Circumnavigation of Iceland

Cruising aboard the
Exclusively Chartered, New Small Ship
Five-Star Le Bellot

June 28 to July 6, 2020
Round-Trip Air Included from Select Cities

Reserve by November 29, 2019
Save $2,000 per couple

Early Booking Savings
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Resting on the edge of the Arctic Circle, Iceland is a realm of astonishing beauty where nature reigns supreme. This otherworldly land of fire and ice is an ensemble of steaming fumaroles, bubbling mudpots, breathtaking waterfalls, venting geysers and calving glaciers.

Join us for this unforgettable exploration through Iceland’s seemingly endless variations of magnificent scenery and fascinating cultural heritage. During our specially designed, seven-night circumnavigation of this Nordic island nation, experience close encounters with Iceland’s primal landscapes and unique wildlife at the best time of year, when the Midnight Sun of the summer solstice melds into lingering twilight. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star Le Bellot—launching in 2020—able to cruise into small ports inaccessible to larger vessels and to alter course as ethereal waterways, rugged fjords and magisterial glaciers unfold before you.

Explore cosmopolitan Reykjavík, the world’s northernmost capital and a vibrant example of Iceland’s egalitarian society. Visit seldom-trod islands and coastal hamlets where the mythic lore and epic sagas of Iceland’s national identity are passed down through generations. Cruise into Sigluffjörður, cross the Arctic Circle on Grímsey Island, touch ice fragments calved from Breiðamerkurjökull in UNESCO-designated Vatnajökull National Park and marvel at dramatic Goðafoss, the “Waterfall of the Gods.” Look for orcas and humpback whales as you cruise past Surtsey, one of Earth’s youngest islands and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Uncover the history of Iceland’s “Pompeii of the North” on fascinating Heimaey Island, where houses hemmed by hardened lava flow from Eldfell volcano are clustered beneath towering cliffs populated by multitudes of puffins, fulmars and guillemots.

Experience the awe-inspiring power of nature on this incomparable circumnavigation of Iceland. This program features included round-trip air from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Toronto and Washington-Dulles, or Low Air Add-Ons for an additional $200 per person from Chicago, Dallas and Minneapolis, or an additional $300 per person from Denver, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver.†† Make your reservation now while space and Early Booking Savings are still available!

Sincerely,

Gwen D. Harrington
Director of Travel Programs
Virginia Tech Alumni Association

Kathleen Green
Assistant Director of Travel Programs
Virginia Tech Alumni Association

††Included Air and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.
U.S.
Sunday, Day 1
Depart the U.S.

Reykjavík, Iceland
Monday, Day 2
Arrive in Reykjavík, a UNESCO Creative City of Literature. See the idyllic parks and botanical gardens of Laugardalur, where a geothermal, Olympic-sized outdoor swimming pool speaks to Iceland’s seemingly endless supply of natural hot water. Continue to the impressive National Museum, where over 2000 artifacts—including the priceless 13th-century Valþjófsstaður church door—provide a comprehensive account of Iceland’s history and culture. Visit Hallgrímskirkja church, whose distinct silhouette rises above Reykjavík’s skyline. Continue to Reykjavík’s old town center, a compact core of narrow streets lined with small, colorful houses, before boarding Le Bellot. Please note that the ship’s cruising pattern and direction are dependent on weather and sea conditions and are subject to change.

Vigur Island/Ísafjörður
Tuesday, Day 3
Enjoy the morning cruise to the awe-inspiring, seldom-visited Westfjords peninsula. On verdant Vigur Island—home to a single farming family—observe Arctic terns, black guillemots, eiders and thousands of puffins in their natural habitat. See relics of Iceland’s traditional farming heritage, including the nation’s only windmill and a 200-year-old rowboat still used to ferry sheep to the mainland. Enjoy sweeping fjord views and keep watch for whales, dolphins and seals. Visit Iceland’s smallest post office and savor coffee and cakes served by our hosts in their home, the picturesque 19th-century Viktoria House. This afternoon, cruise up Ísafjarðardjúp, the dominant fjord of this remote 14-million-year-old region, framed by the dramatic rise of rugged mountains. Near the town of Ísafjörður, visit the open-air Ósvör Maritime Museum, where restored

Siglufjörður/Grímsey Island/
Arctic Circle
Wednesday, Day 4
Clinging to the foot of steep mountain walls at the entrance to a gorgeous fjord, charming Siglufjörður is one of Iceland’s most dramatically sited towns. Multicolored houses lead to a bustling harbor, the hub of the town’s fishing industry. Siglufjörður celebrates the glory days of herring fishing at the award-winning Herring Era Museum, which recreates the history of fish salting and oil processing during the early 20th century.

