

PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE



Rice University
2013 Alumni Travel Program

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The 2013 Rice Alumni Travel program is designed to create a once-in-a-lifetime experience that is unparalleled to any other trip that you have enjoyed in the past. Keeping true to the Association of Rice Alumni's commitment to lifelong learning, you will find these journeys to not only be one of the best educational opportunities you've experienced since graduating but also equally exciting and leisurely. When traveling with the Rice Alumni Travel program, you are sure to enjoy the benefits of traveling with fellow alumni and friends, while still having the ability to experience the world at your own pace.

Beginning with a stunning trip to South America in January and then ending the year with a journey through history in South Africa, 2013 includes destinations that are bound to ignite your curiosity.

For those travelers interested in cruising the seas and rivers, there are cruises sailing the waters of South America; exploring Holland and Belgium during the beautiful tulip season; traversing the waterways of Catalonia, Roussillon, Languedoc and Provence; exploring the glaciers and beauty of Alaska; meandering the rivers that open from the Black Sea; and exploring the beautiful Greek Isles. Or, discover the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador with our first partnership with the Houston Zoo and their senior veterinarian Joseph Flanagan.

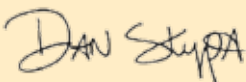
If staying on land is preferred, there are tours that will take you to the storied country of Cuba, a trip led by Arthur Gottschalk, professor of composition and theory at Rice's Shepherd School of Music; to the picturesque Italian Lake District; or to South Africa. Additionally this year, you can explore the beautiful cities of London and Paris or tour historic Charleston and Savannah with Rice's own John Boles '65, the William P. Hobby Professor and editor of the Journal of Southern History. If you are looking to blend sea and land, then you can experience legendary Turkey with Lisa Balabanlilar, assistant professor of history at Rice.

This year, you will find that there is a wide variety of opportunities, destinations, tours, prices and length of trips for our alumni and friends that are designed to provide travelers with an experience like none other. Additionally, we are excited to offer trips specifically designed for Rice's younger alumni that are as unique as our alumni.

After reviewing these travel opportunities, please complete and return the form at the back of this catalog so that you are assured of receiving additional information about the trips that interest you. Or, if you prefer, you may complete the form online at www.alumni.rice.edu/travel.

I look forward to welcoming our past travelers in 2013, and if you have yet to travel with the Rice Alumni Travel program, I hope you consider joining your fellow alumni and friends for one of these educational experiences that will leave you inspired and energized.

Sincerely,



Dan Stypa
Assistant Director
Office of Alumni Affairs



Please Note:

This annual catalog is the only information about the 2013 Rice Alumni Travel program that will be sent to all alumni and friends of the university. Brochures on particular trips will only be sent to a limited number of individuals, so it is important that you return the request form at the back of this catalog to let us know which trips interest you. As additional information and brochures become available, they will be sent to those who have made requests.

Due to the advance planning of the trips, all dates, itineraries and prices are subject to change. Please address your questions regarding the Rice Alumni Travel program to:

Dan Stypa
Rice University
Office of Alumni Affairs-MS 520
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892

Phone: 713-348-5094 or
800-RICE-ALU
Email: stypa@rice.edu

NEW in 2013!



The Rice Alumni Travel program brings young alumni a new opportunity to explore the globe, experience new cultures, ancient art, historic sites, delicious cuisine, thrilling adventures and authentic self-discovery all while making longlasting friendships.

We are excited to partner with Contiki Vacations, the worldwide leader in travel for 18–35 year olds. With more than 200 trips to choose from in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, North America, South America, Asia, Russia and Egypt, traveling with Contiki means you'll share an amazing journey with alumni and travelers your age from all over the world.

When you plan your next trip with the Rice Alumni Travel program, the choices are limitless. With trips ranging from three days to more than a month, you are sure to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

To learn all about the trips expertly designed for young alumni 18–35 years old available throughout 2013, visit Contiki's website at www.contiki.com. If you have any questions, please contact the Rice Alumni Travel program at 713-348-5094 or Contiki at 866-652-4483 or email alumni@contiki.com.

