THE ROMANCE of
THE GANGES

Co-sponsored by:
Smith Travel, Bryn Mawr Travel,
and The Vassar Travel Program

KOLKATA • GANGES RIVER • LUCKNOW • VARANASI
February 1-14, 2016
Dear Smith Alumnae and Friends,

Smith College invites you to join us on a unique cruise on the one of India’s holiest and most famous rivers— the Ganges.

An important stop is Kolkata (formerly called Calcutta) the former seat of the British Raj and home of Nobel Laureates Rabindranath Tagore (Literature, 1913) and Mother Teresa (Peace, 1979). We will experience the cacophony of this city through the eyes and ears of locals as we meander the streets immersed in the arts and culture and, most importantly, getting to know the people of West Bengal.

Embark on this unique voyage aboard the Ganges Voyager that embodies the grace and style of the British colonial era, incorporating modern conveniences and luxuries that rival the finest hotels of Asia. The cruise passes by rural farming communities who have lived there for a millennia. Explore the historic sites honoring the Mughals, including their shrines and palaces; visit the remnants of the British East India Company and ancient temples that dot the shore. We will also visit the legendary city of Lucknow and capital of Uttar Pradesh. This city is known for ornate manners inherited from the last significant Muslim court to hold sway over North India. Lucknow is also famous for its rebellious streak. The revolt of 1857 was one of the first acts against the British colonial rulers. We end the trip in Varanasi—the holiest city for Hindus and a pilgrimage destination. Sunrise and sunsets invite the ringing of temple bells as worshippers gather along the banks of the Ganges.

This program is also offers a unique experience by merging the academic and the aesthetic, by exploring the ancient history of the region and the modern society of today. We will offer several lectures on the trip and further enhanced by local experts and guides. Sharing this adventure with us will be travelers from Vassar College and Bryn Mawr College along with their distinguished study leaders.

We hope you will join us on this memorable program, and since space is limited, we encourage you to reserve your place quickly.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director for Travel, Office of Alumnae Relations

For additional information please contact Liz Bigwood. Call Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029. *Email: alumtravel@smith.edu *Fax: (413) 585-2015 Or call Immersion Journeys (917-080-2020).
Nalini Bhushan
Nalini Bhushan is Professor of Philosophy and Director of the South Asia Concentration at Smith College. She grew up in Chennai, South India, and received her Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Bhushan regularly teaches courses in aesthetics, the philosophy of language, mind and science, and in classical and contemporary Indian philosophy. She is currently working on a co-authored book project entitled Minds Without Fear (forthcoming from Oxford University Press in August 2016), which explores the intellectual dimensions of the Indian Renaissance (1850-1947) and its aftermath in areas such as art, philosophy, politics and religion. The overall goal is to examine the many ways in which Indian tradition encounters cosmopolitan modernity, while situated in the broad and complicated context of British colonial rule.

Glen Johnson
Glen Johnson is Professor Emeritus at Vassar College where he was the Shirley Ecker Boekey Professor of Political Science and International Relations. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He joined the Vassar faculty in 1964 and served as Chair of the Political Science Department and founding Director of the International Studies Program. He was Acting President of Vassar College in 1997 and again in 2003.

Professor Johnson is the author and co-author of several books and a number of articles on US foreign policy, international human rights, India’s foreign policy and ex-untouchables. He has been a Fulbright scholar in India twice, including three years as Director of the American Studies Research Centre in Hyderabad. He has visited India 19 times for teaching, administrative and research work, and as a resource expert for several Vassar alumnae/i educational tours.

Sipra Bose Johnson
Sipra Bose Johnson is Associate Professor Emerita of Anthropology at the State University of New York at New Paltz. She was a member of the New Paltz faculty and taught anthropology and Asian studies for more than 30 years during which time she also served as Special Assistant to the Academic Vice-President for a five-year term. She is the author of several articles dealing with Indian women and with ex-untouchables in India and has lectured widely in India and the United States on these subjects and others.

