

Travel Program 2026

Paro Taktsang, Bhutan



WashU



Athens, Greece

START YOUR JOURNEY

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THE WASHU
TRAVEL PROGRAM
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Alumni Association



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear travelers,

Welcome to the 2026 edition of the WashU Travel Program catalog! Each year, our journeys inspire curiosity, forge connections, and offer fresh perspectives on the world. In this catalog, you'll find a diverse collection of destinations, reflections from fellow travelers, and answers to common questions about traveling with us.

The 2026 season builds on an exceptional year of exploration in 2025. Our Dutch Waterways cruise through the canals of the Netherlands and Belgium was a particular favorite, as was our Seine River voyage through France, which traced a path from medieval villages to the historic D-Day landing sites in Normandy. Beyond Europe, travelers met local artists and community leaders in Cuba, took in the dramatic landscapes of Chile and Patagonia, and swam in Tahiti's crystal-clear lagoons – just a few of the enriching travel experiences shared in 2025.

Looking ahead, we're excited to offer an equally compelling lineup for 2026. For those captivated by celestial wonders, we have two extraordinary trips planned for the upcoming total solar eclipse – one from an isolated point off the coast of eastern Greenland and another set against the stunning backdrop of the Mediterranean near Mallorca. Nature's most magnificent performances continue in northern Finland, where the aurora borealis illuminates the night sky. If you're seeking a more untamed adventure, our Kenya and Tanzania safari promises thrilling wildlife encounters. And for history enthusiasts, our new journey through the iconic sites of the American Civil War offers an opportunity to step into history's defining moments, much like our 2025 exploration of Normandy.

We invite you to browse the digital catalog, available online for viewing or downloading. Whether you're dreaming of cultural immersion, natural wonders, or historical insight, we hope you find inspiration for your next great adventure.

If you have any questions about the program or our upcoming trips, please feel free to reach out to me directly at davidwebb@wustl.edu or by phone at 314-935-0474. I'd be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,



David Webb
Director, Travel Programs & Education



Gothenburg, Sweden



Amsterdam, Netherlands

WHY TRAVEL WITH WASHU?

WHAT BETTER WAY TO CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY OF LIFE-LONG LEARNING THAN BY EXPLORING THE WORLD WITH FELLOW WASHU ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY?

The Travel Program partners with the world’s leading affinity travel organizations – companies with decades of experience in planning travel programs that go beyond the ordinary group tour – to offer exciting destinations with itineraries that meet our objective of learning through travel. Each year, select trips welcome WashU faculty members who join the tour to share their expertise and insights on topics related to the destination.

Whether you are a seasoned traveler or eager to begin, the Travel Program is a wonderful way to experience the world and meet other curious explorers. We hope you will join us on an upcoming trip.

TRAVEL TRAVELL LOG

WE CHATTED WITH TWO WASHU TRAVELERS WHO RECENTLY EMBARKED ON A NORDIC EXCURSION. FIND OUT WHAT MADE THEIR TRIP WITH THE TRAVEL PROGRAM SO GREAT.

TRAVEL PROGRAM 2026

GUEST MANIFEST

NAMES:
Roger Dean Chamberlain
BS '83, BS '83, MS '85, DSC '89
Tracy Louise Chamberlain
BS '86, MBA '95

No. OF TRIPS TAKEN: one

MOST RECENT DESTINATION:
Scandinavia and
the Baltic Sea

DATE: 2024

WHY DO YOU TRAVEL?

We have always felt that experiences are way more important than stuff, and travel is a great way to honor that approach to life.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TRAVELING WITH THE WASHU TRAVEL PROGRAM?

The fact that all the logistics are organized by the travel company is a strong plus. For us, the venue was someplace we had not traveled to in the past, and that also made it attractive. On the trip, we got to meet a number of alumni, none of which we had met in the past, and they were all wonderful travel companions.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO IS CONSIDERING TRAVELING WITH WASHU FOR THE FIRST TIME?

Go for it!

DO YOU HAVE ANY TRAVEL TIPS, TRICKS, OR ADVICE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

Always travel light. Take as little “stuff” with you as you can possibly manage (which saves room to bring home souvenirs!).

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO NEXT?

We’re already booked to travel to Iceland and Greenland for the solar eclipse in 2026.



2026 Trip
Summary

Let your imagination run wild as you peruse our 2026 tours! Additional details and booking information is available on our website: travel.washu.edu. You can also call us at **314-935-0474**.

