



# FAR HORIZONS

WINTER 2026 CATALOGUE



# Winter 2026

The Chinese zodiac calls 2026 the Year of the Horse. Momentum. Open roads. The thrill of what's around the next corner. We couldn't agree more.

This catalogue is full of that energy. After overwhelming demand in 2025, we've brought back both Japan and Tunisia for 2026. Last October's Tunisia trip was a beautiful reminder of why I love this work: laughing over dinner with Arturo and Brian, taking great pics with Fred at ancient Carthage, and watching our guests light up in front of those extraordinary Roman mosaics. Moments like these aren't on any itinerary – they just happen when curious people travel well together.

For the rest of the year, we have so many journeys we're genuinely excited about – Sicily with its layers of Greek, Roman, and Norman history; North India's magnificent temples and Mughal treasures; the American Southwest's ancient pueblos and dramatic landscapes; and Scotland, where ancient stone circles meet dramatic Highland landscapes, to name a few. You'll find detailed pages on each inside.

Stefan traveled to Sri Lanka last year for work – and came back so inspired that we're now bringing the whole family this summer. The 2026 Sri Lanka tour was already in the works, but if his enthusiasm is any indication, you're in for something special. We hope you'll explore it with Far Horizons.

I'll be returning to Tunisia this fall with our group – and scouting Algeria while I'm in the region. This summer, we're also exploring France together as a family. All three in preparation for exciting new 2027 itineraries.

And speaking of 2027 – we have extraordinary things brewing. A France itinerary inspired by one of our guests – proof that you all have great taste. Algeria, finally opening to thoughtful travelers. And an Egypt tour timed to the total solar eclipse. More details to come, but if any of these spark your curiosity, let us know – we're already building interest lists.

One reminder: our early booking incentive is still available. Reserve your spot six months or more in advance and save \$500. It's our way of thanking those of you who plan ahead – and it helps us ensure every detail is handled with the care you expect.

After more than forty years, Far Horizons remains a small company by design. We know your names. We remember your questions. And we build these trips for people like you – accomplished, curious, and unwilling to settle for ordinary.

Thank you for trusting us with your time and your curiosity.  
We can't wait to see where 2026 takes us – together.

*Mary Collins*  
*Stefan Woehlke*

**Chief Executive Officer & Chief Curation Officer**



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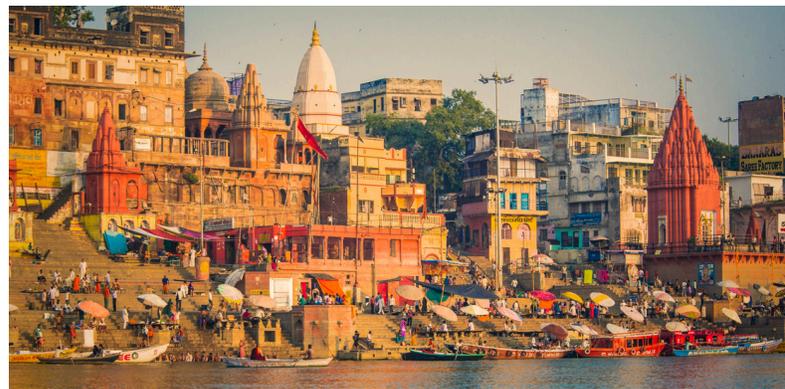
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# Meet the CEO & CCO

Partners in life and business, this dynamic duo seeks to carry out the legacy of Far Horizons and add their own unique elements to shape and grow the vision.

## Mary Collins

Chief Executive Officer

In addition to leading the charge as the CEO of Far Horizons, Mary is the co-founder of Blue Fern Travel, a history-infused food and cocktail tour company focused on supporting local businesses and community by sharing stories through flavors.

Mary earned her M.P.A. in nonprofit and international management, and has worked with Ugandan-based NGO, Paper to Pearls; children's shelter For Children's Sake; and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mary and Stefan have two daughters and a son who are adventurous culinary and cultural explorers.



## Stefan Woehlke

Chief Curation Officer

Stefan received his PhD in Archaeology from the University of Maryland. As the co-founder of Blue Fern Travel, his passion lies at the intersection of archaeology, food, history, and culture.

As an archaeologist, Stefan has worked with countless communities and students on projects, and loves to share untold stories discovered through artifacts and research with the community in which they are found.

Stefan welcomes the challenge ahead of curating new itineraries, developing relationships with scholars, and identifying private experiences that set us apart.



# Meet Your Team of Experts

Meet the Team Who Bring Your Adventures to Life



## Heather Stoeckley

Director of Operations  
19 years with Far Horizons

Heather Stoeckley is excited to continue her 19-year journey with Far Horizons as Director of Operations. Her wanderlust started at a young age, propelling her on a never-ending pursuit to learn about different cultures and histories. With nearly two decades of experience orchestrating seamless journeys, she loves sharing her expertise to provide life-changing experiences for our valued clientele. Her favorite travel quote, and personal credo, is "Always say yes to new adventures!"

### **Favorite Far Horizons Memory:**

*"One of my most favorite memories from any Far Horizons trip has to be visiting Taormina, Sicily. Between sitting at the ancient Greek theater, watching the sun dip behind the smoking peak of Mount Etna, and wandering through the narrow, flower-lined Corso Umberto with a lemon granita in hand, Taormina is one of those rare places that stays with you long after you've returned home!"*



## Judy Hoffman

Destinations Assistant  
2 years with Far Horizons

Judy is thrilled to be a part of the Far Horizons team, working where her two passions - archaeology & travel - intersect. She received her undergrad in Ancient Studies from University of Maryland and enjoys using that knowledge whenever she travels. Judy is excited to help people discover the joys of travel, archaeology, and history through her meticulous attention to every detail of your journey.

### **Favorite Far Horizons Memory:**

*"My favorite memory with Far Horizons is from my recent trip to Egypt. We had the rare privilege of an after-hours visit to the Great Pyramid, allowing us to ascend through narrow passages to the King's Chamber by flashlight - completely alone. One guest captured the mood perfectly, whispering that it felt like we were pulling off a 'caper.' That sense of wonder and privilege, exploring one of the ancient world's greatest monuments in total solitude, was pure magic."*





# Art & Archaeology SICILY

April 17 - 30, 2026

Confirmed Departure!



Sicily's position at the crossroads of the Mediterranean made it the prize of empires—from Phoenicians and Greeks to Romans, Arabs, and Normans—each leaving monuments that transformed this island into an open-air museum of Western civilization. The diverse landscape is dotted with grand Greek temples, glittering Byzantine mosaics, and late Baroque towns rebuilt after catastrophic earthquakes, creating one of Italy's most archaeologically rich destinations.

Join Professor Thomas F. X. Noble, acclaimed lecturer for The Great Courses, and an intimate group of just 13 other travelers on this 14-day exploration of Sicily's layered history. Discover seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the magnificent Valley of the Temples at Agrigento, the Villa Romana del Casale with its famous "Bikini Girls" mosaics, and the spectacular Norman cathedrals of Palermo and Monreale shimmering with Byzantine gold. A private tour of Selinunte with the excavation director and a visit to majestic Mt. Etna round out this immersive journey.

*"I'm so glad that Tom is leading the trip to Sicily again. He was a great source of information and it was a pleasure to travel with him. Whoever signs up for this trip will be very pleased."*

# BOLIVIA ARCHAEOLOGY

May 4 - 17, 2026

with Dr. Andy Roddick



Perched high in the Andes, Bolivia remains one of South America's least-visited treasures—a land where most inhabitants still embrace their indigenous roots, many donning traditional attire passed down through generations. Soaring peaks give way to colonial cities rich with Spanish silver wealth, sacred islands rise from the shimmering waters of Lake Titicaca, and the world's largest salt flat stretches endlessly toward distant volcanic horizons.

Long before the Spanish conquistadors arrived seeking silver, the great civilization of Tiwanaku dominated the southern Andes for nearly a thousand years. From around 100 AD, this powerful empire built monumental temples and megalithic sculptures that still stand as striking witness to their advanced culture. When the Inka expanded southward, they established frontier outposts like Inkallaqta and declared Lake Titicaca's Island of the Sun the sacred birthplace of their gods. Today, Aymara and Quechua descendants continue ancient traditions on these same shores, living connections to a history that spans millennia.



Uyuni Salt Flats

*"I enjoyed his lectures and comments. He knows the Andean region well and was an excellent choice for a study leader. He was always approachable and willing to answer questions."*

Sold Out!  
Back in 2027



Mt. Nemrud

# Eastern Türkiye

May 10 - 25, 2026

With Dr. Jennifer Tobin

Eastern Türkiye boasts an eclectic mix of towering mountains, dense forests with waterfalls, green pastures, and arid deserts in the south. As a historical crossroads of Eastern and Western cultures for millennia, this region is rich in historical remnants.

Join Far Horizons and a small group of 13 others for a 16-day adventure into this less-traveled part of Türkiye. Explore four UNESCO Heritage Sites: Ani, Diyarbakır & Hevsel Gardens, Göbekli Tepe, and Nemrud Dağ. Delve into the mysteries of Göbekli Tepe, a religious space predating Stonehenge by 6,000 years, and discover Karahan Tepe, a site that might be even older. Your journey will take you from the mountainous terrains of eastern Anatolia to the fertile valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates.

