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CME & CULTURAL TOUR OF EASTERN EUROPE

SEPTEMBER 21 – OCTOBER 7, 2017

The Organizers…

Dr. Steve Szarka B.Eng., M.Eng., M.D., C.C.F.P. - Hamilton, On.

Dr. Steve Szarka is a family physician with a private practice in Hamilton, Ontario. His undergraduate education in both Electrical and Computer Engineering (B.Eng, M.Eng) and Medicine (M.D) was also obtained at McMaster University in Hamilton. In Hamilton, he helped establish, and was the Lead Physician for, one of the first Primary Care Reform Networks (PCN) in Ontario. He has also served on Steering Committees for the establishment of the first Family Health Team in Ontario, and to help establish protocols for the Family Health Team in the Hamilton Area relating to the management of chronic care diseases as it pertains to diabetes. He currently holds the position of Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University and is the President Elect for the Hamilton Academy of Medicine.

He developed a special interest in phlebology and sat on the board of directors for the Canadian Society of Phlebology. This has been a challenging position that has allowed him to interact and teach his colleagues in this field, both here in Canada and as an invited speaker all over the world. Steve was born and raised in Budapest, Hungary while his wife, Margaret, was born and raised in Poland providing a perfect background, including a good coverage of the Hungarian and the Slavic languages, as tour leaders for this program to Eastern Europe.

This is Dr. Szarka's third venture with Doctors-on-Tour having led a previous CME program to Eastern Europe in 2015 as well as a further trip to Ecuador, the Galapagos and Peru in 2016.

Dr. Szarka may be contacted at –

e: szarkas@mcmaster.ca, Tel: 1-905-648-3322

Doctors-on-Tour >

Doctors-on-Tour was created in 2000 and specializes in offering ecological, cultural, gastronomical and adventure travel to exotic destinations for physicians who want to combine learning and travelling. Our programs offer targeted educational programs offering updates on current topics of interest together with meetings and discussions with local health care representatives to specifically discuss common medical developments in, and challenges facing, the local health care systems in both Canada and the country where the meetings and discussions are being located. This also includes in-depth tours of hospital facilities (both public and private) in order to meet with local medical practitioners and review, and compare, facilities, techniques and practices on a first hand basis. We offer programs in several worldwide locations including **to** such diverse and intriguing areas as **South America (Brazil, Chile/Argentina, Ecuador/Peru), Africa (Kenya/Tanzania, South Africa, Zanzibar, Kilimanjaro climb), India, Bhutan/Myanmar, China, South East Asia (Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos & Bali), New Zealand and Europe (Eastern Europe, Spain).**

Additional information, including detailed program brochures downloadable in pdf format and recent testimonials, can be found at www.doctorsontour.ca . The company is a licensed retail travel organization under The Travel Industry Act of Ontario thereby affording complete protection of all monies paid prior to departure. (TICO registration no. 50009110).

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The Destinations… Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria & the Czech Republic

As you go behind what was once the "Iron Curtain", begin to unravel the complex history of these Bohemian nations as we explore the Imperial Cities, and tour through the beautiful country side, of **Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria** and the **Czech Republic**. Here, the best of Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Art Nouveau influences have created some of the world's most magnificent and legendary cities as our program takes you through the heart of Eastern Europe.

Start in Poland, in romantic **Krakow** and visit the stunning Wieliczka Salt mine and the former concentration camp of Auschwitz. As you travel south to Hungary, admire the majestic **Tatra Mountains** and pass through some of the most scenic parts of Slovakia with its magnificent castles and monasteries. The legendary Danube welcomes you to energetic **Budapest** with Buda Castle, Fishermen's Bastion, and the mouthwatering Central Market. Discover the picturesque Hungarian countryside as you continue to **Bad Sarvar**, one of the Royal Spa Towns of Europe and pamper yourself at the renowned 5* Spirit Spa hotel with its therapeutic mineral hot springs. Austria's capital of **Vienna** beckons next, the elegant city known for the waltz, delectable pastries, and awe-inspiring Habsburg palaces. The picturesque medieval town **of Český Krumlov** in South Bohemia beckons before ending your tour at beautifully-preserved **Prague** with its Charles Bridge, Jewish Quarter, and world-famous Astronomical Clock.

Further information can be found at –

http://www.poland.travel/en-us/
http://slovakia.travel/en
http://gotohungary.com/
http://www.austria.info/us
http://www.czechtourism.com/home

The Academic Program (approximately 15 CME hours) …

Complete details of our Academic Program will be provided in your full documentation package, however, as noted in the detailed itinerary, the program will include the following -

- **Collegium Medicum of Jagiellonian Univeristy in Krakow** - professional visit to learn about the medical system in Poland including a **presentation on treatment on COPD** (treats asthmatic children)
- **Medical Conference** in Budapest with Canadian and local speakers
- **Spirit Spa** wellness facility (Bad Sarvar) - Lecture on the **therapeutic benefits of the mineral springs** for arthritis/rheumatology from one of the doctors resident at the facility.
- **AKH – Allgemeines Krankenhaus Vienna** - professional visit of AKH general public hospital to learn about the medical system in Austria.
- **Canadian Medical Center** (private hospital in Prague) - professional visit to learn about the medical system in the Czech Republic

Any physician who would like to make a short presentation at the Medical Conference in Budapest should contact our Group Medical Director, Dr. Steve Szarka (e: szarkas@mcmaster.ca, Tel: 1-905-648-3322), directly.

A certificate of attendance will be provided to all attendees of the Academic Program.

The itinerary…

DAY 1 – Sep 21 - Depart Toronto

International overnight flight from Toronto, Canada to Krakow, Poland on Air Canada.

DAY 2 – Sep 22 - Krakow (D)

Krakow is one of the most perfectly preserved old cities in all Europe, and although it stands as Poland's second largest, it rivals Warsaw in any claim to be the country's cultural capital.

As home to one of Central Europe's oldest universities, and one of the few parts of Poland not annexed by Germany or Russia (Cracow got the more lenient Austrians instead), the city has always punched above its weight as a place for independent art and thought.

The more learned will see Cracow as a textbook of Gothic, Renaissance and baroque architecture, which has earned it a listing as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Krakow isn't just old and pretty, however, it's also a city that likes to let its hair down. With one of the highest concentrations of pubs, clubs and bars in Europe, hunting down the best of them in the Old Town backstreets and the hip quarter of Kazimierz is one of the city's true pleasures.

Arrive Krakow. You will be met by your guide from our local tour operator partner in Eastern Europe upon arrival who will take you directly to your hotel for check-in. During the transfer your guide will give you some brief information about your hotel, its surrounding and about Krakow as well as explaining your program for the following days. Check-in at your hotel and rest of the day free for your own leisure as you take some time to rest from your international flight.

In the evening, you will enjoy a welcome dinner in a local restaurant in the centre of town.

Overnight in Krakow.

DAY 3 – Sep 23 – Krakow (B, L)

Physicians – In the morning, visit to the **Collegium Medicum of Jagiellonian Univeristy in Krakow** (http://www.cm-uj.krakow.pl/indexen.php) to learn about the medical system in Poland including a presentation on treatment on COPD (treats asthmatic children)

Non-physicians – free time to explore this fascinating city independently.

After lunch take an afternoon tour of Krakow.

See the beauty of the **Old Town** with its original Medieval street layout, marvelous architecture, and unique atmosphere that distinguishes Krakow from the rest of Poland. As the former capital of Poland, Krakow has a rich history which is still visible even today.

Europe's largest medieval square, Rynek Glowny, is the centrepiece of the Old Town. Most of the buildings are in neoclassical style and dominating the square are the arcaded Cloth Hall and the Mariacka Basilica – a riot of colour inside.

