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“Highlights of the trip were the experts sharing their knowledge and experience; stunning locations; access to the telescopes and laboratories and scientists.”

—HARRISON WEED, MD ’78, HAWAII 2017
Dear MIT Alumni and Friends,

Join fellow MIT travelers in 2018 for a fulfilling educational journey. Traveling with MIT means that you’ll experience new places in the camaraderie of fellow MIT alumni and friends—with all trip logistics handled for you.

Next year’s highlights include an expedition of Antarctica, South Georgia, and the Falkland Islands; a program to Morocco focusing on women’s issues; railroading in Colorado; and a cruise of Japan. Examine the legacy of WWI and WWII in England, Belgium, and France, witness the extraordinary scenery and wildlife of Alaska, and explore the natural wonders of Iceland and Greenland with a chance to view the northern lights. And for the truly intrepid, challenge yourself with a trek to Everest Base Camp.

You will be inspired by meeting people with different life experiences, invigorated by discussions and expert talks, and captivated by dramatic landscapes. We hope you join us for a journey of discovery!

If you have any questions about our trips and the Alumni Travel Program, please contact us at 800-992-6749 or email compass@mit.edu.

Happy Trails,

Melissa Chapman Gresh
Director, MIT Alumni Travel Program

P.S. Like us on Facebook to connect with the MIT travel community, view MIT trip photos, read interesting travel articles, and get updates on faculty leadership.
New Zealand by Sea

Discover New Zealand, from Auckland on the North Island to world-famous Milford Sound on the South Island, aboard the MS *Caledonian Sky*. Explore the heartland of Maori culture in Rotorua and visit the stunning Te Papa Tongarewa museum, which brings to life the history of New Zealand’s native people. Visit the Canterbury Museum’s Hall of Antarctic Discovery in Christchurch and the Royal Albatross Centre at Taiaroa Head. Listen for the “dingdong” call of the bellbird on Stewart Island and marvel at the sheer granite walls and tumbling waterfalls of Doubtful and Milford Sounds in Fiordland, known for its wildlife, including fur seals and bottlenose dolphins.

**OVERNIGHTS**
- 1 night Auckland
- 9 nights MS *Caledonian Sky*
- 1 night Queenstown

**APPROXIMATE COST**
- From $8,990 per person double occupancy; single rate from $16,790

**TRAVEL PARTNERS**
Other academic institutions
Maximum group size: 94 participants
Coming to Antarctica to work on understanding why the mysterious ‘hole’ in our ozone layer opened up there in the 1980s took me on an unforgettable personal and professional journey. At MIT, I love teaching students about how we humans understood and managed the ozone depletion issue to a worldwide solution. During our trip, I plan to talk about the amazing atmospheric science of Antarctica, as well as the ways that early Antarctic explorers observed and experienced the weather during their brave quests to this remarkable land.”
Mystical India

Mystical and spiritual, chaotic and confounding, India overflows with riches. Begin with explorations of Old Delhi and New Delhi. Continue to Jaipur, the “pink city,” and enjoy dinner in a Rajasthan family’s home. Spend two nights at Ranthambore National Park and search for elusive Bengal tigers on game drives. In Kalakho, take a camel cart safari to visit with local tribespeople, and in Agra, visit the sublime Taj Mahal and Agra Fort. Take an Indian cooking lesson and enjoy the results for lunch. Conclude at the holy city of Varanasi, cruising along the Ganges and visiting nearby Sarnath, one of Buddhism’s holiest sites.

OVERNIGHTS
4 nights Delhi (split)
3 nights Jaipur
2 nights Ranthambore
1 night Kalakho
2 nights Agra
3 nights Varanasi

APPROXIMATE COST
$5,287 per person double occupancy from Boston; single supplement $1,395

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 24 participants

Costa Rica and the Panama Canal

Explore the rain forests of Costa Rica and transit the Panama Canal aboard the new 100-guest National Geographic Quest. See the intricate locks of the Panama Canal up close and visit the former Smithsonian Research Station on Barro Colorado Island in Gatun Lake. Venture into the forests of Manuel Antonio and Corcovado National Parks. Explore a jungle shoreline by kayak, snorkel a vibrant undersea garden, cruise along mangroves aboard expedition landing craft, and if you choose, ride horseback through the rain forest. The region is home to iconic wildlife—brilliant macaws, howler monkeys, capuchin monkeys, sloths, and vibrantly colored butterflies.

