and helicopter safety, and we'll receive our ship-provided rubber boots (good quality Muck Boots or similar).

**Days 6-9, Sun-Wed, 17-20 Nov. Exploring the Weddell Sea.** The exact itinerary of these four days will depend on careful analysis of ice conditions and weather by the ship's officers and the Oceanwide Expeditions staff. This is our target window to search for Emperor Penguins in the icy Weddell Sea (east of the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula). If conditions allow (**<50% chance**), we will approach Snow Hill Island and attempt to visit an Emperor Penguin colony nearby. Oceanwide Expeditions provides the following details for these circumstances: "Helicopters provide an advantage in reaching the emperor penguin colony, but nature makes the rules in Antarctica. If conditions are favourable, you'll spend the first two days at the penguin rookery. The helicopter operation takes a full day, and the flight duration is approximately 15 minutes. Each helicopter can accommodate 4 – 6 passengers per flight, and the landing site is carefully chosen so that the penguins are not disturbed. Upon arrival to the site, it is about a 45-minute walk to the rookery. Please keep in mind that you are in the world's most remote area: There are no guarantees. Conditions may change rapidly, which can have a profound impact on our helicopter operations. It is important to understand and respect this. Safety is our greatest concern, and no compromises can be made."

If conditions do not allow us to visit the Emperor Penguins at the colony, we will search for these beauties at sea among chunks of floating ice.

**Day 10, Thu, 21 Nov. Deception Island (South Shetland Islands) and beginning of return trip across the Drake Passage** As a change of scenery from the stark seascape of the Weddell Sea, we plan to sail into the sunken caldera of Deception Island in the South Shetland Islands. This is the former home of a British Antarctic base and hosts breeding birds like Wilson's Storm-Petrels, South Polar Skuas, Antarctic Shags, and more. In the afternoon, we'll begin our journey north back across the Drake Passage toward Ushuaia.

**Days 11-12, Fri-Sat, 22-23 Nov. At sea across the Drake Passage.** This return trip across "The Drake" will give us more opportunities to study pelagic seabirds and marine mammals. We'll keep a sharp eye out for gadfly petrels and any species that we missed on the way south at the start of the trip.

**Days 13-14, Sun-Mon, 24-25 Nov. Disembarkation in Ushuaia and flights home.** After breakfast on the ship, we'll disembark and take buses to the Ushuaia airport (or transfer to hotels in Ushuaia if you are staying on longer). The flights depart for Buenos Aires this afternoon for overnight flights to the US arriving on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

## About Your Guides

**Tom Johnson** grew up watching birds in central Pennsylvania. Interested in science and the outdoors, he became involved in a variety of field projects, including banding migrant landbirds and conducting point counts for the 2nd Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas. He was fortunate to pursue undergraduate studies in biology at Cornell University, where he learned about systematics and migration while surrounded by the amazing ornithologists and birders of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

After college, Tom spent much of his time studying seabirds off the East Coast, conducting line transect surveys from NOAA ships between Nova Scotia and the Bahamas. He is a regional editor for *North American Birds*, a regular contributor to *Birding*, and a member of the ABA Checklist Committee.

Now living in Cape May, New Jersey, Tom devotes time to watching bird migration, photography, and searching for vagrants and hybrid birds. He loves helping others pursue their passion for birding and the outdoors, and is pleased to be able to do this while guiding for Field Guides.

Visit <https://fieldguides.com/guides> for Tom's complete tour schedule; just click on his photo.

*"Tom has an amazing knowledge of birds and the natural world. His enthusiasm and professionalism comes through so much. He kept us on schedule -yet allowed for some great diversions that showed up. Field Guides is so fortunate to have him guiding." L.T. Arizona Nightbirds & More*

## About Your Ship



*Ortelius in the Antarctic Sound, from a previous Field Guides tour.  
Photograph by guide Tom Johnson.*

The *m/v Ortelius* is a 91-meter vessel, perfectly suited to expedition travel in polar regions with great viewing areas from the various decks. With an ice-strengthened hull it is able to navigate waters more comfortably than many other ships of similar size, and in normal conditions average travel speed is about 10-12 kts. The vessel has the highest ice-class notation and is therefore very suitable to navigate in solid one-year sea ice and loose multi-year pack ice. *Ortelius* was built in Poland in 1989, was named *Marina Svetaeva*, and served as a special purpose vessel for the Russian Academy of Science. The vessel was re-flagged and renamed *Ortelius* after the Dutch/Flemish cartographer, Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* or *Theatre of the World* in 1570. At that time, the atlas was the most expensive book ever printed.

