



Earth Treasure Vase Global Healing Project

Linking Our World in a Practice of Planetary Protection & Renewal

PILGRIMAGES TO SOUTH AFRICA & AUSTRALIA MAY 2011

For the very first time, the Earth Treasure Vase Global Healing Project is offering the chance to participate in two group pilgrimages and the opportunity to travel with us to accomplish two of the last seven Earth Treasure Vases.

**Mother Africa, the cradle of humanity;
Ancient Wisdom and Animal Protection
and**

**Uluru, Australia, the heart center of a continent;
*Aboriginal teachings of Kanyini – unconditional love with responsibility***



**Two continents.
Two of the oldest
indigenous cultures on Earth.
Two Earth Treasure Vases.
Two trips of a lifetime.**



The work of the Earth Treasure Vase Global Healing Project honors the spiritual infrastructure still alive among indigenous cultures that revitalizes the web of life, connects us and inspires a global community dedicated to a sustainable future. We invite your participation in this powerful practice of sacred activism, putting our prayers into action.

These two pilgrimages can be done back-to-back as one —or participants can choose to do one or the other. To join our traveling community, participants must share a common intention on behalf of our sacred purpose and have the capacity to travel in the spirit of adventure. Meditation and group dialogue will be an ongoing part of the journey in service to our collective intentions.



Pilgrimages will be led by Cynthia Jurs, founder of the Earth Treasure Vase Global Healing Project. An authorized teacher of *engaged buddhism* she received Dharmacharya transmission from Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh in 1994. Also a practitioner of Tibetan Buddhism, who has studied with many great teachers, she received the practice of the Earth Treasure Vases in 1990 from a 106-year-old Tibetan Lama living in a Himalayan cave. Cynthia directs the Open Way Sangha in Santa Fe, New Mexico, teaching meditation and offering retreats and ceremonies. She produced and directed the film *Turning Prayer into Action: Indigenous Grandmothers Meet the Bioneers* and is currently documenting the ETV project for another film. She is President and Executive Director of the Alliance for the Earth.



Dr. Hugh Wheir, will co-lead these pilgrimages. A visionary healer and acupuncturist, Dr. Wheir is also a veterinarian and the founder of Animal Alliance, an organization dedicated to protecting endangered species and reducing animal suffering, now known as Alliance for the Earth. He has worked with elephants in South Africa, sea turtles in Mexico, and dogs all over the world. Hugh brings a special knowledge of South Africa and heartfelt compassion for the elephants to this pilgrimage and will greatly facilitate our understanding. Dr. Wheir is Vice President of Alliance for the Earth and is on the board of the Biosphere Foundation and Scientific Director for Elephants in Crisis. He has partnered with Cynthia on numerous Earth Treasure Vase pilgrimages over the last 17 years of their marriage.



**SOUTH AFRICA
MAY 2-19, 2011**

\$9300

**All-inclusive except
International flights**

**Single room
supplement \$940**



Ancient Wisdom & Animal Protection

On this pilgrimage, we will anchor an Earth Treasure Vase dedicated to the healing and protection of the Earth in a land of great diversity, at the base of the Nilotic meridian – a ley line that connects North Africa from the Nile River and the Pyramids of Giza along the Great Rift Valley all the way to South Africa. We will meet with activists in Johannesburg; spend time with the San Bushmen, the oldest living culture on Earth; visit the Global White Lion Trust, and meet its founder, Linda Tucker and the white lions of Timbavati; encounter the elephants up close at the extraordinary Makalali Private Game Reserve with elephant researcher, Audrey Delsink; experience the animals at Kruger National Park, a century-old preserve larger than England; meet Shangaan Chief Axon Khosa and a Sangoma healer and diviner; visit projects that address issues of poverty, education, AIDs and community empowerment started by our pilgrimage partners and Corelight founders, Leslie Temple Thurston and Brad Laughlin; and enjoy many sacred sites around the Blyde River Canyon, one of South Africa's natural wonders where we will bury our 24th ETV on the full moon of Wesak. Along the way we will invite ceremonial blessings, prayers, dialogue and offerings into the Earth Treasure Vase from each local community we visit, including the elephants. From the Kalahari San Bushmen to our elephant kin and the prophesied white lions of Timbavati, we will enter into prayer and ceremony on behalf of these wise and endangered cultures, and anchor an Earth Treasure Vase in the soil of this sacred land.