You have earned your degree, now it's time to embark on an education beyond the classroom and workplace. As Rice young alumni, you deserve it.

Sensational South America

JAN. 5–15, 2013



South America is a continent of contrasts. From rainforests to sophisticated cities, explore colonial history and modern local life along South America's eastern seaboard. Highlights of this 10-night cruise from Rio de Janeiro to Buenos Aires include the 17th-century Portuguese town of Parati, the tropical wonderland of Ilhabela, the lively city and markets of Montevideo, and the beaches and nightlife of fabulous Punta del Este. Described by Darwin as "more magnificent than anything any European has ever seen in his country of origin," Rio de Janeiro is blessed with an idyllic setting.

With two overnights in Buenos Aires, you can sample fine Argentinean beef and malbec wines and tour distinctive historic neighborhoods and monuments. Don't miss samba and tango performances or better yet, take a lesson.

Traveling aboard the luxurious Azamara Quest, a 654-passenger ship, you'll enjoy elegantly appointed, customized staterooms and suites, culinary masterpieces prepared by some of the world's most accomplished chefs, and a service staff who will anticipate your every need. Your voyage includes many amenities at no extra cost: beverages, including wine with lunch and dinner; specialty coffees and cappuccinos; crew gratuities; and 24-hour room service.

A selection of optional shore excursions will also be available.

Prices begin at \$2,099 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare, taxes and fees
Operated by: Alumni Travelers

Cuba

FEB. 23–MARCH 2, 2013



We are delighted to offer our first-ever travel program to Cuba — an exploration of the country's remarkable art and architecture and opportunities to meet talented artists, architects and musicians and to experience the warm hospitality of this captivating Caribbean nation. Joining us on this trip will be the Shepherd School of Music's Arthur Gottschalk.

Accommodations are at the elegant Hotel Parque Central in Old Havana. Enjoy a walking tour with an architectural historian, who will lead us past the neighborhood's most atmospheric baroque and neoclassical landmarks and meet leading Cuban artists in their studios and homes and at a private reception. Take a curatorial tour of the Cuban art collection at the National Museum of Fine Arts and see the beautiful craftsmanship on display at the Ceramics Museum, with a private after-hours visit and reception. Drive south for an overnight stay in Cienfuegos, the Pearl of the South, to see its neoclassical buildings and stroll the historic cobblestone streets of nearby Trinidad.

Specially arranged performances of music, dance and theater will enhance our visit, as will lectures on Cuban history and art and a briefing on Cuban-American relations. We hope you will join us for this immersion in the many celebrated arts of Cuba.

Note: The Association of Rice Alumni has applied for a People-to-People license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control. This program is pending receipt of this license.

Approximately \$4,895 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare

Operated by: Academic Arrangements Abroad

Featuring: Arthur Gottschalk, Rice professor of composition and theory at the Shepherd School of Music

Tulip Time in Holland and Belgium

APRIL 8–15, 2013



Discover picturesque Holland and Belgium in the spring on this marvelous eight-day river cruise departing from Amsterdam, a sophisticated and modern capital with a rich and fascinating history. Enjoy a canal cruise in Amsterdam, take photos of the charming windmills at Kinderjijk, discover St. Baaf's Cathedral in medieval Ghent, explore Antwerp and learn about Holland's complex flood controls at the fascinating Delta Works.

Visit Maastricht, the university town on the borders of Belgium and Germany. Drink in the colorful blooming beauty of famous Keukenhof Gardens — 70 acres of parkland with lakes, sculpture gardens, greenhouses and the world's largest bulb flower park. All of this is waiting for you on this cruise vacation sure to delight all of your senses.

Avalon Waterways spacious and contemporary Affinity will be your home, while you are immersed in old world history and charm. You will enjoy fine dining that includes regional cuisine, daily sightseeing with local experts in each of the ports, and a stateroom with floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors to view the flowers and windmills as you sail on the rivers and canals of Holland and Belgium.