Born in Kolkata, India, she immigrated to the United States with her family when she was eleven years old. She received her high school education in Chapel Hill, NC and did her undergraduate work in international relations at the University of North Carolina where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and to the Order of the Valkyries, the highest honor for women at the University. She earned her M.A. in anthropology at Columbia University. With her husband, Glen Johnson, she has led several educational tours of India for the Vassar College Alumnae/i Association and one for the National Geographic Society.

Kristin Kelly
Kristin Kelly graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1974, and earned a Ph.D. in art history and archaeology from Columbia University. Kris left the J. Paul Getty Trust in 2008 after eighteen years—nine at the J. Paul Getty Museum as the Manager of Administration, and nine at the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) in various positions responsible for public education about the conservation of cultural heritage. From 2000 to 2011, she was the chief consultant to a heritage center devoted to the history and culture of the Sikhs in Punjab State, India which opened in the fall of 2012. She is the author of The Extraordinary Museums of Southeast Asia (Harry N. Abrams, 2001) and travels to Southeast Asia to research its art, archaeology, and culture as often as she can.
Monday, Feb. 1 — Kolkata

Arrive in Kolkata. This teeming city is the third largest metropolis in India and served as the capital of the British ‘Raj’ before it moved to Delhi. Being the gateway to eastern India, it is a crucial trade hub where shipping along the Hoogly River has been an important economic engine for hundreds of years.

Overnight: Hyatt Regency (B)

Tuesday Feb. 2 — Kolkata

Board the Ganges Voyager for lunch.

This afternoon visit the Mother Teresa house and tomb. The tour includes the permanent exhibition on her life story and work in Kolkata. Still an active charity, the administrative offices remain within the home and complex. Continue by foot to the Sishu Bhaban, where a tour will be led by one of the sisters.

Evening welcome reception and dinner on board the ship.

Overnight: Ganges Voyager (L,D)

Wednesday Feb. 3 — Kolkata City Tour - Bandel

Depart on an early morning panoramic city tour of Kolkata viewing a portion of the well-preserved British colonial neighborhood. These buildings signify the power of the Empire that once ruled a vast swath of this territory. Step into the Victoria Memorial Museum — an appropriate testament to the former monarch. The museum contains the largest collection of objects of British colonial rule in India.

Later, set sail on the Ganges Voyager, passing former European settlements from the bygone era and then arriving at Bandel. Take an on-shore excursion with a visit to the Hoogly Imambara, one of the famous pilgrimage centers in West Bengal. Features include an eclectic mix of design, such as a Victorian-era clock and Persian chandeliers and smaller lamps that light up the Imambara’s gorgeous halls and passages.

Overnight: Ganges Voyager (B,L,D)

Thursday Feb. 4 — Kalna

This morning we enjoy a ride through the city center of Kalna, en route to the enchanting Rajbari complex that has the highest concentration of temples in the region. On one side of the road lies the Nabakailas Temples — a complex of 108 aat-chala (eight sloped roofed) Shiva temples arranged in two concentric circles. On the other side of the road lies a walled complex, housing the most diversified form of Bengal’s temple architecture depicting themes of Hindu epics and day-to-day life in the region.

Overnight: Ganges Voyager (B,L,D)
Friday Feb. 5 — Matiari
Wander through a shore bazaar in Matiari. This area is known for creating beautiful handcrafted brass items using traditional methods passed down for generations. These master craftsmen utilize recycled copper and create beautiful pots, platters and other items from their workshops in the village. Sail past the battlefield of Plassey, where in 1757 Robert Clive of the British East India Company defeated the Mogul Nawabs (then rulers of Bengal) and their French allies, establishing the Company rule in India.
Overnight: Ganges Voyager (B,L,D)

Saturday Feb. 6 — Khushbagh - Baganagar - Murshidabad
Visit the charming village of Khushbagh. Enjoy a scenic early morning, passing farms and estates to observe the way of life in rural India. Arrive at the well-preserved mosque complex built by Nawab Ali-Wardi-Khan as his private mosque. Baranagar is a lovely example of life in rural India. Here are several temples dating from the 18th century that were built by the local queen. The brick temples are considered to be among the best examples of Bengal terra cotta art.

