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CULTURAL & CME TOUR OF NORTHERN INDIA - RAJASTHAN & THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

October 25 – November 12, 2019



The Organizers...

Doctors-on-Tour >

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

tel: 416-231-8466, toll free: 1-855-DOC-TOUR (362-8687)

fax: 1-888-612-1459

e: info@doctorsontour.ca

Dr. Peter Bloch, M.D. - Oakville, Ontario >

Dr. Peter Bloch lived in Chile for 20 years, having started medical school there, but completed his training at Western. He has been a Family Physician in Oakville since 1976 and is an avid world traveller, including his spirited hosting of several extremely successful CME cultural and ecological tours with Doctors-on-Tour since 2005 including Chile, Argentina, Vietnam & Cambodia, Ecuador & the Galapagos, Northern and Southern India, Kenya & Tanzania, Brazil, Spain & Portugal, South Africa, New Zealand, China, Bhutan & Myanmar, Malaysia & Singapore and, most recently, Iceland.

Dr. Bloch may be contacted at -

tel: 905-842-2660, e: pmbloch@yahoo.com



The Destinations... Rajasthan and The Golden Triangle

India - where will you find a more colourful land? The sights and sounds will excite you; the palaces, forts and old walled cities will thrill you; the varied and exotic scenery will captivate you and the warm and smiling people will charm you. Many images, but few are more powerful than the heritage of the Moghul Empire in **Rajasthan** where much of our tour is based – a legendary land defined by the patchwork of kingdoms and principalities that were, till independence, ruled by maharajas, rajas, ranas and rawals. From the cackle of it's colour charged towns and cities to the luminous splendour of it's sun-kissed desert and it's forts and palaces (several of which have been converted into splendid Heritage hotels and our accommodation will include some of these), Rajasthan is romantic and historic India wrapped in gaudy royal robes where bards still roam the countryside, picking out complex tunes on single-stringed instruments, and sing of heroic battles, chivalry and sacrifices.

You will see **Delhi**, the political and cultural capital and a captivating combination of ancient and modern in contrasting Old and New Delhi. Museums, monuments to the myriad of dynasties that have established their capital in Delhi over the centuries, great shopping and wonderful restaurants.

Travelling west, first travel to **Jodhpur**, originally capital of the kingdom of Marwar and bordering the Thar Desert, with it's Meherangarh Fort dominating the once indomitable Blue City below, where you can bargain for a pair of boxed cuff trousers (the original jodhpurs...) and historic regalia. Heading south, we stop in **Ranakpur** (one of the holiest places in the Jain faith) to marvel at its dazzling 15th century temple complex made of milk white marble, before coming to **Udaipur**, the Venice of the East, a seductive, gated Rajput city situated romantically on the banks of Lake Pichola with it's floating Lake Palace and palaces and temples at every turn. Then onto **Deogarh**, one of the best kept secrets in this area, with it's Vishna & Jain temples from the Gupta period and renowned school of miniature painting and then to **Pushkar**, a lake town with many bathing ghats and temples and an important Hindu pilgrimage centre.

No tour of India is complete without visiting the "Golden Triangle" and its famed cities of Jaipur and Agra. **Jaipur**, the "City of Victory", is the vibrant capital of Rajasthan with its magnificent palaces and temple, exquisite gardens and bustling bazaars, and the impressive pink Amber Fort. Then, on the way to **Agra** and the **Taj Mahal**, stop in **Fatehpur Sikri** – a masterpiece of Muslim architecture and unique as an almost intact Mughal city. Satisfied and marveling at the snapshot of so much of India's medieval and religious cultures. Finally, end your journey in **Varanasi**, set on the Ganges - as old a city as Babylon and one of the holiest pilgrimage centers of India.

Further information can be found at –

<https://www.incredibleindia.org/content/incredibleindia/en.html>

<http://www.tourism.rajasthan.gov.in/>

The Academic Program... (15 CME hours)

The Academic Program on this tour will focus on **Health and Healing** and will explore healing strategies in this part of the world. It will include presentations by local practitioners in several of the local healing techniques such as on Ayurvedic medicine, Therapeutic yoga and Allopathic practices and will include tours of local medical facilities including hospital visits in Delhi, Jodhpur and Jaipur as well as visits to an S.O.S Children's Village and Mother Theresa's Charity Mission in Agra **as indicated in the detailed itinerary.**

The Academic Session in Jodhpur on October 30 will feature presentations from both local and Canadian speakers & interactive discussions on current medical issues.

Any physician who would like to make a short presentation at the **Academic Session** in Jodhpur should register their interest by completing the relevant section of the program registration form and the **Group Medical Director, Dr. Peter Bloch** (tel: 905-842-2660, e: pmbloch@yahoo.com) will contact you directly.

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

The detailed itinerary...

Day 1 : Oct 25, 2019 (Fri) - Depart Toronto for Delhi

Day 2 : Oct 26 – Arrive Delhi

Arrive Delhi by International flight.

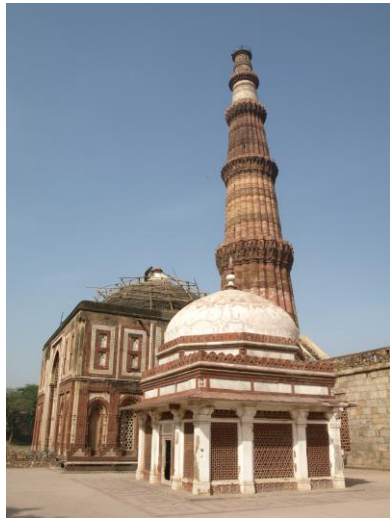
You will be met on your arrival and then be transferred to your hotel for check-in.

Overnight in Delhi.

Day 3 : Oct 27 – Delhi (B,L,D)

*A city of great character, of contrasts and convolutions – this is **Delhi**, the capital city of India. A city with antiquity dating back over 2,000 years, it is also a modern metropolis with fast cars and neon lit shopping malls. So varied are the shades of Delhi's different faces, it is difficult to grasp it in a short span of time. It's history encompasses all the various kings and emperors who fixed their royal citadels here – Indraprastha, Lal Kot, Quila Rai Pithora, Siri, Jahanpanah, Tughlakabad, Ferozabad, Dinpanah, Delhi Sher Shahi or then Shahjahanabad. But, combined and integrated into one, these 'new cities' have always been called Delhi and howsoever many names it may have acquired, Delhi has always been intrinsically identified with power and imperial sway.*

Breakfast at the hotel. After some free time in the morning to acclimatize from your international flight, the rest of the day will be spent on a sightseeing tour of **New Delhi**.