OVERNIGHTS
7 nights National Geographic Quest

APPROXIMATE COST
From $5,990 per person double occupancy; single rate from $8,990

TRAVEL PARTNERS
General interest travelers
Maximum group size: 100 participants
Costa Rica is defined by an incredible biodiversity in plants and animals, where rain forest and ocean collide, and where active volcanoes still transform the landscape. Throughout the cruise, we'll explore the interactions between life and the physical world firsthand. My lectures will highlight how organisms respond to and reshape their environment. Additionally, the passage through the Panama Canal, which redefined transport between the Atlantic and Pacific, is a highlight on every oceanographer’s must-do bucket list.”
MIT Professor of Nuclear Science and Engineering
MICHAEL GOLAY
Cuba by Land and Sea / February 2018

“Cuba faces dual challenges with regard to its energy use: short term of modernizing its economy and long term of participating in the global effort to mitigate climate change. The modernization challenge is that of providing abundant energy to enable economic growth to the extent that the nation wishes to pursue it. The island has abundant wind, solar, and biomass resources that could be the basis of a new long-term energy economy.”

FEBRUARY 15–24   |   LAND/Cruise—Activity Level 3
Cuba by Land and Sea
With MIT Professor Michael Golay

Traverse the entire breadth of Cuba, including spending three nights in soulful Havana followed by a six-night cruise to Santiago de Cuba. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Old Havana, Cienfuegos, Trinidad, and the Viñales Valley, accompanied by experienced, English-speaking Cuban hosts. Immerse yourself in Cuba’s history, culture, art, language, cuisine, and daily life. Enjoy engaging, people-to-people experiences during discussions with local experts, including musicians, artists, farmers, academics, and architects. Travel aboard the exclusively chartered, three-mast MY Le Ponant.

OVERNIGHTS
3 nights Havana
6 nights MY Le Ponant

APPROXIMATE COST
From $6,995 per person double occupancy; single rate from $13,495

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Other academic institutions
Maximum group size: 60 participants
Encounter Vietnam’s breathtaking natural beauty, abiding tradition, and hospitable people on this comprehensive journey. Tour French-accented Hanoi and take a full-day excursion to breathtaking Ha Long Bay. Visit Da Nang’s acclaimed Cham Museum and spend time in Hoi An, a UNESCO site. Enjoy a cooking lesson and a walking tour of a farming settlement and witness Vietnamese daily life up close. Travel to the imperial capital, Hue, then cruise the Perfume River to peaceful Thien Mu Pagoda. Spend two days exploring the Mekong River Delta with its colorful floating markets before concluding your journey in vibrant Saigon.

**OVERNIGHTS**
- 3 nights Hanoi
- 3 nights Da Nang
- 2 nights Hue
- 2 nights Can Tho
- 3 nights Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)

**APPROXIMATE COST**
- $4,097 per person double occupancy from Los Angeles; single supplement $1,695

**TRAVEL PARTNERS**
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 24 participants

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Immerse yourself in a living, breathing forest for an expedition through the Upper Amazon. Inky waters backed by layers of green forest relax and invigorate. Wild birdcalls fill the air. A leafy branch shakes to reveal a troop of clamoring monkeys. Spend the week exploring the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, a pristine swath of jungle encompassing more than five million acres. The 28-guest *Delfin II* is equipped with skiffs and kayaks for up-close access to an intricate network of jungle waterways to spot vibrantly colored birds, basking caimans, tamarins, sloths, giant lily pads, towering ceiba trees, and more.

**OVERNIGHTS**
- 2 nights Lima (split)
- 7 nights *Delfin II*

**APPROXIMATE COST**
- From $6,990 per person double occupancy; single rate upon request

**TRAVEL PARTNERS**
General interest travelers
Maximum group size: 28 participants
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

MIT Professor of Physics
PETER FISHER
LIGO in Louisiana / March 2018

“I have known of LIGO since 1983, when I started graduate school at Caltech on the floor beneath the LIGO Lab there, and I have followed it ever since. LIGO’s observation of gravitational waves certainly is the most exciting scientific discovery of my career and has sent me along new directions professionally. We will see the actual instrument that, aside from its ability to detect gravitational waves, is a wealth of exciting technologies.”
APRIL 15–28 | LAND/Cruise—ACTIVITY LEVEL 1

Japan by Sea: Land of the Rising Sun

Explore ancient and modern Japan aboard MS Caledonian Sky, the smallest deluxe expedition ship cruising the waters around Japan. Venture beyond the bustle of Tokyo and Kyoto to the tranquil historic quarters of Hagi and Matsue, and the cultured arts center of Kanazawa. Also explore the charming small islands of Naoshima, Miyajima, and Sado. Visit sacred temples and shrines and celebrated gardens and castles. Attend private cultural performances and see cutting-edge modern arts and architecture. Learn about a geisha’s life in Kyoto, take part in a taiko drum workshop with the Kodo drummers on Sado Island, and meet a Kabuki actor in Tokyo. A comprehensive onboard lecture series enhances the experience.