Extend your adventure with a pre-tour exploration of Istanbul, where you'll marvel at the UNESCO World Heritage treasures of Aya Sofya, explore the opulent Dolmabahçe Palace and Topkapı Sarayı, and enjoy a stunning private cruise up the legendary Bosphorus.

*"Her explanations and hand-outs were excellent and she was always ready to discuss various topics and answer questions. In spite of being a 'Roman' expert, she knew a lot about every other culture and site we visited. Always patient, never seemed stressed. We would travel with her as a study leader any time."*

*- Suzy & Bill Fletcher*



# Why Travel with Far Horizons?

After 40+ years and an 85% guest return rate, we've proven what thoughtful archaeological travel can be. Here's what sets us apart.

## ✦ Continuous Scholar Access ✦

*Your Expert, Every Day of the Journey*

Unlike tours that offer a lecture or two, our archaeologists travel with you for the entire trip—at breakfast, on site, over dinner. Ask the questions you've been wanting answered since you read their book. This is what real scholar access looks like.

## ✦ Exclusive Access ✦

*Beyond the Guide Books, Behind the Scenes*

We negotiate entry to restricted archaeological sites, private artifact collections, and untold cultural stories, creating experiences that transcend traditional tourism and reveal hidden historical wonders.

## ✦ Transformative Travel ✦

*Return with More than Photographs*

You'll come home with something no souvenir can match: a fundamentally different way of seeing the ancient world—and the modern one. Our guests don't just learn facts; they experience those rare moments of clarity that reshape how they understand human achievement.



FROM FJORD TO FIRE  
**THE VIKING  
NORTH**

Summer 2026



# ICELAND

## IN THE PATH OF THE VIKINGS

June 7 - 16, 2026

with Dr. Steve Ashby

Join a group of just 13 fellow travelers on an extraordinary journey through Iceland, where dramatic landscapes meet medieval history. This remote North Atlantic island, settled by Norse pioneers in the 9th century, preserves Viking heritage like nowhere else on earth. Visit two UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the spectacular Vatnajökull National Park and Þingvellir, the rift valley where the world's oldest parliament was established in 930 AD.

This Viking tour offers far more than archaeology. Shining black sand beaches, gushing geysers, misty waterfalls, and massive glaciers create some of the most atmospheric landscapes on the planet. At Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, watch seals cavort among aquamarine icebergs. Walk behind the curtain of water at Seljalandsfoss. Witness Strokkur geyser shoot boiling water high into the air.

Our journey traces the sagas—those unique prose narratives written nearly a thousand years ago that tell of bloody feuds and heroic adventures. At Snorrastofa, explore the estate of saga author Snorri Sturluson and see his 800-year-old hot tub still functioning today. Visit Keldur, an 11th-century farm occupied for over a millennium, and Eiríksstaðir, birthplace of Leif the Lucky who discovered North America. At Stöng, see a Viking farmstead buried by volcanic eruption in 1104 and hidden under pumice for 835 years.

After ten days exploring fire and ice, history and legend, travelers depart from Reykjavik with stories worthy of the sagas themselves.



Reykjavik



Keldur Turf Houses

# SCANDINAVIAN TOUR: THE VIKINGS OF DENMARK, GERMANY, NORWAY & SWEDEN

June 16 – 30, 2026

with Dr. Carol Symes

Join a select group of 13 fellow adventurers on an epic 15-day journey through four countries—Denmark, Germany, Norway, and Sweden—following the path of the Vikings across their Scandinavian homeland. This comprehensive expedition visits six UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the Viking trading center of Hedeby, the Bronze Age rock art of Tanum, the royal rune stones of Jelling, and the medieval walled city of Visby.

This Viking heritage tour brings you face-to-face with remarkable preservation. At Roskilde, meet with a curator for a private tour of five ships deliberately sunk in 1070—including the longest Viking warship ever found. In Oslo, stand before the intact 9th-century Oseberg ship. At Hedeby, walk through reconstructed thatched-roof buildings with an archaeologist who excavates there.

Our journey also reveals the transition from Norse paganism to Christianity. Enter Hedared, Sweden's only surviving medieval stave church, unlocked specially for our group. On Gotland Island, spend two days in Visby, where 44 formidable turrets encircle serpentine cobblestone lanes and rose-covered cottages—and celebrate Sweden's beloved Midsommar Festival.

The expedition culminates at Sigurdsristningen, an elaborate Viking-age rock carving depicting the dragon-slaying legend, and Anundshög, Sweden's largest burial mound surrounded by mysterious stone ships.



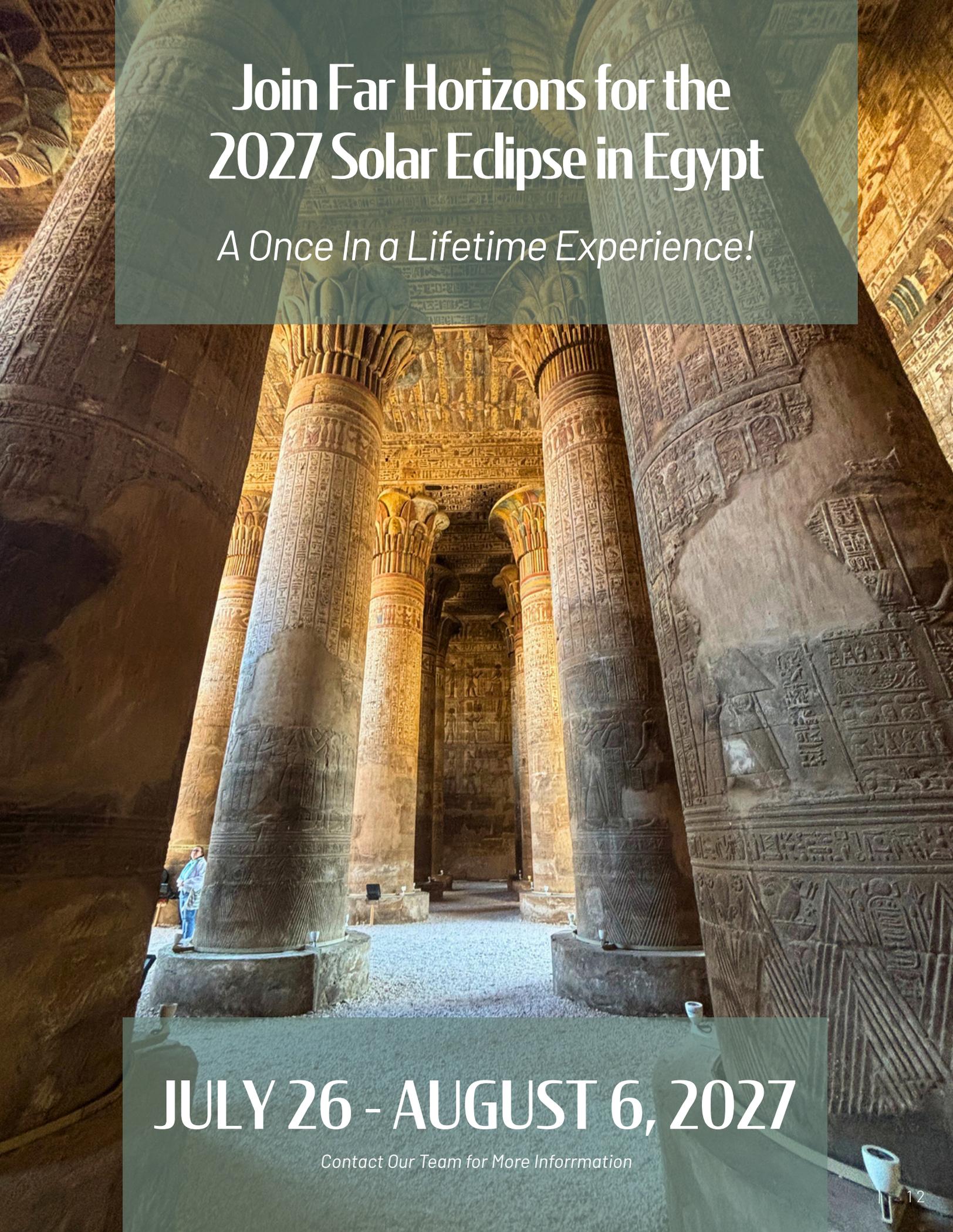
Anundshög, Västerås, Sweden



Viking Boat, Gudvangen, Nereyford



Tanum Rock Art UNESCO, Sweden

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the interior of an ancient Egyptian temple. It features several massive, papyrus-bundle capitals on columns. The walls and columns are covered in intricate hieroglyphs and carvings. The lighting is warm, highlighting the textures of the stone. A person is visible in the distance on the left, providing a sense of scale.

# Join Far Horizons for the 2027 Solar Eclipse in Egypt

*A Once In a Lifetime Experience!*

## JULY 26 - AUGUST 6, 2027

Contact Our Team for More Information



# PERU

SUMMER 2026

# PERU'S NORTH COAST: INKA AND THEIR ANCESTORS

June 9 - 18, 2026



## with Dr. Dan Sandweiss

The fabled cities of the Inka have captured our imagination for centuries. However, the Inka were only the last in a lineage of remarkable cultures that thrived along Peru's coastal regions. The Chavin, Moche, Wari, and Chimú were among these civilizations, each contributing to ancient Peruvian history.

