China's Shaolin Culture, Qin Terracotta Figures & Cave Monasteries
Mongolia's Nomadic Culture & Gandan Monastery
Wonders of The Gobi Desert • Nepal's Colorful City of Kathmandu
Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan • India's Sacred Buddhist Sites & Ganges River Culture
Cambodia's Angkor Wat & Other Ancient Monuments • Vietnam's China Beach, Pagodas & Imperial Treasures
The Royal City of Luang Prabang in Laos • Japan's Zen Gardens & Temples & Samurai Culture

Optional pre-tour to Beijing, China & Lhasa, Tibet
September 28 – October 18, 2007 • Limited to 32 Travelers

Optional pre-tour to Beijing, China & Lhasa, Tibet
Join alumni, family, and friends for a sublime journey throughout Asia, exploring the cultural treasures of one of the world’s great religions in a first-of-its-kind expedition, Lands of the Great Buddha by Private Jet.

In the course of 2,500 years, the peaceful teachings of the Great Buddha, Siddharta Gautama, spread throughout Asia, inspiring a myriad of unique cultures to blossom and flourish. Buddhism’s profusion of art, architecture, and colorful traditions lives on in these beautiful lands, offering sophisticated travelers a truly rich legacy to explore. Our 21-day journey takes us from world-wonder Angkor Wat to Buddhist epicenter Bodh Gaya; from Vietnam’s Imperial City of Hue to the other-worldly Himalayan citadels of Bhutan and Nepal; from China’s extraordinary Shaolin monks to Mongolia’s celebrated nomads; from Luoyang’s cave monasteries to Luang Prabang’s glittering temples; and finally to Kyoto and Nara, for the refined perfection of Japan’s Zen traditions. An optional pre-tour to Lhasa, Tibet, brings us to the former winter residence of the Dalai Lama and into the spectacular skyward frontier of the Himalaya.

Enjoy the comfort and convenience of our VIP-configured corporate private jet, which whisks us in style from one destination to the next. Enrich your understanding of many cultures in the company of our world-renowned scholars. Relax in the expert care and guidance of our top-notch expedition staff, including a dedicated physician. We are privileged to be joined by alumni from Dartmouth College, Northwestern University, and the University of Arizona, to unwind in luxurious boutique accommodations, and delight in lavish banquets and traditional entertainment.

To learn more about this extraordinary expedition, or to make a reservation, please call 1-866-3ALUMNI. I hope you will join us for what promises to be a wonderfully rich and rewarding experience.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Furda ’94TC
Vice President for Alumni Relations

p.s. In addition to the “must see” sites at each destination, there is also time to follow your own interests and passions: learn the secrets of Shaanxi cuisine, take a Japanese garden tour, and more.
Lands of the Great Buddha
Tread the very grounds where Lord Buddha Siddhartha Gautama attained enlightenment and delivered his first sermon in the sixth century B.C. Marvel at the remote Himalayan cultures of Bhutan and Nepal. Contrast the intricate complexity of Cambodia’s Khmer architecture with the simplicity of Japan’s Zen forms. See where Buddhist traditions have carried on for nearly 2,000 years in China and where they are experiencing a renaissance in Mongolia. And throughout the Buddhist world—in its beautiful jungles, deserts, riverways, and mountains—enjoy traditions steeped in history, the wondrous variety of artistic expression, and the warm welcome of its people.

Xi’an, China
Wonder at the gravity-defying acrobatic feats of Shaolin monks, and explore the Famen Temple, famed Buddhist reliquary and depository of Tang dynasty treasures.

Luoyang, China
Explore the Longmen Grottoes of Luoyang, a centuries-old sanctuary of Buddhist monk artists, sheltering magnificent stone sculptures including the colossal Grand Vairocana Buddha, considered “The Mona Lisa of the East.”

The Gobi Desert, Mongolia
Spend the night in the midst of a legendary landscape, in Mongolia’s premier luxury expedition camp. Go hiking or camel trekking, and enjoy an excursion to discover ancient petroglyphs.

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
Meet with a nomadic family in their traditional ger home and visit the great Gandan Monastery, one of the few that survived the political upheavals of the last century.