Photo this page: See gemlike Óðafoss, set among northern Iceland’s craggy lava fields and rich green pastures.
Cover photo: Touch the ice that has calved off of the luminously blue Breiðamerkurjökull glacier.
Enjoy a music-filled performance illustrating síldarsöltun (traditional herring salting process).

Return to the ship and cruise to Grímsey Island, which straddles the top of the world at 66 degrees north. Craggy coastal cliffs and basalt formations host dozens of species of seabirds, including puffins and auks. Walk across the Arctic Circle, where the island is lush with grasses and mosses.

Húsavík for Lake Mývatn
Thursday, Day 5
Explore northern Iceland’s extraordinary natural landscapes, stopping at Námaskarð—a geothermal wonder of boiling, sulfurous mudpots—and the pseudocraters at Skútustaðir, formed when hot lava flowed across the wetlands over 2000 years ago.

Walk among the surreal “dark castle” lava formations of Dimmuborgir and drive along the shores of cerulean Lake Mývatn, a birder’s paradise harboring many rare migratory birds and 14 species of Iceland’s bountiful wild ducks.

Continue to Goðafoss, or “Waterfall of the Gods.” According to legend, this waterfall earned its name when an Icelandic lawspeaker threw wooden statues of Norse gods into its crashing waters, signifying his conversion to Christianity.

Seyðisfjörður
Friday, Day 6
Seyðisfjörður is a tranquil, 11-mile-long fjord that winds toward its eponymous town, a thriving artist’s community where colorful, chalet-style houses shelter beneath Mount Strandartindur and Mount Bjölfur (Beowulf).

AIR is Included from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Toronto and Washington-Dulles!*†
Low Air Add-Ons are available from select cities.†
Economy-class, round-trip Reykjavík Included Air is available exclusively through Gohagan & Company. Gohagan & Company and the sponsoring association/organization have no control over availability or air schedule changes.

Explore the sulfuric mudpots of Námaskarð, where the mineral-rich, desert-toned terrain appears almost Mars-like.

Look for gregarious orcas in Iceland’s coastal waters.
Visit the sky-hued Blue Church and observe a specially arranged cultural and musical performance. Continue to the Technical Museum to learn more about the mechanical and architectural innovations that characterize this island nation, and enjoy light refreshments.

Djúpivogur for Jökulsárlón
Saturday, Day 7
Enjoy a full-day scenic excursion, with lunch, along Iceland’s east coast with stunning mountain views.

Board a specially designed small boat for a private cruise amid the luminous blue icebergs of Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon and touch the ice that has calved off the outlet tidewater glacier. These mesmerizing ice sculptures can spend up to five years floating in the 820-foot-deep lagoon before moving out to sea via Iceland’s shortest river.

Heimaey, Westman Islands/
Cruise along Surtsey Island
Sunday, Day 8
Arrive at Heimaey Island, part of the Vestmannaeyjar (Westman Islands) archipelago, and stop at Sprangan, the craggy cliff where young islanders learn the local pastime of rope swinging. See the ruins of ancient Viking farmhouses dating from A.D. 650 in Herjólfsdalur Valley, observe Heimaey’s largest puffin colony from the headland of Stórhöfði and view a timbered stave church in scenic Skansinn. See the imposing Eldfell volcano and tour the Eldheimar Museum, which chronicles its fateful activity of 1973 and the subsequent impact on the community.

This evening, cruise along the coast of Surtsey Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Created by volcanic activity between 1963 and 1967, it is one of the youngest and most fragile islands on Earth. Scientists continually study the evolution of flora and fauna. Be on the lookout for graceful orcas that frequent the region.

Join your traveling companions for the Captain’s Farewell Reception on board this evening.

Reykjavík/U.S.
Monday, Day 9
Following breakfast, disembark and transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

The captivating city of Reykjavík and its surrounding natural wonders provide you with the perfect introduction to Iceland. Visit the famous Blue Lagoon and rejuvenate in the warmth of its mineral-rich geothermal waters surrounded by black lava fields. Tour the legendary Golden Circle—UNESCO World Heritage-designated Þingvellir National Park, the thundering terraced cataract of Gullfoss and Strokkur, possibly the world’s most iconic fountain geyser. Take in the stunning panoramas from the futuristic glass dome of the Perlan Museum and discover its immersive exhibits on volcanoes, earthquakes and geothermal zones. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe Hotel Borg.

The Pre-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be included with your reservation confirmation.