The **New Delhi** area reflects the legacy the British left behind. The division between New and Old Delhi is the division between the capitals of the British and the Mughals respectively. The division in the walled city and New Delhi also marks the division in the life-styles. The walled city is all tradition where one will be able to glean a past life-style in all its facets, colors and spells. New Delhi in contrast, is a city trying to live up to the best of 21st century standards.

Drive past the imposing **India Gate**, the **Parliament building** and the **Rastrapathi Bhawan**, the President's Residence. Continue to visit the **Qutub Minar**, which is the tallest stone tower in India. The Qutub Minar was started in 1199 AD by Qutub-ud-Din Aibak and completed by the sultan's successor and son-in-law, Iltutmish. The building is 72.5 m high and has 379 steps from the bottom to the top. The Minar is tapering with the diameter of the base is 14.3 m while at the top floor it is 2.7 m. The Qutub Minar is still the highest stone tower as well as one of the finest Islamic structures ever raised in India.

Lunch, and your Welcome Dinner, will be taken at one of many of Delhi's fine restaurants.

After dinner, there will be a drive around the city to witness the famous **Diwali celebration** and lighting at various spots.



Diwali, or Dipawali, is India's biggest and most important holiday of the year. The festival gets its name from the row (avali) of clay lamps (deepa) that Indians light outside their homes to symbolize the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. This festival is as important to Hindus as the Christmas holiday is to Christians.

Over the centuries, Diwali has become a national festival that is enjoyed by most Indians regardless of faith: Hindus, Jains, Buddhists, and Sikhs.

Hindus interpret the Diwali story based upon where they live:

In Northern India they celebrate the story of King Rama's return to Ayodhya after he defeated Ravana by lighting rows of clay lamps.

Southern India celebrates it as the day that Lord Krishna defeated the demon Narakasura.

In Western India the festival marks the day that Lord Vishnu, the Preserver (one of the main gods of the Hindu trinity) sent the demon King Bali to rule the nether world.

In all interpretations, one common thread rings true—the festival marks the victory of good over evil.

<https://www.diwalifestival.org/>

Overnight in Delhi.

Day 4 : Oct 28 - Delhi (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Physicians program – Visit to **Mahesh Yogi Institute of Herbal medicine** to learn about **Ayurvedic medicine** and **Acupuncture** – two of the local healing techniques used in this region. India has 5000 years old tradition of Ayurveda Medicine which has supported human and animal health care in the entire south and south-east Asia. Ayurveda provides an integrated approach to preventing and treating illness through lifestyle interventions and natural therapies and is based on herbal remedies to treat various human ailments against major human diseases. These remedies are available in the form of injectables, ointments, oils, tablets and liquids to be used orally. The healing technique also involves various naturopathic treatments

More details on the principles of Ayurveda may be found at

<http://www.maharishiyurvedaindia.org/about-ayurveda.html>

Non-physicians – will enjoy a separate activity in old Delhi including a visit to an Indian family to have morning tea – a longstanding tradition in India.

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant before an afternoon tour of **Old Delhi**. The former centre of Moghul Power, Old Delhi offers ancient monuments, narrow streets and bustling bazaars. Sights include the vast **Red Fort**, built in 1648, and the **Jama Masjid**, the greatest mosque in India and completed in 1658 by Shah Jahan who also built the Taj Mahal. Visit "**Chandni Chowk**" or Silver Street, experiencing the sights and sounds of this very busy avenue heading west from the Fort. Chandni Chowk - literally means "moonlit crossroads" and an area which best represents the "super-Oriental" - the glory and the guile; the grandeur and the grime, with its crowded bazaars, twisting lanes, maze of small streets strange aromas, the pungent odour of Oriental spices, the cries of shopkeepers, coolies and "rickshaw-walas" and the clatter and whirr of furious industry. Take a cycle rickshaw ride – the ultimate way to experience a journey through the streets and alleys of bustling streets of Old Delhi.



You will also visit, **Raj Ghat**, the simple memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. The memorial is a black marble platform that marks the spot of Gandhi's cremation on 31 January 1948. It is left open to the sky while an eternal flame burns perpetually at one end. It is located on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi in India on one of the main arteries of the city - officially known as Mahatma Gandhi Road.

Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Delhi.



Day 5 : Oct 29 - Delhi – Jodhpur (B,L,D)



*A flourishing trading center of the 16th century, the fortress city of **Jodhpur**, which stands at the edge of the Thar Desert, is now the second largest city of Rajasthan. Jodhpur was founded in 1459 AD by Rao Jodha who claimed to be descendent of lord Rama. The city has a history of battles and royalty as is highly evident by the huge Meherangarh fort overlooking the city. Did you know that the famous baggy/tight riding trousers called Jodhpuris take their name from this city?*

After breakfast, take a short late morning flight to Jodhpur.

On arrival transfer to the hotel. Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit the **Mehrangarh Fort** (citadel of the Sun) that evokes the very spirit of the Rathores, the ruling local Rajput clan. Explore its various palaces with their delicate friezes and respective museums, displaying treasures of the royal family. North of Mehrangarh Fort, and connected to it by road, **Jaswant Thada** is a pillared marble memorial to the popular ruler Jaswant Singh II (1878-95), who purged Jodhpur of dacoits, initiated irrigation systems and boosted the economy. The cenotaphs of members of the royal family who have died since Jaswant are close by his memorial; those who preceded him are remembered by chhatris at Mandor. This south-facing spot is also the best place from which to photograph the fort, looming above the sheer rocky Mehrangarh plateau. Also visit the museum in the Umaid Bhawan Palace.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Jodhpur.



Day 6 : Oct 30 – Jodhpur (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel.

For Physicians: Academic Conference in the hotel in the morning.

The Conference will be followed by lunch and, in the afternoon, **a tour of the Mathura Das Mathur government hospital to meet with local doctors and review the public health system and its facilities.**

Non-physicians will visit the museum at **Hotel Taj Umaid Bhawan Palace**, a museum focusing on the 20th century history of the Jodhpur Royal Family, who are still in residence in a different part of the palace. Afterwards, enjoy the thrills of a tuc-tuc ride on the way to the local market where you will then be escorted on a walking tour to experience the sights and sounds of daily life in Rajasthan. After lunch, maybe purchase a colorful local **saree or turban as you enjoy a demonstration** of the saree & turban wearing at the hotel.

In the late afternoon, all participants will enjoy a **Bishnoi Village** jeep safari - a great outdoor adventure & taste of the local culture. Witness Rajasthan's desert life, wildlife & beauty and watch local craftsmen (carpenters, black smith, cobblers) at work with traditional means, see green Opium fields, and enjoy the beautiful dunes. The villages and the landscape around Bishnoi are absolutely untouched with inhabitants living in a total natural set up.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Jodhpur.