Kathmandu, Nepal
Visit Kathmandu’s colorful Bodnath Stupa, and enjoy a fly-by vista of spectacular Mount Everest, weather permitting, on the way to Bhutan.
**Great Buddha**

**Kingdom of Bhutan**
Enjoy a warm welcome into the monasteries of Bhutan, the last independent kingdom in the Himalaya.

**Bodh Gaya, Sarnath, Varanasi & Bodh Gaya, India**
See the birthplace of Buddhism at Bodh Gaya, observe sacred rituals by the Ganges River at Varanasi, and marvel at India’s greatest stupas at Sarnath and Sanchi.

**Angkor, Cambodia**
Explore the astoundingly beautiful Angkor temple complex, one of the greatest architectural structures in the world. And discover the hidden treasures beyond it.

**Danang & Hue, Vietnam**
Visit Hue’s fabled pagodas and Imperial Citadel, and admire the quiet beauty of China Beach by the Marble Mountains.

**Luang Prabang, Laos**
Immerse yourself in the world of Luang Prabang—among the countless monks in its golden temples, in the shimmering halls of its Royal Palace, and along its charming French colonial boulevards.

**Kyoto & Nara, Japan**
Experience the harmony and graciousness of Zen Buddhism in historic Kyoto and Nara.

* If you wish, you may join an optional pre-tour to Beijing, China & Lhasa, Tibet.
Enjoy the Ultimate in Convenience, Service & Expertise

Travel by Corporate Private Jet

Our corporate private jet—a specially-configured Fokker 100—is ideally suited for an exploration of Asia’s wonders. Its ability to land in smaller airports affords us unmatched flexibility. We set our own schedules, flying direct and avoiding layovers, allowing us the freedom to make the most of our adventures on land. The sumptuous interior is configured to provide a truly luxurious travel experience, accommodating only 32 passengers in VIP corporate-jet-style seating. The flight crew is specially selected for this expedition, handpicked for their attention to detail, dedication to safety and security, and top-notch hospitality.

Luxurious Accommodations and Fine Asian Cuisine

Unwind in the tranquil quarters of Bhutan’s Amankora Paro, one of the most exclusive hotel properties in the world. Immerse yourself in the richly appointed Grand Hotel d’Angkor, for a taste of a bygone era of grandeur. And enjoy many others of the world’s finest and most interesting accommodations. In remote areas where choices are limited, we stay at the very best available accommodations, to ensure your comfort. Throughout the journey, delight in festive banquets accompanied by traditional entertainment at these fine hotels and other special venues. When conditions permit, we encourage you to dine on your own—on us—at your choice of restaurants.

Expedition Staff and Physician

Our talented expedition staff—including an expedition physician—is a team of experienced travel experts who accompany us throughout the journey. These highly skilled and forward-thinking professionals attend to the expedition’s every logistical detail, ensuring that your experience is worry-free and thoroughly positive. Well-traveled and especially knowledgeable in travel medicine, the expedition physician will be ready to provide healthcare services whenever and wherever they may be needed.
Learn While You Explore

Enrichment is the key to rewarding exploration. A team of world-class scholars travels with us, handpicked for their ability to illuminate the history of empires, the varied cultures we encounter, and the outstanding examples of art and architecture we visit. They make use of our flying time, with informative lectures and lively discussions about each destination onboard the jet. In addition, books and publications about each destination are available in the small jet library for your reference.

Richard Ned Lebow is the James O. Freedman Presidential Professor of Government at Dartmouth College. He is a fellow of the Centre of International Relations and St. John’s College, both at the University of Cambridge. His most recent books are The Tragic Vision of Politics: Ethics, Interests and Orders (Cambridge, 2003) and Conflict, Community and Ethics (Routledge, 2006). The former won the Alexander L. George Award for the best book in political psychology. He is the co-editor of The Politics of Memory in Postwar Europe (2006), Unmaking the West: “What-If” Scenarios that Remake World History (2006) and Social Inquiry and Political Knowledge (2007).

Barry Till is an art historian and internationally recognized curator of Asian works. He is currently the Asian Curator for the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, which is home to one of Canada’s most important Asian art collections, second only to the Royal Ontario Museum. The collection of amber and ivory carvings is one of the largest and most exquisite in North America. He is a world traveler and the author of numerous books, including Arts of the Middle Kingdom: China and Images from the Tomb: Chinese Burial Figurines. Barry and his wife, sinologist Paula Swart, live in Victoria, British Columbia.