Further downstream is the city of Murshidabad. This is a hidden architectural gem along the Ganges with dramatic whitewashed colonial era structures. An excursion to Hazarduari Palace, a Doric style building by English architect, McLeod Duncan, reveals a house with more than a thousand real and false doors and filled with colonial era antiques, artwork and manuscripts.
Overnight: Ganges Voyager (B,L,D)

Sunday Feb. 7 — Mayapur
Mayapur is the birthplace of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, born in 1486 AD and considered an incarnation of Lord Krishna. Today it is the home of the Krishna Consciousness Movement also called ISKON. Guests can view the fascinating culture of these followers and their ornate and colorfully decorated statues of Krishna within the complex. Learn about the construction of the new temple partially funded by Alfred B. Ford, the great grandson of Henry Ford. The new complex rivals the Vatican in size and contains a 700,000 square foot temple.
Overnight: Ganges Voyager (B,L,D)

Monday Feb. 8 — Chandenagore
Chandenagore was established as a French colony in 1673 and ultimately became a permanent French settlement and trading post in 1688. Explore the French colonial buildings along the promenade, such as the former French Governor’s residence now converted into a museum that includes many items on exhibition depicting life during this period. Also visit the Sacred Heart Church of Chandenagore and the old French bakery which makes fresh pastries daily for the local population.
Overnight: Ganges Voyager (B,L,D)
Tuesday Feb. 9 — Arrive Kolkata/ Kumartulli
Visit Kumartulli — a potter’s town, to see and understand the famous Bengali art of idol making. Kumartulli is known for its internationally renowned artisans who craft the most beautiful idols from straw and clay. Today, people living around the world commission idols from Kumartulli.

Continue to the famous Dhakineshwar Kali Temple. Located on the banks of the Hooghly River, this temple is dedicated to one of the most powerful goddesses in Hinduism – Kali, the goddess of *shakti* or power. Built by a dynamic queen, this temple has an interesting history and amazing architecture.

*Overnight: Hyatt Regency (B,L)*

Wednesday Feb. 10 — Kolkata - Lucknow
Transfer to the airport to board your fl ight to Lucknow — the capital of the state of Uttar Pradesh located between Agra and Varanasi. A multicultural city, Lucknow has influences from the Persians, the British, and, of course, local kingdoms. It is renowned for its art, literature, music, and cuisine.

A heritage walk takes you through small lanes, past ancient villas and crumbling palaces. Hear the story of the elegant Mughal era and the British who called this city home. Learn about the revolt of 1857, which was the beginning of India’s struggle for freedom, and how it affected this beautiful city.

*Overnight: Vivanta by Taj Lucknow (B)*

Thursday, Feb. 11 — Lucknow
Depart for a guided tour of the greater city area. Start at the breath-taking architectural marvel of La Martiniere School, founded by an endowment from the wealthy eighteenth-century Frenchman, Major-General Claude Martin; then visit the Asifi Immambara — a large pillar-free hall built during a famine to provide work and relief to the population. Also see the Rumi Darwaza, a gate that takes its inspiration from the only similar one located in Turkey, and the Asifi Mosque and the *bhool blulayia* (a labyrinth).

Indulge in some shopping in Hazratganj, Lucknow’s main shopping center. This area is famous for *chikan* (beautifully embroidered cotton clothes), jewelry, *ittra* (perfume) and handloom textiles.

*Overnight: Vivanta by Taj Lucknow (B, D)*
Friday Feb. 12 — Lucknow – Varanasi

Early departure for the famous holy city Varanasi by road (approximately 6 hours).