Our journey takes us to Peru's enthralling north coast, where recent archaeological discoveries have shed new light on these ancient cultures. We will visit Pachacamac, one of Peru's most significant pilgrimage sites, and Sipán, where archaeologists have uncovered one of the richest tombs in history. By special arrangement, the project director will welcome us to witness the sunset at Chanquillo, a 2,300-year-old solar observatory.

We will explore four UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Lima's historic center, Caral (believed to be the oldest city in the New World), Chan Chan (one of the largest pre-Columbian cities), and Qhapaq Ñan (the extensive Inka road system). If you join the extension, we will gaze upon the enigmatic Nazca Lines, pre-Columbian geoglyphs etched into the desert sands.

Join Far Horizons and renowned Andean specialist Dan Sandweiss on this unforgettable adventure as we uncover the secrets of ancient civilizations.



# PERU

## Sacred Valley, Cuzco & Machu Picchu

May 31 - June 10, 2026



With Dr. Kylie Quave

Under the leadership of emperors Pachacuti and Topa Inka Yupanqui, the Inka Empire dominated nearly one-third of South America. From Cuzco, they established an extensive 12,000-mile road network from central Chile to Ecuador. This meticulously crafted system, adorned with

stone staircases and tunnels, surpassed even Roman roads in scale and stands as a testament to remarkable Inka engineering. Now recognized as the Qhapaq Ñan, it holds UNESCO World Heritage status.

Embark with Far Horizons on an 11-day expedition tracing this ancient empire from royal Cuzco through the Sacred Valley to enigmatic Machu Picchu. This journey encompasses the colonial charm of UNESCO World Heritage Cuzco, the vibrant Sunday market at Chinchero, and the imposing fortress of Ollantaytambo. Immerse yourself in the Sacred Valley's vibrant culture, visiting traditional Andean villages where you'll meet the Quechua people who have preserved their ancient traditions for centuries. Won't you join us on this voyage of discovery?



Peruvian Women

A group of tourists is gathered around ancient stone ruins, likely the Acropolis in Athens, under a bright sky. The ruins consist of large, weathered stone blocks and walls. The tourists are wearing various hats and casual clothing, and some are looking towards the ruins. The sky is a mix of blue and white, with some clouds and a bright sun flare.

"SURELY,  
OF ALL THE  
WONDERS  
OF THE WORLD,  
THE HORIZON  
IS THE  
GREATEST."

- Freya Stark

# KENYA & TANZANIA'S SWAHILI COAST

June 27 - July 12, 2026

with Dr. Stephanie Wynne-Jones



Embark on an extraordinary 16-day journey along the Swahili Coast, where trade winds have carried merchants, conquerors, and cultures for over a millennium. From 8th-century Arab and Persian traders to 15th-century Portuguese explorers and Omani sultanates, this coastline has been a crucible of cultural exchange. Gold, ivory, and slaves flowed through Swahili ports, returning with porcelain, silk, and spices, creating a unique Swahili culture blending African and Asian influences.

As we traverse from Kenya to Tanzania, we'll witness this remarkable civilization's enduring legacy. Explore Lamu where traditional dhows still sail, wander through Zanzibar's Stone Town heavy with clove scents, and visit Kilwa Kisiwani—once called by Ibn Battuta "one of the most beautiful cities in the world." Throughout our expedition, Dr. Stephanie Wynne-Jones will bring to life the stories written in stone and sand.



Traditional Dhow



Stone Town, Zanzibar

# ITALY: IN THE PATH OF THE ETRUSCANS

JUNE 30 – JULY 10, 2026

With Professor Steve Tuck

If you're interested in a history tour of Italy, you must begin with the Etruscans. Discover the depths of Italy's fascinating past through our immersive archaeology tour: In the Path of the Etruscans. This journey explores the ancient civilization of Etruria, which flourished from the 7th to the 3rd centuries BC across what we now know as Tuscany and Umbria. These early architects of history significantly shaped Rome's artistic and ritual practices, with Etruscan kings even ruling Rome for a time.

Our tour commences in Rome, exploring the National Etruscan Museum and the Gregorian Etruscan Museum in Vatican City. From there, we journey to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Cerveteri,

possessing the largest necropolis in the ancient Mediterranean, and Tarquinia, which boasts beautifully decorated painted tombs. You'll meander through captivating Orvieto perched atop an Italian hill, descend into the Volumnus Hypogeum in Perugia, wander medieval Cortona, and visit Volterra's Museo Etrusco Guarnacci.

Every aspect of this history tour is guided by Professor Steven Tuck, renowned for his work with The Great Courses. Immerse yourself in a world that was, as you uncover the fascinating Etruscan history beneath present-day Italy and experience a journey back in time with our archaeology tour.

*"Superb, simply superb, both from a professional and personal viewpoint."*



# What Traveling with Far Horizons Says About You

Over 40 years, we've come to know our travelers well. They're accomplished, deeply curious, and unwilling to settle for ordinary. Sound familiar?"

## ✦ Intellectual Adventurer ✦

*You've Read the Books. Now Walk the Sites.*

You're the person who finishes an archaeology book and wishes you could ask the author your questions. You don't want a surface-level tour—you want travel that engages you at the level you've operated at throughout your career.

## ✦ Cultural Sophisticate ✦

*You've Been Everywhere. You Want to Go Deeper.*

You've seen the famous sites. Now you want to understand them—not through a rushed script, but through scholars who've devoted their lives to these civilizations. You choose depth over distance, understanding over checkboxes.

## ✦ Access Connoisseur ✦

*You Know What "Exclusive" Actually Means*

You recognize that real access isn't a marketing phrase—it's museum back rooms, excavations with the director who made the discovery, and places that require decades of relationships to enter. You expect your travel to match your standards.

# ANCIENT ISLES

*From Hadrian's Wall to the Ring of Brodgar*





# ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUB CRAWL OF ENGLAND

May 30 - June 10, 2026



With Dr. James Bruhn

*"History is the focus. The tour was largely in rural areas with a wonderful variety of sites. James is very smart and an excellent leader. I learned a lot. "Pub crawl" is a catchy title for a great learning experience. Enjoy it."*

To understand the British spirit, one must understand British spirits, which is to say, "Beer". From the rich mixture of civilizations that have flourished in this land has emerged the true essence of English life: the village pub. Long the bastion of all that is good and true in British culture, the pub occupies the place today that it has held for many centuries. To fully appreciate Britain's heritage, one must experience the pubs, the heart of the country's cultural identity.

Far Horizons Archaeological and Cultural Trips proudly presents a cultural pub crawl through England that offers a rare chance to see many historic and archaeological sites that few visitors manage to find. We will visit prehistoric stone circles and chambered tombs, walk in the footsteps of Roman armies along Hadrian's Wall, and savor the view from battlements of medieval castles in remote and beautiful areas of Britain,

All meals and overnights will be in carefully chosen traditional and unspoiled pubs and inns where we will be able to tap pint mugs with the local people while savoring delicious regional delicacies.



Edinburgh Castle



# SCOTLAND

HIGHLANDS & LOWLANDS

July 12 - 25, 2026



Bagpiper Players

*Dr. Brian Buchanan explores the prehistoric monuments and medieval heritage of Scotland*

Our journey will traverse Scotland from its southern border with England to the remote reaches of the north, encountering prehistoric monuments, magnificent abbeys, and medieval castles in some of Britain's most picturesque landscapes. Each region reveals distinct layers of history—from Neolithic ceremonial sites to the ruins of powerful medieval kingdoms.

A highlight of our route is the Orkney Islands, home to the densest concentration of Stone Age archaeological sites in Britain. These remarkably preserved monuments, including the 5,000-year-old village of Skara Brae and the ceremonial Ring of Brodgar, offer an unparalleled window into Neolithic life. We'll also participate in Scotland's oldest Highland Games at Tomintoul and explore lesser-known historical sites that most travelers never see. Throughout, we'll experience the country's celebrated traditions—from world-renowned malt whisky to distinctive cuisine—while our meticulously planned route ensures intimate encounters with Scotland's extraordinary cultural and archaeological heritage.