Follow Your Passion with a Flexible Itinerary

The possibilities are endless, the experience—matchless.

Enjoy the advantages of traveling on your own, while reaping the benefits of traveling with a group. Fly with like-minded travelers in the comfort of a VIP-configured jet. Then, after we land and break up into smaller groups, enjoy an intimate and in-depth exploration of the best that each destination has to offer. But this is only the beginning.

Travelers on this expedition may go beyond the main itinerary, enjoying many excursions of their choice along the way. Whether you want to take a cooking class, visit a school, or hike off the beaten path, we will ensure that your travels are thoroughly rewarding and tailored for you.

In the following pages, we make suggestions for sightseeing options throughout the journey. These are a mere sampling of what’s possible. If, for example, you prefer to visit a different stop entirely, we will look into an alternative destination. For more information and to discuss your ideal itinerary, please contact us.
Optional Pre-Tour to Beijing, China and Lhasa, Tibet

Extend your journey to other lands, if you wish. Before going on the Lands of the Great Buddha by Private Jet Expedition, you may join a special optional pre-tour to historic Beijing, China and majestic Lhasa, Tibet.

As an alternative to sightseeing in Beijing, travel to Mutian Yu Pass to behold one of the great wonders of the ancient world, the Great Wall of China. Like an enormous, sinuous dragon, the Great Wall winds across deserts, grasslands, mountains and plateaus, stretching 4,163 miles from east to west. Built to repel the marauding Huns, the Wall now stands as a lasting testament to human ingenuity and determination.

Monday, September 24, 2007. Depart independently from the U.S. on commercial flights to China, via your choice of several possible gateways (subject to commercial air schedule). Cross the International Date Line and arrive in Beijing the next day.

Beijing, China
Proud Capital of the Middle Kingdom

Tuesday & Wednesday, September 25 & 26. Embark on your pan-Asian journey in Beijing, China’s booming capital city and heir to the magnificent legacies of the Ming & Qing Dynasties. Visit the Forbidden City, the largest palace complex in the world, which served as the imperial capital for almost 500 years. Visit the spectacular Temple of Heaven, raised to honor the divine realm, and Tiananmen Square, site of some of the country’s political dramas. Enjoy the chance to rest and prepare for the altitude adjustment of 12,139 feet in Tibet. China World Shangri-la Hotel

Lhasa, Tibet
Historic Home of Buddhas at the Rooftop of the World

Thursday & Friday, September 27 & 28. We depart Beijing on a local flight for fabled Lhasa, deep in the Himalaya range. This center of Buddhist pilgrimage—with the spectacular UNESCO World Heritage Site Potala Palace dominating its skyline—has an unforgettable mystical atmosphere. During our time here, we visit the Jokhang Temple, the country’s oldest and most revered, and have time to explore the colorful Tibetan markets. We then visit the Potala Palace, once the winter residence of the Dalai Lama, and explore its hundreds of rooms, lavish décor, and labyrinthine corridors. Nearby, at the 600-year-old Sera Monastery, we may see monks practicing in the debating courtyard—upholding a long-held tradition that attests to the monastery’s deep scholastic roots. Lhasa Hotel

At the completion of our optional pre-tour, we take a local flight to Xi’an, and join with other travelers for the Lands of the Great Buddha by Private Jet expedition.
The Potala Palace and the Himalaya Mountains, Lhasa, Tibet

Lhasa, Tibet

Prayer wheels at the Potala Palace, Lhasa, Tibet

The Forbidden City, Beijing, China

The Temple of Heaven, Beijing, China

The Forbidden City, Beijing, China
**Xi’an, China**

*The Wonders of Shaolin Monks & The Qin Terracotta Figures*

**Saturday, Sunday & Monday, September 29 & 30, & October 1**  
Discover the “eternal city,” Xi’an, considered the birthplace of ancient eastern civilization where 13 dynasties reigned. At the Famen Temple, admire its 13-tiered pagoda, the long-hidden treasures of the Tang Dynasty, and behold one of very few surviving relics of the Lord Buddha, a piece of bone protected in secret for centuries in the largest religious vault ever discovered in China. We also enjoy a rare insider’s view into the fascinating world of Chinese medicine, including the art of Qi Gong, a meditative healing practice developed by Shaolin monks. Wonder at the spectacular displays of mind-over-matter as these renowned guardians of the art of kung fu demonstrate the gravity-defying skill of their ancient craft. Then visit one of the most significant archaeological excavations of the last century—the life-sized funerary army of Emperor Qin’s tomb. Incredibly, each warrior and horse is unique, totaling over 7,000 in number, and representing a variety of squadrons, arrayed in full battle formation.

