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Professional Advancement Escape

## CME & CULTURAL TOUR OF EASTERN EUROPE

SEPTEMBER 23 – OCTOBER 8, 2021

### The Organizers...

Dr Lorna D'Silva, Mississauga, Ontario >

Dr. Lorna D'Silva is a Family Physician who graduated from the University of Toronto and has been practicing in Oakville and Etobicoke for many years as well as being a consultant to several Pharmaceutical companies. She is an avid world traveler having visited most of Europe, Africa, the Americas and the Far East as well as being involved in missionary trips to Kenya and Peru. Dr. D'Silva has been a speaker at overseas medical educational programs and has a track record of presenting, planning and co-chairing several successful and accredited programs including the weekly Halton Peel Family Physicians Educational Program. This is Dr. D'Silva's ninth venture with Doctors-on-Tour having previously led successful CME, cultural and ecological tours to North and South India, Ecuador & the Galapagos, Chile & Argentina, South Africa, New Zealand, Spain and Bhutan.



### 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, Morocco, South Africa, Zanzibar, Kilimanjaro climb), India, Bhutan, China, Japan, South East Asia (Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos & Bali), Malaysia/Singapore, New Zealand and Europe (Eastern Europe, Iceland, Spain).**

Additional information, including detailed program brochures downloadable in pdf format and recent testimonials, can be found at [www.doctorsontour.ca](http://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).

Contact us at -

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toll free: 1-855-DOC-TOUR (362-8687)

fax: 1-888-612-1459

e: [info@doctorsontour.ca](mailto:info@doctorsontour.ca)

## 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 –

<https://www.poland.travel/en>

<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 University in Krakow** - professional visit to learn about the medical system in Poland including a **presentation on treatment on COPD** (treats asthmatic children)
- **Academic Session** in Budapest with Canadian and local speakers
- **Spirit Spa** wellness facility (Bad Sarvar) - Tour of Wellness Facility to learn about the **therapeutic benefits of the mineral springs** for arthritis/rheumatology
- **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 on this program, Dr. Lorna D'Silva (Tel: 905-990-0355) [lorna.dsilva4@gmail.com](mailto:lorna.dsilva4@gmail.com), ) directly.

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

## Tour highlights ...

- Experience the cultures of Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Austria all in one tour
- Marvel at the architectural treasures of the Old Town and Wawel Hill in the former Polish capital of Krakow
- Explore the labyrinth of tunnels in the Wieliczka Salt Mine - a UNESCO site since 1978
- Sample local wines and cuisine in a traditional Hungarian wine cellar in Budapest
- Pamper yourself in the hot mineral springs of a luxury spa in Bad Sarvar
- Revel in Vienna's extraordinary cultural opulence
- Immerse yourself in the cultural diversity of Prague - from a Classical Music concert to a farewell dinner at a traditional restaurant-brewery pub

## The itinerary...

### DAY 1 – Sep 23 - Depart Toronto

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

### DAY 2 – Sep 24 - 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.*

Evening arrival in 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.

Dinner will be at a local restaurant in Krakow.

Overnight in Krakow.



### DAY 3 – Sep 25 – 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. **Dinner at Miod Molina Sep 23 or 24**

### DAY 4 – Sep 26 – Krakow (B, L)

**Physicians** – In the morning, visit to the **University Children's Hospital of Cracow (UCH)** to learn about the medical system in Poland including a presentation on treatment on COPD (treats asthmatic children)

<http://www.szpitalzdrowia.pl/o-szpitalu/english-info/>

**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 5 – Sep 27 – 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. Lomnický štít (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 Lomnický 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 Lomnica (located under famous Lomnický štít). Arrival to your hotel and check-in.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel.



## DAY 6 - Sep 28 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 29 – Budapest (B, L)



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 including having a delicious casual lunch at one of the several stops along the way. 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!

Overnight in Budapest.

## DAY 8 – Sep 30 – Budapest (B)

### Physicians - Morning Academic Session 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 Andrásy 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 – Oct 1 – 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 m<sup>2</sup>** 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** - Tour of Wellness Facility to learn about the therapeutic benefits of the mineral springs for arthritis/rheumatology

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

Evening at leisure. Overnight at Spirit Spa.

#### DAY 10 – Oct 2 – 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 Theresa.





Evening at leisure. Overnight at Vienna

#### DAY 11 – Oct 3 – 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.akhwienn.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 maybe spend some time cruising down the River Danube.

Afternoon and evening at leisure for all participants.

Overnight in Vienna.

#### DAY 12 – Oct 4 – 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.

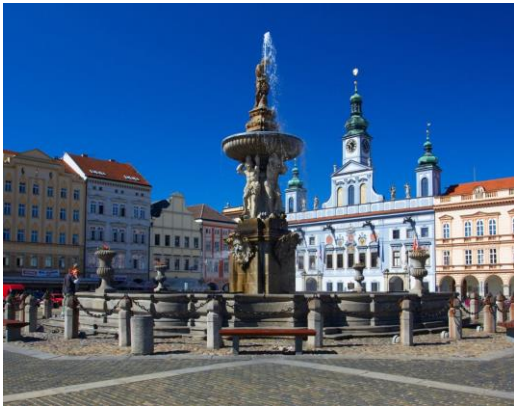


Enjoy a guided walking tour of this quaint gem of a Medieval town - walk through the cobbled streets and arch covered footpaths, past colorful townhouses and centuries old inns, cafes and shops. It's as if you stepped out of this century into times gone by... Entrance and tour of the Castle is included.