Prices begin at \$2,216 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare, taxes and fees

Operated by: Avalon Waterways

Legendary Turkey

APRIL 23–MAY 7, 2013



Turkey — where Europe and Asia meet to form the cradle of civilization — is yours to discover on this exclusive 15-day tour. Travelers will be accompanied by Lisa Balabanlilar, a Turkish history and cultural expert, and a seasoned Turkish tour director. You will visit remote villages, explore fascinating archaeological sites and cruise the Turquoise Coast in a privately chartered yacht.

Begin your journey in Istanbul, Turkey's cultural and spiritual heart. The city astonishes with its legendary Blue Mosque, Hagia Sofia and Topkapi Palace, one of the world's richest museums. Then travel south to the sacred World War I battlefield of Gallipoli, ferry across the Dardanelles to Troy and explore the wealth of Greco-Roman ruins at ancient Pergamum. Spend a full day at Turkey's nonpareil classical city, Ephesus. Among its treasures are the grand Library of Celsus and a 25,000-seat amphitheater with excellent acoustics and splendid views. Before boarding a privately chartered gulet yacht, travelers will enjoy lunch in a local village.

For four splendid days, cruise the exquisite Turquoise Coast, relaxing and discovering hidden sights, quaint fishing villages and remote ruins. End your journey in the seaside resort Antalya, with a side trip to ancient Perge.

There is an optional five-day, four-night posttour extension for those who wish to see the remarkable rock formations of Cappadocia and Ankara, Turkey's capital.

Prices begin at \$3,895 (based on double occupancy, including airfare, taxes and fees)

Operated by: Odysseys Unlimited

Featuring: Lisa Balabanlilar, Rice assistant professor of history

Charleston / Savannah

MAY 15-22, 2013



Experience the enchantment of the low country from Savannah to Charleston and hear stories that have shaped the area's culture and role in Atlantic maritime history. This tour will feature John Boles '65 as he enlightens travelers on the impact that this area of the country has had on the nation's history.

This eight-day trip includes guided visits to the historic district of Jekyll Island and then sightseeing in Savannah with tours of the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace (founder of Girl Scouts of the USA) and the Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum. Enjoy a private tasting of Savannah's madeira wine traditions and a bistro dinner in a historic Savannah hotel.

Visit Fort Pulaski National Monument and Hilton Head Island, where you will go on a storytelling journey through the roots of Gullah culture with a master artist. Continue to Beaufort, known for its antebellum architecture and scenic location on Port Royal Island, and then on to Charleston, where a private cruise of the Charleston Harbor will focus on sharing the area's history. Take a guided tour of Charleston's elegant cobblestone streets along the harbor front, the Citadel and the Battery. After a farewell reception and dinner, a private visit to an 18th-century plantation and America's oldest landscaped gardens bring the tour to an end.

Deadline to register is Nov. 1, 2012.

Approximately \$2,825 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare

Operated by: Tauck

Featuring: John Boles, Rice's William P. Hobby Professor and editor of the *Journal of Southern History*

Treasures of Provence, Languedoc, Roussillon and Catalonia

MAY 23–JUNE 2, 2013



Catalonia in Spain and the French provinces of Roussillon, Languedoc and Provence are among the most vibrant in Europe, with their own language, cuisine, music, and styles of art and architecture that are distinct from the other parts of Spain and France.

This summer voyage, which introduces you to these fascinating regions, will follow the cobblestone streets of Tarragona to see the city's well-preserved Roman ruins and numerous medieval monuments. Then passengers will travel along the Costa Brava to Catalonia's ancient Greek and Roman cities and enchanting medieval villages. At Carcassonne in the Roussillon — a part of France that receives very few visitors — you will discover an exceptional collection of works of art by Matisse, Braque and other modern masters. In Languedoc, you will explore Carcassonne, one of the finest medieval towns in Europe. And in Provence, you will follow in the footsteps of Van Gogh, Chagall and Picasso, discovering the landscapes that inspired them and wandering through some of the finest art galleries in the world.

This trip is aboard the 114-guest all suite cruise ship Corinthian. The small group experience of this trip will provide you with the utmost personal attention and certainly be a trip that you will remember for a lifetime.