_Sofitel on Renmin Square Xi’an_

**Luoyang, China**

*Myths and Masterpieces of the Longmen Grottoes*

**Tuesday, October 2**  
We board our private jet and fly to Luoyang, for a day’s exploration of this fabled stop along the Silk Road, before continuing on to Mongolia. Marvel at the exquisite jade works of the Luoyang Museum and then head to the banks of the Yi River for the awe-inspiring Longmen Grottoes. For more than 1,500 years this extensive network of cave monasteries—now a UNESCO World Heritage Site—has been an important site of pilgrimage. Altogether, there are nearly 1,400 grottoes, 2,800 inscriptions, and 100,000 statues. Of special note is the Ancestor Worshipping Cave, which is home to the colossal Grand Vairocana Buddha, flanked by bodhisattvas and guardians. Completed in 676 A.D., during the reign of Tang emperor Gaozong, the statue’s likeness is thought to be that of empress Wu Zetian, a powerful Buddhist patron.

_Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia*

*A Celebrated Nomadic Culture & The Gandan Monastery*

**Tuesday & Wednesday, October 2 & 3**  
We reboard our private jet and fly to the legendary land of Genghis Khan, where the vast expanse of the beautiful steppe and the renowned nomadic lifestyle are inextricably intertwined. We venture into the countryside to meet with a nomadic family in a traditional ger home, and sample the local diet of fermented mare’s milk and cheese. At the renowned Gandan Monastery, take a quiet moment to observe the Buddhist monks chanting their morning prayers. One of only a few to survive the political upheaval of the 1930’s, the Gandan has been joined by hundreds of new Buddhist institutions since 1990, when new religious freedoms were granted. We also visit the Museum of Natural History, featuring a dinosaur skeleton and eggs recovered from the Gobi Desert. In the evening, enjoy a private banquet accompanied by a special performance of Mongolian throat singing.

_Ulaanbaatar Hotel_
A Shaolin Buddhist monk practicing kung fu, China

Famen Temple, Xi'an, China

The Gandan Monastery, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Emperor Qin’s terracotta funerary army, Xi’an, China

Longmen Grottoes, Luoyang, China
Choose from among many excursions along the way.

While in Bhutan, hearty travelers may take the challenging hike nearly 3,000 feet up to the Tiger’s Nest Monastery, one of the country’s most revered sites, named for the flying tigress that carried the Guru Rinpoche to the site in the eighth century. The Bhutanese, who have a deep faith in the Tantric form of Mahayana Buddhism, credit the Guru with establishing Buddhism throughout the land.

You may also stroll the town of Paro and visit a family at their farmhouse.

Mount Chomolhari, Bhutan

THE GOBI DESERT, MONGOLIA
Exploring the Natural Wonders of a Legendary Landscape

Thursday, October 4. Today we fly deep into southern Mongolia for a comfortable ger-style camp experience in an unforgettable setting, the Gobi Desert. Here in the foothills of the Gobi-Altai Mountains, we find one of the best protected ecosystems in the Asian continent. The area is home to an incredible array of wildlife, including the gobi bear, ibex, black-tailed gazelle, and more than 250 species of birds. In the Flaming Cliffs, go dinosaur fossil hunting with an expert guide. During the 1920s, the singular adventurer and paleontologist Roy Chapman Andrews found the world’s first dinosaur eggs, jaws, and skulls here, which we see at the Museum of Natural History in Ulaanbaatar. Then marvel at the ancient petroglyphs by our camp, ride Bactrian camels into the sand dunes, and watch the sun set over the desert’s golden expanse. Three Camel Lodge

