TRAVEL
IS THE ONLY
THING YOU
BUY THAT
MAKES YOU
RICHER

ANONYMOUS

2018 SPARTAN PATHWAYS TRAVEL CATALOG
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Dear Spartans,

There’s a saying by an unknown author that states “Travel is the only thing you buy that makes you richer.” For me those words ring true. Travel allows us the opportunity to see the world through different eyes while teaching us the wonders of the world. I always keep that in mind when planning the Spartan Pathways yearly schedule of tours, and in 2018 we continue to offer the sites and wonders to further enrich your life.

As in past years I have chosen tours that I hope will pique your interest, challenge your mind, fill your heart with joy, and capture your sense of fun and adventure.

There are nine tours within the U.S., some of which include the popular Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, an Alaskan cruise by small ship, the Majestic Great Lakes like you’ve never seen them before, and a new tour, Great Trains and Grand Canyons. If cruises are your preference, we are continuing to offer the ever-popular Oceania cruises and river boat cruises in America, Europe, South America, Africa, and Asia. And new for 2018 we have included five tours specifically designed for alumni ages 25-35 years old.

Please take some time for yourself and imagine where you want to go this year. More specific trip information can be found at alumni.msu.edu/travel or by calling (888) 697-2863. If you don’t see a trip that interests you and you have a destination in mind, please let me know and I will do my best to find a tour that suits your needs.

Whatever you fancy I hope you find a trip that inspires you to move. As Robert Louis Stevenson once said: “For my part, I travel not to go anywhere, but to go. I travel for travel’s sake. The great affair is to move.”

Go Green!

Regina Cross, ’91
Director of Alumni Travel
MSU Alumni Association

The mission of the Michigan State University Travel Program is to provide travel opportunities for alumni, their families, and friends. The program was created to provide fellowship, education, and enjoyment for alumni while traveling the world. Each year, unique international and domestic destinations are chosen based on the traditions and values of Michigan State University.
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### GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates, prices, and itineraries are subject to change. For more information and to see pricing, visit the Spartan Pathways website at alumni.msu.edu/travel.
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN JANUARY 2018

NEW YEAR’S ON CLOUD 9: INNSBRUCK FOR YOUNG ALUMNI
December 28–January 2
AESU Alumni World Travel
go.msu.edu/NYEYoungAlumni18

EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA: USHUAIA TO BUENOS AIRES
January 4–17
Gohagan & Co.
go.msu.edu/Antarctica18

DOG SLEDDING AND ICE CAVES OF MICHIGAN’S UPPER PENINSULA
January 10–13
Nature’s Kennel
go.msu.edu/DogSledding18

TASMAN PEARLS: SYDNEY TO AUCKLAND
January 21–February 5
Go Next
go.msu.edu/TasmanPearls18

WOLVES OF YELLOWSTONE
January 24–30
Orbridge, Inc.
go.msu.edu/Yellowstone18
THE REAL JUNGLE BOOK OF INDIA
January 26–February 8, 2018
WANT Expeditions
go.msu.edu/JungleBook18

Join MSU alumna and conservationist Jessica Pociask on this storied wildlife safari of India. Rudyard Kipling was one of the best storytellers of the 19th century, and his characters from *The Jungle Book* have captivated generations around the world for years. This tour allows you to experience it firsthand. See Bagheera, Baloo, Akela, and the majestic and much misunderstood, Shere Khan. Travel through India’s best wildlife parks in search of the very real and incredible animals that inspired Kipling to write his timeless collection of stories about his encounters and observations of leopards, tigers, and bears in the jungle. With less than 3,000 tigers remaining now is the time to see one of the greatest wildlife encounters on earth. The trip will finish with a visit to one of the most beautiful buildings in the world, the Taj Mahal.
CUBAN DISCOVERY
February 23–March 2
Go Next
go.msu.edu/DiscoverCuba18

SOUTH AFRICA, BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, AND ZIMBABWE
February 22–March 8
Gohagan & Co.
go.msu.edu/SouthernAfrica18