WINTER
(JANUARY-FEBRUARY)

- Costa Rica’s Natural Heritage
- Egypt and the Eternal Nile

SPRING
(MARCH-MAY)

- Bali, Singapore, Thailand and Angkor Wat
- Finland: Arctic Magnificence
- Inland Sea of Japan and South Korea
- Croatia and the Dalmatian Coast
- Romance of the Douro

SUMMER
(JUNE-AUGUST)

- Italian Lakes and Swiss Alps
- Scotland: Highlands and Islands
- Total Solar Eclipse: Iceland and Greenland
- Total Solar Eclipse: Spain

FALL
(SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER)

- Flavors of Dordogne
- Civil War Battlefields
- Island Life: Greek Isles and Ephesus
- Kingdom of Bhutan
- Classic Safari: Kenya and Tanzania

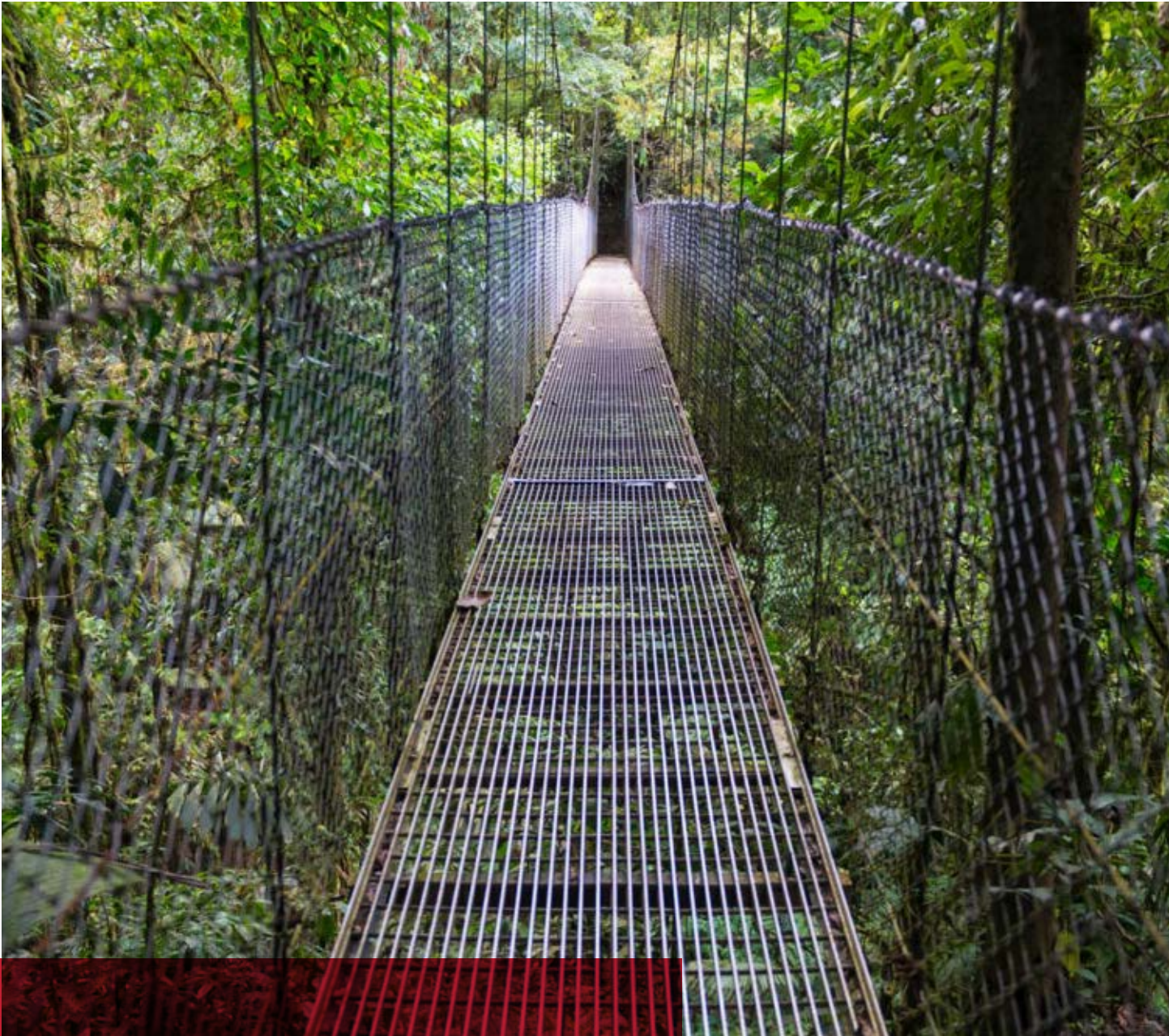


COSTA RICA'S NATURAL HERITAGE
JANUARY 22-FEBRUARY 1, 2026

VIEW MORE DETAILS AT
TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU



In this small Central American democracy, rich in natural beauty, we explore four distinct regions: cloud forests, rainforests, the Central Valley, and the Pacific Coast. This small-group tour reveals Costa Rica's impressive biodiversity with pristine landscapes, unique microclimates, and exotic flora and fauna, offering a relaxed yet thorough journey through its remarkable natural resources.