Day 7 : Oct 31 - Jodhpur – Ranakpur - Udaipur (B,L,D)

*Cradled in a verdant valley in the valley in the Aravalli Hills, on the banks of the river Maghai, stands one of the five holiest places of the Jain faith, 15th century **Ranakpur**. Just 96 km from Udaipur, Ranakpur is renowned for its magnificent temples of dazzling white marble. The four-temple complex, far away from any town or village, is completely in harmony with the ascetic ideology of Jainism. The architectural highlight is Jain Temple with its sequence of elegant domes, turrets and cupolas that rise majestically from the hillside, supported by more than 1,400 marble pillars adorned with breathtakingly intricate carvings.*



After breakfast leave for Udaipur.

En-route visit **Ranakpur temples**.

Lunch will be at a local restaurant in Ranakpur.

Continue onwards to Udaipur and check in at the hotel.

Dinner at a local restaurant and overnight in Udaipur.

Day 8 : Nov 1 - Udaipur (B,L,D)



*Often known as 'Venice of the East' and the 'City of Lakes', **Udaipur** is the most romantic of all the Rajasthan cities and one of the most exotic places in Asia. The city's palaces, havelis, temples set it apart from the rest of the cities. It is also popular for its crafts, performing arts and its famed miniature paintings. The Lake Palace (Jag Niwas) located in the middle of Pichola Lake is the finest example of architectural and cultural marvel. The grand City Palace on the banks of the lake along with the Monsoon Palace (Sajjan Garh) on the hill above enhances the beauty of this magnificent city. You can see the city from a boat or from the rooftop of palaces, the view is marvelous, it makes you forget the world. The smooth rolling hills that surround Udaipur are as overpowering as the city itself.*

Maharana Udai Singh founded Udaipur in 1559 AD. According to a legend Udai Singh was guided by a holy man meditating on the hill near Pichola Lake to establish his capital on that very spot. Surrounded by Aravali Ranges, forests and lakes this place was less vulnerable to external invasion than Chittaurgarh. Maharana Udai Singh died in 1572 and was succeeded by Maharana Pratap who valiantly defended Udaipur from Mughal attacks.

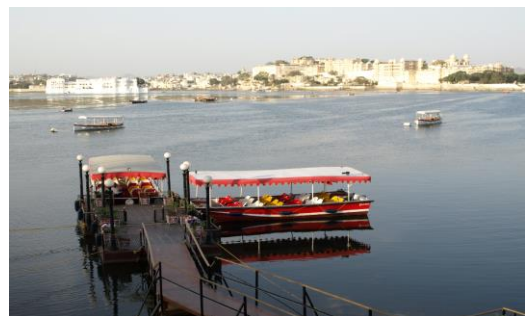


After breakfast you will proceed to visit the vast and exquisite **City Palace**, a well-fortified, majestic white monument. The main entrance, a triple-arched gate named the Tripolia, was built in 1725 and is a marvel. The Suraj Gokhada, the Balcony of the Sun, where the Suryavanshi Maharanas of Mewar presented themselves in times of trouble to the people to restore their confidence, is also a fascinating sight.

Later visit the **Jagdish Temple**, a 16th-century temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu, it is the largest and most splendid temple in Udaipur, as well as **Sahelion-Ki-Bari** (Queen's resort for her friends).

In the afternoon enjoy a cruise by private boat on the placid waters of **Lake Pichola**. The lake is surrounded by splendid hills, palaces, bathing ghats, temples and embankments - in the middle of the lake, stop and at **Jagmandir Island** with its **Jag Mandir Palace**, which covers almost four acres and is noted for its marble pavilion and an imposing dome. You'll see people doing their laundry on the shores of the lake against the backdrop of the massive City Palace and the old city.

Dinner at and overnight at hotel in Udaipur.



Day 9 : Nov 2 - Udaipur – Deogarh (B,L,D)

***Deogarh** lies on the borders of Mewar, Marwar and Merwara, about 80 miles north-east of Udaipur. Its chieftain known as 'The Rawat' was one of sixteen umraos (feudal barons) privileged to wait upon the Maharana of Udaipur, the capital of Mewar such feudal estates, called thikanas were granted by the ruling Maharana to a nobleman either due to blood relationship or for an act of bravery. Deogarh is situated in the rugged hills of Aravallis, which makes gentle treks and bird watching an ideal way to see the surrounding area, including the Raghosagar Lake, with the palace on its banks, which attracts numerous migratory birds. It also has a bazaar, which is particularly good for textiles. It is also renowned as a school of miniature painting.*



After breakfast leave for Deogarh. En route, visit **Sas Bahu Temple** dating back to the 10th century. The term 'Sas-Bahu' suggests 'Mother-in-law and Daughter-in-law' respectively. The temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu and it is made in two structures, one by a mother-in-law and another, by a daughter-in-law. The temple of Sas is comparatively larger than that of the Bahu. The 'Bahu' temple has an octagonal ceiling, which is adorned with beautifully carved eight intricate female figures. The 'Sas' temple has a torana (archway) in its front and it is believed that the image of the Lord Vishnu was swung from the torana along with hymns in the praise of lord on ceremonial occasions. Both the temples are constructed on a common platform facing towards the east direction and are famous for their wonderful carvings.



Continue to Deogarh for check in (via jeep transfer to this Heritage hotel, as the village of Deogarh does not accommodate coaches...) and lunch at the Deogarh Mahal - a beautiful Heritage property.



In the afternoon, enjoy a village walk before visiting the **Fort Seengh Sagar** to see the magnificent **miniature paintings**. Some Deogarh miniatures adorn the personal collection of the present Rawat. Frescoes of this art form can also be seen on the fort walls. Several rooms are decorated with murals done by local painters after whom the Deogarh School of painting has acquired fame the world over. (Please note, this is subject to the rooms being open as this is a private collection).

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Deogarh.

Day 10 : Nov 3 - Deogarh (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Today will be at leisure to relax in the hotel grounds or by the pool or maybe to walk down into the nearby village of Deogarh and it's colorful bazaar where you can interact with locals in this charming Rajasthan village.

For physicians there will be a visit to a local dispensary in the village in the morning - a dispensary provides free healthcare, arranging health checkup camps and awareness programs for the local people.

