TRAVEL SOONER
2017 SIGHTSEEING SOONERS CATALOG
The University of Oklahoma Alumni Association
Greetings from the OU Alumni Association! We are excited to unveil our Sightseeing Sooners tour selections for 2017. We hope that you will take advantage of one or more of these wonderful travel opportunities in the coming year. While visiting exotic, historic or educational destinations, you will have the added value of traveling with other Sooners and reconnecting to your alma mater in an exciting way! If you have never traveled with us before, we invite you to give Sightseeing Sooners a try and be a part of this exclusive group. Our tours are open to anyone so if you have family or friends you enjoy traveling with, please feel free to invite them to join you on these once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

When you travel with Sightseeing Sooners a portion of your tour price will come back to the OU Alumni Association, helping our organization fund scholarships, campus events and other OU activities. Our tours are designed to promote educational and cultural experiences for our alumni and friends. Within this catalog, you will find a variety of destinations, price ranges and modes of travel. This catalog is meant to give you a preview of the tours we will be offering in the calendar year of 2017. Please be aware that in this ever-changing travel climate, all prices, itineraries, dates and departures are subject to change.

Detailed travel brochures about each tour will be mailed approximately 6-9 months prior to departure. If there are specific brochures you want to make sure you receive, please contact me at the OU Alumni Association at 405-325-1224 or lquirk@ou.edu.

We sincerely appreciate your support for our Sightseeing Sooners program and the OU Alumni Association.

LIVE ON, UNIVERSITY!

Lea Ann Quirk
Director of Alumni Programs
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### KEY TO ADVENTURES

- Airfare Included
- Ocean Cruise
- Land Tour
- River Cruise
- Lake Cruise
- Private Jet
- Faculty Host
The mystery of the Amazon has fascinated explorers and naturalists for centuries and today it is central to worldwide preservation initiatives. A cruise on the Peruvian Amazon will introduce you to fascinating indigenous people and the region’s amazing bio-diversity. Spend two nights in Lima exploring the Larco Archaeological Museum and other historic highlights. In Iquitos, join a deluxe river ship for a remarkable cruise to places only accessible by boat. Visit a primate rehabilitation sanctuary and a fascinating Bora village. See a favorite feeding spot for the boto, the famous pink river dolphin. Learn about the unique flora and fauna under the rainforest canopy on a field trip with an expert naturalist. See parrots, hawks and monkeys in Peru’s largest wildlife reserve and try your hand at piranha fishing. Local guides provide colorful narrative during included excursions, and lecturers showcase the region’s geography, wildlife and culture. This expertly crafted journey features an extensive meal plan that includes wine with dinner.

Estimated prices starting at $5,295, double occupancy
TANZANIA: HEAVEN’S WILD REFUGE
Classic Escapes // February 15-25, 2017

A safari to Tanzania is the ultimate close encounter with the natural world. From the gripping action of predator and prey in the Serengeti to the diverse vitality in the Ngorongoro Crater, the site of a once-fearsome volcano, now a sprawling woodland of life and greenery. Allow yourself to fall under Tanzania’s spell, intoxicated by the calls and rumbles of migrating herds, the elegant aches of ancient baobab trees and the kaleidoscope of ethnic diversity. Venture into remote areas of the Serengeti and Tarangire and rest in intimate, exclusive lodges that blend into the natural landscape, lulling you to sleep with a serenade of the exotic wildlife outside. Africa will enchant you and the safari experience will create memories that you’ll treasure forever.

Estimated prices starting at $4,995, double occupancy

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LAND TOUR: FEBRUARY 15-25, 2017

PANAMA ENCHANTMENT
FEATURING PANAMA CANAL TRANSIT – LOS ANGELES TO MIAMI
Go Next // January 17-February 2, 2017

From the engineering wonder of the Panama Canal to the historical treasures and beach-lined shores of Mexico and Colombia, take in the highlights of the Americas. Indulge yourself with world-class amenities as Oceania Cruises’ beautifully appointed Regatta takes you on an exciting 16-night voyage. Discover the rich Spanish heritage of San Diego; relax on the magnificent beaches of Acapulco and Cabo San Lucas; unwind in Puerto Quetzal, a jumping-off point to explore the lovely colonial capital of Antigua; and soak up sunshine in Corinto, Nicaragua’s largest port. Visit Puntarenas, your gateway to Costa Rica’s idyllic natural splendors. Then experience a crossing of the legendary Panama Canal en route to Cartagena, a grand cultural and architectural feast. Before capping off your voyage in Miami, laze on Grand Cayman’s picture-perfect Seven Mile Beach.

