

CELEBRATING
60
YEARS

Abercrombie & Kent

ASIA

INSPIRING LUXURY ADVENTURES

2023-2024





*“...and the journey
itself is home.”*

— Matsuo Basho,
Narrow Road to the Interior

Dear Traveller,

I am so pleased to be talking to you once more about my great passion — travel. And this time, we turn our attentions to the colourful and beguiling nations of Asia, where vibrant and diverse cultures bring a host of travel adventures just waiting to be discovered.

Australia is among one of the many lucky countries right on the doorstep of the enticing and mystical nations of Asia. From the ancient trade routes of Uzbekistan to the culinary treasures of Japan, the poignant history of Cambodia to the vast steppes of Mongolia, Asia is a continent so full of intrigue that it has drawn my admiration and attention for decades.

This exciting portfolio takes you to the heart and soul of the continent, with an overview of 15 destinations of which I myself love to travel to, and which A&K does too. It also details the many unique experiences available from authentic cultural encounters and epicurean delights to journeys back to the dawn of civilisations.

Some itinerary suggestions are made but we encourage you to tailor-make your own journey in collaboration with your A&K Journey Designer or local travel specialist. Whether you're ticking off bucket list destinations or revisiting old favourites, there are a multitude of adventures across the continent to entice even the most seasoned traveller.


Whichever way you choose to explore, you can feel secure in the knowledge that every journey is backed by hundreds of dedicated A&K experts in more than a dozen offices throughout the region, just waiting to welcome you.

So, please read on and find your inspiration for an unforgettable adventure in Asia.

Geoffrey Kent

Geoffrey Kent

Founder & Co-Chairman | Abercrombie & Kent

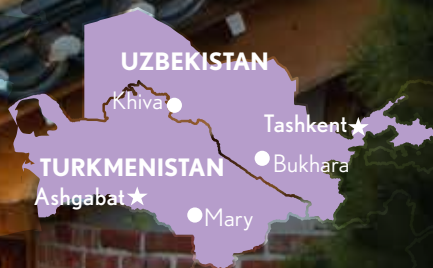
 @geoffrey_kent

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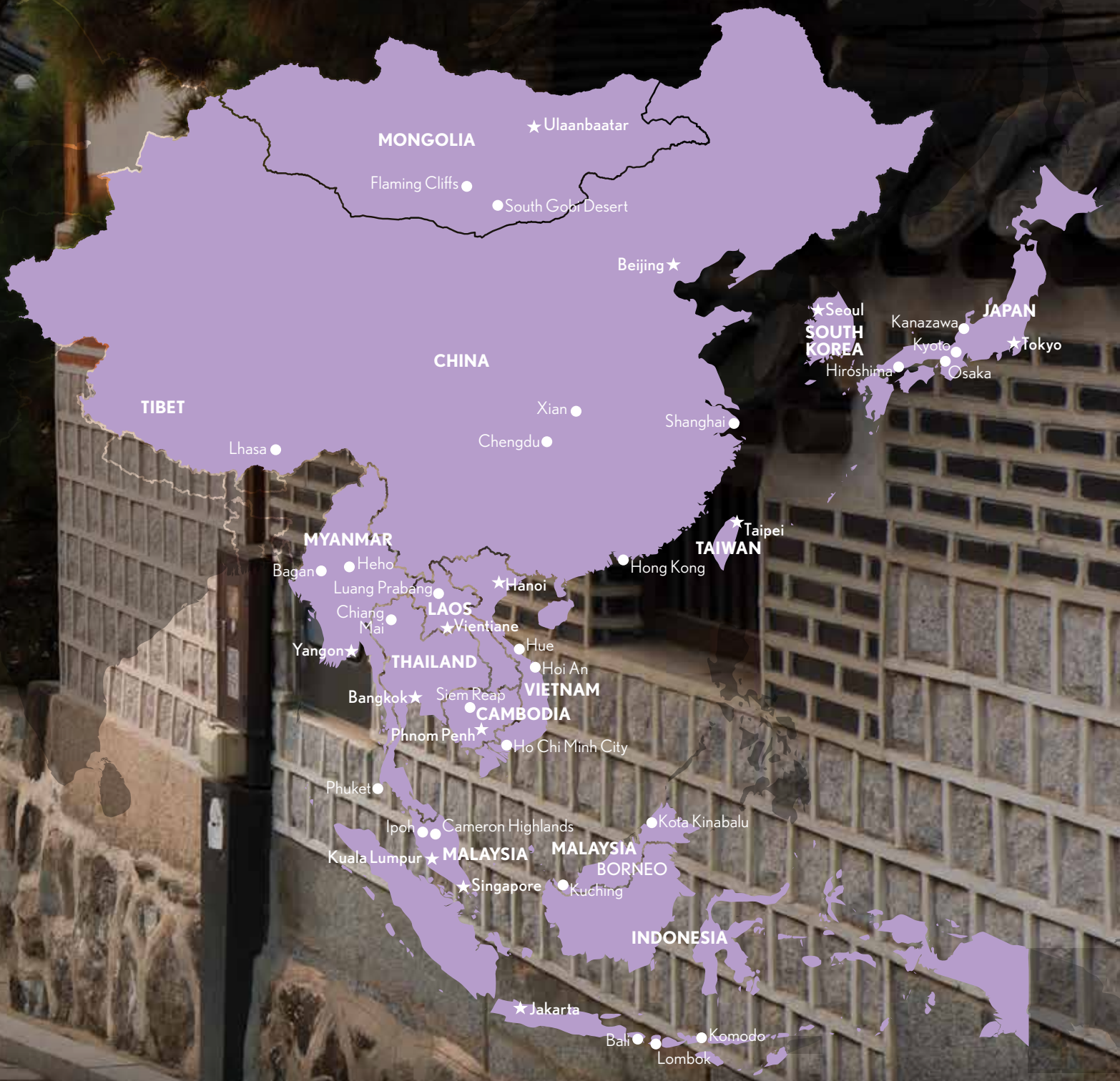
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Asia

Exquisite and diverse, the many countries of the vast Asian continent promise endless fascination for the adventurous traveller. From the ancient cultures of Uzbekistan to the gastronomic delicacies of Japan, the rust-coloured plateau of Mongolia to the steamy waterways of Southeast Asia, this is a region brimming with historical, natural and cultural mystique.

Whether it's a sunrise at mighty Angkor Wat or a contemporary art tour of sophisticated Seoul, mausoleums and minarets along the old Silk Road or an encounter with orangutans in Borneo – discover a raw and beautiful world of intrigue. No one can take you there quite like A&K.



Why Choose an A&K Journey

Abercrombie & Kent takes you to the heart of a destination in extraordinary style and comfort, with authentic local insight, unforgettable encounters, and exclusive access privilege.

The Leader in Luxury Travel Experiences

For over 60 years, Abercrombie & Kent has been a pioneer in the world of luxury travel, redefining the notion of what is possible on holiday and delivering travel experiences that change the way travellers see the world, and themselves. We've made it our business to specialise in destinations and itineraries that are extraordinary, creating exquisite adventures handcrafted to exceed the expectations of even the most discerning travellers.

Our People

A&K works tirelessly to design adventures you won't see from any other travel company, backed up by the most robust support network, including over 55 offices in more than 30 countries around the world. Unlike other operators, we recruit, train and manage our own full-time staff, orchestrating every aspect of your journey with precision and flexibility, down to the last detail. Whether it's the seamless flow of an A&K itinerary or the prompt attention paid to an unexpected request, you can be sure that our global family is the driving force making it happen.

A&K's Journey Designers

Our Journey Designers regard travel not as an occasional diversion, but as a calling that stimulates the mind and nourishes the spirit. Exceptionally well-travelled individuals with an average of more than 10 years' travel industry experience, each is an expert in their chosen region of the world. They're also born adventurers who can advise on the best places to visit because they've usually been there themselves already. They're in constant touch with A&K's partners and our network of offices throughout the region and throughout the world, with access to the most up-to-date information at their fingertips. Your Journey Designer also gets to know you as an individual, either through your travel agent or directly with you, one traveller to another, to make sure your journey is everything you want it to be.

Local Presence & Privileges

When you travel with A&K, we don't just take you to the front of the line, we take you into the rooms in the palace not typically open to visitors, on an exclusive tour with the best historian in the region. This kind of unencumbered access to the authentic heart and soul of a place – to the people and sites that exist far beyond the reach of the average traveller – is something we pride ourselves on and ensure we deliver on every journey we create, whether to the most iconic luxury travel destinations across Asia, or to more off-the-grid and under-the-radar places and experiences.

Expert Local Guides

It is often said that a guide can make or break a special journey. We agree. A&K's guides are the best in the world and deliver superlative experiences in every destination. All are blessed with extensive knowledge and the ability to bring local attractions to life. Multilingual and well-travelled, each possesses insight into diverse attractions and cultural interactions throughout the region, enlightening you in every locale with insider information that adds depth to your journey.

A Long-Standing Commitment to Local Communities

Conservation and philanthropy have been integral parts of A&K's operations for decades, long before they became *de rigueur* for other operators. Working hand-in-hand with local villages and communities, we fund schools and clinics and generate opportunities for employment that make a real difference. Grassroots Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy projects like these are included on several of our journeys across Asia, welcoming our guests to participate in travel that changes lives. See page 40 for more information.