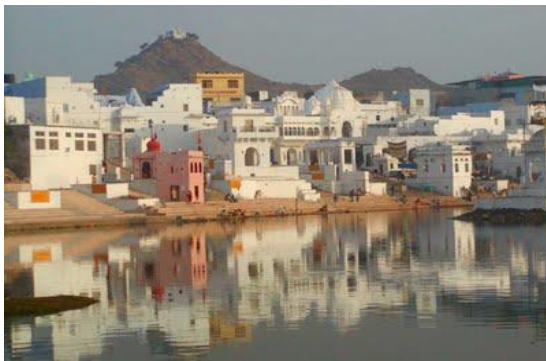
Lunch at the hotel.

In the late afternoon you will explore the area on a **jeep safari** with it's ruined forts and local villages. The Rural Ramble is a drive through a pastoral setting where one explores the natural surrounding with people tending to their fields and cattle and living in complete harmony with nature. Visit a cave temple – a cavernous rock in which is ensconced a shrine of Lord Shiva. The top of this rock offers a panoramic view of landscape of black volcanic rocks interspersed with rocks. The drive finishes with drinks and Indian hors d'oeuvres at the side of one of the area's lakes which attract a lot of the local migratory birds and small animals that are lovely to watch with the sun set as a back drop.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Deogarh.



Day 11 : Nov 4 - Deogarh – Pushkar (B,L,D)



*Amongst the grandeur of Rajasthan, discover a unique gem – **Pushkar** a mellow and serene little town right on the edge of the desert. Lord Brahma, the creator of the world in a search for his abode on earth, performed the supremely spiritual vedic yagna at Pushkar. It is thus the site of the only Brahma Temple in the world. A city of Pilgrimage from time immemorial with over 500 temples and ghats, Pushkar begets a legacy of timeless architectural heritage and radiates an ambience of peace and spirituality that casts a lure to visit again and again. Apart from its religious significance, Pushkar is known for its Cattle and Camel fair held every year in the month of Kartik (October/November), which attracts visitors in their thousands.*

After breakfast leave for Pushkar arriving in time for lunch at the hotel.

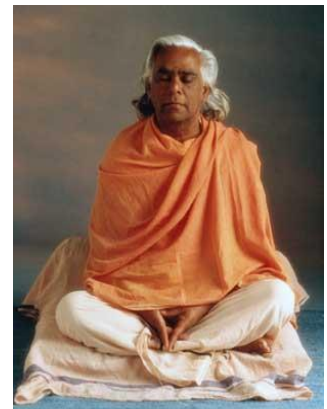
After lunch at the hotel you will be taken on a walking tour of Pushkar where you will visit the sacred temple of **Lord Brahma** (the only temple in India that is dedicated to Brahma) and view the pilgrims at the religious **bathing ghats**. Pushkar, with as many as 400 temples and 52 ghats is similar to Varanasi and the Ganges but more tranquil and a little more reserved. Devout Hindus believe that it is essential to visit Pushkar at least once in their lifetime and no pilgrimage is considered complete without a dip in the holy Pushkar lake. After your guided walking tour, there will also be plenty of time to explore the village, walk down into the traditional bathing ghats and bargain at the towns plethora of shops clinging to the side of the lake.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Pushkar.

Day 12 : Nov 5 - Pushkar – Jaipur (B,L,D)

Before breakfast at the hotel you will make an early morning visit to a local **Ashram** in Puskar. Ashrams, literally “places of striving”, are common throughout India as a retreat for spiritual and personal development. You will participate in a yoga session and about learn many different kinds of **ancient yoga techniques** (Meditation, Pranayama, Kriya Yoga, Swara Yoga and Karma Yoga) and how yoga therapy can be beneficial in relieving several medical conditions including back pain, high blood pressure, migraines problem, menstrual disorders.

Yoga and Ayurvedic medicine are complimentary sister sciences and. generally, a person undergoing Ayurvedic treatments is advised to practice Yoga and Meditation since it helps isolate the mind from all thoughts, worries and anxieties. While Ayurveda deals chiefly with the health of the body and mind, Yoga deals with spiritual health.





After returning to the hotel for breakfast, your tour of Rajasthan continues with a drive to Jaipur. On the way out of Pushkar, you will make a stop at one of the **Sikh temples** in the area. The Sikh religion emerged during the early 16th century in the state of Punjab in North India. It propounds monotheism, i.e. worship of one God. It also opposes the caste system and believes that all men (and women) are equal. Their founder, Guru Nanak, had early leanings to both Muslim and Hindu beliefs and the ideas of *karma* and rebirth from Hinduism are accepted. Though the Sikhs constitute less than 2 percent of the Indian population, they have become a distinct element in the configuration of the Indian religious tradition and the Indian society and are a distinctive culture with their flowing beards and colorful turbans.

En route to Jaipur, stop for lunch in the village of Kisangarh with its curious, and colourful, local inhabitants. Then continue your drive to Jaipur arriving late afternoon.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Jaipur.

Day 13 : Nov 6 - Jaipur (B,L,D)



Popularly known as the **Pink City**, **Jaipur** was founded in 1727 AD by one of the greatest rulers of the Kachhawaha clan, the astronomer king Sawai Jai Singh. The pink color was used at the time of making to create an impression of red sandstone buildings of Mughal cities - and repainted in 1876, during the visit of the Prince of Wales. Also known as the 'The city of victory', Jaipur presides over the fascinating desert state and its people: surrounded by rugged hills, each crowned by a formidable fort; and beautiful palaces, mansions and gardens dotted throughout its precincts. The palaces and forts of yesteryear that were witness to royal processions and splendour are now living monuments and except for the busy traffic of bicycles, cars and buses, little seems to have changed with a timeless quality to Jaipur's bazaars and its people.

After breakfast at the hotel, you will be driven just outside Jaipur to the **ancient capital of Amber** to see the fabulous **Amber Fort**. Maharaja Mansingh, Mughal Emperor Akbar's most successful General, started the construction of Amber Fort in the 17th century. Before the City Palace was constructed in Jaipur, Amber was the seat of power. The fort is surrounded by fortified battlements and overlooks the Moat Lake. Ruins and remains are spread over the Aravalli hills and sprawling crenulated walls lattice the surrounding area. Visit the Jagmandir or the Hall of victory glittering with mirrors, Jai Mahal and Temple of Kali.

At the foot of the hill you will mount your caparisoned elephant for the slow but steady climb up to the main gate, making your entrance in the time honoured fashion. The Fort, completed in the early 18th century, took over 100 years to build and now, although deserted, offers a fascinating insight into the lifestyle of the Moghul ruling families.

Lunch at a local restaurant.



In the afternoon, continue the city tour of Jaipur, including the imposing **City Palace**, still home to the Maharaja, although several of the rooms are now open to the public and many antiques and artifacts belonging to the ruling family are housed here, including a collection of weaponry. You will also visit the **Hawa Mahal**, "**Palace of the Winds**", and, if time permits, the **Royal Observatory** to see the vast astronomical instruments.