Itinerary

- Mon. May 2 – Arrival Johannesburg (or arrive on May 1st to recover from jet lag).
- Tue. May 3 – In Johannesburg - meetings with activists and indigenous leaders.
- Wed. May 4 – Fly to Upington. Stay at Molopo Kalahari Lodge. Meet with the Bushmen.
- Thu. May 5 – With the San Bushmen and visit Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park.
- Fri. May 6 – With San Bushmen. ETV ceremony in cave with elders.
- Sat. May 7 – Fly to Johannesburg. Overnight at Tambo Intercontinental Airport Hotel.
- Sun. May 8 – Fly JNB - Hoedspruit and transfer to Talamati Camp, Kruger National Park.
- Mon. May 9 – Talamati – KNP many game drives.
- Tue. May 10 – Talamati – KNP.



“Entering into the African dreamtime, as our partners in this adventure, Leslie Temple Thurston and Brad Laughlin have said, “facilitates a dissolution of the separate mind and an awakening of inner silence, unity and interconnectedness with the web of life – a great gift that Mother Africa offers to visitors from the Western world.”

- Wed. May 11 – Visit Global White Lion Trust & Linda Tucker for 2 overnights.
- Thu. May 12 – White Lions & ETV ceremony with Shangaan Chief Axon Khosa and his community, Sarah (who will do a divination), Linda Tucker and her staff.
- Fri. May 13 – Makalali Private Game Reserve, elephant safari w/ elephant researcher, Audrey Delsink.
- Sat. May 14 – Makalali – special elephant council & ETV ceremony.
- Sun. May 15 – to Blyde River Canyon Lodge via Panorama Tour. Overnight BRCL.
- Mon. May 16 – visit Seeds of Light projects, group land walk w/Leslie & Brad & ETV meditation at their Center. Overnight BRCL.
- Tue. May 17 – Full Moon – ETV final ceremony & burial - Overnight BRCL.
- Wed. May 18 – Elephant Whispers & Moholoholo Animal Rehab. Center. Overnight BRCL.
- Thu. May 19 – Morning Closure before flight to JNB and departure for Australia.

Pilgrimage Description:

Mother Africa, the cradle of humanity, is an ancient land whose presence will touch your soul deeply and permanently. Entering into the African dreamtime, as our partners in this adventure, Leslie Temple Thurston and Brad Laughlin have said, “facilitates a dissolution of the separate mind and an awakening of inner silence, unity and interconnectedness with the web of life – a great gift that Mother Africa offers to visitors from the Western world. We are brought to an inner core of stillness and reconnected with something ancient and primeval within ourselves and we know we will never be the same again. This is a land where one can let go into the enormity of the inner and outer landscape and experience the mystical nature of the land and animals.”

South Africa now has a spirit of renewal and optimism since becoming a democracy and ending years of political repression and apartheid. They call it a rainbow nation, and have taken many steps towards living in equality and building community in new and progressive ways. We go in service to this spirit. We also go to bear witness and make relations with the ancient and original culture of the San people and invite their prayers to inform our practice on behalf of the Earth. And we go to seek counsel from the animals – in particular, the rare white lions and the elephants whose unfathomable wisdom humbles us in gratitude. We bring a sacred vessel as an offering to all these communities in recognition of their contributions to the web of life and on behalf of the necessary healing and protection we dedicate ourselves to accomplishing.



THE MOON QUEEN

*In the old days
people made a queen
they raised her
into the sky.
she became the moon.
The people danced
in the light of the moon,
this is where the people
found their healing
power.*

*—By Meneputo Menunga
of the
Kalahari Peoples Network*

DETAILED ITINERARY

May 2-3: Johannesburg

Meetings with activists, presentation by colleagues about status of elephants in South Africa, and ETV ceremony with friends. Possible visit to Soweto.

May 4-7: San Bushmen of the Kalahari and Kgalagadi Transfrontier National Park

A few San communities in South Africa are trying to preserve the Bushmen culture but it has largely disappeared. There is widespread alcohol abuse and extreme poverty. Most are not practicing their old ways anymore. A close friend of our travel coordinator, Stuart Gedrim, is Claire Barry, a woman who has worked with the Kalahari San Bushmen over the years to implement various community projects. Her concern about the local conditions and especially the maltreatment of the women motivated her to leave her work and home in Cape Town and live among the San people in their community. Claire will travel ahead of us to assist in arranging our program with the San—a place where time and schedules rarely mean anything and it is not guaranteed that the people contacted will be available when we arrive.