Safety You Can Trust

With experience comes excellence and reliability, and with A&K this translates to peace of mind and security. The safety of our guests is always our priority. Our network of local offices and long-established relationships in every region in which we operate, allows us to keep our finger on the pulse of local dynamics and developments. If unexpected events occur, A&K has resources at the ready to ensure your wellbeing and allow you to safely continue your journey. We adhere to the world's best practices for cleanliness and disinfection; and our local guides and staff follow rigorous health and safety protocols. Our local offices are experienced in handling any situation and have the contacts and knowledge to support guests 24/7.







Discover Asia on a Journey Made Just for You

Your ideal journey starts with a dream, and a deep desire to experience a part of the world in a new way or for the first time. And our Journey Designers are here to create itineraries perfectly suited to your style, your interests and your budget.

Seamless, Ready-to-Travel Suggested Journeys

In this brochure, and in more detail on our website, you will find a range of suggested itineraries exclusively designed by our experts. Each element of each itinerary is carefully considered in terms of guest enjoyment, travel logistics, and how it fits in the overall pace and flow of the journey. Each itinerary is travelled and tested, to ensure we present the destination in the best possible manner in seamless style and comfort. These suggested journeys are all designed to give you an incomparable travel experience and are operated on a private basis for you and your travelling companions. Each is ready-to-book and ready-to-travel on dates to suit you.

Find Your Inspiration

Decades of in-country expertise mean our Journey Designers can curate exceptional activities and experiences for you that are beyond the reach of the average traveller. In each destination, a list of some of these unique experiences is featured. Some of these appear in our suggested journeys, but they can also be pieced together to form the framework for your own bespoke adventure.

No Two Holidays Are the Same

Our suggested journeys are just that, suggested. Should you need to deviate from the proposed route, add a different focus or start from scratch, our Journey Designers are poised to start the conversation with you, or your travel agent, to craft the holiday of your dreams. It's

simple. Tell us where and how you'd like to travel and we'll create or curate a journey to match, with as much or as little direction from you, and drawing on the expertise of locals from our offices throughout Asia. By tailor-making your journey with an A&K Journey Designer, you are assured a unique experience from booking to boarding and beyond.

Itineraries You Won't Find Anywhere Else

With our unrivalled knowledge, A&K can create journeys that feature iconic destinations and perfect pacing, all seamlessly orchestrated for the luxury traveller. These are journeys that unfold with the narrative flow of a good book or a great film. Our approach and network advantages also bring practical benefits, including tailored transfer and flight routings to allow for extra time exploring, and longer stops in the places you most want to see.

Genuine, Cultural Immersion

We ensure every one of our journeys includes authentic cultural encounters. Imagine strolling the market of a little-known village alongside a friendly local – your A&K guide – who grew up just down the street and has probably known some of the vendors their entire life. They make warm introductions and suddenly you are taking a bite of some exotic fruit picked just that morning. Our guides offer the kind of insight into local culture that can only come from being a local. The result is a journey that reveals the real spirit of the people, and the place, in a way you'll never forget.

Four Steps to Your Inspiring Journey

1. Tell Us About Your Ideal Journey

It starts with an A&K Journey Designer, who works with you or your travel professional to open your eyes to the possibilities of travel with A&K – a world of inspiring destinations and exclusive insider access.

2. Make Your Journey Your Own

The Journey Designer creates a detailed proposal for your journey, complete with touring, hotels and insider access activities arranged specially for you, refining the itinerary until it's exactly what you're looking for.

3. Let Us Handle the Details

Your journey is planned – now it's time to sit back and let us finalise the details, as well as provide all the information you need to prepare for your journey.

4. Travel with Around-the-Clock A&K Support

Once you arrive at your destination, we manage everything behind the scenes, leaving you to enjoy every inspiring moment for as long as you travel with us. For any unexpected request, we are just a phone call away – a friendly voice, providing round-the-clock support. This is travel as it is meant to be.

Experience the Journey of Your Dreams

Contact A&K at 1300 851 800, visit www.abercrombiekent.com.au or speak to your travel agent to start planning your bespoke journey today.

Truly luxurious accommodations that inspire, enhance & delight

The quality of the accommodation we use is one of the many things that sets an A&K journey apart. On all handcrafted private and small group journeys, we select only the most remarkable hotels, boutique lodges and ships, each of which must combine superior service, a sense of place, local character and unanticipated luxuries.

Award-Winning, Iconic Hotels

When luxury is what you're looking for, there's no reason to settle for second-best. Our local experts choose only the very best hotels in a given destination. In many cases, their choice will be the undisputed local favourite, synonymous with five-star style, often a *Condé Nast Traveler* Gold List or *Travel + Leisure* World's Best property. But the choice might also be a whispered secret, a better option, a small but perfectly-formed boutique property with a certain significant atmospheric, experiential or locational advantage. This firsthand knowledge allows us to recommend the perfect fit for you and your itinerary.

One-of-a-Kind Locations

When considering a hotel, our experts look at more than just the rooms. Wherever possible, we arrange for you to stay close to the places you most want to see, close to the people you'll most enjoy meeting, and close to the experiences you'll most enjoy discovering. We'll choose the right option from within the region's best properties, whether historically iconic, coveted high-design or supremely located on the edge of a wilderness.

Stylish Expedition Vessels And Small Ships

Our commitment to luxury doesn't stop at the water's edge. When it comes to cruising with A&K, step aboard knowing you'll experience the same comfort, service and style you would on land, all while discovering the beauty of life on the water.





Vietnam

From the emerald rice fields and scenic highlands of Sapa in the north to the lush pastures and riverside gardens of the Mekong Delta in the south, Vietnam is a land of incredible natural and cultural diversity. Enjoy charming coastal towns and bustling cultural centres with influences of graceful French colonial beauty, faded imperial relics plus a contemporary culture and a mouth-watering cuisine.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Vietnam

Help Provide Clean Water to Children in Mai Chau

Take part in Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy's effort to provide clean, safe water to children in rural Vietnam. In collaboration with LifeStraw, the project provides community filters to schools in Mai Chau, a rural district where safe water is a scarcity. Learn more about how this initiative has impacted children in Vietnam and get involved at akphilanthropy.org.

Uncover Hanoi's Imperial University With an A&K Scholar

Uncover seven centuries of knowledge at Hanoi's Temple of Literature with an A&K Insider and scholar of Vietnamese history and Confucianism. Learn the hidden meaning behind the phoenix and dragon motifs and how the five elements of fire, water, metal, wood and earth played a role in shaping this sacred royal institution.

Meet Ethnic Villagers in the Lush Northern Highlands

Trek across Vietnam's northern highlands where lush mountains and terraced rice fields are dotted with remote ethnic communities. Meet villagers of Tay, Hmong and Xa Pho hill tribes and admire their distinctive costumes and architecture, then retreat to a comfortable, yet rustic lodge overlooking tiered green rice terraces.

Be Immersed in Traditional Hue Culture

Immerse yourself with the people of Hue, learning all about their traditional lifestyle, culture and cuisine at an historic garden estate. Discover the antiques, the leafy gardens and the stunning half-moon lotus pond. Spend time with the charismatic owner, learning about the history of the houses and their place in Hue society.

Discover the Enchanting Landscapes of Ha Long Bay

Marked by towering limestone karsts, wave-eroded grottoes and over 3,000 forested islets, Vietnam's hauntingly beautiful Ha Long Bay brims with hidden coves, secluded caves, captivating national parks and pristine beaches – all just waiting to be discovered.

Cruise Ho Chi Minh City in a Vintage Vespa

Enjoy a night on the town and a culinary adventure as you explore Ho Chi Minh City from the back of a vintage Vespa scooter. Buzz through neon-lit streets en route to lively District 4, where you experience the local nightlife, cuisine and café culture rarely glimpsed by other travellers.