Finally, visit the local **S.O.S Children's Village** to view the facilities and where you will be able to provide medical advice to the caregivers. SOS Children's Villages is the world's largest private child welfare organization operating 400 villages in 131 countries. SOS Children's Villages of India is a non-profit, non-government, voluntary organization, committed to the care of children in need. The aim and objective of SOS-India is to provide long term family-based care to parentless, homeless and abandoned children and to strengthen disadvantaged families as a preventive measure against abandonment and social neglect of children. Every child lives in a 'family' house with trained local women serving as 'mothers'.



<https://www.soschildrensvillages.in/>

Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at the hotel in Jaipur.

Day 14 : Nov 7 - Jaipur – Agra (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel.

In the morning -

Physicians will visit the **Sawai Man Singh Hospital** in Jaipur to continue to learn about the Indian medical system. **Sawai Man Singh Hospital** is the biggest government hospital in the state and it is one of the few government "super speciality" hospitals. The construction of the hospital building began in 1934 and the hospital is named after Sawai Man Singh II, then King of Jaipur. The hospital also provides practical training to the students of the Sawai Man Singh Medical College.

<http://jaipursearch.com/medical/smsghospital.htm>

Non-physicians will have free time to continue exploring the city maybe taking in one of Jaipur's many shopping areas.



Depart for Agra and, after lunch en-route, visit **Fatehpur Sikri**, the deserted red sandstone city, built by the Great Mughal Emperor Akbar as his capital and palace in the late 16th century. It was abandoned soon after it was built when the local wells went dry and it remains today in much the same condition that it was over 300 years ago. It is complete with palaces and mosques and used to be a town larger than London when it was originally constructed. Now it is an extraordinary place to wander around with its buildings in near perfect condition.

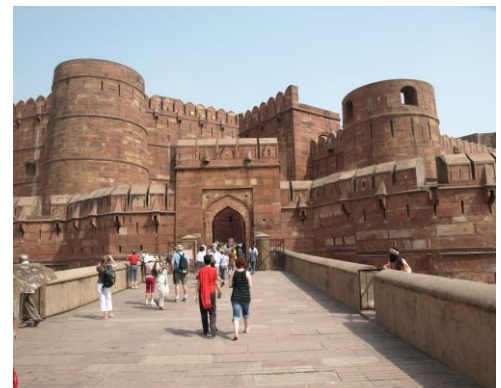
Continue driving to Agra.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Agra.

Day 15 : Nov 8 - Agra (B,L,D)

Agra in terms of ambiance is still associated with its Mughal period. The Mughals besides being great rulers were also great builders and they preserved their best architectural wonders for Agra & its neighbourhood. It has many wonderful monuments and the Taj Mahal, the greatest of them all, is a masterpiece of Mughal architecture at its best. The massive but elegant Agra Fort, the magnificent Taj, are each unique and outstanding. Their architectural genius can also be seen in the forts, palaces and aesthetically laid out gardens - each one a silent witness to a grand style of a golden era. Great empires have flourished in Agra and then grown to engulf the whole country. Great battles were fought on this soil, as can be gathered from its checkered history. It's line-up of monuments today stand mute testimony to the splendour of a bygone era and the visionary far-sightedness of the many monarchs who once ruled different parts of this state. As visitors walk down the narrow, bustling streets, they can't help but wonder if the man contentedly smoking a hookah is a direct descendant of some bygone Mughal. Even the majority of the buildings in the modern areas of town such as the cantonment, date back over a hundred years.

After breakfast, visit the **Red Fort of Agra** - the seat and the stronghold of the Mughal Empire under successive generations. This was the seat of Mughal rule and administration and the present structure owes its origins to Akbar who erected the walls and gates and the first buildings on the eastern banks of Yamuna River. This powerful fortress of red sandstone encompasses, within its 2.5-km-long enclosure walls, the imperial city of the Mughal rulers. It comprises many fairy-tale palaces, such as the Jahangir Palace and the Khas Mahal, built by Shah Jahan; audience halls, such as the Diwan-i-Khas; and two very beautiful mosques.



Lunch will be at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit **Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity**, a home for orphaned children of all age groups as well as the elderly, many of whom are mentally retarded. Witness the nuns' nurturing care for orphaned children and the elderly. The smiling children enjoy visitors; spend time chatting with them as they play and study. Nuns will happily provide you with a short tour of the premises and during your visit you may provide medical assistance to the old people & the children as well as interacting with the Sisters & Brothers who volunteer at the Mission and brief them about first aid treatment that can be helpful to them in an emergency situation.

Mother Teresa, known in the Catholic Church as Saint Teresa of Calcutta, was born in Skopje (now the capital of the Republic of Macedonia). After living in Macedonia for eighteen years she moved to Ireland and then to India, where she lived for most of her life. Mother Teresa received a number of honors, including the 1962 Ramon Magsaysay Peace Prize and 1979 Nobel Peace Prize. Mother Teresa instituted the Missionaries of Charity in India in 1950, and at the time of her death, it was operating 610 missions in 123 countries.



Dinner will be at a local restaurant and then prepare for an early start the next morning as, at sunrise, you will marvel at the splendours of the Taj Mahal.

Overnight at the hotel in Agra.

Day 16 : Nov 9 - Agra – Varanasi (B,L,D)



Before breakfast you will taken on a sunrise tour of the **Taj Mahal**. Little needs to be said about this architectural wonder which is the main raison-de-etre for every tourist's visit to Agra. Built by Shah Jahan, the Taj is a white marble memorial to his beautiful wife Mumtaz Mahal. This monument took 22 years to be completed and was designed and planned by Persian architect Ustad Isa. Apart from its stunning design balance and perfect symmetry, the Taj is also noted particularly for its elegant domes, intricately carved screens and some of the best inlay work ever seen.

Breakfast at the hotel. Return to Delhi for your afternoon flight to Varanasi.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Varanasi.

Day 17 : Nov 10 - Varanasi (B,L,D)



A crumbling maze of a city on the western banks of the Ganges, Varanasi is in many senses the quintessential India. The city name, “**Varanasi**” (also known as Benares, likely a corruption of the name Varanasi), is derived from the two tributaries of the Ganges River — Varuna and Asi — between which it is situated and the city is centered on the ghats that line the waterfront, each honoring Shiva in the form of a linga -- the rounded phalliclike shaft of stone found on every ghat. Historically, the city has been known to the Hindus as Kasha, which means “brightness”, which gives the city its title as the “city of light”. According to Hindu tradition, Varanasi is the oldest city in the world, the eternal city of Shiva.

