2024 Solar Eclipse: Totality Over Texas
April 6-9, 2024
$2,295 PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY, $3,895, SINGLE OCCUPANCY, PLUS AIRFARE

Join MSU Professor and astronomer Dr. Megan Donahue and experience an incredible natural phenomenon of a total eclipse. On April 8, 2024, the moon will pass between the earth and the sun and be replaced by pink flames and silver streamers that stretch across the sky. Come see the eclipse from the beautiful Lake District north of Austin, Texas. Along with Dr. Donahue, enjoy outstanding expert speakers including Dr. Doug Duncan, Dr. Steve Hawley, Chris Impey, Erica Ellingson, Nick Schneider and Dr. Emily Levesque. Accommodations are at the Hyatt Regency Austin, close to downtown Austin and where guest lectures will occur or the Horseshoe Bay Resort, in the countryside Lake District, near the centerline of where the eclipse will be viewed. A total eclipse is like no other and one of the best viewing spots for the eclipse will be on this trip. Don't miss this chance of a lifetime, the next total eclipse visible in the U.S. will not occur until 2045.

Tour Inclusions:
- 3 night’s accommodations at either the Hyatt Regency Austin or Horseshoe Bay Resort.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- Internationally know guest speakers
- Eclipse viewing Star Party
- Night viewing with telescopes from Horseshoe Bay which is a Dark Sky Reserve
- Transportation to and from the Austin International Airport, as well as to and from all scheduled eclipse sessions at the Horseshoe Bay Resort and Hyatt Regency Austin
- Pair of special glasses to view the eclipse

Transportation to Austin is not included, although Cain Travel is available to assist in making air arrangements. *There is an additional cost for accommodations at the Horseshoe Bay Resort

To register visit this link or contact Kerstin Warwick of Cain Travel at (303) 938-2738, DDEclipse@caintravel.com.

To register online visit https://na.eventscloud.com/website/20793/
For further information, call Cain Travel at (303) 938-2738
Trip Itinerary:

Saturday, April 6th
Morning Arrivals at the Austin Airport (AUS) Transfer to the Hyatt Regency.

1:00 pm Lunch and Welcome Lunch at the Hyatt Regency. Welcome words and tour orientation with Dr. Doug Duncan. Hyatt Regency Hotel

1:00 pm-4:00 p.m. Astronomy & Science Session for Kids

4:00 p.m. Transfer to Horseshoe Bay Resort
Transportation to the Horseshoe Bay Resort for dinner and the Star Party.

6:00 p.m. Dinner
Meal location at each hotel TBD. If you choose not to attend the Star Party dinner will be available at the Hyatt Regency.

8:00 p.m. Star Party at Horseshoe Bay Resort.

10:00 p.m. Transfer to Hyatt Regency
At the conclusion of the Star Party guests will be transported back to the Hyatt.

Sunday, April 7th
7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. Breakfast at Leisure
Meal location at each hotel TBD.

8:45 a.m. Transfer to the Hyatt Regency from the Horseshoe Bay Resort for speaker and kid sessions
Busses will depart promptly at 9:00 a.m. for the one hour commute to the Hyatt.

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Astronomy & Science for Kids Session
Hyatt Regency Austin

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Morning guest speaker sessions
Hyatt Regency Austin

12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Lunch
Hyatt Regency Austin

2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Afternoon guest speaker sessions
Hyatt Regency Austin

4:45 p.m. Transfer to the Horseshoe Bay Resort
Busses will depart promptly at 5:00 p.m. for the one hour commute.

6:00 p.m. Dinner Meal location at each hotel TBD.

Monday, April 8th
5:45 a.m. Transfer to the Horseshoe Bay Resort from the Hyatt Busses will depart promptly at 6:00 a.m. for the 1-3 hour commute (anticipating eclipse day traffic.)

7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Breakfast at Leisure Horseshoe Bay Resort

12:17 p.m. Partial Eclipse begins
Lunch will be available on the Horseshoe Bay Resort lawn.

1:34 p.m. Total Eclipse
The total eclipse will last 4 minutes and 15 seconds in duration. Eclipse viewing glasses will be provided.

