

Hiking the Isle of Madeira

HISTORIC LEVADA TRAILS, SUBTROPICAL FORESTS, AND LEGENDARY WINE



Wilderness Travel

Overview



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

- Length:** 8 days
Arrive: Funchal, Portugal
Depart: Funchal, Portugal
Lodging: 7 nights hotels
Meals: All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners
Activity: Cultural, Hiking & Trekking

Trip Level: 1 2 ③ 4 5 6

5 hiking days on moderate to strenuous trails, some steep sections, 2-8 hours a day

QUESTIONS?

Our Area Specialists are your single point of contact and would be happy to answer any questions about your trip!

800.368.2794 | 510.558.2488

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike Madeira's unique levada trails through subtropical forests
- Savor fresh seafood, explore red-roofed villages, hear evocative fado music
- Go dolphin and whale watching by private boat
- Explore impossibly picturesque Funchal, with its colorful homes
- Enjoy delightful hotels, including elegant Reid's Palace, the Grand Dame of Funchal

Introduction



Set in the cobalt blue waters of the Atlantic and warmed by the Gulf Stream, Madeira is an island of eternal spring, blanketed in lush laurel forests and topped by sharp volcanic peaks that sheer out of the sea. Our hiking journey explores the island's many personalities as we walk ancient "levada" irrigation canals through green valleys and UNESCO-protected laurissilva forests, hike to crater lakes, take cobbled paths to red-roofed villages, and cross high trails above the sparkling Atlantic. Along the way, we'll visit a producer of Madeira's famous fortified wines, taste catch-of-the-day fish, and go dolphin and whale watching by private boat. This is the perfect way to celebrate Madeira's beauty!

TRIP DATES

September 23-30, 2024

April 5-12, 2025

June 2-9, 2025

September 20-27, 2025

Itinerary



Overnight: Casa Velha do Palheiro

This tranquil country house hotel, a restored 18th-century hunting lodge, is set in the Palheiro Nature Estate in the foothills of Funchal. More than 12 miles of hiking trails surround the lodge (great for birdwatching), and there are two swimming pools. All guest rooms convey a sense of the history, beauty, and elegance of the estate, and our rooms in the Garden Wing feature pleasant views across the gardens. The lodge features an award-winning restaurant and is a member of the prestigious Relais & Chateaux association.

Meals: D

DAY 1 FUNCHAL, MADEIRA / CASA VELHA GARDEN TOUR

Welcome to Madeira! We'll meet in the afternoon at our hotel, the Casa Velha do Palheiro, a former hunting lodge set on an estate in the foothills of Funchal. We'll stretch our legs with a guided tour of their gardens, renowned for their colorful camellias, proteas, and perfumed jasmine hedges, followed by a short stroll on the hotel grounds to a wonderful viewpoint of the whole city of Funchal spread below us. Returning to the leafy gardens surrounding our hotel, we'll sip a glass of delicious Madeira wine. It was Madeira wine that was toasted to celebrate the writing of the American Declaration of Independence, and it was also a popular tippie of Winston Churchill, a frequent visitor to the island. After a trip briefing, we enjoy our Welcome Dinner.

Itinerary



Overnight: Casa Velha do Palheiro

Meals: B, L, D

Hiking Details: 3.5 hours, 4.5 miles, 1,350 feet ascent/descent, moderate

DAY 2 HIKE AT PONTA DO SAO LOURENCO / FUNCHAL / FADO

Madeira's geographic origins began over five million years ago as the African and North American plates split apart. If it were counted from the earth's crust, Madeira would stretch 19,000 feet high, but just 6,000 feet of land breaks above sea level. We start the day with a hike on the dry eastern tip of Madeira at Ponto do Sao Lourenco, where the variegated rocks speak of this volcanic past. Our return is by Zodiac along the coast, an excursion offering superb views of the rocky peninsula we will have just hiked. We'll take a walking tour through Funchal, which first flourished in the 15th century as sugar (or "white gold") enriched the island. Sugar merchants settled around the Se Cathedral, beautiful in its simplicity and topped off with tiny colored "azulejos" tiles. Close by, fruit and vegetable stands jostle for space alongside flower stalls in the colorful Mercado dos Lavradores ("Farmers' Market"). Wearing the traditional red-and-blue striped skirt with an embroidered waistcoat and pointy hat, the local flower sellers always steal the show. After absorbing the sights, sounds, and aromas of the market, we'll finish the day in Funchal's Old Town at a local restaurant where Portugal's traditional Fado music is played. Fado's evocative songs tell stories of love and loss. Even without understanding a word of Portuguese, the deep emotions are powerfully conveyed in haunting melodies. At the restaurant, all the family members take part in the musical performance—even the cook may come out of the kitchen to take his turn!