Hindus have a cyclical view of life and death (death feeds life, and in turn, life feeds death, around and around again) and in Varanasi in particular, this cycle is strikingly tangible and omnipresent: birth and death dominate the rituals of daily life. Varanasi is seen by devotees as the holiest of Indian pilgrimages, home of Shiva, where the devout come to wash away their sins. It is also one of the holiest tirthas (literally a “crossing” or sacred place where mortals can cross over to the divine, or the gods and goddesses come to bathe on earth), where many return to die in the hope that they may achieve moksha, the salvation of the soul from the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth. The belief is reinforced by the city’s physical layout: Varanasi is entirely positioned on the west side of the Ganges, the side of the setting sun and therefore symbolic of the city’s association with death as the Hindu cremation center; at the same time, the city faces east, the side of the rising sun, symbolic of rebirth and new life.

Here, the sense of ancient history is almost palpable. Getting lost in the impossibly cramped labyrinth, you are crowded by pilgrims purchasing flowers for puja (offering or prayer), grieving relatives bearing corpses, chanting priests sounding gongs, and sacred cows rooting in the rubbish -- an experience you will never forget.



An early start before breakfast as you cruise the waterfront and its famous bathing ghats at dawn and witness the most surreal scenes, where devotees come to bathe, meditate, and perform ancient rituals to greet the sun.

Centuries old tradition to offer puja to the rising Sun is still maintained.

Later walk through the old part of the town visiting the golden temple and mosques before returning to the hotel for breakfast.

Morning city tour of Varanasi, visiting the **Bharat Mata Temple** with its big relief map of India in marble, **Durga Temple**, **Tulsi Manas Mandir**, **Banaras Hindu University** with its famous Art Gallery and the **Mosque of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb**.

Lunch at the hotel followed by free time in the afternoon to explore this fascinating city independently.

Late afternoon visit to the Ghats as sunset approaches to watch the **Ganga Aarti ceremony** where pundits (priests) at Dasashwamedh Ghat perform aarti (prayer ritual) with complicated fire rituals, and pilgrims light candles to float along the sacred waters. Afterwards, walk through the bazaar area and enjoy a short rickshaw ride. Believers and travelers from around the Globe flock to participate in this ritual every day throughout the year.

Dinner and overnight at hotel.



Day 18 : Nov 11 – Varanasi – Delhi (B,L)

Breakfast at hotel.

Morning excursion to **Sarnath**, the buried Buddhist city where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon, Sarnath was a renowned school of learning from 6th century B.C. to 12th century A.D. Several Buddhist structures were raised at Sarnath around the same era and today it presents the most expansive ruins amongst places on the Buddhist trail. The Ashoka pillar of Sarnath is the National emblem of India. Visit the ruins, the stupa, the Buddhist temple and the Museum.

Lunch will be at a local restaurant followed by a transfer to the airport for your flight for Delhi and onward return flight to Canada.



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Day 19 – Nov 12 - Return flight : Delhi - Toronto

Arrive back into Toronto on November 12, 2019.

The hotels...

City	Hotels
Delhi (3 nights)	The Lalit Hotel (4+*) www.thelalit.com/the-lalit-new-delhi/overview
Jodhpur (2 nights)	Radisson Jodhpur (4*) https://www.radisson.com/jodhpur-hotel-rj-342-001/indrdjp
Udaipur (2 nights)	The Lalit Laxmi Vilas Palace (4*) https://www.thelalit.com/the-lalit-udaipur/
Deogarh (2 nights)	Deogarh Mahal (4*) www.deogarhmahal.com
Pushkar (1 night)	Hotel Pushkar Palace (3*) http://hotelpushkarpalace.com/
Jaipur (2 nights)	Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre (4) https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/jaipur/jaicc/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps--HI--IN--JAICC#scmisc=nav_hoteldetail_hi
Agra (2 nights)	Crystal Sarovar Premiere (4+*) https://www.sarovarhotels.com/crystal-sarovar-premiere-agra/
Varanasi (2 nights)	Ramada Plaza JHV by Wyndham (4*) http://www.ramadajhvnns.com/

The majority of the accommodation will be in 4* hotels including some nights in “**Heritage style**” hotels - forts and palaces that have opened their doors to visitors as luxury hotels and resorts. Often run by members of the erstwhile ruling families, these have given a new lease of life not only to the building but also to the culture. (In the unlikely event that a hotel needs to be changed it will be substituted with a property of an equivalent standard)

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

(Early Booking Price valid until July 9, 2019 – save \$500/person)

Pricing (exc. Insurance) / per person - Cdn\$	Inc. Air from Toronto
Per person (double occupancy)	
- registrations up to July 9, 2019	\$6,995
- registrations after July 9, 2019	\$7,495
Single supplement	\$1,820
Single share fee (A)	\$ 300 **
Transportation / hotel taxes and fees	\$ 685
Academic program registration fee (per MD registrant)	\$ 700

(A) Single share matching fee – can't find a traveling partner but don't want to pay the single supplement? We'll keep our eyes open for similar clients and try and find you a compatible person to share a room with. However, if we are unable to find you a suitable companion the single supplement will be payable.

For **invoicing** purposes re doctors and their spouse, we can also provide a separate invoice with the doctor's air cost plus 100% of the accommodation costs included in the doctor's invoice.

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.

CANADIAN \$ PRICING !

Please note, unlike many programs offered by other companies which are quoted in US\$ (and are also usually land only prices excluding air fare), **our prices remain in Canadian\$** - and, with a premium now of around 35% (at May 2019) when paying in US\$, this makes a significant difference.

NEW ! - ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM

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

<https://fs22.formsite.com/Doctorsontour/INDNOR1910RegForm/index.html>

Full program information may also be found at -

<http://www.doctorsontour.ca/cme-programs-india-north-upcoming-1910.php>

REGISTER BY JULY 9, 2019 AND SAVE \$1,000/COUPLE !!

Inclusions and Exclusions...

