The Association of Former Students of Texas A&M

VIETNAM by SEA and ANGKOR WAT

Hanoi ♦ Ha Long Bay ♦ Hue ♦ Da Nang
Hoi An ♦ Saigon ♦ Siem Reap

Featuring Guest Speakers
Kim Phuc and Jim Laurie

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

Nov. 3-17, 2020
Howdy, Ags!

Join your fellow Traveling Aggies for an exceptional itinerary encompassing the breadth of Vietnamese culture and the magnificent religious, imperial and artistic traditions of Cambodia. Explore the captivating treasures of ancient pagodas, sampan-filled harbors, colonial palaces and dynamic architecture. In the lush jungles of Cambodia, discover the 12th-century temples and sculptures of Angkor, the capital of the Khmer Empire and an astonishing fusion of spiritual devotion and creative genius. Along the way, experience the unique fellowship of the Aggie Network and the legendary camaraderie of the Traveling Aggies.

Cruise for seven nights aboard the exclusively chartered, state-of-the-art, Five-Star Le Laperouse. Featuring only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony, this elegant small ship cruises into small ports inaccessible to larger vessels.

By exclusive arrangement, South Vietnamese-born Kim Phuc, a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace, and award-winning former news correspondent and media consultant Jim Laurie will accompany us on this program. Hear a firsthand account from Phuc, who was the subject of the photograph “Napalm Girl,” an enduring image from the Vietnam War. Learn more about the fall of Saigon from Laurie, winner of two Emmy Awards and a Peabody Award for his coverage of this time in Vietnam.

This unique program features four UNESCO World Heritage sites—beautiful Ha Long Bay, ancient Hoi An, the dignified Forbidden Purple City in Hue and the vaunted temples of Angkor. Experience Hanoi, Vietnam's culturally rich capital showcasing an amalgam of Asian and French heritage, and sail in a traditional Vietnamese junk past the limestone karst pillars and forested islands of majestic Ha Long Bay. Explore the juxtaposition of traditional and contemporary architecture in historic, French-colonial Saigon.

The allure of ancient customs, colorful traditions and timeless tableaus of Southeast Asia await on this comprehensive journey, a great value that includes Five-Star accommodations throughout, tours each day in Hanoi and Siem Reap, and a cruise with an excursion in every port, with all meals and alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages on board the ship. Make your reservation now, while Early Booking Savings and space are still available.

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.  Marisa Liles
Director of Travel –  Director of Travel –
Outreach and Engagement  Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students  The Association of Former Students
Phone: (979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514  Fax: (979) 845-9263

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by our program supplier.
The Natural Beauty of Southeast Asia

Stunning limestone pinnacles rising from teal waters, vivid landscapes, scenic coastlines, delectable cuisine, exquisite architecture, authentic markets and a compelling history render Southeast Asia one of the most alluring regions in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Discover Vietnam and Cambodia’s rich cultural legacy as well as Japanese, Chinese, French and American influence that helped shape these countries’ pasts and presents.

Experience the social, intellectual and spiritual heartbeat of Vietnam’s captivating people in its palaces, pagodas and temples, and explore the mystique of Cambodia’s Angkor complex.

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**Itinerary**

1-2  Depart the U.S./Cross the International Date Line

3  Arrive in **HANOI, VIETNAM**

4  **HANOI**

5  **HANOI** for **HAIPHONG**/Embark **LE LAPÉROUSE**

6  **HA LONG BAY**

7  Cruising the Gulf of Tonkin

8  **CHAN MAY** for **HUE**

9  **DA NANG** for **HOI AN**

10  Cruising the South China Sea

11  **SAIGON (HO CHI MINH CITY)**

12  **SAIGON**/Disembark ship/Fly to **SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA**

13-14 **SIEM REAP**

15  **SIEM REAP**/Cross the International Date Line/Return to the U.S.

**Post-Program East Meets West Option**

*Available at additional cost.

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Hanoi, Vietnam

The undeniable charm of this enigmatic capital city resides in its time-honored rituals and compelling fusion of Vietnamese, Chinese and French-colonial influences. Wide leafy boulevards, modeled after the Champs-Élysées in Paris, are lined with stately Neoclassical mansions and palaces. A red wooden bridge leads you to the Ngoc Son Pagoda, a jewel box on the mystical Hoan Kiem Lake. In Ba Dinh Square, the revered father of the nation lies in state in the granite Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum.

Starkly juxtaposed against the Beaux Arts-style Presidential Palace and facing a pristine lake, Ho Chi Minh’s modest two-room stilt house—where he lived from 1958 until his death in 1969—was built to reinforce the revolutionary leader’s image as a “man of the people.”