OVERNIGHTS
3 nights Kyoto
8 nights MS Caledonian Sky
1 night Tokyo

APPROXIMATE COST
From $9,990 per person double occupancy; single rate from $18,490

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Other academic institutions
Maximum group size: 96 participants

APRIL 18–24 | CRUISE—ACTIVITY LEVEL 2

Columbia and Snake Rivers Journey:
Harvests, History, and Landscapes

Exploring the Pacific Northwest by ship is a study in contrasts, revealing great natural beauty and featuring modern marvels of human engineering. Travel through an imposing system of locks and large-span bridges. The locks raise and lower the ship nearly 700 feet—close to 10 times what transiting the Panama Canal entails. Stroll the grounds of the Maryhill Museum, walk through a vineyard with Mt. Hood in view, and see the reconstruction of Lewis and Clark’s Fort Clatsop. Explore by kayak and expedition landing craft. Throughout the journey, a superb expedition team puts everything in context and weaves an ongoing narrative from each day’s events.

OVERNIGHTS
6 nights National Geographic Quest

APPROXIMATE COST
From $4,390 per person double occupancy; single rate from $6,840

TRAVEL PARTNERS
General interest travelers
Maximum group size: 100 participants
“I have a deep love and appreciation for Morocco and its history as it is my home country and a place that has shaped me in profound ways. At the crossroads of European, African, and Middle Eastern traditional and modern cultures, its future is in the hands of its youth—young men and women—and I am passionate about finding ways to empower them through sound education and an entrepreneurial mindset. I am excited to share a unique Moroccan experience with a focus on the perspective of local women.”

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT
Executive Director of MIT Sandbox Innovation Program
JINANE ABOUNADI EE ’90
Women to Women: Morocco / April–May 2018

APRIL 23–MAY 3 | LAND—ACTIVITY LEVEL 2
Women to Women: Morocco
With Jinane Abounadi EE ’90, Executive Director of MIT Sandbox Innovation Program

Experience a classic expedition that highlights the magnificent imperial cities of Morocco while focusing on the lives of Moroccan women. See an exotic blend of ancient and modern, African, Arabian, Roman, and French influences. Participate in exchanges with local women—some of whom are connected with MIT—that will provide insight into women’s movements and the understanding of women in Morocco. Dine with families in their private homes, view rare family antiquities and manuscripts, and exchange ideas and life experiences with local citizens. Throughout the journey, learn from trip leaders and enjoy the comfort of luxury hotels.

OVERNIGHTS
2 nights Rabat
2 nights Fez
1 night Casablanca
4 nights Marrakech

APPROXIMATE COST
$5,495 per person double occupancy; single supplement $1,995

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 18 participants
APRIL 24–MAY 2 | LAND—ACTIVITY LEVEL 1

Ireland: Wild Atlantic Way

Forge a path through County Mayo in the remote northwest corner of Ireland. From your base in the town of Westport, embark on a special journey steeped in Ireland’s rural traditions, literary legacy, and musical heritage. Admire the rugged, striking landscapes of Achill Island and Croagh Patrick. Feel the energy of vibrant Galway, known for its lively musical scene. Visit Kylemore Abbey, nestled along a lakeshore in the Connemara Mountains. Cruise Killary Fjord and step back into the Stone Age at Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery. In Westport, stroll along The Quay, savor freshly caught local seafood, and observe daily life in a traditional Irish town. Attend educational presentations for a truly rewarding experience.

OVERNIGHTS
7 nights Westport

APPROXIMATE COST
$3,245 per person double occupancy; single rate upon request

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT Community
Maximum group size: 36 participants

APRIL 28–MAY 6 | LAND—ACTIVITY LEVEL 2

Village Life Around the Italian Lakes

Experience firsthand the true essence of life in northern Italy’s fabled Lake District for one full week, with charming accommodations in the Palace Hotel in the heart of lovely Como. Cruise by private boat on Lake Como, Lake Maggiore, and Lake Orta. Participate in excursions featuring Bellagio, Villa del Balbianello, Stresa, the Borromean Islands, and the Sacro Monte di Orta. Visit Milan’s Duomo and Teatro alla Scala and see Leonardo da Vinci’s The Last Supper. Enriching lectures and meetings with local residents bring to life personal perspectives of the region’s modern life and cultural heritage.

OVERNIGHTS
7 nights Como

APPROXIMATE COST
$4,095 per person double occupancy; single rate $4,995

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Other academic institutions
Maximum group size: 45 participants
15 MAY 9–17 | CRUISE—ACTIVITY LEVEL 2

Springtime in Provence, Burgundy, and Beaujolais

Join this nine-day French sojourn in world-famous Provence and the Burgundy and Beaujolais wine regions. Cruise aboard the deluxe MS *Amadeus Provence* from Provençal Arles to historic Lyon along the fabled rivers Rhône and Saône. Dock in the heart of each port and visit the Roman amphitheater in Arles, the medieval Papal Palace of Avignon, the Roman city of Orange, and the Hôtel-Dieu in Beaune. Enjoy a stop in Beaujolais for a private wine tasting. Daily excursions led by knowledgeable tour guides complement the onboard lecture series.

