

East Lyme Senior Center presents...

Peaks of Europe: The Alps to The Dolomites

with Optional 2-Night Venice Post Tour Extension

May 9 – 21, 2025



Upgrade to Elite Airfare! See inside for details.

For more information contact
Candy Heikkinen
East Lyme Senior Center
(860) 739-5859
cheikkinen@eltownhall.com



Small Group Travel rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

13 Days • 19 Meals: 11 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 5 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Chamonix, Annecy, Mont Blanc, Choice on Tour: Aiguille Du Midi Cable Car or Tramway du Mont Blanc, GoldenPass Train, Gstaad, Jungfrau, Lucerne, Alpine Walks & Nature Experiences, Innsbruck, Dolomites, Cortina, Prosecco Region, Venetian Villa Stay

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Day 1 | Overnight Flight |
| Days 2 – 4 | La Folie Douce Hotel, Chamonix |
| Day 5 | Golf Hotel Les Hauts de Gstaad , Gstaad |
| Days 6, 7 | Sunstar Alpine Hotel Grindelwald, Grindelwald |
| Days 8, 9 | Seelos Hotel - NIKO Hotels, Seefeld, Tyrol |
| Days 10, 11 | Hotel Post Bruneck, Brunico |
| Day 12 | Hotel Villa Condulmer, Venice |

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Friday, May 9, 2025 Overnight Flight Postcard-perfect vistas and storybook villages. Rolling hills and the crisp scent of fresh mountain air. There is nothing in this world quite like the Alps. You're on your way to explore Europe's iconic peaks and valleys on an invigorating journey through France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria and Italy.

Day 2: Saturday, May 10, 2025 Chamonix, France - Tour Begins Say *bonjour* to Chamonix – the perennial ski-hub nestled at the foot of Mont Blanc. Take the afternoon to wander the pedestrian-friendly streets of this quaint town steeped in hundreds of years of history. Tonight, join with new friends and toast to the beginning of your alpine adventure. (D)

Day 3: Sunday, May 11, 2025 Chamonix - Annecy - Chamonix Journey to one of France's most picturesque cities, Annecy – often called the “Venice of the Alps” due to its storybook charm. Join a local guide on a walking tour through an old medieval town featuring canals, crisscrossing bridges, and pastel colored houses. Take advantage of some free time to explore the town's vibrant outdoor market. This afternoon, we return to Chamonix where the rest of the evening is yours to enjoy at leisure. (B)

Day 4: Monday, May 12, 2025 Chamonix Today, decide how to explore the legendary Mont Blanc – the birthplace of mountaineering – because **it's your choice!** Ascend the Aiguille du Midi by cable car to an elevation of over 12,600 feet (3,842 meters).* This is the closest you can get to the summit of Europe's tallest peak **-OR-** relax aboard the Tramway du Mont Blanc rack-railway taking in its vintage charm and the impressive views from the Eagle's Nest, located 7,782 feet above sea level (2,372 meters). This afternoon, enjoy a stroll through the woods in the bottom of the valley. (B)

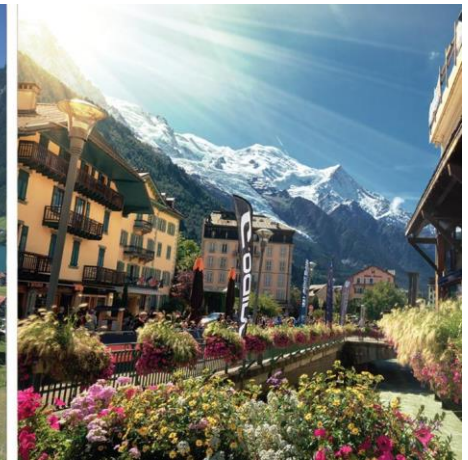
Day 5: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 Chamonix - Gstaad, Switzerland Bid Chamonix and France *adieu* and set out for Switzerland. During today's **Impact Moment**, get to know the pups of Barryland, a local foundation that promotes and protects the heritage of the St. Bernard, the official dog of Switzerland. An afternoon train ride on the GoldenPass whisks you through the pastoral Swiss landscape en route to Gstaad. Check in to your hotel before relaxing over dinner. (B, D)

Day 6: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 Gstaad - Grindelwald Travel through the alpine meadows of the Bernese Oberland, an area renowned for its cheese production. Visit an artisanal creamery producing *raclette* cheese and taste the local produce during a brunch on the farm. Continue on to Habkern, a small but pretty alpine village, nestled between the Harder and the Seven Hengsten. The attractive village lies at the foot of the Augstmatthorn where you will attend an alphorn workshop. This afternoon, head on to Grindelwald, nestled at the base of legendary Mount Eiger. Settle in for a 2-night stay in this charming alpine village. (B, L)

