

Pilgrimage Registration and Trip Policies

General Conditions

Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change due to unforeseeable conditions.

Participants need to be comfortable with last minute changes should they arise, open to the unexpected and willing to make necessary personal adjustments without disrupting the group. ETV pilgrimage travel is arduous, unpredictable, amazing and full of magic. Preparation for the pilgrimage begins when you decide to go. Watch your dreams and deepen your practice of meditation. This is an inner as well as an outer journey dedicated to a sacred purpose larger than ourselves. It will be a trip of a lifetime but not exactly a vacation.

Travel Insurance

All participants are required to purchase travel insurance for tour cancellation and medical evacuation ("Medivac") coverage. In the event that you were to be seriously injured or become critically ill, we want to make sure that you have coverage to ensure that your medical needs are met. We recommend that you contact our travel agent, Alison Hawthorne (arhawthorn@aol.com) or an insurance agent for options or go to: www.insuremytrip.com for comparisons of leading companies. Lonely Planet and National Geographic Adventures recommend www.worldnomads.com. You can also view a list of travel insurance companies from the US State Department Website. Please submit proof of Insurance by April 10th.

Medical Considerations

It is important to be in good health for a journey such as this. Hiking and walking will be a part of both pilgrimages. Please let us know if there is a medical condition you may have that could be of concern.

The areas we are traveling to in South Africa are at risk for malaria. Please consult your doctor and/or healthcare practitioner for medical advice and get a prescription for malaria medicine (not Larium). Please also check with a physician about any other recommended inoculations. Travel advisories can be found at www.cdc.gov.

It is also important to respect the fact that we will be sharing the natural environment with other creatures such as wild animals, poisonous snakes, and biting insects and be mindful, alert and cautious of this reality as a daily practice.

Registration and Payment

To register, a deposit of \$1000 is due along with your completed Pilgrimage Application Form and signed Agreement of Trip Policies.

A second payment of 50% is due by March 15th along with Waiver of Liability.

The balance and proof of insurance is due no later than April 10th (plus the full single supplement if selected).

Send to:

Alliance for the Earth

PO Box 8031, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

By email: allanimals@igc.org / By Fax: 505-986-8046

Any questions call: Hugh Wheir 505-989-7513

Cancellation 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

General Pilgrimage Information

Travel Agent for INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE TICKETS:

Alison Hawthorne
Over The Rainbow Travel
San Francisco, CA
(415) 552-8321
arhawthorn@aol.com

To South Africa: The best international routing from the U.S. to South Africa is on either Delta or South African Airways, both of which have non-stop flights to Johannesburg. RT Delta flight is approx \$1800. There are other options via Europe on other carriers. Delta flies out of Atlanta, and South African Airways out of New York and Washington D.C.

To Australia: From the US to Sydney the least expensive flights are on Virgin Airways (approx \$1000 RT). The most frequent flights are on Qantas but there are other options on other airlines. If you are doing both pilgrimages we will be flying on Qantas from Johannesburg to Sydney.

DOMESTIC FLIGHTS

Note: All domestic flights are included in the cost of the pilgrimage

South Africa: We have two RT domestic flights in South Africa - from Johannesburg (JNB) to Upington and from JNB to Hoedspruit (HDS). Please be aware that the weight limit on these flights is 44 pounds total for checked baggage. You are allowed one small carry-on item and one personal item.

Australia: We have one RT flight from Sydney to Ayers Rock. Baggage restrictions are one checked bag of no more than 50 pounds plus one carry-on of no more than 15 pounds.

Visas: Electronic visas for Australia for travelers on US passports can be issued through Alison Hawthorne. South Africa visas are issued on arrival for US citizens. Travelers need to have at least two blank visa pages in their passports. There is no charge for these visas.

Travel Insurance can also be issued through Alison Hawthorne.

SOUTH AFRICA PILGRIMAGE COORDINATOR:

Stuart Gedrim
In-Spirit Journeys
www.in-spirit.co.za
tours@in-spirit.co.za
Tel. - 011 - 27 - 21 - 790 - 1063
Fax. - 011 - 27 - 21 - 790 - 1064
Cell - 011 - 27 - 82 - 456 - 9141

What to Bring

Not more than you can carry yourself! We ask that each person travel lightly. Suggested luggage is one mid-sized to large backpack, duffle bag or suitcase and one carry-on daypack or messenger-style bag. Be mindful of airline luggage requirements and the limited space in our vehicles. Also, keep one copy of your passport in your luggage and keep one with you at all times.

What Not to Bring

Please leave expensive jewelry, clothing, and other valuables at home. We also ask that participants minimize the use of electronic communication technology in order to enter

more fully into the experience in the bush.

Weather

May is the beginning of winter in South Africa and Australia. Typical daytime highs can average around 70-75F and average nighttime lows around 40-45F. Humidity is low and rainfall is very low.

Packing recommendations:

several khaki long pants (some zip into shorts)
several long-sleeved khaki shirts (no bright prints in the bush, please)
warm jacket, warm sweater or fleece,
pajamas (evenings can be cool)
long skirt and blouse
underwear, socks etc
good walking shoes (lightweight high-tops are ideal)
sandals
bathing suit
all body care and hygiene products
travel alarm clock
journal
flashlight / headlamp with extra batteries
sunscreen & chapstick
sunglasses & extra glasses
hat with good brim
binoculars
camera & extra memory cards
mosquito / bug repellent
earplugs (silicon is best)
converter / adapter. (South Africa is 220/240V)
water bottle
scarf or shawl
extra ziplock bags of different sizes are endlessly useful
Earth Treasure Vase offerings (small, either brought from home or collected on the way)

Recommended for your personal medical kit:

All personal medications you require for entire duration of trip
Antibiotics - in consultation with your health-care provider
Antibiotic cream
Moleskin and bandaids for blisters
Eye drops
Hand wipes
Pepto-Bismol
Smooth-Move herbal tea (or constipation aid)
Jet lag sleep aid
Acidophilus
Grapefruit seed extract
Emergen-C

Money Exchange

The best exchange rates and most convenient places will be at the Johannesburg and Sydney airports. You may be able to use an ATM machine to withdraw SA Rand or Australian dollars but this is unpredictable and depending on the type of card you have, it doesn't always work. It is best to avoid having to go to a bank or try to get cash from a credit card, as it can be extremely time-consuming. Please plan to change money upon arrival at the airport.

