

# **GENERAL TERMS**& CONDITIONS

### **OVERVIEW**

Walking Adventures International (WAI) plans and guides walking adventures that combine international and domestic travel with recreational walking. Our programs blend walking with historic, cultural, and scenic highlights of the areas through which we travel.



### **RESERVATIONS**

Reservations may be secured by paying a non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person. At the time of registration, travelers receive an invoice showing the due date for the remaining balance (90 days prior to departure). A reminder statement will be sent about 3 weeks prior to the due date. Walking Adventures Int'l accepts payment in the form of personal check, money order, or credit card (MasterCard, VISA, AMEX, or Discover).

### **PRICES**

Prices quoted in each brochure are per person with two travelers sharing a room. Though it happens infrequently, surcharges are sometimes necessary to cover unexpected additional charges levied by airlines or tour operators (e.g. fuel surcharges). In the unlikely event we encounter government shutdowns, strikes, natural disasters, social disturbances, etc., modifications to our itinerary may be necessary for the safety and convenience of our travelers. We will do our utmost to preserve or improve the original objectives of the itinerary, but regret that we cannot issue refunds to travelers when such modifications become necessary. In rare cases, a surcharge may be necessary to cover additional expenses incurred for extra services and/or accommodations. International travel arrangements are subject to foreign currency fluctuations. Consequently, though rarely necessary, prices quoted may be subject to an adjustment due to any change in foreign currency rates.

### **NOT INCLUDED**

Airfare; passport or VISA fees; passenger facility taxes levied by domestic or foreign airports (airport taxes); meals not listed in the itinerary; beverages for any included lunches or dinners; tips for housekeeping; trip cancellation or other travel insurance; phone calls; valet/laundry services and other services of a personal nature; and porterage of luggage.

# **TOUR ITINERARY DEVIATIONS**

Travelers sometimes ask if they can join or leave the tour somewhere en route. It is difficult to serve these travelers without shortchanging those signed up for the full, advertised itinerary. We regret that we cannot accommodate mid-tour itinerary deviation requests.

### **TOUR CANCELLATIONS**

Walking Adventures International reserves the right to cancel any tour departure with fewer than 12 participants, in which case registered participants will receive a 100% refund of payments received.

If travel services are canceled by WAI, all sums paid to WAI, and eligible for refund to travelers, for services not performed in accordance with the itinerary published on the WAI website will be refunded within thirty days of receiving the funds from the supplier with whom the services were arranged. If WAI had not yet sent the funds to the supplier, the funds shall be returned to the participant within fourteen days after cancellation by WAI, unless the participant asks WAI to apply the money to another tour.

Many suppliers require non-refundable deposits as a condition of booking services. Unforeseen circumstances (for example those related to COVID-19) may force us to cancel the tour. Due to these supplier's non-refundable policies, WAI intends to retrieve as much of these deposits as possible, but cannot guarantee a 100% refund. In cases where full refunds cannot be obtained, we will do our best to transfer unrefunded money as traveler credits to be applied to a future tour to that destination.

## **CANCELLATIONS**

A \$500 non-refundable deposit is required for registration. The balance is due 90 days before departure. Please make sure you understand these General Tour Conditions, including the cancellation terms. Once you have registered, your spot is secured. The closer we get to departure day, the harder it is to fill that spot should you change your mind. Cancellation terms are therefore necessary to ensure that we all understand the importance of shared commitment to this trip. Cancellations received in writing 89 to 60 days before departure will receive a 50% refund. No refunds will be made on cancellations received less than 60 days before departure. No refunds will be made on any unused or cancelled services once the tour has commenced. If WAI cancels this tour, you will receive a full refund of your tour payments.

# **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

Walking Adventures International strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance. Many years of helping travelers deal with unexpected circumstances that require cancellation of their travel plans have made us believers in the benefits of this form of insurance.





**Enriching Lives through Experiential Travel!** 

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# WAI GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS (continued)

### **AIRFARE**

The tour price excludes air travel. The starting point for the tour is generally our arrival airport or first hotel.

### **HOTELS**

Accommodations range for the most part from tourist-class to superior tourist-class or better. In all cases, facilities are en suite. Travelers may request a roommate and are put in contact with other travelers also seeking roommates. Alternatively, travelers may request their own single room for an additional fee. This supplement assures the traveler of a room to themselves. It does not necessarily cover the expense of a full-sized double room. In much of the world, single rooms are smaller than double rooms but still more costly, on a per person basis, than sharing a double room.

### **LAND TRANSPORTATION**

WAI endeavors to find the best motorcoaches available. Seats cannot be reserved on the coach.

# **LUGGAGE HANDLING**

Though WAI guides are sensitive to those needing help with luggage, porterage is generally <u>not included</u> on our tours. Transporting luggage to the traveler's hotel room is ultimately the responsibility of the traveler. As experienced travelers will tell you, this is just one incentive to travel light. Luggage is limited to <u>one large or two small suitcases per person plus carry-on type luggage</u>.



### **WALKS**

Walks vary in length (3 to 7 miles maximum per day) and difficulty. Most walks are planned by WAI staff or hosted by local walking clubs. WAI uses



a walk difficulty rating system which contains a numeric indicator for trail incline and an alpha indicator for trail terrain. Participation in walks is always optional. Because we normally offer a full schedule, travelers are encouraged to pace themselves and should not feel obligated to take part in all the walks.

# **TRAVELERS WITH DISABILITIES**

Travelers with disabilities are welcome provided that they have a traveling companion who can assist them if the traveler's disability prevents them from being fully independent.

# **TOUR PACE / PHYSICAL CONDITIONING**

As would be expected with a walking tour, our itinerary is aggressive and designed to offer the traveler as much exposure to the areas we visit as possible. In order to maximize enjoyment of these sometimes rigorous and always rewarding Adventures, it is important that travelers be in good physical condition.



## **TRAVELER'S PERSPECTIVE**

As with most things, the benefit you receive from this experience will depend to a large degree on the frame of mind you have at the outset. If you've not traveled outside the U.S. before, here are a few things of which to be aware:



- WAI is a provider of international travel experiences planned by a small but dedicated team from a single office in Washington State. Our geographic reach is broad; depending on the destination, we may visit annually or biennually. We provide a low-volume, boutiqueservice style of travel.
- Travelers who match well with our travel programs value authenticity and spontaneity over precision and a flawless execution of the itinerary. To varying degrees, hotels, food, and local customs are different in other countries. This can be uncomfortable... and exciting!
- Though we continue to look for ways to slow the pace of our "Adventures," we still believe in providing a full day's opportunities for our travelers. On some days, we may spend a significant amount of time on the bus.
- Group travel, by its nature, involves giving up a certain degree of individual convenience. Though we strive for individual flexibility, much of the time we all need to be "headed in the same direction."



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