Prices begin at \$6,990 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare, taxes and fees

Operated by: Travel Dynamics International

London and Paris

JUNE 1–8, 2013



Enjoy two of the most accessible European cities on an eight-day flexible adventure. Interested in the London theater scene, experiencing the delicious restaurants in Paris, exploring the historic museums, or just relaxing with a cappuccino and watching daily life pass by? This program is designed to allow you to tune your activities to your interests, with the support and guidance of a local host.

Guided sightseeing includes renowned sites such as Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament in London, as well as the Notre Dame Cathedral and Arc de Triomphe in Paris, among others. Then, a full day at leisure in each city gives you the time to see London and Paris from the inside, at your own pace.

In London, relax and rejuvenate after a full day of exploring at the modern Mandara Spa at Park Plaza Westminster Bridge, featuring a fitness center and 15-meter pool. Each room is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, including an LCD flat-screen TV, complimentary wireless Internet and en suite facilities.

During your stay in Paris, unwind in the Opera District at the Radisson Blu Ambassador Hotel, walking distance from some of the city's most iconic sites, including the Galleries Lafayette and Folies Bergères. Each room reflects the hotel's 1920s art deco style and offers modern amenities such as free wireless Internet and LCD flat-screen TVs.

Approximately \$1,895 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare, taxes and fees

Operated by: Orbridge

Alaska Frontiers and Glaciers

JULY 12-22, 2013



Revel in the rugged, unspoiled beauty of Alaska as you sail its coastline aboard the elegant 684-passenger Oceania Cruises' Regatta. Depart from Seattle and follow the Inside Passage along Canada's scenic coast to Alaska and the small wilderness outpost of Ketchikan, known as the Salmon Capital of the World.

Next on the itinerary is Alaska's capital, Juneau, an exhilarating blend of nature and modern culture. Marvel at the spectacular Hubbard Glacier, the longest tidewater glacier in Alaska, followed by a visit to Icy Strait Point, a secluded seaport nestled in the unspoiled beauty of the Alaskan wilderness. Continue to Sitka, an astoundingly picturesque city known for its many historic attractions, and then onward to Wrangell, one of the oldest settlements in Alaska. Sail south to Canada's largest island and the lovely city of Victoria, a former British colony that has retained much of its colonial splendor, before returning to Seattle. Savor the majestic beauty of ancient glaciers, soaring mountains and exceptional wildlife on this Alaskan cruise.

During your cruise, a selection of optional shore excursions will be available to choose from in each port of call.

Prices begin at \$2,999 (based on double occupancy, including airfare, taxes and fees)
Operated by: GoNext

Ecuador and Cruising the Galapagos Islands

AUGUST 18-27, 2013



On our first partnership with the Houston Zoo, discover the landscapes of Ecuador and the wildlife of the famed Galapagos Islands on our land and sea adventure to the Earth's most biodiverse country. Experience Quito, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a local market high in the volcanic mountains vibrant with Andean culture, and enjoy dining at a traditional hacienda in the mainland portion of our adventure. Your 10-day journey will include a cruise on the M/V Santa Cruz, built specifically for exploring this magnificent archipelago.

Walk and hike the islands; swim and snorkel in coves in a brilliant show of color rich with tropical fish; and marvel at the sea lions, marine iguanas and bird life unique to the Galapagos Islands. Your itinerary follows in the footsteps of explorer and scientific traveler Charles Darwin as you tour the breathtaking islands and visit the Charles Darwin Research Station, where world renowned scientists conduct biological studies.

From highlands to giant tortoises and salt lagoons, often frequented by flamingos, your trip concludes with the final night spent in a luxury hotel in Guayaquil.

For intrepid explorers, there are optional extensions: a classic Andean adventure in Peru, culminating at the spectacular archaeological site of Machu Picchu, or arrive in Ecuador early for a brief pretour to Mashpi Rainforest Biodiversity Reserve.

