Hiking the French Pyrenees

ON THE FAMED LONG-DISTANCE GR10 TRAIL



TRIP DATES

2024 June 27-July 5, 2024 September 5-13, 2024

2025 June 24-July 2, 2025 September 2-10, 2025



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Hiking the French Pyrenees

The GR10, running the length of the French Pyrenees, is one of Europe's classic hiking trails, and our journey celebrates the most spectacular sections of it as we follow a high route to wild glacial cirques, mighty waterfalls, and crystalline lakes. Grande Randonée (GR) stands for "great walk" in French and our hikes are moderate to challenging, yet well rewarded as they bring us to destinations like the Cirque de Gavarnie, a World Heritage Site with 4,000-foot-high walls. One of our hikes starts at the Pont d'Espagne, once an important trading route to Spain, where the rivers still demarcate the grazing territory between French and Spanish farmers. We'll fuel our hikes with hearty Pyrenean cuisine, visit classic villages, and stay in family-run mountain hotels.



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Itinerary

DAY 1

PAU, FRANCE / VALLEE D'AURE

We meet in Pau for a transfer of about 1.5 hours to the villages in the Hautes-Pyrenees. Arreau is a beautiful slate-roofed village in the heart of the Vallee d'Aure and is a great base for hiking and exploring. We gather for our Welcome Dinner this evening. Overnight at hotel in Arreau...D Driving Time: 1.5 hours

Note: Once the capital of the Kingdom of Navarre, Pau is an elegant and interesting city with a rich history, wonderful architecture, and a relaxed ambiance. We recommend booking a prior night at the Hotel de Gramont, where we will meet on Day 1 (this is an "on your own" expense).

DAY 2

COL D'ASPIN / PLO DEL NAOU / VALLEE D'AURE

In the Middle Ages, many Christian pilgrims hiking the "Way of St. James" to Santiago de Compostela in Spain passed through the Vallee d'Aure, and our warm-up hike today explores its beautiful reaches. In the days to come, many of our hikes will be along France's GR10, a classic long-distance footpath that runs the length of the Pyrenees from the Atlantic to the Mediterranean coast and nestles up to some of its highest mountains. (The GR11 is a similar path that runs along the Spanish side of the border.) Our hike today is a scenic traverse in the Haute (high) Pryenees and beyond. We'll begin with an easy climb to Col d'Aspin pass-the Tour de France often includes this section in the cycling race—and follow trails through forest into a mountain grassland. Surrounded by the song of cowbells, we'll reach Plo del Naou summit (5,440') with sweeping views over much of the Central Pyrenees, including the Vallée d'Aure and the village of Arreau and north to the farmlands of Gascony. Three species of vultures, eagles and other birds, along with herds of cattle, sheep and even horses are common sightings here. After a picnic lunch, we'll have a gentle descent through grazing pastures and forest and end the day with a welldeserved drink at the charming little cross-country resort of Payolle. Hiking Details: 7 miles, 4 hours, 1,060 feet ascent / 2,170 feet descent Driving Time: 30 minutes total

DAY 3

RESERVE NATURELLE DE NÉOUVIELLE / VISCOS

Today's hike brings us to the magnificent Reserve Naturelle de Néouvielle, a nature sanctuary created in 1936 and one of the oldest mountain reserves in France. We set out from Lac d'Aumar (7,182') and climb up to the Col de Madamete (8,231') following the GR10, the famous hiking path that traces a route along the entire Pyrenees mountain chain by way of its highest and most beautiful peaks. A beautiful trail then brings us down to the Pont de Gaubie through meadows, pine forests, and alongside crystal lakes. The Pont de Gaubie is at the foot of Col du Toumalet, a famous stretch on the dramatic mountain portion of the Tour de France. We head to the charming mountain hamlet



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

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Length:	9 days
Arrive:	Pau, France
Depart:	Pau, France
Lodging:	8 nights charming inns
	and hotels
Meals:	All meals included except
	1 dinner (B=Breakfast,
	L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
Activity:	Cultural Adventures,
-	Hiking / Trekking
Trip Level:	1 2 3 (4) 5 6
	7 hiking days on steep
	trails, 4-7 hours a day,
	altitudes between 6,000-
	8,700 feet, van support
	(for luggage or if you wish
	to skip a day's hike). This
	is a strenuous hiking trip,
	read "What the Trip is
	Like" for more details.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Follow the famed GR10 across the high trails of France's Pyrenees National Park
- Hike below the towering rock faces of the Cirque de Gavarnie, a World Heritage Site
- Enjoy the special culture of Pyrenees, with its blend of Spanish and French influences
- Stay in family-run inns and hotels in charming mountain villages