We hope to:

- visit to one of the oldest inhabitants, known as Granny, for tea;
- walk in the Veld (African desert-like region) with a Bushmen Tracker who will impart his special knowledge of tracking
- share a meal and some story telling about the old way of life around a camp fire
- visit the Kgalagadi Transfrontier National Park for game viewing with one of the San Bushmen trackers
- support the local craft shop run by the community
- hold an ETV ceremony in a small cave that was once Granny's home and was the site of an apartheid atrocity committed by police against her father. She shared her anguish and heartbreak for the first time when retelling the story to a group that Stuart brought there and it has become a place to have tea and bread together and engage in close interaction with the few San people that will meet with us.

May 8-10: The Kruger National Park

One of the world's greatest natural wonders, the Kruger National Park is a fenced-in area of two million hectares, the size of the United Kingdom (minus Scotland and Wales), established over a century ago to protect and preserve the animals and virgin bushveld. Our accommodation at the Kruger Park is Talamati, a bush camp in the



southern section of the park offering visitors excellent game viewing, as well as quiet and solitude. It is an ideal location to experience a deep connection with Africa's wildlife. We will take our meals in the evening around a campfire and enjoy early morning and afternoon game drives in an open-top vehicle accompanied by an experienced ranger, who will share his expert knowledge of the flora and fauna of the region. It is ideal for outdoor meditations in the quiet of the bush.

May 11-12: The Global White Lion Protection Trust

Founded by Linda Tucker and Jason Turner, this is a private reserve for the rare, endangered white lion that is revered by Native Africans as the most sacred of all animals. The mission of the Trust is to protect the white lions, which are at great risk from aggressive breeding programs and trophy hunting, and to help preserve the indigenous knowledge that holds them sacred. We will have the opportunity to meet and experience these extraordinary and sacred beings in their natural habitat on several hundred hectares of natural bushveld. During our stay of two nights, we will learn much from Linda Tucker about her work with the white lions and have the opportunity to meet Chief Axon Khosa and members of the local Shangaan community who are working to preserve their indigenous heritage. All are invited to a ceremony with the ETV which will likely include a divination from a traditional sangoma (healer) by throwing the bones, and singing and dancing around the fire.

May 13-14: Makalali Private Game Reserve & Lodge

Makalali, or "place of rest", is a five star luxury safari lodge with a difference. Nestled on 26,000 hectares, the Makalali Conservancy prevails as one of the finest private game lodges in the world. With its thatched spires and earthy walls, ancient mystical ornaments and Pan-African cuisine, Makalali offers a truly unique experience. Located close to the mighty Drakensberg mountain range, west of the Kruger National Park, this ethnic bush retreat lies in the Limpopo Province of South Africa. Considered one of the leading pioneers in ecotourism in South Africa, Makalali is home to over one thousand wild animals including Africa's "Big Five" (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino and buffalo). Guests participate in two game drives each day for a chance to view these wild animals in their natural habitat. Game drives are in open Landrovers with an experienced tracker accompanying each vehicle to educate and enhance guest interaction with the game. Coffee and "rusks" are provided on the early morning game drives and "sundowners" on the evening game drives. Birding, walking safaris and night game drives are also offered. The lodge consists of four exclusive camps situated on the banks of the Makhutswi River, each camp offering a uniquely designed swimming pool, open-air



boma and an enclosed dining and lounge area. Each camp has six luxury suites with en-suite bathroom, outdoor shower, fireplace and a raised private timber viewing deck (sala) set amongst the Jackalberry trees. Rooms are individually decorated in unique African design styles with mosquito nets surrounding the king-size beds by night. Dining at Makalali is a culinary adventure where guests can expect a combination of regional African cuisine using the multitude of cooking styles left behind by centuries of exploration on this great continent.

The Greater Makalali Land and Wildlife Trust acts as caretaker of the land and wildlife and has contributed much to ongoing conservation efforts of endangered species. Makalali's conservation mission is to expand South Africa's green frontier by re-establishing the ancient wildlife migration routes that linked the famous Kruger Park in the east to the lush Drakensberg Mountains in the west. The Trust is dedicated to innovative research, conservation of habitats, cultures and wildlife, and wildlife management models that address the ever-increasing challenges of human population.