Day 7: Thursday, May 15, 2025 Grindelwald - Jungfrauoch - Grindelwald A short cogwheel train ride brings you to Jungfrauoch (UNESCO), known as the “Top of Europe.” Take your time to explore this eternal winter wonderland with impressive views of the imposing triple peaks of Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau. Wander the frosty halls of the Ice Palace to see works of icy art carved by local artists or stand next to the Swiss flag to capture your time above it all. Tonight is yours to do as you please. (B)

Day 8: Friday, May 16, 2025 Grindelwald - Lucerne - Seefeld, Austria Before departing Switzerland, spend some time to learn for yourself why the lakeside city of Lucerne is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Switzerland. Make your way through Liechtenstein, the only country to lie entirely within the Alps on your way to Austria. This evening is yours to relax and to get to know your home in Seefeld for the next 2 nights. (B, D)

Day 9: Saturday, May 17, 2025 Seefeld This morning explore the idyllic town of Seefeld in a horse-drawn carriage, pausing to take in



Per Person Rates*:

Double \$6,899; Single \$7,699

Included in Price: Round Trip Group Transportation to/from New York Airport, Round Trip Air from New York, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,490; Business Class \$4,290

- * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. (See registration form for consent.)

the unspoiled beauty of the Tyrolean mountains and forests. This afternoon cross into Germany on an optional tour of Oberammergau, the world-renowned home of the Passion Play. This Bavarian village of traditionally painted houses comes together every 10 years** to perform a marathon 10-hour folk theatre rendition of the Passion in thanksgiving for escaping the plague of 1633. After visiting the theatre site and town, indulge in homemade Tyrolean cuisine at a local restaurant before returning to Seefeld. (B)

Day 10: Sunday, May 18, 2025 Seefeld - Innsbruck - Brunico, Italy Take in the scenery of the spectacular Bavarian Alps en route to enchanting Innsbruck. Walk the charming streets, discover the historic old town, and take in landmarks such as the Golden Roof. Depart Austria for Italy to witness the unique jagged limestone peaks of the Dolomites. Arrive in Brunico, a historic town dating back to the 1200s, and your home for the next two nights. (B, D)

Day 11: Monday, May 19, 2025 Brunico - Dolomites - Brunico Journey into the Dolomites (UNESCO) mountain range and discover

natural beauty and local traditions. During a walk in the Val Badia valley, learn about the centuries old Ladin culture. Stop at a nearby *maso* – an alpine farm – for a taste of local Ladin fare. After lunch, a cable car ride brings you to Rifugio Lagazuoi*** for a feast of stunning views of the Dolomites. The evening is yours to explore Brunico as you wish. (B, L)

Day 12: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 Brunico - Cortina - Mogliano Veneto Discover the charm of Cortina, a ski town encircled by the scenic backdrop of sky-skimming Dolomite peaks. The rolling hills of Italy's Prosecco region bring you to a local vineyard where you'll taste the region's sparkling specialty. This evening, explore the frescoed halls and grounds of your historic countryside villa before you gather for dinner and toast to new friends, fond memories, and unforgettable scenery. (B, L, D)

Day 13: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 Mogliano Veneto - Tour Ends Your alpine adventure comes to a close today. (B)

Experience It! Aiguille du Midi

Ascending to a breathtaking 3,842 meters, the Aiguille du Midi is the closest you can get to the summit of Mont Blanc without hiking or climbing. Departing from the French town of Chamonix, a cable car delivers you to the peak of Aiguille du Midi in less than 30 minutes, where a complex of exhibits, restaurants, and an elevator to the very top await. Walk around the peak via "the pipe" to take in views of the French, Swiss, and Italian Alps. Feeling adventurous? "Step into the void" at the Aiguille du Midi skywalk and marvel at the soaring alpine peaks around you and the 3,000 feet (1,000 meters) of open air below your feet.

EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH

Optional 3 Days 2-Night Venice Post Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$699.00 USD double, \$999.00 USD single, land only

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1257156>

PLEASE NOTE:

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable as is climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some full days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travelers that require mobility assistance devices. For your comfort, we recommend bringing comfortable, waterproof walking shoes. This itinerary features 3 ascents above 9,500 feet (2,900 meters) which are not suitable in case of certain heart conditions. We recommend you consult your physician before booking this tour.