Discover the Insider's Ho Chi Minh City

Obscured by the city's neon flash, discover a secret world of hidden gems waiting to be explored on this unique exploration. Stop for coffee in a park where locals congregate to show off their prized pet birds, shop in a fragrant flower market and delve into the city's wartime history as you uncover a secret weapons depot. No day is complete without a bowl of pho from a favourite local haunt.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itineraries

Highlights of Vietnam

13 days

Arrive Hanoi (3N) – Lan Ha Bay (1N) – Hoi An (3N) – Hue (2N) – Depart Ho Chi Minh (3N)

Experience the irresistible allure of Vietnam on this journey from north to south. Delve into the surprises of sophisticated French-colonial cities and quaint heritage towns, admiring the real Vietnam at every turn. Venture through emerald waters to the hidden bays and remote islands of Lan Ha Bay. And encounter the people, culture and cuisine that together make this country so vibrant.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Rural Villages of Northern Vietnam

4 days

Arrive Hanoi – Ky Son (1N) – Mai Chau (2N) – Depart Hanoi

Go beyond-the-guidebook on this luxury adventure to Vietnam's rural heartlands. Explore patchwork rice fields, and tiered landscapes in every shade of green, surrounded by verdant jungle, limestone outcrops and mountain peaks. From Ki Son to Mai Chau: bike, drive and hike between ancient villages, meeting remote hill tribes and learning about their way of life. This is the perfect journey for active explorers.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Indochina Adventure

13 days

Arrive Ho Chi Minh (3N) – Hanoi (2N) – Lan Ha Bay Cruise (1N) – Luang Prabang (3N) – Depart Siem Reap (3N)

Immerse yourself in the timeless traditions of Southeast Asia on this in-depth journey through three intriguing nations. Absorb Vietnam's poignant war history, its breathtaking landscapes, diverse cultures and spiced-up cuisine. Discover the untouched magic of UNESCO-listed Luang Prabang, with its saffron-robed monks, rich textile traditions and age-old farming practices. Finish in Siem Reap, where the ancient, root-clad temples of Angkor Wat will make your draw drop.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

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Cambodia

Throughout its complex history, Cambodia and its people have proven their resilience time and again. This is an endearing country worth exploring in depth, from the rustic charm of Phnom Penh, once celebrated as the 'Paris of the East', to the legendary temples of Angkor where sunrise over the ancient Khmer ruins is an unforgettable experience. Discover the vibrant markets, boutiques and eateries, travel by tuk tuk like the locals do, or cruise past floating villages down the mighty Mekong.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Cambodia

Take in a Sunrise Over Angkor Wat

Skirt the crowds and let your guide position you in the best vantage point for the spectacular sunrise at Angkor Wat. Enjoy an unobstructed view of the magnificent temple as it becomes illuminated by the sun's first rays. Then an acclaimed archaeologist leads you on a revealing tour of the ruins of the mighty Khmer civilisation, whose 900-year-old temples and structures are some of the most remarkable architectural and artistic accomplishments from the ancient world – followed by a Champagne breakfast.

Savour a Foodie Tour in Siem Reap With a Top Chef

Travel by tuk tuk to the finest kitchens in Siem Reap led by a top Cambodian chef. Start with a cocktail at an intimate 1920s lounge, whet your tastebuds with appetisers at a traditional Khmer house and garden, and savour mains at an authentic home-style kitchen, before indulging in custom Cambodian desserts with a twist.

Kayak Through the Mangroves of Cambodia's 'Living Lake'

Kayak through mangroves and watch water birds forage for food on the breathtaking waters of Tonle Sap Lake – the largest freshwater lake in Southeast Asia. See farmers and fishermen plying the waters on one of the most productive inland fisheries in the world.

Capture Angkor Wat's Essence with a Photo Coach

The largest religious monument on earth, Angkor Wat is the centrepiece of Cambodia's Khmer civilisation, opening a window back to the early 12th century. Capture the essence of this massive but intricate masterpiece as your professional photography coach reveals the skills, settings and vantage points that bring this inspiring wonder into sharp focus.

Take Off on a Temple-Hopping Helicopter Adventure

While Angkor Wat takes centre stage among the region's wonders, a remote series of temples lies hidden deep within the surrounding jungle seldom seen by Western eyes. Take off on a once-in-a-lifetime exploration of Angkor's outlying temples by helicopter. Watch the lush countryside pass beneath, stopping to explore Koh Ker and Beng Mealea, discovering galleries and mythological carvings from centuries past.

Vintage Safari Style in Cardamom National Park

This luxury camp experience is like nothing you've ever seen before with 15 custom-designed tents perched above the river channelling the traditional vintage wildlife safari. Meander on one of the estuary boats along the waterways or trek with experienced rangers in search of wild elephant, bear, gibbon and even tiger. Culinary excellence means amazing meals, combining locally foraged delicacies with global gastronomy.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itineraries

Wonders of Cambodia

10 days

Arrive Phnom Penh (2N) – Siem Reap (4N) – Krabey Island (3N) – Depart Phnom Penh

Discover the fascinating history of the Khmer Empire in the mysterious kingdom of Cambodia – home to Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world. Pair this country's intriguing history with dazzling rice paddies, secluded beaches and swaying sugar palms, and you have a destination to die for. Experience an explosion of colour, flavour and ancient intrigue in Phnom Penh, spark your creativity in dynamic and cosmopolitan Siem Reap, and savour the tranquillity of your own private paradise, at Krabey Island.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Journey on the Mekong

10 days

Arrive Siem Reap (4N) – Mekong River Cruise (4N) – Depart Phnom Penh (2N)

Explore the jewels of southern Vietnam and Cambodia on an unparalleled adventure on the mighty Mekong. Let the luxury cruiser Aqua Mekong become your platform for discovery. Step ashore to meet Khmer farmers, Buddhist monks and talented artisans. Explore the floating villages of Tonle Sap, meditate with monks, and step back in time at enchanting Angkor Wat.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Secrets of Siem Reap

5 days

Siem Reap (4N)

Immerse yourself in Cambodia's captivating culture and impossibly beautiful temples. Seek out the ruins of the mighty Khmer Empire. Explore the fabled temple of Angkor Wat. Discover a new wave of Cambodian craftsmanship in the artisan studios and galleries of dynamic Siem Reap. And savour the country's finest culinary creations on a tuk tuk tour.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

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Laos

Gentle and enigmatic, land-locked Laos is bursting with breathtaking natural beauty, rich colonial influences, wondrous monuments and diverse ethnic colour. Still relatively unexplored, the 'Land of a Million Elephants' retains a sleepy charm with World Heritage sites, forest-clad mountains, gilded temples, a stunning array of islands, colourful markets, and a rich Buddhist culture.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Laos

Authentic Farm Style Laotian Home Cooking

Learn the art of Laotian cooking with a hands-on culinary experience at an organic family farm. Join your hosts in the field as you harvest ingredients for your farm-to-table lunch of khao poon, a savoury soup made from homemade rice noodles, fresh vegetables, and aromatic herbs and spices.

Take Part in a Traditional Baci Ceremony

Celebrate your arrival in Luang Prabang with a baci ceremony – a traditional ritual of welcome – performed at the UNESCO-listed Heritage House. Featuring music, dance and the tying of ceremonial bracelets, the ritual is believed to centre the spirit and foster good will.

Meditate in the Mists of Kuang Si Waterfall

A country steeped in Buddhist culture, Laos has embraced the practices of meditation and spiritual healing since the 17th century. Rise for an early morning meditation with an expert guide at the base of Luang Prabang's atmospheric Kuang Si Waterfall. Afterward, hike through the neighbouring forest, pausing for a cool, refreshing dip.

Spark your Spiritual Curiosity in Luang Prabang

Perched along the Mekong River amidst the mountains and forests of northern Laos, Luang Prabang exudes a distinctly spiritual vibe, where Buddhist temples share quaint lanes with colonial buildings and traditional Lao wooden homes.

Visit the AKP Philanthropy Project

Visit the AKP philanthropy team at Khaiphaen restaurant in Luang Prabang to learn about their social enterprise helping marginalised youth. Join them in making traditional rice treats as offerings for monks in the morning almsgiving tradition. Find out how you can contribute to this life-changing project at akphilanthropy.org/futures.

Explore Villages and Sacred Caves Along the Mekong

Cruise along the tranquil Mekong River on your own private boat, to the heartland of the Lao kingdom: Luang Prabang. Explore craft-making villages and sacred caves along the way, and stay overnight at a rustic ethnic lodge for a taste of traditional Mekong culture.

Spot Endangered Irrawaddy Freshwater Dolphins

Spot endangered Irrawaddy dolphins splashing in the freshwater pools of Laos's inland archipelago. Here, the mighty Mekong diverges around the crags of 4,000 islands, creating a dramatic and diverse natural ecosystem. Explore the landscape with idyllic boat trips and bike rides, as well as jungle treks to scenic waterfalls and coffee plantations.

Flight-Sea the Plain of Jars With a Champagne Picnic

Fly-see the megalithic Plain of Jars by private helicopter, before stopping for a stunning Champagne picnic on the ground. Recently added to the UNESCO World Heritage List, the ancient stones date back several hundred years and are a true archaeological mystery.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

Heritage Luang Prabang

6 days

Luang Prabang (5N)

The historic former royal capital of Laos will leave you spellbound. Discover an enchanting mix of tranquil Buddhist temples, French colonial architecture and towering palms in this UNESCO World Heritage site. Meet the captivating people and discover the stories behind their age-old customs and crafts.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

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Thailand

With over 1400 jungle-clad islands rising from azure seas, Thailand is a veritable paradise. But venture off the well-worn path and you'll find a rural heartland full of tiered rice paddies, limestone caves, hilltop temples and golden Buddhas. From the glitziest parts of modern Bangkok to the base of an ancient banyan tree, spirituality is colourful and copious, and there are cultural discoveries around every bend.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Thailand

Go Beyond-the-Guidebook in Captivating Bangkok

Lapped by the waters of the Chao Phraya River, the bustling Thai capital is widely regarded as the gateway to Southeast Asia. Once a small trading post, today Bangkok boasts sleek skyscrapers, stylish shopping malls and modern infrastructure. This city on the move invites visitors to explore its bustling riverfront, lively floating markets, ever-changing skyline and upscale boutiques.

Encounter the Hill Tribes of Chiang Rai

Chiang Rai is well known for its wild mountain scenery and many hill tribes. It affords an ideal base from which to explore the temples of the Golden Triangle, the fascinating culture and customs of the different hill tribes and the region's iconic cuisine.