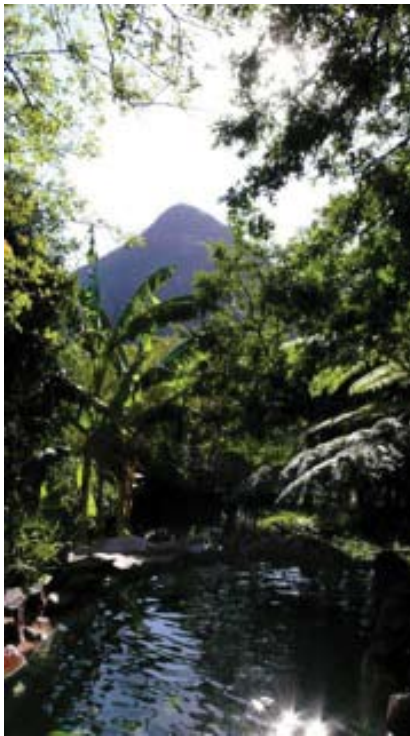
Makalali is a special place on this pilgrimage for two reasons:

- 1) When Linda Tucker was looking for a mate for one of her white lions cubs, it was Makalali that provided a tawny female to help grow that pride; and
- 2) Makalali played a very important role in the groundbreaking research to test and utilize a contraceptive vaccine on elephant populations vulnerable to culling. It was here that Dr Hugh Wheir, while working to develop this contraceptive vaccine through the Humane Society of the United States and Animal Alliance, collaborated with Audrey Delsink, an elephant biologist and research ecologist living at Makalali who has daily monitored the elephant herds there for over 10 years – proving that this reversible contraceptive vaccine is a humane alternative to culling as a way to manage elephant populations. It is through the dedication and leadership of researchers like Auds and reserves like Makalali that this viable alternative has been demonstrated – and used. For more info on this research see: www.makalaliresearch.co.za/Elephants

We are excited to see Auds again, learn about the results of her work and invite her, her team and the elephants themselves, into our councils and meditations with the Earth Treasure Vase.

May 15-19: Blyde River Canyon

The Blyde River Canyon, named a UNESCO biosphere, is the third largest canyon in the world, with magnificent red-rock cliffs, breathtaking views from the rim and numerous sacred sites and



power spots all around. The last four days of our pilgrimage we will be based at the beautiful Blyde River Canyon Lodge in the Blyde River Botanical Reserve, and a five-minute walk to CoreLight's Center at the mouth of the spectacular Blyde River Canyon, near the small town of Hoedspruit, in Limpopo Province. The Blyde River, which translates as "Joy River" in Afrikaans, runs through the "neighborhood" - a natural bushveld that contains many forms of indigenous flora and fauna, such as zebra, impala, wildebeest, bushbuck, duiker, kudu, baboons, monkeys and an enormous variety of birds. In addition to many interesting activities and sacred sites in the surrounding area, we will have time to sit together and meditate at CoreLight's Center and experience the profound energies of the nearby mountain, Modimolle, which means, "God is Here."

May 16: Humanitarian Projects of Seeds of Light

The area of Acornhoek in Mpumalanga Province is where Seeds of Light does most of its work — about a 30-minute drive from the Blyde River Canyon. Acornhoek is an undeveloped, extensive collection of villages and was a "homeland" area during the apartheid era - the equivalent of a reservation for Native Americans. The people of Acornhoek suffer from extreme poverty, high rates of HIV/AIDS and lack basic resources such as running water and electricity. There is 60-70% unemployment in Acornhoek, and approximately one in three people is HIV+. Accordingly, there are large numbers of AIDS orphans and vulnerable children. Although apartheid ended in the early 1990s, sadly, some aspects of apartheid are still alive and well. For example, many of the people of Acornhoek work as farm laborers on land that was taken from their ancestors by the white settlers and many people from Acornhoek who do have jobs work as gardeners, maids and day laborers for the white people around Hoedspruit, earning less than \$200/month and supporting large, extended families on their salary. Racism is still rampant on both sides of the racial divide and the old tensions between black and white still exist. CoreLight's work is to bring "seeds of light" into dark places. We will visit various projects Seeds of Light has assisted with including meeting with AIDS orphans and other children at a preschool and primary school and visiting the small computer laboratory, a well that has been drilled, and vegetable garden now underway. In an intimate tour of one of Acornhoek's villages, we will be introduced to some courageous and warmhearted friends who are helping to bring empowerment and sustainability to the area. We will also visit a weaving cooperative where women hand-weave beautiful rugs and wall hangings.