The hilltop Wawel was the seat of Polish kings for over 500 years. Kazimierz was the centre of Kraków's Jewish community, until more than 90 per cent were killed in WWII

The Galicia Museum and nearby Old Synagogue commemorate this past. After an archaeological find discovered and excavated underground tunnels under Krakow´s Main Market Square in 2005, the much publicized Rynek Underground Museum was created. However, there's more to the former royal capital than history and nightlife. As you walk through the Old Town, you'll sometimes find yourself overwhelmed by the harmony of a quiet back street, the 'just so' nature of the architecture and light. It's at times like these that Kraków reveals its harmonious blend of past and present, an essential part of any visit to Poland.

Evening at leisure. Overnight in Krakow.

DAY 4 – Sep 24 – Wieliczka Salt Mine - Auschwitz (B,L)

In the morning visit the Wieliczka Salt Mine.

*Some 14km southeast of Kraków's city centre, **Wieliczka** is famous for its ultra-deep salt mine, which has been in continuous operation for 700 years. The mine was included on Unesco's World Heritage List in 1978. The Wieliczka mine is renowned for the preservative qualities of its microclimate, as well as for its health-giving properties. The mine has a labyrinth of tunnels, about 300km distributed over nine levels, the deepest being 327m underground. A section of the mine, some 22 chambers connected by galleries, is open to the public as a museum, and it's a fascinating trip.*

You can visit three upper levels of the mine, from 64m to 135m below the ground, walking through an eerie world of pits and chambers, all hewn by hand from solid salt. You'll also see a collection of mining equipment, some of which dates back to the Middle Ages .Visitors are guided in groups and the tour takes about two hours. Your descent into the mine is down an original vertical mine shaft which has been customized for tourists by the addition of wooden deck style steps. You will walk about 2km through the mine, so wear comfortable shoes with a good grip. The temperature in the mine is 14°C.

Lunch will take place in the Underground restaurant at the Salt Mine Wieliczka after the tour.
In the afternoon, drive to Auschwitz-Birkenau for a tour of the infamous camp.

***Auschwitz-Birkenau**, located outside the town of Oswicim. Established in 1940, the Auschwitz complex saw the deaths of nearly 1.5 million people, most of whom were European Jews. The complex, today a UNESCO World Heritage-listed museum, comprises the Auschwitz I camp and the Birkenau (or Auschwitz II) camp with a total of about 150 buildings and 300 ruins. Auschwitz was only partially destroyed by fleeing Nazis when the camp was liberated, so you are able to see many of the original brick buildings as you walk around. Explore the exhibitions, housed in some of the prison blocks, some of which are dedicated to victims from particular countries..*

You'll also see Birkenau, once home to 300 prison barracks and four large gas chambers. Most of this camp was destroyed, but you will get an idea of the vast size of the area, fenced off with watchtowers, and you can enter some of the surviving barracks.

Return to Krakow. Evening at leisure. Overnight in Krakow.

DAY 5 – Sep 25– Krakow – High Tatras (B,D)

***National Park High Tatras** (Vysoke Tatry) is situated in the north of **Slovakia**, shared partly with Poland. The only mountains of Alpine type in the whole Carpathian Mountain range are often called "the smallest alpine mountains in Europe". There are three main parts of High Tatras, they differ in their geological composition and location. The inhabitants of the High Tatras live in the settlements situated along the "Road of Freedom", which joins Western, High and Belianske Tatras together. Lomnicky Stit (2.634 m / 8.642 ft) is possibly the most visited peak, probably because of its accessibility by cable car. You can find here the highest situated Astronomical and Meteorological Observatory in Slovakia.*

***Tatranska Lomnica**, one of the biggest and most beautiful settlements in High Tatras. It is situated on the Road of Freedom, at the foothill of Lomnicky Peak. With the highest (2.196 m / 7.205 ft) and steepest slopes, it is* perfect for skiers.

Some free time to explore Krakow independently before leaving Krakow early afternoon to drive to Slovakia, to Tatranska Lomnice (located under famous Lomnicky stit). Arrival to your hotel and check-in.

In the evening. Dinner you will at **Koliba, a typical Slovakian restaurant with local cymbalo music.**

Overnight in Tatranska Lomnice.

DAY 6 - Sep 26 High Tatras - Budapest (B, D)

Budapest *- Straddling the romantic Danube River, with the Buda Hills to the west and the start of the Great Plain to the east, Budapest is the most beautiful city in central Europe. And the human legacy is just as remarkable as Mother Nature's. Architecturally, Budapest is a gem, with enough baroque, neoclassical, Eclectic and art nouveau (or Secessionist) buildings to satisfy anyone's appetite. With parks brimming with attractions, museums filled with treasures, pleasure boats sailing up and down the scenic Danube and Turkish-era thermal baths belching steam, the Hungarian capital is a delight both by day and by night. The food and wine are excellent, cheap and in abundance and the nightlife is hot. Indeed, in recent years, Budapest has taken on the role of the region's party town, especially in the warmer months when outdoor entertainment areas called kertek (literally 'gardens') heave with party makers.*

After breakfast, leave Tatranska Lomnice and continue to drive south through the Slovakian countryside to Hungary, with its capital city, Budapest. Arrive mid afternoon and check into your hotel.

Take an early evening **river boat cruise on the Danube river** to see the main sights of this fascinating city and learn about interesting historical facts from your guide. This will be followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 7 – Sep 27 – Budapest (B)

There is no better way to get to know more about Hungary, than with its food and drinks. This morning, take a walking tour starting with visit of **Budapest Central Market**, which is considered to be the one of the largest food markets in Europe, where you will learn more about history of the building itself and about the culture of eating and drinking in Hungary. Tour will continue in the neighborhood of the Central Market, where you will visit various local establishments) to understand the secret of Hungarian cooking and for the opportunity to taste some of this. The tour will finish with a tasting of local Hungarian wine, well-known for its high quality. Be ready for extraordinary culinary experience and come to this tour with an appetite!

Rest of the day is at leisure - continue to explore the city, visit the historical sights or take a dip in one of the famous spa centers!

DAY 8 – Sep 28 – Budapest (B)

Physicians - **Morning medical conference** at the hotel in Budapest.

Non-physicians - enjoy a morning tour of Budapest

Start the tour from the Chain Bridge and drive over to Buda. Stop in the Castle District for a short walk to show you the main attractions of the area including Matthias Church and to the Fishermen's Bastion (picture, right), from where you can enjoy the beautiful panorama. Next, drive to the Gellért Hill (Citadel) for the most spectacular view of Budapest. Then across the Elisabeth Bridge to Pest to largest Synagogue of Europe and the City Park. Pass by Europe's largest thermal spa, the Budapest Zoo and the Amusement Park, after which stop at the Heroes' Square (with statues of the most famous Hungarian kings and dukes). Take the Andrássy Avenue to downtown Pest, pass by the Opera House and the St Stephen's Basilica. Tour will end in the city centre.

The afternoon is free to continue to explore the city independently.

One of the ideas that we may suggest is to **visit the Parliament** one of the most remarkable buildings in the centre of Budapest.

The building stretches 268 meters in its length, along the Danube embankment. Ornamented with white neo-gothic turrets and arches, it forms the most outstanding landmark of the Pest side horizon. Statues of Hungarian monarchs and military commanders decorate the outer walls.

The unique interior design includes huge halls, over 12,5 miles of corridors, a 96-meter high central dome, and 691 rooms. When the Parliament is not in session, all these can be visited (cameras are allowed); The parts of the Parliament you can visit during the tour are as follows: Main Staircase, the Great Dome Hall, the Holy Crown and the Hungarian Coronation Jewels, the Parlor of the former House of the Lords and the Session Hall of the Upper House.

Evening at leisure. Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 9 – Sep 29 – Budapest (B, L)

Hungarian is one of only two European languages, which has its own word for 'wine' (bor) that is not derived from Latin. This means that the ancient Magyars already had contact with grapes and wine over a thousand years ago. The climate and the soil are perfect for wine making in Hungary and this small country embraces 22 wine regions, each with a different microclimate producing different tastes and styles.