KATHMANDU, NEPAL
Colorful City in the Snow-Capped Himalaya

Friday, October 5. Our jet takes us over the breathtaking spires of the Himalaya Mountains to Nepal, home to eight of the ten tallest peaks in the world. The colorful capital city Kathmandu—at once ancient and modern, Buddhist and Hindu, natural and urban—will serve as our base for local flights to and from Bhutan. While here, we visit the ancient Bodnath Stupa, the largest Buddhist temple in Nepal, which dominates the city’s skyline. Its striking blue eyes, painted on the façade, watch over the city with its benevolent gaze. Hyatt Regency Kathmandu

PARO, KINGDOM OF BHUTAN
Land of the Thunder Dragon

Saturday & Sunday, October 6 & 7. We take a local flight to Bhutan, flying by mighty Mount Everest (weather permitting), for a rare view into the outward frontier of the planet. Myth and history swirl together in the mountain mists of this enchanting land. Secluded in the eastern Himalaya and opened to visitors only decades ago, Bhutan—the last independent kingdom in the Himalaya—exudes a magical charm. We land in Paro, deep in a valley dotted with mountaintop Buddhist monasteries and gaily decorated fortresses, or dzongs. Visit the great Paro Dzong at the Paro River, home to a monastic community of 200, and meet with the revered Datong Tulku Rinpoche, believed to be a reincarnation of the famous monk Bami Yeshi Yang. At the National Museum, housed in the seventeenth-century former watchtower of the Paro Valley, admire the superb collections of textiles, ancient weapons, and classical thangka paintings depicting Buddhist cosmology. While in Bhutan, enjoy two nights in an elegant suite-lodge at the incomparable Amankora Paro, tucked away in a secluded forest in the Paro Valley. Amankora Paro

BODH GAYA, SARNATH, VARANASI & SANCHI, INDIA
Sacred Buddhist Sites & Ganges River Culture

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, October 8, 9 & 10. In India, fly to the eastern state of Bihar to explore the epicenter of Buddhism at Bodh Gaya, where Lord Buddha attained enlightenment. Visit the tiered Mahabodhi Temple, the sacred Bodhi Tree, and other fascinating places of worship in the area. Although Buddhism is now practiced by very few Indians, Bodh Gaya is indisputably one of the holiest sites of the religion and draws countless Buddhists from all over the world.
Instead of visiting Angkor Thom, consider the rarely-visited Banteay Srei (the Citadel of Women), an unusual pink sandstone temple, considered the “jewel” of Khmer art. You may also opt to visit the mysterious Preah Khan, once home to an organization of nearly 100,000 officials and Buddhist leaders.

In Danang, you may take a guided tour of a local market, or enjoy the water sports or spa services offered by our full-service resort on China Beach.

Instead of visiting Hue, you may go to Hoi An, a well-preserved historic port city and the My Son Sanctuary, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its curious tower-temples.

We then fly to Varanasi, located on the Ganges River. Since its founding in the sixth century B.C., Varanasi has been the most sacred site of Hindu pilgrimage, where bathing in the river is believed to wash away a person’s sins. Cruise along the river in this unforgettable setting, where the fading sun sheds an ethereal light on the temples, pavilions, and terraces; and observe the pilgrims who gather along the river’s stone steps, or ghats, to perform ritual ablutions. Then travel by riverboat to a private mansion for traditional Indian cuisine, music, and dance.

Nearby, at the temple complex of Sarnath, stroll the tranquil deer sanctuary and behold the great Dhamekha Stupa, where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon. Observe the countless devotees circling the stupa, a circumambulation that represents the eternal turning of the wheel of life. Then, on our way to Cambodia, we make a brief stop at the Great Stupa of Sanchi. Reclaimed from the jungle merely a century ago, it is one of the oldest Buddhist structures in the world and a marvel to art historians. The site’s four magnificently carved gates have stood, surviving earthquakes and other disasters, for more than 2,000 years. Taj Ganges, Varanasi

ANOKOR, CAMBODIA
The Ancient Capital of the Khmer Empire

Wednesday & Thursday, October 10 & 11. We reboard our jet and fly to Cambodia, to explore Angkor. Built between the ninth and thirteenth centuries, this ancient capital of the Khmer Empire is one of the world’s great architectural triumphs. Abandoned in 1434, the city was gradually forgotten—until four centuries later when it was uncovered by European explorers, hidden in the dense undergrowth of the Cambodian jungle. Survey the massive towers, carved murals, colonnades, and courtyards at Angkor Wat, the area’s famed temple complex. And visit the royal quarters of Angkor Thom, which is dominated by the extraordinary Bayon Temple, considered by many to be the model of the Buddhist universe. Grand Hotel d’Angkor