See Bangkok's Vibrant, Reimagined Art Scene

Meet local designers and artisans in Bangkok's Creative District where new life has been breathed into a charming old neighbourhood through architectural preservation and creative arts. Explore with the district's co-founder, meeting local designers and artisans along the way, before riding a tuk-tuk through the backstreets to discover street art, vibrant murals and quirky boutiques.

Cruise With Sundowners, Bangkok Style

Savour the true essence of a Bangkok sundowner, A&K style! Experience the Chao Phraya River at dusk where you can sip Champagne on a boat or head to a trendy riverside eatery with evening views of the Temple of Dawn. Simply stunning!

Explore the Hidden Gardens & Temples of Old Bangkok

Explore hidden gardens, shrines and residential communities in old Bangkok – home to a glittering array of temples, palaces and ancient architecture. Discover hidden landscapes of serenity, as well as old merchant's houses, eclectic street art and rice barns.

Flight-Sea Ayutthaya With an A&K Archaeologist

Fly by private helicopter to discover the secrets of Ayutthaya, Thailand's former capital city, with an Abercrombie & Kent Insider and archaeologist. Discover ancient ruins of palaces and temples, as well as the extraordinary Buddha head wrapped within the trunk of a tree.

Snorkel in the Vibrant Japanese Gardens of Koh Tao

Take a private speedboat or Catamaran to the Japanese Gardens, just off the coast of Koh Tao, to dive or snorkel in crystal-clear waters teeming with vibrant coral and fish. Spot giant pufferfish, sea turtles, rays and whale sharks as they glide through this diverse underwater paradise.

Savour an A&K Insider Foodie Tour of Chiang Mai

Spend a day with A&K's Culinary Insider, a connoisseur of northern Thai cuisine who featured in Anthony Bourdain's *Parts Unknown*. Taste your way through Chiang Mai, visiting favourite foodie spots, from a fresh food market and an artisanal coffee roaster to a noodle maker, local eateries and a night market.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

Thailand: Legends of Siam

12 days

Arrive Bangkok (3N) – Chiang Rai (2N) – Chiang Mai (3N) – Depart Phuket (3N)

Embark on an adventure through Thailand's ancient history on this 12-day journey from buzzing Bangkok to dazzling Phuket. Delve into a bygone era, led by local experts as you stand in awe of architectural marvels, experience remote village life, and discover a creative legacy steeped in tradition. Taste true Thailand at every turn, venturing from thriving cities to idyllic island havens and experiencing the people, culture and cuisine that make this country so enchanting.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

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Malaysia & Borneo

A vibrant melting pot of cultures, cuisines and experiences, Malaysia is all about diversity. While Peninsular Malaysia is a modern blend of Malay, Chinese, Indian and other influences, Borneo is an ancient jungle paradise, teeming with exotic wildlife and home to remote tribal communities and the country's highest peak, Mount Kinabalu.

Discover a kaleidoscope of UNESCO heritage sites, a thriving local arts vibe, lip-smacking cuisine and delight in encounters with friendly locals and rare primates in swathes of untouched rainforest. You'll be simply enthralled by all Malaysia has to offer.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Malaysia

Encounter Borneo's Great Apes, the Orangutans

Experience a fascinating afternoon feeding of Borneo's endangered orangutans, immersed in the picturesque rainforest that surrounds the Sepilok Rehabilitation Centre. Be captivated by the resident experts as they reveal the dedicated efforts taken to rehabilitate and protect these iconic animals, before witnessing the feeding firsthand, watching young apes at play and learning how to survive in the wild.

Discover the Sun Bear Conservation Centre with its Passionate Founder

Learn about the endangered Borneo sun bear on a private tour with Dr Wong Siew Te, founder of the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre. Get up close to the majestic bears that reside at the facility and indulge in a delicious lunch of contemporary Bornean cuisine, surrounded by the beauty of the rainforest.

Witness Maliau Basin on an Aerial Adventure

Soar above Sabah's Lost World on a scenic flight over the Maliau Basin, a 'bowl' of pristine forested wilderness. A breathtaking self-contained ecosystem, take in a bird's eye view of the mighty Kinabatangan River, the second largest river in Malaysia and its surrounding natural wonders.

Tour an Open-Air Sculpture Gallery with its Talented Creator

Discover a hidden creative wonder in Penang on a guided tour of Art and Garden, a three-tier sculpture garden set in acres of greenery. Showcasing an amazing variety of plant life amidst glass, clay and metal sculptures, embark on an artist's education of this outdoor garden gallery with the designer and creator Fuan Wong.

Soar Over Langkawi's Picturesque Geopark at Sunset

Drink in panoramic views of the island of Langkawi on a sky-high helicopter adventure. Witness the wonders of the region's first UNESCO listed geopark, admiring the sparkling beaches, majestic mountain peaks, lush rainforests and rolling rice paddies below. As the sun sets, be left in awe as the landscapes are bathed in a golden light.

Indulge in a Private Picnic on a Tea Plantation

Savour a traditional English spread amidst the picturesque Cameron Highlands tea plantations on a private picnic. Admiring the panoramic views around you, indulge in a guided tea tasting led by a local expert, learning how tea leaves go from bush to brew.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itineraries

Borneo: Wildlife and Wilderness

14 days

Arrive Kuching (3N) – Kota Kinabalu (1N) – Sepilok (2N) – Kinabatangan (2N) – Danum Valley (3N) – Depart Kota Kinabalu (2N)

Dive into some of the world's most wildlife-rich rainforest, breathtaking landscapes and captivating traditional cultures. From the traditional city of Kuching to the depths of Danum Valley, each day brings a new and exciting adventure. Meet local families and get a glimpse into remote tribal life, admire architectural wonders and learn about the region's diverse ethnicities and cultural history. A once-in-a-lifetime experience, witness the iconic orangutans in their natural habitat as you embark on guided explorations of undisturbed havens, home to a diverse range of captivating flora and fauna.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Malaysia: Cultural Discovery

13 days

Arrive Malacca (1N) – Kuala Lumpur (2N) – Cameron Highlands (2N) – Ipoh (2N) – Penang (2N) – Depart Langkawi (3N)

From captivating Kuala Lumpur to the island paradise of Langkawi, this 13-day Malaysian odyssey is sure to surprise and delight. Take a deep dive into the country's melting pot of cultures and enthralling history. Taste the kaleidoscope of delicious local fare, enjoy an intimate look at the renowned tea industry and admire monuments that stand as a testament to the nation's diversity. From magnificent mosques and towering Buddhist temples to a thriving arts scene and majestic landscapes – there is something to enthrall every type of traveller.

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Singapore

A rich fusion of cultures, Singapore has become an important international trade hub, a booming sea port and culinary melting pot. Clean and easily navigated, its centuries-old temples, sky-high rooftops, shopping streets and arcades are just waiting to be explored. Dive into its cutting edge art galleries and extraordinary gardens, take in a performance at world class venues and dine on some of the world's finest food from hawker stalls to Michelin-starred restaurants.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Singapore

Cruise Singapore's Southern Islands by Private Yacht

Embark on an island-hopping adventure, led by your own seasoned skipper on a private yacht adventure. Sail through the idyllic Southern Islands, drinking in captivating coastal views, and perhaps taking a relaxing dip in the sparkling blue seas.

Savour a Singaporean Cooking Class

Dive into a cooking class, learning with the guidance of local experts as you uncover the secrets behind flavourful Singaporean cuisine. Try your hand at crafting a selection of local dishes, enjoying the fruits of your labour as part of a delicious lunch experience.

Embark on a Night Safari at Singapore Zoo

Watch the mystery and drama of the tropical jungle unfold after dark on a guided night safari at iconic Singapore Zoo. The world's first zoo set in 40 hectares of secondary jungle, enjoy up close encounters with Asian elephants in an exclusive feeding experience and be enchanted by the resident animals from otters to pygmy hippo.

Set Sail on a Private Boat Journey to Pulau Ubin

Travel back in time with a private boat journey to Pulau Ubin Island, one of the two remaining Kampongs (villages) and a living showcase of 1960s Singapore. Soak in the tranquility, discover a myriad of hidden treasures, and explore an awe-inspiring ecosystem teeming with flora and fauna.

Admire Heritage Architecture on a Tour

Take in Singapore's captivating architecture on an expert-led tour. Visit The Intan, an award-winning Peranakan home museum, immersing yourself in history, traditions and lifestyle before taking a spin in a Vespa sidecar to admire the diverse facades, rich ornamentation, and unique design styles of Singapore's first heritage towns.

Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

Singapore Sojourn

5 days

On this in-depth discovery of Singapore, immerse yourself in the rich cultural fusion of this island nation. Explore the waterfront district which has transformed from colonial commercial hub to a neighbourhood of buzzing bars and eateries. Discover culinary secrets in a cooking class and admire the lush tropical botanicals in the city's gardens and green spaces.

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Hong Kong

Dynamic and sensory, Hong Kong has so many Michelin-starred treasures, contemporary art galleries, colourful markets and designer shops it will leave you dazzled. From the breathtaking vista of Victoria Peak to the joyful hustle of Temple Street Night Market and the 360-degree panorama of the harbour cruise, the energy of this buzzing city is palpable. Escape the urban jungle to explore sleepy villages and deserted islands, kayak around volcanic sea arches, and hike through its vast mountainous terrain.



