

# **DESTINATION GUIDEBOOK**

A Tapestry of Private Travel



2024

**PRE-DESIGNED TRAVEL EXPERIENCES** 

**AFRICA - MIDDLE EAST** 

**CUSTOM MADE JOURNEYS** 

Destination of Your Choice

**Visit Our Website For Additional Tours** 

www.Lakani.com



#### Dear Travelling Friends,

A Tapestry of Cultures celebrates the weave and weft of civilization and the people who make it. From UNESCO World Heritage sites to bustling cities, from colorful marketplaces to idyllic countrysides, Lakani World Tours opens hearts and minds to cultural understanding and helps us gain respect for people with contrasting traditions. Discover the common threads that we all share.

With many years in travel, I have been privileged with the opportunity to visit some of the most remote locations as well as top rated cities in the world. Each place has its own gifts to offer and leaves indelible memories. Our goal at Lakani is to provide you with a travel experience filled with enrichment, enjoyment and unforgettable impressions of each destination.

Our Lakani team is made up of professionals who are devoted to creating extraordinary travel programs for every Lakani traveler. We select exquisite and unique hotels/camps, engage outstanding guides, and offer the most incredible sightseeing for each itinerary.

Please take a look at the journeys to Africa and Middle East inside this brochure and be inspired to travel with Lakani in 2024. We look forward to an opportunity to share Unique, Exotic and Magnificent Experiences.

With best traveling wishes,

Heidi Lakani

Heidi Lakani

P.S. If you wish to travel with a small group in the company of a Lakani Tour Manager, please ask about Lakani Small Group Journeys or Private Jet Tours.



#### THE LAKANI PROMISE

The Lakani World Tours logo is intentional in its design. The four directional points represent our experience in travel to the far corners of the world, as well as the four fundamental principles which guide each program we create.



## QUALITY & VALUE

#### Every detail matters

Every Lakani World Tours program includes the best sightseeing and services that the area has to offer. While we recognize that quality does not come cheaply, we provide value through our experience and strong relationships with proven suppliers.



## • INTEGRITY

### Worthy of your trust

The Lakani team provides honest answers, objective advice and strong commitments. We also offer the usual industry assurances and safeguards: we are a registered California Seller of Travel. Naturally, references are available.



## **EXPERIENCE & INNOVATION**

## Uniquely crafted vacations with cultural enrichment

The Lakani team of seasoned industry veterans draws from their experience and their never ending quest to uncover new and unusual sights, activities and lodging to share with travelers.



### Your wish is our command

We believe that attitude is everything. Service begins the first time you call us and continues throughout your entire journey. The Lakani Travel Specialists and its team of expert Tour Managers consistently endeavor to anticipate the desires and expectations of every Lakani traveler.



## EXPLORE THE WORLD THE LAKANI WAY: THE LUXURY OF CHOICE

The Lakani World Tours team understands that not all travelers desire the same experience. So, we have put our knowledge into creating Travel Experiences that offer ways of journeying that appeal to guests of all interests.







Pre-Designed Private Travel offers a collection of trips that are ready for you to purchase just as they are to fit in with your time schedule – or you can customize them to suit you and your traveling companion (s) for an additional cost. These tours include breakfast daily, private transfers with VIP Meet & Greet service and sightseeing throughout, and the services of an experienced English-speaking local guide.

Custom Made Journey Ideas offer you suggestions for areas you may wish to travel to on your own, with companions, or family members. Every itinerary we craft includes Lakani approved accommodations, experienced local guides, transfers, and sightseeing. Breakfast is always included, but other meals may be dictated by the destination or route.

Small Group Tours are created particularly for those destinations where travelers enjoy having a Tour Manager for more comfort and security, or simply because they want to meet other like-minded travelers. These tours are for 8 to 14 guests and include private transfers with VIP meet and greet, all meals and Dine by Choice where possible, all sightseeing, and special encounters with locals. These departures are set dates and are ideal for single travelers too.

Lakani Private Jet Journeys are designed for those travelers who wish to include a collection of destinations all on one trip. They may be unusual places that are harder to reach along with some well-loved destinations that deserve another visit. The chartered jet has a hand-picked crew who serve chef-prepared meals and fine wines and beverages. Often times we are using private landing strips with red-carpet arrival service. The small group size of 10 –15 guests are accompanied by a professional Lakani Tour Manager as well as an Operations Director to insure exceptional personal attention. Accommodations are of the highest caliber, and are mostly in suites. Private transfers and VIP meet and greet are included, as well as exclusive venues and performances. Dine by Choice is also offered, including Michelin-star restaurants.

Lakani has the world's countries covered with these travel experiences. Where do you want to travel next?







# AFRICA CAPTIVATING & INSPIRING

See wildlife like you have never seen before in their natural habitat. From the tiniest of creatures to the gentle giants whose Matriarchal families make their homes in East and Southern Africa. Watch as Zebra, Giraffe, Antelope and Buffalo feed on leaves and grasses, pausing to run when they sense the presence of predators like lions and leopards. Lion cubs playing in the grasses tug at your heartstrings, and you can't get enough the sightings of hippos in the river or the cheetahs on the termite mounds.

The diversity of landscapes, wildlife, and culture is evident throughout Africa. From the Berber villages in Morocco to the historic Lalibela churches of Ethiopia; the abundant wildlife roaming the Serengeti and Mara in East Africa to the gorilla inhabited jungles of Uganda and Rwanda; the stunning sand dunes of Namibia to the mighty Victoria Falls in Zambia and Zimbabwe; and from the Okavango Delta of Botswana to the Kruger National Park in South Africa. Africa is all that and much more!

#### **Enriching Encounters**

Become immersed in the wildlife and culture of Africa. Get up close to the elephants and lions while in the safety of your vehicle. Take a walking safari for a unique encounter with wildlife, large and small, and learn from your safari guide how the plants and smaller creatures are integral in the balance of nature. Meet the Maasai, Zulu and other local peoples who live amidst the free roaming animals. See their homes and gain insight into their traditions and lifestyle.

#### **Extraordinary Guides**

Where are the leopards? Can we see lions today? How old is that elephant? What is that bird? These are just some of many questions asked on safari. Lakani knows that your guide is key to making your journey to Africa the most rewarding and memorable experience. Whether you are walking in the bush, riding on the plains, or plying through the rivers and deltas - your guide is there to keep you safe, answer your questions, and show you the very best of the region. Guides chosen for your safari are vetted for knowledge and experience, personality, and attention to service.











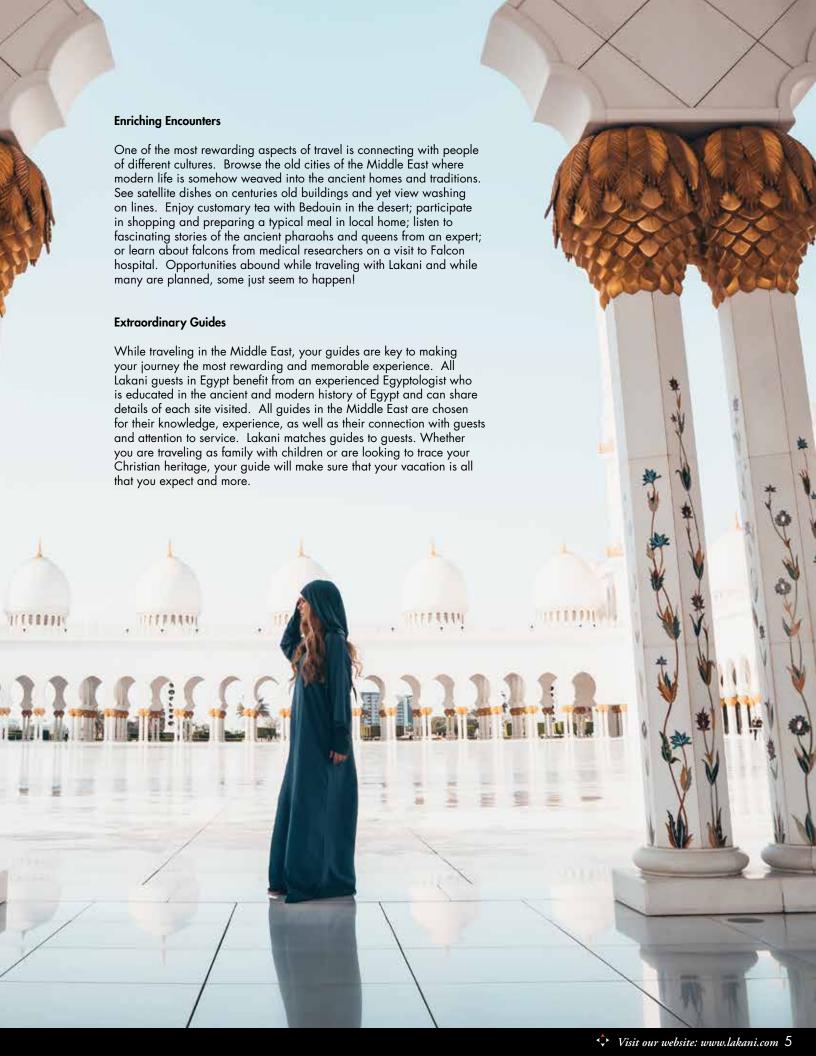
# MIDDLE EAST CAPTIVATING & INSPIRING

Explore the wonders of the Middle East and immerse yourself in ancient history. Admire the Pyramids of Giza and the Temples of Luxor and Abu Simbel in Egypt. Gain insight into Egyptian antiquities at the magnificent new Grand Egyptian Museum and visit the incredible Library in Alexandria. Sail in a Felucca on the Nile and venture inside the tombs of the ancient Kings and Queens.