In the 18th century Buda was an important center of wine making. Today, the ***wine growing region of Etyek-Buda*** *stretches south of Buda, with the small village of Etyek being one of the main wine producing areas. The climate is a little cooler here, which favors the production of white wines. The region is famous for making sparkling wines. While the best-known products on the market are the Törley champagnes, fresh, fragrant and elegant white wines are also produced here with increasing success.*

The leading grape varietal is Chardonnay followed by Savignon Blanc, Riesling, Szürkebarát (Pinot Gris) and Olaszrizling (Italian Riesling).

After breakfast, head off into the wine region of **Etyek-Buda.** Start your tour at **Etyeki Kúria** for a tour of the facility and sampling of a collection of their varietals. Then continue onto **Hernyák Vineyard,** located ion one of the most beautiful parts of Etyek, the Öreghegy (Old Hill), for further wine tasting and a delicious lunch at the winery.

http://etyekikuria.com/etyeki-kuria/ http://www.hernyak.hu/eng.html

Return to Budapest mid afternoon. Rest of the day and evening at leisure.

Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 10 – Sep 30 – Budapest - Sarvar (B,L,D)

The most famous town in Western Hungary has been a frequent destination for health travelers. Recognized as one of the Royal Spas of Europe, ***Bad Sarvar*** *is perfect place for a relaxing stay as well as active recreation. The town's most famous sight is the handsomely-renovated Nádasdy castle, which hosts numerous festivals, concerts and folk art fairs. Sárvár is also recognized for its arboretum, where 300 species of trees and shrubs can be seen. The view of centuries-old oaks, ashes, sycamores, black pines, Japanese acacias, rhododendrons and azaleas mixes with sculptures in the garden.*

After breakfast drive to the Hungarian spa town of Sarvar. Upon arrival to Sarvar, check-in and lunch at the hotel, the luxury Spirit Spa Hotel.

The 5-star Spirit Spa Hotel lies on the shores of one of the seven lakes of Bad Sárvár surrounded by beautiful forests and meadows and is only 15-minute-walk from the centre of the traditional spa town.

One of the unique spa hotels in Europe, the hotel offers an outstanding **spa and relaxation area of over 10.000 m²** with 22 pools and a large health, beauty and medical spa centre.

Fountains of waters originating from the womb of Mother Earth have been places with sacral healing powers of mankind for thousands of years. Most medical and therapeutic services are based on the world-famous mineral hot spring water of Bad Sárvár and The Spirit Hotel has its own mineral hot spring called **Spirit Mineral Hot Spring Water** : a 250 million years old source from a depth of 1,056 metres.

Emerging at a constant 46 degrees Celsius, the Spirit Mineral Hot Spring Water is ideal for traditional **balneo therapy** as well as for the latest **medical hydrotherapies**. All mineral hot spring pools are refilled on a daily basis and permanently supplied with fresh water from the spring and the water is 100% free of chemical substances.

" I have chosen my profession for life, and medicine constitutes both work and passion for me. I believe that everything is possible: everyone has to aim to achieve the harmony of body and soul.

I bring around thirty years' of experience as a qualified doctor of rheumatology and physiotherapy to the medical management of the Spirit Hotel. As the hotel's head physician, I am especially proud to be able to base our cures and treatments on two kinds of excellent quality thermal water. A wide range of musculoskeletal disorders are healed and eased through our knowledge and experience in our modern, well-equipped medical centre.

Our team of doctors formulate treatments customized to the current mental and physical condition of the patient. Straightforward, informal conversations and medical examinations carried out in a relaxed atmosphere add considerably to the effectiveness of the remedies".

Dr. Marianna Horváth
Chief physician at Spirit Hotel

In the afternoon -

Physicians will have a lecture on the therapeutic benefits of the mineral springs for arthritis from one of the doctors resident at the Spirit Spa wellness facility.

Non-Physicians – Free time to enjoy the facilities of the spa.

Evening at leisure. Overnight at Spirit Spa.

DAY 11 – Oct 1 – Sarvar - Vienna (B)

Vienna *- Opulent, historic, and able to charm even the most critical of travelers, Vienna is simply a must visit on any visit to Austria. The city offers a range of delights, from eye-catching buildings to alluring all night bars. Vienna is the largest city in Austria with a population of around 1.7 million people, and it serves as the political, cultural, and economic center of the country. It was during the Middle Ages that Vienna began its march towards becoming the cultural haven that it still is, as it quickly grew in importance as a center for music, the arts, science, and even cuisine. Thankfully, many of Vienna's most cherished historical structures survived both World Wars, and successful renovation efforts have helped to maintain their splendor.*

Morning time at leisure at the Spirit Spa and then drive to Vienna.

Upon arrival to Vienna you will enjoy a panoramic tour with a walking tour of the city afterwards.

The tour will give you an overall impression of the most significant historical sights of Vienna. Along the ***Ringstrasse*** *we show you numerous grand buildings, such as the* ***MAK****, the* ***State Opera House****, the magnificent* ***Museum of Fine Arts*** *with its world famous art treasures of the Habsburgs and the* ***Natural History Museum****, the cultural district the* ***Museums Quartier****, the* ***Hofburg*** *(the former Habsburg winter residence), the* ***Parliament****, the* ***City Hall*** *and the* ***Burgtheater.*** *We drive past the* ***Belvedere Palace*** *which houses the largest and most previous Gustav Klimt collection in the world as well as make a short stop to view the gardens and exterior of the* ***Schönbrunn Palace*** *(pictured right****)****, once the summer residence of the Habsburg family and home of Maria Theresia*

Evening at leisure. Overnight at Vienna

DAY 12 – Oct 2 – Vienna (B)

Physicians - professional visit of AKH – Allgemeines Krankenhaus Vienna, a general public hospital.

The **Vienna General Hospital** (**AKH**) is the university medical center of the city of Vienna, Austria. It is one of the largest hospitals in Austria and with 85-m (279-ft) height it is one of the tallest hospital buildings in the world. It is also the site of the Medical University of Vienna.

The history of the Vienna General Hospital goes back more than three hundred years. It came about as the result of the restructuring of the "Home for the Poor and Invalid", which was founded by Emperor Leopold I in 1693 and from 1694 on was located on the site between Alserstrasse, Spitalgasse and Garnisongasse. The home was partly opened in 1695, and in 1696 it housed more than 1,000 poor people. in 1994, the new hospital complex was opened but many of the old historic buildings still remain today.

At present, about 9,000 people are employed at the AKH. Of these, approximately 1,600 physicians and 4,500 allied health and nursing workers attend to patients. Annually, nearly 95,000 people are treated as inpatients, and another half-million attend the hospital's 384 outpatient clinics. Over 11,000 students are registered at the Medical University of Vienna.

http://www.akhwien.at/default.aspx?pid=80

Non-physicians - time to explore this amazing city independently. As well as visits to the various Vienna historical and cultural attractions, you can enjoy a range of dining experiences, and the shopping options here can satisfy hours on end. Or may be spend some time cruising down the River Danube.

Lunch at one of the local restaurants to experience the Austrian cuisine.

Rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Vienna.

DAY 13 – Oct 3 – Vienna - Durnstein - Český Krumlov (B, L)

After breakfast, leave for **Český Krumlov** with a stop en-route for a short tour and lunch at **Durnstein**.

Durnstein *is a small town in lower Austria in the Wachau Valley. It belongs to one of the most visited spots of this region, well-known for the wine growing area, picturesque landscape and cultural heritage.*

After short stroll through the town enjoying the scenery and the traditional architecture, lunch will be at one of the local restaurants.

After lunch continue driving, crossing the border to the Czech Republic, enjoying a delightful drive through the green Bohemia to the town of **Český Krumlov**.