Itinerary (cont'd)

of Viscos, near Luz-Saint-Sauveur, for the evening. Overnight at hotel in Viscos...BLD

Hiking Details: 11 miles, 7-8 hours, 1,550 feet ascent, 3,700 feet descent Driving Time: 1.5 hours

DAY 4

CIRQUE DE TROUMOUSE

A short drive brings us into the heart of the Troumouse Valley at the Chapelle de Heas, a pilgrimage site. From here we hike trails toward the Cirque de Troumouse, a vast and airy glacial cirque with amazing geology. With its huge vertical walls above glistening meadows and jewel-blue tarns, it is a magnificent visual feast just as grand as the better-known Cirque de Gavarnie, yet very little visited. The cirque itself is five miles end to end, and as we hike, we enjoy steadily expanding views of the cirque walls, then emerge at the Statue de la Vierge de Troumouse, set in a beautiful meadow at the center of the cirque. Overnight at hotel in Viscos...BLD Hiking Details: 7 miles, 5-6 hours, 2,500 feet ascent Driving Time: 1.5 hours

DAY 5

PLATEAU DE SAUGUÉ / GAVARNIE

Our hike today brings us to the picturesque Plateau de Saugué and a stretch of the GR10 trail with classic views to the Cirque de Gavarnie and the famous Brèche de Roland, a natural 100-foot-wide breach in the cirque wall and a dramatic sight. According to local legend, the Brèche ("breach") was opened by Roland, the nephew of Charlemagne, as he tried to destroy his sword by striking it against the rock during the Battle of Roncesvalles in the 8th century. We begin with a 30-minute drive from Viscos to the trailhead at Granges de Bué. Our hike today is entirely on the GR10, leading to the bucolic plateau sheltering a rich heritage of herding and rustic mountain architecture. We head south, enjoying wonderful views all the way, including the valley, the great waterfall of Gavarnie, and the legendary Brèche de Roland. Finally, we'll follow a high traverse above Gavarnie to the Refuge de Granges de Holle, where we'll savor a much-deserved beverage before our short walk down the hill to the mountain village of Gavarnie. The village has a 12th century church founded by the Order of Hospitaliers of St. John of Jerusalem, and is an important stopover on the pilgrimage trail to Santiago de Compostela. Overnight at hotel in Gavarnie...BLD Hiking Details: 9.6 miles, 7-8 hours, 2,325 feet ascent/1,845 feet descent Driving time: 30 minutes

DAY 6

EXPLORATION LOOP IN THE CIRQUE DE GAVARNIE

The Cirque de Gavarnie is one of the grandest natural sites in all Europe, and recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This towering amphitheater, one of the world's best examples of a glacial cirque, is surrounded by perpendicular cliffs rising more than 4,000 feet from the verdant valley floor. The crowning ridge of the cirque forms the frontier with Spain and includes several peaks almost 10,000 feet high and a famous waterfall, Europe's longest, with a drop of over 1,000 feet down the near-vertical walls. Starting from Gavarnie, we follow a trail along the crystal-clear waters of the Gave de Gavarnie, then head up a mule track to the Plateau de Pailha. From there, we follow a secret natural ledge on the glacier wall that leads to the foot of the Grande Cascade, which springs from the top of the cirque. From the waterfall, we return to Gavarnie via the opposite bank of the river, where we enjoy spectacular views of the Cirque. We end our hike right at our hotel in Gavarnie. ...BLD

Hiking Details: 6 miles, 5 hours, 1,700 feet ascent/descent Driving time: 30 minutes total "I usually don't repeat a trip but this trip I would enjoy doing again. So well organized, great itinerary, beautiful hikes every day. The landscapes were breathtaking."