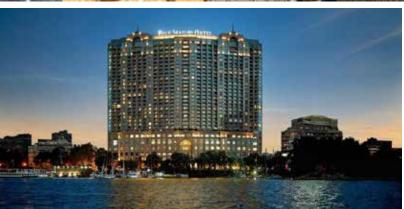
Follow the paths of ancient civilizations in Israel and Jordan. Discover the cosmopolitan city of Tel Aviv and Old Jaffa. Travel along the Mediterranean coast to the archaeological site of Caesarea, Baha'i Gardens of Haifa, and fortresses of Acre. Trace the Christian heritage trail to the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, and Nazareth. Stroll through the Jewish, Christian and Muslim Quarters of the Old City of Jerusalem. Venture out to Bethlehem and Masada. Gain insight into the plight of Jewish people at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum. Cross into Jordan and the explore its incredible archaeological treasures in Amman, Jerash and Petra. Experience a dip in the mineral-rich Dead Sea.

Discover the modern architecture and traditional culture of the Arabian Peninsula. Dubai is one of the most visited cities in the world. It is home to the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa, as well as the famous sail shaped Burj Al Arab. Abu Dhabi is the capital of the UAE as well as the Emirate by the same name. Often referred to as the "Manhattan of the Middle East," the city is known for its lush greenery and beautiful corniche. Offer an arm to a large, majestic falcon on a tour of the Falcon Hospital. Visit the stunning Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque and see the only hotel built on a Formula One racetrack at Yas Island.

The State of Qatar is a small country, yet full of historic and natural wonders including Al Zubarah Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In capital city of Doha, explore the alleys of Souiq Waqif, the limestone Museum of Islamic Art, and Sheikh Faisal's private museum. The Sultanate of Oman offers a wide variety of activities in its deserts, lush riverbed oases and along its beautiful coastlines.









## SUMPTUOUS SURROUNDINGS TO SUIT YOUR JOURNEY

Lakani standards are high when it comes to your ultimate comfort and enjoyable experience. You can be sure that the Lakani team has inspected each property in the Lakani Hotels of Choice collection. At the end of the day, relax in elegance, and yet be immersed in the locale. While on safari, delight in luxury en-suite tents and lodges, some with private plunge pools, overlooking water holes, rivers, and plains where wildlife viewing is optimal. Listen to the wilderness outside, and yet feel safe and secure in the comfort of your lodgings. Be amazed at the level of culinary delights served in the bush.

**Location, Location!** Expect the highest level of accommodations in the heart of the destination. In Cairo, enjoy Nile view and Pyramid view rooms and suites in luxury hotels. The stunning King David Hotel in Jerusalem affords views over the Old City. Petra is just steps away from your hotel, and at the Dead Sea, your resort is situated at the edge of the famous salt lake.

Wherever you travel, Lakani has the perfect accommodation to suit your style and interests.



## **AUTHENTICALLY LOOKING** AFTER EVERY GUEST

The Lakani team has collectively hundreds of years' experience. Each member has been working in the deluxe arena of international travel throughout their career. Destinations have been thoroughly vetted in person. The select lodging, transportation companies and local guides have been working with the Lakani team for decades. You can be assured that we are in constant communication so that your journey runs as smoothly as you can imagine. These last couple of years have shown us all that the relationships that we maintain overseas are even more important. With the constant changing of protocols throughout the world, we must be vigilant in terms of open and closing times, testing, masking, and vaccination requirements, and overall consistent sanitation. You can rely on Lakani to update you, not only before you travel, but also along the way.

### RETURN GUESTS ARE TESTAMENT TO LAKANI'S SUCCESS

Lakani World Tours appreciates the kind comments from so many happy travelers. Additionally, we owe a debt of gratitude to the Travel Advisors and their clients who return again and again for unforgettable vacation experiences. It is one of the reasons why we are always researching and creating new, interesting, and rewarding itineraries.



## HERE ARE SOME OF THE TESTIMONIES WE ARE PLEASED TO SHARE:

All of the guides were very knowledgeable and courteous, the sightseeing was beautiful and transportation was well coordinated and the hotel accommodations were best ever. - A. Meyers

The trip was fantastic. Thanks for all who made it work to our specific needs and requests. Hotels were beautiful and often more than expected and our guide was amazing! - C. Brachs

Our trip couldn't have been more perfect. Our guides were well versed, friendly and took time to understand our preferences, and added so much more to the trip. - Mr. and Mrs. M. Henry

This was our fourth trip with Lakani, and we hope to take that many more with you. Nothing but perfection from the time we called the office until our return home. The wonderful and fond memories we have of our trips are all in the category of "Once in a Lifetime". - Mr. and Mrs. H. Carter



## AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST



## Visit our website at www.Lakani.com for Additional Tours

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## 9 Days - Pre-Designed Journey

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver
- Your own private expert local guides
- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All park fees are included

#### Signature Experiences Included:

- VIP Meet & Greet service on international flights
- Visit a Maasai village and learn of its people and culture
- Laikipia and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy are Kenya's premier places to see northern white and black rhino

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Nairobi Ends: Nairobi Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy:

Standard Prices:

**\$7,295** Low Season (APR & MAY) \$7,995 Mid Season (NOV - MID DEC) \$9,795 High Season (JAN - MAR; JUNE - OCT)

#### **LUXURY PRICES:**

\$8,795 Low Season (APR & MAY) \$9,995 Mid Season (NOV - MID DEC) **\$12,595** High Season (JAN – MAR; JUNE – OCT)

Intra-tour Air: \$1,250

Best Times to Visit: JAN - MAR; JUN - OCT; DEC



#### DAYS 1 – 2 · Meals: B

#### Nairobi, KENYA

Nairobi Serena / Hemingways

Arrive in Nairobi and be transferred to your luxury hotel. In Nairobi, visit the Karen Blixen Museum from the "Out of Africa" motion picture and feed the Rothchild giraffes at Giraffe Centre.

#### DAYS 3 - 5 · Meals: BLD

Ol Pejeta Conservancy/Lewa Conservancy

Lewa Safari Camp/Kifaru House

Continue north and see coffee, pineapple and tea plantations and observe the lifestyle and culture of the local people. Visit and be welcomed by the directors of the Angels of Hope Children's Orphanage. Be entertained by and learn the culture of the Kikuyu. See the slopes of Mt. Kenya and the Ol Pejeta Private Conservancy. Begin your game viewing drives and visit the Chimps & Rhino Sanctuary.



#### DAYS 6 - 8 · Meals: BLD

Maasai Mara Game Reserve

Little Governors Camp / Il Moran Fly over the Great Rift Valley to the Maasai Mara, Kenya's most concentrated wildlife reserve. During your time in the Mara, enjoy the peace and serenity of the lodge.

Experience game drives for the ultimate safari experience. You'll venture out to see such awesome sightings of elephants, lions, buffalo and zebras along with the possibility of seeing the elusive leopard. Learn about local traditions while visiting a Maasai village.

DAY 9 · Meals: B Nairobi & Depart Home

Ole Sereni Hotel

Upon arrival Nairobi, you will be transferred to the hotel to relax and freshen up prior to boarding your flight to your next destination.



This itinerary can be modified based on your specific interests, preferred travel dates & budget. Visit our website for more details.

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Arusha Ends: Arusha Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy:

Standard Prices:

**\$6,995** Low Season (APR & MAY) \$7,795 Mid Season (NOV - MID DEC) \$8,595 High Season (JAN - MAR; JUNE - OCT)

#### **LUXURY PRICES:**

\$8,995 Low Season (APR & MAY) \$10,295 Mid Season (NOV - MID DEC) \$10,995 High Season (JAN - MAR; JUNE - OCT)

Intra-tour Air: \$595

Best Time to Visit: JAN - FEB, JUN - OCT

### 8 Days - Pre-Designed Journey

#### Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver
- Your own personal expert local guides
- All park fees are included

#### Signature Experiences Included:

- Enjoy lunch in the Ngorongoro Crater floor
- Visit Lake Manyara, famous for its unusual tree-climbing lions
- Visit a Maasai village for some unique cultural experiences
- Visit Olduvai Gorge, one of the most important archeological sites in the world
- Enjoy exhilarating daily games drives

#### DAY 1 · Meal: B Arusha, TANZANIA

Mt. Meru Hotel / Arusha Coffee Lodge

Arrive in Arusha where you will be transferred to your luxury hotel with the remainder of the day at leisure. Discover the place where the heavens meet the earth, where the rhythm of nature pounds to the beat of an African drum, and where life is all about a revival of the senses.

#### DAY 2 · Meal: BLD Lake Manyara

Lake Manyara Serena Lodge/

Lake Manyara Escarpment Luxury Lodge

Drive to Lake Manyara this morning, famous for the tree climbing lions and the vast elephant herds. The shores of the lake attract more than 400 species of birds, including the pink flamingos.

#### DAYS 3 - 4 · Meals: BLD

**Ngorongoro Crater** 

Ngorongoro Serena / The Manor Ngorongoro This morning drive to Ngorongoro where we will visit Olduvai Gorge enroute, an ancient homind archaeological site, located in the Great Rift Valley. The excavations by Louis and Mary Leakey in the mid-1950's were important because they established the African origin of humankind. Ngorongoro Crater, one of Africa's most fascinating wildlife spectacles, is a 12 mile diameter caldera and harbors many species of animals including the elusive black rhino. Enjoy lunch in the crater floor during the game viewing drive.