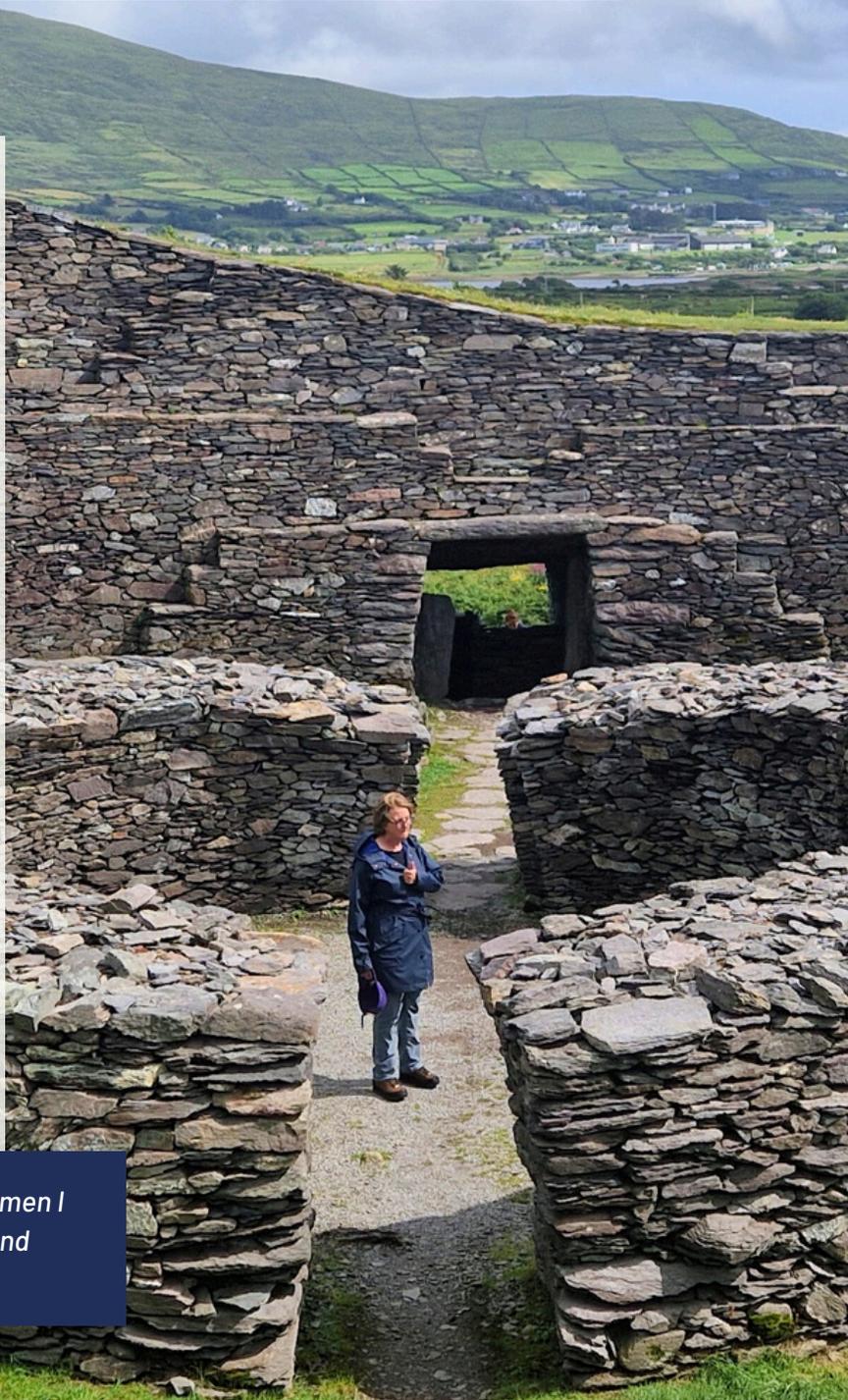
# THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF IRELAND

July 13 - 27, 2026

with Dr. Damien Shiels

Ireland's extraordinary concentration of field monuments—the highest in Europe—makes it one of the most compelling archaeological destinations in the world. The Emerald Isle's rich history spans over 9,000 years, from Mesolithic hunter-gatherers through Neolithic monument builders, Early Christian monks, and medieval lords, each leaving remarkable traces across this lush landscape.

Embark on this 16-day Irish history tour with Dr. Damien Shiels and an intimate group of just five fellow explorers, journeying from vibrant Dublin around the island while staying in charming local inns. This adventure into Ireland's exceptional archaeological heritage includes megalithic passage tombs, ancient stone circles, medieval castles, and sacred abbeys. The expedition features both of Ireland's UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the dramatic island monastery of Skellig Michael and the magnificent Neolithic passage tombs of Brú Na Bóinne, along with numerous other significant sites on the tentative UNESCO list—offering a unique window into the course of European history.



*"He was a rockstar. Genuinely one of nicest men I have met. He was professional, patient and passionate about showing us around."*

# Roman & Romanesque FRANCE



Two Thousand Years of Stone and Story  
SEPTEMBER 2027

*Contact Our Team for More Information*

# EXPLORE SRI LANKA

July 21 - Aug 6, 2026

With Dr. Eric Tagliacozzo



Sri Lanka boasts a captivating history extending over three millennia. Originally known as Lanka, the "resplendent land" in the ancient Indian epic the Ramayana, the island has been celebrated for its natural beauty throughout the centuries. Its strategic deep-water harbors have nurtured great civilizations, making it a prime destination for those seeking to understand how trade, religion, and art have intersected across Asia.

Far Horizons Archaeological and Cultural Trips warmly invites you to accompany Dr. Eric Tagliacozzo and a small group of just 13 others on a 17-day exploration of this enchanting island. Discover six UNESCO World Heritage Sites while experiencing the rich tapestry of Sri Lanka's history and natural beauty. If our dates align with the lunar calendar, witness the Esala Perahera Festival—a vivid celebration featuring elephant processions, traditional drumming, dancers, and mock sword battles honoring Sri Lankan Buddhism. Today, Sri Lanka remains a vibrant mosaic of languages, religions, and cultures, where ancient traditions spanning millennia thrive alongside modern life.



Elephant Gathering



Sigiriya Rock, Sri Lanka

# EXPLORE THE USA

TWO JOURNEYS INTO AMERICA'S  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PAST.

FIVE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES.  
NO PASSPORT REQUIRED.  
FALL 2026



# AMERICAN SOUTHWEST

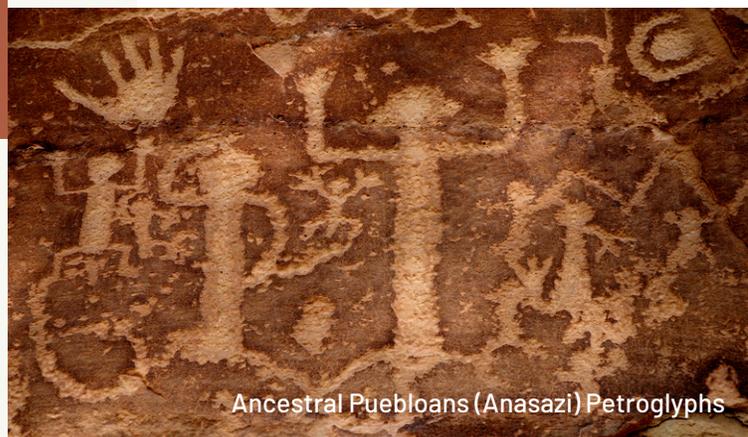
September 12 - 21, 2026

with Professor Rob Weiner

The Four Corners area of the American Southwest is one of the most breathtaking landscapes in the world – an enchanting land of painted deserts, verdant forests, and towering red mesas visible for miles under brilliant sunlight.

Join Far Horizons and just 13 other guests on this 10-day journey across the mesmerizing Four Corners, where New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona converge. Explore two UNESCO World Heritage Sites – Chaco Canyon and Mesa Verde – along with Aztec Ruins National Monument. In Canyon de Chelly, local Navajo guides lead us on exclusive tours to secluded spots rarely witnessed by most visitors.

Notable stops include Acoma, the oldest continuously inhabited town in the United States; Zuni Pueblo, known for its historic mission church; and Santa Fe, the country's oldest capital city. Along with Dartmouth lecturer Dr. Robert Weiner, experience this magical corner of the United States.



Ancestral Puebloans (Anasazi) Petroglyphs

*"Rob Weiner is a rising star in Southwestern archaeology, and particularly Chaco studies. His work with Chaco roads, charting their deep cosmologies, is informed by his collaborations with Navajo and Pueblo scholars. He's a brilliant archaeologist, a top-notch educator, and a really decent fellow."*

*- Dr. Stephen Lekson, renowned archaeologist & former Far Horizons Southwest study leader*