2:57 p.m. End of Partial Eclipse and Leisure Social Hour

4:45 p.m. Transfer to Hyatt Regency Austin
Busses will depart promptly at 5:00 p.m. for the 1-3 hour commute.

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Dinner

Tuesday, April 9th
7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Breakfast at leisure

10:00 a.m. Transfers from either the hotel to the Austin Airport

Departure for Home

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Accommodations: Will be at both The Hyatt Regency Austin and upgraded accommodations at the Horseshoe Bay Resort. Both hotels provide respective advantages. The Hyatt Regency Austin is centrally located in downtown Austin and host to the guest speaker sessions. The Horseshoe Bay Resort is more remote in the country and hosts the eclipse viewing party. Please consider this when selecting your hotel. Please note changing hotels is not permitted mid way through the trip.

Trip Costs: Trip Cost is $2295 per person, double occupancy. A 3rd or 4th person in the same room is $1895. Single supplement is $1600. Pricing below includes accommodations at the Hyatt Regency or for a shared (2) Bedroom (2) Bath Unit at Horseshoe Bay.

Costs:
Two ($2295 x 2) $4,590
Three ($4590 + $1895 3rd person rate) $6,485
Four ($4590 + $1895 (x2 3rd & 4th person rate)) $8,380
Single ($2295 + $1600 Single Supplement Fee) $3,895

A few rooms at the Horseshoe Bay are available for those who wish to upgrade. The pricing below is a per person rate in addition to the rates listed above. A few (3) bedroom units at Horseshoe Bay also available - large groups can inquire by email to DDEclipse@caintravel.com.

Upgrades:
(2) Person, (1) Bed, (1) Bath $200
Lake View (2) Person, (2) Bed, (2) Bath Unit Shared with another couple $200
Lake View (2) Person, (1) Bed, (1) $400

Booking Date
Time of booking
April 6, 2023
If booked after April 6, 2023

Cancellation Date
Time of booking - April 6, 2023
April 6, 2023- Dec 1, 2023
Dec 1, 2023 and after

Cancellation Fee
10% Total Program Cost
50% Total Program Cost
100% Total Program Cost

Credit Card Payments: For all credit card payments a 4% convenience fee will be added.

Check Payments: If you are paying by check prior to April 6, 2023, the total program cost will be displayed as 'amount due'; when you send in your check you DO NOT need to pay the entire amount, only the 50% deposit. Please make checks payable to Cain Travel and write 'Doug Duncan 2024 Eclipse Trip' on the memo line.

Checks should be sent to:
Cain Travel
c/o Patrick McCurdy, CFO
2990 Center Green Court
Boulder, CO 80301

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Meet the Speakers

Doug Duncan
Dr. Doug Duncan is an astronomer at the University of Colorado, and former director of the Fiske Planetarium, the most advanced planetarium in the US. Duncan earned degrees at Caltech and the University of California, Santa Cruz. He was part of the project that first found sunspot cycles on other stars. Subsequently he joined the staff of the Hubble Space Telescope. From 1997-2002 he did science commentary on Chicago Public Radio station WBEZ and also appeared on television programs such as the History Channel and BBC Horizon. In 2001 he received the prestigious Richard Emmons award presented to the "Outstanding Astronomy Teacher in the U.S." Dr. Duncan leads educational trips throughout the world to watch total eclipses of the sun and to see the northern lights. In 1991 he traveled to the North Pole and was elected to The Explorer's Club of New York City.

Steve Hawley
Dr. Steve Hawley is the astronaut who launched the Hubble Space Telescope, using the "arm" of the Space Shuttle. Hawley received astronomy degrees from the University of Kansas and the University of California, Santa Cruz. He joined NASA in 1978, as part of the first co-ed class of astronauts. Dr. Hawley flew five times on the Space Shuttle, including a flight to upgrade Hubble after it was launched and a flight to launch the Chandra X-ray telescope. Steve is known as one of the best and funniest speakers in the entire astronaut corps. Since retiring from NASA, he is now professor of astronomy at the University of Kansas.