Prices begin at \$5,995 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare, taxes and fees
Operated by: Classic Escapes
Co-sponsored with the Houston Zoo, featuring senior veterinarian Joseph Flanagan

Village Life in the Italian Lake District

SEPT. 7-14, 2013



Experience the true essence of life in northern Italy's fabled Lake District for one full week, with a lake-view room in the charming Hotel Regina Olga in Cernobbio, a picturesque village overlooking Lake Como. Enjoy a private boat cruise on Lake Como and see how this unique setting has inspired poets, composers, musicians, artists and philosophers for centuries. Explore the artistic and architectural treasures left by Roman patricians, medieval lords and Renaissance princes during expert-guided excursions to Bellagio, Villa del Balbianello, the Borromean Islands and Stresa.

Enriching lectures and the exclusive Village Forum with local residents bring you personal perspectives of the region's modern life and cultural heritage. This comprehensive itinerary also features an optional excursion to stunning Lugano, Switzerland, a historic city with a distinctive Swiss culture. The two-night Milan preprogram option features a visit to the Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie, a UNESCO World Heritage site, to see Leonardo da Vinci's hauntingly entrancing "The Last Supper."

An exceptional value, this exclusive travel program repeatedly sells out quickly and offers not only one of the world's most enchanting destinations, but also the convenience of unpacking just once.

Approximately \$3,095 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare, taxes and fees

Operated by: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company

Amalfi: The Divine Coast

SEPT. 17-25, 2013



On this seven-night program, delight in the scenic grandeur of the Amalfi Coast. Here, mountains erupt from the waters of the Mediterranean and pastel-painted buildings cascade down their sides.

From your base in Vietri sul Mare at the deluxe Hotel Ratio, travel a fabled, serpentine ribbon of road from destination to destination. Along the way, take in the breathtaking views that inspired countless artists, gain historical perspectives and see exactly why the Divine Coast has drawn royalty and celebrities for decades.

During the tour, experience the dramatic cliffs of Positano, Italy's most vertical town. Explore the charming seaside resort of Amalfi and the cliff-top village of Sorrento, overlooking the Bay of Naples. You will discover an epoch suspended in time during a tour of the fabled ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii and then explore the Museo Archeologico Nazionale in Naples, one of the most important archeological museums in the world. From there, visit a farm where mozzarella cheese is produced and enjoy a tasting of the delicious finished product. While here, meet some of the local residents and immerse yourself in the daily life of this stunning region.

An extensive meal plan, featuring dinners with local wine, a program of informative lectures, an itinerary of all-included excursions and no single supplement for solo travelers, makes this an experience you won't want to miss.

Prices begin at \$2,995, plus airfare, taxes and fees

Operated by: Alumni Holidays International

Classic Greek Isles

OCT. 7-19, 2013



Join us for a cruise through the azure waters of the Aegean aboard the Harmony V, stopping at various islands to see archaeological sites and discover the way the landscape and imagination combine to create myth. Along with visits to Athens, cradle of civilization, and the island of Crete, rich in history and culture, this tour presents Greece in all its glory — and in a harmonious balance between traditional cruising and private yachting.

Start in Athens with a visit to the magnificent Parthenon atop the Acropolis, affording spectacular views of the city below. Next, travel to central Greece for a stop in Delphi, the most beautiful and celebrated ancient site of all. Each day, dock in new ports and see sites such as the sacred island of Delos; the imposing ruins of Mycenae, a UNESCO World Heritage site; and Knossos in Crete, the political center of Minoan civilization.

Other exciting ports of call include picturesque Santorini, with its whitewashed homes overlooking the Aegean Sea, and Mykonos, with its beautiful port and beaches. Call on the Peloponnese region on the Greek mainland, where you can visit the fortified town of Monemvassia, and explore charming Nafplion, with its Venetian-inspired architecture.

Those who wish to extend their Mediterranean odyssey can add a four-day, three-night posttour extension to Istanbul, Turkey.