Estimated price starting at $3,999 per person, double occupancy, airfare included
HAWAII BY SMALL SHIP
Orbridge // February 25–March 4, 2017

Join alumni and friends on this deluxe cruise to the Hawaiian Islands, where you can experience the remote coves, hidden inlets, and secret shorelines of this fabled tropical paradise. On board the 36-guest Safari Explorer, you will be able to enjoy flexible cruising along the leeward coasts of Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and the Big Island, and spend each night at rest in a different secluded anchorage. Here you will have the chance to see wildlife found nowhere else on earth, and learn about traditional Hawaiian culture with locals who will welcome you onto their lands.

Estimated price starting at $4,995, per person, double occupancy

ISRAEL: TIMELESS WONDERS
Odysseys Unlimited // March 16–27, 2017
OU HOST: Dr. Alan Levenson

Begin the 12-day tour in Tel Aviv, Israel’s arts and culture capital, with a guided tour including Independence Hall and the “White City” district. Visit the ancient port of Jaffa then travel north to the artists’ village of Ein Hod. In Galilee, stay at a hotel on the grounds of a kibbutz founded in 1916. Visit the biblical sights of Tiberias, the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Beatitudes, and Nazareth. Continue to Jerusalem for a five-night stay at the legendary King David hotel. Extensive touring through this incredible historic city includes the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial, Ein Karem, the Western Wall, the Church of Holy Sepulcher, and the Old City. Travel to the shores of the Dead Sea to explore the Qumran Caves. Continue to Jordan to visit Petra and Amman on an optional 5-day/4-night post-tour extension.

Estimated prices starting at $6,384, double occupancy, airfare included
OUTRAGEOUS OUTBACK - SYDNEY TO AUCKLAND
Go Next // April 7-23, 2017

Discover rugged outback scenery, cosmopolitan cities, and whimsical wildlife on this odyssey aboard Oceania Cruises’ elegant Sirena. Relax on Eden’s golden beaches, take in Melbourne’s graceful Victorian architecture, and browse the Makers’ Workshop in Burnie, Tasmania. Then cruise the glassy waters of Milford Sound fjord, a magnificent sight with its towering cliffs swathed in verdant forests. Delve into the Scottish heritage of Dunedin, glimpse the fascinating Maori culture of Akaroa, and explore the artists’ galleries and boutique wineries of Nelson. Take a cable car ride to the top of Mount Victoria, offering stunning panoramic views of Wellington, and admire the art deco architecture of Napier. Before concluding your adventure in Auckland, laze on Tauranga’s pristine beaches or head to nearby Rotorua, renowned for its steaming geysers and thermal pools.

Estimated price starting at $6,799 per person, double occupancy, airfare included

WWI HISTORY BY RIVER SHIP
Orbridge // April 15-23, 2017

During this enlightening river cruise, discover the charm of Amsterdam’s canals, the historic harbors in Dordrecht, and Namur’s enchanting medieval squares and streets. Explore some of Europe’s most noteworthy cities during guided sightseeing and panoramic tours in Ghent, Antwerp, and Maastricht. Visit the battlefields of Ypres and Eastern Flanders. Plus, enjoy exclusive on-board lectures by Nigel Jones, British historian and writer, who specializes in 20th-century European history and biography.