Evening at leisure. Overnight in Český Krumlov.

#### DAY 13 – Oct 5 – 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 14 – Oct 6 – 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 take a stroll through town to enjoy a Classical Music Concert at Klementinum in the Baroque Mirror Chapel – "Grand Masters in Old Prague". The world famous Prague Klementinum concerts are amongst the largest chamber music concert series in the world with the unique atmosphere of the 560 years old Klementinum and soloists performing for you enchanting masterpieces of the great masters of music including the works of Bach, Mozart, Verdi and many more famous composers.

<http://www.klementinum.com/en/>





Overnight in Prague.

### DAY 15 – Oct 7 – 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 year 1995 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 pediatricians as well as specialists from various medical fields including ophthalmology, allergology, gynecology and even alternative medical branches such as homeopathy or acupuncture.

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

Non-physicians: free time to continue to explore the city. Afternoon at leisure for all participants.

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

Overnight in Prague.





**DAY 16 - Oct 8 – Prague - Toronto (B)**

Transfer to Prague airport for your return flight back to Canada (arrival in Toronto same day, Oct 8).

**The hotel bases...**

City	Hotel
Krakow (3 nights)	Holiday Inn Krakow City Centre (4*) <a href="https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/krakow/krkcc/hoteldetail">https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/krakow/krkcc/hoteldetail</a>
Tatranska Lomnica (1 night)	Grand Hotel Praha Tatranska Lomnica (4*) <a href="http://ghpraha.sk/en/">http://ghpraha.sk/en/</a>
Budapest (3 nights)	Hotel Continental (4*) <a href="https://continentalhotelbudapest.com/">https://continentalhotelbudapest.com/</a>
Sarvar (1 night)	Spirit Spa Sarvar (5*) <a href="http://www.spirithotel.hu/en">http://www.spirithotel.hu/en</a>
Vienna (2 nights)	Hotel Erzerzog Rainer Wien (4*) <a href="https://www.schick-hotels.com/en/hotel-erzherzog-rainer/index.html">https://www.schick-hotels.com/en/hotel-erzherzog-rainer/index.html</a>
Cesky Krumlov (1 night)	Hotel Old Inn (4*) <a href="http://www.hoteloldinn.cz/default-en.html">http://www.hoteloldinn.cz/default-en.html</a>
Prague (3 nights)	Grand Hotel Bohemia (4*) <a href="https://www.grandhotelbohemia.cz/en/">https://www.grandhotelbohemia.cz/en/</a>

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

**The price... Cdn \$6,995 / person**

**(Early Booking Price valid until April 5, 2021 – save \$500/person)**

**Pricing (exc. Insurance) / per person - Cdn\$**

**Inc. Air from Toronto**

Per person (double occupancy)	
- registrations up to April 5, 2021	\$6,995
- registrations after April 5, 2021	\$7,495
Single supplement	\$1,480
Single share fee	\$ 300 **
Transportation / hotel taxes and fees	\$ 735
Academic program registration fee	\$ 800 (per registrant)

\*\* Single share 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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 30% (at February 2021) when paying in US\$, this makes a significant difference.

#### ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM

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

<https://fs22.formsite.com/Doctorsontour/EEURO2109BookingForm/index.html>

Full program information may also be found at –

<http://www.doctorsontour.ca/cme-programs-eastern-europe-upcoming-2109.php>

**REGISTER BY APRIL 5, 2021 AND SAVE \$1,000/COUPLE !!**

## Inclusions and Exclusions...

### Inclusions -

- Flights from Toronto to Krakow, Poland and to Toronto from Prague, Czech Republic
- Private, modern, air conditioned coach transportation
- All meet and greet services and arrival and departure transfers
- 4 and 5 star hotel accommodation (14 nights)
- 14 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 portage
- Hosting by our Group Leader and Medical Director, Dr. Lorna D'Silva and her husband, Ashley

### Exclusions -

- Any meals or activities not mentioned above
- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone / internet usage, drinks)
- Gratuities for local tour escort / guides and drivers
- Local airport departure taxes and entry visas (at the time of writing (February 2021) 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 with Manulife Insurance – please check for further details in our brochure (page 18)

**OUR PROGRAMS HAVE LIMITED CAPACITY !**

**WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND REGISTERING (WITH A DEPOSIT OF \$500 PER PERSON, PLUS APPLICABLE TRAVEL INSURANCE PREMIUM) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION.**

**REGISTER BY APRIL 5, 2021 AND SAVE \$1,000/COUPLE !!**

**BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE – LIFETIME TRANSFERABLE DEPOSITS !!**

Full details of our Travel and Book with Confidence policy at [www.doctorsontour.ca/covid-19-travel-with-confidence.php](http://www.doctorsontour.ca/covid-19-travel-with-confidence.php)



## Misc information you need to know...

### Travel documentation and visas

An entry visa is not required for Canadian or USA 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.