SPARKLING SOUTH PACIFIC:
PAPEETE TO PAPEETE
February 25–March 7
Go Next
go.msu.edu/SouthPacific18

Fakarava, French Polynesia
Be swept away in exotic elegance, cruising the Mekong River aboard the luxurious Mekong Navigator for seven days. Once known as French Indochina, Vietnam and Cambodia showcase centuries of artifacts and a fusion of French and Asian cultures. On land, expert-led enrichment programs explore the history of Saigon, or Ho Chi Minh City, with visits to sites unfolding a story of war and peace. Settle into deluxe hotel accommodations, enjoying comfortable elegance surrounded by significant historical attractions. In Siem Reap, deepen your connection to the wonders of ancient Angkor as you behold awe-inspiring palaces and temples, and experience modern-day life visiting local villages. Take a “cyclo” ride through Cambodia’s capital, Phnom Penh, including the opulent Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda; learn about Cambodia’s troubled past; and admire exquisitely costumed dancers performing the Apsara.
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN APRIL 2018

THE MASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT
April 4–7
Sports Entertainment Travel
go.msu.edu/GolfMasters18

THE WONDERS OF PERU
April 5–16
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/WondersPeru18

PARIS: ART, CULTURE, AND PEOPLE
April 8–16
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/ParisFrance18
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN MAY 2018

DUTCH WATERWAYS: ANTWERP TO AMSTERDAM
May 2–10
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/DutchWater18

DESTINATION DUBAI FOR YOUNG ALUMNI
May 4–11
AESU Alumni World Travel
go.msu.edu/DubaiYoungAlumni18

TUSCANY: CORTONA
May 8–16
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/Tuscany18

ESSENTIAL EUROPE FOR GRADUATING SENIORS
May 11–29, Greece extension June 3
AESU Alumni World Travel
go.msu.edu/EuropeSeniors18

SWISS ALPS AND ITALIAN LAKES
May 23–June 1
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/AlpsLakes18

Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Bellagio, Italy
FEATURED TRIP

EUROPEAN SERENADE CRUISE: ROME TO VENICE
May 16-25, 2018
Go Next
go.msu.edu/EuropeanSerenade18

Ancient architecture, colorful villages, and Mediterranean beauty await on this voyage around Italy and Greece. Embark on a luxury cruise in Rome, Italy’s treasure of history and architecture. Arrive at the picture-perfect Amalfi Coast filled with lemon groves, quaint fishing communities, and ancient religious monuments. At the foot of Mount Etna lies Catania, home to a vibrant, youthful, cultural scene. Depart Italy to Argostoli, Greece which houses the ruins of St. George Castle as well as Koutavos Lagoon—a feeding ground for Loggerhead turtles. Explore the medieval history of Kotor, breathe in the magnificence of Diocletian’s Palace in Split, and learn all about Hippocrates, the “Father of Modern Medicine,” in his birthplace of Kos. The cruise will conclude in Venice, a mysterious and romantic city best traversed using its iconic gondolas.
FEATURED TRIP

ROMANCE OF THE DOURO RIVER CRUISE: LISBON TO PORTO
June 9–20, 2018
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/DouroRiver18

Explore the remarkable cities and towns of Portugal on this enriching journey that showcases the country’s history and legacy. Spend three nights in Lisbon in first-class accommodations, and walk in the footsteps of the world’s greatest explorers before launching a five-night cruise of the Douro River, aboard the exclusively chartered MS Gil Eanes. Experience the exuberance and deep history of Lisbon’s Hieronymite Monastery and the Tower of Belém. Discover the ancient-meets-modern city of Coimbra and picturesque Óbidos. Delve into the local culture and flavors of Douro Valley wine country, and before your journey ends, enjoy two nights in vibrant Porto. Expert lecturers enhance your experience with scholarly and cultural insight on this unforgettable tour through Portuguese heritage.
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN JUNE 2018

GRAND DANUBE PASSAGE: PRAGUE TO SOPHIA
June 10–24
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/DanubePassage18