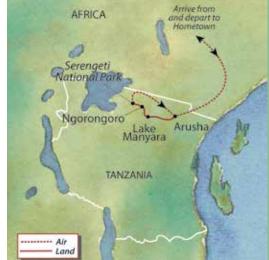
#### DAYS 5 - 7 · Meals: BLD

Serengeti Mbuzi Mawe Serena Camp / Migration Luxury Camp Depart for the Serengeti which is another one of the great game reserves and the jewel of Tanzania. Enroute visit a Maasai Village (Manyatta) for some unique cultural experience. The name Serengeti is derived from the Maasai word for "endless plains" and this is where millions of animals move in the ancient rhythms of the seasons. Your game drives provide views of zebra, giraffe, Thomson's and Grant's gazelle, eland and klipspringer.

#### DAY 8

#### **Arusha & Depart Home**

Return to Arusha to board your flight back home or on to your next destination.







This itinerary can be modified based on your specific interests, preferred travel dates & budget. Visit our website for more details.

# UGANDA – An Unforgettable Encounter with Gorillas





Best Time to Visit:

MAY, SEP - NOV







The Republic of Uganda is a landlocked country in East Africa, bordered by Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Although lacking a sea or ocean coastline, the over 90, 000 square miles of Uganda lies almost completely within the Nile basin and holds a substantial portion of the expansive Lake Victoria within its border, as well as several other large lakes.

The climate is varied as is the geography, consisting of volcanic hills, mountains, and lakes, with an average elevation of 2900 feet above sea level. Uganda is home to a vast number of species, including a population of the endangered mountain gorillas in the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, an UNESCO World Heritage Site. In addition to Bwindi, there are nine other national parks and a total of 60 protected areas.

Uganda has plenty to offer as a single destination or Lakani can include it with Kenya and/or Tanzania. It is one of only three countries with access to the rare mountain gorillas. Fly to the international airport of Entebbe and connect to a local flight to Kihihi airstrip where you will be met and transferred to your accommodations. The gorilla tracking permits are issued in advance and are limited as only eight visitors are allowed to view a gorilla family per day. There will be a briefing before you set out on your guided mountain trek. The adult male gorillas are called Silverbacks because of the silver hair on their backs. It is a truly exhilarating experience to spend an hour with these endearing primates – who share about 98% of our DNA.

Spend two or three nights at Bwindi and then return to Entebbe for your onward destination – or stay longer in Uganda and visit Queen Elizabeth National Park, where you can usually spot the unique Tree Climbing lions and perhaps even the rare Ugandan kob. Continue to Kibale National Park known for its 13 species of primates, as well as leopard, African golden cat, serval, and elephants who travel the wildlife corridor between Kibale Forest and Queen Elizabeth NP. Track chimpanzees, take a birding hike or visit local villages on a cultural trail. For a different experience travel north to Murchison Falls National Park, Uganda's largest national park, where you encounter hippos, lions, and the endangered Rothchild's giraffes.

#### Uganda Highlights include:

- Two days of mountain gorilla tracking with experienced naturalist guide
- Visit to indigenous Batwa village and learn about their traditional lifestyle
- See golden monkeys of Bwindi
- Spot Tree Climbing lions in Queen Elizabeth National Park
- Track chimpanzees in Kibale Forest National Park
- Take a safari in Murchison Falls National Park to view hippos, elephants, giraffes, and lions

# Magical Moments with Gorillas - RWANDA



Officially known as the Republic of Rwanda, the landlocked country in the Great Rift Valley of Central Africa bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo is often referred to as the "land of a thousand hills." Dominated by mountains in the central and western part of the country, the highest peaks are found in the Virunga chain. With most of the country at a high elevation, the lowest being over 3,000 feet above sea level, the climate tends to be temperate to subtropical with two rainy and two dry seasons each year.

The area has been inhabited since hunter-gatherers settled there in the Stone Age, followed later by Bantu peoples. By the 15th century, clans had transformed into kingdoms and the Kingdom of Rwanda was established. As European colonization expanded in Africa, Rwanda became part of German East Africa in 1897 until it was taken over by Belgium in 1916. The country underwent several periods of civil unrest and atrocities in subsequent years until 1994 when the current system of government, a unitary presidential system with a bicameral parliament was put in place. Rwanda's economy is largely based on subsistence agriculture to feed their own people. Coffee and Tea are the major cash crops for export, along with the mining industry which is an important contributor. Tourism has been the fastestgrowing economic resource in the past two decades.

Rwanda is only one of three countries where one can safely enjoy the amazing mountain gorilla experience. Volcanoes National Park is home to an estimated one-third of the world's population of mountain gorillas, which have been on the endangered list since 2018. The park is in the northwestern part of the country, and it includes five of the eight volcanoes of the Virunga Mountains. Lakani arranges for you to be met at the airport in the capital city of Kigali. After an overnight, take in the scenic beauty of the landscape on a three-hour drive to Parc National des Volcans where you are accommodated in an outstanding lodge perfectly situated in the foothills of the mountains.

You have two opportunities to encounter a gorilla family, expertly led by a guide who is completely familiar with the habituated families and their usual habits. It may take a couple of hours or perhaps more to reach the adorable creatures. Then you have an hour to spend with them to gaze, take pictures, and just become at one with nature before returning to the lodge. There are other primates to visit while in this rainforest. Your guide will take you to see the golden monkeys. And you may also visit a local community and learn about their socioeconomic and conservation projects. Your experience in Rwanda promises to be life-changing and unforgettable.

Best Time to Visit: MAY - OCT







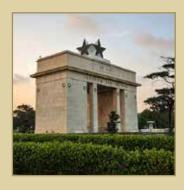
## GHANA – A Timeless Discovery with Akwasidae Festival





Best Time to Visit:

MAY, SEP - NOV







The Republic of Ghana is a country in West Africa whose southern border is located on the Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean. With an area of almost 100,000 square miles, the landscape varies from coastal savannahs to tropical rain forests and supports diverse wildlife, impressive waterfalls, caves, mountains, rivers, and lakes. The country is rich in history and tradition; its many castles and forts are listed collectively as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

With Lakani, take an unforgettable expedition-like journey across Ghana, visiting historic and beautiful castles, and colorful local markets; exploring natural wonders; and becoming immersed in the rhythms, rituals, dances, and Royal ceremonies that define the traditions of this extraordinary land.

Begin in the capital city of Accra, deemed one of the world's greatest places to explore in 2023 by Time Magazine. Drive along the coast to Elmina Castle, the oldest European building in Africa, built by the Portuguese in the 15th century. Travel inland to the Kakum National Park, home to the longest and highest rope bridge in the world. Visit Cape Coast Castle, built by the Swedish in 1653. Journey to Kumasi, the spiritual capital of the old Ashanti Kingdom, once one of the most powerful nations in Africa, and home to the special Akwasidae Festival. Then continue to Akosombo on the edge of the Volta River, where the crafting of glass beads and a special ceremony await.

#### Ghana Highlights include:

- Visit a workshop specializing in "fantasy coffins"
- Explore two of Ghana's most famous and historic castles Elmina and Cape Coast – UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Take a canopy walk above the rain forest on the longest and highest rope bridge in the world
- Become immersed in Ashanti culture in Kumasi and attend a colorful Akwasidae Festival
- Learn about the Voodoo religion at a captivating ceremony it will surprise
  many to find out the richness and complexity of this tradition

## Discover its rich history, antiquities, and spiritualism – ETHIOPIA



Officially known as the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the landlocked country is in the Horn of Africa. Found north of Kenya, the capital and largest city, Addis Ababa is just west of the East African Rift that began developing about 25 million years ago. There is evidence that some of the earliest human ancestors, hominids, occupied this region over four million years ago. Most notably, the discovery of "Lucy" was found in the Awash Valley in Ethiopia. Some of the oldest Homosapien fossils have also been discovered in the Omo region, dating to about 200,000 years ago.

Often considered the birthplace of coffee, cultivation of coffee beans began in the 9th century and Ethiopia produces the most coffee of any other nation in Africa. It provides income for about 15 million Ethiopians. Other exports include gold, leather, and more recently, flowers and plants.

There are nine UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Ethiopia, making it a well soughtout destination. The rich history of the country from antiquity through to recent times has seen empires, kingdoms, and dynasties leave their cultural, architectural, and religious mark throughout the country. Lakani World Tours can create an itinerary suited to your interests.

Arrive in the capital city of Addis Ababa and tour its National Museum and Trinity Cathedral. Fly to Axum, home to 1700-year-old monuments called steles. Located in the Tigray region, Axum was the center of the Aksumite Empire, that ruled the region from about 400 BCE until the 10th century. Visit the Northern Stelae Park as well as fine archaeological and ethnographic museums. Travel to Lalibela, one of the most important religious sites in the Christian world. Explore the Rock-Hewn Churches constructed during the 12th and 13th centuries. There are 11 unique churches, with many of them connected by tunnels and trenches. They were designed to represent the city of Jerusalem for Ethiopian Orthodox Christians and the pilgrimage site continues to be used for daily worship, as well as a home to clergy and a gathering place for festivals and religious groups and leaders. Take a flight to Gondar, where you see the Royal Enclosure, the remains of a fortress surrounded by a 3,000-foot-long wall. From there you may drive to Bahir Dar, stopping at Amhara villages along the way, to view famous monasteries and the Blue Nile Falls. Then return to Addis Ababa for your homeward bound flight.