May 17: Full Moon ETV Burial:

This is the day dedicated to burying the Earth Treasure Vase we will have stewarded all over South Africa, introduced to countless individuals and communities and prayed into for 21 years. The sacred mountain Modimolle, (meaning “God is Here”) is situated on the Nilotic meridian, which runs north from the Blyde River Canyon into Egypt and through the Great Pyramid and Sphinx on the Giza plateau. This is one of the foremost meridians within the subtle body of the Earth —some say it is the axis mundi of the world. The meridian itself is about 60km wide and has been seen (psychically) as a great river of golden light energy stretching between southern and northern Africa with underground caches of precious gold located along much of its length. Over the last days of our pilgrimage, we will have visited a number of sites in this area and held many meditations among ourselves and with local Indigenous leaders. We never know until we arrive at this moment exactly where the ETV will be buried and cannot predict it ahead of time, but somewhere in this region, we will plant the Earth Treasure Vase at the end of our journey on the full moon of Wesak on May 17th.



May 18: Moholoholo Animal Rehabilitation Center & Elephant Whispers

On our last day, we will visit a very special non-profit center, close to the Blyde River Canyon Lodge which takes in orphaned and injured wildlife and where visitors have an opportunity to interact closely with a wide variety of animals, including leopard, lion, cheetah, honey badger, hyena, hippo, vultures and many varieties of birds. We will be able to learn from Moholoholo’s wildlife experts about these animals, their environment and the importance of our role in this web of life. And finally, we will have the opportunity to touch, feed and ride the majestic, highly intelligent and compassionate creatures at Elephant Whispers. On arrival your hosts, the elephant, extend a warm welcome to you! Experience the pleasure of interacting with these amazing creatures and learn about their important role as wildlife ambassadors. Saddle-up and set off into the African bush on the back of the elephant, for a wonderful view of the surroundings. During the ride you are able to stop at any time and experience walking with the elephant in the bush and interacting with their handlers. The privilege of dining with these large mammals will become a reality, as a sumptuous picnic is spread out before you. Enjoy a glass of sparkling wine and your delicious meal in a peaceful setting, while the elephant whisper their secrets to the breeze in the trees around you.”



May 19th: A pilgrimage closing council and goodbyes before our flight back to Johannesburg and onwards to Australia —or home.



AUSTRALIA
MAY 19 - 29, 2011
\$5100, all-inclusive
except international
flights.



Uluru & the Aboriginal Teachings of Kanyini

In the center of the Australian continent is the timeless ancestral homeland of the Aboriginal people. At the invitation of Uncle Bob Randall, custodial elder of Uluru (Ayers Rock), we will journey there and join him and his extended family in dedication to the Kanyini principle — caring for the land and all of life with unconditional love and responsibility. With Uncle Bob's guidance, together we will plant an Earth Treasure Vase at Uluru, offering our prayers for the Earth and the healing of all our relations.

Tjilpi (Uncle) Bob Randall is an elder of the Yankunytjatjara Nation of the Australian Central Desert and a traditional custodian of Uluru. A visionary, Bob inspires reconciliation through 'belonging' and teaches the wisdom of Kanyini — unconditional love and responsibility to the creative consciousness of all.

Bob is one of the "stolen generation," and is credited with bringing to light the issue of the forced removal of Aboriginal children from their families. His 1970 song, *My Brown Skin Baby They Take Him Away*, is described as an anthem for the Stolen Generations and led to the making of a documentary by the same name that won the Bronze Prize at the Cannes Film Festival. Subsequently, the Australian government stopped taking children away from their families. His lifelong efforts to retain Aboriginal culture and restore equal rights for all living beings were recognized in 1999 when he was named Indigenous Person of the Year.

Another documentary film, *Kanyini*, is based on Uncle Bob's personal journey and the wisdom he learned from the old people living in the bush. The film sheds light on why indigenous people are still struggling in the modern world and what can be done to reconcile this situation. *Kanyini* was voted Best Documentary at the London-Australian Film Festival in 2007 and won Discovery Channel Best Documentary Award in 2006.



Throughout his life, Uncle Bob has worked as an educator and leader for the equal rights of all living beings, land rights and responsibility to the environment, indigenous cultural awareness and preservation, and community development. He has authored four books, including his autobiography, *Songman* and contributed his personal story to the anthology, *Stories of Belonging; Finding Where Your True Self Lives* edited by Kelly Wendorf.

Bob's tireless dedication calls indigenous people to reclaim their Aboriginal identities and regain lives of purpose, so that the relevance of ancient wisdom to modern living is understood. Uncle Bob Randall is a living bridge between cultures and between world nations, creating lines of understanding so that indigenous and non-indigenous people can live and learn together, heal the past through a shared experience in the present, and enter a way of being that allows us, once again, to live in oneness and harmony with each other and all things.