Extraordinary Ways to Experience Hong Kong

Delve Into Hong Kong's Heritage With a Local Historian

Take a deep dive into the fascinating heritage of Hong Kong on a guided tour with an insightful historical expert. Visit temples, ancestral halls and architectural icons, even trying your hand at the ancient practice of Kau Cim (Fortune Stick Drawing), for some traditional local guidance into what the future may hold.

Dive Into a Chinese Dim Sum Cooking Class

Learn the flavourful secrets behind creating delectable Cantonese Dim Sum in a private cooking class with a local culinary expert. Try your hand at crafting these delicacies, savouring your creations as part of a delicious lunch experience.

Be Immersed in Ancient Eastern Traditions

Discover how traditional Eastern values live in harmony with Hong Kong's Western influences on this rejuvenating wellness experience. Take time for waterfront tai chi, savour a traditional Chinese tea ceremony, and indulge in a reflexology session, immersing yourself in hundreds of years of Chinese culture



Hike Through the Hidden Panoramas of Hong Kong

Hong Kong's natural landscapes are often overshadowed by the thriving metropolis. Escape the bustling city and embark on exhilarating hikes through the breathtaking scenery, admiring lush mountains and winding rivers full of wildlife, witnessing breathtaking waterfalls and wandering along sparkling sandy beaches.

Soar Over the City in a Helicopter

Start the day on a high note, hovering above Hong Kong by helicopter. Be whisked above the city, taking in rare birds-eye views of the spectacle below, complete with pilot commentary.

Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

Hong Kong Escape

5 days

Discover little known secrets in Asia's most cosmopolitan city on this captivating sojourn. See why Hong Kong has become Asia's art capital and famous for its cuisine. Admire its awe-inspiring skyline from above in a helicopter and at sea level aboard the Star Ferry on Victoria Harbour. Venture into the New Territories where rustic villages and clan communities still exist and cruise to outlying islands in search of rare marine mammals.

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Japan

Japan is as unique and vibrant as it is sleek. Avant-garde modernity shimmers through its iconic cities, but you only have to scratch the surface to encounter ancient traditions, meticulous etiquette and a timeless culture woven into the fabric of everyday life. Here, Shinto shrines sit sandwiched between cloud-piercing skyscrapers, and ladies in silk kimonos wait patiently to board high-speed bullet trains. From the vibrant pulse of Tokyo to the Buddhist temples of Kyoto, and on to the powder-white slopes of Niseko, there is something for every traveller in heart-stopping Japan.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Japan

Be Enchanted by a Geisha Performance

The Geisha tradition is a living culture and is as relevant today as it was in the 19th century. Gain fascinating insight into traditional Geisha culture, attending a magical performance in Kyoto. Savour traditional Japanese cuisine while geiko and maiko (geisha and apprentice) dance, sing, pour sake and converse about their fascinating lives.

Test Your Palate at a Sake Master Class

The innumerable incarnations of Japan's national beverage are celebrated throughout the world for their infinitely diverse flavour profiles. Put your palate to the test as you sample a flight of sake handpicked from the 41 breweries on offer at Tokyo's Meishu Centre, led on your flavour journey with a local expert.

Stay in the Exclusive Gora Kadan Ryokan

Indulge in the luxurious amenities of one of Japan's ryokans (traditional inns). Experience the elegance of a bygone era with tatami mats, handcrafted futons and kaiseki cuisine. Our favourite is the exclusive Gôra Kadan.

Savour Tea at a Japanese Tea Ceremony

Explore this time-honoured cultural institution as a local expert reveals the finer points of serving and enjoying a traditional Japanese tea ceremony within the tranquil surroundings of a serene Kyoto temple.

Learn to Craft Sushi From a Master Chef

Join an itamae (master sushi chef) to reveal the secrets of preparing this iconic Japanese delicacy. After your lesson, enjoy an expertly curated tasting, experiencing this culinary art form.

Gain Privileged Insight Into the Taiko Drum Tradition

Gain privileged insight into Japan's Taiko drum tradition with an exclusive tour of a family-run music shop. A Tokyo institution for over 150 years, the shop has crafted instruments for imperial ceremonies and the 1964 Olympic Summer Games. Be educated in the crafting process and try your hand at playing this iconic instrument.

Don a Kimono With a Local Craftsperson

Learn the history behind an icon of traditional Kyoto culture, the kimono. Explore the finer points of these silken works of art as you join a local craftsperson in a ceremonial kimono wearing.

Hike the Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park

Wander through timeless forests, explore lava caves and bathe in the serene hot springs of Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park. Home to Japan's most iconic peak, witness the majesty of immense Mt Fuji and discover a kaleidoscope of panoramic landscapes.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itineraries

Essential Japan

12 days

Arrive Tokyo (3N) – Hakone (2N) – Kyoto (3N) – Depart Osaka (3N)

Few places in the world blend ancient rituals with trailblazing modernity quite like Japan. Tea ceremonies, tatami mats, Samurai and time-honoured geisha traditions co-exist with an infectious pop culture, minimalistic smart homes and glittering skyscrapers. From Shinto Shrines and Buddhist temples to space-age technology and cutting-edge art galleries, there is something to captivate every traveller. Add in the natural beauty of Mt Fuji, poignant Hiroshima and Osaka's vibrant culinary scene and you have a destination that is simply enthralling.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Art & Culture of Japan

12 days

Arrive Tokyo (3N) – Kanazawa (3N) – Kyoto (3N) – Naoshima (2N) – Depart Osaka

Journey to the heart of Japan, where art and culture permeate everyday life. Study the meticulous rituals of the tea ceremony and the mysteries of a geisha performance; the intricate art of origami and scrupulous Zen-gardens; thought-provoking installations and avant-garde galleries. This in-depth cultural appreciation also pays homage to Japan's ancient samurai, its rich Buddhist and Shinto heritage, and its elegant and refined culinary traditions. Stay in supreme comfort and travel swiftly by sleek, high-speed bullet trains – you'll discover creativity around every bend.

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Northern Japan: Winter in Hokkaido^{NEW}

10 days

Arrive Hakodate (2N) – Sapporo (3N) – Niseko (4N) – Depart Sapporo

Winter in Japan is a rare treat. Discover the far North, where cold fronts from Siberia shift blankets of light, powdery snow to the peaks and coasts of Hokkaido. Here, quaint canals and coast towns vie with Narnia-esque forests and some of the best ski fields on earth. Dine on the freshest seafood, sip the warmest whiskeys, and explore 2000 years of Northern Japanese history before taking to the snow-covered mountains of Niseko. Spend your days gliding down the slopes and hiking through crisp woods for a winter that's truly exhilarating.

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South Korea

South Korea is Asia's emerging marvel. The country's futuristic architecture exists alongside a 2000-year-old history to reveal a hybrid landscape of surreal contrasts. Visit hip and edgy Seoul, where regal palaces rub shoulders with teeming night markets, cutting-edge galleries and steaming bath houses. Beyond the city, discover the sombre political history of the DMZ, hike the volcanic rock formations of Jeju Island, meditate in serene monasteries with monks, and lose yourself in the tantalising grip of Korean gastronomy.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience South Korea

Step Out in a Traditional Korean Hanbok in Gyeongju

Take a privileged look into traditional Korean culture as you don a hanbok, the simple-lined, elegant and often brightly coloured national dress in a traditional village. Treasure an insightful appreciation for this cultural icon, learning its history from passionate locals.

Relax Like a Local at a Traditional Bathhouse

Immerse yourself in an essential part of Korean culture with a visit to the Jjimjilbang, or Korean bathhouse. Discover the delights of hot and cold therapeutic pools, ice rooms, heated salt rooms and saunas. Soak, steam and be scrubbed and rejuvenated in a truly Korean indulgence.

Get Stirred Up by Culinary Theatre in Seoul

Be captivated by the intriguing blend of acrobatics, martial arts, music, magic, comedy and culinary skills at a world-renowned NANTA performance. Be enthralled as the talented artists cook up a storm in the on-stage kitchen offering a taste of Korean culinary creativity.

Walk Through Seoul's History With a University Lecturer

Delve deeper into the stories and events that shaped some of Korea's iconic heritage sites on a walking tour with a university lecturer. Elevate your understanding of sites such as the Changdeokgung Palace and the Jongmyo Shrine on this insightful and engaging adventure.

Hike to The Summit of a Volcano on Jeju Island

Stretch your legs and enjoy incredible panoramic views as you hike up Mt Halla, Korea's highest peak, which dominates the island of Jeju. Be left in awe, admiring blankets of wildflowers, craggy valleys and dramatic volcanic rock formations as you make your way to the summit's picturesque crater lake.

Spend a Contemplative Night in Monastic Surrounds

Immerse yourself in Buddhist culture when you spend a night at the UNESCO World Heritage Haeinsa Temple, founded in 802. Find your inner serenity with Chahm-Suhn meditation, morning chanting, tea blending meditation and the chance to discuss monastic life with a Sue-Nihm (monk).