Citizens of other countries should check their requirements at <https://cibtvisas.ca/>

### Mandatory vaccinations

None

In the new COVID world, you should plan to bring -

- Hand sanitizer
- Anti-bacterial wipes
- Face mask (wearing a mask will likely be the expected norm at this stage, whether in sites or indoors)
- Personal refillable water bottle

### COVID-19

We recognize that, for the foreseeable future at least, COVID-19 has significantly changed the travel experience. We are continuously monitoring the developing situation in all of our worldwide destinations through guidance provided by the PHAC, CDC and WHO and we have been working with our exclusive local destination partners to ensure that travel to any destination that we offer is able to re-commence as safely as possible. Our new **Travel with Confidence** policy features new health and safety procedures from the moment you arrive to the moment you leave, with as little disruption as possible from your overall travel experience and this policy will evolve as time goes on and as we continue to monitor the ongoing situation in each destination

In addition to a Wellness Declaration Form that we will require you to complete and submit before joining your tour, each destination will have their own health screening requirements for entry. Entry screening will likely involve completing a COVID-19 questionnaire upon arrival at Immigration and may include the requirement of evidence of recent negative COVID-19 test results, temperature screening and/or proof of vaccination against COVID-19. It is likely that proof of medical insurance (including for COVID-19) may also be an entry requirement. A particular destination's requirements may obviously be subject to change as each country's specific situation evolves and we are monitoring each of our planned destinations in order that we may provide you with the most specific up to date information which will be provided to you prior to your tour balance payment being due.

Complete details of our Travel with Confidence policy including a list of our **COVID-19 health & safety protocols**, flexible booking conditions and Q&A regarding travelling during COVID-19 may be found at -

<http://www.doctorsontour.ca/covid-19-travel-with-confidence.php>

## 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 the following insurance coverage options through Manulife Insurance, one of Canada's leading insurance providers –

### NON-MEDICAL INCLUSIVE PLAN

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 cancellation penalties 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 PLAN

This plan provides coverage for all the components in the Non-medical Inclusive plan, plus unlimited health coverage while in the destination

### "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).

### PREMIUM PROTECTION PLAN ("PPP")

As a third option, Manulife is now also offering a new enhanced travel insurance policy, their **Premium Protection Plan ("PPP")**. This is Manulife's most comprehensive coverage, providing all the same types of coverage as the All-Inclusive plan (above) but with higher covered amounts in most areas. It is also a simplified policy in so much that, whereas the All-Inclusive plan and Non-medical Inclusive plan (above, and as is the case with most insurance company travel policies) have a list of specific covered events, the **PPP offers cancellation coverage for any unexpected and unforeseen event** (ie., any event, situation or circumstance that is beyond your control that prevents you from travelling) with only a few exclusions that apply.

An overview of the PPP may be found by clicking [here](#)

A comparison of the enhanced benefits provided by the PPP compared to Manulife's regular All Inclusive plan may be found by clicking [here](#)

And, in these uncertain times, a major benefit of the PPP is that coverage for reimbursement of inherent cancellation penalties under the **Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR)" coverage is increased to 80%** of the cancellation penalties incurred for all cancellation **up to 7 days or more before departure**.

Please note, the PPP is only available to clients under the age of 75 (at the date of purchase of the insurance coverage) and **must be purchased at the same time as the travel tour booking is made** (72 hour grace period).