PERMIT No. 1853



EGYPT AND THE ETERNAL NILE
FEBRUARY 6-20, 2026

Accompanied by an expert Egyptian guide, this exclusive small-group journey through antiquity begins in vibrant Cairo with visits to the Great Pyramids. It continues to Abu Simbel and the Upper Nile for a captivating cruise on Lake Nasser, followed by a classic voyage along the Lower Nile from Aswan to Luxor, before concluding in Cairo.

**BALI, SINGAPORE, THAILAND,
AND ANGKOR WAT**
MARCH 3-18, 2026

From the beautiful shores of Bali to modern Singapore, vibrant Bangkok, and legendary Angkor, this 12-night journey showcases the best of Southeast Asia. Experience Bali’s rich culture, explore Singapore’s diverse neighborhoods, cruise Bangkok’s iconic canals, and discover the jungle-clad temples of Angkor. Along the way, connect with welcoming locals and savor regional dishes. Enjoy first-class accommodations, an extensive meal plan, and included flights to Singapore, Bangkok, and Siem Reap.



 [VIEW MORE DETAILS AT
TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU](https://travel.washu.edu)

**FINLAND:
ARCTIC MAGNIFICENCE**
MARCH 19-27, 2026

Delve into Finland’s majestic beauty and Nordic charm on this seven-night adventure in the world’s happiest country. Explore vibrant Helsinki and unwind with a traditional Finnish sauna. In northern Lapland, marvel at the Northern Lights from a glass-domed cabin and enjoy a moonlit snowshoe trek. Choose between an exhilarating dogsled or snowmobile ride across pristine fjells. Discover the heritage of Finland’s Sámi cultures and visit a traditional reindeer farm. Conclude your journey with a visit to Tallinn, Estonia’s UNESCO-listed old town.



“THE PROGRAM FAR EXCEEDED MY EXPECTATIONS. THE ACCOMMODATIONS WERE FIRST-RATE. THE LOGISTICS WERE HANDLED WELL. THE EXCURSIONS WERE FANTASTIC. THE FOOD WAS EXCELLENT. I WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE PROGRAM.”

-WASHU TRAVELER, LEGENDS OF THE NILE

INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA

APRIL 25-MAY 7, 2026

Japan offers a rich tapestry of ancient rituals and storied culture. This 13-day, 12-night journey highlights Kyoto’s ethereal temples, jewel-box pagodas, and shogun castles, along with the latticed merchant houses of Hagi’s samurai district. On a special visit to Miyajima’s Itsukushima Shrine, admire the iconic “floating” Torii gate on the Seto Inland Sea. Explore seven UNESCO World Heritage sites across Japan and South Korea, featuring an eight-night, all-inclusive cruise aboard the expedition small ship, Heritage Adventurer. Emmy Award-winning international news correspondent Jim Laurie will join as a guest speaker, offering insights into this remarkable region. Enhance your visit with optional extensions in Tokyo and Osaka.



“THIS WAS A MOST MEMORABLE TRIP. WINTER AT BOTH THE TETONS AND YELLOWSTONE IS MAJESTIC. THE ANIMAL LIFE THAT WE SAW WAS ASTONISHING. BUT OUR EXPERIENCES WITH THE WOLVES WAS BEYOND EXPECTATIONS.”

-WASHU TRAVELER, WOLVES AND WILDLIFE OF YELLOWSTONE

VIEW MORE DETAILS AT
TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU



**CROATIA AND CRUISING
THE DALMATIAN COAST**

MAY 1-12, 2026

Discover Croatia’s treasures on this 10-night journey, including a seven-night Adriatic cruise.

Board a small yacht in Dubrovnik, a stunning medieval town, and sail along the Dalmatian coast to captivating islands and historic ports. Savor fresh oysters on the Pelješac Peninsula, admire the beauty of Hvar and Korčula, and explore the historical sites in Split and Zadar. Conclude your adventure at Plitvice Lakes National Park before a three-night stay in Zagreb.

Enjoy a comprehensive meal plan and the many wonders Croatia has to offer.



ROMANCE OF THE DOURO

MAY 15-26, 2026

Experience the romantic beauty of the Douro River on this unforgettable journey. Begin in Lisbon, where maritime history and charm meet. Explore the colorful streets of Porto and cruise along the scenic Douro River. Discover the region's rich winemaking heritage in Alto Douro, enjoy the elegance of Salamanca, Spain, and visit picturesque villages with their own stories to tell. This sun-drenched adventure offers memories to last a lifetime.