Itinerary



Overnight: Casa Velha do Palheiro

Meals: B, L, D

Hiking Details: 4-5 hours, 7 miles, 900 feet descent, moderate

DAY 3 HIKE THE LEVADA DO FURADO / SANTANA HOUSES / RUM FACTORY

Madeira's famous levadas are hand-built irrigation channels that brought water to the island's fields. There are more than 200 levadas in Madeira, many built over 200 years ago. Our hike on the Levada do Furado in Ribeiro Frio ("Cold River") begins at 2,800 feet and brings us through an indigenous laurel forest. This ancient woodland once covered the whole of the island, but great swaths were burned down to clear land for planting sugar cane when the Portuguese first arrived. Hiking along the edge of the levada, we'll recognize the astonishing amount of labor required to construct this unique network of water channels that wind for more than 1,400 miles across the island. As we walk, we'll keep an eye out for one of the island's endemic birds, the tiny Madeira firecrest, with its distinctive orange mohawk.

After our hike, we stop by Santana, a town known for its traditional triangular houses. The steeply-pitched thatched roofs that descend nearly to the ground are ideal for the location, staying warm in winter and cool in summer, and give the town a whimsical fairytale feel. From Santana, we'll head along the coast to Porto da Cruz to witness 100-year-old steam-driven machinery noisily crush the sugar cane to extract its juices, then distilled into rum—which we'll just have to taste! Before dinner at our hotel, the sommelier will introduce us to some of the island's finest Madeiran wines. We'll learn of the accidents of history that led to the creation of the unique qualities of this rich, flavorsome wine.

Itinerary



Overnight: Aqua Natura Bay

With panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean and the dramatic cliffs of Porto Moniz, Aqua Natura Bay is a pleasant hotel perfectly situated near Madeira's lush landscapes.

Guest rooms have lovely ocean views, private balconies, and modern amenities. If you have time, be sure to relax in one of their pools—the hotel has both an indoor and rooftop pool.

Meals: B, L, D

Hiking Details: 3-4 hours, 7 miles, minimal ascent/descent, easy

DAY 4 TOBOGGANS / CAMARA DO LOBOS / HIKE THE LEVADA DA CALHETA

In the morning we make our way to Nossa Senhora do Monte, a picturesque white church built in the late 1700s and still one of the most venerated sites on the island. On the Feast of the Assumption, penitents climb on their knees all 74 steps to pray in this church. Just below is the start of the famous toboggan run that allows us a quirky departure, in giant wicker baskets. These toboggans are steered by two guides elegantly dressed in white, wearing straw hats and traditional soft leather boots. During the short slide we won't be traveling at great speed, though Ernest Hemingway famously described it as one of the most exhilarating rides of his life. Despite his large touch of irony, this unique experience is an island "must" and it's guaranteed to generate big smiles all the way down the hill.

Afterwards we drive along Madeira's southern coastline, stopping at Camara do Lobos, a picturesque fishing village where Winston Churchill came often to relax and paint. The fishermen here head out to sea at night to line-catch black scabbard fish, or espada, a mainstay of the local cuisine. These fish are caught only off Madeira and Japan and live at a depth of up to 5,500 feet. Their sharply pointed snout lined with protruding fang-like teeth and enormous round eyes give this fish a fearsome appearance, but their taste is surprisingly delicate. Our hike is along the Levada Nova da Calheta, starting at Prazeres and heading west to Maloeira. This hike is best described as agricultural, as the waterway wends its way slowly through farmland where many of the regional vegetables are grown, including potatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans, cabbage, and corn. At 1,600 feet, fruit flourish as well—apple, lemon, fig, and papaya trees add color to the terraced fields. Sections of eucalyptus and pine trees provide shade, blue flowering agapanthus abound along the levada's edge, and in the distance shimmer the waves of the Atlantic. We end at a marvelous bakery serving excellent cakes, coffee, and beer, but you may prefer to head straight for an ice cream at the end of the trail!