Leela H., Woodstock, NY



Itinerary (cont'd)



DAY 7 LAC DE GAUBE / CAUTERETS

We continue on the GR10 via a lovely trail through pine trees to Lac de Gaube, an emerald lake set at the foot of Mt. Vignemale. After lunch at Lac de Gaube mountain refuge, we descend by cable car and follow a forested trail along the Mercadau mountain stream. Here, we pass a string of waterfalls carving their way through the landscapes (the roaring sound of water will be our soundtrack for the afternoon) and arrive at Cauterets, a thermal hot springs town since Roman times. People come from all over France to benefit from its therapeutic waters, and after our hike we can indulge at Cauterets' spa. Dinner is on your own this evening. Overnight at hotel in Cauterets...BL Hiking Details: 6 miles, 4 hours, 800 feet ascent, 1,800 feet descent Driving Time: 1 hour

DAY 8

REFUGE WALLON / MERCADAU VALLEY

Today's hike begins at Pont d'Espagne (Spanish Bridge), so named because since prehistory it has been on an important trading route to Spain. It is a site of great beauty at the confluence of two streams (Gaube and Mercadau). From here we hike up the beautiful Mercadau Valley and continue on a trail through the Cayan Plateau, with its exquisite meadows festooned with pines. The Mercadau River meanders beautifully through this setting. The confluence of the Arratille and Mercadau rivers is here and it demarcates the grazing territory between French and Spanish farmers. On one side, French cattle can graze until the end of July, and on the other side, Spanish cattle have the right to graze from July until the end of the year. We reach the Refuge Wallon for lunch, set at the entrance of an idyllic glacial cirque. We descend back to Pont d'Espagne and then return to Cauterets for our Farewell Dinner. Overnight at hotel in Cauterets...BLD

Hiking Details: 8 miles, 5-6 hours, 1,250 feet ascent/descent

DAY 9

DEPART

Transfer from Cauterets to Pau for departure...B Driving Time: 1.5 hours

Note: There may be variations in the itinerary due to weather and other local conditions.

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$5795 (9-14 members) \$6295 (4-8 members) Single supplement: \$575

2025 Trip Costs: Please call for details

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

Due to the volatility of currency markets, we can only offer the most competitive pricing on our trips in Europe by partially tying the trip cost directly to the value of the Euro. In the late spring of 2023, when we set the rates for our 2023 program, the US Dollar equaled 1.06 Euros. While in most years, no price changes are ever necessary, if there were to be a significant change in exchange rates, we may be forced to raise or able to lower our trip cost; if so, your final invoice, sent two weeks before your final payment is due, will reflect the difference. Please note that the calculation will not be a straight proration. While most of the trip cost is paid in Euros, the remainder of our expenses are paid in US Dollars. The overall effect is to moderate any change; thus, if the Euro were to rise in value, the land price would rise less than might be expected, and if the Euro were to fall, the drop in trip cost would also be less than might be expected.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guides
- Accommodations in hotels
- All meals included as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- Land transportation and airport transfers as noted

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, transfers for independent arrival or departure, airport departure taxes, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, optional activities, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, hotels en route, or any additional hotel nights that may be necessary due to international airline schedule changes or other factors, pre-trip expenses of medical immunizations, visa fees, travel insurance, and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600 90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge! 61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost 46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost 45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: <u>www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance</u>

Accommodations





HOTEL ANGLETERRE Arreau, France Days 1 to 2 (2 nights)

Situated in the heart of Arreau stands the family-owned Hotel Angleterre. This charming hotel was a former coaching inn from the 18th century and offers clean guest rooms with lovely views over the gardens and town, and a wonderful restaurant serving locally sourced dishes. There is a nice swimming pool with panoramas of the mountains if you want to relax after a day's hike, and the hotel is a short walk to the town's main square if you wish to explore the quaint mountain town.

LA GRANGE AUX MARMOTTES Viscos, France Days 3 to 4 (2 nights)

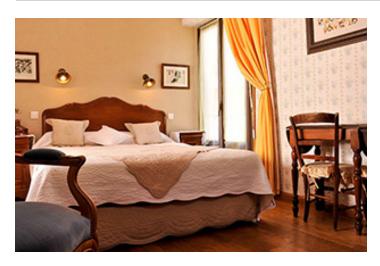
This cozy hotel (just 15 rooms) is an ideal mountain retreat, located in the lovely rural setting of Viscos, a remote village of stone houses with slate roofs set on a hillside in the Le-Pays-Toy valley. The outdoor swimming pool and terrace offer breathtaking views of the mountains and the on-site restaurant is excellent and serves wonderful Pyrenean dishes. The staff is efficient, friendly, and helpful.



GRAND HOTEL VIGNEMALE Gavarnie, France

Days 5 to 6 (2 nights)

Set at the end of the village, this hotel offers fabulous views of the Cirque de Gavarnie and its stunning waterfall. Some of the rooms are a bit dated, but the beds are comfortable and the wonderful location and friendly staff more than make up for it.