ITALIAN LAKES AND SWISS ALPS

JUNE 9-18, 2026

Embark on a journey through the heart of Europe, where Italy and Switzerland reveal their rich culture and stunning landscapes. This exclusive tour blends historic charm with the majestic beauty of the Alps, from the serene shores of Lake Garda to the iconic peaks of the Matterhorn. Savor fine wines at centuries-old vineyards, glide through mountain vistas aboard legendary trains, and discover a perfect balance of adventure and relaxation. Every moment of this Alpine rail odyssey promises to inspire and captivate.



SCOTLAND: HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

JULY 18-29, 2026

“My heart’s in the Highlands,” said the poet Robert Burns – and so will yours be as we journey from city to country and mainland to island on this enchanting journey. From loch to loch and glen to glen, you’ll discover breathtaking natural beauty and warm, welcoming clans, while vibrant cities reveal both a colorful past and a cosmopolitan present.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE: ICELAND AND GREENLAND

AUGUST 5-15, 2026

Embark on an 11-day Arctic expedition aboard Exploris One, cruising round-trip from Reykjavík, Iceland, to Greenland’s stunning and less-explored east coast. Experience the rare total solar eclipse on August 12 from a prime, little-known viewing spot along Scoresby Sound, one of the world’s largest fjord systems in eastern Greenland. Accompanied by a professional astronomer and equipped with special glasses and telescopes, you’ll witness this awe-inspiring phenomenon in an area selected for its clear skies, extended totality, and a vast, breathtaking Arctic backdrop.

“IT WAS A GREAT TRIP...
TRAVELING WITH A GROUP
THE CALIBER OF [WASHU]
GRADUATES WAS WONDERFUL.”

-WASHU TRAVELER
INSIDER’S JAPAN

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE: SPAIN

AUGUST 7-14, 2026

Witness the mesmerizing total solar eclipse on August 12, set against the stunning Mediterranean backdrop off the coast of Spain’s Mallorca. Experience the unparalleled thrill of totality with the sun so low on the horizon that its silhouetted disk is distorted into an oval by atmospheric refraction, creating dramatic effects not seen when the eclipse is higher in the sky. Your journey begins in bustling Barcelona, where the luxurious Grand Central Hotel will serve as your base for exploring the Gothic Quarter, historic streets, and hidden gems. Then, travel to the charming village of Valldemossa in the Tramuntana mountains, where, as evening falls, you’ll set sail from Port de Soller to witness this awe-inspiring celestial event.



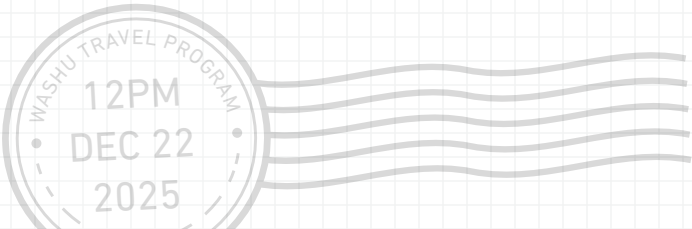
VIEW MORE DETAILS AT TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU



FLAVORS OF DORDOGNE

SEPTEMBER 4-12, 2026

Step into a world where medieval charm blends with modern sophistication, where every cobblestone street holds a story, and every vineyard reveals secrets of centuries past. Welcome to Dordogne, a captivating region in southwest France, rich in history, architecture, and natural beauty. This customized itinerary offers the perfect setting for authentic cultural and culinary experiences, from exploring medieval towns and ancient castles to dining at Michelin-starred restaurants, enjoying vineyard tours and tastings, and participating in hands-on cooking demonstrations.



 [VIEW MORE DETAILS AT
TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU](https://TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU)

CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS

OCTOBER 4-8, 2026

Join us on an immersive journey to iconic sites of the American Civil War, where history comes alive and invites reflection. Explore how Harpers Ferry inflamed sectional tensions, discover how Antietam changed the course of the conflict and paved the way for Abraham Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, and walk through the Gettysburg Battlefield to understand why it is considered the most pivotal engagement of the war.



ISLAND LIFE: GREEK ISLES AND EPHEBUS

OCTOBER 7-15, 2026

Sail the turquoise waters of the Aegean Sea aboard the Wind Spirit, an exclusively chartered, four-masted yacht. Visit six enchanting Greek islands – Delos, Mykonos, Patmos, Rhodes, Santorini, and Milos – along with the historic site of Ephesus in Turkey. Explore ancient ruins, a medieval fortress, a tradition-rich monastery, and other cultural treasures. Immerse yourself in the captivating history, vibrant culture, and natural beauty of Greece and Turkey on this unforgettable Aegean adventure.

KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 3, 2026

Explore the captivating beauty of Bhutan, a land of stunning landscapes and rich traditions. Walk through lush forests, visit ancient temples and fortresses, and admire panoramic views of valleys and the snow-capped Himalayas. Discover a royal palace and immerse yourself in the vibrant culture and serene natural beauty of this remarkable destination. Connect with welcoming locals and experience their peaceful way of life on this unforgettable journey.



VIEW MORE DETAILS AT
TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU



CLASSIC SAFARI: **KENYA AND TANZANIA**

NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 14, 2026

“On safari” – it’s one of the most captivating phrases in travel, and Kenya and Tanzania are among the most enticing places to experience it. As our small group journeys from grasslands to highlands, and reserves to national parks, we enjoy intimate game drives, awe-inspiring landscapes, exceptional accommodations, and the warmth of local hospitality

“THIS WAS ONE OF OUR BEST TRIPS EVER. WE LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT THE SHIP AND THE EXPERIENCES WE HAD.”

-WASHU TRAVELERS, PASSAGE THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL AND COSTA RICA



WHAT'S IN YOUR BAG?

Packing is an art and a science – a blend of thoughtful planning and practical strategy. Whether you're setting sail on a cruise, wandering through ancient cities, or exploring remote landscapes, these tips will help you pack efficiently and travel with ease.

1. Less is more

Choose versatile, lightweight clothing that can be layered. Neutral colors mix and match effortlessly, while wrinkle-resistant fabrics keep you looking polished with minimal effort.

2. Know the climate

Check the expected weather at your destination and pack accordingly. A light rain jacket is invaluable in unpredictable climates, and a breathable scarf or wrap can be a lifesaver in both cool evenings and over-air-conditioned spaces.

3. Comfortable shoes are non-negotiable

Bring well-broken-in walking shoes suited to your itinerary – whether that's sturdy sneakers for cobblestone streets, lightweight hiking boots, or comfortable slip-ons for cruise decks. A second pair offers flexibility and relief after a long day of exploring.

4. The right bag makes all the difference

A rolling suitcase with four wheels is best for maneuverability and stability. Bring a day bag or small backpack for excursions. Packing cubes can help organize clothing, and a compression bag is handy for bulkier items like jackets.

5. Mind the essentials

Keep medications, travel documents, and valuables in your carry-on. A small crossbody bag with RFID protection can add an extra layer of security in crowded areas.

6. Pack for the journey, not just the destination

Long flights or transfers are more comfortable with a travel pillow, noise-canceling headphones, and a refillable water bottle. A compact power strip can be useful for charging multiple devices in hotel rooms with limited outlets.

By mastering the art and science of packing, you'll free yourself to focus on what matters most: immersing yourself in new experiences, connecting with fellow travelers, and embracing the adventure ahead.



Athens, Greece

OUR GREEK ODYSSEY

By Barbara Abelson

Abelson, B. (2024, Summer). Our Greek odyssey. URSUS, (12). John and Penelope Biggs Department of Classics, WashU. classics.washu.edu/ursus

In mid-May of this year, Dennis and I had the opportunity to travel with a Wash U alumni group to Greece. You may be thinking, oh, yeah, that sounds nice, but for us, it was the realization of years of thinking “wouldn’t it be great if...” We did not want to sit on beaches, collect shells, and pick up postcards of gorgeous vistas. Rather, we yearned to be within the confines of temples, see the Aegean (would it really be wine dark?) and imagine the ancient tragedies performed, while sitting on the stone seats of an actual “theatron.” And that was exactly what this wonderful trip allowed us to do, under the ever-watchful eye of our guide, Sophia, and accompanied by the chair of our classics department, Tim Moore.