Cover photo: Cruise among the karst outcrops of idyllic Ha Long Bay, said to have been formed by dragons unleashed by the mythological Jade Emperor.

Photo this page: Lauded for its sublime statuary and bas-reliefs, resplendent Angkor Wat remains a pilgrimage site for Buddhist monks.
Nearby, the 11th-century One Pillar Pagoda is one of Vietnam’s most iconic temples, designed to resemble a lotus blossom (purity). Tour the Temple of Literature, a Confucian sanctuary and learning center since A.D. 1070 and a paradigm of traditional Vietnamese architecture. Visit the Hoa Lo Prison Museum, or “Hanoi Hilton,” where American pilots, including the late Senator John McCain, were held as prisoners during the Vietnam War. In the 13th-century Old Quarter, stroll its 36 Streets, named after guilds formed in the middle ages by resident craftspeople.

Ha Long Bay
Board a traditional Vietnamese junk for a private cruise and experience the ethereal beauty of Ha Long Bay, the “Bay of the Descending Dragon.” This UNESCO World Heritage site is characterized by a seascape of over 1600 emerald green pinnacles that soar from the bay’s tranquil waters. Cruise between limestone islands with wave-eroded caves and coves, and walk among the tapering stalactites and stalagmites in the natural grottoes of Thien Cung, the Heavenly Palace Cave.

Hue
The UNESCO World Heritage site of Hue, located on the banks of the Perfume River, was the Imperial City of the Nguyen kings from 1601 to 1945. Explore its Imperial Citadel and the massive ramparts and moat dating from the 18th and 19th centuries. Tour the Imperial Enclosure of the emperor’s residence, palaces, temples and state buildings and the Forbidden Purple City, a citadel within a citadel formerly reserved for the royalty of the Nguyen Dynasty. Visit the 17th-century Thien Mu (Heavenly Lady) Pagoda and the tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, built and designed by the emperor himself during the Nguyen dynasty.

Da Nang
Encircled by the Marble Mountains and clear-blue waters, coastal Da Nang is known for its exquisite Museum of Cham Sculpture, exhibiting the world’s largest collection of indigenous Cham sandstone art and statues dating from the fifth to 15th centuries.

Hoi An
Prior to the 14th century, ancient Hoi An was the commercial capital of the Cham Empire and a strategic global port for the spice trade. This captivating UNESCO World Heritage site preserves more than 800 buildings from the 15th to 19th centuries that emanate a timeless, mystical aura. Learn about the city’s heritage at the Hoi An Museum of History and Culture housed inside the 17th-century Quan Am Pagoda. Visit the grand temple of Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, a masterpiece of Fujian artistry. Stroll the city’s famed handicraft workshops and colorful riverside market and admire the graceful arc of the Lai Vien Keiu Bridge, originally built in 1590.

Kim Phuc
On June 8, 1972, 9-year-old Kim Phuc was photographed fleeing a napalm strike. The photograph, “Napalm Girl,” remains one of the most influential images from the Vietnam War. Today, Phuc is a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and the author of Fire Road, the inspirational story of her unexpected survival and unshakeable faith. She shares her experience at global events and has received awards and recognitions, including six honorary doctorates, for work supporting child victims of war and her commitment to global peace. She has also inspired the nonprofit organization KIM Foundation International.

Jim Laurie
Jim Laurie is a distinguished international broadcaster, writer and media consultant who has witnessed many defining moments in Asia’s history for over 50 years. He began covering Indochina for NBC News in 1972 and became the only American network correspondent to witness the fall of Saigon to the North Vietnamese in 1975. Laurie is completing his memoirs of his early days in Vietnam and Cambodia; Indochina: War, Love, and Betrayal is due out in April 2020. He is the recipient of a Peabody Award, two Emmy Awards and an Amnesty International Award and has also co-produced, written and directed several television documentaries.
Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City)

Saigon remains a vibrant convergence of Vietnamese heritage and French panache. Women still don the traditional áo dài, a silk tunic worn over pantaloons. Here, see the neo-Romanesque-style Notre Dame Cathedral and the City Opera House, a stunning counterpart to the Petit Palais in Paris, recalling the city’s French-colonial history. Visit the European-style Central Post Office; the imposing Reunification Hall Palace, the former South Vietnamese presidential palace; and the War Remnants Museum, which offers a Vietnamese perspective on the Vietnam War.

Explore the Ben Thanh Market, an authentic symbol of Saigon, where merchants offer aromatic spiced cuisine, traditional Chinese medicines and handcrafted wares and textiles.

Outside Saigon, explore the Cu Chi Tunnels, an underground complex and an engineering marvel built by the Viet Cong, stretching over 150 miles from Saigon to the Cambodian border.