#### Ethiopia Highlights include:

- Visit the Cathedral of St. Mary of Zion and its on-site museum with many priceless relics
- Admire the 120 steles at Stele Field, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- See the churches in Lalibela, some hidden in enormous caves
- Experience Ethiopian cooking traditions in a local home
- Seek Gelada Baboons on an excursion to the Simien Mountains National Park
- Browse the Merkato, the largest open-air market in Africa

Best Time to Visit: MAY - OCT







## MOZAMBIQUE - Land of the tropics





Best Time to Visit:

MAY, SEP - NOV







Mozambique, just south of Tanzania and north of South Africa, is an exotic country with a laid-back charm. It boasts a 620-mile Indian Ocean coastline that is dotted with beaches, offshore marine parks, and coral islands. Mozambique is an excellent location for diving, snorkeling, and numerous other watersports. The delightfully well-preserved Portuguese colonial architecture adds a historic and cultural lure, and the consistently tropical climate make this an inviting paradise.

Mozambique is for those who love the tropics – whether you wish to hike, enjoy water sports, or just relax. It can be a destination itself, or a relaxing add-on to a Southern or East African journey. Lakani World Tours can create a travel itinerary best suited for you – depending on your time, interests, and budget. The most recommended sites are: Maputo – the thriving capital located in the far south. It is known for its diverse architecture and vibrant nightlife. Wander the jacaranda-lined Baixa neighborhood and admire the turn-of-the-century architecture and expansive Municipal Market.

**Maputo** (Fortress of Maputo), built by the Portuguese in the 18th century. Across the bay, Inhaca Island offers beaches and diving reefs. Some other local sights the Cathedral of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception, the Casa de Ferro and Museum of Natural History.

**Island of Mozambique** – a UNESCO World Heritage Site off Mozambique's north coast and connected to the mainland by a bridge. The Portuguese colonial structures in Stone Town include the Chapel of Nossa Senhora de Baluarte. The 16th-century Fort of São Sebastião and Palace of São Paulo (a former governor's home) a tribute to when this was the capital of Portuguese East Africa.

**Bazaruto Archipelago** – six unspoiled and undeveloped tropical islands, and home to Bazaruto National Park, the largest sea park on the African coast. The offshore reefs are pristine, with a plethora of marine life and amazing coral gardens. You can snorkel or scuba dive, saltwater fly-fish or big game fish or watch the dolphins and seasonal migrating humpback whales.

**Quirimbas Archipelago** – in the north, a 155-mile stretch of 32 coral isles with spectacular reefs and marine life. Many islands are part of its Quirimbas National Park, known for coral reefs, dolphins, whales and endangered dugongs (sea cows). Mangrove-covered lbo Island has colonial-era ruins surviving from a period of Portuguese rule. Privately owned Medjumbe Island is meant for honeymooners.

**Benguerra Island** – the second largest with white-sand beaches, lakes and diving sites as well as luxury resorts.

**Gorongosa National Park** – inland and set in the center of the country. It offers forests, wetlands, and savannahs that shelter wildlife including lions, hippos, and zebras.

**Niassa National Reserve** – near Tanzania. The largest protected area in the country, and home to elephants and wildebeest

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Johannesburg Ends: Cape Town

Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy:

\$\$9,995 Low Season (MAY) \$10,595 Mid Season (JUN-APR)

Intra-tour Air: \$1,295

Best Time to Visit: MAY - NOV

#### 9 Days - Pre-Designed Journey

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver, except at Thornybush, where it will be by shared vehicle
- Your own personal expert local guides

#### Signature Experiences Included:

- Experience an African safari in Thornybush Game Reserve
- Take in the views of Table Mountain from a cable car
- See the African penguins on the Cape Peninsula
- Taste the wines of Cape Winelands

#### DAY 1

#### Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA

D'Oreale Grande

Arrive in Johannesburg for an overnight stay before leaving for your safari in pursuit of the Big Five.

#### DAYS 2 - 4 · Meals: BLD **Thornybush Game Reserve**

#### **Shumbalala Game Lodge**

It's a vast, wild place where the lions roam at Shumbalala Game Lodge, one of the country's great tracts of untamed game-viewing. Your luxury lodge is situated on the banks of the Monwana River. Two game drives are conducted at the best suited times of the day to maximize the number of sightings.

A typical day starts with an early morning game drive directly after morning coffee. The adventure continues as you return back to camp to freshen up before a sumptuous brunch. There is time for a bush walk, relaxation by the pool, in the library or on the deck enjoying the sights and sounds or enjoy some bird watching. Following afternoon high tea the game drive continues into the night with a stop in the bush for sundowners to mark the splendor of the sunset over the mountains. The game viewing at night offers the opportunity to view the nocturnal animals including the possibility of lions out on the prowl.

### DAYS 5 - 9 · Meals: B

**Cape Town & Depart Home** 

#### One & Only Hotel

Fly to Cape Town. Take a city tour to see Government Avenue, the National Gallery, the South African Museum, Houses of Parliament, and the City Hall. Ride a cable car up to Table Mountain and witness the majestic views of Table Bay, Robben Island, the Atlantic Seaboard, and most of the Cape Peninsula.

Head through the suburbs of Sea Point, Clifton, and Camps Bay before continuing to the fishing harbor of Hout Bay. Wander Chapman's Peak and the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. Ride the funicular to the lighthouse to see the convergence of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. Visit Boulders Beach to see the African penguins, the naval base at Simon's Town, and the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden.

Enjoy the Cape Winelands region's famous wine estates and partake in tasting the local vintages. Visit the villages of Paarl, Franschhoek, and Stellenbosch. Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.







## NAMIBIA – Home to diverse wildlife





Best Time to Visit:

MAR - OCT







Namibia showcases the very best of Africa's raw and diverse landscapes. It features the world's most ancient desert, the Namib Desert, which stretches over 1200 miles. Namibia is home to herds of rare desert-dwelling elephants, wild horses and massive colonies of seals, as well as proud tribes steeped in tradition. You can explore it all, from uninhabitable deserts and bush filled with wildlife, to a rocky coastline littered with shipwrecks.

Namibia is a remote African destination for those who love adventure and enjoy the 'road less traveled.' It can be a destination itself, or combined with South Africa and/or Botswana. Lakani World Tours can create a travel itinerary best suited for you – depending on your time, interests, and budget. Because of the uniqueness of this country, one will have to fly from destination to destination. Here are the main sites we recommend:

**Windhoek** – The capital and gateway to the rest of the country; while here see the colonial old and new city, and the white walled former Alte Feste fort, now a Namibian history museum.

**Sossusvlei** - Magnificent desert scenery featuring some of the highest sand dunes in the world, some towering over 1,000 feet. It is gateway into the Namib Desert and Sesriem Canyon.

**Swakopmund** - Located on the aptly named Skeleton Coast, this "Jewel of Namibia" is tucked between the desert and Atlantic Ocean. Wander the ancient canyons of Moon Valley; and take a catamaran on Walvis Bay to sea lions, dolphins and shipwrecks.

**Damaraland** - Ruggedly spectacular with ancient landscapes, it is home to the small population of hardy desert elephants as well as other unique flora and fauna. Visit the Petrified Forest to see 280 million-year- old fossilized tree trunks, and explore Twyfelfontein with one of the largest concentrations of ancient rock engraving in southern Africa. Damaraland is also the ancestral home land of the enigmatic Damara people.

**Etosha National Park** – Take safari drives to see large herds elephant, antelope, zebra, impala, and more.

**Okonjima Nature Reserve** – This non-profit organization is committed to conservation of Namibia's large carnivores. Walk the Bushman trails, to experience this wilderness environment, and look for the elusive leopard and cheetah.

## From Desert To Wetlands - BOTSWANA SAFARIS





Botswana, located in southwestern Africa, offers safari experiences unique to those you might find in East Africa or even South Africa. On arrival into the country through either Maun or Kasane, you will venture on to one or more of the safari lodges located throughout the country. Lakani World Tours can assist you in finding the perfect safari experience as you navigate Botswana's diverse geography. From the waters of the Okavango Delta to Chobe National Park, the Savute Channel to the Kalahari Desert, your choices are endless.

- Okavango Delta the world's largest inland delta and one of Africa's most fascinating safari areas. Moving from wetland to dryland will showcase the wonders of this unique ecosystem.
- Chobe National Park has one of the largest game concentrations on the African continent, and is best known for its spectacularly large elephant population and close proximity to Victoria Falls.
- Savute Channel is an area with high concentrations of elephant and lions, and sightings of all the other major predators including the endangered wild dog, leopard, cheetah and hyena. It is also known for excellent birding. This area is home to some very rare rock paintings drawn by the early San Bushmen.
- Kalahari Desert is the ultimate remote safari destination. This arid region offers good numbers of ostrich and giraffe, herds of wildebeest, excellent cheetah and the Kalahari's famous black-maned lions. Less easy to spot are the leopard and brown hyena.

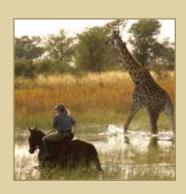
Experience a safari and view the game in these various areas by land, air and water. This semi arid land is a year round destination offering stays in luxurious accommodations in environments that range from wetland to desert. Whether traveling alone, with a significant other, or with family or friends there will be plenty to do and experience while in Botswana. Excellent rangers will share their world with you as you see elephants, hippos, lions, etc. They will tell you about the flora and fauna of the areas you visit. Enjoy sundowners before dinner, perhaps in a traditional boma under the southern Africa skies.