DANANG & HUE, VIETNAM
China Beach, Pagodas & Splendors of the Nguyen Dynasty

Friday & Saturday, October 12 & 13. We board our private jet, bound for central Vietnam, to explore some of the finest historical monuments in Southeast Asia along a stunningly beautiful coastline of palm-fringed beaches. In Danang, visit the Cham Museum, devoted to the heritage of the Kingdom of Champa, which prospered here from the second to seventeenth centuries. Then take a marvelously scenic drive through Hai Van Pass (‘Pass of the Ocean Clouds’) to Hue, the cultural, religious, and former political capital of the country, perched beside the meandering Perfume River.

At Tu Hieu Pagoda—former home of the Zen master and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Thich Nhat Hanh—we are welcomed with a special ceremony and invited to participate in a walking meditation. Relax by the tranquil half-moon lake and note the stele houses engraved with stories of this pagoda’s long history. At the Dong Thuyen Pagoda, founded more than 400 years ago by the Princess Ngoc Co, enjoy a special vegetarian meal and discuss Buddhism with the nuns. And at Duc Son Pagoda, meet the children of the orphanage and school there. We also explore Hue’s Imperial Citadel, where the Nguyen Dynasty emperors lived in splendor. Furama Resort Danang
While in Kyoto, you may enjoy a garden tour, soaking in the spectacular fall colors of Daitokuji Temple’s grounds, and contemplating the famous Zen rock gardens of Ryoanji. Or, participate in a traditional tea ceremony, a many-layered ritual that honors the profound beauty of nature and art. Alternatively, shop in the markets for Japan’s exquisite arts, including calligraphy, kimono, pottery, and textiles.

In Laos, learn about the country’s rich weaving heritage with Carol Cassidy, an acclaimed artist who works with local artisans to produce a wide range of fine textiles.

Enjoy a flexible itinerary.

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Sunday, October 14

We reboard our private jet and fly to Laos—only recently opened to visitors—to the gorgeous city of Luang Prabang. Established as the royal capital in the fourteenth century, it is situated at the confluence of the Mekong and Khan rivers, and nestled in a dramatic mountain setting. Due to its extraordinary splendor and historical significance, with countless golden Buddhist temples and French colonial edifices, UNESCO has designated the entire town a World Heritage Site. Visit the Wat Xieng Thong monastery, layered with gold leaf and elaborate mosaics depicting the fabled Thong copper tree. Then explore the Royal Palace, saunter along the charming boulevards, and shop the central market where the local hilltribes offer their fine wares.

La Résidence Phou Vao, Luang Prabang

Kyoto & Nara, Japan

Zen Gardens & Temples & Samurai Culture

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, October 15, 16 & 17

Our private jet takes us to Kyoto, Japan’s imperial capital for nearly 1,000 years. Stroll the historic tree-lined streets by the Kamo River, resplendent in fall colors. Among the traditional shops, theaters, and teahouses, kimonoed residents can be seen, including the famed geisha. UNESCO World Heritage Sites also abound, each an exemplar of the serene and beautiful traditions of Zen Buddhism. Pay homage to Kannon, the goddess of mercy, at Sanjusangendo, a centuries-old wooden temple that houses 1001 statues in her honor. Visit the magnificent Kamigamo Shrine, dedicated to the noble spirit of thunder, and explore the palaces and gardens of Nijo Castle, former residence of the sixteenth-century shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu. As leader of Japan’s samurai warriors, he brought Japan’s disparate areas under one rule, ushering in a period of relative peace and stability that lasted more than 250 years.

We also go to Nara for the glorious Todai-ji Temple. Located in enchanting Nara Park, it is the world’s largest wooden building, guarded by two exquisite Nio wooden figures and featuring the enormous bronze Daibutsu Buddha, weighing in at 437 tons. Greet the friendly deer—revered as Buddha’s kin—who freely wander the area. Enjoy a gala farewell banquet in traditional Japanese style.