HOTEL LION D'OR Cauterets, France Days 7 to 8 (2 nights)

You'll receive a warm and friendly welcome at this familyrun hotel. It's been around since 1840, and lovingly and beautifully maintained, succeeding in preserving its old world charm with modern comforts. Guest rooms are clean and comfortable, and nicely furnished with antiques. The hotel's lovely courtyard patio (with its resident tortoises!) is a wonderful spot to kick back and relax.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Hiking the French Pyrenees* webpage and click on "Accommodations."

Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

MEETING PLACE

Pau, France

Suggested Airport: Pau Pyrénées Airport (PUF) Suggested Date & Time: Day 1, by 1:40 pm

Meeting Place: You will meet your Trip Leader in the lobby of Hotel de Gramont in Pau at 3:00 pm on Day 1.

We recommend you arrive in Pau the day before the trip begins, as it is a lovely place to explore and we do not tour the town as part of the group trip. The Hotel de Gramont is a great place to stay and we recommend booking with them directly. However, if you decide to come in to Pau from Paris on Day 1, there are a few daily flights to choose from on Air France that will get you to Pau by 1:40 pm. Pau Pyrénées Airport is about 6 miles north of the town center, and a taxi to the hotel should take about 15 minutes and cost about €30.

DEPARTURE

Pau, France

Suggested Airport: Pau Pyrénées Airport (PUF) Suggested Date & Time: Day 9, after 10:35 am

At 8:00 am on Day 9, a group transfer will be provided from the final hotel in Cauterets directly to Pau Pyrénées Airport. This transfer takes approximately 1.5 hours, and will arrive in Pau at around 9:30 am. If you are planning on heading home directly after the group trip ends, please note most international flights depart Paris in the morning. Therefore, you will most likely need to plan on staying overnight in either Pau or Paris and flying out the next day.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Europe.

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at <u>www.</u> <u>exitotravel.com</u>.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

RECOMMENDED HOTELS IN PARIS AND PAU

Paris: The Hotel St. Jacques is a charming Parisian-style hotel located in the heart of the Latin Quarter, right next to the Sorbonne. The hotel can be booked directly at <u>www.hotel-saintjacques.com</u>.

If you plan on staying right at Charles de Gaulle Airport, we recommend the CitizenM Hotel, located within walking distance of Terminal 3. <u>www.citizenm.com</u>.

Pau: The Hotel de Gramont, our meeting place on Day 1, is in the center of Pau just steps from the castle where King Henry IV was born. The hotel can be booked directly at <u>www.hotelgramont.com</u>.

Trip Leaders

Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information about our Trip Leaders, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on "Trip Leaders": www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/france-pyrenees-hiking-tour/



CÉLINE BROSSARD

Céline lives by her motto, "la vraie liberté, c'est le vagabondage," meaning "true freedom is only to be found wandering." Her enthusiasm for hiking was sparked at the young age of five in the Pyrenees, and she has had a passion for the trails ever since—in France and all over the world. She has shared her love of the outdoors as a professional guide for many years in the Pyrenees, "Cathar Country," and the Balearics, all the while walking with eyes wide open and enjoying what nature has to offer. When she's not out hiking, you can find her working on the ski slopes in Val d'Azun, a small Pyrenean ski resort, as well as teaching yoga.



JULIEN JOHNSTON

Julien has lived in southwest France since 1981 and in the Pyrenees since 1990, but his roots are in Northumberland in northeast England. He has been a hiker since his youth on the North Sea coast, did marine studies in the merchant fleet, then heeded the call of the mountains to become a qualified International Mountain Leader in Europe. His work has brought him through areas rich in history and heritage, from the Santiago trail in Aragon to the early Christian sites of the Spanish Pyrenees and especially the "Cathar Country" of France. He has led hiking groups from around the world, and it is an ongoing journey that he finds fascinating and deeply satisfying. Julien lives at the foot of the Pyrenees with his partner Céline and son Sébastien. When not leading trips, he enjoys photography, "tending a wee garden," and hiking. He is fluent in French.

Trip Details

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated a Level 4+ (Moderate/Strenuous) according to our trip grading system. You will need to be comfortable hiking 11 miles a day, being on your feet for up to 8 hours a day, and hiking on uneven surfaces with long descents that can be hard on the knees. While no climbing or mountaineering experience is necessary, all trip members should have ample hiking experience and be able to keep up with the group, as with the exception of one day, there are no alternative hiking options available. Trail conditions, weather, and the group's level of fitness can affect hiking times and pacing.