We are honored to be invited by Uncle Bob to his home at Uluru, to learn from him and his family, and immerse ourselves in the profound wisdom of the Aboriginal culture and their deeply connected relationship to the land. With every passing year, we become more aware of the imbalance we are perpetrating upon the Earth and each other. This pilgrimage will bring us new understanding from a sixty thousand year old tradition about how to live in harmony and awareness in relation to each other and the Earth. This firsthand experience of learning through being on the land with tribal wisdom holders from a tradition that has been kept alive on the planet for centuries will deeply inform our understanding of the web of life and help to guide our way forward for all our relations — offering an important key for the realization of the Earth Treasure Vase Global Healing Project.



In *Stories of Belonging*, edited by Kelly Wendorf, Tjilpi Bob Randall writes:

“To understand belonging, you have to understand the system of connection that has supported my people for over sixty thousand years. Belonging to all things was and is our way of life. As an Aboriginal person, you belong to much more than just your human family. There are many lines of relationship that connect us. One of these is the totemic connection to country based on songlines or stories from the Tjukurrpa or Dreaming. A totem is a link between the spiritual and physical through the land. Tjukurrpa is the time of Creation, including the past, present and future. It is fixed; it cannot be changed from that time of Creation; it was, it is, and it always will be. These dreaming trails, the songlines, the story tracks, crisscross



As an Aboriginal person, you belong to every spiritual entity that lives with you in your country – you belong to anything that’s living and it belongs to you. It’s the livingness —the beingness—that connects us. That livingness is what we share and what is the same in all of us. We are all one.”

—Uncle Bob Randall

Australia in every direction. The Dreaming creatures moved across the country, creating the topography of the land we see today. The knowledge of this relationship is passed down through ceremonies by family members to their children. This is what forms the biggest relationship system because it connects every single Aboriginal nation throughout this continent. These Dreaming storylines connected everyone into one family. As an Aboriginal person, you belong to every spiritual entity that lives with you in your country — you belong to anything that’s living and it belongs to you. It’s the livingness — the beingness — that connects us. That livingness is what we share and what is the same in all of us. We are all one, from the most minute grain of sand to the largest mountain. And just as a crystal reflects the colors of the rainbow, if we were held up to a superior light, more powerful than any other light, we too would reflect the light as a rainbow. It’s as simple as that. Every one of us carries that energy and the beauty of the rainbow within us. And that is the innermost perfection of the uniqueness each of us carry. There is not another being like you in the whole of creation. You have that beauty of the rainbow in you. In my culture, this understanding is expressed in the story of the Rainbow Serpent.

If only you people could see this and show it by living a life of service, not only to other people but to other living things. It is our responsibility — not just Aboriginals but everyone’s — to live by what my people call the Kanyini principle. Kanyini is the principle of connectedness through caring and responsibility that underpins Aboriginal life. Kanyini means to love and care for your family and things around you as Mother Earth loves you. This unconditional love has no borders, no boundaries. We should practice this unconditional love with every living thing. Water—what you and I are made of — as symbolized by the Rainbow Serpent—is important for the survival of every plant and every creature, that is why the oneness is a reality, not just an idea. We are all living as one big family united by the Rainbow Serpent. Kanyini is founded on that principle—that reality—of oneness.

Modern culture is so disconnected from this relationship of belonging. We’ve redirected our sense of belonging to man-created objects. But we’ve always belonged to the Earth and been a part of every thing. When we started creating and valuing man-made material things, we walked away, turned our backs on our family, on the natural world. And we stopped being responsible toward others. We moved away from a life of ‘oursness’ and we started to live in ‘mineness’. Parents started to pass on non-belonging to future generations. In addition, and this is important, belonging is earned through responsibility



“A sense of belonging is the right of every one of us. All living things, human and non-human, deserve this right....Belonging is there for each and every one of us if we can open our hearts to feel it.”



towards all living things. Responsibility is the key to belonging - which most people today do not understand. The objective of an Aboriginal child's education is to teach about connectedness, responsibility and care within the whole system of unconditional love. The teachings are taught through story and then through song. Every part of a teaching is sung as well as spoken. And from singing comes dance; the same story is danced. And then it is painted...