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

<https://www.igoinured.com/Direct/ManulifeGlobal.aspx?ag=ONTOTPR&lang=E>

Manulife's 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							
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	421	421	460	502	546	760	1,096	1,096	516	516	625	744	1,126	1,256	1,782	1,782
4500 - 5000	455	455	501	549	600	835	1,191	1,191	550	550	666	791	1,180	1,317	1,877	1,877
5000 - 5500	489	489	541	597	654	909	1,285	1,285	584	584	706	839	1,234	1,378	1,971	1,971
5500 - 6000	522	522	582	644	708	983	1,380	1,380	617	617	747	886	1,288	1,438	2,066	2,066
6000 - 6500	556	556	622	691	762	1,057	1,474	1,474	651	651	787	933	1,342	1,499	2,160	2,160
6500 - 7000	590	590	663	738	816	1,132	1,569	1,569	685	685	828	980	1,396	1,560	2,255	2,255
7000 - 7500	624	624	703	786	870	1,206	1,663	1,663	719	719	868	1,028	1,450	1,621	2,349	2,349
7500 - 8000	657	657	744	833	924	1,280	1,758	1,758	752	752	909	1,075	1,504	1,681	2,444	2,444
8000 - 8500	691	691	784	880	978	1,354	1,852	1,852	786	786	949	1,122	1,558	1,742	2,538	2,538
8500 - 9000	725	725	825	927	1,032	1,429	1,947	1,947	820	820	990	1,169	1,612	1,803	2,633	2,633
9000 - 9500	759	759	865	975	1,086	1,503	2,041	2,041	854	854	1,030	1,217	1,666	1,864	2,727	2,727
9500 - 10000	792	792	906	1,022	1,140	1,577	2,136	2,136	887	887	1,071	1,264	1,720	1,924	2,822	2,822
10000 - 10500	826	826	946	1,069	1,194	1,651	2,230	2,230	921	921	1,111	1,311	1,774	1,985	2,916	2,916
10500 - 11000	860	860	987	1,116	1,248	1,726	2,325	2,325	955	955	1,152	1,358	1,828	2,046	3,011	3,011
11000 - 11500	894	894	1,027	1,164	1,302	1,800	2,419	2,419	989	989	1,192	1,406	1,882	2,107	3,105	3,105
11500 - 12000	927	927	1,068	1,211	1,356	1,874	2,514	2,514	1,022	1,022	1,233	1,453	1,936	2,167	3,200	3,200
12000 - 12500	961	961	1,108	1,258	1,410	1,948	2,608	2,608	1,056	1,056	1,273	1,500	1,990	2,228	3,294	3,294
12500 - 13000	995	995	1,149	1,305	1,464	2,023	2,703	2,703	1,090	1,090	1,314	1,547	2,044	2,289	3,389	3,389
13000 - 13500	1,029	1,029	1,189	1,353	1,518	2,097	2,797	2,797	1,124	1,124	1,354	1,595	2,098	2,350	3,483	3,483
13500 - 14000	1,062	1,062	1,230	1,400	1,572	2,171	2,892	2,892	1,157	1,157	1,395	1,642	2,152	2,410	3,578	3,578
14000 - 14500	1,096	1,096	1,270	1,447	1,626	2,245	2,986	2,986	1,191	1,191	1,435	1,689	2,206	2,471	3,672	3,672
14500 - 15000	1,130	1,130	1,311	1,494	1,680	2,320	3,081	3,081	1,225	1,225	1,476	1,736	2,260	2,532	3,767	3,767

Total insurable costs (\$/person)	PREMIUM PROTECTION PLAN (PPP)		
Age>	0-69	70-74	75+
4000 - 4500	675	1,296	Coverage not available if age 75 or over at the date of purchasing insurance
4500 - 5000	750	1,440	
5000 - 5500	825	1,584	
5500 - 6000	900	1,728	
6000 - 6500	975	1,872	
6500 - 7000	1,050	2,016	
7000 - 7500	1,125	2,160	
7500 - 8000	1,200	2,304	
8000 - 8500	1,275	2,448	
8500 - 9000	1,350	2,592	
9000 - 9500	1,425	2,736	
9500 - 10000	1,500	2,880	
10000 - 10500	1,575	3,024	
10500 - 11000	1,650	3,168	
11000 - 11500	1,725	3,312	
11500 - 12000	1,800	3,456	
12000 - 12500	1,875	3,600	
12500 - 13000	1,950	3,744	
13000 - 13500	2,025	3,888	
13500 - 14000	2,100	4,032	
14000 - 14500	2,175	4,176	
14500 - 15000	2,250	4,320	

**For residents of Ontario**, simply accept your choice of insurance (Non-medical Inclusive, All-Inclusive or Premium Protection 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 completing 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 simply following the link below to take advantage of our preferred rates with Manulife) via our company's exclusive Manulife link:

<https://www.igoin insured.com/Direct/ManulifeGlobal.aspx?ag=ONTOTPR&lang=E>

### Non-Canadian residents

For residents of countries outside of Canada (including the USA), insurance regulations allow us to sell "**Trip Cancellation**" insurance (this policy includes both trip cancellation and trip interruption coverage but not medical coverage). Hence it is not possible for non-Canadian residents to purchase either the All Inclusive or Premium Protection plans from Manulife. We do find that many of our overseas clients already have medical insurance through other channels and therefore, if this is the case, you may purchase "Trip Cancellation" coverage by following the link below to purchase the "Trip Cancellation" insurance policy (taking advantage of our preferred rates with Manulife) via our company's exclusive Manulife link:

<https://www.igoin insured.com/Direct/ManulifeGlobal.aspx?ag=ONTOTPR&lang=E>

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Travel insurance that may be available through your credit card

When considering any of the travel insurance policies above, 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. Also, most coverage through credit card benefits does not include Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage.