# MOUNDBUILDERS OF THE USA

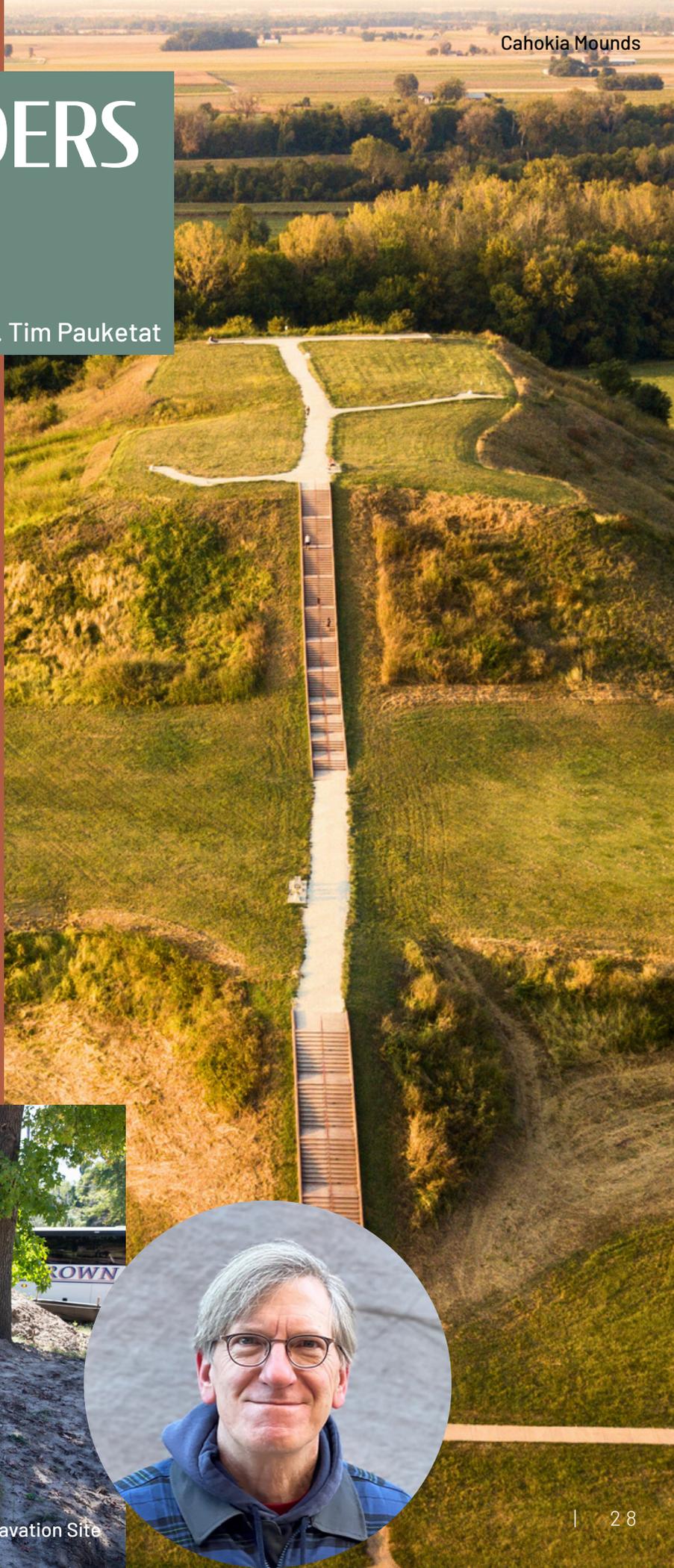
Sept 21 - Oct 1, 2026

with Dr. Tim Pauketat

Starting in New Orleans and concluding in Cincinnati, this 10-day journey traces the remarkable earthen monuments built by indigenous peoples across the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys over thousands of years.

Three UNESCO World Heritage Sites anchor this expedition: Poverty Point in Louisiana, built 3,400 years ago; Cahokia in Illinois, once the largest pre-Columbian settlement north of Mexico; and the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks in Ohio. At Cahokia, climb Monks Mound — the largest prehistoric earthwork in the Americas — and meet archaeologists for a private tour of ongoing excavations.

The journey culminates at Serpent Mound, the largest effigy earthwork in the world. Along with Dr. Timothy Pauketat, who has studied Cahokia for more than a decade, join our intimate group to explore this extraordinary chapter of American history.



Mound Excavation Site



# Why Travel with Far Horizons?

After 40+ years and an 85% guest return rate, we've proven what thoughtful archaeological travel can be. Here's what sets us apart.

## ✦ Kindred Community ✦

*Never More Than a Dinner Party.*

No crowds. No being herded. Our intimate groups attract accomplished, curious travelers—doctors, engineers, professors, executives—who become part of your journey, not background noise. Many arrive as strangers and leave as friends who travel together again.

## ✦ Intellectual Itineraries ✦

*Designed with Decades of Expertise, Not Templates*

Our archaeologists don't just lead trips—they help design them. Their regional expertise and professional connections add sites and access you won't find on any standard itinerary. Every journey reflects decades of research, relationships, and refinement.

## ✦ Legacy of Excellence ✦

*85% of Our Guests Come Back*

After 40+ years, we've learned that details matter—the right pace, the perfect hotel, the scholar who remembers your question from breakfast. Our return rate isn't marketing; it's proof we deliver experiences worth repeating.



# The Archaeology of GREECE

September 12- 27, 2026

with Dr. Jennifer Tobin



Meteora Monastery

It's difficult to imagine a more special journey than an archaeological tour of Greece. With its rugged beauty, Greece has long been a crossroads of history and a battleground of warring cultures. Its early history is utterly fascinating, from the internal struggles between the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations to the rise of city-states three millennia ago.

Join Far Horizons on an immersive 16-day trip across Greece, exploring northern Greece and the Peloponnese Peninsula. At Vergina, descend into the Museum of the Royal Tombs to view the golden treasures of Philip II, father of Alexander the Great. Marvel at Byzantine monasteries in Meteora and Mystras, traverse iconic Olympia and Delphi, and visit the Sanctuary of Epidaurus and ancient cities of Corinth, Mycenae, and Tiryns.

This journey concludes with two days on Crete, the largest Greek island. From approximately 2800 BC to 1000 BC, Crete was the center of a brilliant civilization of mythical origin, making its modern culture a tapestry of traditions found nowhere else in the world.

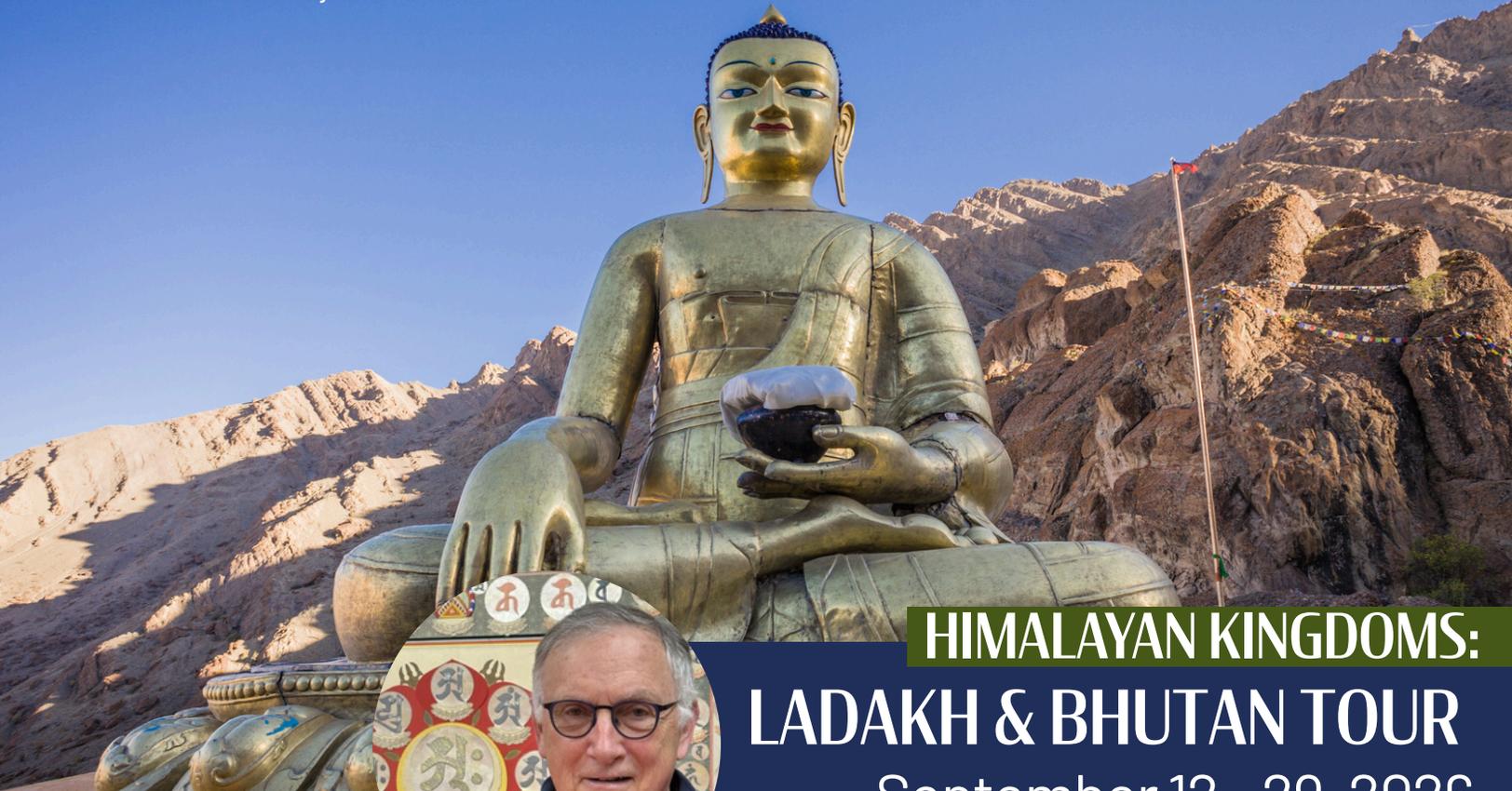
*"Dr Jennifer Tobin was fabulous! She made this tour so great, with the depth of her knowledge, and her obvious enthusiasm for Turkish culture and ancient history."*



# Private Tour at Corinth

Explore the legendary Corinth with an exclusive tour with the Director of Archaeology at Corinth