Without belonging you cannot be whole. You are lacking and you'll try and fill the emptiness with any kind of substitute. The loss is enormous, it's sad and is so unnecessary because our family is always calling us home. The trees, the land, the ancestors all call us home. A sense of belonging is the right of every one of us. All living things, human and non-human, deserve this right....Belonging is there for each and every one of us if we can open our hearts to feel it."

Pilgrimage Description

Our ten-day pilgrimage to Australia includes a few nights in Sydney for sightseeing and meetings, then proceeds for one week of immersion in the Aboriginal way of life with Uncle Bob Randall and his extended family at Uluru. This sacred site at the heart of the continent was originally cared for by Uncle Bob's family- the indigenous Anangu people of the Yankyunjatjara Nation. In their way, they are the children of the land and have always belonged to Uluru. They say, "no one owns land because the land owns us. It is our Mother." The Anangu people consider it their responsibility to look after the land, as caretakers for their children's children and their children. The Australian government, however, is based on a modern system of land ownership and refers to Aboriginal people as the "Traditional Owners" of the land. In 1985, the government took the land around Uluru to create a national park. Uncle Bob lives in a reservation/community inside the park boundaries accessible only by passing through a gate controlled by park rangers. This community of Mutitjulu is within the National Park lease but not part of the National Park tourist experience. This is where we will spend much of our time during our week at Uluru. Participants will stay ten miles away in the town of Yulara where there are a number of hotels, restaurants and tourist facilities. We have two budgetary options for our accommodations: at the Desert Garden Hotel or in shared group cabins at the Ayers Rock Campground (with all the amenities). Meals will be taken both at the hotel and at Uncle Bob's home in Mutitjulu Community. Our days will be spent at Uluru.



“It is our responsibility – not just Aboriginals but everyone’s – to live by what my people call the Kanyini principle. Kanyini is the principle of connectedness through caring and responsibility that underpins Aboriginal life. Kanyini means to love and care for your family and things around you as Mother Earth loves you. This unconditional love has no borders, no boundaries.”

DETAILED ITINERARY

May 19: Arrival in Sydney.

Day of rest.

May 20: Sydney

Optional arrival day. Rest and possible meetings or sightseeing.

May 21: Sydney

1st group gathering. Lunch & afternoon sightseeing. Group dinner & ETV Meditation

May 22: Fly to Uluru

After settling in to our accommodations, we will drive to Uncle Bob’s home for introductions. Sunset prayers and dinner at hotel.

May 23: Uluru

Sunrise Ceremony at Mutitjulu with Uncle Bob followed by breakfast at Uncle Bob’s home. First formal teaching session with Uncle Bob with lunch also at his home. Afternoon driving tour of Uluru to visit potential Earth Treasure Vase burial locations. Sunset prayers. Dinner at hotel.

May 24: Uluru

Early breakfast at hotel. Walking tour of Uluru with bag lunch. Rest. Sunset ETV ceremony at Uncle Bob’s. Dinner at hotel.

May 25: Uluru

Sunrise Ceremony and breakfast at Mutitjulu. Second formal teaching session with Uncle Bob followed by lunch at his home. Afternoon visit to museum, hike and sunset prayers. Dinner at hotel.

May 26: Uluru

Early breakfast at hotel. Day-long traditional Aboriginal Family Outing in the desert with members of Uncle Bob’s extended family — includes hands-on learning of the traditional ways by doing. Sunset prayers. Dinner at hotel.

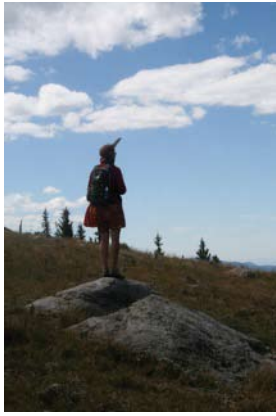
May 27: Uluru

Breakfast at hotel. Earth Treasure Vase closing ceremony and burial with Uncle Bob. Celebratory dinner.

May 28: Uluru

Breakfast at hotel. Pilgrimage closing council and flight to Sydney. Overnight in Sydney.

May 29: Depart Sydney



*“ Pilgrimage
is a call
to the heart.
One never knows
when there will
be a summons
from Spirit. ...
Pilgrimage is
a way of
bearing witness
and pilgrimage
is a way of acting
on behalf
of the future.”*

*—Deena Metzger,
From Grief Into Vision:
A Council*

SIX THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW *If You Are Called to the Pilgrimages*

ONE: This journey is being offered as part of the programming and outreach of the Earth Treasure Vase Global Healing Project. In the spirit of pilgrimage, ETV makes no monetary profit and trip leaders are volunteering their services without payment in an effort to keep costs as low as possible — and offer a profoundly moving once-in-a-lifetime experience. Significant discounts have been also been offered based on professional relationships at the unique wildlife refuges we will be visiting and their partnership in the sacred nature of this trip.