Estimated price starting at $3,995, per person, double occupancy
Sicily has been a natural intersection for travelers and explorers, who left their mark on local life. Delve into Sicily’s epic past while staying in western, central and eastern areas of the island. Walk in the footsteps of ancient Greeks and Romans as you discover the well-preserved remnants of their civilizations. Admire the architectural legacy of Gothic, Moorish and Norman conquerors. Marvel at the remarkable mosaics of the Villa Romana del Casale and the extensive collection of baroque architecture in Modica and Ragusa. Explore medieval Taormina, where Mount Etna stands in the distance, and Syracuse, an ancient Greek city. Savor the flavors of Sicily at a family farm, where award-winning olive oil is produced. Enjoy first-class accommodations in Palermo, Caltagirone and Taormina. In Caltagirone, stay at a unique hotel and spa on an organic farm, and savor meals created with freshly harvested produce. This small-group program features engaging excursions, expert guides and an extensive meal plan plus wine with dinner.

Estimated prices starting at $2,995, double occupancy.
PASSAGE OF LEWIS & CLARK - SPOKANE TO PORTLAND
Go Next // May 7-15, 2017

From verdant forests and magnificent mountains to breathtaking gorges and sparkling waterfalls, experience the natural majesty of the Pacific Northwest while cruising the Columbia and Snake Rivers aboard the American Empress, a modern vessel that exudes the charm and lavish features of a 19th-century riverboat. Begin with a stay in Spokane, Washington’s second-largest city, and then embark on your voyage in Clarkston, where rich Native American culture springs to life at the nearby Nez Perce National Historical Park. Follow the footsteps of Lewis and Clark and their legendary Shoshone guide to Sacajawea State Park, delve into the unique pioneer history of The Dalles, and visit the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center Museum in Stevenson. Discover small-town gems in the oldest city west of the Rockies, Astoria, before your journey concludes in the “City of Roses,” Portland.

Estimated price starting at $2,899 per person, double occupancy

MEDITERRANEAN MASTERPIECE - ROME TO BARCELONA
Go Next // May 10-21, 2017

Experience an inspiring Mediterranean odyssey, where each port of call is a striking masterpiece. From ancient cities soaked in color and culture to cobbled squares framed by elegant cathedrals, encounter extraordinary sights in Italy, France, Monaco, and Spain. From the comfort of Oceania Cruises’ Marina, set sail for Livorno, a gateway to Florence, Pisa, and the soul-stirring Tuscan countryside. Then journey to Sardinia’s Emerald Coast to discover the beauty of Olbia or Porto Cervo. Stop at Ajaccio, the capital of Corsica, an island of lush forests and scenic gorges. Behold breathtaking panoramas along Italy’s Cinque Terre, and savor the glamour of Monte Carlo and Antibes. Explore Marseille’s vibrant markets, and marvel at Palma’s Gothic cathedral. Before your adventure concludes in Barcelona, take in Valencia’s ultra-futuristic City of Arts and Sciences.

Estimated price starting at $3,999 per person, double occupancy, airfare included
FLAVORS OF SPAIN
Orbridge // May 20–28, 2017

During this unforgettable journey, explore the coveted region of Costa Brava, rich in architectural, cultural, and edible treasures. In a country overflowing with unique history, art, and scenery, you’ll visit ancient ruins, stroll down exquisite Mediterranean beaches, discover picturesque coves, and peruse delightful towns and villages. Without hesitation, you’ll embrace the captivating country that was inspiration for artists like Joan Miro, Pablo Picasso, and Salvador Dali.

Estimated price starting at $3,995, per person, double occupancy

OCEAN CRUISE: MAY 23–JUNE 1, 2017

VINEYARDS & VIGNETTES - LISBON TO LONDON
Go Next // May 23–June 1, 2017

Colorful tiled churches, marvelous architecture and cuisine, and sun-dappled vineyards await you on this voyage aboard Oceania Cruises’ exquisite Nautica. From Lisbon to London, encounter intriguing cities nestled on the coast of Portugal, northern Spain, and France. Visit the birthplace of port wine, Oporto — a charming medieval city on the Douro River. See the Roman Tower of Hercules in La Coruña, Spain, or explore the pilgrimage city of Santiago de Compostela. In Bilbao, witness incredible works of art at the Frank Gehry–designed Guggenheim Museum. Soak up the charming atmosphere of Saint-Jean-de-Luz, with its shop-lined streets, art galleries, and picturesque harbor sprinkled with multicolored fishing boats; or laze on the sandy beaches of Biarritz, a former fishing village turned glitzy resort. Before concluding your adventure in London, stroll graceful boulevards edged by 18th-century architecture in Bordeaux, or sample the region’s culinary and wine delights.