**OVERNIGHTS**
7 nights MS *Amadeus Provence*

**APPROXIMATE COST**
From $3,795 per person double occupancy; single rate from $7,495

**TRAVEL PARTNERS**
Other academic institutions
Maximum group size: 130 participants

16 MAY 14–24 | LAND—ACTIVITY LEVEL 3

Treasures of Peru

A land of archaeological, cultural, and natural treasures awaits discovery on this comprehensive tour. After time in Lima, including a tour of the magnificent Larco Herrera Museum, fly to historic Cuzco and tour the sacred sites of Korikancha and Santo Domingo before proceeding to the beautiful Sacred Valley. Here, explore Indian markets, indigenous villages, and Ollantaytambo’s massive ruins. At enigmatic Machu Picchu enjoy two guided tours while staying at a nearby hotel. Returning to Cuzco, see the Incan masterpiece Sacsayhuamán and enjoy a home-hosted lunch. Traverse Peru’s scenic altiplano to Lake Titicaca and set out by boat to visit Los Uros and Taquile islands.

**OVERNIGHTS**
2 nights Lima
2 nights Sacred Valley
1 night Machu Picchu
2 nights Cuzco
2 nights Puno

**APPROXIMATE COST**
$4,749 per person double occupancy from Miami; single supplement $1,095

**TRAVEL PARTNERS**
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 24 participants
England, Belgium, and France: The Legacy of World Wars I and II
With MIT Associate Professor Christopher Capozzola

November 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the conclusion of World War I, making this year the perfect moment to reflect upon the evolution of Europe in the century since. Immerse yourself in the artifacts, tactics, significant battleground sites, and military cemeteries in England, Belgium, and France from World Wars I and II. A comprehensive lecture series focuses on the technology of war, strategy and tactics, US involvement, and London during WWII. Also, learn from a local expert about Brexit and explore the challenges and opportunities facing the European Union in the years ahead.

OVERNIGHTS
3 nights London
2 nights Lille
2 nights Amiens
2 nights Bayeux
1 night Paris

APPROXIMATE COST
$6,995 per person double occupancy; single rate $8,295

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 34 participants

“A century later, we still live in the shadow of the First World War. Beneath the surface of beautiful European capitals or small lace-making villages are the memories of two wars that shaped the twentieth century. Together we will explore historical sites of both wars, walk the battlefields, beaches, and trenches, and hear from experts and locals about how contemporary Europe is still being shaped by the century of war that began on the Western Front in 1914.”
National Parks of the Southwest

Celebrate our epic land at favorite national parks and reserves in the Southwest. Begin in Tucson with a tour of the renowned Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. Visit the important Heard Museum of Native Cultures and Art in Phoenix. Tour Sedona’s towering red rock formations by Jeep, then spend a day at the Grand Canyon, a UNESCO site. Take a thrilling motorized rafting excursion on the Colorado River. Discover the “flowing” rock walls of Antelope Canyon and the otherworldly hoodoo formations at Bryce Canyon National Park. After a full day in Zion National Park, head to Las Vegas for the final night.

OVERNIGHTS
2 nights Tucson
2 nights Sedona
2 nights Page
1 night Bryce Canyon City
2 nights Springdale
1 night Las Vegas

APPROXIMATE COST
$3,495 per person double occupancy; single supplement $1,095

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 24 participants
"I could not imagine a better location to ponder our place in the universe, the origin of life, and the prospects for finding life outside of our solar system, than Africa with its dark night skies, and with Africa being the cradle of humankind. I will discuss the rapid advances in exoplanet research, how it has influenced our perception of the universe, and the prospects for finding extrasolar life. And we will look at some of the planets and their moons in the night sky through a small telescope.”
“On our trip, I hope to capture something of comparable importance about certain intellectual events initiated in the terrain through which we will be passing—how Shakespeare transformed the idea of tragedy, how Wordsworth reinvented the idea of Nature, and how Thomas Malthus turned economics from the study of wealth to the study of poverty.”
I will discuss the scientific problem of climate change, focusing on the particularly rapid and consequential warming of the Arctic and what that may mean for the biosphere and human welfare. We will explore the crucial role that ice sheets play in the climate system and talk about what Alaska might have been like at the peak of the last glacial maximum 22,000 years ago and during very warm periods of the distant past.
Northern Summer: A Journey by Private Jet

Follow the midnight sun to 12 intriguing destinations in the world’s northernmost reaches. Explore Russia’s wild Kamchatka Peninsula, stay in Mongolia’s dramatic Gobi Desert, and soar over Greenland’s starkly beautiful ice fjords and glaciers. Experience the magic of long summer days both in Northern Europe’s most vibrant capitals and in remote Siberian outposts. Visit Lake Baikal, Russia; Riga, Latvia; Tallinn, Estonia; and Helsinki, Finland. Also, enjoy a four-night journey aboard the well-appointed Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express. This journey combines the ease of private jet travel—cutting down on travel time by flying direct to remote destinations—with extraordinary touring opportunities and an enriching lecture series.