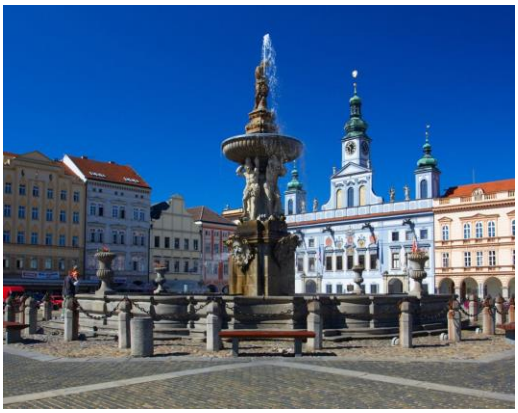
Český Krumlov *is a picturesque medieval town nestled on the banks of the Vltava. One of the most beautiful historical European towns, inscribed on the UNESCO list of world cultural and natural heritage sites, it is located in South Bohemia. The Gothic town of alchemists and stonemasons is crowned with a beautiful Renaissance Castle, full of mysterious magic and a lovely view of the Sumava Mountains. Lose yourself in the maze of proud Renaissance and Gothic houses, somber monasteries and dignified churches, with a new surprise and secret around every corner. The town seems like a dream that changes with each journey.*

Enjoy a guided walking tour of this quaint gem of a Medieval town - walk through the cobbled streets and arch covered footpaths, past colorful townhouses and centuries old inns, cafes and shops. It's as if you stepped out of this century into times gone by... Entrance and tour of the Castle is included.

Overnight in Český Krumlov.

DAY 14 – Oct 4 – Český Krumlov - České Budějovice - Prague (B, L)

In the morning there will be some time to spend at Český Krumlov, before leaving this ancient town and heading to the capital of Czech republic, Prague. On the way, stop for short sightseeing at **České Budějovice**, the largest city of the South-Bohemian region.



The natural starting point of our sightseeing tour of **České Budějovice** is the Square of Přemysl Otakar II. It is said to have the shape of a perfect square, but it is not really true - one side is 132 metres and the other one approximately 137 metres. The square was marked out soon after the town was established and it served especially as a place for holding markets, various fairs and of course executions. In the very centre of the square you can find another important symbol of České Budějovice - Samson‘s Fountain, a magnificent Baroque work. The square of Přemysl Otakar II is lined with 48 houses, all of which have an arbor.

Lunch will be at local restaurant in the historic core of České Budějovice.

After lunch continue to Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. Upon arrival, check in at the hotel.

Evening at leisure. Overnight in Prague.

Prague *is considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in world and belongs to the most visited cities in Europe. The historic center of Prague is included in the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites and with its exquisitely preserved historical center it is known as the Golden City or City of Hundred Spires. The city is situated on several hills on both sides of the Vltava river. Undoubtedly Prague has a long tradition of architectural variety; furthermore, its history has always been rich in arts, music and literature. For centuries, it has been a place where various nations' blood mixed, where national cultures. Prague not only lives off its great history, it is as a modern city in its own right with a variety of cultural and sporting events, trendy restaurants and lively shopping streets. The past meets the present, creating a unique case of coexistence….*

DAY 15 – Oct 5 – Prague (B, L)

Today, take a morning tour to learn about the city's history and see several of its major sites. The tour will start with a visit of the Prague Castle complex

*The **Prague Castle** is the most popular sight visited in Prague. It towers on an elevated hill on the left bank of the Vltava river; its distinctive panorama with St. Vitus' Cathedral dominates Prague skyline. In the course of the centuries, the castle complex has undergone numerous reconstructions; today it is the seat of the Czech president. As well the Cathedral, the Old Royal Palace, the Picture Gallery, there are also extensive gardens, from which there is a wonderful view of the city.*

The tour will continue walking via famous Neruda Street to Lesser Town, crossing the famous Charles Bridge to the Old Town with its many famous monuments finishing the tour at the Old Town Square area, admiring the Astronomical Clock.

Lunch will take place in one of the local restaurants at the Old Town area.

Afternoon free at leisure.

Early evening enjoy the Concert of Classical Music at **Municipal House.**

The Municipal House is the city's foremost Art Nouveau building, and one of the finest in Europe.

Inside is a magnificent complex of rooms, including the largest concert hall in Prague, an elegant French restaurant, a Czech beer hall style restaurant and exhibition rooms. It was opened in 1912, having been constructed on the site of the former Royal Court Palace and gained fame on the 28th October 1918 when the historic proclamation of the independent state of Czechoslovakia took place here. Classical concerts in the Smetana boast some of the largest orchestras to play the city and it is home to the Czech National Symphony Orchestra.

Overnight in Prague.

DAY 16 – Oct 6 – Prague (B, D)

In the morning -

Physicians - professional visit of Canadian Medical Center (private hospital in Prague).

The **Canadian Medical Center** is a private health care institution which combines the Canadian high level of services with the skills of Czech specialists in all areas of medicine. The origin of the current CMC dates back to the year1995 when the Canadian Medical Centre was established by a conglomerate of private Canadian health care institutes (MED-EMERG Inc.) in Ontario, Canada.

It was **the first private clinic in Prague** that offered the services of Czech and Canadian specialists. Today CMC has 100% Czech ownership and in the years 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 it was awarded the prize of "Czech 100 best" for the best health care institution of the year by Comenius as well as being the first private clinic in the Czech Republic to obtain a certificate of quality from the United Accreditation Commission.

The Center's main objective is that of **complex health care** with a team of general practitioners and paediatricians as well as specialists from various medical fields including ophtalmology, allergology, gynaecology and even alternative medical branches such as homeopathy or acupuncture.

http://www.cmcpraha.cz/en-US

Non-physicians: continue to explore the city with your local tour escort. Afternoon at leisure.

In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner and excursion at one of Prague's many traditional restaurant-brewery pubs.

Overnight in Prague.

DAY 17 - Oct 7 – Prague - Toronto (B)

Transfer to Prague airport for your return flight back to Canada (arrival in Toronto same day, Oct 7).

The hotel bases…

City	Hotel
Krakow (3 nights)	Holiday Inn Krakow City Centre (4*) https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/krakow/krkcc/hoteldetail
Tatranska Lomnice (1 night)	Grand Hotel Praha Tatranska Lomnice (4*) http://ghpraha.sk/en/
Budapest (4 nights)	Autograph Collection Boscolo Budapest (5*) http://budapest.boscolohotels.com/luxury-hotel-budapest
Sarvar (1 night)	Spirit Spa Sarvar (5*) http://www.spirithotel.hu/en
Vienna (2 nights)	Mercure Grand Biedermeier Vienna (4*) http://www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-5357-mercure-grand-hotel-biedermeier-wien/index.shtml
Cesky Krumlov (1 night)	Bellevue Cesky Krumlov (4*) http://www.bellevuehotelkrumlov.cz/en/
Prague (3 nights)	Hotel Majestic Plaza (4*) http://www.hotel-majestic.cz/en/hotel/

As detailed above, the majority of your accommodation will be in 4 and 5 star hotels – in the unlikely event that a hotel needs to be substituted it will be of a similar standard.

The price… Cdn $5,995 / person

(Early Booking Price valid until April 17, 2017 – save $500/person)

Pricing (exc. Insurance) / per person - Cdn$	Inc. Air from Toronto
Per person (double occupancy)	
- registrations up to April 17, 2017	$5,995
- registrations after April 17, 2017	$6,495
Single supplement	$1,470
Single share matching fee	$ 300 **
Transportation / hotel taxes and fees	$ 635
Academic program registration fee	$ 600 (per registrant)

** Single share matching fee – can't find a traveling partner but don't want to pay the single supplement? We'll keep our eyes open for similar clients and try and find you a compatible person to share a room with.

Upgrades are available on Air Canada to **Premium Economy and Business class** cabins (see our registration form for details).

We can also arrange **connecting flights** to Toronto on Air Canada from other Canadian cities (supplement applies).

CANADIAN $ PRICING !

Please note, unlike many programs offered by other companies which are quoted in US$ (and are also usually land only prices excluding air fare), **our prices remain in Canadian$** - and, with a premium now of around 35% (at February 2017) when paying in US$, this makes a significant difference.

COST EFFICIENT INVOICING !