Food and Accommodations

You can expect food and accommodations to vary from place to place, from simple and basic to quite

luxurious. All places will be very comfortable and most will have a wide range of food choices, while others will be simpler. Please be advised we will not be able to accommodate special diets. And be assured, your experience in both South Africa and Australia is guaranteed to be authentic, natural and utterly transforming.

Film and Book List for both pilgrimages available upon request

Pilgrimage Application Form

Full Name _____
Date _____
Mailing Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____
Mobile Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

In an emergency, please contact: _____
Relationship: _____ Telephone(s): _____
Second Emergency contact: _____
Relationship: _____ Telephone(s): _____

Please answer the following questions:

1. An Earth Treasure Vase Pilgrimage involves dedicating ourselves to a sacred purpose and cultivating a spiritual practice with a sustained commitment to a collective mission. Part of the practice is to hold one's personal needs in the context of this larger purpose and the goal of accomplishing our mission. For the good of all, and to stay connected to our intentions, we will cultivate a travelling sangha through daily meditations and ongoing councils. At times it may be necessary to accept the decisions of pilgrimage leaders in service to the mission. Is this acceptable to you?
2. What is your experience of the Earth Treasure Vase Global Healing Project and the associated meditation practice/ceremony? Do you have a personal practice of meditation? Please describe.
3. What is your intention for the pilgrimage personally? What is your intention for the Earth Treasure Vase we will be carrying to South Africa, Australia or both?
4. Have you ever visited any other remote indigenous cultures or been to any other rural, underdeveloped nations? Please describe.
5. Please describe your overall physical, emotional and mental condition and provide information about any health problems or medical conditions (including symptoms, diagnosis, medications, treatment, and present condition).
6. Do you drink alcohol or smoke? If so, how much?
7. Is there someone you would like to room with on the trip? Are you purchasing a single supplement?

Payment

At the time of application, a deposit of \$1000 is due along with this Pilgrimage Application Form and the signed Agreement to Trip Policies. A first payment of 50% is due by March 15th along with the signed Waiver of Liability. The balance is due no later than April 10th along with proof of insurance (plus the full single supplement if selected).

Method of payment: ___ Credit Card ___ Check ___ Money Order
(Note a 3.5% processing fee will be added if paying by credit card).

Please make check or money order out to "Alliance for the Earth"

Credit Card Information: ___ Visa ___ MasterCard
Credit Card Number _____
Expiration Date ____ / ____ Security Code _____
Name on Credit Card _____
Billing Address _____
City/State/Zip _____

Credit card payments can also be made at www.earthtreasurevase.org/donate

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 be refundable.

Send Pilgrimage Application Form to:

Alliance for the Earth
By email: allanimals@igc.org
By Fax: 505-986-8046
By US Mail:
Alliance for the Earth
PO Box 8031
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Contact: Hugh Wheir at 505-989-7513 with any questions or concerns.

Agreement to Trip Policies:

I, [print name] _____ declare to have read the “Pilgrimage Policy Information”. I agree to the insurance requirements, medical requirements, general conditions, payment schedule, and cancellation policy. I am aware that there are certain risks involved but I take full responsibility for this journey.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

Please carefully read and review this document before signing it. By signing it you may be giving up certain legal rights.

I, _____, in consideration for admission to activities sponsored by Alliance for the Earth, namely the pilgrimage to South Africa and/or Australia, organized by Alliance for the Earth, on behalf of myself, my children, heirs, representatives, successors and assigns, hereby waive, release, and discharge Alliance for the Earth, its directors, trustees, officers, employees and agents and their respective heirs, successors and assigns, from any and all claims and actions for liability and damages resulting from (a) any act or omission of any kind of Alliance for the Earth or said persons, and (b) any condition, circumstance or event whatsoever occurring on the pilgrimage. I understand that I am personally responsible at all times for the health and safety of myself.

This means that I assume, on my own behalf, any and all risk of injury or death due to any circumstances known or unknown during the pilgrimage including but not limited to injury or death caused by food, vehicles, plane flights, wild animals, water, and all environmental and weather conditions. I understand that there are perils involved with such a trip and I absolve Alliance for the Earth from responsibility of all dangers associated with this trip.

I also understand that neither Alliance for the Earth nor its staff provide trained medical assistance to guests or participants. Procedures have been established in the event of an emergency, however neither Alliance for the Earth nor the persons released herein shall be liable for injury or damages resulting from following, attempting to follow, or failing to follow these procedures. I also understand that other guests or participants may offer or provide to me advice, assistance, treatment, care or aid but that they are acting on their own initiative and not under the authority or direction of Alliance for the Earth or the persons released herein.

I declare that I have read and understood the contents of this Waiver of Liability and that I have signed this document of my own free will and with full understanding that I may be giving up certain legal rights to sue Alliance for the Earth and the persons described above for damages due to injuries which may occur to me while on this pilgrimage to South Africa and/or Australia. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY LEAVE THE TOUR WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT AT ANY TIME.

Signature _____
Date _____