TWO: We are currently seeking sponsorship for the trip leaders’ travel in an effort to lower costs and make it possible for more to join. If you are interested in sponsoring, or would benefit from a scholarship, please contact Hugh Wheir at 505-989-7513 or allanimals@igc.org to discuss.

THREE: these are all-inclusive trips – all meals, accommodations, domestic airline flights, ground transportation, admissions, and donations to elders and organizations whose work we are supporting with our visit *are included* in the cost of the trip.

South Africa ~ 17 Days of all-inclusive travel includes:

- 17 nights accommodations • 17 days all daily meals
- Ground transportation & guide/driver for entire trip • 2 RT domestic flights inside South Africa
- Entrance to all parks, reserves, numerous game drives and other destinations
- Donations to the communities of the San Bushmen, Shangaan elders, Global White Lion Trust, Makalali Wildlife Trust’s elephant program and Corelight’s projects in Acornhoek

Australia ~ 10 Days of all-inclusive travel includes:

- 10 nights accommodations • 10 days all daily meals
- 1 RT domestic flight to Ayers Rock from Sydney
- Ground transportation in van(s) with Aboriginal driver/guide
- Entrances to Uluru • Donations to Uncle Bob Randall and his family

FOUR: The itineraries of these pilgrimages are customized and designed specifically to illuminate the intention of each Earth Treasure Vase, answering the call of the vases themselves and building upon the relationships we have forged with indigenous groups, activists, animals and individuals in South Africa and Australia. This is not an adventure travel tour. It is a journey of sacred activism — a retreat in the bush!

FIVE: The synergistic collaboration, partnership and expertise of the two trip leaders Cynthia Jurs and Hugh Wheir, will find unprecedented expression in South Africa and Australia. Hugh is offering participants the opportunity to meet and learn from his colleagues in the field, experience the places where he has worked and the animals he has developed relationships with through twenty years of fieldwork with his nonprofit, Animal Alliance. Cynthia brings an unwavering commitment and palpable transmission of the practice of the ETVs to participants, activists and indigenous communities in a non-denominational spirit of ceremony with a heartfelt intention of bringing healing and protection to our planet.

SIX: Your participation on one of these pilgrimages will earn you an *Earth Treasure Vase Guiding Council Membership*, offering you discounts on future pilgrimages, events & retreats. This trip will change your life!

Please note: Our pilgrimage practice is to listen deeply to the prayers and concerns of the local communities we visit. Turning them into action is only possible through making personal relations and any outcomes that may arise cannot be anticipated in advance. Costs for specific projects arising from these encounters are not part of the pilgrimage costs and would be completely individual and voluntary.

PILGRIMAGE COSTS excluding international flights

All hotels (double occupancy), meals (but not alcohol), domestic flights and ground transportation are included. Dana to group leaders and local project contributions are not included.

TOTAL SOUTH AFRICA: \$9300

Single room supplement: \$940

TOTAL AUSTRALIA: \$5100

A deposit of \$1000 holds your place

50% due by March 15th

Balance due no later than April 10th (plus single supplement if selected)

CANCELLATION POLICY

Most travel insurance policies will offer cancellation protection.

If you must cancel before March 15th a 50% refund will be given.

Cancellations after March 15th will not receive a refund.

PILGRIMAGE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. To register please contact Hugh Wheir at 505-989-7513; or email allanimals@igc.org
2. Send in your deposit to hold your place.
3. Read the Pilgrimage Policies and Information — available from Hugh.
4. Fill out the Pilgrimage Application Form.
5. Read and sign the Agreement to Trip Policies.
6. Return these along with \$1000 deposit.
7. Read and sign the Waiver of Liability and send with second payment by March 15th.
8. Final payment and proof of insurance due no later than April 10th.

Send checks payable to:

"Alliance for the Earth"
PO Box 8031
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Or pay via credit card online at:

www.EarthTreasureVase.org/donate

*(Note: a 3.5% fee will be charged for all credit card processing.
Visa and Mastercard only.)*

Any and all questions and to register please call:

Hugh Wheir: 505-989-7513; or email Hugh at: allanimals@igc.org