OVERNIGHTS
Call for details

APPROXIMATE COST
$81,950 per person double occupancy; single supplement $8,950

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Other academic institutions
Maximum group size: 80 participants
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Oklahoma State University Professor Emeritus

JOHN DOBSON ’62

Scotland: Highlands and Islands / June–July 2018

“Together we will enjoy a comprehensive view of Scotland, from her thriving cities in the south to the rugged and scenic islands and highlands in the north. My talks will cover such topics as the impact of Viking raids on the Scottish people, their often-troubled relationship with their English neighbors to the south, and the rise and decline of the Stuart monarchy, including the tragic story of Mary, Queen of Scots.”
Journey for a week through central and southwestern Colorado, with trips on four scenic railroads and visits to many of the historic spots along the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad (D&RGW). Unlike other rail lines, the D&RGW advertised that it famously went “through the Rockies…not around them.” The railroad began as a narrow-gauge line, and participants can travel its two remaining narrow-gauge segments, both powered by steam locomotives. Visit the Colorado Railroad Museum and see the preserved locomotives and railroad cars. Lectures and informal commentary enhance the experience.

OVERNIGHTS
1 night Denver
1 night Salida
1 night Montrose
1 night Durango
1 night Santa Fe

APPROXIMATE COST
$2,995 per person double occupancy; single supplement $600

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 30 participants

Discover Iceland’s remarkable natural history and rich cultural heritage. Tour the scenic Snaefellsnes Peninsula with its lava field, fishing villages, and bizarre rock formations. Visit an Icelandic horse farm and enjoy three nights in the charming northern capital, Akureyri. See one of the world’s natural wonders, Lake Myvatn, with its bubbling mudflats and volcanic craters. Stop at Godafoss, “waterfall of the gods.” Explore Glacial River Canyon National Park and Dettifoss. Embark on a dramatic bird-watching coastal cruise and visit fascinating Thingvellir National Park, Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss waterfalls, and the Skogar Folk Museum. Conclude in Iceland’s sophisticated capital, Reykjavik.

OVERNIGHTS
2 nights Bogarnes
3 nights Akureyri
2 nights Selfoss
2 nights Reykjavik

APPROXIMATE COST
$5,642 per person double occupancy from Boston; single supplement $1,095

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 24 participants
AUGUST 19–29  |  LAND/Cruise—Activity Level 1

**Nordic Magnificence**

Delve into the vibrant Viking heritage and the rich cultures of Denmark and Norway. In Copenhagen, visit the Old Town and Rosenborg Castle. See the city’s landmarks during an afternoon canal cruise. On an overnight cruise to Oslo, take in dramatic views of the Norwegian coast, and in Oslo, see ancient Viking ships and explore the Vikings’ seafaring lifestyle. Next, enjoy the spectacular scenery on Europe’s highest-altitude train line to the historic town of Bergen. Travel on one of the world’s steepest train rides from the top of a mountain through the most scenic region of Norway to the shores of the majestic Sognefjord.

**Overnights**

- 3 nights Copenhagen
- 1 night aboard DFDS Seaways ferry
- 2 nights Oslo
- 3 nights Bergen

**Approximate Cost**

- $4,245 per person double occupancy; single supplement $495

**Travel Partners**

Other academic institutions

Maximum group size: 28 participants
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

MiT Professor of Planetary Sciences
RICHARD P. BINZEL
Iceland to West Greenland / September 2018

“There’s an amazing interplay between what we learn about polar caps on Mars and glaciers on Pluto that give us renewed perspective on these polar regions of Earth. Even astronomical cycles come into play, so it takes a long-term perspective in both time and space to appreciate the majesty of what we will be discovering on our terrestrial journey.”

SEPTEMBER 5–13 | CRUISE—ACTIVITY LEVEL 2

Hot Springs and Icebergs:
Iceland to West Greenland
With MIT Professor Richard P. Binzel

Discover the true natures of fiery Iceland and icy Greenland on a wide-ranging adventure in a compact time frame. During this week long trip, soak in the heat of Iceland’s thermal baths and explore the bustling urban capital of Reykjavík. By air, see Greenland’s epic ice cap that covers 80 percent of the country. Then cruise along its ice edge with glaciers that can stretch over 100 miles and calve some of the largest icebergs on Earth. Venture into Greenland’s long fjords choked with massive bergs and call at small communities to meet the resilient inhabitants. All along the way, take opportunities to view the legendary northern lights.