Average Hiking Day

- 7 miles
- 5-6 hours
- 1,700 feet gain/loss
- Altitudes range from 6,000-8,700 feet

Challenge Day

• Day 3: 11 miles, 7-8 hours, 1,550 feet gain, and 3,700 feet loss

TERRAIN

While the Pyrenees are not exceptionally high in altitude, they are steep and rugged. Trails can be uneven, with large rocks or loose scree, so participants must have good balance and be confident on their feet. Hiking poles are highly recommended. No climbing or mountaineering experience is necessary, but this trip is aimed for those who have at least some experience mountain hiking.

GETTING IN SHAPE

We strongly urge you to train for your trip, as your enjoyment will be highly dependent on your level of fitness. The best training for a hike is to hike, especially over hills or rough terrain. Next best are running, swimming, bicycling, or other cardiovascular exercise. Stair climbing machines are excellent preparation for hiking uphill. Your feet should also be well prepared—make sure your hiking boots are sturdy, comfortable, and thoroughly broken-in. Altitude is generally not a problem on this trip. However, some people still experience a few problems when they first reach high altitude. Slight headache and sleeplessness are the most common symptoms.

WEATHER

Temperatures during the day will likely be in the high 70s°F. At night, they will drop quite a bit, depending on the altitude. Mountain weather can be fickle, and it can range from blue skies with temperatures in the 80s°F to cloudy, wet, and cold days on which rain gear and warm garments are necessary. There is a chance that we will need to choose alternate routes if weather conditions are poor, and we recommend bringing gaiters, especially for any travelers intending on participating in the Breche du Roland hike.

HIKING DETAILS BY DAY			Y DAY	DRIVING DETAILS				
DAY	HOURS	MILES	ELEV. GAIN/LOSS	HOURS				
1				1.5 hours to Arreau				
2	4 hours	7 miles	+1,060'/- 2,170'	30 minutes				
3	7-8 hours	11 miles	1,550' / -3,700'	1 hour to trailhead; 30 minutes to hotel in Viscos				
4	5-6 hours	7 miles	+2,500'	45 minutes to Chapelle de Heas; 45 minutes to return to hotel in Viscos				
5	7-8 hours	9.6 miles	+2,325 /- 1,845'	30 minutes				
6	5 hours	6 miles	+/- 1,700'	30 minutes				
7	4 hours	6 miles	+800'/-1,800'	1 hour				
8	5-6 hours	8 miles	+/- 1,250'	45 minutes				
9				1.5 hours from Cauterets to Pau				

AVERAGE DAILY MAX/MIN °F												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
Pau	48/36	54/37	57/39	61/45	68/50	75/55	81/59	81/59	75/55	66/50	55/41	50/37
RAINFALL - INCHES												
Pau	3.4	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.3	2.8	1.8	2.9	3.3	3.2	4.1	3.9

ACCOMMODATIONS

Our accommodations are in small family-run hotels with private bathrooms. They have been chosen for their ambiance and history as much as possible and are delightful for the local color and dining that they offer. While they are well-located, clean, and comfortable, they are rustic and can be more basic due to their remote location. Since they are often in historic buildings, the rooms are not always of uniform or international size. Our leaders do their best to assign rooms in a fair way so that all participants experience an equal advantage throughout the trip as a whole. Single rooms can be requested but are not always available, due to the limited space in the hotels. If you prefer a single room, please make your request as early as possible.

CUISINE

We'll fuel our hikes with hearty Pyrenean cuisine. Our lunches will most often be packed lunches, with a few taken in mountain refuges. Most evenings we have dinner at our hotel. Please note that in Europe, the dinner hour is considerably later than what it is in the US. We do our best to secure early reservations for our groups, but most often the evening meal will be at 7:30 pm.

TRANSPORTATION

Our bus will transport the group's luggage, so you only need to carry a daypack for items you need during the day (rain gear, sweater, camera, water bottle, etc.). Trip members are always free to skip a day's hike and travel to the next destination in the support vehicle (or remain at the hotel if we are not transferring that day).

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Europe Manager or email us at <u>europe@</u> wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At <u>www.wildernesstravel.com</u>, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at <u>www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan</u>.

Here's how it works:

YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.

Travel Notes





WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today* Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner 50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.