Estimated price starting at $3,499 per person, double occupancy, airfare included
LONDON IMMERSION
AHI Travel // June 14-22, 2017

“When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life,” Samuel Johnson once posited, and his words still ring true today. Discover this for yourself as you experience London for seven nights of apartment-style living in elegant South Kensington in the city’s West End. Get up and go with an included Visitor Oyster Card transit pass for the Tube. Join engaging local guides on unique neighborhood walks in Kensington, Westminster, the City of London and the Inns of Court. Visit the London suburbs of Richmond and Hampton Court, both of which are rich in Tudor history. Enjoy a balance of planned sightseeing and free time to explore on your own. Informative talks by local experts provide historical background and context. Join us on this well-rounded travel experience with a small group of fellow travelers. Enjoy an extensive meal plan plus wine with dinner. Your apartment-hotel includes complimentary Wi-Fi and an equipped kitchenette.

Estimated prices starting at $2,995, double occupancy

ITALY: TUSCANY
AHI Travel // June 6-14, 2017

Bursting with charming villages, ancient olive groves, bountiful vineyards and remarkable natural beauty, Tuscany’s sun-warmed hills have attracted artists, writers and travelers for centuries. After settling in Cortona, delve into ancient Etruscan civilization on a village walking tour before indulging your senses during an excursion through the sun-dappled countryside and a local winery. Visit Montepulciano and discover its Renaissance palaces and unique churches. Travel to Siena and admire the Gaia Fountain, Mangia Tower and the sprawling Piazza del Campo. Marvel at the splendor of Florence’s urban masterpieces as you see the iconic Ponte Vecchio, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the 14th-century Piazza della Signoria. Broaden your insight of the region while visiting the Praetorian Palace and the Museum of the Etruscan Academy. Local guides and expert speakers provide fascinating insight during included excursions and lectures. This Alumni Campus Abroad program includes first-class accommodations, fascinating excursions, educational programs and an extensive meal plan complemented by wine with dinner.

Estimated prices starting at $2,695, double occupancy
Immerse yourself in the wild beauty of Alaska, with its sparkling glaciers and pristine forests, on this adventure aboard Oceania Cruises’ graceful Regatta. Depart from Seattle and sail the Inside Passage en route to the small wilderness outpost of Ketchikan, once known as the “Salmon Capital of the World.” Stroll among the authentic totems of Juneau, where an exhilarating blend of nature and modern culture awaits, or perhaps explore nearby attractions, such as the magnificent Mendenhall Glacier. Take in the spectacular sight of Alaska’s longest tidewater glacier, Hubbard Glacier. Your journey continues to Icy Strait Point, a secluded seaport nestled in the pristine Alaskan wilderness; Skagway, a gateway to the famed Klondike gold fields; and Sitka, the former center of Russia’s Alaskan empire. Before returning to Seattle, cruise to Canada to admire Victoria’s lovely gardens and ornate Craigdarroch Castle.

Estimated price starting at $3,799 per person, double occupancy, airfare included
BALTIC & SCANDINAVIAN TREASURES - COPENHAGEN TO STOCKHOLM
Go Next // August 22-September 2, 2017

Baltic and Scandinavian treasures abound on this voyage to some of northern Europe’s most iconic ports aboard Oceania Cruises’ majestic Marina. Set sail from Copenhagen for the delightful German port of Warnemünde, or perhaps encounter the rich cultural attractions of Berlin, a lively capital with remarkable museums, powerful memorials, and cutting-edge art galleries. Stroll past stately buildings in Klaipeda, a gateway to the pine groves and sand dunes of the Curonian Spit; and browse the Latvian National Museum of Art in Riga. Admire the architectural gems of Helsinki, a renowned international design mecca. Delight in almost three full days to explore the regal monuments of St. Petersburg, a magical metropolis dotted with pastel, onion-domed cathedrals and fabled palaces. Before concluding your odyssey in Stockholm, experience the charming atmosphere at Tallinn, a beautifully preserved city of red-roofed homes and spire-crowned churches.