### COVID-19

Due to its worldwide impact, COVID-19 has been deemed by all travel insurance companies, including Manulife, to be a "Known Event" at the time of the insurance policy purchase and hence the majority of claims relating to COVID-19 are excluded for both trip cancellation and medical insurance coverage in most circumstances, with the two most common situations that will apply to travelers being summarized below –

- Canadian Government Level 3 (Avoid All Non-Essential Travel") or Level 4 (Avoid All Travel) Advisory in place regarding the travel destination at the date of claim  
*Any claims due to COVID-19 relating to either trip cancellation coverage or medical insurance coverage in destination are excluded*  
*Note: Manulife Insurance have recently announced that they will be offering a separate additional policy which will cover travelers for any medical costs in destination related to COVID-19 for clients traveling when a travel advisory is in place. **Details of this policy (COVID-19 Pandemic Medical Plan) may be found below.***
- Canadian Government Level 3 (Avoid All Non-Essential Travel") or Level 4 (Avoid All Travel) Advisory is NOT in place regarding the travel destination at the date of claim  
*Medical claims in destination relating to COVID-19 are covered*  
*Trip cancellation claims relating to the client cancelling due to concerns regarding travelling to the destination because of COVID-19 are excluded*



Note: However, trip cancellation claims *will* be covered if you need to cancel your trip for one of the following events –

- You become ill due to COVID-19 *before* your departure from Canada and need to cancel your trip; or
- You experience an involuntary loss of employment due to COVID-19

Therefore, because trip cancellation claims relating to COVID-19 (with the exception of you contracting COVID or losing your job due to COVID-19) are not covered, it is even more important to purchase one of the insurance policies above at the same time as your travel tour booking is made in order that you have **Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage to protect yourself against cancellation penalties should you decide to cancel.**

### COVID-19 PANDEMIC MEDICAL PLAN

The COVID-19 Emergency Pandemic Travel Plan for Travelling Canadians is designed to help cover medical expenses, including medical expenses if you have tested positive for COVID-19, in your destination. It also includes Trip Interruption insurance for hotel and meal expenses, and for a return flight if you are required, by a medical professional, to quarantine or self-isolate due to a positive COVID-19 test result or contact tracing. The plan provides for COVID-19 related medical expenses in destination such as emergency treatment, hospital allowance up to \$1.0m per insured (as well as coverage for up to \$5.0m per insured for any non COVID-19 related medical expenses).

This insurance is only available to Canadian residents and you must have a valid government health insurance plan in place for the duration of your trip.

This policy is sold separately from any other Manulife travel insurance policy as a standalone plan and can be purchased at any time before your departure, although for peace of mind we do recommend that you purchase the coverage at the same time as your trip booking. The insurance premium is determined by your age, the duration of your travel and the plan for which you qualify which may only be determined by completing an online insurance questionnaire on Manulife's web portal at the link below -

<https://www.igoinsured.com/Direct/ManulifeGlobal.aspx?ag=ONTOTPR&lang=E>

Once you have accessed this page, click on “Get a free quote”, then “Quote/Purchase”,  
Step 1: “Enter Trip Details” - enter your general information on this page and click “Get Quote”  
Step 2: “Select insurance plan” – select Manulife COVID-19 Pandemic  
This will take you to an online medical questionnaire which will determine your eligibility and the applicable premium.

## 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

"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

"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

"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

"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. Salam 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, 2015



"The best CME trip I have ever taken!"

Dr. Tom Jaskot, Hamilton, On. – Eastern Europe

"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

"An extremely interesting, informative and invigorating tour. The medical CME components were excellent and I'm glad that we were able to see and experience so much".

Dr. Paula Chalmers, Vancouver, B.C. - South Africa, 2017

"Myanmar was very well organized and our guide was excellent - the best I have ever had! The sites and activities in Bhutan were very enjoyable and the local medical facilities and clinics that we visited as part of the CME were good"

Dr. Brenda Cholin, North Battleford, SK - Myanmar & Bhutan, 2017

"It was an incredible tour - we saw so much !"

Dr. Mo Meghji, Kitchener, On. - Argentina & Chile, including Patagonia cruise, 2017

"This was a very good tour. The progress that the country has made over the years has been very significant. However, China still has multiple levels of Red Tape, both public and private that will not change ever, so it must be accepted. Overall a 9.5 out of 10 !"

Dr. Ted Erb, Waterloo, On. - China, 2017

"It was our first trip with your company. John and I loved it. The itinerary was perfect. Busy days followed by quieter ones. Lorna and Ashley were lovely and so capable! The coordination was superb. Thank you. We had the trip of a lifetime!"

Dr. John Gapski, Mississauga, On. – Ecuador & Galapagos, 2017

"An extremely enjoyable experience. The yoga session was excellent!"

Dr. George Zimakas, Niagra Falls, On. – South India, 2017

"We really enjoyed traveling with an interesting group of professionals which gave us the opportunity to visit places where the public normally does not have easy entry. Excellent pre-departure information and the tour was well-balanced with a mixture of historic and social highlights, while travelling through very different landscapes and areas of the country. The public/private health care system was well described on the Groote Schuur Hospital tour and the children's' song and dance performance at SOS children's village in Cape Town was touching. Our local tour guide was outstanding [5+++] and provided excellent context for the political, economic and social aspects of SA. He was calm, professional, responded quickly to everyone's needs and was very proud of his country. Best guide we have ever had!"

Helle & Tony Tosine, Toronto, On. – South Africa, 2017

"We really enjoyed New Zealand and the services provided by your company. The Academic Conference presentations were top caliber and contained information useful to both the specialist and generalist. I enjoyed getting to know and learning from the other group participants. We would recommend this trip and plan to travel with Doctors on Tour again".