# HIMALAYAN KINGDOMS: LADAKH & BHUTAN TOUR

September 12 - 29, 2026

With Dr. David Eckel

Far Horizons Guests in Ladakh region



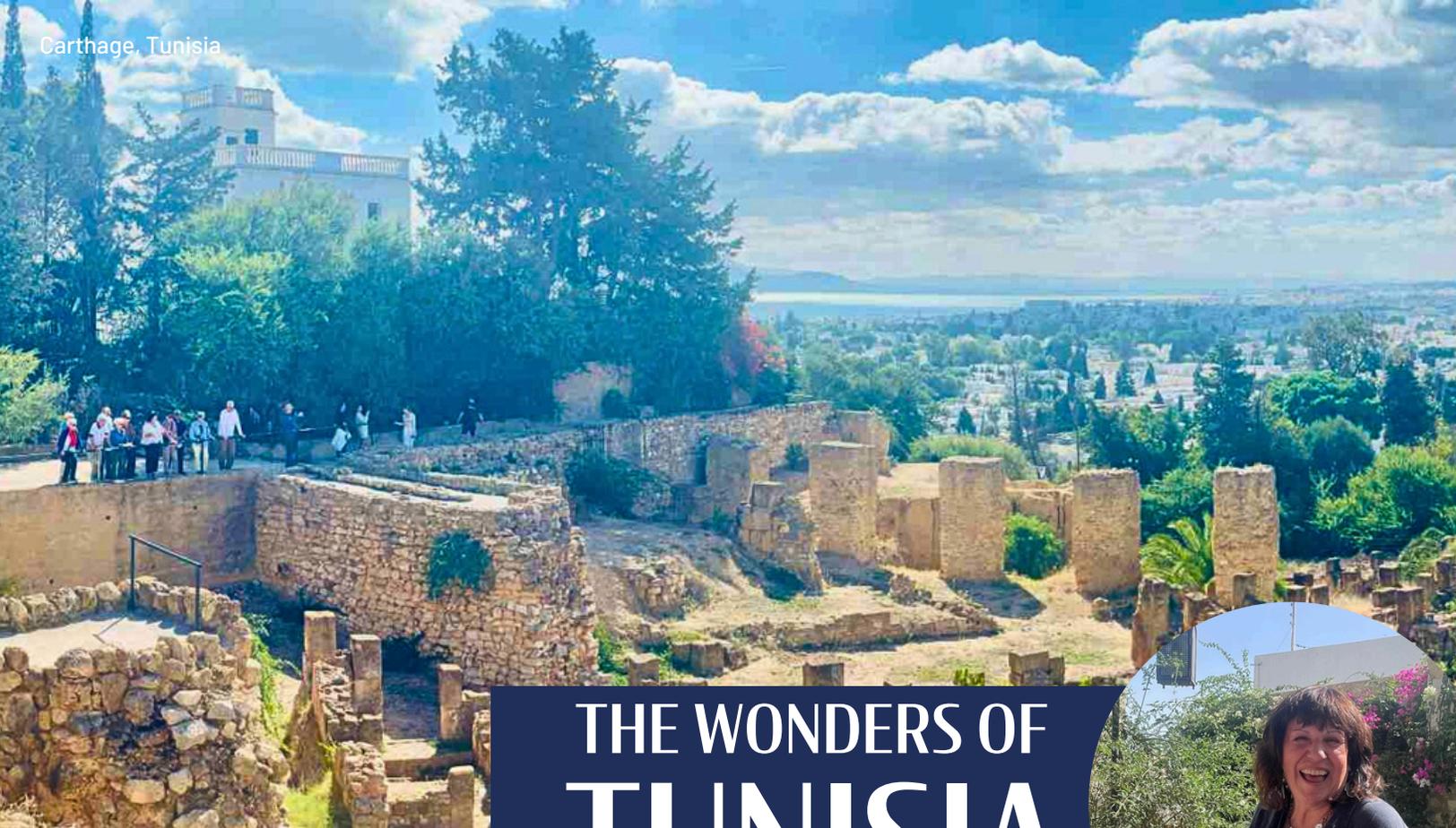
The tiny, isolated Himalayan kingdoms of Ladakh and Bhutan are squeezed between the powerful countries of China and India. For centuries, their monarchs enjoyed absolute power in mountain strongholds, venerated by subjects as embodiments of gods, but in the 20th century, the supremacy of these domains fell.



Nepalese Monastery

Embark with Far Horizons on a 17-day journey through these two remarkable kingdoms. In Ladakh, frequently called "Little Tibet," drive from the capital of Leh through dramatic high-altitude scenery to view elaborately decorated Buddhist sanctuaries, stupas, and former royal palaces in rugged valleys beneath magnificent towering crags. In Bhutan, emerald rice paddies cascade down hillsides, remote centuries-old monasteries cling to cliffs, and massive fortress sanctuaries dominate picturesque towns.

Along with Buddhist specialist and The Great Courses lecturer Professor Malcolm David Eckel, delight in this unique adventure through these enchanting Himalayan kingdoms.



with Dr. Jennifer Tobin

# THE WONDERS OF TUNISIA

October 5 - 19, 2026



Explore Tunisia's remarkable riches with Far Horizons on a captivating 15-day journey that unveils layers of history from Phoenician traders to Roman emperors to Arab conquerors.

Guided by Greco-Roman specialist Dr. Jennifer Tobin, our expedition travels from the fertile northern mountains to the deserts of the south and the Mediterranean coast.

The adventure includes all seven of Tunisia's UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

- Carthage, the legendary rival of Rome
- El Jem, the largest Roman amphitheater in North Africa
- Dougga, with its remarkably complete Roman theater and temples
- Kairouan, the first capital of Islamic North Africa
- Kerkouane, the only purely Carthaginian city ever found
- The historic medinas of Tunis and Sousse

Beyond these, marvel at the world's largest collection of Roman mosaics at the Bardo Museum, explore Berber fortified villages in the south, and journey by 4x4 to dramatic mountain oases. We'll visit underground Roman villas at Bulla Regia, spend a day on the island of Djerba – Homer's fabled Land of the Lotus Eaters – and discover the Andalusian heritage of Testour. With limited spots for just 14 participants, join us on this in-depth exploration of Tunisia's wonders.



Far Horizons Guests at the Medina at Sousse

I returned from Tunisia in November and I'm still thinking about it. The country surprised me at every turn—warm, modern, and vibrant. But what struck me most was how genuinely welcoming everyone was. Locals were eager to share their culture, proud of their archaeological treasures, and excited to see us there.

**"Exploring Gigthis at golden hour, sharing the site only with flamingos on the Gulf of Boughrara—you couldn't ask for a more perfect way to bring archaeology to life."**

We explored all seven of Tunisia's UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the massive Roman amphitheater at El Jem, the pristine Punic remains at Kerkouane, magnificent Carthage, and the remarkably intact Roman city of Dougga. But it was the lesser-known sites that captured my heart—like Gigthis, a Roman port town overlooking the Mediterranean where we stood among temples and bathhouses with nothing but sea breeze and Flamingos in the distance.

Dr. Jennifer Tobin led this expedition, and now I understand why our longtime travelers request her by name. She arrived with handouts, stories, and an infectious passion for making the ancient world come alive. At every site, she painted a comprehensive picture of how Phoenicians, Romans, Vandals, Byzantines, and Arabs each left their mark on this crossroads of the Mediterranean. Tunisia is returning to our calendar in Fall 2026, and I cannot wait to share it again.



# ALGERIA

Roman Africa. Rarely Seen.

**OCTOBER 2027**

*Contact Our Team for More Information*

# BULGARIA

OCTOBER 6 - 22, 2026

With Dr. Vassil Tenekedjiev



You've read about the Thracians. You've seen photos of Rila Monastery. But Bulgaria remains one of those places that somehow stays just out of reach—too complex to plan independently, too layered to explore without guidance.

From the southwestern mountains to the Black Sea coast to the northern banks of the Danube, this is a country where civilizations didn't just pass through—they left their finest work behind.

All seven of Bulgaria's UNESCO World Heritage sites are woven into our 17-day itinerary: the carved rock churches of Ivanovo, the ancient streets of Nessebar, the mysterious Madara Rider etched into a cliff face, the golden murals of Boyana Church, the magnificent Rila Monastery, and the painted Thracian tombs of Kazanlak and Sveshtari.

Thirteen fellow travelers. Quiet villages, exceptional cuisine, local wines, and a warmth from the Bulgarian people that catches everyone off guard. If you've been waiting for the right way to experience this overlooked corner of Europe—this is it.

*"Vassil was excellent. He is highly knowledgeable and approachable, and was very willing to share his knowledge, not only of archaeology, with participants. He answered questions comprehensively and was never patronizing in his responses. He also gave useful background during bus journeys. He was as good a study leader as I could have hoped for, and I left with a much-improved knowledge of Bulgarian archaeology."*

# Travel that Stays with You: The Far Horizons Difference

Your time is too precious for trips that simply check a box. Ours are designed to stay with you.

## ✦ Transformation, Not Tourism ✦

*Return with Stories Worth Telling*

You'll come home with access most travelers never get, conversations with scholars who've devoted their lives to these places, and the kind of perspective-shifting moments that stay with you long after the flight home. This is travel that earns a place in how you see the world.