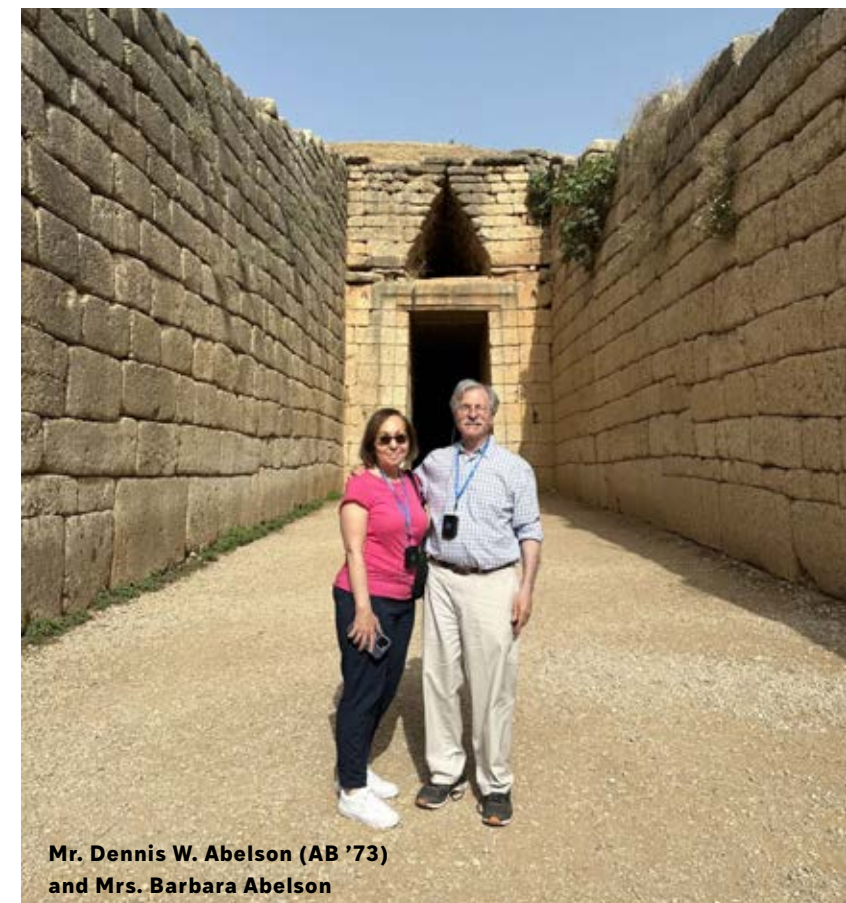
The Acropolis, Delphi, Corinth, Mycenae, Epidauros, Hydra – these ancient names woven into our studies were made real by our visit. I may have been a touch disappointed that we could not

go down into the Pythia’s chamber at Delphi and see the crevice from which she delivered the oracles, but that was offset by our view of a particular crossroads as our tour bus passed by Thebes. Was that the very spot where Sophocles scripted that Oedipus was on the fateful day he unknowingly killed his father? Chills.

One of the highlights of the trip was the visit to the Palace at Knossos. For me there was a powerful energy there that could not be masked by the day’s drizzle or the crowds. It is a massive site, allowing one both the mental and physical space to imagine the scope of the pageantry of their worship as well as the life that was carried on within the walls of the labyrinth-like building. These thoughts were fed by the onsite reproductions of frescoes depicting processions of maidens carrying intricately woven cloth and young men bearing baskets of fish or exotic flowers. What god were they honoring when they jumped across the backs of those fearsome bulls? How many were housed and employed within the walls, fed by the huge storerooms that

are still visible? All that is unknown surrounding Knossos adds to the allure for me.

Not only did we have congenial company with whom to travel safely and comfortably and share delicious food, but we also had the opportunity to hear two lectures from Professor Moore. Despite our immersion in classics as undergrads and then my time as a graduate student, Dennis and I had never been introduced to the idea of music as an integral part of Greek theater. Not only was it breathtaking to think of the ancient dramatists as writers, directors, and choreographers, but now to consider that they scored their plays! Amazing. Tim, thank you for this revelation and for encouraging the entire group to sing a melody, the musical notation for which was carved into a column in Asia minor. I doubt that any of us will ever forget that, or our time together in Greece.



Mr. Dennis W. Abelson (AB '73)
and Mrs. Barbara Abelson

F.A.Q.s

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR A TRIP?

If you would like to reserve a space on a trip, please contact the tour operator directly. Contact information is available on our website on the Travel Partner page and on the individual trip detail pages. If you subscribe to our mailing list, you will also find contact information printed on the paper brochures you receive in the mail. Deposits can be made by check or credit card and are required at the time of reservation. Some travel companies will offer a discount if you pay in full upfront. Space is not guaranteed.

DO I HAVE TO BE A WASHU ALUM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TRAVEL PROGRAM?

Washington University affiliations are an important part of our program, but you do not have to be an alum to travel with us. We welcome alumni, parents, families, and friends of students and graduates who are interested in participating in educational travel experiences with WashU.

ARE SINGLE ROOMS AVAILABLE?

Many trips will charge a single supplement for those who wish to room alone. On most tours, a limited number of single rooms are available. Single travelers can request to be matched with a roommate to reduce the cost and the tour operator will strive to find a compatible partner to share a room. On a few select tours offered by our tour operators, a single supplement fee is not required.

WHAT ARE THE PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A TRIP?

To enjoy the travel experience, participants should be in good physical and mental health and feel comfortable keeping pace with a group. All tours require a certain degree of physical activity, such as walking and getting on and off ships, planes, buses, or other vehicles. Activity levels will vary based on the destination and itinerary. Extreme variations in altitude, temperature, and humidity should be considered when traveling in certain parts of the world and many excursions will involve walking on uneven terrain (e.g., cobblestone streets, hiking trails). Program participants who need special assistance and/or equipment must be accompanied by someone who can provide the required assistance. We recommend that you review the details on the trip website and contact the travel company directly if you have specific concerns or questions about the level of activity involved.