Inclusions –

- Round trip international flights from Toronto to Delhi, India.
- Private, modern, air conditioned coach transportation
- All meet and greet services and arrival and departure transfers
- Accommodation for a total of 16 nights in 4* properties
- 16 breakfasts, 16 lunches, 15 dinners) in a combination of hotel and local restaurants
- Soft drink/water with meals (in local restaurants)
- Comprehensive daily itineraries including escorted tours of local cultural sites and museums
- Rickshaw ride in Old Delhi
- Jeep safari to Bishnois Villages, Jodhpur
- Jeep safari in Deogarh
- Yoga Session at Hari Om Ashram, Pushkar
- Boat ride on Lake Pichola, Udaipur
- Elephant/Jeep ride at Amber Fort, Jaipur
- Visit to Taj Mahal
- Visit of Ganga Aarti at sunset on bank of river Ganges
- Academic program and visits to local medical facilities as indicated in the itinerary
- All admission fees (except those specifically noted above)
- Services of a local English speaking cultural expert and guide
- Porterage at hotels

Exclusions –

- Beverages (excluding those specifically included above)
- Digital camera and video fees at certain attractions
- Gratuities for local tour escort and drivers
- Visa fees for India (visas should be obtained in advance of arrival)
- Travel insurance – please note, **travel insurance (including medical and trip interruption coverage) is highly recommended** for this tour. Coverage is available through doctors-on-tour – please check for further details in our brochure.
- All items of a personal nature such as telephone / internet usage, laundry services etc

For **invoicing** purposes re doctors and their spouse, we can also provide a separate invoice with the doctor's air cost plus 100% of the accommodation costs included in the doctor's invoice.

OUR PROGRAMS HAVE LIMITED CAPACITY AND WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND REGISTERING (WITH A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$500 PER PERSON, PLUS APPLICABLE TRAVEL INSURANCE PREMIUM) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION. PLEASE NOTE OUR EARLY BOOKING DEADLINE OF JULY 9, 2019 TO SAVE \$1,000 / COUPLE

Misc information you need to know...

Travel documentation and visas (as at May 2019)

Travel documentation and visas

An entry visa is required for Canadian, USA, UK and Australian citizens for entry into India. In addition, your passport must have an expiry date no earlier than 180 days after your scheduled departure date from India and 2 blank pages for stamping by the Immigration Officer upon arrival in India. Details of how to apply for your visa will be provided at time of booking and may also be found at the following link -

<https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html>

Mandatory vaccinations

There are no mandatory vaccinations required at the present time for entry into India. A list of our medical recommendations will be provided closer to departure. This will include up to date MMR, Hepatitis A/B typhoid & polio vaccinations as well as malaria precautions.

Travel insurance information... Coverage available through Manulife Insurance

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Total insurable costs (\$/person)	NON-MEDICAL INCLUSIVE								ALL-INCLUSIVE							
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	349	369	413	455	476	620	759	1,003	432	450	558	640	940	1,069	1,437	1,513
4500 - 5000	376	399	448	495	519	674	824	1,079	459	480	593	681	986	1,129	1,513	1,599
5000 - 5500	403	429	483	536	563	728	889	1,155	486	510	629	721	1,031	1,188	1,589	1,686
5500 - 6000	430	458	518	576	606	782	954	1,230	513	539	664	762	1,077	1,247	1,664	1,772
6000 - 6500	457	488	553	617	649	836	1,018	1,306	540	569	699	802	1,123	1,307	1,740	1,859
6500 - 7000	484	518	588	657	692	890	1,083	1,381	567	599	734	843	1,169	1,366	1,815	1,945
7000 - 7500	511	548	623	698	735	944	1,148	1,457	594	629	769	883	1,215	1,426	1,891	2,031
7500 - 8000	538	577	658	738	779	998	1,213	1,533	621	658	804	924	1,261	1,485	1,967	2,118
8000 - 8500	565	607	693	779	822	1,052	1,278	1,608	648	688	839	964	1,307	1,544	2,042	2,204
8500 - 9000	592	637	728	819	865	1,106	1,342	1,684	675	718	874	1,005	1,353	1,604	2,118	2,291
9000 - 9500	619	666	764	860	908	1,160	1,407	1,759	702	747	909	1,045	1,399	1,663	2,193	2,377
9500 - 10000	646	696	799	900	951	1,214	1,472	1,835	729	777	944	1,086	1,445	1,723	2,269	2,463
10000 - 10500	673	726	834	941	995	1,268	1,537	1,911	756	807	980	1,126	1,490	1,782	2,345	2,550
10500 - 11000	700	755	869	981	1,038	1,322	1,602	1,986	783	836	1,015	1,167	1,536	1,841	2,420	2,636
11000 - 11500	727	785	904	1,022	1,081	1,376	1,666	2,062	810	866	1,050	1,207	1,582	1,901	2,496	2,723
11500 - 12000	754	815	939	1,062	1,124	1,430	1,731	2,137	837	896	1,085	1,248	1,628	1,960	2,571	2,809
12000 - 12500	781	845	974	1,103	1,167	1,484	1,796	2,213	864	926	1,120	1,288	1,674	2,020	2,647	2,895
12500 - 13000	808	874	1,009	1,143	1,211	1,538	1,861	2,289	891	955	1,155	1,329	1,720	2,079	2,723	2,982
13000 - 13500	835	904	1,044	1,184	1,254	1,592	1,926	2,364	918	985	1,190	1,369	1,766	2,138	2,798	3,068
13500 - 14000	862	934	1,079	1,224	1,297	1,646	1,990	2,440	945	1,015	1,225	1,410	1,812	2,198	2,874	3,155
14000 - 14500	889	963	1,115	1,265	1,340	1,700	2,055	2,515	972	1,044	1,260	1,450	1,858	2,257	2,949	3,241
14500 - 15000	916	993	1,150	1,305	1,383	1,754	2,120	2,591	999	1,074	1,295	1,491	1,904	2,317	3,025	3,327

For residents of Ontario, simply accept your choice of insurance (Non-medical Inclusive or All-Inclusive coverage) on our *online* registration form and we will apply the premium above on your invoice confirmation (if using our *pdf* registration form, enter the applicable premium from the above table when 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.igoinsured.com/direct/ManulifeWorld.aspx?ag=ONTOTPR>

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

www.doctorsontour.ca/manulife-travelinsuranceguide.php

Non-Canadian residents

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). 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.igoinsured.com/direct/ManulifeWorld.aspx?ag=ONTOTPR>

Testimonials...

What our physicians have said about our previous educational escapes...

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"The trip surpassed all my expectations. The country itself was far more interesting than I thought and the tour itself was very well organized. The wineries were a treat and the physicians and their spouses were lots of fun. I would be happy to do another trip! "

Dr. Steven Traplin, Guelph – Spain Gourmet tour, 2011

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

Dr. Peter Bloch, Oakville – Spain Gourmet tour, 2011

"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

"Our guide was excellent, enthusiastic and knowledgeable. Cooking classes were good and the hotels were excellent"

Dr. Barbara Flanagan, Charlottetown – Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia, 2012

"Excellent! Loved the trip and well worth it. Life changing experience, excellent speakers and very well organized. Met some great people and will keep in touch for future trips. Will definitely book another doctors-on-tour trip in the future"

Dr. Janel Gracey, London – Bali, 2012

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

Dr. Blair Fraser, Guelph – Spain & Portugal, 2012

"We had a magical time in Machu Picchu - such a spiritual time at day break - our guide was great! Many thanks for the fabulous trip - memorable and well organized. Your company does such a great job and such an opportunity for us, and what a great group of people to share such an amazing trip with".