For **invoicing** purposes re Academic Program registrants and their companions, we can also provide a separate invoice with the registrant's air cost plus 100% of the accommodation costs included in the registrant's invoice.

NEW ! - ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM

Our **online registration form** may be accessed via the direct link below -

https://fs22.formsite.com/Doctorsontour/EEURO1709BookingForm/index.html

REPEAT CUSTOMER DISCOUNT

If you have travelled with doctors-on-tour before, you are eligible for our Repeat Customer Discount. Simply deduct $100 /person for each separate tour that you have travelled with the company on up to a maximum of $300 /person (ie travelled on one previous tour, deduct $100; two tours, $200; three or more tours, $300). **Please note, this discount is subject to the payment (s) for the tour being made by cheque**. The discount is to be made from the final balance payment with the deposit amount being paid in full.

REGISTER BY APRIL 17, 2017 AND SAVE $1,000/COUPLE !!

Inclusions and Exclusions…

Inclusions -

- Flights from Toronto to Krakow, Poland and to Toronto from Prague, Czech Republic on Air Canada
- Private, modern, air conditioned coach transportation
- All meet and greet services and arrival and departure transfers
- 4 and 5 star hotel accommodation (15 nights)
- 15 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 5 dinners
- Comprehensive daily itineraries including escorted tours of local cultural sites and museums
- Academic program and tour of local medical facilities (Academic Program Certificate provided)
- Fully escorted program including services of local English speaking tour escort and cultural guides
- Hotel porterage

Exclusions -

- Beverages – unless specifically mentioned above
- Gratuities
- Local airport departure taxes and entry visas (at the time of writing (February 2017) there are no departure taxes payable and an entry visa is not required to enter any of the countries on the itinerary)
- Travel insurance – please note, **travel insurance (including medical and trip interruption coverage) is highly recommended** for this tour. Coverage is available through Doctors-on-Tour – please check for further details in our brochure (page 19)
- All items of a personal nature such as telephone / internet usage, laundry services etc

THIS PROGRAM HAS LIMITED CAPACITY AND WE ARE EXPECTING IT TO BECOME FULLY SUBSCRIBED QUICKLY. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND REGISTERING (WITH A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF $500 PER PERSON, PLUS APPLICABLE TRAVEL INSURANCE PREMIUM) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION

Misc information you need to know…

Travel documentation and visas

An entry visa is not required for Canadian citizens for any of the countries in this itinerary but your passport must have an expiry date no earlier than 3 months after your scheduled departure date from the country.

Mandatory vaccinations

None

Travel insurance information… Coverage available through Manulife Insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out travel insurance to protect you against the unexpected due to, in particular, limited provincial health care coverage afforded to Canadians while traveling overseas and the cancellation provisions inherent in your booking. We offer two insurance coverage options –

Non-medical Inclusive package - There are **significant inherent cancellation penalties** associated with your booking as detailed in our booking terms and conditions and this insurance package provides coverage for all monies paid for your trip if you should have to cancel due to medical, or other listed, reasons either relating to yourself or a member of your immediate family. It also covers you for trip interruption costs short notice return flight home etc) for medical reasons again, either relating to yourself or an immediate family member as well as flight and travel accident and baggage insurance.

All-Inclusive package – provides coverage for all the components in the non-medical package, plus unlimited health coverage while in the destination

Note, if you believe you may have coverage through your **credit card** we would strongly advise checking with the credit card company the actual coverage afforded to ensure it covers medical, trip cancellation and trip interruption as not all of these items are covered (or may only offer limited coverage as to trip duration or insured $amount in the event of a claim - sometimes as low as only $1,000 per person) by all kinds of cards.

"Cancel for any reason (CFAR)" coverage - NEW and at no additional cost !!

So long as you **purchase either of the two insurance policies above at the same time as your tour booking**, you are automatically entitled to this added benefit of CFAR coverage whereby, if you need to cancel your tour booking up to 14 days or more before departure **for any reason,** your policy will refund you up to a maximum of 50% of the cancellation penalties incurred. This is excellent peace of mind coverage to protect you against (50% of the) cancellation penalties incurred in a situation where the reason for cancellation is not one of the regular covered risks in your policy (ie it is essentially "change of mind" insurance).

Our insurance premiums (dependent upon your age at the time of purchasing insurance and your total tour costs) are below -

Total insurable costs ($/person)	NON-MEDICAL INCLUSIVE								ALL-INCLUSIVE PLAN							
Age >	0-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	0-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
4000 - 4500	345	353	396	438	496	734	848	1126	426	433	539	620	977	1216	1637	1719
4500 - 5000	372	380	429	476	539	799	913	1202	453	460	571	658	1021	1275	1713	1806
5000 - 5500	399	407	461	514	582	864	977	1278	480	487	604	696	1064	1335	1788	1892
5500 - 6000	426	434	494	552	625	929	1042	1353	507	514	636	733	1107	1394	1864	1979
6000 - 6500	453	461	526	590	669	994	1107	1429	534	541	669	771	1150	1454	1940	2065
6500 - 7000	480	488	558	627	712	1058	1172	1504	561	568	701	809	1193	1513	2015	2151
7000 - 7500	507	515	591	665	755	1123	1237	1580	588	595	733	847	1237	1572	2091	2238
7500 - 8000	534	542	623	703	798	1188	1301	1656	615	622	766	885	1280	1632	2166	2324
8000 - 8500	561	569	656	741	841	1253	1366	1731	642	649	798	922	1323	1691	2242	2411
8500 - 9000	588	596	688	779	885	1318	1431	1807	669	676	831	960	1366	1751	2318	2497
9000 - 9500	615	623	720	816	928	1382	1496	1882	696	703	863	998	1409	1810	2393	2583
9500 - 10000	642	650	753	854	971	1447	1561	1958	723	730	895	1036	1453	1869	2469	2670
10000 - 10500	669	677	785	892	1014	1512	1625	2034	750	757	928	1074	1496	1929	2544	2756
10500 - 11000	696	704	818	930	1057	1577	1690	2109	777	784	960	1111	1539	1988	2620	2843
11000 - 11500	723	731	850	968	1101	1642	1755	2185	804	811	993	1149	1582	2048	2696	2929
11500 - 12000	750	758	882	1005	1144	1706	1820	2260	831	838	1025	1187	1625	2107	2771	3015
12000 - 12500	777	785	915	1043	1187	1771	1885	2336	858	865	1057	1225	1669	2166	2847	3102
12500 - 13000	804	812	947	1081	1230	1836	1949	2412	885	892	1090	1263	1712	2226	2922	3188
13000 - 13500	831	839	980	1119	1273	1901	2014	2487	912	919	1122	1300	1755	2285	2998	3275
13500 - 14000	858	866	1012	1157	1317	1966	2079	2563	939	946	1155	1338	1798	2345	3074	3361
14000 - 14500	885	893	1044	1194	1360	2030	2144	2638	966	973	1187	1376	1841	2404	3149	3447
14500 - 15000	912	920	1077	1232	1403	2095	2209	2714	993	1000	1219	1414	1885	2463	3225	3534

For residents of Ontario, simply accept your choice of insurance (Non-medical Inclusive or All-Inclusive coverage) on our *online* registration form and we will apply the premium above on your invoice confirmation (if using our *pdf* registration form, enter the applicable premium from the above table when competing the registration form)

For residents of Canadian provinces other than Ontario, insurance regulations state that travel insurance should be taken out directly with Manulife Insurance, albeit through a direct web link hosted on our web site, ie you should purchase your travel insurance policy by clicking on the Manulife Insurance button in the "Useful Links and Files" section of our Myanmar & Bhutan web page within the Upcoming Programs section of www.DoctorsonTour.ca .

A detailed overview of coverage benefits and limitations of each insurance policy that we offer through Manulife may be found at -

www.doctorsontour.ca/manulife-travelinsuranceguide.php

Non Canadian residents should make their travel insurance arrangements independently, as our travel insurance provider, Manulife insurance, only allows for travel insurance coverage to be sold to Canadian residents.