Be Awestruck by the Haenyeo Free Divers, Jeju Island

For centuries the haenyeo, the female free divers of Jeju, have dived to the ocean floor to harvest shellfish and marine life. Learn about the history, culture and folklore of this unique way of life before witnessing their skills firsthand, watching the last divers of an ancient tradition disappear beneath the waves.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

The Wonders of South Korea

12 days

Arrive Seoul (4N) – Gyeongju (2N) – Busan (2N) – Jeju (3N) – Depart Seoul

South Korea is both modern and vibrant while also steeped in long-established traditions. Experience these contrasting aspects on a journey encompassing the best the country has to offer. Visit ornate temple and palace complexes illustrating the country's artistic history and culture. Learn about the more recent conflict of the Korean War and the divisions on the peninsula that remain today at the DMZ. Immerse yourself in the practices of Buddhism with the chance to stay at a UNESCO-listed temple. Escape to the dramatic volcanic scenery of Jeju Island and lose yourself among the bustling markets and street food vendors of Seoul.

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Taiwan

Arguably Asia's best-kept travel secret, Taiwan is a land of many facets with a deep yet unique culture. Explore modern, bustling cities brimming with temples, tea shops and markets. Sample delicious street food and a museum housing the world's largest repository of Chinese art. Discover hot springs, tea plantations and take in the scenic beauty of its national parks: the marble canyons, sparkling waterfalls, alpine forests and ethereal lakes of Toroko, a dramatic contrast with Kenting's sandy beaches, coral reefs and tropical vegetation.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Taiwan

Be immersed in 8,000 years of Chinese history, Taipei

Expand your understanding and tap into the knowledge of a local expert on an exploration of the National Palace Museum. Listen as their expertise brings to life some of the key exhibits among the 700,000 artefacts in one of the finest collections of Chinese antiquities on earth.

Light up the Sky in Shifen

Unleash your artistic abilities in the railway town of Shifen, painting your hopes and dreams on a lantern before releasing it into the air, lighting up the sky with beacons of hope for the future. Once used as a signalling system these lanterns now represent a time-held tradition.

Master a Classic Snack Food, Yilan

Expand your culinary repertoire with the secrets to making the perfect spring onion pancakes (Dan Bing). Following a true paddock to plate experience under the tutelage of an expert guide and a local farmer, pull onions from the field and transform them into the delicious classic Taiwanese snack.

Snorkel with Green Turtles, Xiaoliuqiu

Discover the depths of Taiwan's natural wonders by immersing yourself in the clear tropical waters of Xiaoliuqiu Island. Don your snorkel gear marvel at the underwater world of colourful reefs as you swim with endangered green turtles.

Soak in the Hot Spring Waters of Beitou, Taipei

Relax, unwind and let your cares drift away in a private hot spring at a luxury villa. Bathe in the warm, mineral rich therapeutic volcanic waters fed from nearby natural thermal springs and take your leave feeling rejuvenated and refreshed.

Trace a River in the Taroko Gorge

With myriad astonishing landscapes and marble canyons the Taroko Gorge in Hualien is a sight to behold. Go beyond the ordinary as you explore off the beaten path. Hike along the course of a deep blue river, explore hidden marvels and cool off in natural pools and waterfalls.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

Undiscovered Taiwan

13 days

Arrive Taipei (4N) – Sun Moon Lake (2N) – Taroko (2N) – Taipei (1N) – Depart Kaohsiung (3N)

Taiwan has been moulded over the centuries by the forces of nature and waves of human settlement and on this unique journey you'll discover how. From its captivating capital, Taipei, where modernity sits side-by-side with tradition and history, to extraordinary national parks where alpine forests and tropical beaches are the drawcard; immerse yourself in this land of colourful festivals, age-old artisan traditions and tasty street food. Admire its natural wonders and along the way taste fine whisky, learn to handmade paper, paint sky lanterns, brew the perfect cup of tea, prepare delicious spring onion pancakes and let fortune telling birds unmask your future.

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China

Nowhere on earth does ancient history meet modern complexity quite like in China — a spectacular assortment of landscapes and ethnic diversity. Delve into its profusion of cultural treasures: from the ancient Silk Road cities of the west, and the mammoth Great Wall of China, to the remarkable Terracotta Warriors of Xian and the regal Forbidden City of Beijing. Float down the Yangtze, Asia's longest river, wander through narrow-alley Hutongs, hike through Yunnan's mystical mountains, and go in search of glamour in swanky Shanghai.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience China

Sip Champagne on China's Great Wall

China's Great Wall winds thousands of kilometres from the time-worn ruins of the former Manchurian frontier to the windswept Gobi Desert. An awe-inspiring icon, escape to the well-preserved, less-frequented Mutianyu section, taking in the battlements' commanding views of the magnificent countryside; a glass of chilled Champagne in hand.

Encounter the Endangered Pandas of Chengdu

The capital of Sichuan Province, Chengdu is renowned for its Panda Breeding and Research Centre which affords a rare opportunity to encounter China's iconic national treasure at play amongst the bamboo groves of their enclosures. Hear from experts about the plight and preservation of this endearing, and endangered, species.

Float Down the Li River on a Bamboo Raft

From 1750-year-old Xingping, board your own private bamboo raft for an unforgettable trip along a tranquil tributary of the Li River. Breathe in the dreamlike landscape and realise the truth in the old Chinese saying: 'The scenery of Guilin is the finest under heaven'. The scenery of Yangshuo surpasses even that of Guilin.

Stand in Awe of the Terracotta Warriors of Xian

Standing 8,000 strong, the Terracotta Warriors of Xian bore silent watch over Emperor Qin Shi Huang's burial grounds for more than 2,000 years. This life-size statuary army of men and horses was accidentally unearthed in 1974, setting off an archaeological sensation. Gain insider access to the dig site, admiring the latest artefacts as they are revealed.

Explore the Cultural Tapestry of Buzzing Beijing

Serving as the nation's capital for seven centuries, Beijing's traditionally casual pace has yielded to modernity and expansion. Historic sites such as the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square and the Great Wall are juxtaposed with an ever-growing number of skyscrapers. This city on the move beckons visitors to experience its enduring air of tradition as it thrives in an era of rapid development.

Cruise the Mighty Yangtze River

The mighty Yangtze River snakes for a total of 6,380 kilometres, from its source in the mountains of Tibet to its mouth at Shanghai. The best way to explore this giant, winding torrent is on a river cruise, which will place you in the midst of the panoramic scenery, travelling through the very heart of the nation.

Connect With a Great Monastic Tradition in Lhasa

Founded over 1,300 years ago, glimpse monastic life past and present at two of Tibet's great gompas (Buddhist monasteries) in Lhasa. Explore Drepung Monastery, once the largest monastic institution in the world, and Sera Monastery, a veritable city occupying nearly 30 acres, before a visit to a local Tibetan farmhouse.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itineraries

Highlights of China

15 days

Arrive Beijing (3N) – Pingyao (2N) – Xian (2N) – Yangtze River Cruise (3N) – Depart Shanghai (4N)

Explore the fascinating enigma that is China. Peel back the layers of history in and around Beijing, where the Great Wall and Tiananmen Square will take your breath away. Gaze skywards in futuristic Shanghai. Unravel the mysteries of the ancient city of Xian, home to the Terracotta Warriors and a pulsating Muslim quarter, and find serenity as you cruise along the Yangtze.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Sichuan Delights

8 days

Arrive Chengdu – Qing Cheng (3N) – Emeishan (2N) – Depart Chengdu (2N)

Travel back in time to China's western hinterlands and discover a place where traditional customs have remained unaltered for centuries. Explore the mystical mountain of Qing Cheng, one of the cradles of Taoism, where pandas roam through bamboo forests and temples are dotted throughout the landscape. Immerse yourself in the laid-back vibe of Chengdu, where locals while away the day sipping tea and chatting in bamboo chairs; and then treat your tastebuds to the famously sweet and spicy Sichuan cuisine. You have never experienced China like this before.

[Please click here to view detailed itinerary and pricing.](#)

Cultures of Yunnan & Tibet

11 days

Arrive Kunming – Lijiang (3N) – Shangri-La (3N) – Tsedang (1N) – Depart Lhasa (3N)

Immerse yourself in the bygone cultures and impossibly beautiful mountains of China's Yunnan province and Tibet. Journey along the ancient Tea Horse Road, so-named for the Chinese who traded tea for Tibetan horses. Discover villages built on age-old customs, tea and herbal medicines. Venture deeper into mountains filled with extraordinary natural beauty and Buddhist temples. Then, climb even higher to Lhasa and peel back the many layers of Tibetan culture.

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Mongolia

Untamed and untrodden, Mongolia enchants with its wide-open plains, friendly and proud people, and the lore of one of the world's greatest empires. Visit the sprawling capital Ulaanbaatar, venture into the Gobi Desert where a variety of wildlife is found, from gazelles and camels to snow leopards and sand plovers, and where fascinating archaeological finds have been unearthed. Explore the craggy Altai Mountains and foothills and encounter nomadic herdsman eking out a living on the steppe.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Mongolia

Sit down to a Traditional Mongolian feast

Practiced by Mongolia's indigenous tribes for countless generations, the art of *khoomi* (throat singing) defies traditional harmonics. In storied Ulaanbaatar, enjoy a live performance of throat singing and traditional dance before savouring an authentic Mongolian feast of local meats, cheeses and *buzz* (dumplings).