In addition to the 53 cabins, the ship contains an infirmary, two adjacent dining rooms, a

bar/lounge and lecture room. The ship's crew is international, and the expedition staff is largely European. *Ortelius* carries 11 zodiacs of which 9 are in use and 2 on reserve. Announcements, briefings, and lectures will be in English and, in keeping with the spirit of expedition travel, dress is informal. Internet service on board is limited and for a fee, and it is rather unreliable in much of our travel area. For urgent and important communications, the ship is equipped with satellite phone (pricey) and facsimile systems. There is power in all cabins and electricity is of the European 220-volt variety. American travelers will require an adapter for any electronic devices. Laundry service is available on board for a fee. A doctor will travel with us, and the infirmary is well provisioned with medicines and equipment. Those passengers on regular medication should bring with them an adequate personal supply, and participants concerned about seasickness are encouraged to consult with their physicians before departure.

More information about *Ortelius* can be found on Oceanwide's website at: <https://oceanwide-expeditions.com/our-fleet/m-v-ortelius>

## Financial Information

**CRUISE FEE:** \$13550pp Twin (window) / \$12950pp Twin (porthole)

\$11350pp in quadruple (porthole)

(all prices are per person from Ushuaia.)

*Field Guides is holding Twin Window & Twin Porthole cabins; we will have to request other Cabin types.*

**LAND FEE:** \$475 per person in double occupancy. Single Supplement on land fee \$100

**DEPOSIT:** 20% of the cruise fee per person; *please note your cabin category preference on your registration form.*

**FINAL PAYMENT DUE:** July 15, 2019

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** 1.7% of published cruise fee. Single travelers who wish to share their cabin/hotel room should indicate this on the registration form. The published per person twin occupancy fare is guaranteed in this case, whether or not a cabinmate is available. Single travelers who require sole occupancy of cabins will be charged at 1.7 times the published fare.

**LIMIT:** 15

***Price Changes**—Oceanwide Expeditions (from whom we have an allotment of cabins) reserves the right to impose surcharges (price increases) up to 120 days before departure due to unfavorable changes in exchange rates, increases in air fares or other transportation costs, increases in local operating costs, taxes, or government action. If fuel prices increase to exceed US \$120 per Barrel Brent, Oceanwide Expeditions reserves the right to levy a fuel surcharge of US \$25 per passenger per night.*

***Insurance**—Oceanwide Expeditions requires that travelers obtain insurance that will cover personal injury, medical, repatriation, and evacuation expenses. The cost of emergency evacuation and medical care can be very high. A minimum of \$75,000 is required and it is strongly recommended that coverage be extended to include cancellation and trip interruption. Coverage offered through CSA on the Field Guides Comfort Plan meets these minimums as well as trip cancellation/interruption insurance.*

## Other Things You Need to Know

**TOUR MANAGER:** The manager for this tour is Karen Turner. Karen will be happy to assist you in preparing for the tour. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call her!

**DOCUMENTS:** A current passport valid for three months beyond the date of your return is necessary for US citizens to enter Argentina. We recommend that your passport be valid for at least 6 months beyond the dates of your visit, as regulations vary from country to country, and are subject to change. No visa is required.

If you are a citizen of another country, please check with the Argentine consulate nearest you for entry requirements. Information about consulates and entry requirements is generally available online or you can contact us and we will be happy to look this up for you. Passports should have an adequate number of blank pages for the entire journey. Some countries require a blank page for their stamp and as a precaution it is best to have one blank page per country you will visit or transit.

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS:** Field Guides is a full service travel agency and your tour manager will be happy to assist you with flights to join this tour. Field Guides does not charge a service fee for these services to clients booking a tour. However, we understand that tech-savvy clients often prefer to shop online or that you may wish to use mileage to purchase tickets. Regardless of which method you choose, your tour manager will be happy to provide assistance regarding ticket prices and schedules, along with rental cars and extra hotel nights as needed.