Estimated price starting at $4,299 per person, double occupancy, airfare included

BRITISH ISLES LEGENDS - LONDON TO LONDON
Go Next // July 31-August 13, 2017

From storybook castles and elegant Georgian mansions to inviting pubs and rugged coastal scenery, take in the legendary sights of the British Isles aboard Oceania Cruises’ majestic Marina. Depart England’s port of Southampton for Newcastle, a cultural hub filled with timeless Victorian structures. Marvel at Edinburgh’s hilltop castle, the city’s crown jewel, and head ashore at Invergordon to immerse yourself in the wild beauty of the Scottish Highlands. Experience Glasgow’s thriving gastronomic scene, admire Liverpool’s striking avant-garde cathedral, and encounter iconic monuments in Dublin, home to Trinity College and St. Patrick’s Cathedral. Behold St. Cybi’s Church in Holyhead, a gateway to the exquisite Welsh countryside. Explore the delightful fishing town of Cobh, or head inland to visit the old Cork City Gaol. Before returning to Southampton, discover the scenic and historical charms of Portland, with its dramatic cliffs and beautifully preserved Tudor fortress.

Estimated price starting at $5,999 per person, double occupancy, airfare included
Sleek skyscrapers, impressive museums, world-class restaurants and outstanding entertainment — Chicago has it all. With a stunning skyline, magnificent lakefront beaches and verdant parkland, Chicago bustles with big-city appeal yet serves it all up with indisputable Midwestern charm. After the Great Fire of 1871, the city rebuilt on a grand scale, becoming a showcase for a wide range of architectural styles, from classical to modern. An architectural cruise on the Chicago River provides you a unique perspective of the towering, landmark buildings lining its banks. Savor the city’s lively cultural scene at the acclaimed Art Institute and Symphony Center, and explore Millennium Park and Frank Lloyd Wright’s home and studio. Enjoy the company of a small group of travelers, first-class accommodations in the heart of Chicago, included lectures, excursions and included meals that highlight the local food scene.

Estimated prices starting at $2,595, double occupancy
LAND TOUR: SEPTEMBER 18–29, 2017

ANCIENT GREECE
Andante Travels // September 18–29, 2017

An odyssey through the great sites of Ancient Greece. Beginning in Athens, we walk amongst the Acropolis and the Agora - where merchants haggled and great philosophers came to debate. We then journey as the ancients did, to seek the advice of the great oracle at Delphi before continuing into the ruggedly beautiful Peloponnese, to explore Olympia, Mycenae, Sparta and more. Join our Expert Guide to unpick myth from reality and trace the development of ancient Greece from its earliest Bronze origins to Classical glory and beyond. This is the vacation for anyone who has ever dreamed of standing at the starting line of the ancient Olympics or following in the footsteps of Hercules.

Estimated prices starting at $3,895, double occupancy

LAND TOUR: SEPTEMBER 20–OCTOBER 3, 2017

CLASSIC CHINA & THE YANGTZE
Odysseys Unlimited // September 20–October 3, 2017
OU HOST: Dr. Jonathan Stalling

Comprehensive in scope yet briefer in duration than many China tours, this relaxed, well-paced journey begins in the 2000-year-old capital of Beijing. Experience its legendary sites: Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the famed Great Wall, the Temple of Heaven, and the Summer Palace. Enjoy a special rickshaw ride along Beijing’s ancient alleyways or hutongs, and a visit to the home of a local family. Continue to lively Xian and visit the museum housing the terra-cotta army of nearly 8,000 life-size warriors, the “Eighth Wonder of the World.” Fly to Chongqing and visit the zoo housing the beloved pandas. Board a premier ship of Victoria Cruises for a three-night cruise on the Yangtze. See the spectacular Three Gorges, Smaller Gorges, and the much-heralded new dam. Conclude with visits to the Bund, the renowned Shanghai Museum, and the 16th-century Yu Yuan Gardens. Extend your journey on an optional 4-day/3-night “On Your Own” extension to Hong Kong.