Varanasi, also known as Kashi and Benares, is situated on the north bank of the Ganges and is one of the oldest living cities of the world (circa 3,500 years). Known as the holiest of cities for Hindus, it is an important pilgrimage site.

This evening, witness an aarti (prayer) ceremony where you can watch worshippers come to the ghats to offer prayers and float tiny oil lamps on the river.

Overnight: The Gateway Hotel Ganges (B)

Saturday Feb. 13 — Varanasi

Enjoy the serenity of a sunrise boat-ride on the Ganges, stopping at several shore temples, including the famous Kashi Vishwanath temple dedicated to Lord Shiva.

Later visit Chunar Fort that hails from the pre-Mughal era. Subsequent generations of kings and colonial powers have used this fort as a strategic base for military and commercial activity.

Enjoy a farewell dinner.

Overnight: The Gateway Hotel Ganges (B, D)

Sunday Feb. 14 — Varanasi - Delhi

Morning visit to Sarnath, where Buddha first preached. A well-known site, it is also home to Dhamekh Stupa, which houses a museum on Buddha, his life and religion.

Later, transfer to the airport for your flight to Delhi, arriving in the late afternoon, and connect to your flight home or continue your stay and visit the Golden Triangle (see details below for optional extension).
Accommodations aboard the Ganges Voyager embody the grace and style of the British colonial era, incorporating modern conveniences and luxuries that rival the finest hotels of Asia. All 28 suites have French balconies and are spacious and well appointed, providing daily housekeeping with turndown service, fine bed linens, premium mattresses and duvets. The upper deck offers 360-degree views of the landscape where you can enjoy cocktails as the sun sets over the river, or a magnificent meal prepared by world-class chefs, made from the finest of ingredients procured locally. The cross between history and modernity as reflected in the decor and ambiance of the ship is second to none.

**PROGRAM RATES**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signature Suite (French Balcony): 10 Suites, 261 sq. ft., 24 sq. meters</td>
<td>$7,945</td>
<td>$8,295</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Suite (French Balcony): 13 Suites, 261 sq. ft., 24 sq. meters</td>
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<td>$8,545</td>
<td>$9,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heritage Suite (French Balcony): 2 Suites, 280 sq. ft., 26 sq. meters</td>
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<td>$8,845</td>
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<td>Viceroy Suite (French Balcony): 2 Suites, 360 sq. ft., 33.4 sq. meters</td>
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<td>$9,145</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharaja Suite (French Balcony): 1 Suite, 400 sq. ft., 37 sq. meters</td>
<td>$9,145</td>
<td>$9,445</td>
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**COST INCLUDES:**

- All airport transfers.
- Ganges Voyager on-board accommodations and hotels in Kolkata, Lucknow, Varanasi.
- Meals indicated above
- All land excursions by professional guides and associated transport.
- Domestic airfare (Kolkata-Lucknow-Varanasi-Delhi).
OPTIONAL EXTENSION - Royal Rajasthan

**GROUND COST:** $1,695 per person (double occupancy)
$780 single room supplement

Feb 14 - Arrive Delhi from Varanasi. Le Meridien Hotel
Feb 15 - Delhi City Tour. Le Meridien Hotel (B)
Feb 16 - Agra via Fatehpur Sikri. ITC Mughal (B)
Feb 17 - Taj Mahal tour and travel to Jaipur (“Pink City”). ITC Rajputana (B)
Feb 18 - Jaipur City Tour. ITC Rajputana (B)
Feb 19 - Return Delhi and overnight. Le Meridien Hotel (B)
Feb 20 - Depart

**INCLUDES:** private vehicle, driver and professional guide in each city, entry fee to monuments, hotel accommodations and daily breakfast.

**COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:**
International airfare, tips/gratuities, any other meals other than those noted above, laundry, beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), additional services from hotels and Ganges Voyager, India visa fees, vaccinations, supplemental travel insurance, telephone, fax, internet usage, any items not in the itinerary.
To reserve a space, please complete and mail this form with your deposit of $1,000 payable to Immersion Journeys to Smith Travel- Office of Alumnae Relations, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063 or fax (413) 585-2015. We will not process your deposit until you are assigned a place on the tour. For more information, please contact Liz Bigwood at Smith Travel (800) 225-2029 or Immersion Journeys at (917) 686-2620, rumit@immersionjourneys.com.

American Express
(mm/dd/yy)
MasterCard
(mm/dd/yy)
VISA
(mm/dd/yy)
Mobile:_______
❑ Please charge my/our deposit of $_________ ($1,000 per person) to my:

Card #:_________________________________ Expiration Date: ____________________ Security Code (4 digits for AMEX/ 3 digits for others)______________

Authorized Card Holder Signature:__________________________________________ Date: __________

The balance of the trip is due on October 1, 2015 and payable by check or bank wire only.

❑ Please sign me/us up for the or the 5-night Royal Rajasthan & Taj Mahal Tour optional extension.

PASSenger INFORMATION

NAME 1 (as on passport): ____________________________________________________________

Passport #:_________________________ Nationality________________________

Issue Date:_________________________ (mm/dd/yy) Expiration_____________________ (mm/dd/yy)

Date of Birth:______________________ (mm/dd/yy) Smith College Affiliation_________

Street Address:_______________________________________________________________

City:_________________________ State:_______ ZIP:_________________________

Home Phone:_____________________ Mobile:_____________ Work:____________________

Email (write clearly):______________________________

❑ I prefer single accommodations (due to limited space this is not guaranteed.)

❑ I plan to room with ____________________________

❑ I prefer to share accommodations (if roommate is not available, I will pay the single rate)

Emergency Phone # & Contact Name (during trip): _______________________________________

Please indicate any special needs (diet, health, mobility etc): ________________________________

❑ Signature Suite
❑ Colonial Suite
❑ Heritage Suite
❑ Viceroy Suite
❑ Maharaja Suite

*If your preferred berth is not available you will be notified and placed in the next available berth category.

NAME 2 (as on passport): ____________________________________________________________

Passport #:_________________________ Nationality________________________

Issue Date:_________________________ (mm/dd/yy) Expiration_____________________ (mm/dd/yy)

Date of Birth:______________________ (mm/dd/yy) Smith College Affiliation_________

Street Address:_______________________________________________________________

City:_________________________ State:_______ ZIP:_________________________

Home Phone:_____________________ Mobile:_____________ Work:____________________

Email (write clearly):______________________________

By submitting my/our deposit of $1,000 per person, I/we am/are registering for the Romance of the Ganges program and have read and agreed to the terms & conditions. I understand that portions of this trip will be moderately strenuous and may include unpaved paths. Traveling includes cruising on the Ganges and visiting local sites. I/we also agree to be in good physical shape and will be prepared to walk with minimal use of walking aid or wheelchair (note: most places in India and the Ganges Voyager are not handicap accessible by wheelchair). I/we also take responsibility for purchasing our own supplemental travel insurance including medical evacuation coverage.

__________________________ Date

__________________________ Date
Your signature on our tour reservation form will signify your agreement with the following terms and conditions.

**Introduction:** These are the terms and conditions applicable to the tour packages provided by Immersion Journeys LLC (collectively “Immersion Journeys”, “we”, “us” and “our”). The terms “client” “you” and “your” refer to each person who purchases and/or uses a tour package provided by Immersion Journeys.

**Benefits of Tour Packages:** Our tour packages offer services of a professional tour guide, accommodations, meals as outlined in the itinerary, transportation as specified in the itinerary and excursions and tours as outlined in the itinerary.