A scenic hours' drive takes in the western edge of the island on our way to the picturesque village of Porto Moniz at the northwestern tip of Madeira. Our hotel is close to natural volcanic rock swimming pools filled by Atlantic breakers (the original infinity pool!). The rock formations along the coast here are stunning. After savoring some of the fresh locally caught seafood, and perhaps relaxing in the hotel's Jacuzzi or sauna, we'll be lulled to sleep by the sound of the sea.

Itinerary



Overnight: Aqua Natura Bay

Meals: B, L

Hiking Details: 3-3.5 hours, 5 miles, 1,000 feet ascent, moderate

DAY 5 HIKE THE PAUL DA SERRA PLATEAU / WINERY VISIT

Setting out, we'll stop a few miles along the coast to view a dramatic basalt sea stack, a peculiar rock formation 120 feet high and standing a few feet from the shore. Near its top there is a large hole, or "janela" (window), after which the nearby village, Ribeiro de Janela, is named. Our hike on the Paul Da Serra plateau starts out from the Lagoa do Fanal; this crater lake rarely has much, if any, water in it, but is nonetheless a favorite haunt of the rusty brown cattle that roam free on this high plateau. Our earthen trail climbs up through the laurisilva forest, classified in 1999 as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site. These sturdy trees with their twisted branches draped in mosses and lichen give the route an otherworldly feeling, especially when mists shroud the area. Wood and shrubs were harvested from here in the near past and taken down to the north coast via a network of cables, to be used in farming and for heating; this practice is no longer permitted.

After our morning hike we'll head to to a winery at Sao Vicente, on the north coast. The vineyards are terraced up the steep hillsides and, in some places, are protected from the salty winds by high hedges constructed from tree heathers. Various grape varieties are grown, producing white, rosé, and red wines, with Verdelho, the most important, producing high-quality white wines. We'll savor the wines over lunch at the Quinta do Barbusano, then enjoy a tour of the vineyards to hear about the challenging conditions these hardy grapes face. Our dramatic drive back to Porto Moniz via the north coast brings us through small coastal villages set on the narrow strip of land between sea and cliff, often referred to as the "Big Sur" of Madeira. We return to the Aqua Natura Bay for overnight. Dinner is on your own this evening.

Itinerary



Overnight: Reid's Palace Hotel

Century-old Reid's Palace, now a Belmond property, is set on clifftops and surrounded by acres of subtropical garden. Just a short walk from Funchal's shops and restaurants, Reid's is the Grand Dame of the city, with an "old school" décor that includes dozens of fresh flower displays. The terrace bar is a great place for vistas over the gardens, the city, and the blue expanse of the sea.

Meals: B, L

Hiking Details: 7-8 hours, 9 miles, 3,500 feet ascent/2,000 feet descent, strenuous

DAY 6 CAMINHO REAL DA ENCUMEADA / CABO GIROU / FUNCHAL

This morning we depart quite early but it's worth the effort as we discover one of the island's most scenic hikes: the "Royal Path," paved and used as one of the main routes across the island by the landed gentry before the roads were built. Hiking from a high saddle at Encumeada (3,290'), we descend through eucalyptus forests to a tiny mountain settlement by a river, where in the past, islanders came to plant their crops and graze their animals. Today the small, terraced fields lie abandoned but white calla lilies still flower and chestnut trees flourish. From here we climb through woodland and on up below the rugged, dark cliffs of Pico Grande. The views down to the valleys as we progress are simply stunning. Until very recently, goats roamed wild over the mountains, eating the fragile vegetation thus threatening the delicate natural balance; their removal is enabling plants to re-establish and regenerate. Reaching a grassy saddle at 2,700 feet, we'll enjoy a picnic looking over the secluded Valley of the Nuns, where the village lies snuggled below us in a small bowl surrounded by rugged high peaks. From here the trail becomes wider, crossing the central massif and following the curves of the high ridge to Boca da Corrida, with great views all the way to the end of our hike. En route to Funchal, we'll have a quick stop at the sea cliffs of Cabo Girão, among the highest in the world. At a lookout point, a glass skywalk will give us breathtaking views of the land and sea far below. The elegant Reid's Palace Hotel, built in the late 19th century to accommodate passengers traveling on ocean liners, is our setting for our final two nights. Dinner is on your own; you can wander into downtown Funchal to soak up the atmosphere and grab a bite to eat.