Dr. John Britt, Winston-Salem, NC - New Zealand, 2018

We enjoyed our trip very much. The hotels we stayed in were superb, the itinerary was great and the guides, both in Bhutan and in Myanmar, were fabulous. Overall it was a wonderful, memorable trip. Thank you very much!

Dr. Sabine Ernsting, Adelaide, South Australia - Bhutan & Myanmar, 2018

So many highlights – favorites include Cape of Good Hope, Table Mountain, Kapama Game Reserve – because of excellent game rangers and trackers – saw the big 5 and so much more. Our local escort – excellent!!! Bus drivers also excellent. Coaches comfortable – great bonus to be able to charge cell phones inside buses. Bottom line – Awesome experience!!”

Dr. Cinda Lee, Toronto, ON - South Africa, 2018

“I found this to be a very well organized trip. It exceeded my expectations. I’d like to repeat it, but I’ll join your other trips instead. Too much to see and to learn in this world.”

Dr. Kas Tuters, Toronto, ON – Bali, 2018

“Great group of people to travel with. Excellent pace and adequate free time. Scheduled excursions exceeded expectations, group meals exceeded expectations, overall great experience”

Dr. Philip Branson, Princeton, WV – Eastern Europe, 2018

“It was a wonderful tour – super duper, great people and overall well organized tour and we had a lot of fun, a lot of laughs and learned a lot - both about medicine and the countries we visited”

Dr. Margaret Grunebaum, North York, On. – Eastern Europe, 2018

“Our local tour escort Eva was excellent! She went above and beyond”

Dr. Lesley Wood, Prescott, AZ – Eastern Europe, 2018

“I totally loved Singapore and Malaysia. The local escorts were honestly a ten star. There was nothing they would not do for us”.

Dyana Driscoll, Toronto, On. – Malaysia & Singapore, 2018

“This was an exceptional trip – thanks again! Everything was perfectly well orchestrated. It feels like we have been travelling for more than two weeks. We have learned so much. We will definitely recommend this trip to our friends. We have seen so many things. We have had exceptional guides. The group we travelled with was fantastic! Again, an amazing adventure!”

Dr. Collette Deslandres-Leduc, Montreal, Qc. – Ecuador and Peru, 2018

“Good guides, amazing sightseeing, loved the Patagonia cruise”

Dr. Chantal Breton, Kirkland, Qc. - Argentina & Chile, including Patagonia cruise, 2019

“Thanks for sending along (the song that you wrote about Bali) and for everything else. your stories, tips, enthusiasm, quiet presence and good company. This trip was certainly quite special. Please also pass on my thanks to Bonnie. Take good care”

Dr. Louise Lefort, Ottawa, On. – Bali, 2019

“This was an excellent unique tour combining both the cruise and a varied land component with spectacular sights ! Great group and local tour escort and cruise staff!”

Dr. Evelyn Brett, Toronto, On. – Iceland circumnavigation cruise and land, 2019

“Peter & Mary Bloch did an excellent job leading the group. The guides and others were very helpful and excellent - Amit 5\*, plus Sheva and team. I thoroughly loved the trip. It exceeded my expectations. The people are so sweet and lots of smiles! This is a great place to visit.”

Dr. Vickie Carducci, Kilworthy, On. - Northern India, 2019

“Malaysia was exhilarating! We had a wonderful, adventurous time, especially in the Borneo Rainforest. The local guides (Malek and Hirzan) were very friendly and helpful, very well versed in the history of Malaysia and we learnt a lot. The canopy walk was breathtakingly hair-raising. The tour was very well organized and the optional stay in Singapore was very relaxing. We look forward to more of your tours in the future”.

Dr. Shiraz Walji, Calgary, AB - Malaysia & Singapore, 2019

“Fantastic trip – well organized, packed with loads of things to do and see – but did not feel ‘superficial’. Just loved the opportunity to do and see so much. The group was fantastic – made new friends. Ian was a great tour leader”

Dr. Lorraine Manzog, Toronto, ON – Ecuador & the Galapagos, 2019

"Your tours are great. Thanks for the experience!"  
Dr. Ikenna Ezeilo, Lethbridge, On. – South East Asia, 2020

**And about your Group Leaders and Medical Director, Dr. Lorna, and Ashley, D'Silva (Mississauga, On.)**

..."I just called to say how much I care," ...

Neither our few parting words nor this email can fully express our admiration for your leadership and our thanks for making the trip happen for us. Yes, it was a complex itinerary and yes, some of the participants (ourselves included) were a handful at times, but your experience and your forbearance really showed through. I suspect that collectively we would not naturally be travelling partners, but that somehow added to our experience, rather than detracting from it. I hope it was the same for you, if only in part.

Bravo.