Immersion Journeys may, from time to time, offer you optional services or benefits. By using those services and/or benefits when they become available, you agree to be bound by any supplemental terms applicable to those services or benefits. We will send final documents and tickets by overnight or registered mail approximately two (2) weeks prior to the start of the tour.

**Rates and Exclusions:** The rates and charges for tour participation are those established at the time the tour is booked with Immersion Journeys. We reserve the right to increase tour prices to cover increased costs, tariffs, taxes and V.A.T. received after prices are published and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. Published rates and charges are typically “per person,” based upon double occupancy with en suite bath (unless otherwise stated). Single rooms are subject to a single room supplemental charges which are stated in the proposal. Expenses and terms not specifically identified in the applicable Immersion Journeys produced quotation are not covered. These include any paperwork or charges associated with: passports, visas, immunization, meals other than those specified, optional excursions, trip protection coverage, alcoholic beverages (beer, wine and liquor), all beverages excluding those provided in Immersion Journeys vehicles, telephone calls, room service, laundry, personal items, baggage handling, international airfare unless otherwise stated, gratuities and transportation to or from any departure gateway and any other costs that might be incurred not stated in tour package. Some governments charge departure taxes and/or fees. These fees are the responsibility of each passenger traveling to the designated country and are not included unless stated.

Payment. We accept the following forms of payment: major credit cards, bank transfer or checks drawn on a U.S. Bank. Credit cards will incur a service fee of 3-5% paid by the client.

**Payments:** We accept the following forms of payment: major credit cards, bank transfer or checks drawn on a U.S. Bank. Credit cards will incur a service fee of 3-5% paid by the client.

You must promptly pay the following fees and charges for participation in an Immersion Journeys tour:

- **Airfare:** Full payment per person is due in order to purchase airline tickets. Airline cancellation policy shall apply. Discounted airfare quote (if available) is subject to purchase of ground package.
- **Ground Package:** A deposit of $1,000 per person per tour is required immediately to secure the tour and services. This amount may vary depending on the destination, accommodations and services.
- **Balance:** The balance of the tour price is due 120 days before departure.

**Revisions:** A fee of $250 per booking for each change made sixty (60) days or more prior to the start of the tour. The cancellation fees set forth below apply to changes made less than one hundred and twenty days (120) days prior to the start of the tour.

**Cancellation by You:** We must receive your cancellation notice in writing by email, fax, or overnight courier, and your cancellation date will be the date on which we receive your notice. Simultaneously with your notice, you must pay the following cancellation charge based upon the amount of notice provided. In addition, airline cancellation policies shall apply for cancelled tours involving air transportation:

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<th>Penalty</th>
<th>Number of Days of Advance Written Notice</th>
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<tr>
<td>$750 per person</td>
<td>Within 30 days of receiving your reservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>One hundred percent (100%)</td>
<td>Within 120 days of departure</td>
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There is no refund for unused portions of a tour once it has commenced, and you are solely responsible for costs incurred by you due to missed, canceled or delayed transportation. Your decision not to participate on the tour due to State Department warnings, fear of travel, illness or any other reason will be deemed a cancellation. If a flight or other delay for any reason prevents you from joining the tour on the tour departure date and time, you will be considered a no-show, and we cannot provide a full or partial refund or credit toward a future tour, but you may join the tour late if you wish.

**Insurance:** Immersion Journeys recommends that you purchase trip cancellation, medical, and baggage insurance to cover penalties and cancellation charges. Smith College will send an insurance application upon receipt of reservation and deposit, although you may select any insurer of your choice. However, any questions about what travel insurance does or does not cover should be addressed directly to the travel insurance company. If you decline insurance coverage, you will personally assume full responsibility for any financial loss associated with your travel arrangements, and you could lose your travel investment and/or have to pay more money to correct the situation.