Itinerary



Overnight: Reid's Palace Hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Hiking Details: 1.5 hours, 2 miles, 1,475 feet descent

DAY 7 HIKE FROM EIRA DO SERRADO TO CURRAL DAS FREIRAS / DOLPHIN AND WHALE WATCHING

We begin today's hike at Eira do Serrado, a beautiful vista point about a half-hour drive from Funchal. Here a steep, winding cobbled path leads down to the village of Curral das Freiras ("Nuns Valley") with great views all along the way as we descend. Our trail descends through a large stand of horse chestnut trees that produce one of the crops for which Curral das Freiras is best known. At lunch we'll enjoy a sampling of this simple nut in a variety of ways: roasted in a soup, in a hearty stew with beans, or for dessert as a delicious cake washed down with chestnut liqueur.

Later in the day, a private boat will take us out for an afternoon of whale and dolphin watching. The waters around the island are visited by more than 20 species of dolphins and whales throughout the year. Tonight, we gather for our festive Farewell Dinner at the historic 17th century Fortress of São Tiago overlooking the waterfront.

Meals: B

DAY 8 DEPART

Transfer to the airport and depart on homeward-bound flights.

Pricing

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, based on double occupancy

2024

\$4,895 (10-14 members)

\$5,395 (4-9 members)

Single supplement: \$860

2025

\$5,495 (10-14 members)

\$5,995 (4-9 members)

Single supplement: \$820

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.

PAYMENT TERMS

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION & 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:

www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guides
- Accommodations in hotels
- All meals included except 1 lunch and 2 dinners as indicated in Detailed Itinerary
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- All ground transportation and baggage handling from meeting until departure
- All activities as indicated in Detailed Itinerary

TRIP DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Travel to and from the arrival and departure location as indicated in Detailed Itinerary
- Additional hotel nights outside the trip's scheduled dates
- Optional gratuities to Trip Leaders or staff
- Optional travel insurance
- Other expenses of a personal nature (some alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.)

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Because the prices published for our program are set so far in advance of the trip dates, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases and/or currency fluctuations that affect the actual cost of running the trip. In most years, no price changes are necessary. However, we do reserve the right to raise or lower the trip price if there is a significant change in costs or exchange rates. If this is the case, your final invoice will reflect the difference in trip cost.

Arrival & Departure

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Suggested Airport: Madeira Airport (FNC)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 1, before 12:30 pm

Meeting Place: Your Trip Leader will meet you at your hotel at 4:00 pm for a short stroll and welcome drinks.

A taxi from the airport to your hotel in Funchal will cost about 30 Euros. There are many taxis available at the curb right outside of baggage claim when you arrive.

DEPARTURE

Suggested Airport: Madeira Airport (FNC)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 8, afternoon

Your trip leader can help you arrange your airport transfer for any flights on Day 8. We recommend a departure time in the afternoon so you can enjoy a leisurely morning at our wonderful hotel.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

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

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 www.exitotravel.com.

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.

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, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit wildernesstravel.com/leaders.



SKYE MCDONALD

Skye McDonald lives in Scotland's Highland capital, Inverness. She has worked as a Trip Leader in 35 countries since the millennium and lived in Germany, France, and Tanzania. "Bringing understanding between peoples of very different cultures and backgrounds is one of the joys of being a Trip Leader, and of course, the chance to make friends around the world." Closer to home, she delights in sharing the glories of her native Scotland, and says that a good day scaling some of the beautiful Scottish mountains is hard to beat. Skye speaks German, French, beginners' Portuguese, and unusually, a smattering of Swahili from earlier years as a volunteer agricultural officer in Tanzania. Life continues to be an adventure for Skye, who has recently taken up bee-keeping, wild-water swimming, and scuba diving.