Testimonials…

What our physicians have said about our previous educational escapes…

"Great hotel facilities, excellent service – an extremely enjoyable, and educational, week
Dr. Doug Wooster, Toronto – Chile, 2005

"Great company, well organized and interesting tours, educational lectures and great food (and wine….!) – Fantastic trip!"
Dr. Ray Martin, Toronto – Argentina, 2006

"Thanks for planning such an amazing trip. Our congenial group enjoyed so many rich experiences together and collected memories to last a lifetime. Each day was an adventure!
Andrea Maurice – Vietnam / Cambodia, 2007

"I want to express our appreciation for a wonderful trip. The tour operator and the guides were excellent and everything went very smoothly…. this was a tremendous trip which we will need to review again over the coming days to catalogue and appreciate all the places we visited and the marvelous things we saw.. Thanks again for all the hard work in putting the trip together with the memorable result that was achieved…
Dr. Rudy Hyles, Mississauga – Ecuador & The Galapagos, 2008

"Wonderful people! Wonderful places!"
Dr. Phil McGuire, Ottawa – Peru, 2009

"The organization and accommodation were both excellent. We were always looked after with consideration and provided with a wide variety of interesting activities and experiences. The guides were most helpful and informative. A wonderful tour!"
Dr. Michael Dales, Toronto - Ecuador & The Galapagos, 2009

"I do not have words to express my appreciation and admiration for the your hospitality and service provided by your company and your partners on the ground in India"
Dr. Sudhir Pandya – Northern India, 2009

"A wonderful trip. It was amazing to see so many different animals co-existing on the beautiful African plains. The Kenyan and Tanzanian people we met were gracious and welcoming.
Our host/trip manager was excellent - very bright, knowledgeable, good problem solver, great people skills - a delightful man who really made our trip memorable. Our guide/driver was also excellent - very knowledgeable, an excellent driver and keen to make our safari experience a good one. We had lots of fun and learned a lot from him.
I loved the parks and reserves - the Serengeti and Ngorongoro are absolutely amazing".
Andrea Maurice, Toronto – Kenya & Tanzania – March, 2010

"The guides throughout the trip were superb, well informed with excellent local knowledge and willing to discuss any topic! The visits to the local hospitals were excellent. A fantastic tour!"
Dr. Linda Stirk, Toronto - Ecuador & The Galapagos (and Peru), 2010

"We had a great visit to the Falls. Stefani was a very helpful guide. The hotel and facilities were fabulous. The tour overall was an exciting experience. Thanks to you both and Ian for the hard work and planning.
Drs. Hirsch and Indra Rastogi, Ancaster – Brazil, 2011

"In addition to exploring the fantastic sights of Northern India, our group visited local hospitals and clinics to learn more about how medicine is practiced in India as well as in the SOS Children's village in Jaipur and the Mother Teresa charity Mission in Agra" - Dr. Serge Puksa, Northern India, 2011

"We found this tour to be a wonderful adventure… even more than we had anticipated. The planning and attention to detail on the ground ensured we had a comprehensive introduction to the many wonders of Ecuador. I will definitely consider participating in another program and will be certain to share details with my colleagues"
Dr. Alison Kelford, Oakville - Ecuador & the Galapagos, 2011

“The trip surpassed all my expectations. The country itself was far more interesting than I thought and the tour itself was very well organized. The wineries were a treat and the physicians and theIr spouses were lots of fun. I would be happy to do another trip! “
Dr. Steven Traplin, Guelph – Spain Gourmet tour, 2011

"Spain greatly surpassed my expectations, offering wonderful gastronomic experiences, lavished with outstanding wines and extremely hospitable people with a culture and history that is as rich as deep. Fernando Garcia, through his many connections, was able to allow us access to exclusive vineyards , where we were submerged in to the local cuisine and regaled with their finest wines".
Dr. Peter Bloch, Oakville – Spain Gourmet tour, 2011

“Our guide was excellent, enthusiastic and knowledgeable. Cooking classes were good and the hotels were excellent”
Dr. Barbara Flanagan, Charlottetown – Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia, 2012

"A great idea to be able to combine the two countries in one visit as it allows one to compare and contrast. The chance to meet with local physicians in both private and public hospitals provided an opportunity to experience health care outside of Canada"
Dr. Edo Teku, Toronto - Chile, Argentina and Patagonia Cruise, 2012

“Excellent! Loved the trip and well worth it. Life changing experience, excellent speakers and very well organized. Met some great people and will keep in touch for future trips. Will definitely book another doctors-on-tour trip in the future”
Dr. Janel Gracey, London – Bali, 2012

“A quick personal note to tell you how much we enjoyed our trip to Spain & Portugal. The whole agenda was well planned and well carried out. The winery visits and dinners were amazing, we learned so much about the history and making of Port.”
Dr. Blair Fraser, Guelph – Spain & Portugal, 2012

“We had a magical time in Machu Picchu - such a spiritual time at day break - our guide was great! Many thanks for the fabulous trip - memorable and well organized. Your company does such a great job and such an opportunity for us, and what a great group of people to share such an amazing trip with”.
Dr. Paul Bates, London – Ecuador & the Galapagos, Peru 2012

“What an amazing trip this was ! Your company did such a fantastic job – well organized with wonderful support staff – everything left on time, great food, weather & traveling companions – and (our guide) Gonzalo was the best ! Thank you very much for such an unforgettable adventure”.
Jack & Lore Brown, London - Ecuador & the Galapagos, 2012

“I have been fortunate to enjoy four trips with doctors-on-tour since 2009 - to Ecuador, Vietnam/Cambodia/Laos, India and Bali. All these tours were wonderful. Well-organized, excellent accommodations, top notch guides, remarkable CME experiences that broaden one's outlook on medicine and really great leaders of the tours. You should seriously consider taking one of these exotic trips. Beats lying on a beach!”
Dr. Linda Rapson, Toronto – 2013

“We enjoyed our extension to the UAE and saw an amazing amount in a short time. Our guide was very helpful, informative and pleasant and we appreciated how he was able to inform us about the country, it’s people and customs. Excellent !”
Drs Christopher & Margaret Ibey, Parry Sound, On. – United Arab Emirates, 2013

“The whole trip was wonderful and very well organized. We appreciated the advance preparation information packages. The hotel accommodation was excellent and the guides provided a lot of background information in Indian culture and society which made the trip even more valuable as a learning experience. We enjoyed all of it – including meeting Dr. Peter, & Mary, Bloch (Group Medical Director) and the great people in the group!”
Dr. Ron Eliosoff, Ottawa - South India, 2013

“Excellent trip – hotels, guides, food and company and we saw such wonderful sites.
Dr. Martin and Eileen McIntyre, Brantford - Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos, 2013

“We had a wonderful trip. It was such an interesting mix of people that we laughed all the way through - an amazing experience and a fabulous time. The Pantanal was awesome and we also totally loved the old colonial town of Paraty. We enjoyed ourselves so much we are thinking of signing up for another one soon. Thanks again - you did a wonderful job - it was a dream”.
Dyana Driscoll, Toronto – Brazil, 2013

"I was extremely pleased with my second trip through Doctors-on-Tour to Kenya & Tanzania - the tour was one of the most amazing things I have experienced!"
Dr. Kerri McGuire, Ottawa - Kenya & Tanzania, 2013

"Fantastic experience! Every detail to perfection."
Dr. Les Marien, Orangeville, On. - Spain Gourmet, 2013

"Had a great time! Very well organized"
Dr. Yusuf Januwala, Ipswich, Queensland, Australia - Ecuador (Galapagos) & Peru, 2013

"Our guide was amazing - so professional and knowledgeable. Great itinerary - Well done !"
Dr. Susan Smith, Frederickton, N.B - South Africa, 2014