Botswana is ideally suited to be done in conjunction with a trip to Victoria Falls with additional safari options in Zambia; the beaches of Mozambique; Etosha National Park, Damaraland and the Skeleton Coast of Namibia; and / or the cities, garden route, winelands and safari options of South Africa.

Best Time to Visit: MAY - OCT







# **ZAMBIA** – Victoria Falls – Custom Made Journeys





Best Time to Visit:

MAY, SEP - NOV







**Zambia** is a landlocked country situated on a high plateau in southern Africa. Taking its name from the Zambezi River, it is a land of rugged terrain and diverse wildlife, as well as many parks and safari areas. But Zambia's most popular and well-known asset is spectacular Victoria Falls - one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. The largest waterfall in the world, it is indigenously called Mosi-oa-Tunya, or "Smoke That Thunders" – plunging over a mile-wide 320-foot-high cliff at speeds more than 100 miles per hour. It is truly a must-see.

Zambia is also home to a myriad of other waterfalls and National Parks hosting Africa's plains wildlife. The most famous are South Luangwa National Park, located in eastern Zambia at the tail end of Africa's Great Rift Valley, and Musioa-Tunya National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site where you can take a nature walk to see elephant, giraffe, zebra and more. Lakani World Tours can assist you in arranging the perfect Zambia experience.

Zambia is surrounded by other top Southern Africa destinations, making it an easy 2 to 4-day add-on to longer trips to Botswana, Namibia, East Africa, and South Africa. (It's just an hour's flight from Johannesburg.)

#### **VICTORIA FALLS**

The world's largest waterfall. There are a variety of ways to see the falls:

- Walking tour See the Victoria Falls Bridge and the adjacent rainforest
- Helicopter flights short ones over the falls or longer ones that cover Batoka
- Gorge, the Zambezi River, and Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park
- River Cruises the most scenic is the sunset cruise

Other activities and day excursions while staying at Victoria Falls include:

- Musi-oa-Tunya National Park Set along the upper Zambezi River, enjoy walking or vehicle wildlife tours
- Elephant Café home to a herd of rescued elephants where you can feed and play with them while hearing the stories of their lives.
- Chief Mukuni's Royal Village Visit a working village of the native Leyaa people to learn about their traditional customs and beliefs, meet the various craftsmen and taste their traditional foods and beer.

## Known for its beaches, lagoons and reef - MAURITIUS





Mauritius is a tropical Indian Ocean island off the east coast of Madagascar. Its clear opal-hued ocean, soft white sandy beaches, and lush green hills have awarded Mauritius the nickname of 'Garden of Eden.' It is multi-cultural, having been a port-of-call for sailors worldwide; the first to colonize were the Dutch, whose influence is still seen in the architecture and cuisine of the island. The South/Southeast of the island offers the wildest and most beautiful landscapes: sandy beaches bordered by cliffs carved by waves, rocky shores, sugar cane fields as far as the eye can see, and mountainous terrains offering magnificent panoramas. The Northern part of the island host the bustling capital with markets and gardens.

Mauritius is for honeymooners or those that want to be, and lovers of water activities including diving, snorkeling, sea kayaking, swimming and more. There is also a mountainous interior with rainforests and waterfalls for wonderful hiking, and golf is available. This is a place to get away from it all for a few days - or weeks.

Mauritius can be a destination itself, or a relaxing add-on stop to an African or Indian journey, Lakani World Tours can create a travel itinerary best suited for you - depending on your time, interests, and budget. Some of the recommended island highlights include:

#### IN THE SOUTH:

**Seven Colored Earth of Chamarel** – a 7500 m2 geological curiosity of strikingly bare landscape nestled within a large, dense forest. The hillsides have beautiful patterns of color created by volcanic rocks and the gorgeous Chamarel waterfall.

Ganga Talao – a 1800 feet high crater lake in a secluded mountain area in the heart of the island. It is considered as the most sacred Hindu place in Mauritius.

Bois Chéri - Mauritius' first tea plantation dating back to 1892. Explore the plantation and tea production museum

#### IN THE NORTH:

Port Louis – Capital of Mauritius with a bustling port waterfront and shopping complex. The craft market offers a wonderful ambiance filled with local products, textiles, Mauritian spices, fruits and souvenirs. Visit Fort Adelaide (aka La Citadelle) built by the British in 1835.

Mauritius National Botanical Garden – a vast 300-year-old botanical garden home to more than 650 varieties of indigenous tropical plants. Highlights are the famous Baobabs, the ineluctable giant water lilies, 85 different varieties of palms, a big spice garden and more.

Best Time to Visit: OCT - APR







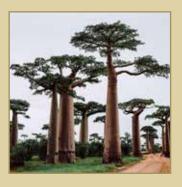
## MADAGASCAR — Lemurs, rainforest, hiking and diving — a dream destination





Best Time to Visit:

APR - OCT







A massive island nation off the southeast coast of Africa, Madagascar is home to thousands of animal species found nowhere else – lemurs being the most famous, and most appealing. Often called the "eighth continent" by ecologists, this unique island also offers beaches, deserts, and forests – rainforests and spiny forests with ancient Baobab trees. The climate is generally tropical yet temperate; with November to April being more hot and rainy, and May to October being cooler and drier.

Madagascar is for adventurous nature-lovers who appreciate unique flora and fauna, as well as unusual rock formations and exotic reserves. The capital of Antananarivo ("Tana") has the only international airport; stop-overs here are often required when traveling between different sections of the country.

Madagascar can be a destination itself, or an addition to any African journey. Lakani World Tours can create a travel itinerary best suited for you – depending on your time, interests, and budget. Here are the main locations we recommend:

**Antananarivo** - the capital, located in the middle of the island with expansive and enchanting markets.

**Analamazaotra Reserve** - "Perinet", is on the east coast. It is famous as the home of the babakoto "indri" lemur - the largest living lemurs known for their unique haunting call. The forest also shelters sifaka, grey bamboo lemurs, brown lemurs, and the Madagascar tree boa.

**Berenty Reserve** –on the southeastern tip of the island with three different ecosystems: the southern "spiny thicket" forest, the wet rainforest, and a transitional forest in-between. Each host different lemurs (maki, sifaka, Microcebus and even aye-aye). Other unique sites include baobab trees, rare three-cornered palms and funerary art of the Antandroy ethnic group

**Diego-Suarez** – a port on the northern tip of the island featuring an eclectic mix of architectural styles reflecting its myriad of influences. It is a gateway to the lush national park of Montagne d'Ambre and Ankarana, noted for stunning limestone pinnacles known as the "Tsingy." Explore bat caves and intimately mingle with crown lemurs.

Masoala – on the northeast coast and the largest National Park of the island. Mammal species here include red-ruffed lemur, red-fronted brown lemur, greater hedgehog tenrec, fosa, brightly colored Mantella frogs and whales which visit Antongil Bay. Birdlife includes the endangered Madagascar red owl and Madagascar serpent eagle. Explore the coral reefs teeming with life and beautiful deserted sandy beaches. You may also want to visit Nosy Mangabe in the Bay of Antongil. Here you see the brown lemur, black and white ruffed lemur, the unique leaf-tailed gecko and more. You can enjoy gentle walks or challenging uphill climbs.

## Exquisite flora and fauna - SEYCHELI



Other soft adventure activities include rock climbing, zip-lining, and trekking. The Seychelles is for honeymooners and lovers of water activities. The Seychelles can be a destination itself, or a relaxing add-on stop to an African or Indian journey. Lakani World Tours can create a travel itinerary best suited for you – depending on your time, interests, and budget. The choice of Seychelles island depends on your interests as well as budget. Here is a brief description of what you can find on the main islands.

The Seychelles is an archipelago of 115 islands set in the Indian Ocean 900 miles east of Kenya. The beauty of its beaches is known worldwide - idyllic ribbons of soft white sand lapped by turquoise waters and fringing jungle-covered hills and huge rocky cliffs. The ocean waters are over-flowing with tropical fish and turtles – perfect for diving, snorkeling sea kayaking, swimming, and more.

There are three main islands (the Inner Islands):

Mahé – crowned by towering 3000-foot granite peaks, Mahé offers a treasure trove of flora. It is famous for its beaches, especially Anse Royal which is great for snorkeling. Walk along a palm-fringed path that meanders above the rocky coast. You can also explore lush forest, tea plantations and savor some wonderful native Creole cuisine.

Praslin – the second largest island with soft white sand and crystal-clear waters. Its Anse Lazio beach is considered one of the best in the world. Legendary Vallee de Mai, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is home to a prehistoric rainforest of huge Coco de Mer trees and the rare Seychelles Black Parrot.

La Digue – Only 3 miles long this small island offers calm, shallow water and beaches accessible only by foot. La Digue's diverse wildlife can be seen in its Veuve Nature Reserve. La Digue can also be a day-trip from Praslin, taking the short ferry or helicopter ride.

The Outer Islands are smaller, more exclusive and more remote, most with boutique or castaway retreats. These include North Island - powder-white sands and wild turtle filled turquoise waters of the Ile Du Nord eco-reserve.

Félicité island – dramatically beautiful with massive granite boulders fringing the shoreline and perfect beaches. Fregate Island – a private playground with great diving, birding, and beaches. Cousin Island – a beautiful nature reserve and pristine ecosystem that hosts some of Seychelles rarest birds. Curieuse Island National Marine Park – a unique island eco-system accessed on twisting walking trails through the mangrove swamps, dotted with giant crabs and a breeding population of Giant Tortoises.