OVERNIGHTS
3 nights Reykjavík (split)
4 nights National Geographic Explorer

APPROXIMATE COST
From $6,990 per person double occupancy; single rate from $9,490

TRAVEL PARTNERS
General interest travelers
Maximum group size: 148 participants
Prague is a city of musical treasures: here Mozart had some of his greatest successes, Smetana captured in music the beauty and power of the river Moldau, and Dvořák composed his Slavonic Dances. This rich vein of music only grows as we cruise on the Danube River to Vienna, home of Haydn, Beethoven, and Mahler, and on to Hungary, whose folk song traditions were so differently tapped by Brahms and Bartók. The countryside we will travel together is vibrantly and continuously alive with music.”
Experience the provincial character of Dordogne for one full week in Sarlat-la-Canéda, one of the most beautiful and well-preserved medieval villages in France. Discover the region’s charming villages, medieval castles, and even prehistoric treasures through specially arranged excursions and cultural enrichments. Visit the medieval pilgrimage site of Rocamadour and the fascinating prehistoric cave paintings of Rouffignac and Cap Blanc, all part of UNESCO’s World Heritage list. Explore the perfectly reproduced cave art in Lascaux and enjoy leisure time to discover in Sarlat-la-Canéda. Meet with local residents who provide candid insights into daily life in Dordogne.

OVERNIGHTS
7 nights Sarlat-la-Canéda

APPROXIMATE COST
$3,895 per person double occupancy; single rate $4,595

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Another academic institution
Maximum group size: 38 participants

Explore nine of the world’s most iconic destinations on this classic Around the World jet program, filled with UNESCO World Heritage sites, incredible wildlife, and opportunities for cultural immersion. Witness the wonders of nature on the Serengeti Plain and snorkel the Great Barrier Reef. Walk ancient corridors in the Lost City of Petra and discover the majestic work of the Inca at Machu Picchu. Gaze at humankind’s greatest monument to love—the Taj Mahal—and wonder at the enigmatic Moai of Easter Island. A comprehensive lecture series enhances this 24-day journey of a lifetime.

OVERNIGHTS
Call for details

APPROXIMATE COST
$82,950 per person double occupancy; single supplement $8,950

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Other academic institutions
Maximum group size: 80 participants
Follow in the footsteps of legends on this 17-day iconic trek to Mt. Everest Base Camp (17,688’)—the ultimate experience of challenge and adventure. Each step of the expedition keeps trekkers immersed in alluring mountain scenery and rich Buddhist culture. Sleep in teahouses each night while experiencing the local Sherpa way of life by day. Enjoy tea with local villagers and learn about their spiritual lifestyle. Discover the different plants and animals that inhabit various elevations of the Solukhumbu. Finally, revel in your accomplishment and stand in awe at the captivating sight of the world’s highest peak.

OVERNIGHTS
3 nights Kathmandu (split)
13 nights in teahouses along trek route

APPROXIMATE COST
$6,900 per person double occupancy; single supplement $2,200

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 22 participants
Renowned for its turquoise sea, sun-drenched beaches, and charming towns, the Italian Riviera has been delighting travelers for centuries. Explore the region of Liguria on a weeklong journey that includes tours of seaside towns, colorful villages, and historic cities. Settle in Sestri Levante, where brightly colored buildings frame the coastline. Discover Camogli, a local fishing village. Cruise to iconic Portofino, visit the walled city of Lucca, and explore Genoa, the ancient maritime republic. Admire the picturesque villages of the Cinque Terre from the sea. In Carrara, discover the origin of the marble that sculptors, including Michelangelo and other Renaissance masters, have carved into beautiful works of art.

**OVERNIGHTS**
7 nights Sestri Levante

**APPROXIMATE COST**
$3,145 per person double occupancy; single rate upon request

**TRAVEL PARTNERS**
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 36 participants
Israel: Past, Present, and Future

Explore Israel’s rich history and archaeological legacy, as well as its cutting-edge technology and new start-up companies, with this custom MIT tour. Enjoy hands-on explorations of Israel’s natural history, active archaeological digs, religious sites, and colorful markets. This itinerary celebrates the land’s religious and cultural significance with Jews, Christians, and Muslims, as well as its central role in world history. Sample local cuisine, take a Jeep tour of the Golan Heights, and explore the Old City of Jerusalem for a behind-the-scenes look at the various communities and how they live together. Hike to Nahal David, a lush oasis in the Judean desert at the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve, and enjoy a sulphur spring at the Dead Sea.