GREAT JOURNEY THROUGH EUROPE
June 13–23
Gohagan & Co.
go.msu.edu/JourneyEurope18

BALTIC AND SCANDINAVIAN TREASURES: COPENHAGEN TO STOCKHOLM
June 21–July 2
Go Next
go.msu.edu/BalticTreasures18

HOPS, GRAINS, AND SLAINTE OF IRELAND FOR YOUNG ALUMNI
June 23–30
AESU Alumni World Travel
go.msu.edu/HopsYoungAlumni18
Embark on a journey infused with Celtic history, intoxicating landscapes, and dynamic cities. Experience the finest in Irish culture, music, and folklore during stays in Ennis, Killarney, Mallow, and Dublin. Explore 11th-century Ennis and stroll through lively coastal Galway. Traverse the unusual, rocky Burren landscape, visit the Poulnabrone Dolman tomb, and feel the mighty wind along the resplendent Cliffs of Moher. Enjoy a scenic cruise to Inishmore before exploring the Dun Aengus ruins. Board a ferry and learn about life in a fishing community on Dingle Peninsula. Relish the marvelous coastal views along the Ring of Kerry, visit Blarney Castle, and enjoy a meal and evening at the cozy, family-run Longueville House. En route to Dublin, learn about Ireland’s thoroughbreds before visiting St. Patrick’s Cathedral and historic Trinity College in Dublin.
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN JULY 2018

DISCOVER SOUTHEAST ALASKA BY SMALL SHIP: SITKA TO JUNEAU
July 6–13
Orbridge, Inc.
go.msu.edu/AlaskaShip18

BREATHTAKING BORDEAUX: BORDEAUX TO BORDEAUX
July 16–24
Go Next
go.msu.edu/Bordeaux18

Glacier Bay, Alaska
Saint-Émilion, France
Welcome to our CAMBRIDGE, OXFORD, AND THE COTSWOLDS trip from July 6-14, 2018. Travel in a small group through idyllic and unparalleled university towns, pastoral villages, and charming countryside as you experience the true character of England’s town and country life. Spend three nights in stylish comfort in the midst of Cambridge University’s world-renowned museums, followed by four nights in the five-star Macdonald Randolph Hotel, surrounded by the fabled college quads of Oxford University. Visit Blenheim Palace, a masterpiece of Baroque architecture and birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Uncover the history behind the exquisite Highclere Castle, also known as “Downton Abbey.” Then, take in the quintessentially English, storybook villages of the Cotswolds, and hear about contemporary life from the local ladies and gents during the exclusive Town & Country Life Forum. A London post-tour option is also available, offering five-star accommodations.}

**FEATURED TRIP**

**CAMBRIDGE, OXFORD, AND THE COTSWOLDS**

July 6-14, 2018

Gohagan & Co.

[go.msu.edu/Cambridge18](http://go.msu.edu/Cambridge18)

Travel in a small group through idyllic and unparalleled university towns, pastoral villages, and charming countryside as you experience the true character of England’s town and country life. Spend three nights in stylish comfort in the midst of Cambridge University’s world-renowned museums, followed by four nights in the five-star Macdonald Randolph Hotel, surrounded by the fabled college quads of Oxford University. Visit Blenheim Palace, a masterpiece of Baroque architecture and birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Uncover the history behind the exquisite Highclere Castle, also known as “Downton Abbey.” Then, take in the quintessentially English, storybook villages of the Cotswolds, and hear about contemporary life from the local ladies and gents during the exclusive Town & Country Life Forum. A London post-tour option is also available, offering five-star accommodations.