## ✦ Kindred Travelers ✦

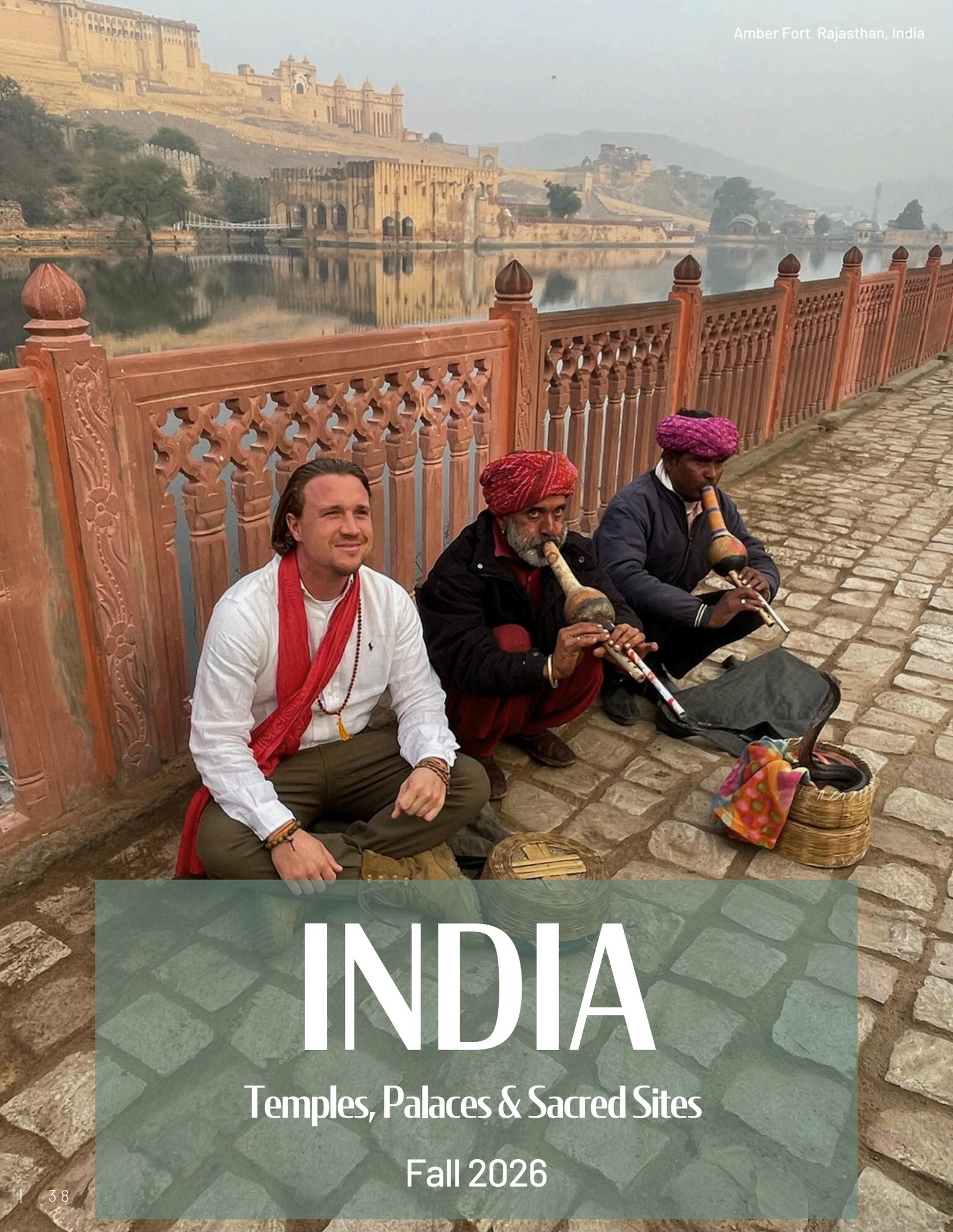
*Share the Journey with People Who Get It*

You'll spend two weeks alongside accomplished, curious people who ask the same questions you do. No small talk with casual tourists—just real conversations over dinner, shared wonder at ancient sites, and friendships that often outlast the trip.

## ✦ Inclusive Scholarship ✦

*Curiosity is the only Prerequisite*

You don't need a PhD to belong here—just genuine interest. Our scholars are chosen not only for expertise but for their gift of making complex history engaging and accessible. Every question is welcome. Every conversation goes deeper than you'd expect.



# INDIA

Temples, Palaces & Sacred Sites

Fall 2026

# Gujarat & Rajasthan

# INDIA

October 15 - 31, 2026

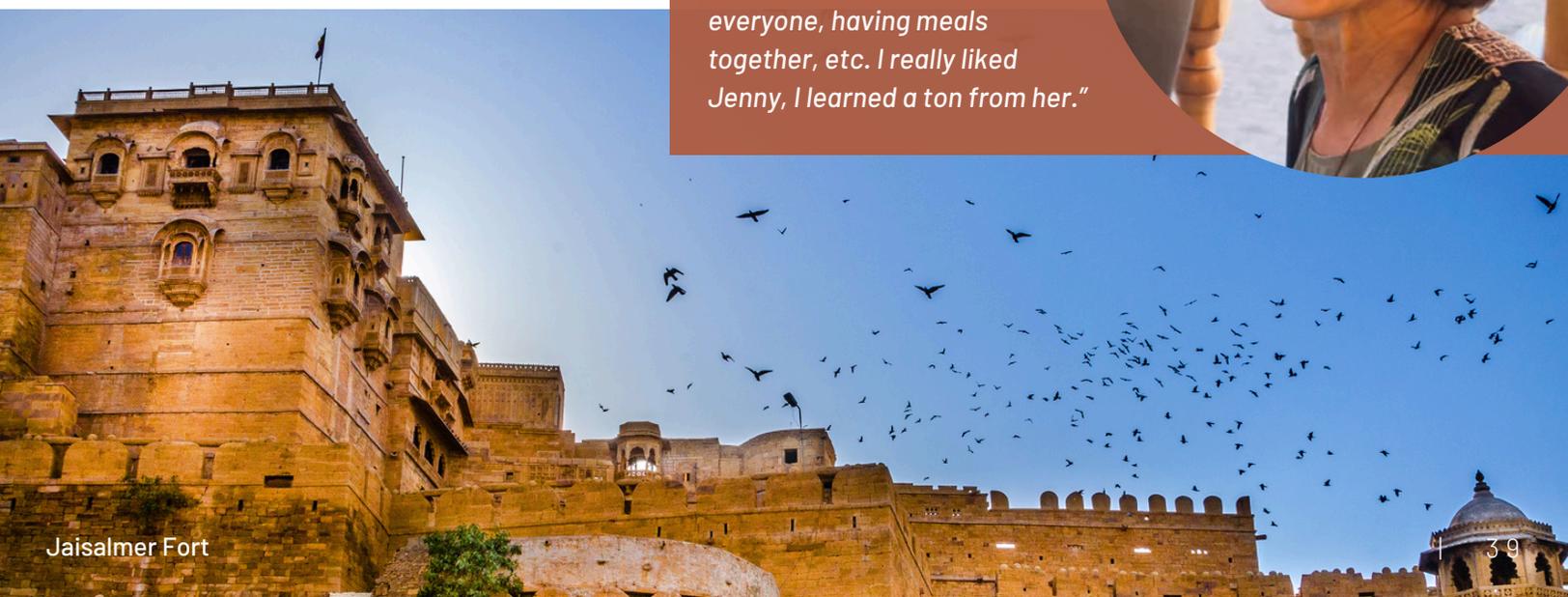
The states of Gujarat and Rajasthan, located on the western border of India, are rich in tribal arts, resplendent architecture, and ancient remains of the many civilizations that have crossed this land, including the Mughals who ruled much of India from the 16th to the 19th century. Along with various diverse and interesting cultures, a multitude of religions call this area home. Far Horizons' 17-day journey includes ten breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage sites: Victoria Terminus, Victorian and Art Deco Ensemble, and Elephanta Cave in Mumbai; the ancient walled city of Ahmedabad; the dazzling Rani Ki Vav stepwell in Patan; magnificent Jaisalmer Fort; Amber Fort and the Jantar Mantar

with Dr. Jenny Rose

Observatory in the Pink City of Jaipur; and the imposing Red Fort and beautiful Tomb of Humayun in Delhi.

See Gujarat's prehistoric Lothal, more than 4,000 years old, along with Jain sanctuaries, Hindu temples, Sufi shrines, and glorious mosques. Travel by bus, 4x4, and camel through the Great Thar Desert to see traditional villages and enjoy vibrant local markets bursting with hand-woven carpets, tie-dye fabrics, and traditional crafts.

*"No question about it, Dr. Rose was an incredible asset. A wealth of information, A+. You could see everyone on the trip really appreciated her knowledge. I liked her energy, I liked her speaking style, I liked her dancing together with everyone, having meals together, etc. I really liked Jenny, I learned a ton from her."*



Jaisalmer Fort



# NORTH INDIA:

## Gods, Temples & Archaeology

October 31 - November 13, 2026

With Dr. Jenny Rose

This cultural tour of North India offers a unique window into the region's profound heritage. India captivates all the senses, with the air filled with the scents of incense and spices, a symphony of sounds, and a visual feast provided by its diverse peoples and architectural magnificence. As the home to a sixth of the global population and the largest democracy, India showcases extensive cultural diversity, making any historical tour through North India a journey through the annals of time.

Far Horizons Archaeological and Cultural Trips warmly invites you to accompany Dr. Rose and a small group of just 13 others on an extraordinary expedition across this dynamic country. Discover numerous UNESCO World Heritage sites: the rock-cut Ellora and Ajanta temple caves; Khajuraho, with its erotic sculptures; the iconic Taj Mahal; and in Delhi, the tomb of Mughal Emperor Humayun, and the 14th-century Qutab Minar complex. India seamlessly blends ancient traditions with modern dynamics, with religious traditions spanning five millennia all coexisting in this vast land today.