OVERNIGHTS
3 nights Tel Aviv (split)
2 nights Tiberias
3 nights Jerusalem
1 night Judean Desert

APPROXIMATE COST
$7,950 per person double occupancy; single supplement $1,700

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 30 participants
Basque Country

The Basque country of Spain and France offers a blend of rich heritage, proud traditions, and striking natural beauty. Settle in picturesque San Sebastián and explore La Concha Bay. Cross the border into France to visit the villages of St.-Jean-de-Luz, with its swashbuckling history, and Espelette, where whitewashed homes are decorated with traditional strings of red peppers. Explore the seaside resort of Biarritz and sip local wines during a journey through La Rioja wine country. On an excursion to Bilbao, tour the Guggenheim Museum. Local guides and expert speakers provide fascinating insight into the Basque culture during included excursions and lectures.

OVERNIGHTS
7 nights San Sebastián

APPROXIMATE COST
$3,245 per person double occupancy; single supplement $995

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Another academic institution
Maximum group size: 36 participants

Paradores and Pousadas

Tour the Portuguese capital Lisbon then travel to Evora, a treasure trove of Portuguese, Roman, and Moorish heritage. Explore the outstanding Roman ruins in Mérida. In Spain’s Andalusia region, discover romantic Seville and the cultural gem of Cordoba. Spend two nights in charming Ronda, set high in the mountains, then travel to Granada, the former Moorish stronghold with its renowned fortress, the Alhambra. Experience medieval Toledo and spend three nights in Madrid. Visit the 18th-century Royal Palace, the world-renowned Prado, and vast Plaza Mayor. Throughout, enjoy distinctive lodgings, known as paradores in Spain and pousadas in Portugal.

OVERNIGHTS
2 nights Lisbon
2 nights Evora
3 nights Carmona
2 nights Ronda
1 night Úbeda
3 nights Madrid

APPROXIMATE COST
$4,378 per person double occupancy from Boston; single supplement $1,295

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 24 participants
NOVEMBER 5–16  |  LAND ACTIVITY LEVEL 2

Costa Rica’s Natural Heritage

In this small Central American democracy, discover staggering biodiversity in four distinct regions. Begin with an exploration in the city of San Jose. Travel through the Central Valley to Poas Volcano National Park and visit the Doka coffee estate. Explore the Botanical Orchid Garden en route to the Arenal region and magnificent Arenal Volcano. Visit a local elementary school, experience the rain forest on a hanging bridges walk, and tour Ecocentro Danaus ecological reserve. Continue to the amazingly diverse Monteverde Cloud Forest Biological Reserve and its Hummingbird Gallery. Conclude with a relaxing three-night stay on the Pacific Coast and a Tempisque River float safari.

OVERNIGHTS
3 nights San Jose (split)
3 nights Arenal Region
2 nights Monteverde Cloud Forest
3 nights Guanacaste

APPROXIMATE COST
$3,681 per person double occupancy from Miami; single supplement $995

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 18 participants
Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Mekong River

Join us for a journey through Vietnam and Cambodia, including a cruise aboard the elegant Mekong Princess. Begin in Ho Chi Minh City, a dynamic city abuzz with activity and end with two full days to explore the remarkable Khmer temples and monuments of legendary Angkor. In between, the Mekong River takes us into the fascinating but seldom-visited world of one of Asia’s great waterways. Marvel at floating villages where residents work, shop, attend school, and even hold church services on the water. Tour a family-owned orchard, visit a noodle factory, and experiment with typical Vietnamese ingredients during a cooking demonstration.

OVERNIGHTS
2 nights Ho Chi Minh City
7 nights Mekong Princess
3 nights Siem Reap

APPROXIMATE COST
From $8,995 per person double occupancy; single rate from $15,295

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Another academic institution
Maximum group size: 20 participants

Family Adventure to Panama

Explore Panama on an adventure that has something for the entire family. Visit the Panama Canal, Miraflores Locks, and the recently completed Aguas Clara expansion locks. Learn about the history and construction of this marvel of engineering. Journey to the Chiriquí highlands and zip line through the jungle. Walk through a cloud forest to a site where digital photos of jaguars and other wildlife are captured by “Jag Cams.” Cruise through the jungle in a dugout canoe to meet the indigenous Emberá people in Chagres National Park. Children have an opportunity to exchange letters with pen pals prior to the trip and enjoy meeting these new friends while on tour. Unplug and get away with your family and explore this lush, tropical setting together.

OVERNIGHTS
4 nights Panama City (split)
2 nights Boquete

APPROXIMATE COST
$3,990 per adult double occupancy; $3,890 per child double occupancy; single supplement $1,500

TRAVEL PARTNERS
Exclusive to the MIT community
Maximum group size: 20 participants
“Highlights of the trip included having wildlife so close on the lower Zambezi, good instruction from our tour director, learning about the Soweto uprising, bartering for crafts, and walking about in Livingstone.”