Please be sure to check with your tour manager prior to purchasing your ticket to make sure the flights you have chosen will work well with the tour itinerary and that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate. Once purchased, most airline tickets are non-refundable and carry a penalty to change. Field Guides cannot be responsible for these fees. **Also, it is imperative that we receive a copy of your comprehensive flight itinerary—including any and all flights not covered in the tour fee—so that we may track you in the event of missed connections, delays, or other mishaps.**

**LUGGAGE:** In addition to standard travel luggage, you might wish to bring a daypack to take ashore during our landings – a waterproof bag is a good idea for this purpose. Please be aware that many airlines have recently modified their luggage policies and are charging additional fees for checked bags. Updates could easily occur before your departure, so you may wish to contact your airline to verify the policy. Additional charges for bags on any flights, whether these are covered by the tour fee or not, will be the client's responsibility.

**TOUR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS:** The **cruise fee** from Ushuaia includes the voyage aboard the vessel as indicated in the itinerary; all meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee, and tea; all shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by zodiac; program of lectures by noted naturalists, leadership by experienced expedition staff, and the guide services of your Field Guides leader; all miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program; and comprehensive pre-trip material. Tipping at group meals and for drivers, porters, and local guides is included in your tour fee and will be handled for the group by your Field Guides leader(s). However, if you would like to recognize your Field Guides leader(s) or any local guide(s) for exceptional service, it is entirely appropriate to tip. We emphasize that such tips are optional and not expected.

The **land fee** of \$475 is for one person in double occupancy in Ushuaia. It includes lodging for the night of November 13<sup>th</sup> in Ushuaia, dinner on November 13<sup>th</sup>, and breakfast on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

The above fees do not include your airfare to and from Ushuaia, airport taxes, visa fees, any checked or carry-on baggage charges imposed by the airlines, any alcoholic beverages, the customary gratuity at the end of the voyage to the boat crew (guidelines will be provided), phone calls, laundry, or other items of a personal nature.

The **single supplement** for the land portion of the tour is \$100. If you do not have a roommate but wish to share, we will try to pair you with a roommate from the tour; but if none is available, you will be billed for the single supplement. Our tour fees are based on double occupancy; one-half the cost of a double room is priced into the tour fee. The single supplement is calculated by taking the actual cost of a single room and subtracting one-half the cost of a double room (plus any applicable taxes).

The tour fee does not cover bar drinks that are charged to one's cabin. This includes soft drinks, juices separate from those served at meals, and alcoholic beverages. Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate are free of charge and available 24 hours in the lounge.

**Single travelers** who wish to share their cabin/hotel room should indicate this on the registration form. The published per person double occupancy fare for the cruise is guaranteed in this case, whether or not a cabinmate is available. Single travelers who require sole occupancy of cabins will be charged at 1.7 times the published fare.

**TOUR REGISTRATION:** To register for this tour, complete the Registration/Release and Indemnity form and return it with a **deposit of 20% of the cabin fee per person** (*Please note your cabin category preference on your registration form.*) If registering by phone, a deposit must be received within fourteen days, or the space will be released. **Full payment** of the tour fee is due 120 days prior to departure, or **by July 15, 2019. We will bill you for the final payment at either 120 days or when the tour has reached sufficient subscription to operate, whichever date comes later.** Since the cost of your trip insurance and airline tickets is generally non-refundable, please do not finalize these purchases until you have received final billing for the tour or have been advised that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate by your tour manager.

**SMOKING:** Please note that the *m/v Ortelius* is generally smoke-free with designated smoking areas outside. Almost all of our clients prefer a smoke-free environment. If you smoke, please be sensitive to the group and refrain from smoking at meals, in vehicles, and in proximity to the group on trails and elsewhere.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Due to the cancellation policy of our supplier, Oceanwide Expeditions, we must amend our usual cancellation policy as follows: If cancellation is received up to 120 days before departure, Field Guides will refund 10% of your deposit (20% of the cabin fee). If cancellation occurs between 119 and 70 days before the departure date, 50% of the tour fee is refundable. Thereafter, all deposits and payments are not refundable.