Kyoto Hotel Okura

Homeward

Thursday, October 18

Depart Japan on individual commercial flights, arriving in your home city in the United States. Or extend your stay in Japan (please contact us for more information).

Cost Per Person

$38,950 (based on double occupancy)
Single supplement: $5,890

Optional Pre-Tour: $2,590 (based on double occupancy)
Single Supplemet: $450

Commercial airfare to China and from Japan is not included.
For your protection and peace of mind, all payments are secured in a bank escrow account.
Great Buddha

Wat Xieng Thong monastery, Luang Prabang, Laos

Kyoto, Japan

Geisha, Kyoto, Japan

Nijo Castle, Kyoto, Japan

The Daibutsu Buddha, Todai-ji Temple, Nara, Japan

Luang Prabang, Laos
We are happy to assist you in arranging flights from your home city, Columbia University, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions. All cancellations must be received in writing in the offices of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program and will become effective as of the date of the postmark or e-mail receipt. Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500 per person cancellation fee, until February 28, 2007. Between March 1 and April 27, 2007, a $4,500 per person cancellation fee will apply. Between April 28 and June 28, 2007, a $7,500 per person cancellation fee will apply. After June 28, 2007, no refunds can be made.

Leaving an expedition in progress, for any reason whatsoever, will not result in a refund, and no refunds will be made for any unused portions of an expedition. If Columbia University, its agent, TSS, or its designated tour operator, Starquest Expeditions, cancels an expedition prior to departure, you will receive a full refund of monies paid. Any airline tickets issued are subject to the carrier's refund policy. We will not be responsible for any refund for nonrefundable airline tickets, or for any airline tickets purchased by the passenger directly from an airline or travel agent. We strongly recommend trip cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you upon registration.

Single/Shared Accommodations: A limited number of single rooms are available at extra cost on a first-come, first-served basis. We will assist persons requesting a roommate. Participants will be notified if a suitable roommate is not available. In this case, the single rate will be charged.

Price Includes: All hotel accommodations, group transportation, excursions, and other group activities as detailed in the itinerary, beginning with arrival at your hotel in Xi’an, China on September 29, 2007, through departure from Kyoto, Japan on October 18, 2007 • Transportation by private jet according to the itinerary • All meals, beginning with dinner on September 29, 2007 and ending with breakfast on October 18, 2007 • Complete program of special events and activities, including customized options at most destinations • Enrichment program of lectures and presentations by a team of experts • Professional staff, including expedition physician, to assist you throughout the trip • Liquor aboard the private jet and during special events • Baggage handling abroad • Gratuities to expedition staff, guides, and drivers • Amenity package • $50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance for covered reasons • Minimal accident/sickness/baggage insurance (details about optional and additional insurance, including trip cancellation insurance, will be mailed to you after registration).

Reservations: To reserve your place on the Lands of the Great Buddha by Private Jet Expedition, complete the reservation form and return it with your $2,500 per person deposit. Make checks payable to "Starquest Expeditions LLC Escrow (Account # 2015633)" and write "LGB-0907-07" in the memo line. You may charge your deposit to VISA, MasterCard, or American Express. Mail to Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program, 245 Mill Street, Second Floor, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830.

Additional Deposit and Final Payment: A second deposit of $15,000 per person is due February 28, 2007. Final payment is due June 28, 2007. The second deposit and final payment are payable by check only, made out to a secure escrow account.

Cancellation and Refunds: All cancellations must be received in writing in the offices of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program and will become effective as of the date of the postmark or e-mail receipt. Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500 per person cancellation fee, until February 28, 2007. Between March 1 and April 27, 2007, a $4,500 per person cancellation fee will apply. Between April 28 and June 28, 2007, a $7,500 per person cancellation fee will apply. After June 28, 2007, no refunds can be made.

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Basis of Rates: All prices are based on two persons sharing a room. All prices and fares are quoted in U.S. dollars. The rates are based on current tariffs and are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, if it is necessary to levy a surcharge, we reserve the right to do so, and notification will be given at the time of final invoicing. Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions, reserve the right to cancel any trip because of inadequate enrollment that makes the trip economically unfeasible to operate. In such a case, a full refund of the expedition cost will be made.

Itinerary Changes: The itineraries and staff presented in this brochure are subject to modification and change by Columbia University, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen events or conditions require our itinerary to be altered, we reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group.