Chris Impey
Winner of the American Astronomical Society’s Education Prize for 2021, Chris Impey is internationally known for bringing the excitement of astronomy to tens of thousands of people. Chris is a University Distinguished Professor of Astronomy at the University of Arizona. He has over 210 refereed publications on observational cosmology, galaxies, and quasars, and his research has been supported by $20 million in NASA and NSF grants. He has won eleven teaching awards and has taught two online classes with over 280,000 enrolled and 3 million minutes of video lectures watched. Chris Impey is a past Vice President of the American Astronomical Society, and he has won its Education Prize. He’s also been an NSF Distinguished Teaching Scholar, Carnegie Council’s Arizona Professor of the Year, and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor. He has written 70 popular articles on cosmology, astrobiology, and education.

Erica Ellingson
Prof. Ellingson is an Associate Professor in the Department of Astrophysics and Planetary Sciences at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her research and teaching interests include cosmology galaxy clusters, historical and cultural astronomy and is a faculty fellow in CU’s multidisciplinary Center for the Study of Origins. She is active in several programs whose goals are to increase diversity in the sciences and leads a program to bring astronomy to rural and underserved schools throughout Colorado. She has produced numerous presentations in collaboration with Fiske Planetarium and the National park Service, including programs on dark energy and the prehistoric astronomy of the American Southwest.

Meet the Speakers cont.

Nick Schneider
Nick Schneider leads the Remote Sensing Team on NASA’s MAVEN mission to Mars, designed to solve the mystery of Mars’ disappearing atmosphere. The team operates the Imaging Ultraviolet Spectrograph which is acquiring some of the best ultraviolet images and spectra of Mars. He is a professor in the Department of Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences at CU and holds a research appointment in CU’s Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics. He received NASA’s Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal for his MAVEN research, and the Emmons Award from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, a national award for undergraduate astronomy education. With CU graduates Jeff Bennett, Megan Donahue, and Mark Vail, he co-authored the most widely used textbook in astronomy: The Cosmic Perspective. This will be his fourth total solar eclipse.

Dr. Emily Levesque
Dr. Emily Levesque is a professor in the University of Washington’s Astronomy department, studying the physics of how the largest stars in the universe evolve and die. She is the recipient of the 2020 Newton Lacy Pierce prize and the 2014 Annie Jump Cannon award from the American Astronomical Society. Dr. Levesque is also a 2019 Cottrell Scholar and a 2017 Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow. From 2010 to 2015 Dr. Levesque was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and she earned her PhD in Astronomy from the University of Hawaii and an S.B. in Physics from MIT. Dr. Levesque’s first popular science book, The Last Stargazers, shares the behind-the-scenes tales and adventures of life as a professional astronomer.

Michigan State Alumni Office Travel Disclaimer: The Michigan State University Alumni Office (the MSU Alumni Office) is not the Tour Operator. The MSU Alumni Office acts only as a sponsor with respect to the travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes to flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or motor coach transportation and car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline, or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond its control. The MSU Alumni Office acts only as a sponsor with respect to the travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes to flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in providing services to participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the MSU Alumni Office shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, pandemic, epidemic, quarantine, acts of God, governmental intervention or other causes beyond its control. The MSU Alumni Office shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the Tour Operator may substitute hotels of similar quality. The Tour Operator may postpone or cancel any tour prior to departure. The MSU Alumni Office or the Tour Operator may decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person’s physical or mental health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. By embarking upon travel, the participant voluntarily assumes all risk involved in such travel, whether expected or unexpected.

For information concerning possible dangers at international destinations, contact the US State Department, 202-647-3225, or access the State Department’s online travel advisory service. For medical information, call the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at 800-232-4636 or visit the CDC’s website. Participant is hereby warned of the above risks as well as possible travel industry force majeure, bankruptcies and medical and climatic disruptions, and the possibility participant may be unable to travel as scheduled because of personal emergency. Participant is advised to consider obtaining appropriate insurance coverage against these risks. Information regarding travel insurance is available from the MSU Alumni Office at the time of the reservation booking. Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all the conditions set forth above.

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