"I want to give you some feedback on our amazing trip to South Africa. Our guide was exceptional; lunch at La Petite Ferme was a highlight, great food, wine and scenery; in Swaziland, the glass factory was very good the candle factory was great; Kapama River (Game) Lodge - amazing ! Soweto - great ! South African Airlines were great to travel with friendly service and, overall, it was a great trip"
Dr. Steve and Marg Szarka, Hamilton, On. - South Africa, 2014

"We had a wonderful trip. Places we stayed during the tour were all very nice and every one had a good time. Your local tour manager was wonderful, extremely helpful and very well organized. Thanks again for all your help"
Dr. Kumar Banerjee, Vancouver, B.C. - South India, 2014

"We felt the tour is one of the best (CME tours) we have been on. We keep missing the great Chilean wines and Argentinian beef. Right sized group and great company. CME tours were interesting and informative. Our guides were good and I enjoyed learning about the country from their comments".
Dr. Eduardo Aenlle, Fallbrook, California - Chile, Argentina and Patagonia Cruise, 2014

"Let me commend your team for this most excellent adventure. And your group leaders for this tour, Lorna and Ashley (D'Silva) have done an amazing job - they deserve a tremendous vote of appreciation".
Dr. Fred Engle, Toronto, On. - Chile, Argentina and Patagonia Cruise, 2014

"It was an amazing trip thru Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos. It exceeded all our expectations. Our group leaders were gracious hosts. Their thirst for adventure and generosity of spirit added so much to our trip. The group we traveled with were a great bunch and we hope to cross paths in the future. The CMEs were informative and I enjoyed seeing the varied medical sites in each country"
Dr. Tom Stark, Timaru, New Zealand - Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos, 2014

"Macchu Picchu and Galapagos were the highlights. Wonderful guides, very well organized and enjoyable. Tour leader did a great job !"
Dr. Michael Garner, Montreal, QC - Ecuador (Galapagos) & Peru, 2014

"Our guide was absolutely fabulous - she took superb care of us and added so much to the trip through her knowledge of New Zealand history, flora and fauna. Peter and Mary (Bloch) were wonderful medical leaders - calm, helpful, interesting and vivacious- kudos to them."
Drs. Peter & Louise Bobechko, Toronto, On. - New Zealand, 2015

"I really enjoyed this tour - Rajasthan and Agra are beautiful. Our tour escort, Kumar, has great people skills, and has been very attentive to everyone's needs - Himanshu has been an excellent guide and is very knowledgeable. We would love to return to India on your South India program"
Dr. Rajalaxmi Wong, North Bay, On. - North India, 2015

"The trip to South Africa was awesome - I would rank it up there with my favorite so far with Doctors on Tour. The people in our group were wonderful - it was a total joy and I can see now why South Africa is one of your favorite destinations"
Dyana Driscoll, Toronto, On.- South Africa, 2015

"Bob and I enjoyed the time shared with each of you in Bali,
My expectations for the tour were met and exceeded .It really was a small window into the Balinese culture.
To (our group leaders) Bonnie and Mel, Thanks! Hope this isn't our last tour.
You all were interesting and gracious, Terima Kasih. Salamat Jalan"
Dr. Bob & Evelyn Lawler, Gibsonia, PA - Bali 2015

"We had a fabulous experience, enjoying a fun group of travelers and loving the beautiful art and history of Spain. The warm, friendly and family culture feeling of Spain was memorable and a testimony to the connections of Chef Fernando Garcia".
Dr. Gerry Mittler, Vancouver, BC - Spain Gourmet, September 2015

"Thank you for your excellent guidance during our trip to Ecuador. the trip was very good, and the logistics and handling of the group were excellent"
Dr. David Spence, London, On - Ecuador (including the Galapagos and Amazon), 2015

"The trip was exceptional in every way. Our guide was more than just a tour guide - the knowledge she shared was detailed and interesting - what an ambassador for her country ! The high level of care that she offered was above and beyond anything that we have ever experienced. We thoroughly enjoyed every minute of this trip ! Thank you !"
Dr. Les Marien, Orangeville, On - New Zealand, 2016

"An enjoyable and enlightening tour"
Dr. Brian Davies, Sarnia, On. - China, 2016

"A great exposure to Balinese culture and the spiritual aspects behind their healing philosophy"
Dr. Karyn Klapecki, Toronto, On. - Bali, 2016

"A most excellent tour escort - genial, helpful, very knowledgeable and organized. Very well chosen sights and experiences"
Dr. Michael Garner, Montreal, Qc. - South Africa, 2016

Doctors-on- Tour – Ecuadorian Amazon

Doctors-on-Tour - India

Doctors-on-Tour – Spain

Doctors-on-Tour - Chile & Argentina

Doctors-on-Tour – South East Asia

Doctors-on-Tour – China

The fine print…

The Terms & Conditions contained herein are the terms under which Doctors-on-Tour and on-Tour (being operating brands of Britcan International Consulting (B.I.C.) Inc. and together, for the purposes of these Terms & Conditions, being referred to collectively as DOT/OT/BIC) accepts reservations. Our liabilities are limited. When you make a payment of deposit and/or final payment, it is also an acknowledgement of receipt and acceptance of these terms and conditions.

RESERVATIONS & DEPOSIT Early reservations are recommended to guarantee your reservation as several of the accommodation providers with which we make arrangements on your behalf have limited capacity. All services are strictly on a request basis, both for air travel and land requirements and subject to availability of seats and hotel/lodge/camp rooms and cruise cabins. A guaranteed non-refundable deposit of $500 per person ($600 per person for programs which include a cruise component), together with the applicable travel insurance premium, is required with your reservation request. Tour extensions and, where applicable, seat upgrades in aircraft cabin categories higher than economy, are also subject to additional non-refundable deposits as detailed in each specific program's brochure. Reservations made for travel within 95 days of the travel date will require full payment at the time of reservation. Certain non-standard arrangements may require higher deposit and the same will be advised to you at the time of booking. Please be aware that some airfares (outside of our group air blocks) require full payment at time of booking and will be advised to you accordingly at the time of your booking confirmation.

FINAL AND/OR BALANCE DUE PAYMENT: Guaranteed payment of all balances due is no later than 95 days prior to departure date. If payment of the balance due is not received by the stipulated date, we reserve the right to cancel your reservation without refund of deposit.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS: Visa & MasterCard credit cards are accepted as form of payment. We do accept any other kinds of cards, including either American Express or Diners Club. Your online authorization by way of our Online Registration Form acts as your approval for the credit card provided as part of your registration to be charged for both the initial deposit (and travel insurance premium, where applicable) as well as the future balance payments on the date they become due, together with any other charges due relating to the booking that have been requested by you in writing (including by current or future electronic mail communication). For registrations that are not received via our Online Registration Form, but instead are forwarded to DOT/OT/BIC by mailing, faxing or e-mailing a scanned completed copy of our (non-online) Registration Form, your signature on such (non-online) Registration Form verifies your approval for your credit card to be charged. No services will be provided without receipt of either the authorized Online Registration Form or the duly signed (non-online) Registration Form. Third party payments may have restrictions.