**Cancellation or Substitution By Us:** We will make commercially reasonable efforts to keep the itinerary as it has been published; however, the final itinerary may vary due to availability and factors beyond our control. We may in our sole discretion substitute services such as hotels or goods of similar quality for any service or good stated in the itinerary. If a tour is cancelled, our liability is limited to a full refund of your payments, and we will not be liable for any other costs, damages, or refunds of any kind for any loss, delay, inconvenience, disappointment, or expense whatsoever in such circumstances. If for reasons beyond our control, a tour in progress must be interrupted or cancelled, we will refund a portion of the price depending on our actual costs incurred.

**Airfares:** Airlines and airfares included in any brochure are subject to change without notice. Please check with Immersion Journeys or your travel agent for conditions applicable to your airline ticket. Even after you have paid, tours with scheduled air transportation within or from the United States are subject to supplemental price increases that may be imposed by the supplier and/or government. You hereby consent to any such price increase. We will not change your requested seat assignments on commercial aircraft without permission. However, airlines often change seat assignments to satisfy their loyalty members or because of equipment changes (aircraft type). We are not notified of these changes in advance, and often clients are not made aware of these changes until they arrive at the airport. We are not responsible for seat assignment changes made by the airline. Frequent flyer programs are private agreements between airlines and passengers, and we cannot be held responsible for mileage discrepancies involving airline loyalty reward programs.

**Passports and Visas:** International travel requires a passport valid 6 months beyond your intended return travel date. In many cases, you will also need to have multiple consecutive blank visa pages within your passport (the number varies depending on the destination). Many destinations also require that visas be obtained prior to travel. Please speak with us if you are unsure about the visa requirements for your travel destination, but you are solely responsible for complying with passport and visa requirements.

**Security and Safety:** We are strongly committed to protecting your security and well being. However, travel, safaris and sightseeing endeavors are inherently dangerous activities. Immersion Journeys strongly recommends that you exercise extreme caution when participating in tour events. Parts of your tour may involve high altitudes, hiking, cycling and/or driving over rough and dusty terrain.

All tour participants booking with Immersion Journeys certify that they are in good health, fit to travel and have no specific medical problems. It is the responsibility of each tour participant to obtain health and medical certificates, inoculations and vaccinations. Any physical disability that may require special attention or treatment must be reported in writing at the time your reservation is made. Passage may be refused to any person whose state of health or physical conditions render them, in the opinion of the tour company or its suppliers, unfit. Children under sixteen (16) years of age must be supervised by parent(s) or guardian(s) who will bear ultimate responsibility of their actions. Immersion Journeys recommends that you purchase insurance to cover medical expenses, trip cancellation and interruption, and loss of baggage. Please contact Immersion Journeys for further details.

**Information:** Information that Immersion Journeys publishes in its brochures, collateral material and on its web site is believed to be accurate and reliable. Immersion Journeys makes no representations or warranties regarding such information or any information provided by a third party. Unless expressly stated in writing, Immersion Journeys does not endorse the products or services offered by any company or person identified in its brochures, collateral material or web site, nor is Immersion Journeys responsible for any content published by a third party.

**Vendor Acts or Omissions:** We act only in the capacity of agent for the suppliers of the travel services named in your itinerary or otherwise providing services or goods in connection with the tour (the “Vendors”), such as airlines, hotels and other lodging providers, local hosts, sightseeing tour operators, bus lines, car rental companies, driving services, restaurants, and providers of entertainment. We assume no responsibility for any personal injury, property damage, or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any act or omission of any of the Vendors or airlines providing flights to or from your tour.
**Conduct During the Tour:** You are also responsible for respecting the authority and following the directions of the tour guide and the laws of the countries in your itinerary. We may exclude you from participating in all or any part of the tour if, in our sole discretion, your condition or behavior renders you unfit for the tour or unfit for continuation once the tour has begun. Unfitness may include, without limitation, any behavior that, regardless of its cause, is inappropriate or offensive or interferes with the delivery of tour services, or may constitute a hazard or embarrassment. In such case, our liability shall be strictly limited to refund of the recoverable cost of any unused portion of the tour. Should you decide not to participate in certain parts of the tour or use certain goods included in the tour, no refunds will be made for those unused parts of the tour or goods.