The Pre-Program Option includes:
- Day 1: Sightseeing tour of Reykjavík
- Day 2: Private bus tour to the west coast with a stop at the magnificent Skógafoss waterfall
- Day 3: Private bus tour to the southern coast with a stop at the famous Ólafsgårdur lighthouse
- Day 4: Private bus tour to the southeast coast with a stop at the charming town of Skógar
- Day 5: Private bus tour to the south coast with a stop at the iconic Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon
- Day 6: Private bus tour to the east coast with a stop at the famous Diamond Beach
- Day 7: Day trip to the Westman Islands with a stop at the town of Heimaey
- Day 8: Private bus tour to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula with a stop at the famous Snæfellsjökull glacier
- Day 9: Private transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

The Pre-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be included with your reservation confirmation.
Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design

Le Bellot, launching in 2020, represents a new generation of Five-Star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you.

Blue Eye – World’s First Multisensory, Underwater Observation Lounge

Introducing the extraordinary Blue Eye, the world's first multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge. View the beauty of marine life‡‡ through the large, subaquatic windows and integrated digital screens providing live images from underwater cameras, and enjoy the sensory experience of listening to the ocean's unique underwater universe in the comfort of the exclusive Blue Eye lounge.

Life on Board

Enjoy sweeping views from the lounges—which open to the outdoors—and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa and sauna or the Sun Deck's infinity-style swimming pool. The ship has a beauty salon, a fitness room and three elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi access is available (conditions permitting).

Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies

Each of the 92 Five-Star Staterooms and Suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand Deluxe Suites have a bay window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control and a private bathroom with shower and luxury hotel-style amenities.

Chic and Casual Dining

Dine indoors or alfresco on international and regional cuisine served in the stylish, spacious indoor-outdoor restaurant, at the casual pool deck grill or from 24-hour room service. Daily meals include continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner.

Respect for the Environment

A state-of-the-art addition to the Ponant "Clean Ship" fleet, an important certification among ocean-cruising vessels, Le Bellot is energy efficient and eco-friendly, protecting fragile marine ecosystems.

World-Class Service

The highly trained, English-speaking crew is personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and a nurse.

‡‡Marine life viewing varies by location.
Included Features
◆ Round-trip, economy-class air is included from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Toronto and Washington-Dulles.”
◆ Low Air Add-Ons are available for $200 per person from Chicago, Dallas and Minneapolis, and for $300 per person from Denver, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver.”

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, New Five-Star Small Ship Le Bellot
◆ Seven-night cruise featuring a circumnavigation of Iceland round trip Reykjavik.
◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom.
◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.
◆ All meals aboard ship.
◆ Complimentary Wi-Fi (conditions permitting).
◆ Blue Eye—the world’s first luxury, multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge.
◆ Opportunities for the ship to alter course as natural wonders unfold before your eyes.
◆ City tour of Reykjavik, featuring visits to the lauded National Museum and Hallgrímskirkja church.
◆ Visit to Vigur Island to observe the natural habitat of Arctic terns, eiders and thousands of puffins and to tour the island’s preserved agricultural relics.
◆ Tour of charming Ísafjörður, one of Iceland’s oldest fishing stations, featuring the Westfjords Heritage Museum and Ósvör Maritime Museum.
◆ Crossing of the Arctic Circle (66°33’ N) on Grímsey Island.
◆ Scenic excursions in northern Iceland to Goðafoss Waterfall, Lake Mývatn, Dimmuborgir, Skútustaðir and the geothermal field of Námaskarð.
◆ Visit to Seyðisfjörður, including a performance in the Blue Church and a tour of the Technical Museum.
◆ Full-day excursion along Iceland’s east coast from the 16th-century port town of Djúpivogur to the Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon in UNESCO World Heritage-designated Vatnajökull National Park, with a private cruise among Jökulsárlón’s icebergs.
◆ Tour of Heimaey Island, including the Eldheimar Museum, the lava fields of “Fire Mountain” and Herjólfsdalur Valley’s ancient Viking ruins.
◆ Cruise along the coast of Surtsey Island, named a UNESCO World Heritage site for its ecological significance.

Always Included
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

“Included Air and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.”
A land of unparalleled geological riches, Iceland is home to 4500 square miles of glaciers, 30 active volcanic systems, 800 hot springs and over 10,000 waterfalls. Born of the monumental forces unleashed during the movement of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates and carved out by formidable glaciers and incredible waterfalls, the land is a combination of intense natural energy and veritable calm. The topography of Iceland continues to evolve, yet many of its landscapes remain nearly unchanged since the first Viking settlers laid eyes on them more than 1100 years ago.