WHO WILL BE ON THE TOUR?

WashU often shares tours with other universities and organizations that have education-oriented travel programs. This is most common on cruises that can accommodate large numbers of guests. Typically, land-based tours are smaller, with a maximum capacity between 12-30 guests, depending on the tour operator and destination. On these smaller trips, tour operators give us a window of time to offer the trip exclusively to WashU travelers. If we are

unable to book all the seats, the tour operator will open the tour up to another institution.

DO WASHU FACULTY MEMBERS GO ON THE TRIPS?

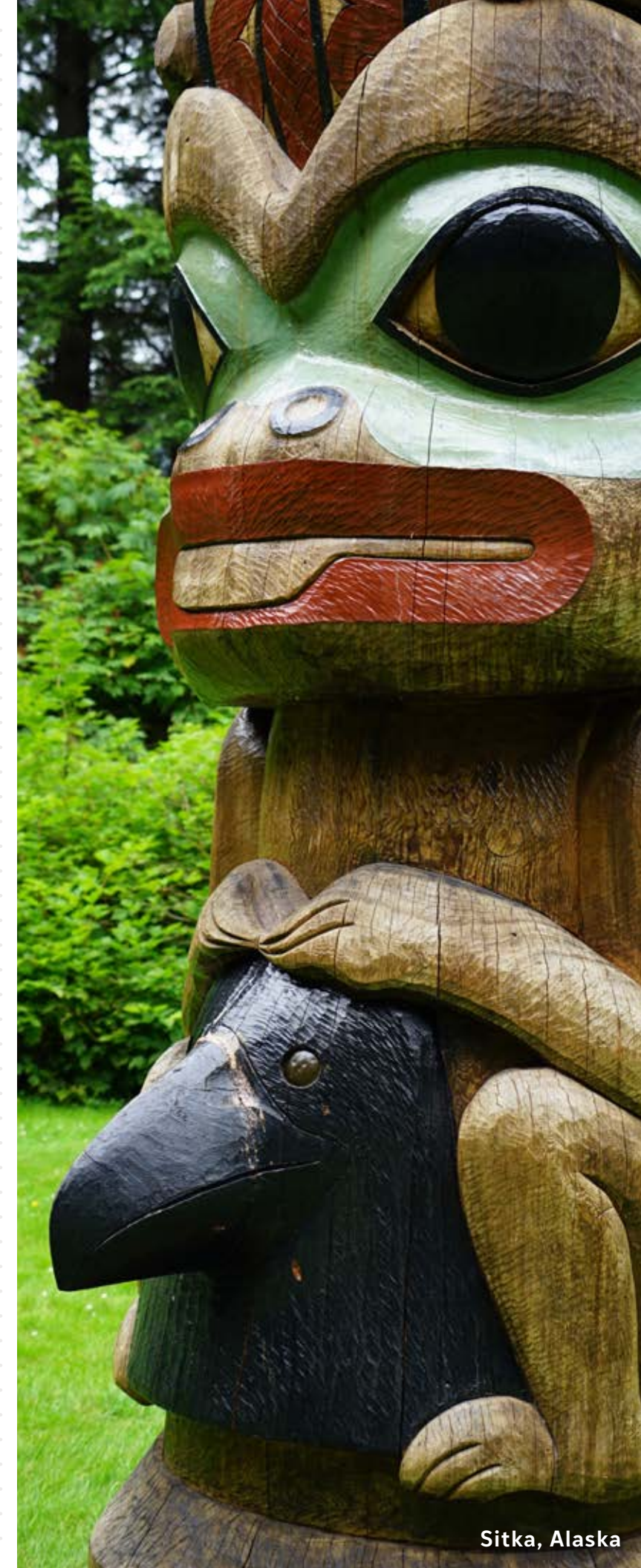
Each year, several of our trips feature university faculty members who accompany the tour and share their expertise and insights. Faculty participation is listed in the summary-level details for the trip on the [Upcoming Destinations](#) page. Faculty participation is often dependent upon a minimum number of WashU travelers. The minimum requirement varies by destination and tour operator.

HOW ARE TRIPS PRICED?

All tour prices listed are per person, based on double occupancy, current exchange rates, and tariffs at the time the tours are arranged. Single occupancy is available on a limited basis for each program at a supplemental charge (unless otherwise noted). Dates, prices, itineraries, and program details are subject to change and revision, but every effort will be made to conduct the tour program as planned and advertised.

WHAT DOES THE PRICE OF THE TRIP INCLUDE?