Best Time to Visit: APR, MAY, OCT, NOV







#### 9 Days - Pre-Designed Journey

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver
- Your own personal expert local guides

#### **Signature Experiences Included:**

- Walk the labyrinth of the ancient Fes Medina and Mellah
- Shop for pottery, carpets, brassware, silverware and modern jewelry and leather goods
- Overnight in a luxury tent in the Desert

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Casablanca Ends: Marrakech

Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy:

\$6,295 Low Season (JAN, FEB, JULY, AUG) \$7,995 High Season (MAR – JUNE; SEP – NOV)

Best times to travel:

MAR-MAY & SEP-NOV







#### DAY 1

#### Casablanca, MOROCCO

Four Seasons Casablanca

On arrival in Casablanca you will be transferred to your hotel for an overnight before leaving the next day to begin your tour of Morocco.

#### DAYS 2 - 3 · Meals: B

#### Rabat / Meknes / Volubilis / Fes

Palais Faraj Suites & Spa

Depart Casablanca for Fes with sightseeing en route in Rabat, the political capital of Morocco and the fourth of the Imperial Cities. Visit the old Medina, the Kasbah and Oudayas Gate. Drive to Meknes, the third of the Imperial Cities; Moulay Idriss, the Holy City and center of pilgrimage; and Volubilis with its imposing Roman ruins. Visit the Olive press, the House of Orpheus, the Basilica, the Forum, and the House of Venus.

In Fes, a two thousand year old Imperial City, you will walk the labyrinth of the ancient and amazing Fes Medina and Mellah. See the Kairaouine Mosque, the Bou Inania Madrasa, the colorful Souk Es Sabbaghine with its Street of Dyers, the Al-Qarawiyyin Mosque and University and Al-Attarine Madrasa. Stop at the Royal Palace.

#### DAY 4 · Meals: BD

#### Merzouga

Merzouga Luxury Desert Camp

Depart Fes to drive through the Atlas Mountains and the town of Erfoud to the astonishing, towering sand dunes of Erg Chebbi and your luxury desert camp. The dunes provide an idyllic setting for your nomadic oasis experience under the desert sky. Enjoy a camel ride at sunset and an authentic Moroccan dinner under the stars.

#### DAY 5 · Meals: B

#### **Ouarzazate**

Le Berbere Palace

Today head west past the rocky landscapes of the Todra and Dades Gorges, through the Dades Valley to Ouarzazate on the edge of the Sahara. Complete with palm trees, sandy streets and buildings that look like the desert itself, this former French Foreign Legion outpost is the Morocco of many movies.

#### DAYS 6 - 9 · Meals: B

#### Marrakech & Depart Home

Four Seasons Hotel

Depart Ouarzazate, stopping for lunch at Richard Branson's Kasbah Tamadot before continuing to Marrakech to complete your journey through Morocco. In Marrakech visit the Menara Gardens, the Museum of Islamic Art, the Saadian Tombs, the Bahia Palace and Almoravid Koubba. Continue to the Marrakech Museum of Art and tour the Dyers' Souk when visiting Jemaa el-Fnaa Square.

This itinerary can be modified based on your specific interests, preferred travel dates & budget. Visit our website for more details.



#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Cairo Ends: Cairo

Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy:

**DELUXE CABIN ON CRUISE** 

**\$9,295** Low Season (MAY – SEP)

**\$9,950** High Season (JAN – APR; OCT – MID DEC)

PRESIDENTIAL SUITE ON CRUISE

**\$9,850** Low Season (MAY - SEP.) \$11,950 High Season (JAN - APR; OCT - MID DEC)

Intra-tour Air: \$795

Best times to travel: MID SEPT - MID MAY

### 10 Days - Pre-Designed Journey

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver including on the cruise
- Your own personal expert Egyptologist from beginning to end

#### Signature Experiences Included:

- Luxuriate in your Presidential Suite/Deluxe Cabin aboard the Sonesta St. George during your five-day Nile River cruise
- Enjoy a felucca boat ride to Kitchener's Island Botanical Gardens
- Benefit from the expertise of an Egyptologist throughout
- Excursion by air to Abu Simbel throughout, including the cruise

## DAYS 1 - 3 · Meals: B

#### Cairo, EGYPT

#### Mena House Hotel

Arrive in Cairo and be transferred to your luxury hotel. Explore the Grand Egyptian Museum with its huge collection of Egyptian antiquities. Drive to Memphis, Egypt's first capital. Nearby view the Necropolis of Sakkara, the oldest ancient Egyptian cemetery where the world's first great stone structure, the Step Pyramid of Zoser is located. Explore the Egyptian Museum to view the treasures of the remarkable Tutankhamun collection and the Mummies Room

#### DAYS 4 - 7 · Meals: BLD

#### Luxor to Aswan

#### Sonesta St. George Cruise

Fly to Luxor in the morning and board the luxurious Sonesta St. George cruise where you will reside in your cabin for the next five days as you cruise down the Nile River.

Your Egyptologist will accompany you on your private shore excursions as you discover ancient Thebes in Luxor and walk the burial grounds of the Valley of the Kings and Queens. While sailing to Aswan, visit Horus Temple in Edfu, and Temples of Sobek and Horus in Kom Ombo. Once in Aswan, visit the High Dam and the Philae Temple. Enjoy a ride on a traditional felucca and sail to Kitchener's Island Botanical Gardens.

#### DAYS 8 - 10 · Meals: B

#### **Abu Simbel / Cairo**

#### Four Seasons Nile Plaza

After disembarking in Aswan, fly to Abu Simbel, and take a closer look at the 3,300 year old temple of Ramses II, dedicated to the sun god Ra, and considered to be one of the most phenomenal engineering feats in all of ancient Egypt.

Return to Cairo where your accommodations will be at your luxury hotel in the heart of the city with views of the Nile and the city's skyline. Explore the Khan El Khalili Bazaar and wander through its narrow alleyways. Much like the lives of the ancient pharaohs, your memories of this journey will be eternal. Transfer to the airport for your return flight home or on to your next destination.







This itinerary can be modified based on your specific interests, preferred travel dates & budget. Visit our website for more details.

### 5 Days - Pre-Designed Journey

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver
- Your own private expert local guides
- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

#### **Signature Experiences Included:**

- Meet Bedouins at Wadi Rum
- Tour Jerash, one of the world's best preserved ancient Roman cities
- Relax in the therapeutic waters of the Dead Sea
- See the Madaba Mosaic in the Greek Orthodox St. George Church

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Amman Ends: Amman

Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy:

**\$2,495** Low Season (JAN, JUN – MID SEP & DEC) **\$3,295** High Season (FEB – MAY, MID SEP – NOV)

Best Time to Visit: FEB - MAY & SEP - NOV







DAY 1 • Meals: B Amman, JORDAN

Four Seasons Hotel

Tour Amman and visit the Citadel, national Museum, the Roman Amphitheater, and Folklore Museum. An unbroken chain of human occupation dating back more than 6,500 years, Jerash is now considered one of the best preserved Roman provincial towns in the world. With paved and colonnaded streets, soaring hilltop temples, handsome theatre, spacious public squares and plazas, baths, fountains, and city walls pierced by towers and gates, Jerash is a truly magnificent site.

DAYS 2 - 3 · Meals: BLD

Petra Movenpick Resort Petra

En route to Petra, visit the city of Madaba. Once there, see the Madaba Mosaic Map, an ancient map of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, covering the floor of the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George. Mentioned in both the Old and new Testaments of the Bible, proceed to the ancient rectangular walled city of Umm ar-Rasas. It was fortified by the Romans, and local Christians were still embellishing it with Byzantine-style mosaics well over 100 years after the start of the Muslim Umayyad rule. Just outside the city walls is the recently unearthed Church of Saint Stephen with its perfectly preserved floor mosaic. Umm ar-Rasas is a UnESCO world heritage site. Visit Shoubak Castle dating from the early 1100s, the same turbulent Crusaders period as Kerak.

Visit Petra, the Red Rose City. See the giant red mountains and vast mausoleums of one of the greatest wonders ever wrought by nature and Man. Entrance to the city is through the East Siq, a narrow gorge with the first glimpse of Al- Khazneh (Treasury). The Treasury is just the first of the many wonders that make up Petra. There are obelisks, temples, sacrificial altars, and colonnaded streets. Overlooking the valley, is the impressive Ad-Deir Monastery.

DAYS 4 - 5 · Meals: B

Wadi Rum / Dead Sea & Depart Home

Kempinski Dead Sea

En route to the Dead Sea, visit Wadi Rum for a Bedouin jeep ride. Virtually untouched by humanity and its destructive forces, Wadi Rum is a stupendous, timeless place, where a maze of monolithic rock formations rise up from the desert floor. Enjoy a free day to indulge yourself in the Dead Sea and its therapeutic minerals. At 1,345 feet below sea level, the coast of the Dead Sea is the lowest place on Earth.

This itinerary can be modified based on your specific interests, preferred travel dates & budget. Visit our website for more details.

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Tel Aviv Ends: Tel Aviv

Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy:

\$8,595

Best Time to Visit: FEB - NOV

### 8 Days - Pre-Designed Travel Experience

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver
- Your own private expert local guides
- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

#### Signature Experiences Included:

- Explore Masada, the stronghold of the Zealots
- Enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and swim in the Dead Sea
- Visit the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem that stands upon the site where Jesus was born
- Walk the Palm Sunday route on the Mt. of Olives

DAY 1 · Meals: B Tel Aviv, ISRAEL

**Dan Tel Aviv** 

On arrival in Tel Aviv you are met by your VIP greeter upon disembarkation and escorted through customs, immigration, and then transferred to your hotel.