Dunes of the Gobi Desert

Spanning a vast swathe of southern Mongolia, the Gobi Desert's remote dunescape affords a glimpse into a world that time forgot – a place where herdsman tend their livestock from gers (traditional yurts), dinosaur fossils pepper the cliffsides and travellers can still go off grid.

Ger Glamping in the Gobi

Immerse yourself in Mongolia's time-honoured nomadic way of life when you help construct a ger from wood, felt, leather and canvas alongside a local expert. Later, you'll bed down in one yourself and before turning in admire the starry night skies.

Explore the Fossil-Rich Flaming Cliffs with a Paleontologist

Explore the Gobi Desert's Flaming Cliffs with a local paleontologist, diving into a world that time forgot, learning how the ground-breaking discoveries of fossilised dinosaur eggs and other treasures from the late Cretaceous period were unearthed from this isolated frontier.

Ride a Camel through the Gobi

Mount a Bactrian camel and explore Moltsoog Els, one of the few places in the Gobi covered by sand dunes. The experience affords exceptional insight into a way of life that has endured for centuries in Central Asia.

Explore the buzzing city of Ulaanbaatar

Home to Mongolia's capital and half its population, Ulaanbaatar witnesses a daily collision of past and present. Nomads from the surrounding steppes mingle among businessmen and monks as an emerging economy flourishes in the bustling city streets.

Dive deep into the Fascinating History of Mongolia

Visit the National History Museum with a local history expert to immerse yourself in the incredible history of Mongolia. View fascinating displays of traditional Mongolian clothing and weaponry, as well as exhibits charting the course of Genghis Khan's empire-building.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

Mongolia: Nomads & Gers

7 days

Arrive Ulaanbaatar (2N) – South Gobi Desert (3N) – Depart Ulaanbaatar (1N)

Experience Mongolia like the Khans on this illuminating journey through the land of endless sky. Wander the intriguing city of Ulaanbaatar before venturing into a striking and stark land of rolling steppe, the Gobi Desert and dinosaur fossils. And meet Mongolia's nomadic herders to learn firsthand about an ancient and enduring way of life.

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Uzbekistan

Located in the heart of Central Asia, Uzbekistan has some of the region's finest architecture and a dynamic, distinctive history. Its capital city, Tashkent, with its turquoise domed mosques and bazaars, was a major trading centre along the Silk Road, and the country's proud legacy of warriors and emperors is reflected in monuments dating back to the 13th and 14th centuries. Marvel at the epic scale of ancient Samarkand's Registan lined with meticulously tiled madrassas and 2,500-year-old Bukhara, Central Asia's holiest city, with its famous Ark of Bukhara, a remarkable ancient fortress and archaeological complex.

Extraordinary Ways to Experience Uzbekistan

Stay in a Traditional Nomadic Desert Yurt Camp

Venture deep into the Uzbek desert to stay in a traditional nomadic yurt camp next to the Aydarkul lake. Take an exhilarating swim at sunset, see ancient petroglyphs at Sarmyshsay gorge and visit the nearby village of Nurata, founded in the 3rd century by Alexander the Great. At night settle in by the campfire for a folklore performance under the stars.

Enjoy Expert-Led Stargazing in the Zaamin National Park

Uzbekistan offers some of the most incredible stargazing on earth in the Zaamin Nature Reserve and National Park. Enjoy a stunning sunset, with a warm and rustic meal, hot cocoa and sleeping bags. Next, wrap yourself in the mysteries of the night sky on an expert-led stargazing experience.

Visit a Family of Jewellers in Ancient Bukhara

The jewellers of Uzbekistan are rare artists. Visit a family of jewellers in Ancient Bukhara to learn about their intricate craft, see how they endow ornaments with the magical properties of amulets and talismans, and enjoying casual conversation over tea, oriental sweets and dried fruits.

Marvel at the Tashkent Railway Museum

Take a fascinating ride through the history of Russian railways at the Tashkent Railway Museum. Explore Soviet-era steam, diesel and electric locomotives, clambering through dozens of carriages, plus a variety of historical engineering equipment. A rare, must-see for any steam-train enthusiast.





Suggested Tailor-Made Itinerary

Highlights of Uzbekistan: The Ancient Silk Road

8 days

*Arrive Tashkent (2N) – Samarkand (2N) –
Bukhara (2N) Depart Tashkent (1N)*

Home to Central Asia's oldest architecture, Uzbekistan has ancient ruins and relics that will make your jaw drop. Mosques, minarets and mausoleums are abundant, and the cities are steeped in the legend and mysteries of the old Silk Road. On this exclusive private journey visit two of the region's most famed cities exploring spiritual sites and archaeological marvels, trawling colourful marketplaces, and learning about age-old Uzbek handicrafts. From Tashkent to Samarkand and on to Bukhara, this journey will change the way you see the world.

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Cruises

A&K's cruise journeys let you experience a world of destinations from a rewarding new perspective. Choose from a sweeping cultural voyage around Japan on an all-balcony, exclusively chartered vessel; or a cruise on a luxury river ship along the great waterways of China, Vietnam, Cambodia or Indonesia. We've handpicked the finest vessels, and designed itineraries that allow you to visit key highlights, and hidden treasures, throughout each trip. Please visit our website for more details.

A&K Luxury Expedition Cruises

Backed by an award-winning, expedition cruising legacy nearly 30 years, A&K Luxury Expedition Cruises feature only the finest Expedition Team, vessels, excursions, planning and service. We limit our exclusively chartered vessels to no more than 199 guests, affording a private balcony with every stateroom and a peerless personnel-to-guest ratio of 1 to 1.3. And every voyage is truly all-inclusive, encompassing all excursions, meals, house drinks and onboard gratuities.



Wonders of Japan Cruise: Cherry Blossom Season

Departs Mar 29, 2023

Experience fascinating Japan during springtime with a chance to witness the country's iconic cherry blossoms alongside a professional photographer in unparalleled luxury. This all encompassing cruise explores Japan's culturally rich coastline with a pre-cruise stay in Osaka and shore excursions throughout, including a visit to Hiroshima's Peace Park, the Adachi Museum of Art and its gardens, and Kanazawa's historic district.



Indonesia Voyage: Komodo, Papua & Great Barrier Reef

Departs Oct 20, 2023

Discover the tribal traditions, natural wonders and exotic, paradisiacal shores of Indonesia, Papua and Australia. Exploring with A&K's Expedition Team, enjoy nature walks, local village visits, Zodiac excursions, and opportunities to snorkel and scuba. Experience stunning Komodo National Park and its rare dragon; West Papua's brilliant marine ecosystems, the storied spice islands of Maluku and Banda; and Great Barrier Reef.



Aqua Blu, East Indonesian Archipelago

Aqua Blu, a long-range explorer yacht, is sailing the pristine East Indonesian Archipelago, including Komodo National Park, the Spice Islands and Raja Ampat on seven and 12-night itineraries. The vessel features 15 design suites, tastefully decorated with a brass-and-ivory interior theme, with generous and inviting indoor and outdoor social spaces, including a sun deck. Other features include a Jacuzzi, spa, library, salon and dining room. Aqua Blu's range far exceeds that of its peers in East Indonesia, enabling on board explorers to experience the most varied, enjoyable and rewarding coastal cruise itineraries in this wild and stunningly beautiful part of the world.



Aqua Mekong, Vietnam & Cambodia

Cruise the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers aboard "floating five-star hotel", Aqua Mekong, which is constructed entirely from locally-sourced sustainable materials. All 20 luxury suites, eight of which have sky terraces, display a simple contemporary design with gigantic panoramic windows that are perfect for observing the changing riverscape. Enjoy tantalising dishes from Executive chef David Thompson's innovative menu of exotic Southeast Asian flavours. There is an abundance of facilities on board, including a screening room, air-conditioned library, plunge pool and spa treatment rooms.



Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer, China

The elegant Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer carries just 124 passengers and sets a new standard in luxury river cruising, with three and four night cruises between Chongqing and Yichang. The most celebrated stretch of the Yangtze is the spectacular Three Gorges where A&K uniquely tailors shore excursions. Qutang Gorge is famous for its rolling waters and dramatic cliffs, while Wu is characterised by majestic forest-crowned peaks. Xiling, the longest, finishes at the vast Three Gorges Dam. Friendly and intimate on-board service creates an atmosphere more private club than cruise ship.



Small Group Journeys

In addition to our portfolio of Tailor-Made Journeys, A&K also offers a range of Small Group Journeys to a variety of the world's and the region's greatest luxury travel destinations, as well as journeys to more emerging and off-the-beaten track destinations. These are expert-led shared adventures, with intimate group sizes of no more than 18 guests, and guaranteed departures from the first two guests booked. Below is just a sample of some of the Small Group Journeys options we have available in the Asia region.



Images of Indochina & Angkor Wat

13 days

Departs January-April, September-December 2023

Join this breathtaking journey to four of Southeast Asia's most intriguing destinations, each with their own world class attractions. Admire the breathtaking scenery of Halong Bay and its extraordinary limestone pinnacles, the tree-lined boulevards of Hanoi and vibrant Ho Chi Minh City. Marvel at the extraordinary ancient temples of Angkor and the sleepy pace of Luang Prabang. The adventure culminates in buzzing Bangkok. At every turn you'll enjoy the fresh flavours of the subtly spiced local cuisine and be warmly welcomed by some of the friendliest people on the planet.