Travel with no more than 24 guests on this tour where a smaller group setting means a more personal travel experience.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability. Triple rooms are not available.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Our air passengers will arrive into Geneva airport and depart from Venice airport.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

IDENTIFICATION

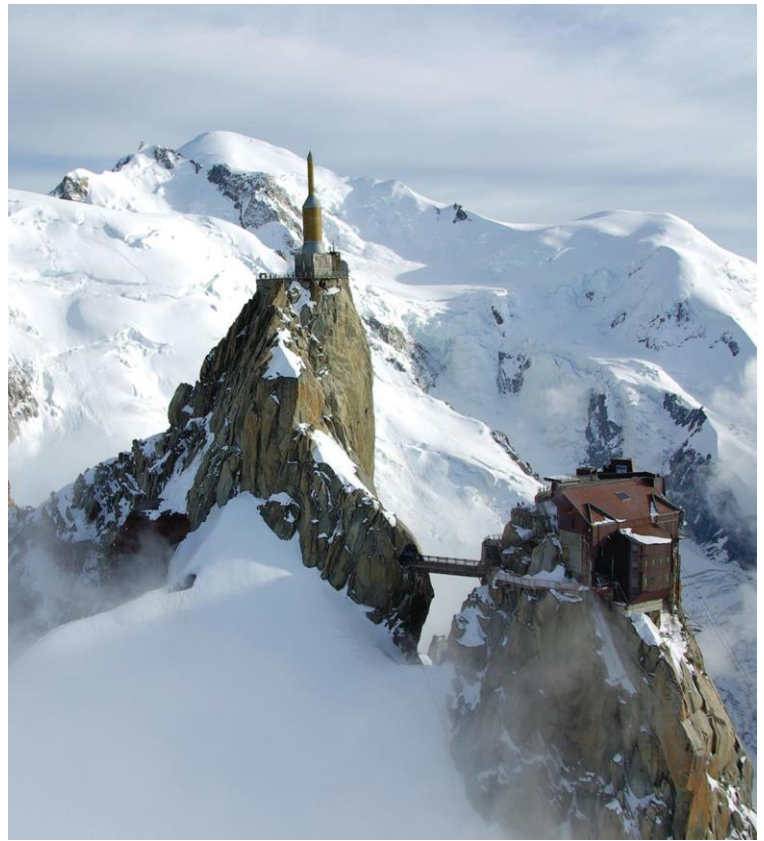
Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

This tour contains three mountain excursions with elevations over 9,000 feet/2,743 meters.

*In addition to the high altitude, the Aiguille du Midi choice requires the ability to negotiate 200 steps up/down at the altitude of over 12,600 feet (3,842 meters) above sea level where oxygen levels are scarce.



**The next Passion Play performance will take place in the year 2030.

***The Lagazuoi cable car is closed for annual maintenance between the 2nd weekend of April and the last weekend of May, and again between the 3rd weekend of October and the last weekend of November. During this time, you will enjoy a scenic drive of the Fassa and Badia valleys instead. The weather in the Dolomites is changeable and prone to strong winds, sudden fogs, low clouds and downpours. The average temperature in the Dolomites ranges from 41 Fahrenheit (5 Celsius) in spring and fall, to 65 Fahrenheit (18 Celsius) in summer. Temperatures can drop suddenly to below freezing point. For your comfort we recommend packing a warm fleece, scarf, hat and a pair of gloves.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of October 03, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by February 07, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until October 10, 2024.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1257156>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.



162 Middle Street
Pawtucket, RI • 02860
Phone: 1-800-852-5655 Fax: 1-401-727-9014

If paying by credit card, please complete this form and return to East Lyme Senior Center. We can only charge your credit card for the amount noted if the signature, address and phone number are listed below. Thank you!

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

BOOKING NUMBER: 1257156

TOUR: Peaks of Europe: The Alps to The Dolomites
*featuring France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria,
and Italy*

DEPARTURE DATE: May 9, 2025

GROUP NAME: East Lyme Senior Center

Name of Passenger:

Salutation: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____ Suffix: _____
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

Cardholder Name: _____
(Please print as it appears on your Credit Card)

Cardholder Address: _____
(as it appears on your credit card statement)

Cardholder Phone: _____

Credit Card Type: ___ American Express ___ Discover ___ MasterCard ___ Visa

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Amount to be charged: \$ _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept Collette cancellation policy, terms and conditions.

Participating credit card companies are now requiring a billing address and phone number for **FRAUD PREVENTION**. All information **MUST** be provided. Thank you for your cooperation!
If using your credit card for payment, please return this Authorization Form by mail to:

East Lyme Senior Center
Attn: Candy Heikkinen
37 Society Rd
Niantic, CT 06357-1106

Above credit card information has been called in to Collette.



