

SMITHSONIAN JOURNEYS ANNOUNCES NEW ACTIVE JOURNEYS

Explore the Himalayas on a trek through Nepal and Bhutan, walk the Shikoku Trail in Japan, hike the Portuguese coast, or explore the Greek Isles on foot

Washington, D.C. (May 13, 2024) – Smithsonian Journeys, the travel program of the Smithsonian Institution – the world’s largest museum, education, and research complex – and a leader in authentic and enriching small-group travel, is pleased to announce four new itineraries developed for travelers who seek to explore the world more actively on outdoor excursions such as walking, hiking, and biking. These itineraries join a collection of 10 active journeys that range from hiking through Iceland’s waterfalls and glaciers to biking in Chile’s wine country. With a maximum of 16 participants on each trip, *Smithsonian Active Journeys* are led by knowledgeable local guides and feature a variety of ways to experience the world actively. All active journeys can be found [here](#).

As with all [Smithsonian Journeys](#), these active programs are rooted in cultural immersion and discovery, and walks or hikes are balanced with experiences such as meals with local families, guided museum tours, visits with artisans, and cooking classes. “Since we launched our Active Journeys collection last year, we’ve seen tremendous interest in these programs. These new trips for 2025 expand our offerings to four popular destinations—and give our travelers the opportunity to explore them in a unique and intimate way,” said Lynn Cutter, Senior Vice President, Smithsonian Travel.

[Nepal and Bhutan: An Active Journey](#) - Take to the trails of the Himalaya, experiencing timeless cultures and extraordinary vistas as you hike to Bhutan’s iconic temples and the timeless mountain villages of Nepal’s Annapurna range. Encounter wildlife on safari in the wetlands of Chitwan, and explore the World Heritage sites of the Kathmandu Valley.

[Japan by Trail: An Active Journey featuring the Shikoku Pilgrimage Trail](#) - Delve into Japanese culture on an active adventure that includes visits to Kyoto and Tokyo, a bike ride to rural villages near Okayama, a day on the art island of Naoshima, and a three-day trek from shrine to shrine on the Shikoku pilgrimage trail.

[Walking in Portugal: An Active Journey along the Coast, the Camino, and the Douro Valley](#) - Discover beautiful landscapes and World Heritage-listed architecture on walks and hikes along the Portuguese Way of the Camino de Santiago, through the spectacular Douro River Valley wine region, along the dramatic coast, and in the historic cities of Coimbra and Porto.

[The Greek Isles: An Active Journey to Naxos, Santorini, and Crete](#) - Gain a more intimate perspective of the popular Greek Isles on a hiking adventure on three unique islands. Explore the charming old town of Naxos and hike through history among the villages of the interior. On Santorini, trek along the caldera’s edge and paddle a sea kayak to famous beaches on the southern coast. Cap off the adventure on Crete with a food tour of Heraklion, a hike on the Spinalonga Peninsula, and a jeep excursion that highlights mythology and ancient culinary traditions.

About Smithsonian Journeys

Smithsonian Journeys is a global leader in cultural travel for diverse audiences, offering unique, expert-led trips on all seven continents. In addition to these new active journeys, 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. 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. For more information visit www.SmithsonianJourneys.org or call 1-855-330-1542.

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