David  
Dr. David Cole, Toronto - Ecuador & the Galapagos, November 2010

"A great trip! Lorna & Ashley did a marvelous job of keeping us on track...). Tremendous local guides. Thoroughly enjoyable accommodations and food"  
Dr. Kathryn Bigsby, Charlottetown - Ecuador & the Galapagos (and Peru), 2010

"Let me commend you and your team for this most excellent adventure. Both Lorna and Ashley have done an amazing job on every issue, always seeking consensus, to help us throughout the journey. They deserve a tremendous vote of appreciation".  
Dr. Fred Engle, Toronto, On. - Chile, Argentina and Patagonia Cruise, 2014

"A personal note of thanks (again) for a great trip.  
Wow -- what a team..."  
Dr. David Cole, Toronto - Chile, Argentina and Patagonia Cruise, 2014

"We would like to particularly thank Lorna and Ashley for leading the trip extremely well - they have handled the group, the services as well as troubleshooting any mishaps to the satisfaction of all"  
Dr. Hamid Nasser, Cambridge, On. - Chile, Argentina and Patagonia Cruise, 2014

"This was a fabulous introduction to Doctors On Tour for us, and it will hopefully not be our last. Lorna and Ashley were great (group leaders) and Deon (our guide) was, as others have already said, an absolute gem"  
Dr. Susan and Chuck van Baardwijk, Ancaster, On - South Africa, 2015.

"Great trip - thanks for all your effort"  
Dr. Ed Mol, Athabasca, AB - Ecuador & Peru, 2017





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...

Please take the time to read and understand the Terms and Conditions of booking set out below prior to booking a tour with us.

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.

Due to the current COVID situation, we are offering more **flexible terms and conditions** for all **reservations received and deposited up to and including April 30, 2021 for all tour departures up to December 31, 2021**. Where different to our standard Terms and Conditions, these flexible terms and conditions are noted in *italics* (and are highlighted in yellow) in the relevant section below.

**1. 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 (\$700 per person for programs which include a cruise component, \$1,000 per person for Iceland cruises), 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 (105 days for programs which include a cruise component) 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.

*If you decide to change your plans and no longer wish to participate in the particular tour that your deposit has secured, your deposit may be transferred to any of our overseas programs (either the same destination at a future date or a different destination) so long as you notify us before the tour balance payment date.*

**2. FINAL AND/OR BALANCE DUE PAYMENT:** Guaranteed payment of all balances due is no later than 95 days (105 days for programs which include a cruise component) 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.

*For our land based programs, balance payments are now due 65 days prior to your departure and for our programs that include a cruise component, balance payments are now due 75 days prior to your departure. In certain circumstances, and depending on group air arrangements, payment for air seats may be required earlier.*

**3. 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.

**4. CANCELLATIONS & CHANGES:** The deposit amounts (for both the main tour and any optional extensions reserved) are 100% non-refundable and non-transferable. Cancellation penalties for bookings cancelled by the client after the final balance due date (95 days before departure; 105 days before departure for programs which include a cruise component) are as follows: 95 – 61 (105 - 61 days for programs which include a cruise component) 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. Bookings are non-transferable. 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.

Airfares may be subject to different rules and cancellation fees including some airfares may be fully non-refundable once the booking is confirmed regardless of when it was made including upgraded air cabin classes (ie premium economy, business and first class cabins) which are subject to different rules and cancellation fees based on the individual fare class in which the seats are purchased.



*If you decide to change your plans and no longer wish to participate in the particular tour that your deposit has secured, your deposit may be transferred to any of our overseas programs (either the same destination at a future date or a different destination) so long as you notify us before the tour balance payment date.*

**Cancellation penalties for bookings cancelled by the client after the final balance due date (65 days before departure; 75 days before departure for programs which include a cruise component) are as follows: 65 – 46 (75 - 46 days for programs which include a cruise component) days before departure – 25% of total price paid; 45 – 31 days – 50% of total price paid; 30 days or less – 100%.**

**5. 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 Inclusive insurance (ie Cancellation Protection and Travel Interruption Insurance), All Inclusive insurance (Non-Medical coverage plus health coverage), or the Premium Protection Plan insurance package (All Inclusive coverage with higher coverage limits) offered by DOT/OT/BIC through Manulife Insurance. COVID-19 is currently viewed as a pre-existing situation by all insurance companies, including Manulife Insurance, and therefore is an exclusion under those policies that include health insurance, ie All Inclusive and Premium Protection Plan insurance packages. For coverage relating to COVID-19 health claims while on your tour, Manulife offers separate coverage, ie COVID-19 Pandemic Travel Insurance. Some countries may require proof of medical insurance, including specifically for COVID-19.

**6. 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 their journey for all destinations offered with the exception of New Zealand, Spain/Portugal and countries on our Eastern Europe program where the passport must remain valid for a minimum of 3 months from the date of conclusion of their journey. Tour participants must also ensure that they comply with all visa and health requirements of countries they intend to visit.

For Canadian citizens, a tourist entry visa (or, in some cases, a reciprocity fee) is required for entry into the following destinations offered by DOT/OT/BIC -

- Bhutan, Brasil, China, India, Kenya, Myanmar, Tanzania, Vietnam (tourist entry visa, or a visa pre-approval letter in some cases, must be obtained prior to departure from Canada), Cambodia, Laos, Zambia (tourist entry visa may be obtained upon arrival in the destination)
- A tourist entry visa is not required for entry into Argentina, Bali (Indonesia), Chile, Ecuador, Iceland, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Malaysia, Peru, Singapore, South Africa, Spain and any country on our Eastern Europe program.