**Limitation of Liability and Damages:**

In no event will we be liable for any injury, loss, claim, damage, or any special, punitive, exemplary, direct, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages of any kind, whether based in contract, tort, strict liability, or otherwise, that arise out of or are in any way connected with the tour, even if advised of the possibility of such damages. In no event will our aggregate liability exceed the total tour price set forth in the itinerary.

**Force Majeure:** We assume no responsibility for any personal injury, property damage, or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any matter beyond our exclusive control including but not limited to a delay or cancellation that causes you to miss all or any portion of the tour, acts of God, acts of government, war, terrorist acts, riots, disaster, weather extremes, or strikes. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial condition of the Suppliers, unsafe conditions, health hazards, weather hazards, or climate extremes at locations to which you may travel. You understand that health care standards, facilities, and services abroad may be different or even inadequate for treating health conditions. For information concerning possible dangers at foreign destinations, we recommend contacting the Travel Warnings Section of the U.S. State Department at (202) 647-5225 or www.travel.state.gov, and click on “Travel Warnings.” For medical information, we recommend contacting the Centers for Disease Control at (877) FYI-TRIP or www.cdc.gov/travel.

**Indemnification:** You shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless Smith College, Immersion Journeys and its officers, employees, directors, suppliers and agents, in their individual capacities or otherwise, from and against any Losses arising out of: (i) your negligence; (ii) your failure to comply with applicable law; or (iii) your failure to comply with these terms conditions.

**Miscellaneous:** Immersion Journeys may assign its rights and/or delegate all or a portion of its duties under these Terms and Conditions to any third party at any time without the consent or permission of any parties to these Terms and Conditions. If there is a conflict between these Terms and Conditions and one or more terms contained in another agreement between you and Immersion Journeys, these Terms and Conditions will control. No alteration, cancellation, variation of, or addition to these terms and conditions shall be of any force or effect unless reduced to writing and signed by Immersion Journeys and the Client. If there is a conflict between any part of these terms and conditions and any present or future law, the part that is affected shall be curtailed only to the extent necessary to bring it within the requirements of that law.

Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to these Terms and Conditions, to the limits on Immersion Journeys responsibility clause, to the brochure, to the proposal, to any information relating in any way to the trip, the trip itself, or to any products or services related to the trip, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in the State of New York, in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, except that (a) in lieu of a personal appearance at arbitration, the arbitration may be conducted by telephonic means, (b) arbitration is the exclusive forum for dispute resolution (no court actions), and (c) except as otherwise provided by statute, each party shall bear its own costs and expenses and an equal share of the arbitrator and administrative fees. You agree to present any claims against us within 90 days after the tour ends and to file any arbitration request within one year of the incident, and you acknowledge that this expressly limits the applicable statute of limitations to one year.

You hereby consent to our use of pictures or video of you in our marketing materials without compensation. Facsimile or scanned transmission of any signed document shall be deemed delivery of an original.

**ASSUMPTION OF RISK:** You acknowledge that you have voluntarily applied for this tour. You understand that you may travel to countries and areas that are inherently risky. You are prepared to assume risks associated with this tour including: forces of nature; terrorism; civil unrest; war; accidents; and transportation including land vehicles, boats, and aircraft that are not operated and maintained to the standards found in North America, and you hereby assume such risks. You also assume risks associated with altitude, illness, disease, physical exertion, and alcohol consumption, knowing that access to evacuation and/or suitable medical supplies and support may not be available. By signing this document, you agree to take full responsibility for your own actions, safety and welfare. You also understand that you will be a member of a group and will conduct myself in a way that will not endanger the group or yourself. You understand that if you fraudulently represent yourself as fit for this tour, you may be removed prior to or during the tour at your own expense.