During your circumnavigation, see volcanic craters and fissures, watch as bubbling hot springs erupt steam into the air against a backdrop of Mars-like terrain, encounter pristine waterfalls and black lava deserts, and witness the stoic majesty of mountains capped with snow and volcanoes slumbering beneath sheets of ice. Along the coast, Iceland’s characteristic fjords chronicle the powerful path of the glaciers. Enjoy these natural wonders, in constant flux as glaciers calve and shift and new mountains emerge from volcanic lava flow. A startlingly beautiful portrait of Earth’s history and progress, Iceland is a primordial landscape hewn by the forces of fire and ice.

Explore “Diamond Beach” along Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, where glistening ice formations contrast the slaty sand.

Encounter the majesty of Strokkur, a fountain geyser that jets hot water toward the sky every six to eight minutes, on the Reykjavík and the Golden Circle Pre-Program Option.
Le Bellot has been specially contracted for this program, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company.

Taxes are an additional $455 per person and are subject to change.

Singles are available in category 5 at $15295* and in category 2 at $17995* on or before November 20, 2019.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

Program reservations require a deposit of $900 per person and $200 per person as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Another departure city at additional cost to be advised.

*Note: Included Air, Low Air Add-Ons and/or airfare are subject to change. See Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

1/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:

Visa
MasterCard

The vessel Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

The vessel is circumballasted around Iceland.

CIRCUMNAVIGATION of ICELAND

** Please make my reservation(s):
Reykjavik and the Golden Circle Pre-Program Option
Double at $14495 per person.
Single at $2195 per person.
I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:
1st choice ______ 2nd choice ______

Double occupancy (two twin beds).
Double occupancy (one queen bed).
Single accommodations.

I/We will make my/our air arrangements** (choose one and fill in departure city):

o Included economy-class flights from selected cities listed above.

o Low Air Add-Ons are available for $200 per person from Chicago, Dallas and Minneapolis, and $300 per person from Denver, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver.**

*Taxes are an additional $455 per person and are subject to change.

Le Bellot has been specially contracted for this program, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company.

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Another departure city at additional cost to be advised.

*Note: Included Air, Low Air Add-Ons and/or airfare are subject to change. See Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

1/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:

Visa
MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by March 25, 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Early Booking Tariff* through Nov. 20, 2019</th>
<th>Tariff* after Nov. 20, 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 3, forward. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$6595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 3, midship.</td>
<td>$7795</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 4, forward.</td>
<td>$8495</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 4, midship.</td>
<td>$8995</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Decks 5 and 6, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$9695</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 5, forward. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$9995</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 5, midship.</td>
<td>$10595</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 6, midship.</td>
<td>$10995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deluxe Suite</td>
<td>Suite with expansive sliding glass door, large private balcony, sitting area with sofa. Decks 3, 4, 5 and 6. (limited availability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prestige Suite</td>
<td>Large Suite with expansive sliding glass door, large private balcony, sitting area with sofa. Decks 3 and 6. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$13495</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deluxe Suite</td>
<td>Extra-large, two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath, sitting area with sofa. Deck 6. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$14995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner’s Suite</td>
<td>Extra-large, two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath, sitting area with sofa. Deck 5. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$15295</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Singles are available in category 5 at $15295* and in category 2 at $17995* on or before November 20, 2019. Add $1000 for reservations made after November 20, 2019.

Round-trip, economy-class Included Air is from Boston, New York-JFK, Newark, Toronto and Washington-Dulles.

Low Air Add-Ons are available for $200 per person from Chicago, Dallas and Minneapolis, and $300 per person from Denver, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver.**
RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, agents, attorneys, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your program including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors; and Gohagan is not responsible for the willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

The above persons and entities are not in the service or employ of Gohagan and Gohagan does not assume control of any such persons or entities; do not have the right to substitute vessels, hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure; do not have the right to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for bus transportation or for any other reason, and Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to refund the cost of any purchased travel insurance. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mentioned in this brochure or for the departure time or for any reason, with or without notice. 

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night (a), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner’s risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a program participant, or remove from a program, anyone who Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other participants. The right is reserved to substitute vessels, hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. The right is reserved to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for bus transportation or for any other reason, and Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to refund the cost of any purchased travel insurance. Gohagan is not required to cancel any program for any reason including without limitation, U.S. Government of State, Department of State, World Health Organization or U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or for any acts of God, force majeure, act of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites or attacks by insects, pests, strikes, or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, illness, sickness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mentioned in this brochure or for the departure time or for any reason, with or without notice. 

TRAVEL INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through the Vincent Sheean Travel Asssociation. Visit www.vincentstea.com/travel/insurance for more details or to register online.

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