Stretched along the beautiful beach strip of the Mediterranean, Tel Aviv is known as "The Miami of the Middle East". A historic yet modern metropolis, the city offers a diverse collection of neighborhoods as well as restaurants. Visits include the famous Art Deco & Bauhaus architecture of the White City area, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the artsy Neve Tzedek neighborhood with its Beit Rubin Gallery and the Tel Aviv Art Museum.

DAYS 2 – 3 · Meals: B

#### Haifa / Nazareth / Tiberias

The Scots Hotel Tiberias

Depart for Tiberias this morning. Visit Cesarea, which was built by Herod as a major seaport at the time of Christ. Continue to Haifa, a modern seaport on the slopes of Mt. Carmel. Visit Elijah's cave and the cradle of the Carmelite Order at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. In Nazareth celebrate Mass in the Holy Land at the Basilica of the Annunciation.

Enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Visit the village of Capernaum at the site where Peter lived and Jesus performed much of his ministry in Galilee. Continue to the beautiful Mount of Beatitudes. Visit the Jordan River and reflect on Jesus' baptism by John.

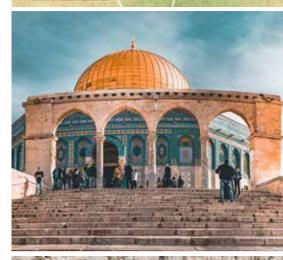
#### DAYS 4 – 8 • Meals: B

#### Jericho / Jerusalem & Depart Home King David Hotel Jerusalem

Drive down the Jordan Valley to Jericho for a visit to the Tel of the ancient city. Continue to the Dead Sea with time for a swim. Travel to Masada and take the cable-car up to the last stronghold of the Zealots. Some 2000 years ago, Roman legions stormed one of the two paths to the top of this sandstone mountain to reach the Jewish Zealots headquartered there. The brave Israelite soldiers held out for three years against the invading Roman army before taking their own lives to avid capture and enslavement. Visit Qumran, the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Stop at the Inn of the Good Samaritan before continuing to Bethany to see the church and the tomb of Lazarus.

From Jerusalem, continue to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity before driving to the Shepherd's Fields. Visit the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem that stands upon the site where Jesus was born. On the Mt. of Olives walk the Palm Sunday route. See the Wailing Wall and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Walk along the Via Dolorosa, through the markets of the Old City. Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.

Arrive from and depart to Hometown Haifa Tel Aviv lerusalem Bethlehem ISRAEL Air Land





Add to the experience of your Journey with an extension to Jordan. Call for details.

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Riyadh Ends: Jeddah

Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy: \$15,795 Low Season (MAY - SEP) \$17,595 High Season (JAN – APR; OCT – DEC)

Intra-tour Air: \$525

### 8 Days - Pre-Designed Journey

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver
- Your own private expert local guides
- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

#### **Signature Experiences Included:**

- Discover various artefacts at the National Museum in Riyadh
- Visit the Old Town of Al Ula
- Experience stunning views and natural landmarks such as Elephant Rock, and the ancient architectural masterpiece of Hegra
- Step inside Bait Nassif, one of the prominent renovated houses of the Old City of Jeddah, dating back to the mid-1800's

#### DAYS 1 – 2 • Meals: B Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA

#### Four Seasons Hotel

Arrive in Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport where you are met and transferred to your luxury hotel. The capital and largest city of Saudi Arabia is set on a desert plateau in the center of the country. In the 1600's, Riyadh was reportedly a small, fortified village along the Wadi Hanifah. Nowadays, the city is comprised of a thriving collection of neighborhoods and subdivisions with a population of over 5 million. Explore the city with your expert English speaking guide and learn about its history on a tour of the Masmak Fort located in the old quarter. Admire its four watchtowers and walls as you tour the building made of clay and mudbrick and visit the museum.

#### DAY 3, 4 & 5 • Meals: B AlUla

#### **Banyon Tree AlUla**

Depart Riyadh and fly northwest to AlUla where your luxury accommodations await. The walled city was founded in the 6th century BCE along the ancient Incense Trade Route, where spices, silk and other luxury items were exchanged with kingdoms of Axum, Arabia, Egypt, and India. Discover the Old Town, built on a slight elevation and overlooked by the 10th century Musa bin Nusayr Castle.

Travel to Winter Park and step back in time as you explore the world's largest living museum of AlUla. Discover Dadan, the ancient Kingdom of the Lihyanite and Dadanite civilizations, and the impressive inscriptions, rock art and petroglyphs at Jabal Ikmah. See the impressive volcanic field with scoria cones, lava flows, and tuff cones, surrounded by scenic rugged terrain and valleys. Tour the ancient city of Hegra dating from the Nabatean kingdom, representing the historic architecture of the region. Capture a view of the iconic geological marvel, Elephant Rock, as the sun sets.

#### DAY 6 - 8 · Meals: B **Jeddah & Depart Home**

#### **Ritz Carlton Hotel**

Fly south to port city of Jeddah, the gateway for Muslim travelers on their Islamic pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca. It was established as a major port for Indian Ocean trade routes. Transfer to your luxury accommodations and settle in for your last couple of days in the fascinating country of Saudi Arabia. Visit the UNESCÓ World Heritage Site of Old Jeddah, known as Al-Balad, on a walking tour through the narrow streets lined with elegant tower houses made with coral stone and decorated by large wooden windows called Roshan. Some of these homes are more than 400 years old.

Tour the Old Market, and the old Mosque. Then drive along the beautiful Jeddah Corniche, a 30 km coast road on the Red Sea with recreational areas, pavilions, and large civic sculptures. Pass by the Al Rahmah Mosque, referred to as the float mosque because it is built on piles above the water. Your guide will also point out King Fahd's Fountain, the highest found in the world. Built in the 1980's, it reaches 1,024 feet and can be seen from a great distance. On Day 8 you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home or to your next destination.







## DUBAI ABU DHABI UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (U.A.E.)

#### 2024 Prices

Starts: Dubai Ends: Abu Dhabi

Prices Per Person, Double Occupancy: \$4,595 Low Season (JUN - MID SEP)

\$5,395 Mid Season (MID JAN - MAY; MID SEP - DEC)

Best Time to Visit: NOV - MAR

### **6 Days - Pre-Designed Journey**

Travel Experience by private car with guide

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- All transfers and sightseeing excursions by private car and driver
- Your own private expert local guides
- Accommodations as shown
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

#### **Signature Experiences Included:**

- Visit Burj Khalifa, one of the world's tallest buildings
- Enjoy a Desert Safari along with a camel ride
- Visit the Falcon Hospital with an opportunity to have a falcon sit on your arm
- Shop at the souks for gold and spices
- Visit the Louvre museum with a docent

The United Arab Emirates is an Arabian Peninsula nation settled mainly along the Persian (Arabian) Gulf. It is set against tree-lined boulevards, waterways and graceful mosques. Each Emirate is governed by a ruler and named after the principal city and capital. Abu Dhabi, the island capital, is home to Sheikh zayed Grand Mosque, with crystal chandeliers and room for 40,000 worshipers. Dubai is the site of ultramodern Burj Khalifa Tower, enormous shopping centers and extravagant entertainment attractions.

#### DAYS 1 - 3 · Meals: B

Dubai **Palace Downtown** 

Arrive Dubai, where you will be met and transferred to your luxury hotel. Your city tour begins with a drive along Sheikh zayed Road, also referred to as "Little Manhattan". We will see the Mosque of Dubai, a prominent landmark of the city. We continue our journey passing by the Palace of Sheikh Mohammad, later visit the Al Fahidi Fort which houses the Dubai Museum. You will also take a ride in an Abra (traditional boat) to reach the souks. Your stay won't be complete without a visit to the top of the tallest building in the world, the iconic Burj Khalifa.

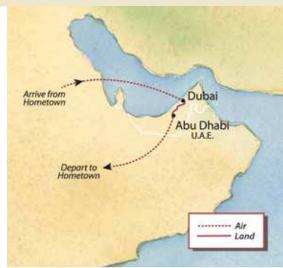
After a morning at leisure you will venture out in a 4WD vehicle on a desert safari along the desert's giant sand dunes. Here you will have an opportunity to ride a camel, watch a belly dance performance, and see the henna artists paint unique designs on their hands and feet for special occasions. Enjoy a BBQ dinner.

#### DAYS 4 - 6 · Meals: B

Abu Dhabi & Depart Home St Regis Saadiyat Island Resort Abu Dhabi

Drive to the capital of UAE - Abu Dhabi today, which is also called the "Manhattan of the Middle East". One of the wealthiest and most modern city-states in the world. The city is renowned for its lush greenery, planned development and beautiful Corniche. Your city tour will include a visit to the Falcon Hospital where you will see live medical work in progress and have a chance to have a large and majestic falcon sit on your arm. Our journey continues to the Sheikh Zayed Mosque, and afterwards venture to the Yas Island to see the only hotel built on a Formula 1 race track. Depart for home or on to your next destination with fond memories that you will treasure forever.

This itinerary can be modified based on your specific interests, preferred travel dates & budget. Visit our website for more details.







