Media Contact:

Maureen Poschman, maureen@promocommunications.com
970.948.3176

SMITHSONIAN JOURNEYS ANNOUNCES NEW TRIPS FOR 2024

New itineraries Include a sea exploration of Japan's cultural treasures, an immersive exploration of Sicily, an in-depth "Living In" stay in Andalusia, and Tailor-Made sample itineraries

Washington, D.C. (Feb. 13, 2023) Smithsonian Journeys, the travel program of the Smithsonian Institution - the world's largest museum, education, and research complex - announces new trips for 2024 including new small-ship expeditions with PONANT, new cultural stay programs, new land journeys, and more destinations in its portfolio of Tailor-Made Journeys, private custom trips for individual travelers and their friends or families.

All <u>Smithsonian Journeys</u>, except for Tailor-Made Journeys, are accompanied by a Smithsonian Journeys Expert—whether an art historian, an archaeologist, or an international relations expert—whose expertise and knowledge shed new light on a destination and deepen a traveler's immersion in the destination and culture of the place.

"We're excited about our new offerings for 2024. Smithsonian's long heritage as a leader in preserving cultural and natural resources and in deepening people's understanding about our world is reflected in each of these itineraries", noted Lynn Cutter, Senior Vice President, Smithsonian Travel.

New Trips for 2024 are highlighted below. To learn more about all 2024 Smithsonian Trips, including favorites such as Ancient Egypt and the Nile, Treasures of the Alps: Swiss Trains and Italy's Lake District, Across Northern Spain and Portugal, Eternal Japan, and Prehistoric Caves of France and Spain, visit SmithsonianJourneys.org or call 855-330-1542

Smithsonian Journeys New 2024 Tours

NEW ART TRIP The Life and Work of Van Gogh in France

Art is at the heart of Smithsonian, and one of the most searched terms on the Smithsonian Journeys website. This trip, which launches in October 2023 will retrace the life and works of Vincent Van Gogh from cradle to grave, exploring his haunts from Paris to Remy-de-Provence in the south of France and enjoying private tours of renowned collections and exhibitions.

NEW SMALL-SHIP CRUISES

For 2024, Smithsonian Journeys + PONANT, a leader in small ship expeditions, will offer five new itineraries, listed below. All small-ship cruises provide opportunities to engage with two Smithsonian Journeys Experts, ranging from archaeologists and scientists to anthropologists and historians. The full list of 2024 sailings can be <u>viewed here</u>. To reserve a trip, call 855-330-1542 or visit <u>smithsonianjourneys.org/PONANT</u>.

New Zealand's South Island by Sea: A Voyage to the Fiordland

Immerse yourself in the natural majesty of New Zealand's South Island, sailing from the rich waters of Kaikoura and Akaroa—home to whales, seals, and dolphins—to the magnificent waterways of Fiordland National Park.

Cultural and Natural Treasures of Japan by Sea

Trace the northwest coast of Honshu, exploring lesser-known towns and villages that harbor the hallmarks of Japan's rich culture: from traditional crafts and Japanese gardens to historic castles and shrines.

Ancient Wonders and Culinary Delights: Cruising Southern Italy and Sicily

Venture to up to seven World Heritage sites including Syracuse, Mount Etna, and Pompeii, and savor local cuisine —with options for vineyard visits, tasting tours, and cooking classes—as you sail from Malta to Tuscany.

Mediterranean Island Voyage: Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica, and Elba

Uncover layers of history as guests cruise to the islands of the central Mediterranean – Malta, Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica, and Elba – encountering Greco-Roman treasures, medieval fortresses, and Napoleon's villa in exile.

Ancient Civilizations by Sea: Israel, Egypt, Cyprus, Greece, and Turkey

Experience an astonishing sweep of history and culture on a voyage from the sacred sites of the Holy Land and the Pyramids of Giza to the archaeological wonders of Turkey and Greece—and delve into the rich culinary traditions of Cyprus along the way.

NEW LAND JOURNEYS

Inside Sicily: In-depth Exploration of History and Culture

Immerse yourself in Sicily's unique cultural heritage, discovering fascinating archaeological ruins, delectable cuisines, lively towns, and five World Heritage sites as you make your way from Palermo to Agrigento, Syracuse, and beyond. Explore the island's north, south, east, and west, discovering the legacy of the many cultures that ruled here, from the ancient Greeks to the Normans.

Prehistoric Mysteries of England and Ireland

Step back in time amid the mystical Neolithic and Bronze Age sites of England and Ireland, delving into the secrets of Stonehenge, Newgrange, and beyond in the company of archaeologists and local experts.

Living in Spain: A Three-Week Stay in Andalusia

Immerse yourself in the Andalusian way of life, spending three full weeks in seaside Marbella and discovering the region's fascinating blend of Spanish and Moorish culture on excursions to World Heritage sites and charming villages off the beaten path.

TAILOR-MADE JOURNEYS

Tailor-Made Journeys can now be created for more than 80 destinations. Take a look at some of our new <u>sample itineraries</u>. Travelers work with a country specialist with firsthand knowledge of the region to create a personal itinerary that matches your interests, your pace, and your budget.

About the Smithsonian

Since its founding in 1846, the Smithsonian Institution has been committed to inspiring generations through knowledge and discovery. It is the world's largest museum, education, and research complex, consisting of 21 museums, the National Zoological Park, education centers, research facilities, cultural centers, and libraries. Two of the 21 museums – the National Museum of the American Latino and the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum – are in the early planning stages. The total number of objects works of art, and specimens at the Smithsonian is estimated at nearly 155 million, of which nearly 146 million are scientific specimens at the National Museum of Natural History. www.smithsonian.org

About Smithsonian Journeys

Smithsonian Journeys is part of Smithsonian Enterprises, a division of the Smithsonian which oversees the institution's commercial activities, including the Smithsonian Channel, which is available in over 55 million households globally; the retail operation, which includes 35 museum and airport stores, food concessions; an E-commerce business, Smithsonianstore.com, and *Smithsonian* magazine, which reaches more than 8 million monthly readers, consumer and education licensing, and books. Smithsonian Journeys is a global leader in cultural travel for diverse audiences, offering unique, expert-led trips on all seven continents. Smithsonian Journeys offers small-group land journeys, small-ship ocean cruises, river cruises, cultural stays, private jet trips, tailor-made journeys for the independent traveler, and student travel programs. For more information visit www.SmithsonianJourneys.org or call 1-855-330-1542.

###