**Oxford, England**
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN AUGUST 2018

POLAR BEARS AND BELUGA WHALES
August 8–14
Orbridge, Inc.
go.msu.edu/BearsWhales18

MAJESTIC GREAT LAKES: CHICAGO TO TORONTO
August 14–23
Go Next
go.msu.edu/GreatLakes18

ODYSSEY TO OXFORD
August 19–September 1
MSU Alumni Association
go.msu.edu/Oxford18

Churchill, Manitoba
Lake Michigan
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN SEPTEMBER 2018

WINES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST:
SPOKANE TO PORTLAND
September 9–17
Go Next
go.msu.edu/WineCruise18

APULIA, UNDISCOVERED ITALY
September 12–20
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/ApuliaItaly18

AUTUMN INSPIRATION:
NEW YORK TO MONTRÉAL
September 13–23
Go Next
go.msu.edu/AutumnCruise18

AROUND THE WORLD BY PRIVATE JET
September 27–October 20
TCS World Travel
go.msu.edu/WorldByJet18

DISCOVER SPAIN: TO ESSOS AND
BACK FOR YOUNG ALUMNI
September 1–8
AESU Alumni World Travel
go.msu.edu/SpainYoungAlumni18

APULIA, Italy Acadia Seacoast
EXPLORING ICELAND WITH MSU PROFESSOR DR. MICHAEL GOTTFRIED
September 20-30, 2018
Odysseys Unlimited
go.msu.edu/Iceland18

Iceland is a surprising land of massive glaciers and rumbling volcanoes, bubbling mud holes, and powerful waterfalls. Experience the stunning scenery and mighty forces still shaping the landscape with MSU’s Dr. Michael Gottfried on this 11-day adventure. Visit the thermal pools of Deildartunguhver, Hraunfossar Falls, Grasbrok Crater, Lake Myvatn, Glacial River Canyon National Park, the jaw-dropping Dettifoss waterfall, Höfðadalshellir Echo Cliffs, Thingvellir National Park, and much more. Mike Gottfried is an Associate Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Michigan State University, and Curator of Paleontology at the MSU Museum. Mike has led several MSU Study Abroad programs — and geology alumni — on recent trips to Iceland. Don’t miss out on this insightful experience with one of MSU’s leading professors.
Inspire your sense of adventure in the American West, beholding vivid and rugged geological marvels by train. Board the historic Grand Canyon Railway for a journey to the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. See the preserved cliff dwelling of Montezuma Castle, and visit the old mining town of Jerome – the largest ghost town in America. Ride the Verde Canyon Railroad along a spectacular route between two national forests, traveling through unspoiled wilderness. In the Red Rock Country of Sedona, board a trolley tour featuring Chapel of the Holy Cross, panoramic views of Airport Mesa, and the prominent Bell Rock. Enjoy live entertainment while you dine at a chuckwagon supper, take a trip to Scottsdale’s Old Town, and delight in ample free time to experience what Arizona has to offer.
AVAILABLE TRIPS IN OCTOBER 2018

**ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA**
October 5–8
Sports Entertainment Travel
go.msu.edu/ALBGalloons18

**AMALFI COAST, ITALY**
October 9–17
AHI Travel
go.msu.edu/AmalfiCoast18

**GLORIOUS GREECE: ATHENS TO ATHENS**
October 13–24
Go Next
go.msu.edu/GloriousGreece18

**COASTAL VIGNETTES: ROME TO ROME**
October 16–27
Go Next
go.msu.edu/CoastalVignettes18

**TIMELESS CUBA: MIAMI TO MIAMI**
October 19–26
Go Next
go.msu.edu/TimelessCuba18

Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Havana, Cuba
Delight in the magical merriment of Germany’s holiday markets on a seven-night cruise that celebrates enduring festive traditions. Villages of wooden kiosks festooned with pine branches, red ribbons, and cheerful lights spring up in town squares along the Rhine and Main Rivers. Linger in these fanciful Christkindlmarkts as you savor the tantalizing aromas of mulled wine and gingerbread. Aboard your first-class ship, savor ample onboard meals and relax on deck as the stunning scenery unfolds around you: vistas of clifftop castles, charming villages, and rolling hills. Sail through the scenic Rhine Gorge, and gaze upward at the soaring spires of Cologne’s magnificent cathedral. Admire the quaint timbered architecture of medieval gems, Miltenberg and Rothenburg, on the Romantic Road. Walk through the stately halls of Würzburg’s palace, explore beautiful Koblenz, and enjoy insightful lectures mixed with Yuletide traditions.
Travel brochures are printed throughout the calendar year and mailed eight to eleven months prior to the departure date of the tour. If you would like to receive a brochure(s), please contact us at (888) 697-2863 or visit us at alumni.msu.edu/travel. If you have requested a brochure and have not received it, it is still in production. Please be assured that we will document your request and mail the brochure(s) once printed.