162 Middle Street
Pawtucket, RI • 02860
Phone: 1-800-852-5655 Fax: 1-401-727-9014

BOOKING NUMBER: 1257156

TOUR: Peaks of Europe: The Alps to The Dolomites
*featuring France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria,
and Italy*

DEPARTURE DATE: May 9, 2025

GROUP NAME: East Lyme Senior Center

Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Seefeld

An Afternoon in Bavaria

\$150 USD

Cross into Germany for a visit to Oberammergau, the world-renowned home of the Passion Play. This Bavarian village of traditionally painted houses comes together every 10 years* to perform a marathon 10-hour folk theatre rendition of the Passion of Christ in thanksgiving for escaping the great plague of 1633. After visiting the theatre site and town, indulge in homemade Tyrolean cuisine at a local restaurant before returning to Seefeld. *Duration: Approximately 7 hours.* Transportation is included.

PASSENGERS NAME: (Please submit a separate form for each passenger)

Salutation: _____ First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____ Nickname: _____
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print **EXACTLY** as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

| ✓ | Option | Price Per Person (USD) |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | An Afternoon in Bavaria | 150.00 |

Please make checks payable to Collette and send to:

East Lyme Senior Center
Attn: Candy Heikkinen
37 Society Rd
Niantic, CT 06357-1106



TRAVEL DATE: 5/09/2025 TERRITORY: A7
RES#: 1257156

**Peaks of Europe: The Alps to The Dolomites
featuring France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein,
Austria, and Italy**

For Reservations Contact: Candy Heikkinen (860) 739-5859 email: cheikkinen@eltownhall.com
East Lyme Senior Center, 37 Society Rd, Niantic, CT 06357-1106

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of October 03, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by February 07, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until October 10, 2024.

YOUR INFORMATION: Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

Nickname: _____ Gender: () Male () Female Date of Birth: month _____ day _____ year _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Cell: () _____ Email Address: _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiration Date: (month/day/year) _____ Date of Issuance: (month/day/year) _____

City, State, Country of Issuance: _____ Citizenship: _____

Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not traveling with you): _____ Phone: () _____

ROOMING WITH: Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

AIR GATEWAY: Departure airport for this tour: _____

Air Seat Request: () Aisle () Window () Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times. Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

Please reserve an upgrade to Elite Airfare for an additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,490 Business Class \$4,290

Service is limited and not available on all flights or carriers. Other restrictions may apply. Please note: if you purchase an upgrade, we cannot guarantee the same flight schedule as the group. Upgraded class of service is for the international portion of the journey only.

Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class, or First Class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

Are you willing to separate from the group air schedule to accommodate your upgrade request? () Yes () No

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>."

TRAVEL PROTECTION: () Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$549 () No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

EXTENSION: I wish to purchase "2-Night Venice" () Yes () No

ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour activities

Please Choose One: () Roundtrip Cable Car Experience () Panoramic Rack Railway Trip

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Collette () Check () Credit Card

Waiver/Insurance Amount: \$ _____ Deposit Amount: \$ _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Cardholder Name (if paying by Credit Card): _____

Cardholder Billing Address: Check if address is the same as above _____

Cardholder Phone: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ M M Y Y

SIGNATURE REQUIRED for acceptance of the below conditions and agreement to credit card use:

Date: _____

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation policy, terms and conditions. See <http://www.gocollette.com/about-collette/terms-and-conditions> for full terms and conditions of your purchase.

Important Conditions: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.

Extend your vacation with

Optional 3 Days 2-Night Venice Post Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$699.00 USD double, \$999.00 USD single, land only

2 Meals: 2 Breakfasts

Day 13: Mogliano Veneto - Venice

Continue your exploration of Italy with a 2-night stay in Venice, the “Queen of the Adriatic.” After a motorboat transfer, meet your local guide for a walking tour of this incredible city, including the Bridge of Sighs, the Clock Tower, and St. Mark’s Square. You’ll also learn about the Venetian art of glassblowing during an interactive demonstration.

Day 14: Venice

Enjoy a day to explore Venice at your leisure. From your centrally located hotel, the city is yours to uncover. Meander amongst the historic streets, taking in the city’s unique architecture and gondola-laden canals. You may choose to experience the local cuisine at a typical *bacaro*, a small wine bar where locals stop for a glass of wine – traditionally called *ombra* – and a quick bite of local tapas – that Venetians call *cicchetti*. Or take a local public waterbus ride to the nearby island of San Giorgio which offers spectacular views of St. Mark’s Square and the Doge’s Palace. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 15: Venice

Say *arrivederci* to Italy as your tour comes to a close. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn’t a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable as is climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travelers that require mobility assistance devices.

A **Hosted Extension** is great for travelers who like to spend full days exploring places on their own by foot or public transportation. A dedicated Tour Manager will not be present during this extension.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Extensions not purchased at time of deposit are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.