NUNO PORTELA

Madeira native Nuno Portela has a deep knowledge of his island's many natural wonders as well as its unique culture. After studying business in mainland Portugal, he returned to Madeira to become a certified professional mountain guide, now with more than 20 years of experience. His passion for Madeira's people and traditions makes him the perfect ambassador to this unique island.

What to Expect

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated **Level 3+, Moderate to Strenuous**, according to our trip grading system. We have five hiking days, varying from 2-8 hours of hiking a day. The 8-hour hike on Day 6 is strenuous; the trail is quite narrow and steep in places, with precipitous drop-offs and a degree of exposure. Please note that our daily hiking activities are weather-dependent. Based on their many years of experience here, our Trip Leaders always have wonderful alternate plans.

TERRAIN

Two of our hikes are along levadas, where the paths are well maintained and there is minimal altitude gain or loss. Others are on well-defined but rocky trails and involve a few thousand feet of ascent and descent.

GETTING IN SHAPE

The shape you're in will be an important factor in your enjoyment of the trip. You must be fit and ready to walk. We strongly urge you to train for the trip with regular hiking, especially over hills or rough terrain, running, swimming, bicycling, or other sports exercise. You should wear sturdy, well-broken-in hiking boots for maximum comfort on the trail.

WEATHER

Madeira is a subtropical island. The south coast is the warmest and driest area and the mountains, rising to over 6,000 feet, are the coolest and wettest. We can expect pleasant temperatures of 58 to 66°F at the coast, but cooler temperatures up in the mountains. April is the start of the dry season, but rain is always a possibility; the monthly average is two inches.

ACCOMMODATIONS

All our hotels are chosen for their local history and central location. Because some of them are in historic buildings, the rooms may not conform to uniform standards, but we hope you will enjoy them for their charm and local color. Single rooms can be requested, but are not always available, due to the limited space in some of our hotels. If you require a single room, please make the request as early as possible. European single rooms are often smaller than US singles.

TRANSPORTATION

We travel the island by mini-bus, and the roads are very twisty in some places. The longest single drive is about one hour and 15 minutes.

HIKING DETAILS BY DAY			
DAY	MILES	HOURS	ELEV. ASCENT/DESCENT
2	4.5 miles	3.5 hours	1,350' ascent / 1,350' descent
3	7 miles	4.5 hours	900' ascent / 900' descent
4	7 miles	3-4 hours	Minimal ascent / descent
5	5 miles	3-3.5 hours	1,000' ascent / 1,000' descent
6	9 miles	7-8 hours	3,500' ascent / 2,000' descent
7	2 miles	1.5 hours	1,475' descent

What to Expect

AVERAGE DAILY MAX/MIN °F												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Funchal	67/56	67/55	68/56	68/57	70/59	73/62	76/65	78/67	79/67	76/64	72/61	69/58
Porto Moniz	68/58	68/57	69/58	70/59	72/62	75/65	78/68	80/70	80/69	77/67	73/63	70/60
RAINFALL - INCHES												
Funchal	3.6	2.5	2.2	1.5	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	1.4	3.1	3.2	4.3
Porto Moniz	4.0	3.4	2.6	1.6	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.2	1.5	3.0	4.0	3.9

Additional Information

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 or email us at info@wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us.

ABOUT NEW TRIPS

This is a new adventure and one that we are particularly excited about offering. However, as with all new departures, flexibility and a spirit of adventure are always appreciated! Activities are described in the itinerary but they can vary, sometimes considerably, depending on weather conditions, the group, and other factors.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, 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.

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST
+ KLEEN KANTEEN 27OZ WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

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 www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

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 stainless steel water bottle by Klean Kanteen and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$100 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$130 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

Travel Notes



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Conde Nast Traveler*, 2024, 4-time winner

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 11-time winner

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.

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Wilderness Travel

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