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.

While COVID-19 remains an ongoing issue, some countries may introduce specific medical requirements for entry which may completing medical wellness declarations upon arrival and/or proof of a negative COVID-19 test and/or proof of having received an approved COVID-19 vaccination. Proof of medical insurance, including specifically for COVID-19, may also be required. As regulations and requirements continue to change by country, we will notify you of any specific necessary requirements for your destination closer to departure.

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.

**7. 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.

**8. 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.

**9. 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.

**10. 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.

#### **11. AGE & HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:**

**Minimum Age:** The minimum age for the majority of our tours is 12 at the time of travel.

**Maximum Age:** We have no upper age limit for our tours though we inform you that our tours may include some components for which group members need to be in good physical condition in order to be able to participate. We will provide details on mandatory and recommended health requirements but it is your responsibility to ensure that you obtain proper and detailed medical advice at least 6 weeks prior to travel for the latest health requirements and recommendations for your destination and how they impact your own personal health situation.

**12. 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 be purchased and paid directly to the establishments.

**13. OPTIONAL TOURS & EXCURSIONS AND TOUR EXTENSIONS:** It is our intent to operate any optional tours & excursions and tour extensions on a private group basis. However, should the number of participants be of an insufficient level, we reserve the right to either -

- (1) add a surcharge to the previously stated selling price to be able to still offer the extension on a private basis or
- (2) operate any individual tour on a shared basis with other non-group participants or
- (3) 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.

**14. 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.

**15. SEATING ASSIGNMENT ON FLIGHTS:** Our air arrangements are made via group contracts with the airlines and are therefore subject to more restrictive airline Terms & Conditions and policies than seats purchased individually from airline web sites. If you have a particular seat request, we will do our best to fulfill it subject to the policies of the airlines. Certain airlines assign group seating automatically for which the specific location within the group block is out of our control and to which the airlines do not provide access for us to change specific seat locations; and several airlines do not allow for specific advance seat assignment at all in which case specific seats will be assigned at airport check-in.

**16. 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.

**17. 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 its registrants by consumers. More information about TICO is available at <http://www.tico.on.ca/>

**18. 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 behavior of other guests/groups nor the unlikely event of the withdrawal of services or facilities due to local cultural and political events, or strikes.

## 19. ACCEPTANCE OF RISK:

You acknowledge that participation in overseas travel involves a degree of personal risk and that you may be visiting places where the political, cultural and geographical attributes present dangers and physical challenges greater than those present in our daily lives. You acknowledge that you are choosing to travel at a time where you may be exposed to epidemics and/or pandemics including, but not limited to, the COVID-19 virus. We will take all reasonable steps to ensure your safety and may require you to follow additional safety protocols on your trip.

We use information from government foreign departments and reports from our own contacts in each destination, including our local destination supplier partners, assessing whether the itinerary should operate. However, it is also your own responsibility to acquaint yourself with all relevant travel information, including applicable health and safety risks and the nature of your itinerary. You acknowledge that your decision to travel is made in light of consideration of this information and you accept that you are aware of the personal risks attendant upon such travel. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we accept no liability in relation to these additional risks.

**20. 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; war; civil commotion or insurrection; riot; blockade or embargo; fire; explosion; breakdown; union dispute, strike, lockout or other labor disputes or disruptions; earthquake; epidemic, pandemic or other health emergency; flood; windstorm or other extreme weather event; lack or failure of courses of supply; passage of any law, order, proclamation, regulation, restraint, ordinance, demand, requisition or requirement or any other act of any government authority, whether or not foreseeable, which would make it dangerous or not viable for a trip to commence or continue.

**21. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES:** DOT/OT/BIC makes arrangements with a network of third party suppliers, ie., airlines, tour operators, ground handlers, accommodation providers, cruise companies, activity providers, coach and transfer companies, car rental companies, tour and local guides, government agencies, and other independent contractors and individuals to provide you with the travel services and other services you purchase. Although we take care in selecting these third party suppliers, we have no control over them and, therefore, cannot be responsible for their acts or omissions. In the unlikely event that a particular 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 by DOT/OT/BIC are subject to the applicable provincial Travel Industry Acts and Regulations and are subject to the conditions imposed by our third party 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.

**22. SEVERABILITY:** In the event that any term or condition contained in these Terms & Conditions is unenforceable or void by operation of law or as being against public policy or for any other reason then such term or condition shall be deemed to be severed from this contract or amended accordingly only to such extent necessary to allow all remaining terms and conditions to survive and continue as binding.

**23. PRIVACY POLICY:** Any personal information that we collect about you will be handled in accordance with our Privacy Policy and may be used for any purpose associated with the operation of a trip. In making this booking you consent to this information being passed on to the relevant persons such as our agents, service providers or other suppliers to enable us to operate the trip or, if permitted by any relevant e-marketing spam laws, to send you marketing material in relation to our events and special offers.