This policy only applies to payments made to Field Guides for tour fees (and any services included in those fees). Airline tickets not included in the tour fee and purchased separately often carry penalties for cancellation or change, or are sometimes totally non-refundable. Additionally, if you take out trip insurance the cost of the insurance is not refundable so it is best to purchase the policy just prior to making full payment for the tour or at the time you purchase airline tickets, depending upon the airlines restrictions.

The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case full refund will constitute full settlement to the passenger. The right is reserved to substitute in case of emergency another guide for the original one.

**TRIP CANCELLATION & MEDICAL EMERGENCY INSURANCE:** We strongly recommend you consider purchasing trip cancellation (including medical emergency) insurance to cover your investment in case of injury or illness to you or your family prior to or during a trip. Because we must remit early (and substantial) tour deposits to our suppliers, we cannot offer any refund when cancellation occurs within 70 days of departure, and only a partial refund from 70 to 119 days prior to departure (see CANCELLATION POLICY). In addition, the Department of State strongly urges Americans to consult with their medical insurance company prior to traveling abroad to confirm whether their policy applies overseas and if it will cover emergency expenses such as a medical evacuation. US medical insurance plans seldom cover health costs incurred outside the United States unless supplemental coverage is purchased. Furthermore, US Medicare and Medicaid programs do not provide payment for medical services outside the United States.

When making a decision regarding health insurance, Americans should consider that many foreign doctors and hospitals require payment in cash prior to providing service and that a medical evacuation to the United States may cost well in excess of \$50,000. Uninsured travelers who require medical care overseas often face extreme difficulties. When consulting with your insurer prior to your trip, please ascertain whether payment will be made to the overseas healthcare provider or whether you will be reimbursed later for expenses that you incur.

US citizens will receive from us a brochure regarding optional tour cancellation/emergency medical insurance. Our agent, CSA, will insure for trip cancellation and interruption, medical coverage, travel delay, baggage loss and delay, and emergency medical transportation. **Currently we are unable to offer CSA insurance policies to residents of New York and Hawaii.** We have had clients provide positive feedback after acquiring insurance with InsureMyTrip ([www.insuremytrip.com](http://www.insuremytrip.com)) in the past, and would suggest that company as an alternative. Please let us know if you have any questions about this. If you purchase the insurance within 24 hours of making final payment for the tour, and cover all non-refundable parts of the trip (including any non-refundable flights), pre-existing conditions are covered. The CSA brochure includes a contact number; you may also purchase your CSA policy on-line by visiting our website at <https://fieldguides.com/travelinsurance.html> and clicking the link to CSA. Please note, once the insurance is purchased it is non-refundable, so please check with your tour manager prior to making the purchase to assure the tour will operate as scheduled. Citizens of other countries are urged to consult their insurance broker.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** For and in consideration of the opportunity to participate in the tour, each tour participant and each parent or legal guardian of a tour participant who is under 18 agrees to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Field Guides Incorporated, its agents, servants, employees, shareholders, officers, directors, attorneys, and contractors as more fully set forth in the Release and Indemnity Agreement on the reverse side of the registration form. Field Guides Incorporated acts only as an agent for the passenger in regard to travel, whether by railroad, motorcar, motorcoach, boat, airplane, or other means, and assumes no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity caused by defect in such vehicles or for any reason whatsoever, including the acts, defaults, or bankruptcies of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. Field Guides Incorporated accepts no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. The tour participant shall bear all such losses and expenses. Field Guides Incorporated reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category for those indicated and to make any changes in the itinerary where deemed necessary or caused by changes in air schedules. Field Guides Incorporated reserves the right to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of any tour. Baggage is at owner's risk entirely.

Participants should be in good health and should consult a physician before undertaking a tour. If you have questions about the physical requirements of a tour, please contact our office for further information. Participants should prepare for the tour by reading the detailed itinerary, the information bulletin, and other pertinent matter provided by Field Guides. Each participant is responsible for bringing appropriate clothing and equipment as recommended in our bulletins.

**THE RECEIPT OF YOUR TOUR DEPOSIT SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE CONSENT TO THE ABOVE CONDITIONS. EACH TOUR PARTICIPANT AND EACH PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A TOUR PARTICIPANT WHO IS UNDER 18 SHALL SIGN AND DELIVER THE RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.**

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