—RICHARD LIPPMAN SM ’73, EE ’74, PHD ’78 / AFRICA’S WILDLIFE 2016
ACTIVITY LEVELS

MIT Alumni Travel Program trips are designed for people in good health who are comfortable participating in physical activities as part of a group. The ratings below are relative and reflect a combination of intensity and duration of physical activity.

ACTIVITY LEVEL 1
Suitable for people in good health with overall good mobility. Travelers should be comfortable participating in up to three hours of physical activity per day. Activities range from light to moderate intensity at an easy pace, including walking (sometimes on uneven terrain), periods of standing, and climbing stairs.

ACTIVITY LEVEL 2
Intended for active people who are comfortable participating in up to five hours of physical activity per day. Trip activities will be at a moderate intensity and at a more vigorous pace than Level 1 and may include walking on difficult terrain, climbing stairs, extended periods of standing, train travel, and embarking and disembarking Zodiac crafts.

ACTIVITY LEVEL 3
Designed for people who lead active lives and are comfortable participating in up to seven hours of physical activity per day. Trip activities will have a higher intensity and may include all of the activities listed in Levels 1 and 2, as well as hiking, exposure to high altitudes, a demanding daily schedule, and optional activities such as biking, swimming, and snorkeling. A pre-trip physical training program is advised.

ACTIVITY LEVEL 4
Appropriate for people who lead very active lives and are comfortable participating in up to eight hours of physical activity per day. Trip activities will be at a higher intensity and at a more vigorous pace and may include all of the activities listed in Levels 1 through 3, as well as biking, hiking at high altitudes, white-water rafting, and kayaking. A pre-trip physical training program is strongly recommended.

ACTIVITY LEVEL 5
Designed for people who lead very active lives and who maintain an intensive daily workout routine. Participants on these programs will take part in up to 10 hours of physical activity per day. Trip activities may include all of the activities listed in Levels 1 through 4, as well as hiking at high altitudes (or other intensive physical activity), vigorous activity in inclement weather conditions, and a demanding daily schedule. A pre-trip physical training program is strongly recommended.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
For the most enjoyable and rewarding experience, please use your best judgment to make selections in keeping with your health, physical condition, and individual circumstances. Please bear in mind that the MIT trips involve group activities, and your level of preparedness and ability will have an impact on the other participants. If you have any questions, please contact the MIT Alumni Travel Program office.
**MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE**

Numbers shown for each trip reflect the maximum number of travelers; occasionally trips may depart with fewer travelers. In some cases, the MIT group will be a subset of a larger group. When MIT is the only group on the trip, the trip is noted as “exclusive to the MIT community.”

**HOLD MY SPOT**

Some trips fill up quickly, but a spot can be held for you if space is available. Visit the MIT Alumni Travel Program website and click on the Hold My Spot link located on the home page. You will receive an email with trip details and pricing. Please note you are under no obligation to register for the trip(s) held for you.

**INCLUDED ITEMS**

Trip prices include accommodations during the program, some or all meals, the services of a professional tour director and local English-speaking guides, lecture series, ground transportation for included tour activities, and pre-trip informational mailings. Many other items may be included in addition to these elements. Please refer to the trip brochure or the travel program website for complete details. Trip details and pricing subject to change.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

All trip participants should enjoy traveling as part of a group, be tolerant of occasional changes or delays that are common during trips, and be ready to experience cultural differences with grace. The MIT Alumni Travel Program selects and works closely with US-based tour operators that specialize in high-quality educational travel. If an operator does not meet MIT’s high standards, they will not be engaged to provide services. The MIT Alumni Travel Program provides further information about the travel program and the relationship between the Alumni Association and the tour operator online: alum.mit.edu/travel/About.

**STAY CONNECTED**

For updated information on all MIT trips, visit alum.mit.edu/travel.
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: MIT Alumni Travel Program.
Questions? Call us at 800-992-6749.
"The trip was even better than expected because of the enjoyable and very interesting fellow guests, as well as the staff, lecturers, guides, and crew."

—JO SM ’53 AND PETER ’52, SM ’53, PHD ’56 VON HIPPEL / NEW ZEALAND BY LAND AND SEA 2017
HOLD YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Contact us in any of these ways:

Phone: 800-992-6749
Email: compass@mit.edu
Web: alum.mit.edu/travel
WHY TRAVEL WITH MIT?

Explore and learn in the company of engaging, curious travel companions and enrichment speakers. Alumni who have traveled with us before tell us they return again and again for the camaraderie, the value, and the opportunity to discover new places and exchange new ideas. And with travel arrangements handled for you by experienced travel professionals, it could not be easier.