Kandariya Mahadeva Temple



Taj Mahal





# Kandariya Mahadeva Temple

Part of the Khajuraho Group of Monuments in India. Stupa, Sarnath, India



# MEXICO'S DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 6, 2026

with Dr. Travis Stanton



Join Far Horizons on an unforgettable journey through one of Mexico's most fascinating cultural and archaeological treasures. From the ancient ruins of Teotenango and Chalcatzingo to the vibrant traditions of Día de los Muertos, this tour is designed for the curious traveler eager to delve into Mexico's rich history and living culture.

Begin in Cuernavaca and explore picturesque Malinalco, before visiting the charming town of Tepotzlan and the ancient pyramids that tell the stories of civilizations long gone. As we move to Puebla, experience the city's colonial beauty, exploring Cholula's grand pyramid and participating in the sacred Día de los Muertos festival at Huaquechula, where cemeteries are alive with color and memories.

Continue to Mexico City for an exploration of the ancient metropolis of Teotihuacan, wander through the world-renowned National Museum of Anthropology, and visit Frida Kahlo's famous blue house. Led by Mesoamerican specialist, Dr. Travis Stanton, this exclusive tour offers you special access to some of Mexico's most significant archaeological sites, providing insights that will deepen your understanding of this vibrant country. This once-in-a-lifetime journey promises to leave you with cherished memories and a profound appreciation for Mexico's past and present.



Día de los Muertos Street Decor



Scholar Spotlight

DR. TRAVIS STANTON

Travis Stanton is a Mesoamerican archaeologist and Full Professor at the University of California Riverside. With a Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University (2000) he has worked in Mexico since 1995, primarily directing projects in the states of Yucatan and Quintana Roo; his current field research is heavily focused on Chichen Itza, the great Early Postclassic city of the Maya and UNESCO World Heritage site, for which he has co-created the working 3D model of the site.

For nearly a decade (from 2004-2013), Travis was a professor at the Universidad de las Américas Puebla, located among the ruins of the ancient city of Cholula in Central Mexico, and has spent extensive periods of time in the Gulf Coast Region. These experiences give him a profound grounding across several regions of Mesoamerica, and Central Mexico, where he engages in iconographic, digital archaeology, and oral history projects, and is his second home.

Among numerous journal articles and book chapters, Travis has published ten books, including a fundamental pedagogical text on the workings of archaeology and a wide-sweeping edited volume covering the Early Postclassic across Mesoamerica.

*“His knowledge and generosity and enthusiasm in sharing what he knew were priceless. His personality is also wonderful for a trip leader--always upbeat, pleasant and fun.”*



# JAPAN IN AUTUMN COLORS

Nov 6 - 18, 2026

With Dr. David Eckel



To understand Japan is to understand the art of presence—the way autumn light falls through maple leaves onto a moss-covered temple garden, the precise choreography of a tea ceremony, the sacred hush of a thousand vermilion torii gates ascending into mist. This is a country where beauty is not decoration but discipline, where centuries-old traditions breathe alongside neon-lit modernity, and where every season carries its own poetry. November transforms the landscape into a tapestry of fiery reds, brilliant scarlets, and regal gold.

Far Horizons invites you on a 14-day journey through Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, led by Buddhist specialist and Great Courses lecturer Professor Malcolm David Eckel. We will visit six UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the glittering Golden Pavilion and the soaring white ramparts of Himeji Castle, ascend the sacred mountain of Koya-san, and experience the

elegance of Japanese culture through an exclusive private geisha dinner. Maximum 14 participants.

*"History is the focus. The tour was largely in rural areas with a wonderful variety of sites. James is very smart and an excellent leader. I learned a lot. "Pub crawl" is a catchy title for a great learning experience. Enjoy it."*

Hase-dera Temple in Kamakura



## The Trip That Changed How I See the World

Far Horizons' Japan in Autumn Colors trip is more than just a vacation—it's an immersion into a living, breathing masterpiece. Led by Dr. David Eckel, whose deep knowledge of Buddhism transformed every temple visit into a profound lesson in history and philosophy, our intimate group of fourteen travelers explored a world where ancient traditions breathe alongside modern life; a place where every temple tells a story, and where the simplest acts become a meditation on grace and intention.

What made this experience truly special was the perfect balance between iconic landmarks and hidden gems that most tourists never discover. Yes, we witnessed the stunning splendor of Kinkaku-ji, the Golden Pavilion, and rode through the ethereal bamboo groves of Arashiyama, but we also spent quiet mornings in lesser-known temples where monks still practice ancient rituals. Our expert guides didn't just show us places—they opened doors to understanding. I found myself slowing down, breathing deeper, noticing things I would have rushed past in my everyday life.

**"I found myself slowing down, breathing deeper, noticing things I would have rushed past in my everyday life."**

From the moment I stood before the vermilion gates of Fushimi Inari Shrine, with thousands of torii gates creating tunnels of sacred red stretching up the mountainside, I knew this trip would change how I see the world. And the connections I made with fellow travelers transformed this from a tour into a shared pilgrimage. We laughed together trying to master chopstick etiquette, fell silent together in the presence of Nara's Great Buddha, and cheered each other on as we ascended the stone fortifications at Himeji Castle.

If you've been yearning for a journey that feeds your soul rather than just checking off bucket list items, this is the trip you've been waiting for. Don't just dream about the vibrant colors and ancient whispers of Japan—see them for yourself with Far Horizons



# The Majesty of EGYPT

November 2 - 16, 2026

Embark on an unforgettable 16-day archaeological journey through ancient Egypt. Our exclusive tour takes you from Cairo to Luxor, Aswan, and the majestic Abu Simbel, offering unique access to Egypt's most renowned temples and tombs, including special entry into the Queen's Chamber of the Great Pyramid.

Near Luxor, board a beautifully crafted dahabiya, a private wooden yacht, for a leisurely Nile cruise with stops at remarkable sanctuaries including the Temple of Horus at Edfu and the Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek. Enjoy an exclusive evening with the Director of the Chicago House, complete with cocktails and a tour of their extensive Egyptian studies library.

Join just 13 others for this extraordinary exploration into the heart of Egypt's illustrious past with Far Horizons.

*"I have never been a fan of tours. My Far Horizons experience changed all that. It was so great I am signed up for two more tours. All the arrangements were topflight, well planned and executed. Great fun, deep cultural and archaeological insights."*



## Tomb of Ramose

*In the Sheikh Abd el-Qurna necropolis on the West Bank of Luxor, Egypt*

# 2026 Schedule of Trips

Click the Tour to Review Full Itinerary & Booking Details

## FEBRUARY 2026

### Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya

January 31 - February 11, 2026

### Easter Island and the Tapati Festival

**TRIP CLOSED**

February 9 - 19, 2026

### Mexico's Yucatan: Off the Beaten Path

**TRIP CLOSED**

February 12 - 22, 2026

## MARCH 2026

### Hidden Mexico: El Tajin to Cantona to Guanajuato

**TRIP CLOSED**

March 14 - 28, 2026

### Central Asia's Silk Road: Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan

**SOLD OUT!**

March 21 - April 6, 2026

## APRIL 2026

### Sicily: Art & Archaeology

**TRIP CONFIRMED**

April 17 - 30, 2026

## MAY 2026

### Bolivia Archaeology

May 4 - 17, 2026

### Dodecanese Islands of Greece

May 9 - 18, 2026

### Eastern Türkiye

**SOLD OUT**

May 10 - 25, 2026

## JUNE 2026

### Archaeological Pub Crawl of England

May 30 - June 10, 2026

### Peru's Sacred Valley, Cusco, and Machu Picchu

May 31 - June 10, 2026

### Iceland: In the Path of the Vikings

June 7 - 16, 2026

### Peru's North Coast

June 9 - 18, 2026

### Scandinavia: Denmark, Norway, Sweden

June 16 - 30, 2026

### Kenya & Tanzania: Discover the Swahili Coast

June 27 - July 12, 2026



Gedi Ruins, Kenya

# 2026 Schedule of Trips

Click the Tour to Review Full Itinerary & Booking Details

## JULY 2026

### Italy: In the Path of the Etruscans

October 15 - 31, 2026 June 30 - July 10, 2026

### Scotland: Highlands and Lowlands

July 12 - 25, 2026

### The Archaeology of Ireland

July 13 - 27, 2026

### Sri Lanka: Resplendent Land

July 21 - August 6, 2026

## SEPTEMBER 2026

### American Southwest tour

September 12 - 21, 2026

### The Archaeology of Greece

September 12 - 27, 2026

### Himalayan Kingdoms: Ladakh & Bhutan

September 12 - 29, 2026

### Mound Builders of the USA

September 21 - October 1, 2026

## OCTOBER 2026

### Türkiye: Sail the Sapphire Seas

September 30 - October 13, 2026

### The Wonders of Tunisia

October 5 - 19, 2026

## OCTOBER 2026 CONT.

### Bulgaria: Land of History

October 6 - 22, 2026

### India's Gujarat & Rajasthan

October 15 - 31, 2026

### Discovering Mexico's Día de los Muertos

October 26 - November 6, 2026

## NOVEMBER 2026

### North India: Gods, Temples, and Archaeology

October 31 - November 13, 2026

### The Majesty of Egypt

November 2 - 16, 2026

### Japan in Autumn Colors

November 6 - 18, 2026

**2027 promises exciting journeys, including brand-new itineraries and returning favorites. Stay tuned!**



# READY TO TRAVEL?

[journeys@farhorizons.com](mailto:journeys@farhorizons.com)



## FAR HORIZONS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL TRIPS