Dr. Paul Bates, London – Ecuador & the Galapagos, Peru 2012

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

Jack & Lore Brown, London - Ecuador & the Galapagos, 2012

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

Dr. Linda Rapson, Toronto – 2013

"We enjoyed our extension to the UAE and saw an amazing amount in a short time. Our guide was very helpful, informative and pleasant and we appreciated how he was able to inform us about the country, it's people and customs. Excellent !"

Drs Christopher & Margaret Ibey, Parry Sound, On. – United Arab Emirates, 2013

"Our group had a great time during our Delhi extension, and of course, the visit to the Taj Mahal at sunrise was breathtaking. The hotels were fantastic and the food excellent"

Helle Tosine, Toronto, On. – North India extension, 2013

"Just back from the South India tour and it was amazing!!! I am already keen to return to the north on one of your tours. I am a total convert to the Doctors on Tour trips!! I really enjoyed the varied itinerary...Kumar was outstanding, very professional and certainly made the trip run smoothly in a group that had so many different personalities.... he really was exceptional. Lacuma was also fantastic, very capable and organized. So....well done!!"

Dr. Susan Smith, Fredericton, N.B. – South India, 2013

"Kumar and Lakuma were wonderful guides and enriched our experience immensely. This was a wonderful tour – thanks!"

Dr. Jeff Sloan, Napanee, On. – South India, 2013

"Lakuma (our guide) was very good – knowledgeable, well organized and pleasant. The Kerala backwater cruise was beautiful and the Kerala Palace an exceptionally beautiful property. As usual, Dr. Peter & Mary (Bloch) were spectacular hosts. A wonderful trip!"

Andrea Maurice, Toronto, On. – South India, 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. Salamat Jalan"

Dr. Bob & Evelyn Lawler, Gibsonia, PA - Bali 2015

"We had a fabulous experience, enjoying a fun group of travelers and loving the beautiful art and history of Spain. The warm, friendly and family culture feeling of Spain was memorable and a testimony to the connections of Chef Fernando Garcia".

Dr. Gerry Mittler, Vancouver, BC - Spain Gourmet, September 2015

"Thank you for your excellent guidance during our trip to Ecuador. the trip was very good, and the logistics and handling of the group were excellent"

Dr. David Spence, London, On - Ecuador (including the Galapagos and Amazon), 2015

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

Dr. Les Marien, Orangeville, On - New Zealand, 2016

"An enjoyable and enlightening tour"

Dr. Brian Davies, Sarnia, On. - China, 2016

"A great exposure to Balinese culture and the spiritual aspects behind their healing philosophy"

Dr. Karyn Klapecki, Toronto, On. - Bali, 2016

"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

"Everything was excellent! We had a wonderful time. Hotels were superb. Thank you again for the well organized, all details worked out, great trip!"

Dr. Andrea Cordas, Burlington, On. – South India, 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

"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".

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

"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

And about your Group Leaders and Medical Director, Dr. Peter, and Mary, Bloch (Oakville, On.)

"Very well organized ! - Peter & Mary were excellent in encouraging productive and enjoyable interactions between group members which resulted in a cohesive and unified group and resulted in the whole tour unfolding smoothly"
Dr. Elizabeth Weber, Toronto - Spain, 2011

"Peter and Mary were excellent hosts (as usual). It was particularly helpful having Peter at the ATMs which seemed to mystify me. It was also wonderful having Peter talk about Chile - growing up there, his summers in Vina - our own personal tour guide!
Andrea Maurice, Toronto – Chile & Argentina, , 2012

"As usual, Dr. Peter & Mary (Bloch) were spectacular hosts. A wonderful trip!"
Andrea Maurice, Toronto – South India, 2013

"I am writing to let you know how much we enjoyed our recent trip to India. We all agreed that Peter and Mary were exceptional hosts. They were incredibly warm and welcoming and were on top of situations as they arose"
Dr. Ron Eliosoff, Ottawa - South India, 2013

"I want to give you some feedback on our amazing trip to South Africa. Our guide Craig was exceptional; lunch at La Petite Ferme was a highlight, great food, wine and scenery; in Swaziland, glass factory was very good the candle factory was great; Kapama River (Game) Lodge - amazing ! Soweto - great ! Overall it was a great trip, the group was easy to get along and of course Peter and Mary were great group leaders!"
Dr. Steve and Marg Szarka, Hamilton, On. - South Africa, 2014

"It was an amazing trip thru Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos. It exceeded all our expectations. Peter and Mary (Bloch) 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

"Thank you, Peter & Mary - you are wonderful at doing this !"
Dr. Linda Cohen, Montreal, Qc. - Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos, 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

"Mary & Peter were definitely an 11 (out of 10). I thought they were absolutely amazing, kind and friendly"
Dianne Fournier, Toronto, On. - China, 2016

"Excellent tour guide - Excellent meals! Peter and Mary did a great job."
Dr. Sy Lam, Calgary, AB - South Africa, 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...

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

RESERVATIONS & DEPOSIT: Early reservations are recommended to guarantee your reservation as several of the accommodation providers with which we make arrangements on your behalf have limited capacity. All services are strictly on a request basis, both for air travel and land requirements and subject to availability of seats and hotel/lodge/camp rooms and cruise cabins. A guaranteed non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person (\$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.

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.

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

CANCELLATIONS & CHANGES: The deposit amounts (for both the main tour and any optional extensions reserved) are non-refundable 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. Individual airfares purchased outside of our groups air blocks are subject to different rules and cancellation fees. Some airfares may be non-refundable once the booking is confirmed regardless of when it was made. Details will be provided at the time of booking confirmation.

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

TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION, VISA & OTHER IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS: A Canadian citizen must be in possession of a passport that must remain valid for a minimum of 6 months from the date of conclusion of 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, 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

OPTIONAL TOURS, EXCURSIONS AND TRIP EXTENSIONS: It is our intent to operate any Optional Extensions on a private group basis. However, should the number of participants be of an insufficient level, we reserve the right to either -

- (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.

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.

SEATING ASSIGNMENT ON FLIGHTS: Our air arrangements are made via group contracts with the airlines and are therefore subject to more restrictive airline booking 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.

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.

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/>

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

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

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

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

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