Siem Reap, Cambodia, for Angkor

Angkor, a UNESCO World Heritage site, was once the capital of the Khmer Empire. Located in the lush jungles of northern Cambodia, today it is one of the world’s most important archaeological sites.

Near Siem Reap, the Temple of Angkor Wat is the largest religious structure in the world, built in the 12th century by King Suryavarman II to honor the Hindu god Vishnu. Angkor Wat stands in testament to the centuries-long grandeur of the prosperous Khmer Empire.

View Saigon’s stunning, Neoclassical Central Post Office, built by Cochinchina’s chief architect, Marie-Alfred Foulhoux, in 1891.

The astounding Banteay Srei Citadel of the Women is considered the ultimate expression of Khmer genius. Constructed in the 10th century from rose-pink sandstone, the temple is believed to have been built by women based on the intricacy of the elaborate three-dimensional carvings and filigree relief work that adorn its peaked buildings.

On the banks of the Siem Reap River, the monumental walled city of Angkor Thom was the last capital of the Khmer Empire. The towers of its Bayon Temple have approximately 200 stone faces and bas-relief sculptures depicting historical scenes from everyday life of the Angkorian Khmer while interior artwork depicts scenes from Hindu mythology.

The area surrounding the complex includes the ruins of the 11th-century Baphuon “temple-mountain” and the intricately carved Terrace of the Elephants, Terrace of the Leper King and Royal Palace.

Nearby, fascinating Ta Prohm, a 12th-century Buddhist temple, remains largely untouched by man, leaving encroaching jungle fig, banyan and kapok trees to grow out of the ruins. Here, the dynamic lifecycle between nature and humanity provides the basis for Ta Prohm’s legendary “lost city” tales.

Visit a local workshop which provides training for thousands of Cambodians to perpetuate the creation of their traditional, cultural handcrafts.

Admire the ornate, Lai Vien Kieu Bridge, built to link Hoi An’s Chinese and Japanese quarters.

Experience Vietnam’s kaleidoscopic markets, a vivid nexus of history, culture and commerce.

The lotus is one of Buddhism’s most sacred flowers, blooming from muddy waters each morning.
Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design
Le LAPÉROUSE, launched in 2018, ushers in a new generation of Five-Star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you.

Respect for the Environment
A new addition to the Ponant “Clean Ship” fleet, an important distinction among ocean-cruising vessels, Le LAPÉROUSE is energy efficient and eco-friendly, protecting fragile marine ecosystems.

Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies
Each of the 92 Five-Star Staterooms and Suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand Deluxe Suites have a bay window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, private bathroom with shower and luxury hotel-style amenities.

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

Life on Board
Experience the Blue Eye, the world’s first underwater multisensory Observation Lounge. Enjoy sweeping views from the upper lounges—which open to the outdoors—and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa, sauna or infinity-style swimming pool. The ship has a beauty salon, a fitness room and three elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi access is available (conditions permitting).

World-Class Service
The highly trained, English-speaking crew is personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and a nurse.
Acclaimed Guest Speakers
Kim Phuc was photographed as a child in 1972 fleeing a napalm strike and became a living symbol of the Vietnam War.
Jim Laurie is a distinguished journalist and was a TV news correspondent during the Vietnam War.

Included Features

In Hanoi, Vietnam
- Two nights in the landmark Five-Star Sofitel Legend Metropole.
- American breakfast each morning and one lunch.
- Welcome Reception in the hotel.
- Tour of the mesmerizing capital city of Hanoi to see Ho Chi Minh’s Mausoleum and Hoan Kiem Lake.
- Guided walk through the Hoa Lo Prison Museum and the 11th-century Temple of Literature.
- Walking tour of the 36 Streets District.

Scenic transfer from Hanoi to Haiphong.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship Le Laperouse
- Seven-night cruise from Haiphong, Vietnam, to Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City).
- Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom, each with a private balcony.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.
- All meals and afternoon tea aboard ship.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi access (conditions permitting).
- Visit to the Museum of Cham Sculpture in Da Nang.
- Tour of cosmopolitan Saigon’s French-colonial landmarks and vibrant Ben Thanh Market.
- Visits to the Reunification Hall Palace, Central Post Office and War Remnants Museum in Saigon.
- Tour of the underground Cu Chi Tunnels.

Flight from Saigon to Siem Reap.

In Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Three nights in the Five-Star Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Hotel.
- American breakfast each morning and one lunch.
- Visit to a traditional workshop reviving Cambodian ancestral craftsmanship.
- Farewell Reception in the hotel.

UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights
- Scenic cruise amid the pinnacles of Ha Long Bay.
- Excursion to Hoi An and visit its Museum of History and Culture and the ornate 17th-century Phuc Kien Assembly Hall.
- Explore the former Imperial Capital City of Hue and visit the Imperial Citadel, Forbidden Purple City and Thien Mu Pagoda.
- Visit to the sublime Temple of Angkor Wat.
- Excursion to renowned Banteay Srei.
- Tour the 11th-century imperial city of Angkor Thom and the “lost temple” of Ta Prohm.

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

Journey to Southeast Asia’s “City of Angels,” a mesmerizing blend of hemispheres, comprised of more than 26,000 shrines and multi-tiered roofed temples. Visit three of Bangkok’s most famous temples: Temple of the Golden Buddha, featuring a solid gold Sukothai Buddha statue; Temple of the Reclining Buddha, Bangkok’s largest temple; and Marble Temple, a magnificent white marble sanctuary. Board a longtail boat and see traditional Thai rituals unfold against the backdrop of the city’s emblematic landmarks along the Chao Phraya River.

Explore the lavish Grand Palace Complex, the former royal residence, officially opened in 1785 to mark the rebirth of the Thai nation. The ornamented Temple of the Emerald Buddha is the apogee of Thai art and the spiritual heart of Thailand’s Buddhist faith. The temple is a sanctuary for the nation’s holiest treasure: a solid jasper Buddha statue dating from the 15th century. Tour the Jim Thompson House Museum, the former home of the American who revitalized Thailand’s silk industry, and admire a dazzling collection of Khmer sculptures, Burmese carvings and Chinese porcelain. Accommodations for three nights are in the centrally located, Five-Star The Peninsula Bangkok.

*The Post-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
**VIETNAM BY SEA AND ANGKOR WAT RESERVATION FORM**

**Send to:** Traveling Aggies
505 George Bush Drive
College Station, TX 77840
(979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514
Fax: (979) 845-9263

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<td></td>
<td>Per Person, Based on Double Occupancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 3, forward. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$6,995</td>
<td>$7,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 3, midship.</td>
<td>$7,995</td>
<td>$8,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 4, forward.</td>
<td>$8,695</td>
<td>$9,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 4, midship.</td>
<td>$9,495</td>
<td>$10,495</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Decks 5 and 6, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$9,795</td>
<td>$10,795</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 5, forward. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$10,295</td>
<td>$11,295</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 5, midship.</td>
<td>$10,995</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Expansive sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 6, midship.</td>
<td>$11,695</td>
<td>$12,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deluxe Suite</td>
<td>Suite with expansive sliding glass door, large private balcony, sitting area with sofa. Decks 3, 4, 5 and 6. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$12,495</td>
<td>$13,495</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prestige Suite</td>
<td>Two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony, two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. Deck 5. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$13,495</td>
<td>$14,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Privilege Suite</td>
<td>Large Suite with expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony, sitting area with sofa. Decks 5 and 6. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$14,295</td>
<td>$15,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Deluxe Suite</td>
<td>Extra-large, two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath, sitting area with sofa. Deck 6. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$15,495</td>
<td>$16,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner's Suite</td>
<td>Extra-large, two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bathroom, sitting area with sofa. Deck 5. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$15,795</td>
<td>$16,795</td>
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Singles are available in category 5 at $15,195* and in category 2 at $17,595* on or before April 3, 2020. Add $1,000 for reservations made after April 3, 2020.

* Taxes are an additional $440 per person and are subject to change.

† Le Lapérouse has been specially contracted for this program, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

**Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:**

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

**East Meets West Post-Program Option***

- Double at $995 per person.
- Single at $1,695 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations. **Air from Siem Reap, Cambodia, to Bangkok, Thailand, is an additional cost.**

- I/We want you to book my/our air, at an additional cost to be advised, from: **(fill in departure city)**

- Economy Class
- Upgraded Economy
- Business Class
- First Class

*Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

‡ Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

- I/We agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

- I enclosed my/our check(s) for $________ as deposit.

- Make checks payable to 2020 Vietnam by Sea and Angkor Wat.

- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $________ to:
  - Visa
  - MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

**All final payments are required to be made by check or wire transfer by July 31, 2020.**
Roots cleave stones and lichen sprouts from delicately carved reliefs at the striking Angkor temple of Ta Prohm.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/ organizations, its officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your program, including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or service providers, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors.

As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such persons or entities. All such persons and entities are independent contractors.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with any delay or stoppage of travel resulting from acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, strikes from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labors troubles, weather conditions, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

If you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner’s risk. The right is reserved to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to weather, water conditions or other events of no or little causation or condition beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to continue or to accommodate or to provide alternative accommodations. Gohagan may cancel a program (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan, however, is not required under these circumstances to refund travel insurance costs. Gohagan is not required to cancel any program for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. In the event a “discounted” reservation is used without permission.