The listed price is the starting price per person based on double occupancy. Trips typically include lodging, local transfers to and from the airport and other destinations on the tour, baggage handling, most meals, and sightseeing as specified in the brochure and on the trip details website. Trips do not include passport



F.A.Q.s

(CONTINUED)

and visa fees, some gratuities, or personal travel insurance. Airfare varies by program, so please contact the travel company for more information. All pre- and post-trip extensions are offered at an additional charge.

IS AIRFARE INCLUDED AND IF NOT, HOW DO AIRLINE ARRANGEMENTS WORK?

Some tours include airfare. If not, most of our tour operators offer an option to purchase airfare from various cities at an additional cost. You may also make your own arrangements with a preferred airline. If you choose to schedule your own flights, you will be responsible for arranging your own round-trip ground transportation between the destination airport and the hotel. If airfare is included, routings are at the discretion of the tour operator and are based on flight availability and agreements among the air carriers and the tour operator. All special flight requests (specified carriers, routings, and departure/arrival times) may be subject to a deviation fee. Airline flights may not be eligible for upgrades with frequent flyer miles, and mileage credit may not be

applicable with fares. Please contact the tour operator directly for more information on airfare options.

WHAT IS THE CANCELLATION POLICY?

Cancellation policies vary according to individual tour operator's policies. Cancellation penalties go into effect after the tour operator has received the deposit, and fees increase as you get closer to the departure date. Please read the terms and conditions for your specific tour and contact the tour operator for more information.

IS TRAVEL SAFE?

The WashU Travel Program and each of our tour operators consider the safety of our travelers to be a top priority. We recommend visiting the U.S. Department of State's Travel Resources website for up-to-date information on travel advisories, passport processing, pre-trip checklists, overseas emergency protocols, and more.

SHOULD I PURCHASE TRAVEL INSURANCE?

We strongly encourage all travelers to purchase trip protection. Travel insurance offers a reasonably priced and convenient way to safeguard your investment in case of unforeseen events before or during your journey. We recommend purchasing insurance for both international and domestic trips.

As a service to our travelers, the Travel Program has partnered with Meyer and Associates to offer various travel protection plans. Insurance is not required but highly recommended, and you are welcome to use any company you like. If you are interested in learning more about the plans Meyer and Associates offers, please visit [Travel Insurance Options](#). If you have questions about the plans or coverage, please call them directly at 866-679-7836 to speak to a licensed professional.

Please note that certain insurance features, such as "cancel for any reason" (CFAR) coverage and pre-existing condition waivers, must be purchased within a specific window of time, typically 10-21 days from the date on your welcome letter. The Travel Program will send your official trip registration welcome letter to the email address you provide the tour operator when signing up for the trip. If you choose to work with Meyer and Associates, you will need that letter to purchase time-sensitive coverage. One of their licensed professionals can provide more details on these offerings.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR OR RENEW A PASSPORT?

The U.S. Department of State has detailed information on how to apply for/renew a passport.

DO TRIPS SELL OUT?

Yes. We have a limited number of spots for each program. If a trip is sold out, you can ask the travel company to be added to the waitlist. In some cases, an additional departure date may be added to accommodate high demand.

HOW CAN I GET INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING TRIPS?

[Sign up for our mailing list](#) to start receiving brochures in the mail from our travel partners and periodic emails (6-8 per year) from the Travel Program. Our travel partners mail trip brochures about 8-10 months before the tour's departure date. You can request a specific brochure by emailing us at alumni.travel@wustl.edu or calling 314-935-0474.

CAN I CALL THE TRAVEL COMPANY DIRECTLY?

We encourage you to contact the individual travel companies for specific questions regarding each trip. When you call, please let them know that you are inquiring about a Washington University in St. Louis trip. ❌



**TRAVEL
PARTNERS**

We work with some of the most experienced tour operators in the educational travel industry. Please call the tour operator directly for questions about billing, airline seat assignments, or health concerns such as dietary restrictions, allergies, and mobility factors. You can also visit the **Travel Partners** page of our website for a list of our tour operators and their contact information.

AHI TRAVEL
800-323-7373



ARRANGEMENTS ABROAD
800-221-1944



CLASSIC ESCAPES
800-627-1244



GOHAGAN & COMPANY
800-922-3088



LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS
844-931-0045



ODYSSEYS UNLIMITED
888-370-6765



ORBRIDGE
866-639-0079



ROYAL ADVENTURES
800-453-4754



Taormina, Sicily

“Once a year,
go someplace
you’ve never
been before.”

DALAI LAMA

CONTACT US AT
alumni.travel@wustl.edu
314-935-0474



TO LEARN MORE
scan the code or visit:
TRAVEL.WASHU.EDU

Punakha, Bhutan



WashU