Estimated prices starting at $5,084, double occupancy, airfare included

ou.edu/alumni/travel
Explore nine of the world’s most iconic destinations on the Around the World classic tour. Filled with UNESCO World Heritage sites, incredible wildlife and opportunities for cultural immersion, this 24-day itinerary is truly a journey of a lifetime. Witness the wonders of nature on the Serengeti Plain and while snorkeling the Great Barrier Reef. Walk ancient corridors in the Lost City of Petra and discover the majestic work of the Inca at Machu Picchu. Gaze at humankind’s greatest monument to love—the Taj Mahal—and wonder at the enigmatic moai of Easter Island.

Estimated pricing starting at $79,950, double occupancy

LAND TOUR: SEPTEMBER 27-OCTOBER 20, 2017

SOUTHWEST NATIONAL PARKS
Orbridge // September 23-October 2, 2017

On a 10-day journey to the Southwest United States, visit the natural wonders of the Southwest. At Bryce Canyon, Monument Valley, Zion National Park, and the Grand Canyon, admire the otherworldly formations famously photographed by Ansel Adams. Go river rafting along Glen Canyon, walk narrow Antelope Slot Canyon, marvel at the scenic vistas of Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, and share a peaceful evening with Navajo storytelling. Joined by an expert Orbridge Expedition Leader and in the comfort of a private motor coach, there is no better way to visit our national parks.

Estimated price starting at $3,995, per person, double occupancy

LAND TOUR: SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 2, 2017
POLAR BEARS OF CHURCHILL
Orbridge // November 2-7, 2017

Much like the bears themselves, visitors make their way to Churchill each fall when temperatures drop, brimming with anticipation. The reward: experiences of a lifetime. As polar bears await the formation of the arctic sea ice, they descend upon the tiny seaport town of Churchill, forming a celebration—a polar bear gathering—and in this case, the largest congregation of polar bears in the world. As they wait for the Hudson Bay to freeze so they can begin their hunt for ringed and fur seal, it is possible to observe, photograph, and learn about the “Kings of the North.” On this wildlife expedition, surrounded by experts and featuring up-close experiences, be part of an extraordinary natural phenomenon and unforgettable adventure.

Estimated price starting at $4,995, per person, double occupancy

LAND TOUR: NOVEMBER 2-7, 2017

AUTUMN COLORS - CHATTANOOGA TO NASHVILLE
Go Next // October 22-30, 2017

Set sail on a serene river cruise in autumn, a magnificent time of year when rolling landscapes are beautifully awash with a medley of rich colors. Begin your adventure in Chattanooga, America’s “Scenic City,” home to contemporary attractions like the Bluff View Art District. Then board the American Queen, a modern riverboat that captures Victorian-era elegance, and cruise to picturesque, historic towns in Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky. Admire Florence’s unique attractions, such as the Frank Lloyd Wright–designed Rosenbaum House, and marvel at stately mansions in Savannah’s historic district. Experience the delightful shops and eateries of Paducah, a lovely city at the confluence of the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers. Before concluding your voyage in Nashville, explore Dover, where beautiful scenery awaits along the Cumberland River and rich Civil War history comes alive at Fort Donelson National Battlefield and Cemetery.

Estimated price starting at $1,699 per person, double occupancy
SOUTH AFRICAN EXPLORER - CAPE TOWN TO CAPE TOWN  
Go Next // December 5-21, 2017

Explore the dazzling golden beaches and multifaceted cultures of southern Africa as Oceania Cruises’ well-appointed Nautica takes you on a spectacular 15-night voyage. With Table Mountain as a dramatic backdrop, begin your luxury cruise in South Africa’s “Mother City,” Cape Town, a cosmopolitan gem boasting magnificent beaches, world-class museums, and up-and-coming art galleries. Delve into the rich maritime heritage of sun-kissed Mossel Bay, and then enjoy beautiful vistas at Alkantstrand Beach in Richards Bay, a gateway to spectacular game reserves. Sail to Mozambique, where Maputo beckons with a lively waterfront; admire Durban’s colonial architecture and popular Golden Mile Beach; wander the unspoiled beaches of East London; and stroll past Port Elizabeth’s well-preserved historic buildings. Before returning to Cape Town, discover the scenic splendor of Walvis Bay, Namibia, a bird-watcher’s paradise with an impressive natural lagoon.