CANCELLATIONS & CHANGES: The deposit amounts (for both the main tour and any optional extensions reserved) are non-refundable. Cancellation penalties for bookings cancelled by the client after the final balance due date (95 days before departure) are as follows: 95 – 61 days before departure – 25% of total price paid; 60 – 31 days – 50% of total price paid; 30 days or less – 100% (Notwithstanding the foregoing, any domestic Canada flight purchased as an additional service to the advertised package is 100% non-refundable irrespective of the date of cancellation). If payments are not received by their due dates, we reserve the right to cancel the booking without further notice. There will be no refund for unused land arrangements after departure from North America. In the event of the cancellation by DOT/OT/BIC of any or all components of the travel services offered herein, DOT/OT/BIC will have no responsibility beyond the refund of all monies received from the client, which will be deemed to constitute full settlement. Individual airfares purchased outside of our groups air blocks are subject to different rules and cancellation fees. Some airfares may be non-refundable once the booking is confirmed regardless of when it was made. Details will be provided at the time of booking confirmation.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: To protect against cancellation charges, we strongly recommend purchasing Cancellation Protection and Travel Interruption Insurance. In the event of illness, medical and hospital expenses are the traveler's responsibility and no refunds will be made, partial or total, for the purchased tour. We strongly urge that you purchase either the Non-Medical insurance (ie Cancellation Protection and Travel Interruption Insurance) or Deluxe Insurance (Non-Medical coverage plus Health coverage) packages offered by our DOT/OT/BIC through Manulife Insurance.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION, VISA & OTHER IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS: A Canadian citizen must be in possession of a passport that must remain valid for a minimum of 6 months from the date of conclusion of visit to China. Tour participants must also ensure that they comply with all visa and health requirements of countries they intend to visit.
A tourist entry visa is required for entry into China and the tourist entry visa must be obtained prior to departure from Canada

Non Canadian citizens may have different requirements. It is the passenger's responsibility to ensure that all his or her passport, visa and mandatory health vaccination requirements for entry into the country are met and the cancellation penalties referred to above will apply if a passenger is not allowed into the destination country (or determines in advance of departure that he will not be allowed into the destination country) due to lack of proper documentation including, but not limited to, passport, visa, customs, health or currency provisions required by the destination country thus preventing him from participate in the tour.

Final tour documents consisting of detailed tour itinerary, vouchers, and airline tickets will be forwarded approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure subject to receipt of final payment .

PRICING POLICY : Accommodations and services at the destination are contracted in local currencies and/or US Dollars. Due to frequent fluctuations in currency exchange (as well as other factors beyond our control including, but not limited to, fuel costs, transportation taxes and airport and local surcharges), prices are subject to change with or without notice and surcharges may apply for which we would endeavor to inform you as soon as possible. However, once we have received your final payment we would either waive any price increase or allow you to cancel your booking without penalty.

UNUSED PORTION OF THE TOUR: No refund will be made for any unused accommodations, missed meals, transportation segments, cruise portions, sightseeing tours or any other service. Such unused items are neither refundable nor exchangeable.

ACCOMMODATIONS: We use a variety of accommodations on our programs with many of our properties specifically chosen to reflect the local style and culture of the region. Our rating system reflects the majority of the accommodations throughout each program but some variety can occur. Ratings are based not only on room quality but also on facilities and location. Accommodation ratings in overseas destinations outside of Canada are an arbitrary measure and their definition from country to country can differ slightly as well as not always being consistent between individual properties in that particular destination nor are they necessarily comparable to an equivalent rating in North America. Rooms are assigned by the respective supplier(s) on a run-of-the-house basis, in category (ies) as specified in the itinerary and the right is reserved to substitute properties/hotels/lodges/camps/cruise/ships as conditions warrant such change for reasons beyond our control. Accommodations on twin occupancy basis, is provided at the properties/hotels/lodges/camps/cruise ships as specified or similar. Single room supplements apply to persons occupying sole use of a room/cabin but travelling with other passengers on the same tour and sharing transport cost on transfers, game drives, coach tours, sightseeing and excursions. Quoted single room rate does not necessarily mean single occupancy of a double room, as several of the establishments offered have especially designed single occupancy units.

SINGLE PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TOGETHER: If you are travelling with a companion and each paying separately the regular each of two double sharing accommodation rate and your companion decides to cancel, the remaining travelling passenger will be responsible for either finding a replacement travelling companion to take the cancelled passenger's place or must pay the single supplement and travel on a single basis.

MEALS & BEVERAGES: Meals as included on our itineraries are either buffet meals and/or table d'hôte. Meals ordered through room service are not included and must be paid directly to the establishment. Alcoholic beverages, soft drinks, and bottled water are included only where indicated on the itinerary. Unless specifically mentioned in your itinerary, all drinks (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic) are to purchased and paid directly to the establishments.

OPTIONAL TOURS, EXCURSIONS AND TRIP EXTENSIONS: It is our intent to operate any Optional Extensions on a private group basis. However, should the number of participants be of an insufficient level, we reserve the right to either **-**
add a surcharge to the previously stated selling price to be able to still offer the extension on a private basis or
operate any individual tour on a shared basis with other non-group participants or
cancel the tour and provide a full refund of all monies paid.
No refunds can be provided for cancellation of any tour by the client while in the destination.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: While we will make every effort to accommodate special requests, eg., room/cabin locations, adjoining rooms, non-smoking rooms, bed preferences, special dietary meal requests, these cannot be guaranteed and DOT/OT/BIC cannot be held responsible if such requests cannot be fulfilled. Requests for upgrading rooms/cabins are subject to additional charges. Any deviations to the standard program arrival and departure flight dates should be notified to us by separate e-mail at the time of booking and are subject to availability and also any applicable flight class supplement.

DOCUMENT DELIVERY: Your travel documents will be sent to you approximately 3 weeks prior to departure. For bookings received within 3 weeks of departure, express delivery of documents will require a courier delivery fee of $30 to cover extra handling and processing. Additional courier charges will apply for all residents outside of Canada, irrespective of when the booking is made. Additional delivery charges will apply for clients residing outside of North America.

CONSUMER PROTECTION: DOT/OT/BIC are licensed under the Ontario Government Ministry of Consumer & Corporate Relations, Travel Industry Act 1974, Registration No. 50009110. The Act is administered by the Travel Industry Council of Ontario (TICO), the government regulated body which is responsible for enforcing and monitoring the Travel Industry Act, including the protection of advance monies paid to it's registrants by consumers. More information about TICO is available at **http://www.tico.on.ca/**

NOTICE TO TRAVELLERS: Canadians enjoy a living standard which is among the highest in the world. In other countries, the uninterrupted supply of water and electricity, local health conditions, levels of security and standards of food and beverages may sometimes differ from those enjoyed at home. Illness or inconvenience resulting from the services provided or omitted at the destination are outside the reasonable control of DOT/OT/BIC who bear no responsibility for such illness or inconvenience. DOT/OT/BIC cannot accept responsibility for the behaviour of other guests/groups nor the unlikely event of the withdrawal of services or facilities due to local cultural and political events or holidays.

FORCE MAJEURE: DOT/OT/BIC shall not be liable for any claims, losses, damages, costs, expenses, delays or loss of enjoyment, of any nature or kind whatsoever, resulting from events beyond our or a supplier's reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, strikes, lockouts or other labour disputes or disruptions, wars, blockades, insurrections, riots, earthquakes, weather conditions, floods or acts or restraints imposed by government authorities.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES : DOT/OT/BIC makes arrangements with airlines, tour operators, ground handlers, hotels/lodges, cruise lines, car rental companies & other independent parties to provide you with the travel services and other services you purchase. Although we take care in selecting these suppliers, we have no control over them and, therefore, cannot be responsible for their acts or omissions. In the unlikely event that a hotel / lodge / cruise ship described in this brochure is not available we reserve the right to provide an alternate hotel / lodge / cruise ship of the equivalent standard. We also reserve the right to substitute another airline if the particular airline described in this brochure is not available.

The travel services provided are subject to the applicable provincial Travel Industry Acts and Regulations and are subject to the conditions imposed by these suppliers and their liability is limited by their tariffs, conditions of carriage, tickets and vouchers and international conventions and agreements.

DOT/OT/BIC shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury, whether physical or mental, or to property, resulting from any delay, substitution or deficiency of quality of equipment or service, or any act, omission, negligence or commission of any party supplying any of the services or accommodation herein, its agents, servants, employees, subcontractors or for any claims for such loss, damage, or injury, whether physical or mental, arising therefrom, or from any cause that arises by reason of actions of parties other than DOT/OT/BIC. In the event that it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to DOT/OT/BIC. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passengers as members of the tours. DOT/OT/BIC can assume no responsibility for lost tickets or coupons. The liability of DOT/OT/BIC for any loss, damage or injury, whether physical or mental, arising from its own acts, omissions or negligence, is limited to the price of the services purchased.