Health Requirements: We consider this to be an active program, which requires you to make a realistic health assessment. Prior to traveling, we suggest that you visit your personal physician for a check-up, so that you may discuss your ability to participate in this type of journey as described in this brochure. All participants are expected to be in active good health, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences with grace. Walking and climbing stairs are required in many hotels and airports, to board the aircraft, and are part of many excursions. Please note: If you want to participate in the optional hike to the Tiger’s Nest Monastery in Bhutan, or if you want to join the optional pre-tour, we will send you a special form to obtain your physician's approval for high-altitude travel (both the Monastery and Lhasa, Tibet, are more than 7,500 feet above sea level).

Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment should be reported in writing when the reservation is made. Of course, while traveling, you may choose to take a day off and rejuvenate at any of the destinations. Malaria and other diseases are present in some of the countries. For the latest recommendations on specific health precautions, consult your physician and the Centers for Disease Control.

Responsibility: Columbia University, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions, act only as agents for any transportation carrier, hotel, ground operator, or other suppliers of services connected with this tour (“other providers”), and the other providers are solely responsible and liable for providing their respective services. The passenger tickets in use by the carriers shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the passenger; the carriers are not responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time tour participants are not aboard their conveyances. Columbia University, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions, shall not be held liable for (A) any damage to, or loss of, property or injury to, or death of, persons occasioned directly or indirectly by an act or omission of any other provider, including but not limited to any defect in any aircraft, watercraft, or vehicle operated or provided by such other provider, and (B) any loss or damage due to delay, cancellation, or disruption in any manner caused by the laws, regulations, acts or failures to act, demands, orders, or interpositions of any government or any subdivision or agent thereof, or by acts of God, strikes, fire, flood, war, rebellion, terrorism, insurrection, sickness, quarantine, epidemics, theft, or any other cause(a) beyond their control. The participant waives any claim against Columbia University, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions, for any such loss, damage, injury, or death. By registering for the expedition, the participant certifies that he/she does not have a pre-existing physical or mental condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants. Columbia University, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions, reserve the right in their sole discretion to accept, decline to accept, or remove any participant on an expedition and reserves the right without notice to withdraw any part or all of the trip and to make such changes as may be necessary. Columbia University, its agent, TSS, and operator, Starquest Expeditions, shall not be liable for any air carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket to or from the participant’s departure city. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. We cannot guarantee the size of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Group. We reserve the right to substitute or cancel lecturers.

Starquest Expeditions is a Registered Seller of Travel in Washington (#602-320-265) and a California Seller of Travel (20701584-30), and is endorsed by IATAN, the International Airlines Travel Agent Network (500-75585).

Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program
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Phone: 1-866-3ALUMNI
Fax: 203-724-0844 • E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu
Web: www.alumni.columbia.edu/attend
Please reserve ______ place(s) on Lands of the Great Buddha by Private Jet Expedition, priced at $38,950 per person (share occupancy).

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<th>Name as it appears on passport</th>
<th>School/Year</th>
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<td>Name as it appears on passport</td>
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Address (Please do not list a P.O. box.)

City, State, Zip Code

(                       )                       (             )       (             )

Home phone Work phone Cell phone

(             )                       (             )

E-mail Fax

Accommodations:

☐ I prefer single accommodations where available for an additional $5,890.
☐ I plan to share accommodations with:

☐ Please arrange a share for me. I am a ☐ non-smoker ☐ smoker

If a share cannot be arranged, I agree to pay the single supplement.

☐ I am interested in suite upgrades at an additional cost.

Please note: We will provide you with details on suite upgrade options for this itinerary four months before departure.

Enclosed is my deposit check for $____________ ($2,500 per person). Please make checks payable to “Starquest Expeditions LLC Escrow (Account # 2015633)” and write “LGB-0907-07” in the memo line.

OR

Please charge my deposit of $____________ ($2,500 per person) to

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Account Number /________/________/________/________

Expiration Date

Optional Pre-Tour to Beijing, China & Lhasa, Tibet:

☐ Please reserve _________ place(s) on the optional pre-tour, priced at $2,590 per person (share occupancy).

☐ I prefer single accommodations where available for an additional $450.

I/We have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions for the trip (each traveler must sign).

Signature Date

Signature Date