Classic Japan

9 days

Departs March-May, September-November 2023

A country of astonishing contrasts, Japan is a wonderful and varied destination. You will marvel at some of the country's most impressive gardens, glimpse magnificent mountain landscapes, be introduced to ancient Samurai traditions and visit sacred Shinto shrines on this journey from Tokyo to Kyoto via Hakone and Osaka. Take the opportunity to appreciate Japan's myriad arts and crafts, and savour its extraordinary cuisine in local eateries, fine restaurants and street food stalls. Be amazed at a sumo wrestling bout, find respite in a classic onsen and rest up in a traditional ryokan – just a handful of Japan's cultural highlights.



LIMITED EDITION JOURNEY

South Korea: Sun & Moon

12 days

Departs March, October, November 2023 & March 2024

This unique journey visits one of Asia's most surprising destinations. The captivating country is a relative newcomer to the luxury travel scene with a host of fascinating natural and cultural highlights. South Korea is a surprise package known as much for its street food and high speed internet as it is for its heavily militarised border, from hip and edgy Seoul where new meets old and pop culture is alive and well to a folk villages and ancient temples. Uncover absorbing local customs, flavoursome culinary delights and picturesque scenery on this unforgettable adventure.



China & The Yangtze

13 days

Departs March-November 2023

Delight in a multitude of ancient wonders and iconic sites on this in-depth journey through China. Starting off in Beijing you'll cover off on all the most important attractions from the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square to the Great Wall and the Temple of Heaven. Pedal through the hutongs by pedicab and savour some of China's tastiest cuisine. Get up-close to the Terracotta Warriors in the Silk Road city of Xian and see prized pandas in their natural habitat. A luxury cruise through the Three Gorges reveals the Yangtze at its most impressive and dynamic Shanghai provides the perfect finish.

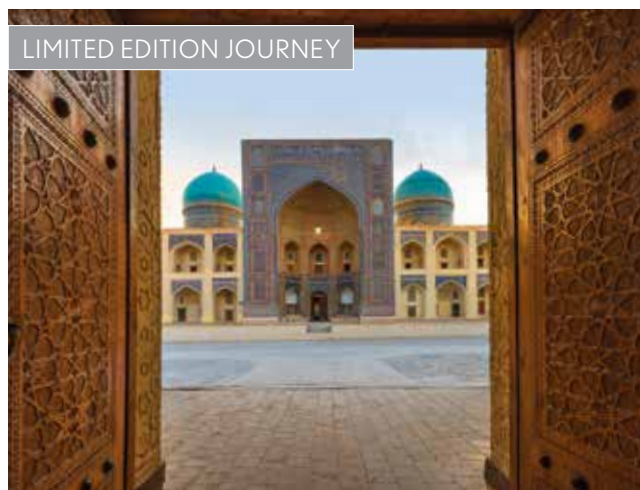


Vietnam: A Nation Revealed

12 days

Departs February, March, October, November & December 2023

Discover the many faces of a dynamic nation as you explore Vietnam's iconic cities and rural villages, take in its lush yet rugged scenery, sample its delightful cuisine and immerse yourself in its enduring cultural traditions. Experience the contrast of Vietnam's two largest cities: traditional Hanoi and modern Ho Chi Minh City. Sail through breathtaking seascapes on an overnight cruise through stunning, karst-dotted Ha Long Bay. Discover traditional ways of life in rural Vietnam as you explore villages and rice fields in Mai Chau by bicycle. And gather for dinner at a local family's home in Hue, where you learn traditional recipes and the art of incense-stick making, on an experience exclusively for A&K guests.



LIMITED EDITION JOURNEY

Ancient Trade Routes of Central Asia

16 days

Departs April, May, September & October 2023

The mountains and deserts of Central Asia are the backdrop for this extraordinary adventure to the heart of the ancient Silk Road. This is one of the world's most remote and untouched areas and was, during the Middle Ages, the epicentre of a powerful empire. On this journey, you'll explore Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, two countries steeped in antiquity with a lasting legacy from the warriors and emperors who made their mark. Visit some of the oldest cities in the world such as the legendary Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva, each boasting a glorious architectural legacy that is simply dazzling.

A Rewards Programme for Repeat Travellers

Experience the Marco Polo Club

Created to recognise and reward our most loyal guests, the Marco Polo Club® is open to everyone who travels on three or more journeys with Abercrombie & Kent.

Marco Polo Club members enjoy benefits including special discounts, priority waitlist for sold-out journeys, a members-only onboard reception on A&K Luxury Expedition Cruises, and a variety of exclusive communications and events.

To learn more about A&K's Marco Polo Club, visit www.abercrombiekent.com.au/marcopoloclub

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MARCO POLO
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Celebrate with Family and Friends

At A&K, we love curating exceptional holidays for you, your family and your friends, so that you can share journeys that matter to the world's most extraordinary destinations.

Whether you're gathering to celebrate a special milestone – a big birthday, anniversary, honeymoon or wedding – or simply a family get-together, we recognise that shared experiences are the most memorable, and we know how to tailor the journey to suit every dynamic.

Our Journey Designers can create magical moments for every generation travelling. Imagine the look on a child's or a parent's face when they see a giant panda in Chengdu, the fun of a hands-on family cooking class in Thailand, or the friendly sibling rivalry on the last leg of a bike excursion in Vietnam.

Multi-Generational & Family Holidays

Asia is an intriguing destination for all ages, combining rich cultural experiences with vibrant cuisines and outdoor adventures 'Jungle Book' style. Some of our favourite family activities include:

- Cycling through the countryside around Hoi An, past rice fields, along canals and down waterways watching life go by. Watching local artisans at work and visiting local farms and market gardens along the way, choosing produce and preparing lunch.
- Volunteering at the Dujiangyan Panda Base near Chengdu, where important research is being done on disease prevention and the rehabilitation of these extraordinary and endangered creatures.

A&K Milestone Celebrations

One of the best ways to mark a special occasion is to take up residence in your own fully-staffed villa or aboard your own luxury vessel. You decide who the guests are, and you set the daily timetable.

A&K has access to some extraordinary seaside properties in Thailand, a former imperial retreat in Japan, a private tented haven deep in the heart of the Cambodian rainforest or a junk on Halong Bay – all perfect venues for a milestone celebration or a multi-generation family adventure.





Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy

Be a part of travel that changes lives

Make a deeper local connection on your next journey with a visit to an Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy project.

Transforming Travel

While the travel industry is in the midst of a transformation toward greater equity and sustainability, Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy (AKP) has been committed to positively impacting lives and livelihoods in the communities where our guests travel for decades. We are equally committed to ensuring guests learn about our philanthropic investments as an integral part of their travel experience.

Sharing a Journey That Matters

While an A&K journey reveals all kinds of inspiring experiences, our guests often find their visit to an AKP project the most stirring. You'll find these unique opportunities on many of our journeys, affording a wealth of interactions and insights you won't find anywhere else. Whether celebrating a newly opened school or the beauty of an ecosystem brought back from the brink, these visits forge memories that last a lifetime.

Building on a Solid Foundation

Established in 1982 under the guidance of A&K Vice Chairman Jorie Butler Kent, Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy is dedicated to giving back to the vibrant communities we're so privileged to share with our guests. Our local offices seek out and support grassroots projects in these communities, and we're now deeply involved in more than 40 education, conservation, healthcare and community enterprise projects in 22 countries.

Sustaining an Unmatched Local Presence

With full-time, locally based coordinators serving our partner communities in Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana, India, Peru, Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia, AKP is fostering philanthropic commitments unprecedented in the travel industry. Focused on making the most of our efforts in the field, these community development professionals are also uniquely qualified to share these projects with you, our guests.

If you'd like to meet one of our Philanthropy Coordinators and experience an AKP project firsthand, please contact A&K or your travel agent to arrange a site visit on your next journey.

Abercrombie & Kent makes a donation to AKP on behalf of every guest travelling.

AKP projects in Asia

- › **Laos:** Muang Khay Secondary School
- › **Myanmar:** Sin Kyun Village
- › **Thailand:** Chiang Mai Mushroom House
- › **Vietnam:** Hoa An Kindergarten, Safe Water for Schools Initiative
- › **Cambodia:** Clean Water Project, Siem Reap Schools Program



For more information on AKP projects around the world, and how you can support or visit them, see www.abercrombiekent.com.au/philanthropy



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View these brochures online at www.abercrombiekent.com.au, or call 1300 851 800 for more information.

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Join us on our travels around the world, as we share our favourite photos from the field. Tag your A&K travels with #GoBeyondtheOrdinary.

YouTube



www.abercrombiekent.com.au/youtube

Discover more about A&K, including our philanthropy projects.

Abercrombie & Kent

Contact your travel agent or Abercrombie & Kent Australia at:
Level 3, 290 Coventry Street, South Melbourne Victoria 3205
T 03 9536 1800

Toll Free 1300 583 901
0800 441 638 (within New Zealand)
800 4747 7700 (within Asia)
E contact@abercrombiekent.com.au

www.abercrombiekent.com.au

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