Prices begin at \$5,417 (based on double occupancy, including airfare, taxes and fees)
Operated by: Odysseys Unlimited

Treasures of Southern Africa

NOV. 19-DEC. 3, 2013



Experience the best of southern Africa with an itinerary that showcases its diverse cultures, lands and wildlife. Cosmopolitan Cape Town, poised between mountains and ocean, combines Cape Dutch houses and inspiring landmarks and bustling Johannesburg, born from a 19th-century gold rush camp and home to the stirring Apartheid Museum. Walk in Nelson Mandela's footsteps with visits to Robben Island and Soweto and travel to Cape Peninsula National Park to admire the stunning beauty of the unique flora at Kirstenbosch Gardens. See the African Penguin colony at Boulder's Beach and watch exotic wildlife in its natural habitat during a three-night safari at Thornybush Game Lodge. There will be the opportunity to learn about South Africa, past and present, with two exclusive presentations by local experts as you enjoy incredible scenery and classic luxury during a two-night Rovos Rail journey to breathtaking Victoria Falls.

Robben Island and the Cape Floral Region Protected Areas in South Africa and Victoria Falls, which extends from Zimbabwe into Zambia, are UNESCO World Heritage sites featured in this comprehensive program. These sites are distinguished due to universal scenic, historic, artistic or scientific value. This adventure includes excursions, luxury accommodations and an extensive meal plan.

Prices begin at \$6,995 (based on double occupancy), plus airfare, taxes and fees
Operated by: Alumni Holidays International

Stay Connected:



Check out our travel videos on YouTube at www.youtube.com/RiceAlumniTravel



See the world through the eyes of Rice alumni travelers on Flickr at www.flickr.com/ricealumnitravel



Read about travel experiences from the trips on our Wordpress travel blog at <http://ricealumnitravel.wordpress.com/>



Connect with the Rice Alumni Travel program at <http://alumni.rice.edu/travel>

The Rice University Office of Alumni Affairs offers the travel program as an opportunity to foster lifelong learning for alumni and friends. By offering these trips, it does not represent an endorsement or support from Rice University or the Office of Alumni Affairs of political, social, economical or other policies in the areas of the world visited. These trips are provided as educational and leisure opportunities that Rice alumni and friends can choose to participate in to learn about and experience our global society. If you have suggestions for future travel programs, you are welcome to contact Dan Stypa at stypa@rice.edu.



Going Green

In an effort to serve you as sustainably and efficiently as possible, be on the lookout for some information to be delivered to your email inbox instead of your mailbox in 2013. Confirmation letters, posttrip surveys, newsletters and additional travel promotions will be sent electronically. Thank you for your support in becoming more sustainable and efficient.



I would like to receive additional information about the following trips when it becomes available:

☐ **South America**

Jan. 5–15, 2013

☐ **Cuba**

Feb. 23–March 2, 2013

☐ **Belguim and Holland**

April 8–15, 2013

☐ **Turkey**

April 23–May 7, 2013

☐ **Historic Charleston/
Savannah**

May 15–22, 2013

☐ **Provence to Catalonia**

May 23–June 2, 2013

☐ **London and Paris**

June 1–8, 2013

☐ **Alaska**

July 12–22, 2013

☐ **Ecuador and the
Galapagos Islands**

Aug. 18–27, 2013

☐ **Italian Lake District**

Sept. 7–14, 2013

☐ **Amalfi**

Sept. 17–25, 2013

☐ **Greek Isles**

Oct. 7–19, 2013

☐ **South Africa**

Nov. 19–Dec. 3, 2013

☐ **Young Alumni Travel***

Yearlong

*Indicate destinations of interest:

I am a (check one):

☐ Rice alumnus/alumna, Class of _____

☐ Parent of a Rice student/alumnus/alumna

☐ Rice faculty or staff member

☐ Friend of Rice

If the address on the opposite side is incorrect, please indicate your correct name and address here:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____ Preferred phone _____

Detach this form and return to:

Rice University
Alumni Travel Program
Office of Alumni Affairs–MS 520
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892



You may also fax this form to 713-348-5210 or submit your request online at <http://alumni.rice.edu/travel>.



Rice University

Alumni Travel Program

Office of Alumni Affairs—MS 520

P.O. Box 1892

Houston, TX 77251-1892

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Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
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Permit #7549

Charleston/Savannah

MAY 15–22, 2013

**Featuring John Boles,
Rice's William P. Hobby Professor and
editor of the Journal of Southern History**