## OMAN - Perfect for nature lovers and explorers

Best Time to Visit:
OCT - APR





Oman is an undiscovered gem nestled on the Arabian Peninsula. Geographically, the terrain has mesmerizing deserts, lush riverbed oases and a long coastline of crystal clear turquoise water. Oman is the oldest independent state in the Arab world, established in the early 700s, and has kept its traditional feel and unspoiled beauty. Traveling through the interior and more remote regions you can witness true Bedouin life, including a centuries-old weekly cattle auction.

Oman is for nature-lovers and explorers as well as those wanting relaxing resort time. Active visitors can enjoy hiking, jeep excursions, snorkeling, sailing and more. You can relish in a 5-star resort or stay in a traditional Bedouin camp.

**Muscat** – Set along the Arabian Sea coast. Take a coast cruise. You can spy dolphins, turtles, sharks, rays, and more. Divers should visit the marine reserve in the Daymaniyat Islands. Muscat is also home to the Grand Mosque (2nd largest in the world), the Sultan's Palace, a renowned fish market, and colorful genuine souks.

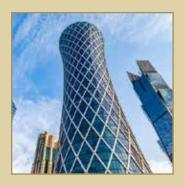
**Nizwa** – in the Hajar Mountains about 3 hours east of Muscat. Good for a 4WD day or over-night trip. Explore the Nizwa Fort and Bedouin marketplaces. Visit on a Friday and witness the exuberant cattle and camel auctions. You can also venture to the well-preserved Jabrin Castle fort with its burial chambers and elaborately painted ceilings and the 13th century Bahal Fort, a UNESCO site.

**Wadi Tiwi** – on the coastal road from between Sur and Muscat. Known for its emerald water pools and date plantations that line the walking routes through the villages.

## $\overline{QATAR}$ — Uniqueness and attractions to its traditions and ancient Islamic designs

Best Time to Visit:
NOV - MAR





Qatar is a small and wealthy Arab country comprised of arid desert and a long Persian Gulf shoreline of inviting beaches and dunes. Qatar's uniqueness and attraction is the juxtaposition of its traditions and ancient Islamic designs aside its futuristic skyscrapers and booming ultramodern architecture.

Easily accessible, Qatar is a relaxing, yet interesting add-on stop to another Middle East or North African trip. Lakani World Tours can create a travel itinerary best suited for you – depending on your time, interests, and budget. Here are the main sites we recommend:

**Doha** – the capital, and home to a spectacular Waterfront Promenade circling Doha Bay, a Corniche with great vistas and a vehicle-free recreational space. Explore the alleys of Soug Wagif filled, the limestone Museum of Islamic Art, Sheikh Faisal's private museum.

**Al Zubarah Fort** - on Qatar's north-west coast, is an immaculately restored 18th century 150-acre archaeological UNESCO World Heritage site. Learn about pearl diving traditions and pearl quality.

#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Reservations and Payments: Deposits and payments for our Select Tours for Independent Travelers, and Custom Made Tours vary according to the individual itinerary. We may require a non-refundable planning fee that will automatically be credited to your final payment. Final payment is due no later than 90 days for journeys without trains and cruises. For journeys that include a train or cruise, the final payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure. Payments may be made by check, American Express, VISA or MasterCard. Payments for internal air requirements are subject to the policies of the airlines involved and will be advised at the time of confirmation.

Custom Made, Small Group Tours and Private Jet Tours have their own terms and conditions. Please ask for details. Holiday supplements may apply to the Select Tours for Independent Travelers.

**Refunds & Cancellation Policy:** All requests to cancel confirmed reservations must be received in writing. Cancellation fees are applicable to land, cruise, rail, intra-tour air, single supplements and extension of any extra services.

**Cancellation fee:** 

\$250.00 per person

20% of program cost

50% of program cost

**Cancellation fee:** 

10% of program cost

20% of program cost

50% of program cost

100% of program cost

100% of program cost

### Journeys that do not include a train or cruise:

#### **Cancellations received:**

90 or more before departure 89 - 60 days before departure 59 - 30 days before departure 29 - or less and en route

### Journeys with train or cruise in itinerary:

#### Cancellations received:

120 or more before departure 119 - 90 days before departure 89 - 60 days before departure 59 - or less and en route

#### Lakani Tour price includes:

Hotels: Based on two people sharing a room in deluxe or best available hotels. Single supplements apply for each journey for those requiring single accommodations and will be quoted at time of booking. Lakani reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in the brochure when necessary.

Meals: Meals are included as indicated for each journey.

**Sightseeing:** All sightseeing shown in the itinerary with English speaking guide via deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach where available or practical. Four-wheel drive vehicles may be used for sightseeing or safaris in certain areas such as Africa, as indicated in the itinerary. Entrance fees are included throughout.

**Transfers:** Individual arrival and departure transfers between airport and hotel to join and leave the journey.

**Luggage:** Transportation and transfer of two medium suitcases, except where mandated by air carriers. Overweight charges imposed by an airline will be borne by the traveler.

**Lakani Tour price does not include:** Air transportation and related fees (except as indicated in the itinerary); airport taxes; passport and visa expenses; personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone calls, and alcoholic beverages and any other items not specifically noted as included

Travel Insurance: Lakani World Tours recommends all travelers purchase travel insurance.

**Travelers' Responsibility:** Lakani considers the Selected Tours for Independent Travelers and Custom Made tours to be active. Travelers are responsible for assuring that they do not have any physical or other condition that could endanger themselves. Some excursions may include long walks and climbing stairs, and is sometimes an essential part of your journey. All travelers are expected to be in good health. Riding in 4WD vehicles on rough terrain or unpaved paths can aggravate back conditions. Flying aboard small aircraft is required in some areas. Please advise us in writing of any health issues or limitations at the time of making your reservations. Lakani World Tours reserves the right to right to decline to accept anyone on a journey.

Passports / Visas: You are responsible for obtaining any travel documents/visas and verifying entry requirements necessary for each country of travel and/or transit on your selected journey. Requirements vary with respect to each traveler's citizenship. Lakani will not assume responsibilities for notice of countries' current requirements. You are responsible for any expenses incurred as a result of the delays or itinerary changes related to your lack of appropriate travel documents. Lakani will provide visa information applicable to your selected journey, however it is your responsibility to obtain the necessary visas for the countries visited.

Unused Services: Refunds will not be made for any missed/unused services or meals

Smoking Policy: Smoking is prohibited at group meals, on buses and during all group activities

**Airfares:** International air is not included and therefore Lakani is not responsible for any air ticket cancellation fees due to itinerary or departure changes or cancellation.

Airline Baggage Regulations: Each airline has its own rules regarding baggage allowance. Number, size and weight limitations of suitcases can vary by airline, class of service and frequent flier status. It is recommended that all travelers check with the individual airlines and/or their websites for up to date information. Luggage exceeding the maximum restrictions is subject to expensive overage fees or is at risk of being left behind. Luggage allowance may be restricted within a country by regional airlines or air charter companies. Please refer to your final credentials for those restrictions. Lakani World Tours cannot be held liable for fees or inconveniences imposed by the airlines.

**Prices:** Lakani Group prices include planning, handling and operational charges, and are based on current exchange rates, tariffs and taxes as of July 2023. Lakani World Tours reserves the right to increase tour prices to cover increased costs after prices are published, and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. Lakani is under no obligation to provide a breakdown of costs involved in any group tours.

Travel Insurance: recommends all travelers purchase travel insurance.

**Health & Inoculations:** Inoculation requirements and recommendations often change, therefore we strongly recommend that you contact your personal physician, local Health Department, or the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, and advise them of the international destinations you will be visiting. (404) 322-4559 or www.cdc.gov/travel)

Responsibility: Lakani World Tours cannot be held responsible or liable for loss, damage, or theft of luggage or personal belongings, nor for personal injury, accident, or illness. Lakani will only reimburse according to this cancellation policy. Lakani World Tours and its employees, independent contractors and representatives act only as agents in arranging hotels or lodging, transportation, ground handling, restaurants, or other travel services and in no way shall be held liable in the event of failure by any person or company to render services to travelers, nor shall they be held liable for any negligent or willful act by any such person or company. Furthermore, neither Lakani World Travel Inc (DBA Lakani World Tours) nor its employees, independent contractors or agents shall be held liable or responsible for any injury, loss, death, or damage to personal property in connection with any goods or services provided, resulting from force majeure, acts of God, civil unrest, acts of war, terrorist activities, labor strikes, or mechanical failure of transport while traveling. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, Lakani World Tours reserves the right, without notice, to withdraw any or all parts of a tour and or to make such changes as may be necessary. The extra cost, if any, for such changes will be the responsibility of the traveler. In regard to credit card payments for travel services to Lakani World Tours, the traveler (and or cardholder or cardholder's authorized representative) will hold Lakani World Tours and its employees, independent contractors or representatives harmless for any or all charge-backs exercised by them or their credit card companies, originating from any complaints regarding travel services or involving refund requests of monies paid when insurance was not purchased, or for any reason whereby the traveler did not utilize any portion of the prepaid travel services, or any other reasons whatsoever.

Arbitration Resolution: Any controversy or claim arising out of, or relating to, any services arranged by Lakani World Tours shall be resolved solely by binding arbitration in Orange County, California, in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association. Acceptance of initial travel services and payment of monies to Lakani World Tours will constitute agreement by the traveler(s) of these Terms & Conditions.

California law requires sellers of travel to be bonded. Lakani World Tours is bonded through Great American Insurance and is a participant in the California Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, TCRC fund.

**Agreement:** Your payment to Lakani World Tours constitutes your acceptance of the aforementioned terms and conditions and the information stated in the pre-departure tour documentation.

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#### **Lakani World Tours**

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