Estimated price starting at $5,699 per person, double occupancy, airfare included
MISSION
The goal of the Sightseeing Sooners travel program is to provide educational travel opportunities for our alumni and friends, and carry the strong Sooner spirit to every part of the world.

PROGRAM INFORMATION
The Sightseeing Sooners travel program will offer 30 trips in 2017, visiting over 50 countries across the globe. The offerings include ocean and river cruises, land tours and immersion experiences, along with other types of programming. Sightseeing Sooners provides alumni and friends the opportunity to travel together on trips that provide enriching and quality educational travel opportunities, sometimes with an OU faculty member, but always under the direction of top-rated tour directors and operators. Our goal is to create a unique OU experience for our travelers and connect alumni back to their alma mater in a special way.

DISCLAIMER
Dates, schedules, pricing and program details are all subject to change. Please verify details, dates and pricing prior to booking a reservation directly with the tour operator, and check www.ou.edu/alumni/travel for updates throughout the year. The University of Oklahoma Alumni Association provides the service of facilitating unique travel opportunities for its alumni and friends. Though the Sightseeing Sooners travel program works with its tour operators to offer interesting and educational trips, please remember that OU does not conduct tours, nor does it act as an agent for guests interested in tours. The Sightseeing Sooners travel program, instead, functions as a facilitator with tour operators with whom our travelers make arrangements for completing travel. We are pleased to act as a liaison with tour operators should you have any questions before, during or after your tour. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with each tour operator’s cancellation and refund policy, and to investigate other services such as trip cancellation insurance. The University of Oklahoma Alumni Association is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements, or for losses or additional expenses resulting from travel.
DEAN DANIEL PULLIN AND MRS. TAMARA PULLIN
Hosts for Provincial French Countryside // April 17-May 1, 2017
Daniel W. Pullin serves as Dean of the Michael F. Price College of Business where he also holds the Fred E. Brown Chair in Business and is an OU executive officer in the role of University vice president. In addition to his leadership roles, Daniel is dedicated to teaching OU students subjects such as entrepreneurship, strategy, sales, and negotiations, including summer courses at OU’s European campus in Arezzo, Italy.

So much of Daniel’s success is attributed to his amazing wife, Tamara Schiffner Pullin. Tamara works for MidFirst Bank as a compliance officer, having previously practiced law at McAfee & Taft in Oklahoma City, Gardere Wynne in Dallas, and Fulbright & Jaworski in Houston.

Both Tamara and Daniel are graduates of the University of Oklahoma. Daniel holds degrees in accounting, finance and law from OU, and an MBA from Harvard Business School. Tamara holds degrees in journalism and law from OU. Today, Tamara and Daniel are blessed to raise their two sons near the university’s Norman campus.

DR. ALAN T. LEVENSON
Host for Israel: Timeless Wonders // March 16-27, 2017
Alan T. Levenson holds the Schusterman/Josey Chair in Judaic History and has written extensively on the Jewish experience for both scholarly and popular audiences. He is the author of five books and many articles and is considered a leading authority on the modern Jewish experience.

He received his B.A. and M.A. from Brown University, magna cum laude, and his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. He has recently completed a book on Genesis 37-50 from the Bible until today, “Joseph: Portraits Through the Ages.” Levenson’s first professional commitment remains teaching undergraduate and graduate students to write, speak and read more effectively.

Alan will be hosting with Hilary Levenson, his wife of 25 years. Hilary works at the K-20 Center in Norman. She lived in Israel for 13 years and holds dual citizenship.
DR. JONATHAN STALLING
Host for Classic China & the Yangtze // September 20–October 3, 2017

Jonathan Stalling is an Associate Professor of English at OU specializing in Modern American Poetry, Chinese Comparative Literature and Translation Studies. He is the co-founder and editor of *Chinese Literature Today* magazine and book series, and the Curator of the Chinese Literature Translation Collection at the University of Oklahoma Library. Dr. Stalling is also the founder and director of the University of Oklahoma’s Mark Allen Everett Poetry Reading Series and a contributing editor at *World Literature Today*.