ELIGIBILITY
MSU Alumni Association (MSUAA) travel tours are open to all Michigan State University alumni and their families, as well as friends of the university.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS
To enjoy the alumni travel experience, participants must be in good physical and mental health and be able to keep pace with the group. Extreme or unexpected changes in altitude, temperature, and humidity should be considered when traveling to certain parts of the world. Many excursions require walking on uneven terrain. An individual unable and willing to provide all required aid must be present while traveling. To enjoy the alumni travel experience, participants must be in good physical and mental health and be able to keep pace with the group. To enjoy the alumni travel experience, participants must be in good physical and mental health and be able to keep pace with the group. To enjoy the alumni travel experience, participants must be in good physical and mental health and be able to keep pace with the group.

TOUR ARRANGEMENTS
Travel arrangements for these travel programs will be handled by the particular tour operator designated for each tour. Dates, itineraries, program details, and costs are given in good faith and are subject to change and revision. All tour prices listed are per person, excluding airfare, unless otherwise noted. You have the option to purchase airfare from various airlines on a limited basis for each program at a supplemental charge (unless otherwise noted). You have the option to purchase airfare from various airlines on a limited basis for each program at a supplemental charge (unless otherwise noted). You have the option to purchase airfare from various airlines on a limited basis for each program at a supplemental charge (unless otherwise noted). You have the option to purchase airfare from various airlines on a limited basis for each program at a supplemental charge (unless otherwise noted).

WAIT LIST
Because the MSUAA partners with other universities in the offering of international travel programs, our itineraries fill quickly. If this occurs, our travel partners will be happy to place you on a wait list, and if space becomes available, you will be notified.

TOUR OPERATORS
Our tours are compiled from proposals presented by the finest specialized tour operators. Our tour operators must be able and willing to provide all required aid must be present while traveling. To enjoy the alumni travel experience, participants must be in good physical and mental health and be able to keep pace with the group.

WHY DO I NEED TRAVEL INSURANCE?
When flights are booked and the tickets are purchased, you don’t expect you’ll need to cancel your trip. Things like medical evacuation, trip cancellation, and emergency assistance services are the last thing on your mind. But once in a while, the unexpected does happen. It’s best to be prepared. Travel Insurance Services has been designing travel insurance plans for alumni organizations since 1973 and offers coverage for many things that can go wrong.

All travelers will receive travel insurance information in their initial confirmation packet. For more information on travel insurance, visit alumni.msu.edu/travel.

DISCLAIMER
Dates, schedules, costs, and program details in this catalog are accurate based on information received by MSUAA as of the date of production and are subject to change. Please verify details, dates, and pricing with the tour operator prior to booking a reservation.

CONTACT US
MSU Alumni Association
Travel Programs
533 Chestnut Road, Room 300
East Lansing, MI 48824
Website: alumni.msu.edu/travel
Telephone: (888) 697-2863 or (517) 353-3069

Refund policies vary according to the policies of the various tour operators. Please read the cancellation clauses contained within each brochure carefully. To cover yourself for possible cancellation fees and to protect your monetary investment, we strongly recommend you purchase travel insurance.

COVER YOUR TRAVEL INVESTMENT WITH TRAVEL INSURANCE SERVICES
For more than 10 years, the MSUAA has chosen USI Affinity Travel Insurance Services to provide travel insurance for alumni and friends since 1973 and offers coverage for many things that can go wrong. It’s best to be prepared. Travel Insurance Services has been designing travel insurance plans for alumni organizations since 1973 and offers coverage for many things that can go wrong.

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