Dr. Stalling is the inventor of the Pinying App, a new method of teaching English through Chinese characters and the author of over five books including “Poetics of Emptiness,” “Grotto Heaven,” “Yingelish,” and “Lost Wax,” and is the translator of “Winter Sun: The Poetry of Shi Zhi.”

Dr. Stalling and his wife, Amy, have been married for 17 years and enjoy spending time with their 3 children, Isaac, Eliana and Rowen.
WHO CAN TRAVEL WITH SIGHTSEEING SOONERS?

The opportunity to travel with Sightseeing Sooners and the OU Alumni Association is open to all OU alumni and friends.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT A CERTAIN TRIP?

Brochures or other available information may be requested online at ou.edu/alumni/travel. Brochures will be mailed approximately 6-9 months prior to departure. However, each tour operator makes their own decision on how many brochures to mail so not everyone in our travel pool receives every brochure. In most cases, there is no need to wait for a brochure to reserve space on a tour. Many tours fill quickly and we encourage you to call the tour operator to help you make your decision.

DO YOU OFFER SPECIALS OR DISCOUNTS?

Each of our travel partners offer special discounts throughout the year. In most cases, these special discounts are an EBD (Early Booking Discount) price. Book early to get the best price!

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR A TRIP?

To register for the various travel opportunities listed in this catalog, please contact the respective tour operator for that program. Contact information for the tour operators is listed on page 21 of this catalog, will be outlined in individual trip brochures or you can call the OU Alumni Association to get contact information.

WHAT IF I'M ONLY BOOKING FOR MYSELF?

All trip pricing is based on double occupancy, or two people sharing a room or cabin, unless specified by the “no single supplement” text. Many of the trips offered will require a single supplement for those who wish to travel alone. On most tours, a limited number of single rooms are available.

MAY I ARRANGE MY OWN AIR TRAVEL?

To lock in low airfares, our tour operators have negotiated special rates with major airlines that may require you to take non-direct flights. Please feel free to discuss “land only” options with the tour operator should you desire a more direct flight or want to use frequent flyer miles. The OU Alumni Association has no control over air travel and sometimes challenging airport infrastructures. Important to remember: If you book your own flights, you are responsible for making connections with the main group.

WILL MY TOUR INCLUDE AN OU FACULTY OR STAFF HOST?

A minimum number of participants is required to secure the services of an OU host, unless they have already been placed on a tour (see faculty hosted trips for 2017 inside this catalog). We make every effort to send a host from OU on as many departures as possible as we know this greatly enhances the travelers’ experience and makes the trip unique. If this is important to you in making your decision to travel with our program, please call us at 405-325-1710 to confirm our faculty/staff hosted tours and for more information.
WHAT HAPPENS IF I NEED TO CANCEL? WILL I GET A REFUND?

Tour participants are subject to cancellation penalties as outlined in the individual trip brochures. Cancellation penalties are structured to coincide with advance payments that our tour operators must make to their suppliers, and the penalties are strictly enforced due to these contractual commitments. Because our tour operators have different cancellation policies, please make sure that you understand all cancellation penalties prior to making your trip deposit. Each tour operator has a unique cancellation and refund policy. Please review each trip brochure carefully prior to reserving space on a tour. We also strongly encourage purchasing trip cancellation insurance.

SHOULD I PURCHASE TRAVEL INSURANCE? IF SO, HOW SOON DO I NEED TO ENROLL?

We strongly recommend that you purchase travel insurance to ensure coverage in case of illness, injury, medical evacuation, delay or unforeseen emergency. For your convenience, the OU Alumni Association has partnered with Travel Insurance Select to provide travel insurance to our travelers. We encourage you to call (800) 937-1387 for details and coverage options.

We also ask you to research the many options of travel insurance available to you, as each person has individual needs. While we feel TIS offers some of the best possible coverage, you may purchase travel insurance from another provider. We also suggest that you check with your medical insurance provider to determine if you are covered outside the United States. Medicare does not provide coverage outside the United States.
OU ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
SIGHTSEEING SOONERS

Legendary Turkey
Legends of the Nile
Discover Down Under
Greek Isles Odyssey

South American Tapestry
Accent on the Adriatic
Passage of Lewis and Clark
Portrait of Italy

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